This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <a href="https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/036444-2023">https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/036444-2023</a>

Planning

# UKRI-3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION

More titles:

UKRI -3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION

UKRI-3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION

**UK Research & Innovation** 

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-036444

Procurement identifiers (OCIDs): ocds-h6vhtk-0424c0, ocds-h6vhtk-0424c1, ocds-

h6vhtk-0424c2

Published 11 December 2023, 7:05pm

# **Section I: Contracting authority**

## I.1) Name and addresses

**UK Research & Innovation** 

UK Research & Innovation. Polaris House

Swindon

SN21FL

#### **Contact**

#### **Corporate Procurement**

#### **Email**

corporateprocurement@ukri.org

#### **Telephone**

+44 1793867000

#### **Country**

**United Kingdom** 

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

## Internet address(es)

Main address

www.ukri.org

Buyer's address

www.ukri.org

# I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

# 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

UKRI-3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION

Reference number

**UKRI-3566** 

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

• 73110000 - Research services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

## II.1.4) Short description

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is being issued in order to formally commence market engagement activities with specific regards to the potential requirement for the sourcing of RESEARCH ENGLAND'S STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION, briefly detailed in Section 2. For clarity, this PIN is not a Call for Competition. Not registering an interest shall not prevent any organisation from participating in any potential future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the preliminary market consultation shall place any organisation at an advantage in any potential future procurement process.

#### II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

## II.2) Description

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

• 73110000 - Research services

#### II.2.3) Place of performance

**NUTS** codes

• UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

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

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is intended to notify suppliers of an upcoming procurement opportunity that will be advertised through the Crown Commercial Service RM6126 Research and Insights Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) and also seeks feedback from the market. Only suppliers registered under the following categories will be eligible to submit bids upon launch: Further Education Higher Education Civil Service / Government / Parliamentary Reform Policy Analysis and Development Grants and Grant Funding Econometric Analysis Financial Analysis (including cost-benefit analysis, return on investment analysis) Impact Assessment Thematic Analysis Quantitative Qualitative Mixed Method (qualitative and quantitative) Online Telephone Case Studies Depth Interviews Focus Group Discussions Narrative Inquiry/Narrative Analysis Workshop Impact Evaluation Theory-Based Impact Evaluation (including Theories of Change and Logic Modeling) Realist Evaluation Value-for-Money Evaluation Random/Stratified Random Sample For additional details on this DPS, please visit

https://www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/agreements/RM6126. Interested bidders are strongly encouraged to register as a DPS supplier using the provided link and complete the DPS Registration. It is essential to note that this DPS is managed by CCS and not UKRI. Therefore, for any technical assistance, please direct queries to the CCS customer services team, available Monday to Friday, 9 am to 5 pm, via email at <a href="mailto:info@crowncommercial.gov.uk">info@crowncommercial.gov.uk</a> or by telephone at 0345 410 2222. To register your interest as a supplier for this DPS, please use the following link: <a href="https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps">https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps</a> Please refer to UKRI:3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION MARKET SOUNDING PART 1 INVITATION document within the document upload section of the SQ for details about the requirement.

#### II.2.14) Additional information

To register for the webinar:

https://ukri.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN n7jYzHbwQ02F8g9FjzxliA#/registration

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

## **Section II: Object**

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

#### II.1.1) Title

UKRI -3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION

Reference number

**UKRI-3566** 

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

• 73110000 - Research services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

## II.1.4) Short description

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is being issued in order to formally commence market engagement activities with specific regards to the potential requirement for the sourcing of UKRI:3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION For clarity, this PIN is not a Call for Competition. Not registering an interest shall not prevent any organisation from participating in any potential future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the preliminary market consultation shall place any organisation at an advantage in any potential future procurement process.

## 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

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

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

UKRI and Research England are seeking suppliers for the design and delivery of an evaluation of the impact of Research England's £2.35bn (approx.) of annual formula-related research funding provided to eligible English higher education providers (HEPs), referred to as strategic institutional research funding (SIRF). The majority of Research England's SIRF is delivered to HEPs as un-hypothecated block grants, that HEPs may spend on their own priorities, so long as these relate to the activities that Research England are empowered to fund: research, knowledge exchange and related activities. An evaluation of the impact of Research England's SIRF will contribute significantly to the delivery of a wider review Research England are conducting on our SIRF and contribute to the wider evidence base on the effectiveness and value of Research England's formula research funding. This evidence will then support any decisions Research England makes about the future direction of our funding policy and contribute to future Research England evidence submissions to government spending reviews, ensuring we understand the value and impact of this funding. Research England are looking for suppliers to design and deliver this evaluation within an approximate 12–13-month period. Providers should be able to demonstrate experience and familiarity with following: •Theory-based evaluative methods •The UK government's central guidance on evaluation (Magenta Book) • Producing Theory of Change models • Evaluation of research impact and outcomes In addition, the SIRF impact evaluation should provide: Outreach and engagement of the evaluation to both the research and higher education sectors •Evidence towards a wider review of Research England's SIRF •A theory of change for model for the impact and outcome of RE's SIRF • Evidence on the value and impact of Research England's SIRF that will help inform future UK government spending reviews.

## II.2.14) Additional information

Please refer to the two reference documents: •Part 1: The Invitation which provides information about SIRF Impact Evaluation. •Part 2: The Questionnaire You are invited to respond to the questionnaire which should be completed by the closing date of noon Wednesday 3rd January 2024.

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

30 April 2024

# **Section II: Object**

# II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

UKRI-3566 – RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION

Reference number

**UKRI-3566** 

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

• 73110000 - Research services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

## II.1.4) Short description

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is being issued in order to formally commence market engagement activities with specific regards to the potential requirement for the sourcing of RESEARCH ENGLAND STRATEGIC INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH FUNDING (SIRF) IMPACT EVALUATION. For clarity, this PIN is not a Call for Competition. Not registering an interest shall not prevent any organisation from participating in any potential future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the preliminary market consultation shall place any organisation at an advantage in any potential future procurement process.

## II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

## II.2) Description

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

• 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

#### II.2.3) Place of performance

**NUTS** codes

• UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

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

UKRI and Research England are seeking suppliers for the design and delivery of an evaluation of the impact of Research England's £2.35bn (approx.) of annual formula-related research funding provided to eligible English higher education providers (HEPs), referred to as strategic institutional research funding (SIRF). The majority of Research England's SIRF is delivered to HEPs as un-hypothecated block grants, that HEPs may spend on their own priorities, so long as these relate to the activities that Research England are empowered to fund: research, knowledge exchange and related activities. An evaluation of the impact of Research England's SIRF will contribute significantly to the delivery of a wider review Research England are conducting on our SIRF and contribute to the wider evidence base on the effectiveness and value of Research England's formula research funding. This evidence will then support any decisions Research England makes about the future direction of our funding policy and contribute to future Research England evidence submissions to government spending reviews, ensuring we understand the value and impact of this funding. Research England are looking for suppliers to design and deliver this evaluation within an approximate 12–13-month period. Providers should be able to demonstrate experience and familiarity with following: •Theory-based evaluative methods •The UK government's central guidance on evaluation (Magenta Book) • Producing Theory of Change models • Evaluation of research impact and outcomes In addition, the SIRF impact evaluation should provide: •Outreach and engagement of the evaluation to both the research and higher education sectors •Evidence towards a wider review of Research England's SIRF •A theory of change for model for the impact and outcome of RE's SIRF • Evidence on the value and impact of Research England's SIRF that will help inform future UK government spending reviews. Please refer to the two reference documents: •Part 1: The Invitation (this document) which provides information about SIRF Impact Evaluation. •Part 2: The Questionnaire You are invited to respond to the questionnaire which should be completed by the closing date of noon Wednesday 3rd January 2024. In addition, an online market engagement explanatory event will be held on Thursday 11th January 2024 from 2pm to 3pm, which will be open to all respondents of Part 2: The Questionnaire. To register for the webinar: https://ukri.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN n7jYzHbwQ02F8g9FjzxliA#/registration During

https://ukri.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\_n7jYzHbwQ02F8q9FjzxliA#/registration During the event, UKRI and RE will present the SIRF Impact Evaluation project as it is currently envisioned, provide an explanation of the questionnaire, and hold a Q&A session. You are welcome to submit questions in advance via the Delta Portal Message Centre.

#### II.2.14) Additional information

Please refer to the two reference documents: •Part 1: The Invitation (this document) which provides information about SIRF Impact Evaluation. •Part 2: The Questionnaire

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

30 April 2024

# **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

To view this notice, please click here:

https://ukri.delta-esourcing.com/delta/viewNotice.html?noticeId=829326529

GO Reference: GO-20231211-PRO-24739101