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Tender

ID 6210936 - DAERA - CAFRE - Farming for Sustainability Scheme Training and Themed Groups Requirements

College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - view information about notice types

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-066886

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05d031

Published 20 October 2025, 5:58pm

Scope

Reference

ID 6210936

Description

This contract will be broken down into 2 Lots: • Lot 1 - Face-to-face training for groups of farmers • Lot 2 - Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators Each Lot will be evaluated and awarded independently. Lot 1- CAFRE require a Supplier to administer, secure access to appropriate venues and deliver training to participants who cannot use e-learning courses without support. The supplier will be required to administer, hire appropriate venues, and deliver training sessions to groups of participating farmers. Each course will have its own specific Learning Outcomes, underpinning knowledge, assessment process (if required) and delivery schedule. Lot 2 - CAFRE requires a Supplier to administer and deliver specialist technical facilitation and mentoring to Themed Groups. These groups will be delivered alongside Business Sustainability Groups (BSGs) and are a development from the previous Business Development Group (BDG) scheme which operated under the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme. BSGs are enterprise specific but with a focus on the sustainability of the entire farm. Themed Groups will provide more focused

support and advice relating to specific enterprises and topics. Groups will also have a shorter duration of 18-24 months with an estimated 3-6 meetings per group per year dependent on topic.

Total value (estimated)

- £3,500,000 excluding VAT
- £4,200,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 5 January 2026 to 4 January 2029
- Possible extension to 4 January 2031
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

One optional extension period of 2 years for each Lot. The extension will be utilised at the Buyers discretion.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80000000 Education and training services
- 80500000 Training services

- 80522000 Training seminars
- 80521000 Training programme services
- 80531200 Technical training services
- 80510000 Specialist training services

Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers

Description

CAFRE require a Supplier to administer, secure access to appropriate venues and deliver training to participants who cannot use e-learning courses without support.

The supplier will be required to administer, hire appropriate venues, and deliver training sessions to groups of participating farmers.

The training courses will be prioritised by DAERA as part of the Sustainable Agriculture Programme or wider policy programme, with CAFRE responsible for overall planning and development of learning materials for each training course. Each course will have its own specific Learning Outcomes, underpinning knowledge, assessment process (if required) and delivery schedule.

Lot value (estimated)

- £500,000 excluding VAT
- £600,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

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

Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators

Description

CAFRE requires a Supplier to administer and deliver specialist technical facilitation and mentoring to Themed Groups. These groups will be delivered alongside Business Sustainability Groups (BSGs) and are a development from the previous Business Development Group (BDG) scheme which operated under the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme. BSGs are enterprise specific but with a focus on the sustainability of the entire farm. Themed Groups will provide more focused support and advice relating to specific enterprises and topics. Groups will also have a shorter duration of 18-24 months with an estimated 3-6 meetings per group per year dependent on topic.

Lot value (estimated)

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

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

Participation

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers

TA1 - Event Management Experience

Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators

TA1 - Company Experience

Particular suitability

Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers

Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

10 November 2025, 2:00pm

Tender submission deadline

20 November 2025, 2:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

5 January 2026

Award criteria

Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers

Name	Description	Туре	
Qualitative Criterion	5 Criteria as detailed within the Quality		
	Instruction to Tender - Lo	t 1	
	Document. the criteria are Key		
	Delivery Personnel		
	Experience, Recruitment,		
	Promotion and Marketing Plan,		
	Programme Delivery and		
	Implementation, Contract		
	Management and Business		
	Continuity, and Social Va	lue.	
Quantitative Criterion	Total Contract Price as	Price	
	detailed within the Instructions		
	to Tender - Lot 1 docume	nt.	

Weighting description

Qualitative Criterion: 70%

Quantitative Criterion: 30%

Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators

Name	Description	Туре	
Qualitative Criterion	5 Criteria as detailed within the Quality		
	Instruction to Tender - Lot 2		
	Document. the criteria are Key		
	Delivery Personnel		
	Experience, Program Delivery		
	and Implementation, Marketing		
	and Promotion Plan, Contract		
	Management and		
	Communication, Social Value.		
Quantitative Criterion	Total Contract Price as	Price	
	detailed within the Instructions	3	
	to Tender - Lot 2 document.		

Weighting description

Qualitative Criterion: 70%

Quantitative Criterion: 30%

Other information

Applicable trade agreements

• Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

The PME was published under the previous procurement regulations and therefore a notice was not necessary.

Contracting authority

College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

• Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYCL-3331-QQMP

45 Tirgracey Road

Antrim

BT41 4PS

United Kingdom

Email: <u>SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk</u>

Region: UKN0D - Antrim and Newtownabbey

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

Other organisation

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

CPD - Supplies and Services Division

Summary of their role in this procurement: Construction and Procurement Delivery, Supplies and Services Division, is a Centre of Procurement Expertise and provides a central procurement function for central government in Northern Ireland.

Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWG-8426-YWXV

Clare House 303 Airport Road West

Belfast

BT3 9ED

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Contact organisation

Contact <u>CPD - Supplies and Services Division</u> for any enquiries.