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Contract

Platinum Jubilee Village Halls Improvement Fund Management

Defra

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-036196

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03934e

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Defra

17 Nobel House

London

SW1P 3JR

Email

Marcus.ritchie@defra.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2072385921

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

123456789

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Platinum Jubilee Village Halls Improvement Fund Management

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Contractor shall act as Fund Manager and will award grants for capital improvements to eligible village halls in England. The Authority shall transfer a ring-fenced budget to the Contractor for the purpose of awarding grants under the scheme; the Contractor shall be the Acting Agent on behalf of the Authority for delivering these services.

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: £180,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Grant administration services for delivery of grants to Village Halls to support improvements to buildings/facilities.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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:

There is a very limited market for this service as the award recipient needs to have a detailed technical understanding of Village Hall buildings management as well as the dynamics of how financing for Village Halls can be managed. They need an understanding of what is eligible/ineligible spend in terms of CDEL funding and need to be able to offer advice as well as administer a competitive grant scheme. Previous experience of running a nationwide (England) grant funding scheme is required. Early Market Engagement activity was conducted in the form of a request for Expressions of Interest (EOI) followed by a formal Request For Information (RFI) process. 6 organisations completed an EOI and 2 organisations then went on to complete the RFI document. Applicants needed to evidence extensive knowledge of, and experience in, dealing with village halls and grant funding, including an in depth knowledge of current grant funding available to halls. The recipient evidenced:-

- a detailed understanding of Village Hall Buildings Management which allows them to effectively carry out initial sift and re-direct ineligible applications to other funding sources.
- Significant experience of Village Hall planning requirements, the regulatory environment, maintenance challenges (eg asbestos) eligible/ineligible costs for funding, the financing options for improvement works available to Village Halls.
- National reach via regional hubs across England offering local knowledge and allowing prompt access to halls requiring site visits.
- The recipient runs a Village Hall Advisory Service which is not affiliated with Defra. All data they hold is theirs and they will not share this information with other suppliers. In the event of a Village Halls focused competition, it would be difficult to prepare a specification that did not provide an advantage to them, thereby restricting competition.

The second supplier who completed an RFI failed to provide any examples of when they or their partners have worked on village hall projects. There were multiple references to partnership working but no details of specific partners or intelligence that evidences village hall knowledge or experience. It is clear from the RFI response that the 2nd supplier, whilst credible in their specialist field, do not have the requisite experience and competence in Village Hall maintenance and funding.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

ecm_66425

Lot No

1

Title

Platinum Jubilee Village Halls Improvement Fund

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

21 December 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

ACRE

The Quadrangle, Woodstock, Oxfordshire, OX20 1LH.

Woodstock

OX201LH

Email

contact@acre.org.uk

Telephone

+44 1283653477

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://acre.org.uk/>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £180,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Defra

2 Marsham Street, London, SW1P

London

Country

United Kingdom