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Tender

Provision of Parachute Packing and Maintenance in the UK

Ministry of Defence

F17: Contract notice for contracts in the field of defence and security

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-030988

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-040d97

Published 20 October 2023, 10:40am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence, Air Support, C17CSAE NH1 Atrium, #1027

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Contact

C17CSAE Commercial Team

For the attention of

C17CSAE Commercial Team

Email(s)

DESC17CSAE-Commercial@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

General address of the contracting authority/entity

<https://contracts.mod.uk/web/login.html>

Electronic submission of tenders and requests to participate

<https://contracts.mod.uk/esop/guest/go/opportunity/detail?opportunityId=56423>

Further information

Further information can be obtained from the above mentioned contact point(s)

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from

The above-mentioned contact point(s)

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to

The above-mentioned contact point(s)

I.2) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

I.3) Main activity

Defence

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities/entities

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities:

No

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1) Description

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority

Provision of Parachute Packing and Maintenance in the UK

II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance

Services

Service category No 1: Maintenance and repair services

Main site or location of works, place of delivery or of performance

UK

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

II.1.5) Short description of the contract or purchase(s)

The UK MOD has a requirement for the provision of a parachute packing, maintenance and inventory management service based in the UK, in support of an estimated 15,000-25,000 parachute descents per annum, for a duration of 5 years.

This service will include but is not limited to the undertaking of scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, repairs, modifications, Special Instructions (Technical) updates, inspections, training, storage, inventory management and transportation of parachute equipment to and from UK locations, with the aim of optimising parachute availability.

The parachute equipment that will be supported includes, but is not limited to, various types of precision, low level, mass insertion and cargo parachutes and reserves along with associated ancillary equipment such as parachute release assemblies, carrying straps and life preservers ('Parachute Equipment').

The Authority intends to award the contract in Q3/Q4 2024 with transition to full service commencement required by 1 Apr 25.

II.1.6) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

- 75221000 - Military defence services

Additional CPV code(s)

- 39523000 - Parachutes

II.1.7) Information about subcontracting

The tenderer has to indicate in the tender any share of the contract it may intend to subcontract to third parties and any proposed subcontractor, as well as the subject-matter of the subcontracts for which they are proposed

II.1.8) Lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.9) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2) Quantity or scope of the contract

II.2.1) Total quantity or scope

The UK MOD has a requirement for the provision of a parachute packing, maintenance and inventory management service, based in the UK, in support of the MOD's parachuting programme which conducts an estimated 15,000-25,000 parachute descents per annum. The duration of this requirement will be 5 years, however, the Authority may at its sole discretion extend the contract by a maximum of 2 years (taken in single or multiple year intervals).

The Parachute Equipment that will be supported includes, but is not limited to, various types of precision, low level, mass insertion, cargo parachutes and reserves along with associated ancillary equipment such as parachute release assemblies, carrying straps and life preservers ('Parachute Equipment').

New parachute systems may be brought into UK MOD service and into the scope of the requirement during the life of the contract.

The required service will include:

- packing and re-packing of UK military personnel and cargo Parachute Equipment with a quick turnaround to meet the Authority's operational and exercise plans. This will include the washing and drying of Parachute Equipment when necessary, in accordance with procedures dictated by the Authority;
- maintenance of Parachute Equipment which will include, but is not limited to, scheduled

and unscheduled maintenance, repairs, modifications, Special Instructions (Technical) updates and inspections in accordance with the Authority's procedures and timescales. These maintenance activities are to be undertaken at a UK facility provided by the successful tenderer, however, there may be a requirement by exception to provide this service from other UK locations when directed by the Authority;

- an out of hours Point of Contact for urgent enquiries;
- transportation of Parachute Equipment to and from RAF Brize Norton and other locations across the UK as required;
- providing a dedicated storage facility of approximately 80,000 square feet which is climate controlled and fully equipped for storage of up to 20,000 items of Parachute Equipment;
- managing data capture on equipment conditions, providing the Authority with updates on the status of parachute inventory and managing replenishment activities to maintain a consistent availability of equipment;
- safe disposal of Parachute Equipment as and when required;
- training of MOD personnel in Personnel and Cargo Parachute Equipment packing and maintenance

All work is to be conducted in accordance with the latest Civil and Military airworthiness regulations.

There may also be a requirement to perform further ad-hoc tasks upon formal request by the Authority.

The Defence Sourcing Portal (DSP) will be used to manage the DPQQ and Invitation to Tender (ITT) process, including evaluation. Access to the DSP is required to complete the DPQQ and it is recommended that access is requested via Supplier Registration Page.

The DPQQ can be accessed here -

<https://contracts.mod.uk/esop/guest/go/opportunity/detail?opportunityId=56423>

The deadline for receipt of clarification questions relating to the DPQQ is 16:00 GMT on Friday 10th November 2023.

The closing date for DPQQ submissions is 16:00 GMT on Monday 20th November 2023.

Please ensure that you allow yourself plenty of time when responding to this opportunity prior to the closing date and time, especially if you have been asked to upload documents.

If you experience any difficulties, please contact the DSP Supplier Helpdesk by emailing customersupport@jaggaer.com.

Estimated value excluding VAT:

Range: between £24,000,000 and £28,000,000

II.2.2) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of these options: In addition to the previously stated contract duration of five years, the Authority may at its sole discretion extend the contract by a maximum of 2 years (taken in single or multiple year intervals).

The £24,000,000 to £28,000,000 estimated Contract value is inclusive of the value relating to the above options.

II.2.3) Information about renewals

This contract is subject to renewal: No

II.3) Duration of the contract or time limit for completion

Start date: 1 September 2024

End date: 31 March 2029

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions relating to the contract

III.1.1) Deposits and guarantees required

As stipulated (if appropriate) within the Dynamic Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (DPQQ) and later within the Invitation To Tender (ITT).

III.1.2) Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions governing them

As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

III.1.3) Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded

As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

III.1.4) Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject, in particular with regard to security of supply and security of information

No part of the Contract is classed as higher than OFFICIAL SENSITIVE. OFFICIAL and OFFICIAL SENSITIVE material shall be protected by the Contractor in a manner to avoid unauthorised access. The Contractor will be required to ensure that all individuals having access to OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE information have undergone necessary recruitment checks.

III.2) Conditions for participation

III.2.1) Personal situation

Criteria regarding the personal situation of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Suppliers Instructions How to Express Interest in this Tender:

1. Register your company on the eSourcing portal (this is only required once)

- Browse to the eSourcing Portal
- Click the "Click here to register" link

- Accept the terms and conditions and click “continue”
- Enter your correct business and user details
- Note the username you chose and click “Save” when complete
- You will shortly receive an email with your unique password (please keep this secure)

2. Express an Interest in the tender

- Login to the portal with the username/password
- Click the "PQQs Open to All Suppliers" link. (These are Pre-Qualification Questionnaires open to any registered supplier)
- Click on the relevant PQQ to access the content.
- Click the “Express Interest” button in the “Actions” box on the left-hand side of the page.
- This will move the PQQ into your “My PQQs” page. (This is a secure area reserved for your projects only)
- Click on the PQQ code, you can now access any attachments by clicking the “Settings and Buyer Attachments” in the “Actions” box

3. Responding to the tender

- You can now choose to “Reply” or “Reject” (please give a reason if rejecting)
- You can now use the ‘Messages’ function to communicate with the buyer and seek any clarification
- Note the deadline for completion, then follow the onscreen instructions to complete the PQQ
- There may be a mixture of online & offline actions for you to perform (there is detailed online help available)

If you require any further assistance please consult the online help, or contact the eTendering help desk.

Criteria regarding the personal situation of subcontractors (that may lead to their rejection) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade

registers

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: Suppliers Instructions How to Express Interest in this Tender:

1. Register your company on the eSourcing portal (this is only required once)

- Browse to the eSourcing Portal
- Click the "Click here to register" link
- Accept the terms and conditions and click "continue"
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III.2.2) Economic and financial ability

Criteria regarding the economic and financial standing of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

Criteria regarding the economic and financial standing of subcontractors (that may lead to their exclusion)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

III.2.3) Technical and/or professional capacity

Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: (a) Bidders are expected to hold, or willing to obtain Maintenance Approved Organisation Scheme (MAOS) accreditation in accordance with MAA Regulatory Article 5850.

(b) Prospective contractors are required to hold Quality Management System certification to AS 9100 or suitable alternative, with the appropriate scope to deliver contract requirements, issued by a Nationally Accredited Certification Body. You will be required to provide a copy of the certificate(s) as directed by any Dynamic Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (DPQQ) or Invitation to Tender (ITT) associated with this Notice, and in any event, the winning supplier will be required to provide it for review prior to contract award. The contractual condition for quality will be Allied Quality Assurance Publication AQAP

2310.

And as further stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of subcontractors (that may lead to their rejection)

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if the requirements are met: As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: As stipulated (if appropriate) within the DPQQ and later within the ITT.

III.3) Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: No

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Type of procedure

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated

IV.1.2) Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate

Envisaged minimum number 1 and maximum number 5

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates: As stipulated within the DPQQ and DPQQ Guidance, Instructions, Conditions and Project Questions Scoring Matrix Document.

IV.2) Award criteria

IV.2.1) Award criteria

the criteria stated in the specifications, in the invitation to tender or to negotiate or in the descriptive document

IV.2.2) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction has been used: no

IV.3) Administrative information

IV.3.2) Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract

no

IV.3.4) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

20 November 2023 - 4:00pm

IV.3.6) Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up

English

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about European Union funds

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

VI.3) Additional information

As this procurement relates to the provision of services used for military purposes, the Authority will comply with the Defence & Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR 2011). The procurement will operate under the negotiated procedure with prior publication of a contract notice (the “competitive negotiated procedure”).

The Defence Sourcing Portal (DSP) will be used to manage the DPQQ and Invitation to Tender (ITT) process, including evaluation. Access to the DSP is required to complete the DPQQ and it is recommended that access is requested via Supplier Registration Page.

Following DPQQ evaluation, the Authority intends to invite a maximum of 5 (five) respondents to the ITT phase. The Authority reserves the right to award the Contract to the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT) in accordance with the scoring criteria following evaluation of the tenders.

The Authority trades using the electronic ‘Contracting, Purchasing & Finance’ system (CP&F). Before completing the DPQQ, any interested parties should ensure that they have the ability to trade electronically, and the willingness connect to the CP&F System in the event of being successful.

A Cyber Risk Assessment has been conducted for this requirement to ascertain the level of Cyber Risk present. The result of this assessment is that a Cyber Risk level of 'Very Low' exists and therefore successful respondents invited to ITT will need to meet Cyber Essentials requirements. Respondents can verify their readiness to comply with opportunities bearing this Cyber Risk Level by completing a Supplier Assurance Questionnaire using RAR code: 131900429

For further information refer to Def Stan 05-138, available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-security-for-defence-suppliers-def-stan-05-138>

The issue of this Contract Notice (CN) or any future ITT or ITT material is not a commitment by the Authority to place a contract as a result of this competition or at a later stage. Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken prior to any offer and subsequent acceptance of contract, is a matter solely for your commercial judgement. The Authority has conducted previous industry engagement using Defence Sourcing Portal, with a Request for Information (RFI) published 12/11/2021.

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/esop/toolkit/opportunity/past/52781/detail.si>

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement.

The Authority reserves the right to amend any condition related to security of information to reflect any changes in national law or government policy. If any contract documents are accompanied by instructions on safeguarding classified information (e.g. a Security Aspects Letter), the Authority reserves the right to amend the terms of these instructions to reflect any changes in national law or government policy, whether in respect of the applicable protective marking scheme, specific protective markings given, the aspects to which any protective marking applies, or otherwise. The link below to the [Gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications) website provides information on the Government Security Classification.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications>

This contract opportunity is published on the Defence Sourcing Portal, Find a Tender and Contracts Finder.

Suppliers must read through this set of instructions and follow the process to respond to this opportunity.

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VI.4) Procedures for appeal

VI.4.1) Body responsible for appeal procedures

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence, Air Support, C17CSAE NH1 Atrium, #1027

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email(s)

DESC17CSAE-Commercial@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.1) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence, Air Support, C17CSAE NH1 Atrium, #1027

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email(s)

DESC17CSAE-Commercial@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Defence, Air Support, C17CSAE NH1 Atrium, #1027

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Email(s)

DESC17CSAE-Commercial@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom