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Contract

SFC Research and Evaluation Services Framework

Scottish Funding Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-082679

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-055ac4

Published 12 December 2025, 4:58pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Scottish Funding Council

Apex 2, 97 Haymarket Terrace

Edinburgh

EH12 5HD

Contact

Stephen Connor

Email

sconnor@sfc.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1313136500

Fax

+44 1313136501

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Internet address(es)

Main address

https://www.sfc.ac.uk/

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0038

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

SFC Research and Evaluation Services Framework

Reference number

SFC 25-26 002 Q1

II.1.2) Main CPV code

• 73110000 - Research services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

We are seeking to establish a framework of suppliers with the experience, skills, and capacity to deliver evaluation services (including both quantitative and qualitative analysis), and effectively report on findings and recommendations.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £1,200,000

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Large Scale Research and Evaluation Projects

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73110000 Research services
- 79311400 Economic research services
- 79315000 Social research services
- 79419000 Evaluation consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

· UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Large Research and Evaluation Projects. Including but not limited to, designing and

implementing multi-year evaluations, developing an evaluation framework for large, long-term programmes.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Operation & Management of the Framework Agreement /

Weighting: 15

Quality criterion - Name: Responsible Procurement / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery / Weighting: 40

Price - Weighting: 40

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Medium Scale Research and Evalution Projects

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73110000 Research services
- 79311400 Economic research services
- 79315000 Social research services
- 79419000 Evaluation consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

· UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Projects may include but are not limited to, Mixed methods evaluations of SFC investments including document analysis, surveys, focus groups and interviews, lasting 6-12 months. Value for money or cost benefit analysis projects. Targeted stakeholder surveys

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Operation & Management of the Framework Agreement /

Weighting: 15

Quality criterion - Name: Responsible Procurement / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery / Weighting: 40

Price - Weighting: 40

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Small Scale Research and Evaluation Projects

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 73110000 Research services
- 79311400 Economic research services

- 79315000 Social research services
- 79419000 Evaluation consultancy services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Typical projects include but are not limited to, Desk-based work such as conducting literature reviews, synthesising and analysing evidence. Conducting focus groups and analysing and reporting on findings. Conducting one to one interviews and analysing and reporting on findings.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Operation & Management of the Framework Agreement /

Weighting: 15

Quality criterion - Name: Responsible Procurement / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery / Weighting: 40

Price - Weighting: 40

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: 2025/S 000-038062

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

1

Title

Large Scale Research and Evaluation Projects

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

27 October 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 21

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 20

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 21

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

The Lines Between Ltd.

3 Piershill Place

Edinburgh

EH8 7EH

Country

United Kingdom NUTS code • UK - United Kingdom The contractor is an SME Yes V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor Ekos Ltd St Georges Studios 93-97 St Georges Road Glasgow G3 6JA Country **United Kingdom NUTS** code • UK - United Kingdom The contractor is an SME Yes V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor Pye Tait Ltd (trading as Pye Tait Consulting) 5 Merus Court, Meridian Business Park Leicester **LE19 1RJ** Country

NUTS codeUKF21 - LeicesterThe contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Rocket Science UK Ltd

22 Stafford Street

Edinburgh

EH3 7BD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

IFF Research Ltd.

5th Floor St Magnus House, 3 Lower Thames Street

London

EC3R 6HD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKI31 - Camden and City of London

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Additional Research

4 Wellshot Drive, Cambuslang

Glasgow

G72 8BS

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKM95 - South Lanarkshire

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £400,000

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

2

Title

Medium Scale Research and Evalution Projects

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

27 October 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 36

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 35

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 35

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

The Lines Between Ltd.

3 Piershill Place

Edinburgh

EH8 7EH

Country

United Kingdom NUTS code

• UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Ekos Ltd

St Georges Studios 93-97 St Georges Road

Glasgow

G3 6JA

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Pye Tait Ltd (trading as Pye Tait Consulting)

5 Merus Court, Meridian Business Park

Leicester

LE19 1RJ

Country

NUTS code • UKF21 - Leicester The contractor is an SME Yes V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor Rocket Science UK Ltd 22 Stafford Street Edinburgh EH3 7BD Country **United Kingdom NUTS** code • UK - United Kingdom The contractor is an SME Yes V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor CIVIC 12 South Charlotte Street Edinburgh EH2 4AX Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

R Denny Consulting Limited

24 Sawyers Close

Winchester

SO22 5JX

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKJ36 - Central Hampshire

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £400,000

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

3

Title

Small Scale Research and Evaluation Projects

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

27 October 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 34

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 33

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 34

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Rocket Science UK Ltd

22 Stafford Street

Edinburgh

EH3 7BD

Country

United Kingdom NUTS code • UK - United Kingdom The contractor is an SME Yes V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor IFF Research Ltd. 5th Floor St Magnus House, 3 Lower Thames Street London

EC3R 6HD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKI31 - Camden and City of London

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

R Denny Consulting Limited

24 Sawyers Close

Winchester

SO22 5JX

Country

NUTS code

• UKJ36 - Central Hampshire

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

ANT Consulting

20A Ferryhill Place

Aberdeen

AB11 7SE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKM50 - Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Trueman Change Management

The Innovation Centre, Evolution Park

Blackburn

BB1 2FD

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UKD41 - Blackburn with Darwen

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Alba Partners Limited

Alba Partners Limited, 86-90 Paul Street

London

EC2A 4NE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

• UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £400,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(SC Ref:818466)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Edinburgh Sheriff Court

Sherrif Court House, 27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Country