

United Kingdom-Belfast: Auditing services
OJ S 5/2019 08/01/2019
Contract award notice
Services

Legal Basis:

Directive 2014/24/EU

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Northern Ireland Audit Office
Postal address: The Audit Office, 106 University Street, Belfast
Town: Belfast
NUTS code: UKN Northern Ireland
Postal code: BT7 1EU
Country: United Kingdom
Contact person: Joe Campbell
E-mail: joe.campbell@niauditoffice.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 2890251097
Internet address(es):
Main address: www.niauditoffice.gov.uk

I.4. Type of the contracting authority

Other type: Regional Audit Institution

I.5. Main activity

Other activity: Public Sector Audit

Section II: Object

II.1. Scope of the procurement

II.1.1. Title

Re-Performance and Assessment of DAERA Paying Agency Farm and Forestry Inspections relating to the Common Agricultural Policy area-based aid schemes 2019

II.1.2. Main CPV code

79212000 Auditing services

II.1.3. Type of contract

Services

II.1.4. Short description

The NIAO, on behalf of the UK Certifying Body (NAO), undertakes an annual audit in Northern Ireland, in accordance with the European Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 908/, of the PA's operation of European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF).

The NIAO is seeking to appoint a service provider to undertake the re-verification and assessment of the Paying Agency farm and forestry inspections in the area-based aid schemes.

The contract will be for a period of 1 year from September 2018 to August 2019, with the option of 2 x 1 year extensions.

II.1.6. Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.1.7. Total value of the procurement

Value excluding VAT: 222 750,00 EUR

II.2. Description

II.2.3. Place of performance

NUTS code: UKN Northern Ireland

II.2.4. Description of the procurement

The NIAO invites proposals for carrying out re-verification inspections on the original “on-the-spot checks” carried out by DAERA.

The appointed project team will be required to co-ordinate and direct an independent sample of re-verification testing of farm and forestry inspections, producing a report on their assessment of the original farm/forestry inspection. On completion of their draft report, the appointed team will liaise with the DAERA Legality and Regularity coordinators to confirm the factual accuracy of each report. The reports will then be submitted to the NIAO and form part of the EAF audit evidence.

The independent sample will consist of approximately 45 re-verifications of DAERA/forest service on-the-spot checks of claims for scheme eligibility:

- 30 re-verifications of Basic Payment Scheme OTSC inspections and
- 15 re-verifications drawn from the OTSC inspections of Environmental Farming Scheme, Agri-environment (NICMS) and
- Forestry Grant Schemes claims.

The re-verifications will be conducted via control with remote sensing or on-site (at the farm/forest). It is highly unlikely that a selected farm/forest will be selected for more than one re-verification.

The project will require the successful tenderer to liaise with key staff in the DAERA Countryside Management Compliance Branch (CMCB), EU Verification Unit and Forest Service to obtain information and documentation relating to the original inspection and the re-verification inspection.

We expect that the project team for the project will be led by a director/partner, with day to day responsibility delegated to a manager.

At the conclusion of each re-verification inspection, and following the project team’s partner/director review, the project team shall submit an independent report to the NIAO Manager which, as a minimum will detail:

- the findings of the original inspection,
- the findings and conclusions of the re-verification test, including a specific statement on cross compliance (ideally the findings and conclusions should be agreed with the DAERA/forest service inspector) and
- an assessment of the re-verification testing, including any variances.

It is expected that the sample re-verifications will be required during the period from October 2018 to April 2019 (the majority taking place by January 2019).

II.2.5. Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality of Services / Weighting: 60

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:
yes

Identification of the project: This audit relates to payments under the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the European Agricultural Guarantee Fund (EAGF).

II.2.14. Additional information

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

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 in the OJ S: [2018/S 179-405712](#)

IV.2.8. Information about termination of dynamic purchasing system

IV.2.9. Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

Section V: Award of contract

Title:

Re-Performance and Assessment of DAERA Paying Agency Farm and Forestry Inspections Relating to the Common Agricultural Policy area-based aid schemes 2019

A contract/lot is awarded: yes

V.2. Award of contract

V.2.1. Date of conclusion of the contract

22/10/2018

V.2.2. Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 4

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 4

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

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: no

V.2.3. Name and address of the contractor

Official name: KPMG
Postal address: 1 Lanyon Place
Town: Belfast
NUTS code: UKN06 Belfast
Postal code: BT1 3LP
Country: United Kingdom
The contractor is an SME: no

V.2.4. Information on value of the contract/lot

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: 150 000,00 GBP
Total value of the contract/lot: 222 750,00 GBP

V.2.5. Information about subcontracting**Section VI: Complementary information**

VI.3. Additional information**VI.4. Procedures for review****VI.4.1. Review body**

Official name: Northern Ireland Audit Office
Postal address: The Audit Office, 106 University Street, Belfast, Co. Antrim
Town: Belfast
Postal code: BT7 1EU
Country: United Kingdom
E-mail: procurement@niauditoffice.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 2890251000
Internet address: www.niauditoffice.gov.uk

VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice

07/01/2019