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Tender

Legal Services Framework

NATIONAL ENERGY SYSTEM OPERATOR LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-061198

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-052237 ([view related notices](#))

Published 1 October 2025, 10:43am

Scope

Description

NESO is looking to procure a broad range of Legal Services, including energy and regulatory law by a multi-lot framework agreement for Legal Services (in accordance with the Act) with an initial term of 3 years (+1+1 possible extension).

NESO is looking to set up a 2-lot Legal Services framework agreement following the Competitive Flexible Procedure:

- Lot 1 - Energy Regulation and frameworks - specialist Legal Services
- Lot 2 - General Legal Services

An overview of the disciplines required is covered in Table 1 below.

LOT 1 - ENERGY REGULATION & FRAMEWORKS

1 Electricity/ gas codes

2 Electricity connections

3 Balancing services (electricity)

- 4 Electricity interconnectors
- 5 Electricity Market Reform
- 6 Network competition
- 7 Gas markets
- 8 Developing/adapting to new energy legal frameworks
- 9 Licence change, investigations and other regulatory issues
- 10 Public Investigation and inquiry processes
- 11 Planning and major infrastructure projects
- 12 Information management (energy)
- 13 Public Law (energy)
- 14 Competition law and dawn raids (energy)
- 15 Litigation (energy)

LOT 2 - GENERAL SERVICES

- 1 General commercial and transactions
- 2 Public procurement
- 3 Technology expertise (including Cyber Security, AI, ICT & IoT)
- 4 Innovation
- 5 Commercial property/ construction
- 6 Corporate
- 7 Finance
- 8 Intellectual Property (including trademark and patent services)
- 9 Health, safety and environmental

10 Employment

11 Pensions

12 Insurance (including insurance claims)

13 Information Management (non-energy)

14 Public Law (non-energy)

15 Competition law & dawn raids (non-energy)

16 Litigation (non-energy)

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £25,400,000 excluding VAT
- £30,500,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 February 2026 to 31 January 2029
- Possible extension to 31 January 2031
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

Two extension of 12 months each to make a total contract period of five years.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

This is a framework contract and the Contracting Authority is able to place orders for Legal Services under it.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79100000 - Legal services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Lot 1. ENERGY REGULATION & FRAMEWORKS

Description

LOT 1 - ENERGY REGULATION & FRAMEWORKS

1 Electricity/ gas codes

2 Electricity connections

3 Balancing services (electricity)

4 Electricity interconnectors

5 Electricity Market Reform

6 Network competition

7 Gas markets

8 Developing/adapting to new energy legal frameworks

9 Licence change, investigations and other regulatory issues

10 Public Investigation and inquiry processes

11 Planning and major infrastructure projects

12 Information management (energy)

13 Public Law (energy)

14 Competition law and dawn raids (energy)

15 Litigation (energy)

Lot value (estimated)

- £16,500,000 excluding VAT
- £19,800,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope

section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. General Legal Services

Description

LOT 2 - GENERAL SERVICES

- 1 General commercial and transactions
- 2 Public procurement
- 3 Technology expertise (including Cyber Security, AI, ICT & IoT)
- 4 Innovation
- 5 Commercial property/ construction
- 6 Corporate
- 7 Finance
- 8 Intellectual Property (including trademark and patent services)
- 9 Health, safety and environmental
- 10 Employment
- 11 Pensions
- 12 Insurance (including insurance claims)
- 13 Information Management (non-energy)
- 14 Public Law (non-energy)
- 15 Competition law & dawn raids (non-energy)
- 16 Litigation (non-energy)

Lot value (estimated)

- £8,900,000 excluding VAT
- £10,700,000 including VAT

Framework lot values may be shared with other lots

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Framework

Maximum number of suppliers

10

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Framework operation description

Upper capped framework rates.

Services will be awarded via either direct allocation or competitive award as stated in the Framework Contract.

Each lot to be evaluated independently and 3-5 suppliers will be awarded per lot.

Award method when using the framework

Either with or without competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Establishing party only

Submission

Enquiry deadline

23 October 2025, 11:59pm

Submission type

Tenders

Tender submission deadline

6 November 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.sap.com/products/spend-management/ariba-login.html>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

16 January 2026

Award criteria

Lot 1. ENERGY REGULATION & FRAMEWORKS

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Technical	As per tender instructions	Quality	50%
Commercials	As per tender instructions	Cost	40%
Social Value	As per tender instructions	Quality	10%

Lot 2. General Legal Services

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Capability	As per Tender Instructions	Quality	50%
Commercials	As per Tender Instructions	Cost	40%
Social Value	As per Tender Instructions	Quality	10%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Utilities

Competitive flexible procedure description

The Tender Process will consist of 3 stages:

- Stage 1 (PSQ & ITT) - combined submission
- Stage 2 (Negotiations/BAFO) - Optional - minimum of 6x Bidders per Lot
- Stage 3 (Contract Award) - 3-5 Suppliers awarded per Lot

Bidder Tender Responses MUST be submitted via SAP Ariba, as a combined (PSQ & ITT) submission.

Following submission of Bidders' Tender Responses, it will be at the Contracting Authority's discretion to launch Stage 2 of the Tender Process. If the Contracting Authority decides not to proceed with Stage 2, the Award Decision would follow the outcome of

Stage 1 of the Tender Process.

The PSQ evaluation is a pass / fail step of the Tender process, and Bidders must achieve a pass mark on all mandatory pass questions. If Bidders do not pass the PSQ, they will not progress to the next stage of the Tender Process and their ITT response will not be assessed in any form as part of the Tender Process.

Further details on the Tender Process are described in the Tender Instructions.

Responding to this notice:

- Bidders wishing to participate in this Tender must respond via email to the advertised NESO email inbox listed in the Tender Notice.
- Bidders should include in their email the attachment from the Tender Notice (completed NDA); please include the name and email address of the lead contact, and supporting team members, per Bidder for circulation of SAP Ariba portal details.
- Upon receiving such email, the Contracting Authority will review completed NDAs and following compliance checks, issue Bidders with links to NESO's SAP Ariba portal, granting access to the full suite of Tender Documents.

Documents

Associated tender documents

[NDA_Legal Services Framework Tender.docx](#)

Please complete NDA and provide it back when responding to this notice.

Please also provide your SAP Ariba number (AN ID) when responding to this notice.

Please include the name and email address of the lead contact, and supporting team members, per Bidder for circulation of SAP Ariba portal details. SAP Ariba will be used for all further correspondence with Bidders.

Following the NDA being provided Bidders will be added to SAP Ariba to access the Tender material.

Documents to be provided after the tender notice

Bidders will be granted access to the full suite of Tender Documents on SAP Ariba following review of completed Bidder NDAs by the Contracting Authority.

Contracting authority

NATIONAL ENERGY SYSTEM OPERATOR LIMITED

- Companies House: 11014226
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHQL-5234-MWWV

St Catherine's Lodge Bearwood Road

Wokingham

RG41 5BN

United Kingdom

Contact name: Anna Zarankina

Email: box.NESOIndirectsTenders@neso.energy

Website: <https://www.neso.energy/>

Region: UKJ11 - Berkshire

Organisation type: Public undertaking (commercial organisation subject to public authority oversight)