

**United Kingdom-Shipley: Financial auditing services**

OJ S 148/2014 05/08/2014

Contract notice

Services

Directive 2004/18/EC

**Section I: Contracting authority**

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**I.1. Name and addresses**

Official name: Accent Group Limited

Postal address: Charlestown House, Acorn Park Industrial Estate, West Yorkshire

Town: Shipley

Postal code: BD17 7SW

Country: United Kingdom

For the attention of: Angela Clayton

E-mail: [audittender@accentgroup.org](mailto:audittender@accentgroup.org)

Telephone: +44 1274536143

**Internet address(es):**General address of the contracting authority: <http://www.accentgroup.org>**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**

Body governed by public law

**I.3. Main activity**

Housing and community amenities

**I.4. Contract award on behalf of other contracting authorities**

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

**Section II: Object of the contract**

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

Contract for the supply of External Audit Services to Accent Group.

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

Services

Service category No 9: Accounting, auditing and bookkeeping services

Main site or place of performance: Main place of performance will be Charlestown House, Acorn Park Industrial Estate, Charlestown, Shipley, West Yorkshire, BD17 7SW.

NUTS code UKE41 Bradford

**II.1.3. Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The notice involves a public contract

#### **II.1.4. Information about framework agreement**

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

External Audit Services for Accent Group Limited and its subsidiaries.

#### **II.1.6. CPV code(s)**

79212100 Financial auditing services

#### **II.1.7. Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: no

#### **II.1.8. Lots**

This contract is divided into lots: no

#### **II.1.9. Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: no

### **II.2. Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.2.1. Total quantity or scope**

Accent Group own or manage over 20,000 homes and have assets of more than GBP 700 million. As part of its procurement strategy, Accent is committed to delivering value for money services and wishes to procure an External Audit Services provider.

Accent requires the following specific audit services that will constitute the basis of the audit fee:

- To form an opinion on the consolidated financial statements of Accent Group Limited;
- To form an opinion on the individual statutory financial statements of the subsidiaries of Accent Group Limited;
- To provide an audit on approximately 46 individual service charge accounts from across the Groups subsidiaries;
- To provide a covenant compliance letter for one of the Group's funders;
- Liaising with the internal audit and assurance team and place reliance on their work where appropriate;
- Attendance at the Group Audit Committee and the preparation and presentation of comprehensive reports and findings documents to the Committee.

The audit firm must have the capacity to deliver this size of contract and to evidence experience of similar sized housing associations.

Accent's turnover for the year ending 31.3.2014 was GBP 95.6 million with 7 trading subsidiaries across the Group.

It is expected that the tenderer will be a specialist in the Registered Provider sector and have knowledge of the current issues that are impacting on the sector and the impact that this will have on Accent. It is also expected that the tenderer will have an insight on whatever other issues that are being considered by the stakeholders in the sector, for example the regulator and the SORP working party, to ensure that Accent is best prepared for any upcoming changes to accounting rules or financial legislative changes.

Although there is an expectation that the tenderer will have the specialist knowledge of the Registered Provider sector, it must not be limited to this.

The auditor will be engaged for a period of 3 years with an option to extend by a further 2 years, with the first year of engagement being Accent's financial year ending 31.3.2015.

#### **II.2.2. Information about options**

Options: no

### **II.2.3. Information about renewals**

This contract is subject to renewal: yes

Number of possible renewals: 2

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

Duration in months: 36 (from the award of the contract)

## **Section III: Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

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### **III.1. Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.1.1. Deposits and guarantees required**

Details of any deposits and guarantees required by the contracting authority will be set out in the contract documents.

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

Details of any financial conditions and payment arrangements required by the contracting authority will be set out in the contract documents.

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

Joint and several liability

#### **III.1.4. Contract performance conditions**

The performance of the contract is subject to particular conditions: no

### **III.2. Conditions for participation**

#### **III.2.1. Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions: Any specific information and formalities necessary for evaluating the requirements are set out in the Invitation to Tender (ITT).

#### **III.2.2. Economic and financial ability**

List and brief description of conditions: Any specific information and formalities necessary for evaluating the requirements are set out in the Invitation to Tender (ITT).

#### **III.2.3. Technical and professional ability**

List and brief description of conditions:

Any specific information and formalities necessary for evaluating the requirements are set out in the Invitation to Tender (ITT).

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required:

Any specific information and formalities necessary for evaluating the requirements are set out in the Invitation to Tender (ITT).

#### **III.2.4. Information about reserved contracts**

### **III.3. Conditions specific to services contracts**

#### **III.3.1. Information about a particular profession**

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession: yes

Reference to the relevant law, regulation or administrative provision: Must be a Statutory Auditor.

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

## **Section IV: Procedure**

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### **IV.1. Type of procedure**

#### **IV.1.1. Type of procedure**

Open

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

#### **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 Criteria below

1. Qualitative. Weighting 70

2. Pricing. Weighting 30

#### **IV.2.2. Information about electronic auction**

An electronic auction will be used: no

### **IV.3. Administrative information**

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

#### **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**

30.9.2014 - 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.

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

Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

#### **IV.3.8. Conditions for opening of tenders**

Persons authorised to be present at the opening of tenders: no

## **Section VI: Complementary information**

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### **VI.1. Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: no

### **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**

Expressions of interest and requests for additional information, including invitation to tender documents, should be emailed to email: [angela.clayton@accentgroup.org](mailto:angela.clayton@accentgroup.org) before midday on 29.9.2014.

Please title your email "External Audit Services" and provide the following contact details: company name, contact name, telephone, email address and postal address.

Save for any mandatory periods, the timescales indicated in this notice are approximate and the contracting authority reserves the right to amend the same.

### **VI.4. Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1. Review body**

Official name: High Court of England and Wales

Postal address: Royal Courts of Justice, Strand

Town: London

Postal code: WC2A 2LL

Country: United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 2079476000

#### **Body responsible for mediation procedures**

Official name: High Court of England and Wales

Postal address: Royal Courts of Justice, Strand

Town: London

Postal code: WC2A 2LL

Country: United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 2079476000

#### **VI.4.2. Review procedure**

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

Official name: Cabinet Office

Postal address: 1 Horse Guard's Road

Town: London

Postal code: SW1A 2HQ

Country: United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 8450004999

### **VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice**

31.7.2014