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Award

Pension administration services

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-038769

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c183

Published 2 December 2024, 2:22pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Campus

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Contact

Caroline Gow

Email

caroline.gow@ukaea.uk

Telephone

+44 123546

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

National registration number

N/A

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Fusion Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Pension administration services

Reference number

JNCA/CG157/23

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 66522000 - Group pension services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Pension administration 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: £6,500,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 66500000 - Insurance and pension services
- 66520000 - Pension services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Pension administration services

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

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The contract is to supply pension administration services to UKAEA. UKAEA acts as scheme manager for several pension schemes, meaning there is a statutory requirement to run the schemes. There is no service requirement for investment management or advice under this contract.

Reason for non-competitive action - Timing and cost Issue caused by legislation (see below)

Under the Public Service Pensions Act 2013 the UKAEA pension scheme ('Scheme') is required to close to future accrual (i.e. individuals will stop building up pension) and ensure active members start building up pension in 'alpha', part of the civil service pension scheme. The alpha contract is overseen by the Cabinet Office. UKAEA's role in this will be as an employer, rather than contract manager.

This legally-mandated change was due to occur in 2017-18, however this has now been delayed until late 2026.

The existing contract for Pension administration services expires in March 2025.

Once the move to alpha occurs, the existing Scheme will have only deferred and pensioner members. Deferred members are those who are no longer building up pension but have not yet retired.

The UKAEA Scheme has 40k members, of which 4k are active.

Due to the transition costs and the duration it would take to transition to a new supplier with then having to halt any active member work from 2026 due to alpha ie the contract will need to have 12-18 months of a full admin service, then dropping down to just deferred/pensioners we will direct awarded to our existing administration providers to

ensure continuity of service for this work.

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

Title

Pension administration services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

8 October 2024

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

Paymaster (1836) Limited

Sutherland House, Russell Way, Crawley, West Sussex RH10 1UH

Crawley

RH10 1UH

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

National registration number

03249700

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £6,500,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-atomic-energy-authority>

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

VI.4.2)Body responsible for mediation procedures

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

The authority will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers.

This period allows unsuccessful tenderers to seek further debriefing from the authority before a contract is entered into applicants have 2 working days from the notification of the award decision to request. Additional debriefing and that information have to be provided within a minimum of 3 working days before the expiry of the standstill period. Such additional information should be sought from the contact named in this notice.

If an appeal regarding the award of a contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No. 102) 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).

Any such action must be brought promptly.

(generally within 3 months).

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

UK Atomic Energy Authority

Culham Science Centre

Abingdon

OX14 3DB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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