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Tender

## **Royal National College for the Blind ~ Catering Tender**

Royal National College for the Blind

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-040524

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c88b

Published 16 December 2024, 7:05pm

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

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

Royal National College for the Blind

Venns Ln, Esh Plaza, Sir Bobby Robson Wa

Hereford

HR1 1DT

#### **Email**

[tenders@litmuspartnership.co.uk](mailto:tenders@litmuspartnership.co.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1276673880

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKG1 - Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.rnc.ac.uk/>

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://litmustms.co.uk/respond/U7PPC4H77N>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Royal National College for the Blind ~ Catering Tender

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

- 55524000 - School catering services

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

Services

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

The Royal National College for the Blind (RNC) is honoured to be the UK's leading specialist residential College of further education for people with a visual impairment.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £1,020,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKG1 - Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire

Main site or place of performance

Herefordshire, Worcestershire and Warwickshire

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

The Royal National College for the Blind (RNC) is honoured to be the UK's leading specialist residential College of further education for people with a visual impairment. Since 1872, RNC have been building on their expertise and successes, which enable the

College to offer a variety of products and services to a diverse audience. It's not all about education for the 80 or so learners who come through the doors each year – the College also offer specialist training and support to businesses and other education providers and specialist professionals working with visually impaired people.

The College is proud of its history of over 140 years and the pioneering work it continues to do, including sports, lobbying, work based learning and independent living skills. Partnerships with key organisations, businesses and individuals enables the student body to participate in a range of activities from Duke of Edinburgh Awards to national elite sports events – amazing experiences that students feel really add to and change their lives. The Royal National College for the Blind is a College with a difference and their aim is simple: to empower their Students with the skills, confidence and independence they need to realise their potential and take the next step towards their future. RNC is big enough to provide all the opportunities, resources and support Students are looking for, but small enough to offer an individual and special learning experience.

The Royal National College for the Blind is the UK's leading specialist residential College for people aged 16+ who are blind or visually impaired. With over 140 years' experience, the College stands firm in its original aim to enable each and every student to achieve their potential and engage fully in their community.

RNC Vision People with visual impairment have true equality.

RNC Mission Education, employment and empowerment for people with a visual impairment

Since 2007 the College has owned and operated a sports centre and gym that is open seven days a week to members of the public. As part of this facility there is a Pod area serving food and beverages to the users of the centre, staff and students, and visitors to the College.

The College also run a number of conferences and events during the year for which the successful tenderer will be required to provide catering services.

The successful tenderer will therefore be required to provide all catering services at Royal National College for the Blind, and to develop and significantly grow the food and beverage provision at the Pod therefore increasing its profitability.

The contract being tendered is for three years in duration from 1 Aug 2025 until 31 July 2028, with the option to extend the contract term for a further term of up to two, one years and will operate as a Guaranteed Performance Contract, with the successful Contractor offering the College a guaranteed cost per annum for the provision of catering services. Sovereignty of the cash tariff is to remain with Royal National College for the Blind for the duration of this contract.

The College year is based on a calendar of 36 weeks for students; however, the sports centre and gym are open to the public 52 weeks. The catering service for students can be reduced in non-term time, however a service will be required for any conferences and events, and a full service will still be required for catering to the public from the Coffee Pod.

There are up to 100 students who are residential students and who reside within the College for five or seven days per week, over 36 weeks per annum.

These students will receive, as part of their daily meal entitlement, the following provision:

- Lunch
- Evening Meal

In addition, student self-catering Breakfast Provisions are sent to the halls, which are to be supplied by the successful contractor.

Please see SQ document for more information.

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

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £1,020,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Start date

1 August 2025

End date

31 July 2030

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged minimum number: 5

Maximum number: 10

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

A minimum of 5 suppliers and a maximum of 10 suppliers will be taken forward to the tender stage of the process. Where less than 5 suppliers meet the minimum standards, only those that meet the minimum standards will be taken through to the tender stage. Where more than 5 suppliers meet the minimum standard, those suppliers with the highest scores will proceed to the tender stage.

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: Yes

#### **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

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### **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

#### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

##### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

##### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Restricted 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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

31 January 2025

Local time

12:00pm

#### **IV.2.3) Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates**

3 March 2025

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

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

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement.

It will be the supplier's responsibility to obtain any necessary documents in order to submit a response by the closing date and time.

The contracting authority reserves the right not to award any or part of the contract which is the subject of this contract notice and reserves the right to terminate the procurement process at any time.

The contracting authority will not be liable for any costs incurred by those expressing an interest in tendering for this contract opportunity.

The contracting authority will consider variant bids, evaluating them (so far as the variant or the evaluation of the variant is in the opinion of the contracting authority practicable) on the same basis as a conforming bid, but shall not be obliged to accept any such bid in preference to a conforming bid even if the variant bid scores more highly. No variant will be considered unless the bidder simultaneously submits a conforming bid.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://litmustms.co.uk/tenders/UK-UK-Hereford:-School-catering-services./U7PPC4H77N>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://litmustms.co.uk/respond/U7PPC4H77N>

GO Reference: GO-20241216-PRO-28904934

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

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

Royal National College for the Blind

Venns Ln, Esh Plaza, Sir Bobby Robson Wa

Hereford

HR1 1DT

Email

[tenders@litmuspartnership.co.uk](mailto:tenders@litmuspartnership.co.uk)

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