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Tender

White FEG SEM

AWE Plc

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-048867

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058832

Published 14 August 2025, 4:01pm

Scope

Reference

AWE01956

Description

AWE is seeking to procure a Field Emission Gun Scanning Electron Microscope (FEG-SEM) to replace an existing instrument. The capability provides analyses of a wide range of material types, including metals, glasses, ceramics and polymers.

Total value (estimated)

- £800,000 excluding VAT
- £960,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 30 January 2026 to 30 January 2027
- Possible extension to 25 January 2031
- 4 years, 11 months, 27 days

Description of possible extension:

Option to extend if optional maintenance offer from appointed supplier is taken up

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Option for maintenance from appointed supplier is required

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 38510000 - Microscopes

Contract locations

- UKJ - South East (England)
-

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

26 August 2025, 12:00pm

Submission type

Requests to participate

Deadline for requests to participate

15 September 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

RDME.Procurement@awe.co.uk

Tenders may be submitted electronically

No

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

13 January 2026

Award criteria

| Name | Type | Weighting |
|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Technical | Quality | 40% |
| Price | Price | 30% |
| Product Demonstration | Quality | 16% |
| Social Value | Quality | 10% |
| Quality | Quality | 2% |
| ESH | Quality | 2% |

Other information**Applicable trade agreements**

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Competitive flexible procedure description

This procurement will be run as a two-part (three staged) Competitive Flexible Procedure procurement, per Regulation 20 of the Procurement Act 2023.

Part one is the Invitation to Participate (ITP) Stage. The ITP is to enable Suppliers to complete and submit the ITP Response Questionnaire (ITP Submission). ITP Submissions will be used to determine Suppliers' suitability for this requirement in terms of legal and financial capacity and technical ability. Following assessment of Suppliers' ITP Submissions, AWE will invite the top 5 scoring Suppliers to proceed to the next stage.

Part two is the Invitation to Submit First and Only Tenders (ITSFOT), and is split into two stages. The ITSFOT is to enable Suppliers to submit a Tender and for AWE to evaluate and score the responses to identify its preferred supplier for this requirement.

Part two stage 1 consists of the ITSFOT written submissions from Suppliers. Technical, quality, social value, and commercial elements are assessed at this stage 1.

Part two stage 2 consists of the ITSFOT demonstration submissions from Suppliers. The purpose of the demonstrations is to provide Suppliers the opportunity to demonstrate their solution to a panel of technical evaluators, focusing on how the bidder proposes to deliver the service and specification of goods required by AWE.

Following assessment of Suppliers' ITSFOT stage 2 submissions, AWE will seek to award the contract to the Supplier whose overall ITSFOT submission has been assessed as having scored the highest.

It is anticipated the draft contract included in the ITSFOT document pack will be used unamended and in its entirety at contract award. However, within the rules of this procurement Suppliers are permitted to 'redline' certain stated areas of the contract that they state would require non-material amendments to enable a mutually beneficial contract award.

Documents

Documents to be provided after the tender notice

By email request to RDME.Procurement@awe.co.uk

Contracting authority

AWE Plc

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYCH-2579-LGTN

AWE Aldermaston

Reading

RG7 4PR

United Kingdom

Email: RDME.Procurement@awe.co.uk

Region: UKJ11 - Berkshire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government