

PPDA/LG/596

8th October 2019

The Managing Director
Jedan Company Limited
P.O. Box 833
SOROTI

RE: INVESTIGATION INTO ALLEGED IRREGULAR ADVERTISEMENT OF TENDERS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/2020 BY SERERE DISTRICT LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Reference is made to the above subject.

The Authority received your complaint dated 24th June 2019 in which you alleged that Serere District Local Government did not publish the advert for tenders for contractors to manage revenue centers for Financial Year 2019/2020. The complaint further added that the advertisement was done secretly and internally.

In accordance with Section 8(1) (c) of the PPDA Act 2003, the Authority instituted an investigation and found that:

Brief facts

1. On 21st March 2019, the different Sub-Counties raised requisitions forms for sourcing of contractors to manage revenue centers within their jurisdictions and these were approved by the various Sub County Chiefs.
2. On 4th April 2019, the Contracts Committee of Serere DLG approved the bidding document, bid notice, open national bidding method, and the reserve prices for the revenue centers.
3. On 31st May 2019, the Entity published a bid notice for prequalification and invitation to bid for revenue collection in the New Vision with a bid closing date of 3rd July 2019.

4. On 24th June 2019, the Managing Director Jedan Company Limited petitioned the Authority to look into the tendering process alleging that the Entity was conducting the advertisement of revenue sources secretly and internally.
5. On 4th July 2019, the Entity published an Addendum in the New Vision extending the bid closing date from 3rd July 2019 to 10th July 2019.
6. On 5th July 2019, the Authority wrote to the Accounting Officer Serere District Local Government lodging an investigation into the matter.

Issue raised:

Whether the Entity did not publish the advertisement for procurement of contractors to manage the revenue centers

1. The complaint alleged that Serere District Local Government did not publish the advert for tenders for contractors to manage revenue centers for Financial Year 2019/2020. He further added that the advertisement was done secretly and internally.
2. The Authority reviewed the bidding process and found that the Contract Committee approved the use of open national bidding method, the open bidding notice, and the bidding document.
3. The bid notice published in the New Vision on 31st May 2019 indicated that the details of revenue collection would be found at the Procurement and Disposal Unit Notice Board and the Procurement Office.
4. The Entity provided acknowledgement letters from the Town Clerk, Serere Town Council and the Senior Assistant Secretary, Olio Sub County as evidence that the bid notice inviting bidders to bid for revenue centres at the district were received and pinned up on their respective notice boards on 31st May 2019.
5. Regulation 36(1) of the Local Governments (PPDA) Regulations, 2006 requires the Entity to invite all eligible bidders through public advertisement of a bid notice in at least one newspaper of wide national circulation when using the open bidding method.
6. The Authority noted that the Entity advertised the tender for management of revenue collection from the various revenue centres on 31st May 2019 in the New Vision Newspaper. However, the advert referred the potential bidders to the Procurement and Disposal Unit notice board for the details of the specific procurements.

7. The Authority also noted that the Entity did not provide evidence to show that the notice was pinned on the Procurement and Disposal notice board within the communicated time as had been stated in the advert.
8. The Authority found that the Entity advertised the tender for management of revenue collection from the various revenue centres on 31st May 2019 in the New Vision Newspaper in accordance with Regulation 36(1) of the Local Governments (PPDA) Regulations, 2006 and hence finds no merit in the allegation.

This is to bring the above information to your attention and closure of the investigation.

Moses Ojambo

Ag. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

c.c.: The Chief Administrative Officer, Serere District Local Government