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Planning

## **Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) Support Contract**

Defra Network eTendering Portal

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-035622

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04b3aa

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

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

Defra Network eTendering Portal

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

#### **Contact**

Wayne Lamport

#### **Email**

[dgc-laww-buyer@defra.gov.uk](mailto:dgc-laww-buyer@defra.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2084152266

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

Buyer's address

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

National or federal Agency/Office

**I.5) Main activity**

Environment

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Local Air Quality Management (LAQM) Support Contract

Reference number

P-36449

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

- 90731100 - Air quality management

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

Services

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

This contract is for the co-ordination and provision of technical support to all UK local authorities (LAs) so that they can carry out their statutory LAQM responsibilities, underpinned by the Environment Act 1995) accurately and consistently .

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

Defra requires a supplier to provide LAQM Support for a period of 5 years between the 10 June 2025 to 9 June 2030 with a potential option for a 2 year extension.

The supplier will provide support to LAs via a telephone and email helpdesk function and LAQM web services (LAQM Support Website, Air Quality Hub and LAQM Portal). The supplier will also maintain a quality-controlled database of LAQM information and assess LA statutory reports and action plans for England, London, Wales, Scotland and Northern

Ireland (the authorities).

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

The supplier will be required to:

- Provide expert advice and support to LAs and the Authorities on all matters relating to LAQM and Smoke Control Areas (SCAs);
- Maintain calculation tools, templates and guidance for LAQM review and assessment and action planning, and deliver training webinars;
- Manage the LAQM reminder warning process for overdue review and assessment reports and action plans within England excl. London, enabling automation and maintaining list of local government contact details;
- Host, manage and maintain all LAQM webservices, as the main ways for LAs to submit LAQM information, record fulfilment of statutory obligations, share knowledge and access the authorities' guidance;
- Host, maintain and present LAQM and SCA database, including local authority managed diffusion tube and continuous monitoring data, Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) and SCA information;
- Appraise LA Review and Assessment and Action Planning reports for England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland and London over the period of the Contract.
- Make significant updates to the Emissions Factor Toolkit (EFT) annually to maintain consistency with Defra's national AQ modelling
- In addition, the supplier may be required to complete ad hoc tasks during the life of the contract including a significant update of the LAQM Technical Guidance, develop calculation tools and provide further assessment support to LAs .

The skills required are as follows:

- Extensive expertise in air quality science, using monitoring equipment, interpreting data and air quality modelling to be able to advise local authorities effectively.
- Extensive knowledge of local authorities and their requirements under LAQM Statutory Technical and Policy Guidance 2022, the Environment Act 1995 as amended by the Environment Act 2021, and the Clean Air Act.
- Proficiency in IT and database management is required for maintaining the LAQM digital and data services as well for automating processes.
- Advanced project management skills are needed to oversee various tasks, from maintain databases and websites to updating toolkits and managing reminder processes.

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

4 November 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

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

In order to understand the markets appetite and ability to resource and bid for this work, we are requesting you respond to this PIN to confirm if you are interested in bidding for this work and that you can meet the requirements outlined above. Your response should be submitted by email to [dgc-laww-buyer@defra.gov.uk](mailto:dgc-laww-buyer@defra.gov.uk) by the closing date of 05/12/2024 by (15:00). The Authority may contact you to confirm your interest and to discuss your capability to fulfil this requirement.

The response to this PIN will determine if/ when we are able to commence a procurement process. This PIN does not commit the Authority to progressing this opportunity beyond this point.

It should also be noted that this PIN invites individuals and organisations to express an interest in this exercise only. It is NOT a pre-qualification questionnaire, is NOT part of any pre-qualification or selection process, and is NOT a call for competition.