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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

Published 20 November 2023, 5:32pm

### **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](mailto: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

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## **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=lpLink>

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

15 January 2024

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## **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