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Tender

Parabola Refurbishment

Atomic Weapons Establishment

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-055610

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058275

Published 10 September 2025, 6:00pm

Changes to notice

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

Extension to deadline of submission of ITP and subsequent ITT deadlines updated accordingly.

Scope

Reference

AWE00428

Description

Remanufacture of a short pulse final focusing mirror, remove coating, refinish substrate and recoat.

Two short pulse beamlines require the use of an off-axis parabola (OAP) as the final focusing optic. Due to the optics proximity to target the surface becomes degraded over time due to target shrapnel and condensate from material vaporization.

The optics are 720 mm in diameter and have a specific surface profile and optical coating requirement. They either have a 1 Omega (1053 nm) or 2 Omega (527 nm) high reflectance coating with a specified laser damage threshold at the pulse length of use

Total value (estimated)

- £640,000 excluding VAT
- £800,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 7 January 2026 to 14 December 2026
- 11 months, 8 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 38600000 - Optical instruments

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Submission type

Requests to participate

Deadline for requests to participate

26 September 2025, 11:59pm

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)

22 December 2025

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Price	Price	50%
Technical	Quality	20%
Quality	Quality	20%
Social Value	Quality	10%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Defence and security

Competitive flexible procedure description

AWE is conducting this procurement using a two staged Competitive Flexible Procedure (CFP)

The CFP is structured as below:

Stage 1: Invitation to Participate (ITP)

- Interested suppliers are invited to submit initial responses to demonstrate capability, experience, and alignment with the procurement objectives.
- AWE will evaluate submissions against defined criteria to identify the most suitable candidates.

- A shortlist of suppliers will be selected to proceed to Stage 2 - Invitation to Tender (ITT)
- The ITP will include technical assessments, questionnaires and capability statements.

ITP Timeline

1. Issue of the ITP and other Procurement Documents which have been made available at this stage (06/08/25)
2. Deadline for receipt of ITP clarifications via email. (22/08/25)
3. ITP response close / deadline. (26/09/25)
4. Evaluation of ITP submissions. (29/09/25 -17/10/25)
5. Results of ITP submissions & outcome letters issued. (20/10/25)

Stage 2: Invitation to Tender (ITT)

- Following the initial Invitation to Participate (ITP) stage, shortlisted suppliers will be invited to submit a formal tender during the Invitation to Tender (ITT) stage, which forms Stage 2 of the Competitive Flexible Procedure.
- Shortlisted suppliers will be asked to provide detailed proposals, including technical solutions, pricing, and delivery plans.
- AWE will assess tenders against predefined award criteria, which include quality, cost, innovation, and social value.

ITT Timeline:

1. Issue of the ITT and other Procurement Documents which have been made available at this stage. (20/10/25)
2. Deadline for receipt of ITT clarifications via email. (05/11/25)
3. ITT response close / deadline. (17/11/25)
4. Evaluation of ITT submissions. (03/12/25)
5. Results of ITT submissions & outcome letters issued. (08/12/25)
6. Internal Governance. (08 - 22/12/25)

7. Standstill Period. (22/12/25)

8. Contract Signature. (05-06/01/26)

9. Contract Start Date. (07/01/26)

Documents

Documents to be provided after the tender notice

Responses to the ITP should be submitted via email to rdme.procurement@awe.co.uk. Please include in the title of your email submission the reference of 'AWE00428'.

Contracting authority

Atomic Weapons Establishment

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PSCH-2579-LGTN

AWE Aldermaston

Reading

RG7 4PR

United Kingdom

Email: RDME.procurement@awe.co.uk

Region: UKJ11 - Berkshire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government