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Tender

## **DfE - Invest NI - Design, Management and Delivery of the Accelerator Programme**

Invest NI

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-034534

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-041bf1

Published 22 November 2023, 12:45pm

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

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

Invest NI

Bedford Square, 1 Bedford Street

BELFAST

BT2 7ES

#### **Email**

[SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

## **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://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

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

Body governed by public law

## **I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

DfE - Invest NI - Design, Management and Delivery of the Accelerator Programme

Reference number

4908603

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

- 73200000 - Research and development consultancy services

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

Services

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

Invest NI wishes to appoint a Contractor to design, develop, manage and deliver an Accelerator programme to support high growth Innovation Driven Enterprises (IDEs) to establish in Northern Ireland. This programme will represent a key component of the start-up ecosystem for IDEs in Northern Ireland.

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

Value excluding VAT: £2,540,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73220000 - Development consultancy services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

Invest NI wishes to appoint a Contractor to design, develop, manage and deliver an Accelerator programme to support high growth Innovation Driven Enterprises (IDEs) to establish in Northern Ireland. This programme will represent a key component of the start-up ecosystem for IDEs in Northern Ireland.

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

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Value excluding VAT: £2,540,000

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

Duration in months

24

This contract is subject to renewal

No

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

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

The initial contract period is for 2 years with the option to extend for a further 3 periods of up to 12 months each.

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

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

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

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

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

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

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

Date

9 January 2024

Local time

3:00pm

#### **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: 8 April 2024

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

Date

9 January 2024

Local time

3:30pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is a recurrent procurement: No

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

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

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

Contractors not delivering on contract requirements is a serious matter. It means the public purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a contractor fails to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance they will be given a specified time to improve. If, after the specified time, they still fail to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance, the matter will be escalated to senior management in CPD for further action. If this occurs and their performance still does not improve to satisfactory levels within the specified period, it may be regarded as an act of grave professional misconduct and they may be issued with a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance and their place on the contract may be terminated. The issue of a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance will result in the contractor being excluded from all procurement competitions being undertaken by Centres of Procurement. Expertise on behalf of bodies covered by the Northern Ireland Procurement Policy for a period of twelve months from the date of issue of the Notice

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

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

: The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures. Instead; any challenges are dealt with by the High Court, Commercial Division, to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the PCR 2015 as amended.

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD will comply with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) and where appropriate, will incorporate a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract is communicated to tenderers. That notification will provide full information on the award decision. This provides time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into.