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Award

DAC 149/22 ID 4609155 - DOF NICSHR Occupational Health Service

Department of Finance

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-035141

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-038ccd

Published 13 December 2022, 8:54am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Finance

C/O 303 Airport Road West

BELFAST

BT3 9ED

Email

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.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

DAC 149/22 ID 4609155 - DOF NICSHR Occupational Health Service

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This DAC is to provide Occupational Health Services to the Department. There are resourcing issues and the state of the labour market were unforeseen and unattributable to the Department. There are capacity issues in this area, competition for resources in both the private and public sector and the Dept must act quickly to secure. The Department is considering longer term solutions including employment but services must be covered in the interim.

These are urgent, critical services. There is no option to do nothing.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £766,335

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This DAC is to provide Occupational Health Services to the Department. There are resourcing issues and the state of the labour market were unforeseen and unattributable to the Department. There are capacity issues in this area, competition for resources in both the private and public sector and the Dept must act quickly to secure. The Department is considering longer term solutions including employment but services must be covered in the interim.

These are urgent, critical services. There is no option to do nothing.

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The provider is an established and experienced occupational health service provider, and they have confirmed that they can deliver a range of occupational health services to assist the NICS. The ability to procure these services to support OHS activities will safeguard the delivery of occupational health services, assist in the use of limited OHS resource, and provide an opportunity to consider and implement longer term solutions to the challenges being faced. Given the possible impact of these challenges on the NICS and the requirement to address the situation urgently, approval is being sought to procure these services through a Direct Award Contract (DAC) as an interim arrangement while longer term solutions are implemented. Under Regulation 32 of PCR 2015, there are derogations to award a contract to a single supplier where the supplies or services can only be supplied by a particular supplier.

In this case specifically applying the derogation under Regulation 32(2)(c) whereby it is strictly necessary where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable by the contracting authority, the time limits for the open or restricted procedures or competitive procedures with negotiation cannot be complied with.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 December 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Blackwell Associates

Belfast

Email

enquiries@blackwellassociates.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM - Scotland

Internet address

<https://www.blackwellassociates.co.uk/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £766,335

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not have any special review body with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures in public procurement competitions. 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.

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

: The Public Contract Regulations 2015 provide for aggrieved parties who have.. been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland). The authority incorporates a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) before this contract is awarded.