To: Marcella Maxwell

From: David Nicholson

Date: 2 August 2021

Subject: NPS – ICT – 0104 – 20: Framework for Multi-Functional Devices (MFDs) and Document Solutions: Lot 2 Print Consumables – Potential Challenge

CC: Sam Perkins

Paul Robertson

Issue

An unsuccessful Supplier in the above tender exercise has raised concerns regarding the tender for the above, and has advised they intend to challenge the procurement Award for Lot 2. (Lot 1 for MFDs and Document Solutions has been awarded successfully).

Recommendation

To abandon the tender for Lot 2 and advise authorities to place their own contracts. (There are various compliant routes available)

Background

An all-Wales Framework Agreement for the supply of:

- MFD equipment, including leasing arrangements;
- Associated services;
- Print & Document Solutions; and
- Print consumables

was tendered through OJEU.

The Framework was divided into 2 Lots:

Lot 1, MFDs & Document Solutions; and Lot 2, Print Consumables

The Agreement was to be a second generation framework, with the previous iteration being let in January 2017 and running for 4 years. Over 122 Customers (excluding individual schools) used the first generation of the Agreement. There was an annual spend in excess of £ per annum, however the majority of the spend

The Tender was advertised via the Sell2wales website on the 12th January 2021, with the deadline for submission of tenders on 26th February 2021.

Following evaluations by a panel including procurement professionals from across the Welsh public sector the Intention to Award letters were issued to all suppliers who had submitted bids for Lot 1 and Lot 2.

Lot 1 has been awarded
Regarding Lot 2, an unsuccessful supplier, CCS Media Limited, raised concerns regarding the outcome of the Procurement via a message through the eTenderwales portal (the portal). This was followed up by a formal letter issued through the portal by Trowers & Hamlins LLC acting on behalf of CCS media.
abandon the tender and leave individual authorities to place their own contracts.