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Planning

PS22407 - The Procurement of the Office for Product Safety and Standards Research Collaboration Network

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-034971

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-038c5c

Published 9 December 2022, 3:42pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

1 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0ET

Email

professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI - London

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.uksbs.co.uk

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from another address:

UK Shared Business Services

Polaris House, North Star Avenue

Swindon

SN2 1FF

Email

professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI - London

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.uksbs.co.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

PS22407 - The Procurement of the Office for Product Safety and Standards Research Collaboration Network

Reference number

PS22407

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73200000 - Research and development consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This OPSS Research Collaboration Network is being commissioned to support the delivery of the Office for Product Safety & Standards (OPSS) Strategic Research Programme (SRP). OPSS was established by BEIS in January 2018 in order to enhance protections for consumers and drive forward increased productivity, growth and business confidence.

The OPSS SRP provides high quality, strategic, science-based research to strengthen the evidence base for OPSS policy development, delivery and enforcement activities.

As an evidence-led organisation, OPSS places great importance on research which gathers insights on a number of evidence bases and challenges the product safety system faces. We intend that by setting up a Research Collaboration Network OPSS will bring together suppliers and create a community of researchers dedicated to the OPSS objectives of keeping people safe and driving forward increased productivity, growth and business confidence. We propose that a joined-up approach for research commissioning will attract more suppliers and will create lists of subject matter experts we can call upon

for peer review and technical advice.

The aim of the OPSS Research Framework is to identify and utilise contractors with skill and expertise in the following areas to support the aims of our Strategic Research Programme (SRP):

- Lot 1: Risk (communications, management, measurement, prioritisation and tolerance);
- Lot 2: Chemicals and Materials (Identification, measurement, characterisation techniques and exposure studies and toxicological limits);
- Lot 3: Economic (Impact analysis, market analysis and consumer/business behaviours and attitudes);
- Lot 4: Technology hardware and software. (Literature reviews, SWOT analysis and research testing, focusing on batteries, mechanical and software engineering challenges).

The purpose of the Research Collaboration Network is to make it easier and faster for both contractors and OPSS to apply for and commission research, with contractors only required to make one large bid at the beginning of the framework start which will onboard them into a 'lot' relevant to their expertise.

Research requests from OPSS will be ad hoc and throughout the year but will relate to these four lots. The research requests will then be distributed to suppliers through much shorter 'mini competitions' which require less paperwork (usual turn-around time is approx. one week).

Further information can be found on the Contracts Finder notice here - <https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/bb4a087f-563f-4e9e-aa16-18a018a27636>

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £4,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Risk (communications, management, measurement, prioritisation and tolerance)

Lot No

Lot 1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79300000 - Market and economic research; polling and statistics

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

**** Please note this is not a call for competition. This is a PIN notice for a Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) requirement****

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We hope this Research Collaboration Network will also attract smaller research

businesses and academic institutions, who may struggle with the demands of bidding of individual research from contracts finder or other government procurement routes. It is worth noting that this will not subsume other methods of procurement and in some cases other frameworks could be used for some research when appropriate. We are particularly interested in suppliers who have expertise in applying their research methods to non-medical and non-food consumer products.

This Prior Information Notice is being issued in order to undertake a market consultation exercise with regards to the current view of requirements detailed above.

The supplier engagement session is due to take place on Wednesday, 25th January 2023 10:00 – 12:00 via Microsoft Teams. The supplier engagement session will last approximately 2 hours, comprising of the following:

- Overview of the requirements for each lot
- Explanation of the bidding process
- Open floor Q&A

Note that the route to market will be via Find a Tender and Contracts Finder.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Chemicals and Materials (Identification, measurement, characterisation techniques and exposure studies and toxicological limits}

Lot No

Lot 2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79300000 - Market and economic research; polling and statistics

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

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II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Economic (Impact analysis, market analysis and consumer/business behaviours and attitudes)

Lot No

Lot 3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79300000 - Market and economic research; polling and statistics

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

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II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Technology hardware and software. (Literature reviews, SWOT analysis and research

testing, focusing on batteries, mechanical and software engineering challenges}

Lot No

Lot 4

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79300000 - Market and economic research; polling and statistics

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

6 February 2023

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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

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Feedback from the day and Q&A sessions may be used to inform the final tender documentation, ensuring all valid options are considered.

If you believe that this will be of interest to you and your organisation, please register your interest by providing the following information to professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk marking the email FAO Victoria Clewer and the

reference PS22407 Research Collaboration Hub confirming your organisation and the name of attendees.

- Organisation Name
- Attendee(s) Name
- Attendee(s) Email Address

Space is limited on the supplier day, and attendance is restricted to 3 people per supplier. We would request that attendance is restricted to key members of your organisation.

By registering and attending you will be engaging in non-competitive dialogue which will enable BEIS to develop and assess the market's appetite, concerns, and views on formulation of its requirements. BEIS may consider the information and responses received as part of the preliminary market consultation to help inform the

specification and further decision making in relation to the planning and conduct of the procurement, ensuring all valid options are considered.

For the avoidance of doubt, this notice is not a Call for Competition; a Contract Notice will be issued as a call for competition. Not registering an interest shall not prevent any supplier participating in a future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the preliminary market consultation shall place any supplier at an advantage in a potential procurement process.