|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Project | New Website Creation |
| Company name | ASHBROOK Ltd |
| Date of Issue | 14/10/21 |
| Reference Code | N/A |
| Email for Return of Complete Responses | stephanie.dean@ashbrook.ltd |
| Submission Deadline | 28/10/21 – 5pm |

## REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

## SPECIFICATION

Any questions about the procurement should be submitted by e-mail to the email address indicated at the front of this document**.**

# bACKGROUND TO Cheshire & Warrington Access to Finance & Grant Programme

The project outlined in this Request for Quotation will be part funded by the Access to Finance & Grant Programme Application Form

The grant programme is designed to support businesses in identifying and achieving their growth potential through the provision of up to 32% contribution towards the cost of projects across a wide spectrum of business disciplines.

The specification below relates to a project which may be part funded by Cheshire West & Chester Council, Warrington & Co and the European Regional Development fund. However, this will have no impact on the contractual relationship between the business letting this contract and the successful supplier.

Please note, response to this submission is at the sole cost of the supplier and is not an offer of employment.

Further information can be found at [www.blueorchid.co.uk/a2fgrant](http://www.blueorchid.co.uk/a2fgrant)

**PLEASE NOTE: ALL CORESPONDENCE REGARDING THIS PROCUREMENT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARDS THE CONTRACTING BUSINESS.**

# Background TO oRGANISATION & requirements of the brief

**Company Background**

We are one of the UKs leading plant hire firms, and a family run business with over 20 years’ experience in the machinery self-drive hire sector.

We supply high quality machines, maintained through an enviable fleet renewal scheme. Couple this with excellent customer service and we have seen year on year growth, since the business was established (see our 5-star reviews on google).

We supply machinery, nationwide, to the construction, quarrying, demolition, events and aeronautical industries, to name just a few. Our product portfolio covers excavators, cherry pickers, telehandlers and dump trucks, amongst many more. See [www.ashbrook.ltd](http://www.ashbrook.ltd) for full details.

We support over 50 colleagues in both skilled and unskilled jobs. The majority of our employees live in the Cheshire and Warrington areas. As well as being a local employer we also pride ourselves in the charitable support we are able to give organisations including, but not limited to, Congleton Young Farmers and Macclesfield Rugby Club Youth team.

As well as being a national business, with our machinery completing jobs all over the UK, our roots are firmly planted in the Cheshire/ Warrington area with approx. 80% of our business spend being with companies in this area.

**Requirements of the Brief**

***Overview***

To provide ASHBROOK with a modern, fresh, intuitive website that covers the needs of our B2B customers and provides a straightforward quote request system. The site will be easily findable with SEO principles built into its core. Backend processes from CMS management to receiving quotations, need to be simple and in line with business processes to support employee adoption. Full view of analytical data is needed.

***Requirements:***

ASHBROOK require a website that reflects the modern, forward-facing business that we are. Usability should be as straightforward as possible. We require the focus of the site to be product led with ease of gaining a quotation from us a key priority. This should be reflected in both the mobile/ tablet design and PC view.

Alongside this, we wish to showcase the business’ values to our B2B customers, so that it is obvious to the user that we are a market leader with regular fleet renewals, an active supporter of the local communities surrounding our depots and make decisions with environmental consequences in mind. Our legal documentation will need to be easily accessible, but not a key focus.

The products need to be able to hold the manufactures specification pdfs and feature product videos (although not all products will have them). It is likely that all products will have photos, descriptions and some key specifications that need highlighting.

We need to be able to add, remove and edit all elements of the products simply.

A ‘product picker’ to help customers find which machine they require.

The site itself should be searchable so that people can easily locate what they require, through both a simple menu structure and a site ‘search’ tool.

The site will be built to best practice technical SEO principles to support both national and local search.

Feature an ‘amazon type- you may also like’ of different products.

As much as we wish to generate online traffic, we still wish to support those customers who prefer to phone, so our contact details should be prominent.

An area to feature our ‘news articles/ case studies’. In this area, allow us to feature an author profile to help with E.A.T signals.

Social sign posting so that users can also find us across our social platforms.

A sign up to receive more information from us- it would be ideal if the data capture was direct into our mailchimp account, but this doesn’t necessarily need to be the case. If it isn’t direct then notifications to ASHBROOK to say we have received a sign-up is needed.

Form functionality so that we can add a data capture form at any point.

Google maps plugin, so that people can easily locate us for machinery pick-ups.

The CMS needs to be simple and straight-forward to use with staggard access profiles for multiple users. I suggest:

* Super Admin- with full access,
* Admin- with access to everything accept adding and removing admins/ editors,
* Editor- with access to only the news/ blog area and standard content pages.
* This is entirely open to debate and what is available. Don’t add in extra cost making it like this if there’s an off-the-peg answer.

Google analytics/ google search console should be set up throughout the site and tags added where key actions are identified.

The site must render correctly across all standard browsers and screen sizes.

The new site should be launched so that any historic page rank is preserved.

Open to external plugins/ APIs so that if our business management system (Syrinx) offers additional functionality, such as quoting, in time, we can add in these elements.

Timelines need to be adhered too with regular project management meetings to ensure we stay on track and that any potential pinch points are identified and dealt with.

In addition, and not covered by the grant, we are also looking to move our hosting package and receive on-going maintenance of the site. Hosting should be fast and consistently stable, with back-up should there be any issues. Please do not cover the cost of this within the grant application quotation, however we do need to work with a supplier who is able to provide this, so please state whether you are able to meet this on-going need

**Budget**

**£10,000**

**Expected Start Date**

**w/c 15/11/21**

**Expected End Date**

**31/03/22**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **I certify that this is a true copy of the original document.** | |
| Name | **Stephanie Dean** |
| Signed |  |
| Position | Group Marketing Manager |
| Date | 13/10/21 |

**IMPORTANT**

NOTE TO SUPPLIERS

This tender includes services which will be part funded by Public Funding as such strict procurement rules apply.

In responding to this tender the following requirements apply;

* Complete the Tender Response form below. Failure to complete the form below will result in your tender being rejected.
* When completing the Tender Response Form include complete and accurate responses to the questions. Whilst supporting material may be included scoring will be conducted on the information within the form therefore responses which simply refer or link to other material may score low.
* Supporting materials e.g. CV’s must be provided as an attached or embedded file not a link to a website. Links to published online case studies are acceptable.
* All tenders must be received by the deadline in a form which cannot then be altered, as such linking to a cloud or website hosted tender response will result in your tender being rejected.
* The ERDF grant associated with this tender has a number of restrictions on its use e.g. ongoing business costs such as maintenance contracts; outsourced services; registration or certification fees. Please ensure that pricing information allows assessors to identify what costs/services are included.
* Whilst we understand that you may wish to speak to the commissioning business to discuss elements of the tender the grant application process requires that tender scoring be clearly based on written material provided within the tender response, as such we will instruct the tendering business that information provided within any calls cannot form part of their scoring decision.

SUpplier REsponse Section

**Information Only**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company Name |  |
| Contact Name |  |
| Company Registration Number |  |
| VAT Number |  |
| Contact Telephone Number |  |
| E-mail address: |  |
| Web Address |  |
| List any attachments that you have included with your tender e.g. Curriculum Vitae, Organisational Background and Case Studies to support proposal. |  |
| References  *If possible, please include the contact details of two previous clients who would be willing to act as a reference to the quality of your work.* | **Reference 1.** |
| **Reference 2.** |

**Scored Response – Quality**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| *This is a minimum threshold Question – See Evaluation Criteria in Appendix I* | | | |
| Please outline your experience in delivering the services described in the in the section titled ‘Requirements of the Brief’  **Available Marks: 10** | | | |
| INSERT NARRATIVE to clearly demonstrate how you meet the requirements of brief as set out above. (Max 3,000 words). | | | |
| Please outline your delivery plan including your approach to delivering the services described in the in the section titled ‘Requirements of the Brief’ | | | |
| INSERT NARRATIVE to clearly demonstrate how your approach will meet the requirements of brief as set out above. (Max 3,000 words). | | | |
| **Project Milestone** | **Time Required** | **Expected Completion Date** | **Total Cost for this activity** |
| 1. |  | *No of Days* |  |
| 2. |  |  |  |

**ADD MORE ROWS IF REQUIRED**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Cost** | Please provide your cost exc VAT | |
|  | Where the services being tendered include a number of separate elements, for example a Sales Project which includes a Sales & Marketing Strategy and development of an E-commerce website, please provide separate costs for each element below. | |
|  | **Type of Service,**  e*.g. Consultancy, Software, Branding, etc.* | **Cost** |
| **Element 1** |  | £ |
| **Element 2** |  | £ |
| **Element 3** |  | £ |
| **Total Cost** | | £ |

**ADD MORE ROWS IF REQUIRED**

**Payment Terms**

Please insert your preferred payment terms using the following table as guidance.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Payment** | **When** | **Amount** |
| 1. | *On completion of INSERT TEXT* | £ |
| 2. | *On completion of INSERT TEXT* | £ |

Please note:

* All prices quoted shall be exclusive of Value Added Tax (VAT).
* All prices quoted shall be fixed and firm and shall apply for the full duration of the contract.
* Following that period, any requests for price changes must be accompanied by a written summary and supported by evidence to justify the proposed price change.
* No quantity or continuity of work is guaranteed to successful suppliers and this should be taken into account when completing the Pricing Schedule.
* Any daily rate indicated in the Schedule of Rates is for an 8 hour working day, during a normal working week (Monday to Friday). A half day is therefore considered as 4hrs.
* All costs are deemed to include expenses and any other on-cost.

Appendix I

# Instructions for Completion

Completed questionnaires should be submitted in electronic format and emailed to the email address given at the front of this document by the due date as outlined in Deadline for Response in the Timescales section.

Any application received after the Deadline for Response shall not be opened or considered. We may, however, in our own absolute discretion extend the Deadline and in such circumstances we will notify all applicants of any change.

You should answer all questions as accurately and concisely as possible.

Where a question is not relevant to your organisation, please state N/A (not applicable) and include a brief explanation if required. Questions must be answered in English and submitted either in Microsoft Word readable format or Adobe Acrobat PDF.

Responses will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set out in Appendix 1. In the event that none of the responses are deemed satisfactory, wereserve the right to consider alternative procurement options.

Failure to provide the required information, make a satisfactory response to any question, or supply documentation referred to in responses, within the specified timescale, may mean that you will be excluded from further participation in the procurement.

# No Contract

No information contained in this specification or in any communication made between ourselves and any supplier in connection with this specification shall be relied upon as constituting a contract, agreement or representation that any contract shall be offered in accordance with this specification. We reserve the right, subject to the appropriate procurement regulations, to change without notice the basis of, or the procedures for, the competitive tendering process. We reserve the right to terminate the process at any time. Under no circumstances shall ourselves incur any liability in respect of this specification or any supporting documentation.

# Supplier Selection

The overall evaluation process will be conducted in a fair and equitable manner, so that we are able to consider the value for money of each proposal. This means that we may seek clarification of an application from any and all applicants; different clarification/information may be sought from different applicants.

Once we have reached a decision in respect of an award, we will notify all applicants of our decision. As this is below the OJEU financial threshold for light touch regime procurements, we do not intend to provide for a standstill period before entering into the contract.

Any attempt by applicants to influence the contract award process in any way may result in the applicant being disqualified. Specifically, applicants shall not directly or indirectly at any time:

* Devise or amend the content of their application in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person (other than in good faith with a person who is a proposed partner, supplier, consortium member or provider of finance.)
* Enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person as to the form or content of any other application, or offer to pay any sum of money or valuable consideration to any person to effect changes to the form or content of any other application.
* Enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person that has the effect of prohibiting or excluding that person from submitting an application.
* Canvass us or any of employees or agents in relation to this tender.
* Attempt to obtain information from any of our employees, agents or our advisors concerning another application.

# Queries about the procurement

Any questions about the procurement should be submitted by e-mail to the email address indicated at the front of this document**.**

If we consider any question or request for clarification to be of such significance that all potential suppliers who have responded should be made aware of it, both the query and the response will be communicated to them, in a suitably anonymous form either by email or on the website/publication on which the tender was advertised.

All responses received and any communication from service providers will be treated in confidence.

Evaluation Criteria

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| --- | --- |
| Proposal significantly exceeds requirements and offers value added and additional services that will enhance significantly the service | 10 marks |
| Proposal exceeds requirement. Demonstrated by clear, detailed information and unequivocal evidence | 7.5 Marks |
| Proposal meets the minimum requirements. Evidence is fairly clear and convincing; minor reservations in one or more key areas | 5.0 Marks |
| Proposal significantly fails to meet the requirements. In virtually all areas there is a lack of convincing evidence which casts serious doubt about the ability to meet requirements. | 2.5 Marks |
| Responses scoring 0 will be deemed to have failed to demonstrate the minimum level of quality and will be disqualified. | 0 Marks |

Prior to evaluating Tenders, we will carry out an initial review of each Tender to confirm completeness and compliance with the Tender Requirements and may, at its discretion, reject a Tender which is incomplete and / or non-compliant. The following pre-evaluation process will be undertaken:

* **Compliance Check Stage:** to confirm completeness and compliance with the Tender Requirements. We may, at our discretion, reject a Tender which is incomplete or non-compliant. Please note the word count and any text above the word count will not be assessed.
* **Quality Assessment Score:** The quality assessment section will be assessed against the criteria set out below and each tender will be awarded a score based on their ability to demonstrate their ability to meet the tender requirements.

Responses scoring below 5 in the quality assessment will be deemed to have failed to demonstrate the minimum level of quality and will be disqualified.

* **Tender Price Score:** This is calculated using the formula shown below and a score will be awarded which reflects the cost quoted relative to the other tenders received.
* **Evaluation Stage:** We will then determine the winning tender by comparing the total scores for both the quality assessment and pricing sections.

### PRICE

In evaluating the price of tenders, the lowest price will be awarded full marks and each other proposal will be awarded a score based on the percentage difference from the lowest price, according the formula below;

See worked example below.

If the price seems abnormally low, further explanation as to the low price may be sought and evaluation of whether the quote is considered economically viable will be made.