

UK-Bristol: weapons, ammunition and associated parts

OJ S 116/2012 20/06/2012

Contract notice

Supplies

Directive 2009/81/EC

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Light weapons, Photographic & Batteries Project Team, DE&S

Postal address: Elm 3c #4326, MoD, DE&S, Abbey Wood

Town: Bristol

Postal code: BS34 8JH

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: LWPB PT - Commercial

For the attention of: Lawrie Holloway

E-mail: DESLEICG-LWPB-Comrcl2@mod.uk

Telephone: +44 1179133699

Additional information can be obtained from:

the abovementioned address

Specifications and additional documents (including documents for competitive dialogue and a dynamic purchasing system) can be obtained from:

the abovementioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted: the abovementioned address**I.2. Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

I.3. Main activity

Defence

I.4. Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities/entities

The contracting authority is purchasing on behalf of other contracting authorities: no

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1. Description**II.1.1. Title attributed to the contract by the contracting authority**

Supply of Modular Assault Rifle System (MARS).

II.1.2. Type of contract and place of performance or delivery

Supplies

Purchase

NUTS code UKG21 Telford and Wrekin

II.1.3. Information about framework agreement**II.1.4. Information about framework agreement****II.1.5.**

Short description of the contract or purchase(s)

Weapons, ammunition and associated parts. UK MOD has a requirement to acquire a new Modular Assault Rifle System (MARS) for deployment with certain military units from 2014. In accordance with UK government collaborative purchasing policy, the Contracting Authority intends to conclude a supply agreement for goods and/or services on behalf of itself and other UK public sector bodies as listed further below.

Expressions of interest are sought from candidate suppliers who are able to offer a product or capability meeting the Key User Requirements (KUR's) listed in the Section below.

Potential MARS suppliers must be willing to work with future MOD and Police synthetic training solution providers by sharing design, performance and other data necessary to integrate their weapon into synthetic training systems and environments. This will be an enduring contractual obligation.

The anticipated service life of MARS is 10 years from initial fielding. All weapon designs proposed must have a clear path to being sustained and supported in service for that period in accordance with DEFSTAN 00-600 Integrated Logistic Support (ILS) requirements.

Candidate suppliers who are agents for third-party products may represent multiple Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM). However, only 1 system configuration per OEM will be permitted to be submitted for trials.

Expressions of Interest will only be accepted from candidate suppliers who are able to propose a system solution based on a rifle. Expressions of Interest from suppliers wishing only to supply individual system elements such as sights or grenade launchers without a rifle on which to base them will not be considered further.

Pre-Qualification of candidate suppliers will comprise assessment of those suppliers' competence, capability and capacity to undertake work of the scope, value and duration proposed. In the case of candidate suppliers who are agents representing multiple rifle OEMs, each agent/ rifle OEM combination must submit a separate PQQ and each will be individually assessed on its own merits and treated as a separate candidate supplier. A "candidate supplier" may therefore be a rifle OEM, or an agent representing a rifle OEM. PQQ responses covering multiple rifle OEMs will not be evaluated.

A maximum of 6 candidate suppliers whose pre-qualification responses give MOD sufficient confidence about their competence, capability and capacity to undertake the supply of MARS will be invited to tender and to submit equipment for trials.

Each candidate supplier invited to tender will be required to loan or supply free of charge 12 weapon systems for Safety and Suitability for Service (S3) testing and environmental user trials by MOD. Further quantities of rifles and certain ancillaries may be required for testing by Police and Home Office. These may be required to be in a different configuration to take account of Police-specific requirements, especially ammunition differences and no fully-automatic capability.

Appropriate spares, ancillaries and support for these tests and trials will also be required free of charge. That support may include attendance at worldwide trials locations at short notice to support incident sentencing, inspect and rectify failures, etc. There may be 2 or more rounds of tendering prior to selection of a preferred bidder, and an electronic reverse auction may be used.

Candidate suppliers who propose system elements sourced from outside the UK should take note that some testing will be carried out by contractors working on behalf of MOD, and possibly by non-MOD bodies such as Police Forces and the Home Office. Any such candidate suppliers will be expected to take all necessary steps to facilitate the free exchange of any foreign-sourced products between these entities without interruption to the trials plan and process.

Selection of a preferred MARS rifle solution and bidder will be made on a "most economically

advantageous” basis, taking into account technical compliance, demonstrated trials performance, reliability, whole life cost and other relevant factors to be defined in the Invitation to Tender. It is possible that the evaluation process may lead to separate rifle selections for UK MOD and Police based on different respective SRD criteria. In this case, 2 preferred solutions and bidders may be nominated.

The Contracting Authority intends to conclude a supply agreement for goods and/or services on behalf of itself and other UK public sector bodies. The Invitation to Tender and any resulting contract(s) will therefore facilitate the direct exercise of any Options to supply additional weapons, ancillaries, spare parts and/or support services by any of the following bodies and by their statutory successors and organisations created as a result of legal or organisational changes:

- The Metropolitan Police Authority and Service as established under s5B of the Police Act 1996,
- A Police Authority or Force established under s3 of the Police Act 1996,
- A Police Authority or Force established under s2 of the Police (Scotland) Act 1967,
- The Northern Ireland Policing Board and Police Service of Northern Ireland,
- Future Police Commissioners,
- Future Police and Crime Panels,
- The Civil Nuclear Constabulary and Police Authority as established under the Energy Act 2004,
- The Ministry of Defence Police and Police Committee as established under the Ministry of Defence Police Act 1987,
- British Transport Police and Police Authority as established under the Railways and Transport Safety Act 2003,
- MOD Cyprus Sovereign Base Areas Police and Gibraltar Defence Police forces,
- The Home Office, including its Agencies,
- The National Policing Improvement Agency,
- The Serious Organised Crime Agency,
- The future National Crime Agency,
- The Foreign and Commonwealth Office,
- A Security Service as established and defined under the Security Service Act 1989,
- An Intelligence Service as established and defined under the Intelligence Services Act 1994,
- Police Forces of all Crown Dependencies,
- Police and Military Forces of all British Overseas Territories as defined in the British Overseas Territories Act 2002.

Expressions of interest must be made in hard copy format to the address shown below not later than midday on 20 July 2012. Each Expression of Interest must list the complete proposed supply chain and show the work elements being carried out by each supply chain member. Subsequent changes to proposed supply chains may invalidate the basis of Pre-Qualification and may therefore render candidate supply chains ineligible to continue in the selection process. Electronic submission may also be made in parallel to the e-mail address shown below by the same date.

II.1.6. CPV code(s)

35300000 Weapons, ammunition and associated parts

II.1.7. Information about subcontracting

The tenderer has to indicate in the tender any share of the contract it may intend to subcontract to third parties and any proposed subcontractor, as well as the subject-matter of the subcontracts for which they are proposed

The tenderer has to indicate any change occurring at the level of subcontractors during the execution of the contract

II.1.8. Lots

This contract is divided into lots: yes

Tenders may be submitted for one or more lots

II.1.9. Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: no

II.2. Scope of the procurement

II.2.1. Total quantity or scope

Key User Requirements:

1 - The User shall be provided with a system that is capable of firing all in-service 5.56mm ammunition including special natures. Remarks: The exception is Blank 5.56mm ammo where it must work with only one of the in-service variants. Manufacturers must notify whether their system has been optimised for M400 or UK long nosed type blank ammo which will then be used as appropriate during trials.

2 - The User shall have an inherently accurate system in all configurations. Threshold MOE: Extreme Spread (ES) of a 5 round group at 100m not to exceed 1 Miliradian (Mil) / 3.375MOA (100mm at 100m).

3 - The User shall be provided with a system that is capable of fitting all optical ancillaries in-line without the need for additional zeroing procedures. Remarks: The User shall have the ability to mount devices along the entire length of the top attachment rail for maximum efficiency. Threshold MOE: US Mil Std 1913 Accessory Rail. Objective MOE: STANAG 4694 Ed 1 Accessory Rail

4 - The User shall have a system that he can quickly adjust in order to operate at maximum efficiency when moving in and out of confined spaces. Threshold MOE: Adjustable Stock

5 - The User shall have a system capable of automatic and semi-automatic operation. Threshold MOE: The ability to select single shot or automatic fire. Objective MOE: The ability to select single shot, burst (2-3 rd) and automatic fire.

6 - The User shall be provided with a system that can be fired from any recognised fire position.

7 - The User shall be provided with a weapon (no optic, UGL or other ancillaries fitted) with an empty magazine and iron sight fitted that is light in weight. Threshold MOE: 4.2kg.

8 - The User shall have a system that minimises the potential of giving away his location or disrupting his vision when fired. Threshold MOE: No worse audible and visible signature than current flash hider and suppressor system. Impact on POA / POI no worse than the current system. Suppressive system to be attachable and removable within 10 Secs.

9 - The User shall have a modular system that allows him to change configurations and then operate safely. Threshold MOE: With armourer support. Objective MOE: Without armourer support. Remarks: The maximum overall length with buttstock fully extended (excluding suppressor) in its longest configuration is not to exceed 960mm. The maximum overall length with buttstock fully extended (excluding suppressor) in its shortest configuration is not to exceed 810mm.

10 - The User shall have a system that is capable of operating in the following climatic conditions A2, A3, B1, B2, B3, C0, C1, M1 and M2 as per DEFSTAN 00-35 Part 4.

11 - The User shall be provided with a system that has a very high probability of achieving the BFM's and Tasks without any stoppages or failures. Threshold MOE: Probability of 98 % without suppressor fitted.

12 - The User shall have a system that is supportable in accordance with the Support requirements to be defined in the Invitation to Tender.

UK MOD has selected Simunition® man-marking ammunition for certain training activities. All weapons proposed to meet the MARS requirement must offer Simunition® compatibility, which may be accomplished using third-party products. Any proposal that is dependent on introducing a different man-marking training solution will not be considered.

These KURs will be evolved into a more detailed System Requirement Document (SRD) which will be issued in due course. There may be supplementary or additional System Requirements taking account of UK Police and Home Office requirements for firearms.

Candidate rifles will be required to be compatible with a range of designated in-service items that interface with the rifle, including underslung grenade launcher, day sight, flash and sound suppressors. These will be specified in the SRD. Candidate suppliers may submit alternative proposals for these items as part of their system solution. Any alternative items proposed will be evaluated against the specified in-service items for enhanced utility, and will only be considered for purchase if they offer advantages. The evaluation of any such alternative items will have no bearing on the selection of the rifle itself. Only alternative items from the preferred rifle bidder will be considered for purchase under this tender as other combinations will not have been tested.

The scope of supply in the Invitation to Tender for MARS may include:

- firm prices for the supply of an initial quantity of rifles for MOD use, anticipated to be up to 200,
- firm prices for the potential supply of initial quantities of underslung grenade launchers, day sights, flash and sound suppressors,
- full delivery of this initial quantity commencing no earlier than April 2014 and concluding not later than February 2016,
- firm or fixed-price options for the supply of additional rifles, underslung grenade launchers, day sights, flash and sound suppressors and associated ancillaries up to a maximum of 30 000 rifles and 10 years duration from April 2014,
- firm prices for the supply of spare parts and/or a support service for a first period of up to 5 years from April 2014,
- fixed-price options for the supply of further quantities of spare parts and/or support services for a second period of up to 5 years from the conclusion of the first period.

II.2.2. Information about options

Options: yes

Description of options: The ITT and any resulting contract(s) will facilitate the exercise of Options to supply additional weapons, ancillaries, spare parts and/or support services.

II.2.3. Information about renewals

II.3. Duration of the contract or time limit for completion

Start 1.4.2014. Completion 31.3.2024

Information about lots

Lot No: 1

1) Short description

2) CPV code(s)

35300000 Weapons, ammunition and associated parts

3) Quantity or scope

4) Indication about different time frame or duration

5) Additional information about lots

Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1. Conditions related to the contract

III.1.1. Deposits and guarantees required

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

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

III.1.4. Other particular conditions to which the performance of the contract is subject, in particular with regard to security of supply and security of information

III.1.5. Information about security clearance

III.2. Conditions for participation

III.2.1. Personal situation

Criteria regarding the personal situation of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion) including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions: The Authority will apply all the offences listed in Article 39(1) of Directive 2009/81/EC (implemented as Regulation 23(1) of the Defence and Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 in the UK) and all of the professional misconducts listed at Article 39(2) of Directive 2009/81/EC (see also Regulation 23(2) in the DSPCR 2011) to the decision of whether a Candidate is eligible to be invited to tender.

A full list of the Regulation 23(1) and 23(2) criteria are at <http://www.contracts.mod.uk/delta/project/reasonsForExclusion.html#dspr>.

Candidates will be required to sign a declaration confirming whether they do or do not have any of the listed criteria as part of the pre-qualification process.

Candidates who have been convicted of any of the offences under Article 39(1) are ineligible and will not be selected to bid, unless there are overriding requirements in the general interest (including defence and security factors) for doing so.

Candidates who are guilty of any of the offences, circumstances or misconduct under Article 39(2) may be excluded from being selected to bid at the discretion of the Authority.

III.2.2. Economic and financial ability

Criteria regarding the economic and financial standing of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

List and brief description of conditions: It is intended to issue a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire for this requirement.

III.2.3. Technical and/or professional capacity

Criteria regarding the technical and/or professional ability of economic operators (that may lead to their exclusion)

List and brief description of conditions:

It is intended to issue a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire for this requirement.

III.2.4. Information about reserved contracts

III.3. Conditions specific to services contracts

III.3.1. Information about a particular profession

III.3.2. Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1. Type of procedure

IV.1.1. Type of procedure

Restricted

IV.1.2. Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited

Envisaged minimum number 2 and Maximum number 6

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates: The Pre-Qualification Questionnaire will be used to assess candidate suppliers' competence, capacity and capability to undertake the work required.

IV.1.3. Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue

IV.2. Award criteria

IV.2.1. Award criteria

The most economically advantageous tender in terms of Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

IV.2.2. Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction has been used: yes

Additional information about electronic auction: Yes. A Reverse Auction, conducted using electronic means, may be used as part of the procurement process for this requirement.

Specific relevant information on Reverse Auction usage will be given in the Invitation to Tender.

IV.3. Administrative information

IV.3.1. File reference number attributed by the contracting authority

LWPB/00090

IV.3.2. Previous publication concerning this procedure

no

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

20.7.2012 - 12:00

IV.3.5. Estimated date of dispatch of invitations to tender or to participate to selected candidates

IV.3.6. Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English.

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.1. Information about recurrence

VI.2. Information about European Union funds

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

VI.3. Additional information

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement, and the contract will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender. Suppliers interested in working with the Ministry of Defence should register on the MOD Supplier Information Database (SID) Register, available at www.contracts.mod.uk. The MOD SID is a database of active and potential suppliers available to all MOD and UK Defence procurement personnel, and is the main supplier database of MOD Procurement organisations. Please note: the registration and publication of a company profile on the MOD SID does not mean or imply that the supplier has in any way been vetted or approved by the MOD. Suppliers wishing to compete for advertised MOD contracts must respond to any specific call for competition by submitting a separate expression of interest in accordance with the instructions of the purchasing organisation.

Advertising Regime OJEU: This contract opportunity is published in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU), the MoD Defence Contracts Bulletin and www.contracts.mod.uk GO Reference: GO-2012615-DCB-3997493.

VI.4. Procedures for review

VI.4.1. Review body

Official name: Light weapons, Photographic & Batteries Project Team, DE&S

Body responsible for mediation procedures

Official name: Light weapons, Photographic & Batteries Project Team, DE&S

VI.4.2. Review procedure

VI.4.3. Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Official name: Light weapons, Photographic & Batteries Project Team, DE&S

VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice

15.6.2012