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Contract

## **ID 5314168 - DfE - NRC - Provision of Public Relations, Media Relations and Communications Services for NRC**

Northern Regional College

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-037891

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0496d5

Published 22 November 2024, 4:09pm

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

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

Northern Regional College

Union Street

BELFAST

BT52 1QA

#### **Contact**

SSDAdmin.CPDfinance-ni.gov.uk

#### **Email**

[SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto: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

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

ID 5314168 - DfE - NRC - Provision of Public Relations, Media Relations and Communications Services for NRC

Reference number

5314168

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 790000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

NRC require a Supplier to assist the organisation in the following ways; strategic support,

media relations, community relations and public consultation, event support, and performance management and reporting. The Supplier will be appointed for two years, with an option to extend for three further periods of up to 12 months each. The total maximum contract duration is therefore five years.

#### **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: £250,000

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

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

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services
- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services
- 79416000 - Public relations services
- 79416100 - Public relations management services
- 79416200 - Public relations consultancy services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

NRC require a Supplier to assist the organisation in the following ways; strategic support, media relations, community relations and public consultation, event support, and performance management and reporting. The Supplier will be appointed for two years, with an option to extend for three further periods of up to 12 months each. The total maximum contract duration is therefore five years.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: AC1 Key Personnel Experience / Weighting: 25.8

Quality criterion - Name: AC2 Service Delivery -Crisis Communication / Weighting: 8.4

Quality criterion - Name: AC3 Service Delivery - Press Material / Weighting: 8.4

Quality criterion - Name: AC4 Contract Management and Contingency / Weighting: 7.2

Quality criterion - Name: AC5 Social Value / Weighting: 10.2

Cost criterion - Name: AC6 Cost / Weighting: 40

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

An option to extend for three further periods of up to 12 months each.

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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

An option to extend for three further periods of up to 12 months each.

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2024/S 000-027773](#)

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

1

### **Title**

ID 5314168 - DfE - NRC - Provision of Public Relations, Media Relations and Communication Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

22 November 2024

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 4

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

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

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

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

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Rumour Mill Creative Communications

23 Market Place

Lisburn

BT28 1AN

Email

[samantha@rumourmillcomms.com](mailto:samantha@rumourmillcomms.com)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £250,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £250,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

Contract Monitoring. The successful Supplier's performance on the contract will be regularly monitored in line with the tender documentation. Supplier's not delivering on contract requirements is a serious matter. It means the public purse is not getting what it is paying for. If a Supplier fails to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance they will be given a specified time to improve. If, after the specified time, they still fail to reach satisfactory levels of contract performance, the matter will be escalated to senior management in CPD for further action. If this occurs and their performance still does not improve to satisfactory levels within the specified period, it may be regarded as an act of grave professional misconduct and they may be issued with a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance and the contract may be terminated. The issue of a Notice of Unsatisfactory Performance can result in the Supplier being excluded from all procurement competitions being undertaken by Centres of Procurement Expertise on behalf of bodies covered by the Northern Ireland Procurement Policy for a period of three years from the date of issue..

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures. 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 as amended.

UK

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD complied with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and incorporated a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract was communicated to tenderers. That notification provided full information on the award decision. This provided time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract was entered into.