

**Ireland-Dublin: Statutory audit services**  
**OJ S 124/2023 30/06/2023**  
**Contract award notice**  
**Services**

**Legal Basis:**

Directive 2014/24/EU

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**Section I: Contracting authority**

**I.1. Name and addresses**

Official name: Central Bank of Ireland

Town: Dublin

NUTS code: IE061 Dublin

Country: Ireland

Contact person: Geraldine Sherlock

E-mail: [tenders@centralbank.ie](mailto:tenders@centralbank.ie)

**Internet address(es):**

Main address: <https://www.centralbank.ie/>

**I.4. Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5. Main activity**

Economic and financial affairs

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1. Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1. Title**

External Audit Services

Reference number: 2022/S 121-344645

**II.1.2. Main CPV code**

79212300 Statutory audit services

**II.1.3. Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4. Short description**

Central Bank of Ireland (the “Central Bank”) has a requirement for external audits to be carried out by an independent auditor or a firm of auditors recommended by the Governing Council and approved by the EU Council, as required under Article 27.1 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and of the European Central Bank (ECB). In June 2022 the Central Bank issued an OJEU level tender, using the Open procedure, seeking a service provider for the provision of external audit services to the Central Bank. The Central Bank received no tenders in response to this competition. As such, and in accordance with Article 32 (2)(a) of Directive 2014/24/EU (the “Directive”), the Central Bank entered into a negotiated procedure without prior publication to award a contract for these services. This process is set out in further detail in Section IV.1.1 of this notice.

#### **II.1.6. Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: no

#### **II.1.7. Total value of the procurement**

Value excluding VAT: 3 072 465,00 EUR

### **II.2. Description**

#### **II.2.2. Additional CPV code(s)**

79212000 Auditing services, 79212100 Financial auditing services

#### **II.2.3. Place of performance**

NUTS code: IE0 Ireland

#### **II.2.4. Description of the procurement**

Central Bank of Ireland (the “Central Bank”) has a requirement for external audits to be carried out by an independent auditor or a firm of auditors recommended by the Governing Council and approved by the EU Council, as required under Article 27.1 of the Statute of the European System of Central Banks (ESCB) and of the European Central Bank (ECB). In June 2022 the Central Bank issued an OJEU level tender, using the Open procedure, seeking a service provider for the provision of external audit services to the Central Bank. The Central Bank received no tenders in response to this competition. As such, and in accordance with Article 32 (2)(a) of Directive 2014/24/EU (the “Directive”), the Central Bank entered into a negotiated procedure without prior publication to award a contract for these services. This process is set out in further detail in Section IV.1.1 of this notice.

#### **II.2.5. Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Mandatory requirements / Weighting: 0  
Cost criterion - Name: Price / Weighting: 0

#### **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.2.14. Additional information**

### **Section IV: Procedure**

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#### **IV.1. Description**

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

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the Official Journal of the European Union in the cases listed below

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to open procedure

Explanation:

In June 2022, the Central Bank issued an OJEU level tender, using the Open procedure, seeking suppliers for the provision of External Audit Services. No tender submissions were received. As such, and in accordance with Article 32(2)(a) of the Directive, the Central Bank

entered into a negotiated procedure without prior publication to award a contract for these services. The Central Bank entered into a negotiated procedure with Grant Thornton Ireland ("Grant Thornton").

Having confirmed that Grant Thornton can meet all of the requirements outlined in the original Invitation to Tender ("ITT") and is prepared to contract on substantially the same terms and conditions set out therein, the Central Bank proceeded to directly award the contract to Grant Thornton under Article 32(2)(a) of the Directive.

The initial term of the contract is until completion of the audit for the 2027 financial year. The Central Bank has an option to extend the term for a further period or periods of up to the completion of the audits for the financial years 2028 and/or 2029.

#### **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: [2022/S 121-344645](#)

##### **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**

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**Contract No:** 1

**Title:**

External Audit Services

A contract/lot is awarded: yes

#### **V.2. Award of contract**

##### **V.2.1. Date of conclusion of the contract**

02/06/2023

##### **V.2.2. Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

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

##### **V.2.3. Name and address of the contractor**

Official name: Grant Thornton Ireland

Town: Dublin

NUTS code: IE Éire / Ireland

Country: Ireland

The contractor is an SME: no

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: 2 100 000,00 EUR

Total value of the contract/lot: 3 072 465,00 EUR

## V.2.5. Information about subcontracting

### Section VI: Complementary information

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#### VI.3. Additional information

The figure in Sections II.1.7 and V.2.4 represents the Central Bank's best estimate of the anticipated total value, but it is not possible to be definitive in this regard by virtue of nature of the relevant services. The total value may be significantly lower, or indeed significantly higher than the figure in Sections II.1.7 and V.2.4

#### VI.4. Procedures for review

##### VI.4.1. Review body

Official name: High Court

Town: Dublin

Country: Ireland

Internet address: <https://www.courts.ie/high-court>

##### VI.4.3. Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

See Regulation 7 of SI 130/2010 as amended.

##### VI.4.4. Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Official name: High Court

Town: Dublin

Country: Ireland

E-mail: [highcourtcentraloffice@courts.ie](mailto:highcourtcentraloffice@courts.ie)

Internet address: <https://courts.ie/>

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

27/06/2023