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Planning

Consumer Personal Care Product Usage Survey

Department for Business and Trade

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-032152

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-041090

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Business and Trade

London

Contact

Kelly Stanard

Email

commercialresearchandconsultancy@businessandtrade.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-business-and-trade>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Consumer Personal Care Product Usage Survey

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73300000 - Design and execution of research and development

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Office for Product Safety and Standards ("the customer") has a potential requirement for the provision of Consumer Personal Care Product Usage Survey. The aim of this project is to assess the usage of selected personal care products via an online consumer usage survey and generate an up to date and representative data set examining patterns of use for personal care products in the UK. This will also involve generating a data set examining the difference in use of personal care products between demographic groups.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £100,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73110000 - Research services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The aim of this project is to assess the usage of selected personal care products via an online consumer usage survey and generate an up to date and representative data set examining patterns of use for personal care products in the UK. This will also involve generating a data set examining the difference in use of personal care products between demographic groups.

By undertaking the research, we would be beginning a process that will potentially allow OPSS, the SAG-CS and industry to deliver more accurate chemical risk assessments by improving the accuracy of the exposure assessments used. By measuring demographic characteristics against personal care product usage, it will provide OPSS a clearer picture as to the influence demographic characteristics have on personal care product usage. Diversity and inclusion is core to all the actions we take as regulators. By undertaking this research, it will allow OPSS to better understand consumer behaviour regarding personal care product usage across different groups of consumers and we can consider this evidence in future actions we take on personal care product safety (policy development, campaigns etc). It will also help us to fulfil our mission of protecting people and places through more inclusive assessment of exposure.

What are the precise research questions that will be answered?

Primary research questions:

- What personal care products do consumers use and how are they used?
- How do demographic characteristics influence consumers personal care product usage habits? We are particularly interested in children, adults over 65 and comparisons between ethnic groups.
- The survey questions being asked to answer these questions:
 - How often do consumers use a product (multiple times a day/ how many times a day/week/month)?
 - Where on the body is a product used?
 - How much (amount)?
 - How much skin surface area/mouth surface area/hair do consumers apply it to?
 - Do consumers use multiple products (of different and similar types)
 - How consumers decide on the product they purchase?

- Are there any considerations around the safety or the ingredients of the product consumers have?
- Have they ever experienced negative effects when using the personal care products?

We would like the contractor to familiarise themselves with the methodologies used in (Hall et al., 2007 and Hall et al., 2011) before designing their methodologies, as we wish to be able to compare the results from both surveys. The project will be an online consumer survey in which approximately 8000 people (from a representative range of ethnicities, ages and socioeconomic groups) will record their normal personal care product usage over a 1-month period. This will include details of the product type, an estimate of the amount used, where it was applied and how frequently it was applied, as well as other criteria. In addition to this, demographic data will also be recorded to correlate usage patterns with demographic groups. OPSS would like to use the data generated from the demographic aspect of the survey, to identify trends related to certain groups' usage of personal care products. This will allow for a more proactive approach to identifying areas for future research and identifying any potential risks. The accuracy of survey respondents' recollection will be validated with an online diary of approximately 200 respondents. Any trends in under or over-estimating use, would add to the interpretation of survey findings.

II.2.14) Additional information

If you would interested in bidding for the requirement or finding out more information, please respond to this Prior Information Notice by emailing commercialresearchandconsultancy@businessandtrade.gov.uk by 14:00 on the 29 November 2023. We will be holding market engagements calls with interested suppliers as responses are received.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

27 January 2024

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes