

EAST NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

TENDER FOR

CONSULTANCY SERVICES: DEENETHORPE AIRFIELD GARDEN VILLAGE

TENDER DOCUMENT ONE

INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

Thank you for expressing interest in this procurement

We now invite you to submit a tender. Further stages of the process are outlined in this document.

To assist you in this, four documents have been provided:

- Document One – Information and instructions (including the timetable) (this document)
- Document Two – Specification
- Document Three – General Terms and Conditions
- Document Four – Tender Response Document

When completed, please return **one hard copy and a copy electronically saved on a CD** of the response document (Document Four).

Please mark envelopes/packages:

“TENDER RESPONSE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES DEENETHORPE AIRFIELD GARDEN VILLAGE – LOT” (Private and Confidential), and add the Lot or Lots you are bidding for – but no company markings - and address to:

**FAO Andrew Longley, Head of North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (NNJPU)
C/o The Chief Executive, East Northamptonshire Council, Cedar Drive,
Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4LZ**

To be received no later than NOON Friday 10th March 2017

Late submissions will be disregarded.

Please ensure that you register your interest with the procurement contact named in this Document in order to receive updates, questions responses etc.

TENDER – DOCUMENT ONE
INFORMATION AND INSTRUCTIONS

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1. Introduction

1.1 How this tender is structured

This tender is arranged in four sections:

Document One, this document, contains instructions on how to respond to the Invitation to Tender; gives an indication of the timetable being followed; provides bidders with details of the scoring, criteria and weightings which will be used to evaluate bids, and details of how and when to return the Tender Response Document (Document Four).

Document Two contains the detailed Specification for the goods or services required.

Document Three contains the General Terms and Conditions which apply to this tender and to the ensuing contract.

Document Four is the Tender Response Document which has to be completed according to the instructions and returned as instructed by no later than the due date and time.

1.2 The commissioning background

1. This contract is issued by East Northamptonshire Council (the Council).
2. In view of the value of the contract the Welland Procurement Service (a shared procurement service representing the Council) has recommended a competitive tendering process for the Council to set out contractual conditions and the service specification.
3. In compliance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015, for public contract opportunities that are advertised with a value between £25,000 and £164,176, a single stage tender process is being followed.
4. This means that the tender response document combines a standard Selection Questionnaire (SQ), a set of Tender Evaluation Questions/Pricing Schedule and a Form of Tender, a Collusive Tendering Certificate and a Confidential and Commercially Sensitive Information form.
5. The Council, as the contract holder, requires that the process of awarding this contract is to involve the circulation of the tender documentation to locally known suppliers who may have the right experience, and advertising on Contracts Finder.
6. The eventual contract between the successful tenderer and the Council will consist of the following documents:
 - a. Documents 1 to 3 of this tender developed by the Council.

- b. Document 4 of this tender – the response document completed by the Bidder.
- 5. Capacity support on master planning has thus far been provided through a contract for a fixed number of days, expected to run to March 2017. In addition, relevant support was commissioned to assist with a stakeholder workshop in November 2016. Confirmation of Government funding will allow these arrangements to be renewed or replaced following evaluation of tenders.

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1.3 Procurement Timetable

1.3.1 The procurement is intended to follow the time-line below:

1	Tender documents Issued	Friday 24 th February 2017
2	Deadline for clarification questions	Friday 3 rd March
3	Deadline for Submission of Tenders	Friday 10 th March
4	Evaluation	w/e Friday 17 th March
5	Clarification meetings (if required)	w/e Friday 24 th March
6	Standstill Period	21 st – 30 th March
7	Contract Awarded	Friday 31 st March
8	Contract Start	Monday 3 rd April

1.3.2 The Council reserves the right to amend this timetable and steps 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are provided for indicative purposes only.

1.3.2 Throughout the evaluation process, the Council reserves the right to seek clarifications from tenderers, where this is considered necessary to achieve a complete understanding of the bids received. In any event, should the evaluation panel, in its reasonable judgement, identify a fundamental failing or weakness in any tender then that tender may, regardless of its other merits, be excluded from further consideration.

1.4 Instructions on responding to this tender

1. Bidders shall treat the details of the tender document as private and confidential. However such information may be disclosed, as necessary, for the purpose of obtaining quotations or Insurance quotes.
2. All costs associated with the preparation and submission of the response to this Invitation to Tender shall be borne in full by the Bidders. The Council will not be liable, under any circumstances, for any costs or charges incurred in submitting a tender or for the preparation of the Contract with the successful Bidder.
3. The Form of Tender and the Collusive Tendering Certificate in the tender document must be signed by the Bidder. The whole document (Document Four) should be returned to the address shown on the front of this document.
4. Any recommendations, reservations or comments pertaining to the information included in the Invitation to Tender documents should be clearly stated.
5. No unauthorised alterations or additions should be made to the Form of Tender, Collusive Tendering Certificate or to any other component of the tender document.
6. Tenders must not be qualified but must be submitted strictly in accordance with the tender documents. Bidders must not make unauthorised changes to tender documents.
7. Bidders may submit (an) alternative bid(s); but must also submit a conforming bid.
8. The tender submission should include all the information which the Bidder feels necessary for an accurate and equitable evaluation of their proposal. Reference should not be made to previously submitted information and all aspects of the tender request are to be addressed. The submission is to be self contained. The Bidder should not rely on the Council's past experience as tender evaluations will be based only on the information contained within the submission.
9. Bidders will not be allowed to alter their tenders after the closing date, except that arithmetical errors may be corrected.
10. Any queries arising from the tender documents which may have a bearing on the offer to be made should be raised with the Council's contact (Section 7) as soon as possible in writing (via email is acceptable) and in any case by 3rd March.
11. Tenders and supporting documents must be written in English. Any mistakes or alterations should be initialled by the tenderer.
12. Bidders should note that the tender document may include a requirement for element(s) of the goods or services to be completed by a certain date as shown.

13. Tenders should arrive at the address shown on the first page no later than time and date stated on the front of this document. Late tenders will not be considered. Fax and email submissions will not be considered even if received before the date indicated.
14. The envelope should not bear any indication of the identity of the Bidder either on the envelope or in the franking.
15. Bidders must hold their tender open for acceptance for a minimum of ninety (90) days from the date of opening.
16. The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

2. PROCUREMENT APPROACH

1. This is a single stage tender process, this being the Invitation to Tender. You may ask questions in writing via e-mail regarding the tender documents or the details of the goods or service required.
2. Where questions raise an issue of general interest or clarification then the question and answer will be circulated to all Bidders. The identity of the originator will not be disclosed.
3. Once the deadline for receipt of tenders has been reached, the Council will evaluate the written tenders. The standard Selection Questionnaire will be assessed first, as Bidders who do not meet the Council's expectations may be excluded. Suppliers who self certify that they meet the requirements for insurance, economic and financial standing, and technical and professional ability will be required to provide evidence of this if they are successful at contract award stage.
4. The responses to the evaluation questions will then be scored and weighted as explained in Sections 3 ,4 and 5 below.
5. Once the submitted bids have been evaluated, the Council reserves the right to hold clarification meetings with no fewer than the top two highest scoring bidders. No new criteria will be introduced at these interviews, rather on the basis of these interviews the Council may choose to revise a bidder's score for each response to an evaluation question, either up or down, to reach a final score.
6. The Council will then make its award decision, if appropriate.
7. The procurement timetable is detailed in section 1.3 above, and the tender evaluation process is shown below.
8. The process is subject to the completion of formal contract documents.

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3 SCORING

3.1 Non-Price Scoring

Each written tender will be scrutinised by a small panel and each scoring criteria (Section 5 below) will be awarded points collectively by the panel out of 10 according to the following scale.

Score	Criteria for awarding score
0	No response or response is unacceptable
1	Response is very weak and almost unacceptable, and/or is inconsistent or in conflict with other responses
2	Response is weak, and falls well below expectations in a number of respects
3	Response is weak and is below expectations, not meeting the required standard in most respects, and/or is lacking/ inconsistent in others
4	Response is below expectations but meets the required standard in some respects
5	Response meets expectations regarding the required standard
6	Response slightly exceeds expectations regarding the required standard
7	Response is good and is well above expectations in some respects
8	Response is very good and is well above expectations in most respects
9	Response is outstanding and meets the required standard in all respects and exceeds some or all of the major requirements
10	Response is exceptional and meets the required standard in all material respects and exceeds all the major requirements, and represents significant added value

The weighting available for a score of 10 points is shown below in Section 5, and a pro rata weighting will be applied to the score.

3.2 Price Scoring

The total price figure will be converted into points by applying the formula:

The total price figure will be converted into points by applying the formula:

Lowest price bid divided by tenderer's price multiplied by 100% of the allocated weighting. For example:

Price:	£
Tender 1	100
Tender 2	95 the lowest bid
Tender 3	105

Percentage score:

Tender 1 100 = $95/100 \times 50 = 47.5\%$

Tender 2 95 = $95 / 95 \times 50 = 50\%$

Tender 3 105 = $95/105 \times 50 = 45\%$

Therefore, the lowest bid also receives the maximum percentage score for this criterion (50%).

Every other bid receives a percentage score in proportion to the amount by which they exceed the lowest bid.

4 CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING STANDARD SELECTION QUESTIONNAIRE

The Public Contract Regulations 2015 came into force on 26th February 2015. Since this date shortlisting has been prohibited in all procurements carried out by local government that are advertised and are above £25,000 in value but below the EU Threshold for Goods/Services (currently £164,176).

For contracts advertised between these two values, instead of a pre qualification questionnaire, local authorities must assess a Bidder's suitability to deliver the requirements as stated in the Specification/Contract. Those bidders who satisfy the selection assessment will have their tenders evaluated. Those who do not will be excluded from the process. The selection process is based on a template document issued by Central Government. Many of the selection questions will be the same for every tender but some may be specific to the subject matter of the contract. Please see below for further details about the evaluation of the standard Selection Questionnaire.

[illegible]

Question No.	Section Headings and Sub-Headings	Maximum Available Section Score	Weighting Within Sub-Heading
3	Economic and Financial Standing		
3.1	Audited accounts or alternative means of demonstrating financial status		
3.2	Minimal financial threshold	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail
3.3	Parent company accounts		
3.4	Parent company guarantee		
3.5	Bank guarantee		
4	Technical and Professional Ability		
4.1	Details of up to three contracts Evidence of healthy supply chains maintained with sub-contractors	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail
	Requirements under Modern Slavery Act 2015		
5.1	Relevant commercial organisation	Pass/Fail	Pass/Fail
5.2	Compliant with annual reporting requirements		
6	Additional Questions:		
6.1	Insurance	Pass / Fail	Pass/Fail
6.2	Health and Safety		
(a)	Formal health and safety policy/statement		
(b)	Accredited health and safety system		
(c)	Responsible person for health and safety policy		
(d)	Health and safety professional/consultant		
(e)	Health and safety training (staff/sub-contractors)?		
(f)	Accident records	Pass/Fail/%	Pass/Fail/%
(g)	Staff consultation on health and safety matters		
(h)	Risk assessments		
(i)	Investigated / prosecuted for health and safety offence		
(j)	Civil action for health and safety offence		
(k)	Prohibition / improvement notices for breaches of health and safety legislation		
6.3	Environmental Management		
(a)	Policy re: safe management of the environment	Pass/Fail/%	Pass/Fail/%

Question No.	Section Headings and Sub-Headings	Maximum Available Section Score	Weighting Within Sub-Heading
6.4 (a) (b) (c) (d) (e)	Equal Opportunities Compliant policy Findings of unlawful discrimination / harassment Investigated by the Equality and Human Rights Commission Complaints procedure Equality awards	Pass/Fail/%	Pass/Fail/%

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5 CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING TENDER RESPONSES

Only those Bidders which pass the standard Selection Questionnaire (SQ), will have their tenders evaluated using this scheme.

LOT 1 - MASTERPLANNING CO-ORDINATION AND CAPACITY SUPPORT. UP TO 50 DAYS' INPUT.

Section Headings and Sub-Headings	Maximum Score Available	Weighting
Quality Experience and approach Practical local knowledge	50%	75% (37.5%) 25% (12.5%)
* Price (exclusive of VAT) Day rates and expenses	50%	100% (50%)

LOT 2 - DESIGN REVIEW OF MASTERPLAN, DESIGN CODES AND PLANNING APPLICATION, WITH UP TO 6 MEETINGS OF PANEL DURING 2017/18.

Section Headings and Sub-Headings	Maximum Score Available	Weighting Within Sub-Heading
Quality Experience and approach Practical local knowledge	50%	75% (37.5%) 25% (12.5%)
* Price (exclusive of VAT) Cost of Design Review Panel meeting	50%	100% (50%)

LOT 3 - EXPERT MULTI-DISCIPLINARY DESIGN INPUT. UP TO 40 DAYS' INPUT ASSUMING 8 DAYS EACH FOR UP TO 5 EXPERTS.

Section Headings and Sub-Headings	Maximum Score Available	Weighting Within Sub-Heading
Quality Experience and approach Management of consultants	50%	75% (37.5%) 25% (12.5%)
* Price (exclusive of VAT) Day rates and expenses	50%	100% (50%)

* Please note that the lowest cost tender will receive the highest mark in the Price sub-heading, all other tenders will receive a pro rata score based on that lowest price (See: 3.2 Price Scoring).

6. INVITATION TO TENDER

When completed, please return **one hard copy and a copy electronically saved on a CD** of the response document (Document Four). Please mark envelopes/packages:

“TENDER RESPONSE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES DEENETHORPE AIRFIELD GARDEN VILLAGE – LOT” (Private and Confidential), and add the Lot or Lots you are bidding for – but no company markings - and address to:

**FAO Andrew Longley, North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit (NNJPU)
C/o The Chief Executive, East Northamptonshire Council, Cedar Drive,
Thrapston, Northamptonshire NN14 4LZ**

To arrive by **no later than Noon Friday 10th March 2017.**

Please note that no other identifying mark should appear on the envelope. Failure to observe this will mean the disqualification of the tender.

7. CONTACT

In the event of any queries or requests for further information arising from this tender, please contact:

**Andrew Longley, North Northamptonshire Joint Planning Unit
andrewlongley@nnjpu.org.uk**

Note that the Council cannot accept the return of completed tender responses by e-mail.

If the Council considers any question or request for clarification to be of material significance, both the query and the response will be communicated, in a suitably anonymous form, to all service providers / suppliers who have responded.

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