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Planning

Pre-Market Engagement for EPC Accreditation Audit Schemes

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-034333

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-041b72

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

Fry Building

2 Marsham Street, London

SW1P 4DF

Contact

SGB-Proc@Levellingup.gov.uk

Email

SGB-Proc@Levellingup.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-levelling-up-housing-and-communities>

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

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Pre-Market Engagement for EPC Accreditation Audit Schemes

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72225000 - System quality assurance assessment and review services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (the Department) intends to go out to market to appoint a supplier to provide assurance services in relation to the energy assessor industry's compliance to the required standards. The Department expects this assurance service to be provided, in part, by regular independent audits of all aspects of Accreditation Scheme (Schemes) operations. The Department is seeking views from the market place to help shape its procurement strategy.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79212300 - Statutory audit services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This market sounding exercise relates to the Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (the Department) expected requirement for assurance services in relation to the energy assessor industry's compliance to the required standards. The Department

expects this assurance service to be provided, in part, by regular independent audits of all aspects of Accreditation Scheme (Schemes) operations.

The purpose of Schemes is to ensure that energy assessments carried out by their members and their recommendations are cost-effective and of high-quality, accurate and consistent. Schemes are therefore, regularly audited by independent auditors to ensure that they comply with Scheme Operating Requirements (SORs) and the Secretary of State's letter of Approval. The SORs sets out the minimum operating standards for Schemes. There are currently six approved Schemes operating different strands of the EPBRs. All Schemes are required to comply with the SORs, which includes minimum operating standards in relation to quality assurance, the audit approach that must be adopted and the profomas used for reporting outcomes to DLUHC, covering Domestic Energy Assessor (DEAs); Non-Domestic Energy Assessor (NDEAs) level 3 and level 4; NDEA level 5; On Construction Domestic Energy Assessor (OCDEAs); Display Energy Certificates (DECs) and Air Conditioning Inspection Report (ACIRs).

The purpose of this pre-market engagement exercise is to:

- (a) inform the market of the upcoming contracting opportunity.
- (b) assess market interest in this opportunity, and
- (c) to obtain views from the market to help shape the Department's procurement strategy.

All interested parties are invited to respond by completing the online questionnaire found here: <https://forms.office.com/e/mQUtQDdPmH?origin=lprLink>

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

15 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