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Tender

UKRI-5065 BAS - Gateway Agent for Cape Town

UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-056696

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059aa1

Published 15 September 2025, 4:21pm

Scope

Description

BAS requires a gateway agent to act as their representative in Cape Town and carry out operational functions on their behalf, allowing smooth facilitation of the Antarctic season. Assistance is required on some level year-round, with a peak in assistance required during the Halley operational season (early November to mid-February). Assistance includes but is not limited to handling of passengers, cargo handling, storage and shipment, port/vessel handling and procurement. BAS requires agency representative in Cape Town to be available on a 24/7 on call basis.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £240,000 excluding VAT

- £240,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 21 November 2025 to 20 November 2028
- Possible extension to 20 November 2029
- 4 years

Description of possible extension:

The framework agreement can be extended for an additional 1 calendar year.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 63510000 - Travel agency and similar services

Framework

Maximum number of suppliers

1

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Justification for framework term over 4 years

3 year initial term + option to extend for 1 more calendar year.

Framework operation description

Single supplier framework for the provision of port agency services. Quotations and subsequent purchase orders will be raised as per the framework agreement priced activities schedule.

Award method when using the framework

With competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

1 October 2025, 4:00pm

Tender submission deadline

15 October 2025, 4:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

https://ukri2--prospend.vf.force.com/apex/CS_ContractPage?filters=&page=1&Preview=Yes&searchStr=&SearchType=Projects&sortStr=Alphabetical&uid=a1MTm000007y0HFMAY&sfdcIFrameOrigin=https://ukri2.lightning.force.com

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

13 November 2025

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Technical/Quality	Quality	60.00%
Price	Price	30.00%
Social Value	Quality	10.00%

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

This procurement has not been subject to a preliminary market engagement exercise. UKRI is familiar with the market and products available, and has sufficient knowledge to proceed with the tender process.

Contracting authority

UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDQJ-7126-JDHG

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Swindon, Wiltshire

SN2 1FL

United Kingdom

Email: nercprocurement@ukri.org

Website: <https://www.ukri.org/>

Region: UKK14 - Swindon

Organisation type: Public authority - central government