

UK-Leeds: computer and related services

2007/S 61-075154

CONTRACT NOTICE

Services

SECTION I: CONTRACTING AUTHORITY

I.1) NAME, ADDRESSES AND CONTACT POINT(S):

Department of Health, NHS Connecting for Health, 1st Floor, 1 Whitehall, Attn: Bernie Gough, UK-Leeds LS1 4HR, West Yorkshire . E-mail: ascc@nhs.net.

Internet address(es):

General address of the contracting authority: www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk and www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/procurement/ascc.

Further information can be obtained at: As in above-mentioned contact point(s).

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained at: Department of Health, NHS Connecting for Health, 1st Floor, 1 Whitehall, Attn: Bernie Gough, UK-Leeds LS1 4HR, West Yorkshire . E-mail: ascc@nhs.net. URL: www.mytenders.org.

Tenders or requests to participate must be sent to: As in above-mentioned contact point(s).

I.2) TYPE OF THE CONTRACTING AUTHORITY AND MAIN ACTIVITY OR ACTIVITIES:

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local sub-divisions. Health.

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: yes.

SECTION II: OBJECT OF THE CONTRACT

II.1) DESCRIPTION

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority:

Additional Supply Capability and Capacity Framework Agreement.

II.1.2) Type of contract and location of works, place of delivery or of performance:

Services.

Service category: No 7.

Main place of performance: United Kingdom

NUTS code: UK.

II.1.3) The notice involves:

The establishment of a framework agreement.

II.1.4) Information on framework agreement:

Framework agreement with several operators.

Maximum number of participants to the framework agreement envisaged: 500.

Duration of the framework agreement: Duration in year(s): 4

Estimated total value of purchases for the entire duration of the framework agreement:

Estimated value excluding VAT: 100 000 000 GBP.

Frequency and value of the contracts to be awarded: The authority is splitting the services into four lots. The number of suppliers appointed to each lot will vary from lot to lot depending on the breadth of service requirement and the number of potential suppliers. The authority intends to appoint no more than 500 providers to the framework. The authority anticipates that, as a result of immediate business needs and projects planned, services valuing in excess of 100 000 000 GBP (aggregate for all the lots) will be procured at an early stage following establishment of the framework. The subsequent value of purchases will vary depending on the needs of the contracting authorities referenced in VI.3, and the authority cannot guarantee or estimate with certainty the levels of overall expenditure over the term of the framework.

II.1.5) **Short description of the contract or purchase(s):**

The authority is seeking expressions of interest for the establishment of an IT services framework that will establish a complementary procurement route to existing authority and Department of Health contractual arrangements for the procurement of IT systems and services by contracting authorities involved in the provision of healthcare or social care in the UK. The framework will also assist with the success and delivery of the National Programme for IT (NPfIT).

A brief overview of NPfIT is contained within the memorandum of information and further information can be found at:

<http://www.connectingforhealth.nhs.uk/about>

It is not intended that any ASCC-awarded framework agreements will conflict with existing Department of Health or authority contractual arrangements.

The authority is looking to establish frameworks for services in the following areas:

Lot 1, information and communications technology (ICT) services;

Lot 2, clinical information technology (CIT) services;

Lot 3, hardware, infrastructure and associated (HIA) services; and

Lot 4, testing environments and related (TER) services.

Within each lot, the authority requires a number of suppliers who will be expected to provide one or more of the lot's services to the contracting authorities referenced in VI.3. Contractors need to be capable of providing one or more of the services in a lot to be eligible for appointment to the framework. As a result, the authority is seeking expressions of interest in relation to the provision of one or more of the services within a lot.

In order to ensure plurality of supply and encourage the participation of SMEs within ASCC, the authority intends to establish two lists of bidders for each of the lots:

(i) National bidders and

(ii) Specialist SME bidders.

The thresholds for determining National and Specialist SME bidders are set out in III.2.2. If a bidder falls below the National threshold, it will be considered for inclusion on the framework as a Specialist SME bidder.

A Memorandum of Information (MOI) containing further details about the services within each lot and the approach to National and Specialist SME bidders will be made available as set out in VI.3 below.

Where a contracting authority procures services under ASCC, it will undertake a further competition with those ASCC suppliers appointed to the framework for those services. The further competition process will finalise the approach to specific service requirements, and may include a Proof of Concept exercise. The MOI sets out additional information regarding the operation of this further competition process.

Note: Further information and additional documentation relating to this notice may be available on the myTenders.org Web Site at http://www.myTenders.org/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=49429.

II.1.6) **Common procurement vocabulary (CPV):**

72000000, 72510000, 72520000, 72590000, 72222300, 72100000, 72246000, 72266000, 30259000, 30258000, 72315000, 72320000, 72322000, 72262000, 50312000, 30200000, 30217200, 30217300, 30230000, 30231200, 30241000, 64200000, 64214200, 64216100, 80420000.

II.1.7) **Contract covered by the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA):**

Yes.

II.1.8) **Division into lots:**

Yes.

Tenders should be submitted for: one or more lots.

II.1.9) **Variants will be accepted:**

II.2) **QUANTITY OR SCOPE OF THE CONTRACT**

II.2.1) **Total quantity or scope:**

See II.1.4 and II.1.5.

II.2.2) **Options:**

Yes.

Description of these options: Yes. The authority may wish to introduce options, details will be provided in the memorandum of information.

II.3) **DURATION OF THE CONTRACT OR TIME-LIMIT FOR COMPLETION:**

Duration in months: 48 (from the award of the contract).

INFORMATION ABOUT LOTS

LOT NO 1

TITLE: Information and communications technology (ICT) services

1) **SHORT DESCRIPTION:**

The services included in this lot may include, amongst others, non-clinical ICT applications services, communications (data, audio, visual and telecommunications) and network services, web services, managed desktop solution services and helpdesk services.

The services are anticipated to deliver a broad range of service functionality which may include design and prototyping, development, architectural and technical, testing, implementation, interfacing and integration, programme and project management, legacy systems management, hosted infrastructure, business continuity and disaster recovery, service delivery and management, user training, systems integration, data migration and archive services, security, knowledge management, provision of business applications, managed services and step-in services. The services may also include some hardware, infrastructure and associated services where the majority of costs relate to service delivery.

Suppliers must be capable of supplying all of this range of service functionalities in relation to any one service.

2) **COMMON PROCUREMENT VOCABULARY (CPV):**

72000000, 72510000, 72520000, 72590000, 72222300, 72100000, 72246000, 72266000, 30259000, 30258000, 72315000, 72320000, 72322000, 72262000, 50312000, 30200000, 30217200, 30217300,

30230000, 30231200, 30241000, 64200000, 64214200, 64216100, 80420000.

3) **QUANTITY OR SCOPE:**

See II.1.4 and II.1.5.

4) **INDICATION ABOUT DIFFERENT DATE FOR DURATION OF CONTRACT OR STARTING/COMPLETION:**

5) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LOTS:**

Further information will be set out in the MOI.

LOT NO 2

TITLE: Clinical information technology (CIT) services

1) **SHORT DESCRIPTION:**

The services included in this lot may include, amongst others, a range of CIT services, patient administration system (PAS), GP surgery services, document management (bulk scanning), digital imaging, dental, social care interfacing, community service, prison, diagnostic systems (pathology, laboratory, radiology), urgent care systems, e-prescribing systems, pharmacy and stock control, order and results management, integrated care pathway and care planning, theatres, maternity, ambulances, accident and emergency (A&E), decision support, national service frameworks (NSFs), screening and surveillance, child health services, health care professionals services, identity management services, renal services, oncology services, hospice services and ophthalmology.

The services are anticipated to deliver a broad range of service functionality which may include design and prototyping, development, architectural and technical, testing, implementation, interfacing and integration, programme and project management, legacy systems management, hosted infrastructure, business continuity and disaster recovery, service delivery and management, user training, systems integration, data migration and archive services, security, knowledge management, provision of business applications, managed services and step-in services. The services may also include some hardware, infrastructure and associated services where the majority of costs relate to service delivery.

Suppliers must be capable of supplying all of this range of service functionalities in relation to any one service.

2) **COMMON PROCUREMENT VOCABULARY (CPV):**

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3) **QUANTITY OR SCOPE:**

See II.1.4 and II.1.5.

4) **INDICATION ABOUT DIFFERENT DATE FOR DURATION OF CONTRACT OR STARTING/COMPLETION:**

5) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LOTS:**

Further information will be set out in the MOI.

LOT NO 3

TITLE: Hardware, infrastructure and associated (HIA) services

1) **SHORT DESCRIPTION:**

This lot is divided into two parts. Part A is for the provision of hardware and infrastructure services; Part B is for the provision of consultancy services associated with services provided under lots 1, 2 and 4.

Part A – Hardware, Infrastructure and Related Services

Part A of this lot is for the provision of a broad range of hardware, infrastructure and related services (software and consultancy) and may include, amongst others, network infrastructure, peripherals and client devices. The services are anticipated to deliver a broad range of service functionality which may include user training, data migration and archive services, installations moves and changes, asset management, support and maintenance, technology refresh, associated services, data management, utilities and storage tools, development, design and testing tools, network software, security and maintenance tools, operating systems and office productivity tools and step-in services.

Suppliers must be capable of supplying all of this range of service functionalities in relation to any one service.

Part B – Associated Services

Part B of this lot is for the provision of a broad range of associated services and may include, amongst others, ICT application and solutions consultancy, CIT application and solutions consultancy, TERS application and solutions consultancy, emerging technology consultancy, communications and network consultancy, management consultancy, project and programme management consultancy, market research consultancy and health research consultancy and step-in services.

Suppliers will only be expected to supply these Part B associated services where they relate to the provision of services under lots 1, 2 and 4. Therefore, these associated services are additional to the services and systems delivery under lots 1, 2 and 4, and an organisation cannot express an interest in respect of associated services only. This does not affect expressions of interest in respect of Part A under this lot 3; organisations may express an interest in respect of Part A only.

2) **COMMON PROCUREMENT VOCABULARY (CPV):**

72000000, 72510000, 72520000, 72590000, 72222300, 72100000, 72246000, 72266000, 30259000, 30258000, 72315000, 72320000, 72322000, 72262000, 50312000, 30200000, 30217200, 30217300, 30230000, 30231200, 30241000, 64200000, 64214200, 64216100, 80420000.

3) **QUANTITY OR SCOPE:**

See II.1.4 and II.1.5.

4) **INDICATION ABOUT DIFFERENT DATE FOR DURATION OF CONTRACT OR STARTING/COMPLETION:**

5) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LOTS:**

Further information will be set out in the MOI.

LOT NO 4

TITLE: Testing environments and related (TER) services

1) **SHORT DESCRIPTION:**

The services included in this lot may include, amongst others, functional test environment services, non-functional test environment services and test and assurance services.

The services are anticipated to deliver a broad range of service functionality which may include functional integration test environments, non-functional test environments, production support environments, release deployment, test data management, integration test design and development, integration test execution, design build test assurance, integration incident and problem management and step-in services. The services may also include some hardware, infrastructure and associated services where the majority of costs relate to service delivery.

Suppliers must be capable of supplying all of this range of service functionalities in relation to any one service.

- 2) **COMMON PROCUREMENT VOCABULARY (CPV):**
72000000, 72510000, 72520000, 72590000, 72222300, 72100000, 72246000, 72266000, 30259000, 30258000, 72315000, 72320000, 72322000, 72262000, 50312000.
- 3) **QUANTITY OR SCOPE:**
See II.1.4.
- 4) **INDICATION ABOUT DIFFERENT DATE FOR DURATION OF CONTRACT OR STARTING/COMPLETION:**
- 5) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ABOUT LOTS:**
Further information will be set out in the MOI.

SECTION III: LEGAL, ECONOMIC, FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

III.1) CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE CONTRACT

III.1.1) Deposits and guarantees required:

Requirements will be set out in the 'invitation to participate in dialogue', however performance bonds and/or a parent guarantee are likely to be required.

III.1.2) Main financing conditions and payment arrangements and/or reference to the relevant provisions regulating them:

Requirements will be set out in the 'invitation to participate in dialogue'.

III.1.3) Legal form to be taken by the group of economic operators to whom the contract is to be awarded:

Any contract awarded shall be entered into by a single entity on the part of the successful candidate.

III.1.4) Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject:

No.

III.2) CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION

III.2.1) Personal situation of economic operators, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers:

Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met: Candidates will be assessed in accordance with Part 4 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (implementing Chapter VII Section 2 of Directive 2004/18/EC), on the basis of information provided in response to a pre-qualification questionnaire ('PQQ').

III.2.2) Economic and financial capacity:

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met: See PQQ.

Minimum level(s) of standard that may be required for national bidders:

Lot 1:

net assets or group net assets in excess of 40 000 000 GBP in the last 3 financial years; and turnover or group turnover or sub-contractor turnover in excess of 100 000 000 GBP p.a. in the last 3 financial years in relation to similar services.

Lot 2:

net assets or group net assets in excess of 10 000 000 GBP in the last 3 financial years; and turnover or group turnover or sub-contractor turnover in excess of 50 000 000 GBP p.a. in the last three financial years in relation to similar services.

Lot 3:

net assets or group net assets in excess of 10 000 000 GBP in the last 3 financial years; and turnover or group turnover or sub-contractor turnover in excess of 50 000 000 GBP p.a. in the last three financial years in relation to similar services.

Lot 4:

net assets or group net assets in excess of 20 000 000 GBP in the last 3 financial years; and turnover or group turnover or sub-contractor turnover in excess of 30 000 000 GBP p.a. in the last 3 financial years in relation to similar services.

Minimum level(s) of standard that may be required for specialist SME bidders:

The authority may require the specialist SME bidders to pass at least one of the following financial thresholds, (a) or (b), in respect of each lot:

(a) net assets or group net assets in excess of 2 000 000 GBP in the last 2 financial years; or

(b) turnover or group turnover or sub-contractor turnover in excess of 1 000 000 GBP p.a. in any of the last 2 financial years in relation to similar services.

III.2.3) Technical capacity:

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required: Information and formalities necessary for evaluating if requirements are met: demonstrable domain knowledge relevant to the services the candidate is expressing an interest in as requested in Part B Section B of the PQQ (Expression of Interest/Application).

III.2.4) Reserved contracts:

III.3) CONDITIONS SPECIFIC TO SERVICES CONTRACTS

III.3.1) Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession:

III.3.2) Legal entities should indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff responsible for the execution of the service:

Yes.

SECTION IV: PROCEDURE

IV.1) TYPE OF PROCEDURE

IV.1.1) Type of procedure:

Competitive dialogue.

IV.1.2) Limitations on the number of operators who will be invited to tender or to participate:

Envisaged minimum number: 5.

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates: The authority intends to invite the limited number of candidates to participate in the dialogue, on the basis of their order of ranking at the PQQ stage, during which the criteria referred to in Part 4 of The Public Contracts Regulations 2006 will be assessed and marked.

IV.1.3) Reduction of the number of operators during the negotiation or dialogue:

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated yes.

IV.2) AWARD CRITERIA

IV.2.1) Award criteria:

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of the criteria stated in the specifications, in the invitation to tender or to negotiate or in the descriptive document.

IV.2.2) **An electronic auction will be used:**

IV.3) **ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

IV.3.1) **File reference number attributed by the contracting authority:**

GP-07-0112.

IV.3.2) **Previous publication(s) concerning the same contract:**

IV.3.3) **Conditions for obtaining specifications and additional documents or descriptive document**

IV.3.4) **Time-limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate:**

25.4.2007 - 12:00.

IV.3.5) **Date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates:**

1.6.2007.

IV.3.6) **Language(s) in which tenders or requests to participate may be drawn up:**

English.

IV.3.7) **Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender:**

IV.3.8) **Conditions for opening tenders:**

SECTION VI: COMPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

VI.1) **THIS IS A RECURRENT PROCUREMENT:**

VI.2) **CONTRACT RELATED TO A PROJECT AND/OR PROGRAMME FINANCED BY EU FUNDS:**

VI.3) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

The authority reserves the right to evaluate each lot as a separate contract and may appoint different combinations of suppliers to different lots to ensure diversity of supply. Further, it should be noted that tenders received in respect of the entire (or substantially significant part of the) requirement may be given preference. The MOI and PQQ will be available on the My Tenders website, at <http://www.mytenders.org>.

Interested parties wishing to be considered for the framework should express an interest by registering on the MyTenders website giving the details requested.

The deadline for receipt of expressions of interest is 25.4.2007.

Any questions/queries regarding the requirements of the documentation should be submitted via the MyTenders site.

The authority aims to publish the responses to all questions received within 2 working days.

The authority will conduct the procurement process for itself as principal and also as agent for other participating bodies in the healthcare sector, including inter alia:

- i. Strategic Health Authorities and all Special Health Authorities, National Health Service Trusts, Acute Trusts, Foundation Trusts, Mental Health Trusts, Practice Based Commissioners and Primary Care Trusts, social care organisations and any other person(s) or body established under, or pursuant to the Secretary of State for Health's powers under, the National Health Service Act 1977 as amended or replaced whether by the National Health Service Act 2006 or by any successor legislation;
- ii. any other contracting authority which receives funding, either directly or indirectly, from the Secretary of State for Health to provide health and social care services; and
- iii. any other UK government department or contracting authority involved in the provision of healthcare or social care in the UK.

Any contract(s) awarded under the framework may be entered into by or for the benefit of, and may also subsequently be assigned/novated to, any one or more of these bodies.

The authority reserves the right to not award any framework contracts, or to award one or more framework contracts in respect of each lot or the entire or part of the requirement covered by this notice.

The authority further reserves the right to make whatever changes it may see fit to the content and structure of the tendering competition.

Interested parties should note that the authority and the contracting authorities do not guarantee that they will call-off services under the framework.

The authority is not responsible for any bidding costs incurred by interested candidates in respect of this procurement.

(MT Ref:49429).

VI.4) **PROCEDURES FOR APPEAL**

VI.4.1) **Body responsible for appeal procedures:**

Department of Health, NHS Connecting for Health, 1st Floor, 1 Whitehall, West Yorkshire, UK-Leeds LS1 4HR .
E-mail: ascc@nhs.net.

VI.4.2) **Lodging of appeals:**

Precise information on deadline(s) for lodging appeals: The authority will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers. This period allows unsuccessful tenderers to seek further debriefing from the contracting authority before the contract is entered into. Applicants have 2 working days from the notification of the award decision to request additional debriefing and that information has to be provided a minimum of 3 working days before the expiry of the standstill period. Such additional information should be required from the addressee in section I.1. If an appeal regarding the award of the contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Contracts Regulations 2006 (SI 2006 No5) provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland). Any such action must be brought promptly (generally within 3 months). Where a contract has not been entered into the court may order the setting aside of the award decision or order the authority to amend any document and may award damages. If the contract has been entered into, the court may only award damages. The purpose of the standstill period referred to above is to allow parties to apply to the courts to set aside the award decision before the contract is entered into.

VI.4.3) **Service from which information about the lodging of appeals may be obtained:**

Department of Health, NHS Connecting for Health, 1st Floor, 1 Whitehall, West Yorkshire, UK-Leeds LS1 4HR .
E-mail: ascc@nhs.net.

VI.5) **DATE OF DISPATCH OF THIS NOTICE:**

26.3.2007.