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Tender

## **ID 4968205 DfE - Invest NI - Provision of Advice and Guidance on NI's Dual Market Access Framework**

Invest Northern Ireland

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-030890

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-040d5c

Published 19 October 2023, 12:59pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Invest Northern Ireland

Bedford Square, Bedford Street

BELFAST

BT2 7ES

#### **Email**

[StrategicDelivery.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:StrategicDelivery.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

## **I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

## **I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

## **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

## **I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

ID 4968205 DfE - Invest NI - Provision of Advice and Guidance on NI's Dual Market Access Framework

Reference number

4968205

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 79300000 - Market and economic research; polling and statistics

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

The Client wishes to appoint a framework of Contractors to Provide advice, analysis and guidance to Invest NI (including its overseas offices), potential foreign direct investors, and DfE on the benefits (or otherwise) of Northern Ireland's Dual Market Access proposition brought about through the Northern Ireland Protocol and Windsor Framework. There are two separate Lots with a maximum of 3 Contractors to be appointed per Lot: 1. Advice, Analysis and Guidance on the Movement of Goods To and From Northern Ireland 2. Advice and Guidance on the Movement of People It is intended that the contracts will commence upon contract award (expected to be December 2023).

**II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £200,000

**II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for maximum number of lots  
2

**II.2) Description****II.2.1) Title**

Lot 1 Advice, Analysis and Guidance on the Movement of Goods To and From NI

Lot No

1

**II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 79311400 - Economic research services
- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services
- 79411000 - General management consultancy services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Client wishes to appoint a framework of Contractors to Provide advice, analysis and guidance to Invest NI (including its overseas offices), potential foreign direct investors, and DfE on the benefits (or otherwise) of Northern Ireland's Dual Market Access proposition brought about through the Northern Ireland Protocol and Windsor Framework. There are two separate Lots with a maximum of 3 Contractors to be appointed per Lot: 1. Advice, Analysis and Guidance on the Movement of Goods To and From Northern Ireland 2. Advice and Guidance on the Movement of People It is intended that the contracts will commence upon contract award (expected to be December 2023).

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £150,000

### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

12

This contract is subject to renewal

No

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

There is one option to extend for any period up to, and including, twelve months.

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot 2 Advice and Guidance on the Movement of People

Lot No

2

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 79311400 - Economic research services
- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services
- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services
- 79411000 - General management consultancy services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Client wishes to appoint a framework of Contractors to Provide advice, analysis and guidance to Invest NI (including its overseas offices), potential foreign direct investors, and DfE on the benefits (or otherwise) of Northern Ireland's Dual Market Access proposition brought about through the Northern Ireland Protocol and Windsor Framework. There are two separate Lots with a maximum of 3 Contractors to be appointed per Lot: 1. Advice, Analysis and Guidance on the Movement of Goods To and From Northern Ireland 2. Advice and Guidance on the Movement of People It is intended that the contracts will commence upon contract award (expected to be December 2023).

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £50,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

12

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

There is one option to extend for any period up to, and including, twelve months.

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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### **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

#### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

##### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

20 November 2023

Local time

3:00pm

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

#### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Tender must be valid until: 18 February 2024

#### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

20 November 2023

Local time

3:30pm

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The figure indicated in Section II 1.5 represents an estimated contract value. This value reflects the potential scale of the contract,... however, neither CPD nor the Authority can provide any guarantee as to the level of business under this contract. The Contracting... Authority does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender. Economic Operators remain responsible for all costs and expenses.... incurred by them or by any third party acting under instructions from the Economic Operator in connection with taking part in this.... procurement process regardless of whether such costs arise as a consequence, directly or indirectly of any amendments made to the.... procurement documents by the Contracting Authority at any time. No legally binding contract shall arise (and an Economic Operator.... shall. have no legitimate expectation that a contract will be entered into) until such time as entry into the Contract has been confirmed.... by the. Contracting Authority. Economic Operators should note that all dates, time periods and figures in relation to values and volumes.... specified. in this notice and the procurement documents are approximate only and the Contracting Authority reserves the right to... change. any or. all of them. The successful contractor's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored. Contractors not... delivering on. contract. requirements is a serious matter. It means the public purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a contractor fails... to reach. satisfactory. levels of contract performance they will be given a specified time to improve. If, after the specified time, they still... fail to reach. satisfactory. levels of contract performance, the matter will be escalated to senior management in CPD for further action... If. this occurs. and their. performance still does not improve to satisfactory levels within the specified period, it may be regarded as an.. act of. grave. professional. misconduct and they may be issued with a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance and the contract may be.. terminated.. The. issue of a. Notice of unsatisfactory Performance will result in the contractor being excluded from all procurement.. competitions. being. undertaken. by Centres of Procurement Expertise on behalf of bodies covered by the Northern Ireland Procurement.. Policy for a. period of. twelve. months from the date of issue of the Notice...

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures.



Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The Contracting Authority will comply with the requirements of the Public.... Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) and, where applicable, will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the.. point information on the award of the contract is communicated to all Economic Operators..