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Award

712759450 BFSAI - Enhanced Business Broadband Phase 2

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-000230

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04cda5

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Corsham

Email

ukstratcomdd-cm-fxdnet@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/groups/defence-digital>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Defence

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

712759450 BFSAI - Enhanced Business Broadband Phase 2

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72400000 - Internet services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The requirement is to provide a Business Broadband Service to British Forces South Atlantic Islands (BFSAI) Falkland Islands. It requires both wired and wireless access, with Wi-Fi distribution and interconnects for BFSAI across the Falkland Islands users across a multitude of sites. Welfare broadband is excluded from this requirement.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £1,602,903.30

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- FK - Falkland Islands

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Fixed Connectivity within Defence Digital Programme team , part of the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD), intends to award a single source contract for a total of 9 months to Sure South Atlantic Ltd for the provision of a Business Broadband Service to British Forces South Atlantic Islands (BFSAI) Falkland Islands.

This contract will provide a business broadband service via a dedicated international connection with of an aggregated 450Mbps capacity to a multitude of sites to service 1084 users across the Falkland Islands.

As some of the sites require a fast connection and others can tolerate a slower connection, the sites have been prioritised as Priority 1, 2 and 3. Most sites will have mix of wired and wireless connectivity, but some priority sites are wired only.

The core distribution connections for different sites will be achieved by different means such as fibre, DSL, Point-to multipoint (PMP Radio), and via microwave radio. The authentication of these services will be in accordance with the MOD's JSP policy, and the services will not have any direct connectivity to MOD services.

Welfare broadband is excluded from this requirement.

In accordance with regulation 4 of The Defence and Security Public Contracts (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/697) this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 as amended (in particular by SI 2019/697 and SI 2020/1450). Prior publication of a contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union is no longer appropriate.

It is considered that the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (as required by the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the DSPCR 2011 for Technical Reasons. This is for the following reasons.

Only Sure South Atlantic Ltd own and have access to the required mast/relay towers and infrastructure in-situ on the Falkland Islands to deliver these Business Broadband services, meaning they are the only supplier that can meet the MOD's requirements. For another supplier to attempt to provide this Business Broadband Service would require them to build and install new towers and infrastructure across the Falkland Islands which would result in substantial and disproportionate additional time and cost implications, including an unacceptable capability gap.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

Please refer to VTN description.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

712759450

Title

Phase 2 Enhanced Business Broadband for Falkland Islands

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

6 January 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Sure South Atlantic Ltd

Ross Road, Stanley

FIQQ 1ZZ

Country

Falkland Islands

NUTS code

- FK - Falkland Islands

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1,282,322.64

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Commercial Law Group Government Legal Department

Abbey Wood

Country

United Kingdom