

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/033332-2024>

Tender

## **Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study**

Scottish Government

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-033332

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04a4bb

Published 16 October 2024, 11:53am

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

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

Scottish Government

4 Atlantic Quay, 70 York St

Glasgow

G2 8EA

#### **Contact**

Jonathan Nicolson

#### **Email**

[jonathan.nicolson@gov.scot](mailto:jonathan.nicolson@gov.scot)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1412420133

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM - Scotland

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10482](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10482)

**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://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

---

## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study

Reference number

737511

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 73110000 - Research services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) is preparing for the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2027, which will mark the ninth cycle of this international assessment. TIMSS, conducted every four years since its inception in 1995, provides invaluable trend data on pupils' mathematics and science achievements, as well as contextual information about their learning experiences.

Scotland has confirmed its participation in TIMSS 2027. The TIMSS International Study Centre (ISC) at Boston College, USA, will serve as the international study centre for this cycle, working closely with the IEA and the National Study Centres of participating countries to ensure the study's success. Each participating country is responsible for appointing a National Research Coordinator (NRC). The NRC plays a crucial role in ensuring the success of the study within their country by working closely with the ISC and adhering to its guidelines.

This Scottish Government wish to appoint a suitably qualified institution or organisation to undertake the responsibilities of the NRC and conduct the required fieldwork for TIMSS 2027 in Scotland.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £830,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

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

The specific aims of the work will be to:

Act as National Research Coordinator (NRC) for Scotland: Serve as the primary liaison between Scotland and the TIMSS International Study Centre (ISC) at Boston College, IEA Amsterdam, IEA Hamburg, and RTI International.

Participate in International NRC Meetings: Engage in international NRC meetings conducted in English to collaborate on study protocols and procedures.

Prepare and Administer TIMSS 2027 Assessments for P5 and S2: Ensure that the TIMSS 2027 study instruments are prepared and administered according to IEA specifications and strict operational and response rate requirements, while aligning with Scottish Government research guidelines.

Manage Sampling, Data Collection, and Data Processing: Oversee the sampling, data collection, coding, and data cleansing processes for TIMSS 2027 in Scotland.

Provide Cleaned Data Sets: Deliver cleaned electronic data sets from TIMSS 2027 field trials and main studies to the ISC and the Scottish Government.

Contribute to the TIMSS 2027 Encyclopaedia: Prepare and submit a country chapter detailing Scotland's educational context and practices.

Submit Reports to the Scottish Government: Provide one report on the TIMSS 2027 field trials and one on the main studies to the Scottish Government.

The contract does not include delivering Scotland's national report as this will either be prepared by Scottish Government or commissioned to a service provider under a separate contract at a later date.

Tenderers are encouraged to propose cost-effective solutions that optimise the the

available budget, focusing on efficient management of expenses, overheads, and profit to ensure successful delivery. While bids should generally align with this budget, some flexibility is expected where necessary, and the Scottish Government reserves the right to clarify any aspects of a price proposal.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery and Approach / Weighting: 30%

Quality criterion - Name: Project and Quality Management / Weighting: 20%

Quality criterion - Name: Staff, Skills and Resource / Weighting: 30%

Quality criterion - Name: Climate Emergency / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Community Benefits / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Fair Work First / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery / Weighting: 5%

Price - Weighting: 40

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

Value excluding VAT: £830,000

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

Start date

30 January 2025

End date

31 March 2028

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

3 month no cost extension period.

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

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: No

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

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

---

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

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

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

List and brief description of selection criteria

SPD 4B.4 - Bidders must demonstrate a Current Ratio of no less than 0.5 in each of the last two financial years. Current Ratio will be calculated as follows:

Total current assets divided by Total current liabilities.

There must be no qualification or contra-indication from any evidence provided in support of the bidders economic and financial standing.

SPD 4B.5 -The bidder confirms they already have or can commit to obtain, prior to the commencement of the contract, the levels of insurance cover indicated below:

Professional Risk Indemnity: in the sum of not less than Five Million (5m) GBP.

Employer's (Compulsory) Liability: in accordance with any legal obligation for the time being in force but in any event in the sum of not less than Five million(5m) GBP.

Public Liability: in the sum of not less than 5 Million(5m) GBP.

Such insurance must be maintained for the duration of the Contract and for a minimum of 5 years following the expiry or termination of the Contract.

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

List and brief description of selection criteria

SPD 4C.4 - Bidders must provide a statement of the relevant supply chain management and/or tracking systems used.

SPD 4C.7 - Bidders will be required to provide evidence that their organisation has taken steps to build their awareness of the climate change emergency and how they will respond.

SPD 4C.10 - Bidders are required to confirm whether they intend to subcontract and, if so, for what proportion of the contract.

## **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

### **III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

---

## **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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2024/S 000-031412](#)

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

Date

19 November 2024

Local time

12:00pm

**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: 19 May 2025

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

Date

19 November 2024

Local time

12:00pm



---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

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

Question Scoring Methodology for Award Criteria outlined in invitation to tender:

0 Unacceptable. Nil or inadequate response. Fails to demonstrate an ability to meet the requirement.

1 Poor. Response is partially relevant but generally poor. The response addresses some elements of the

requirement but contains insufficient/limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the requirement will be

fulfilled.

2 Reasonable. Response is relevant and acceptable. The response addresses a broad understanding of the

requirement but may lack details on how the requirement will be fulfilled in areas.

3 Good. Response is relevant and good. The response is sufficiently detailed to demonstrate a good

understanding and provides details on how the requirements will be fulfilled.

4 Excellent. Response is completely relevant and excellent overall.

Bidders must complete the SPD (Scotland) to demonstrate adherence to the Exclusion and Selection Criteria for this procurement.

If there are named subcontractors upon which the bidder will rely to meet the selection criteria, these named parties must complete and reattach the SPD Supplier Response Form attached to SPD question 2D.1.2 (Subcontractors) on PCS-T. These parties must complete the first three sections of the SPD form, as well as any part of the section 4 selection criteria that the main bidder will rely upon the parties to fulfil. If parties have not yet been identified, this information may be required at a later date.

Scottish Government reserves the right to request this information from relevant parties upon whom the main bidder will not rely to fulfil selection criteria.

4C.10 Bidders will be required to confirm whether they intend to sub-contract and if so, for what proportion of the contract.

A sub-contract clause has been included in this contract. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2363>

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see:

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in-procurement/>

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

As detailed within Schedule 1 (Specification).

The buyer is using Public Contracts Scotland -Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 27776. The ITT code is 56798

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 27776. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

A sub-contract clause has been included in this contract. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2363>

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see:

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in-procurement/>

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

The tenderer must provide a Community Benefits proposal that is relevant to the subject matter of this contract and supports the Scottish Ministers' commitment to contributing to

the social, economic & environmental well-being of the people of Scotland, as described in the specification.

Tenderers should not provide details of any existing initiatives they already undertake as part of their day-to-day business and the community benefits proposed must be generated specifically for and as a result of this contract.

Good answers will demonstrate to evaluators that the tenderer has a comprehensive understanding of the subject matter of this contract and how the proposed benefits will reflect the national outcomes described in the Specification.

Proposals can be innovative but must be tangible and measurable, so that they can be monitored and reported throughout the contract. Proposed initiatives could include hosting free workshops schools on educational research topics, offering work experience opportunities for pupils, and providing access to teacher training materials.

(SC Ref:780429)

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

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

Edinburgh Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

27 Chamber Street

Edinburgh

EH11LB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

[www.scotcourts.gov.uk/the-courts/court-locations/edinburgh-sheriff-court-and-justice-of-the-peace-court](http://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/the-courts/court-locations/edinburgh-sheriff-court-and-justice-of-the-peace-court)