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Contract

## **LGfL Applications and Support Services (LASS) Contract**

London Grid for Learning Trust

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-000957

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042c5a

Published 11 January 2024, 1:50pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

London Grid for Learning Trust

9th Floor 10 Exchange Square, Primrose Street

London

EC2A 2BR

#### **Contact**

Mr Terry Brewer

#### **Email**

[terry.brewer@lgfl.net](mailto:terry.brewer@lgfl.net)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2084084455

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.lgfl.net](http://www.lgfl.net)

Buyer's address

[www.lgfl.net](http://www.lgfl.net)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

LGfL Applications and Support Services (LASS) Contract

Reference number

DN677368

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Pursuant to the publication of a voluntary ex-ante notice on 05/08/2023, reference - 2023/S 000-022840 (VEAT Notice), the Authority has awarded a contract for the provision of a Universal Sign On (USO) Platform and Related Services for a period of 60 months to Atomwide Limited.

The Contract period is 22/12/2023 to 21/12/2028 with the option of a 36-month extension for the period 22/12/28 to 21/12/31.

The services provided by Atomwide are complex, deeply integrated and dependent on the use of proprietary software that was developed over an extended period. The software is not a commodity product due to its unique nature and its limited market; Atomwide is the only supplier capable of supporting and maintaining it.

Consequently, economic operators could not submit competitive tenders for the provision of alternative services without a licence from Atomwide for its proprietary materials resulting in an absence of genuine competition. Following extensive consideration of alternative options, LGfL determined that use of the negotiated procedure without prior notice under Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 was essential for the continued successful operation of LGfL.

#### **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: £21,800,000

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 48000000 - Software package and information systems
- 64215000 - IP telephone services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

LGfL was established in 2001 as a Regional Broadband Authority by the 32 London local authorities and the City of London Council. It was established as a not-for-profit company and a registered charity, and is a body governed by public law. Its purpose is to provide broadband connectivity and Information and Communications Technology and related services to schools in London, LGfL's 'customers'. It currently provides essential services to over 3,000 schools providing education to around 1.2 million students each year.

Atomwide developed a proprietary product for the provision of a USO solution and related support services that is inextricably linked to the provision of broadband connectivity and related support and ICT services for the benefit of LGfL's customers.

The proprietary nature of the USO solution and the nature of its deep and wide integration with the other services provided by LGfL to its customers means that an alternative supplier could not deliver replacement services without a licence from Atomwide. LGfL determined that proper competition would also be absent due to the complexity and interconnected nature of the solution and concluded that use of the negotiated procedure without prior notice under Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 was justified. LGfL conducted thorough due diligence of its options and satisfied itself that USO is a unique product delivering proprietary and interconnected services for which there is no comparable alternative in the Education market.

LGfL is developing a clear technology and design principles for future solutions which will require the replacement of proprietary solutions with those based on open standards and interoperability. This is a necessary strategic step to replace USO as a central system and to reduce dependency on USO during the term of the new contract.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 100

#### **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

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## 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

- Additional deliveries by the original supplier

Explanation:

Atomwide developed a proprietary product for the provision of a USO solution and related support services that is inextricably linked to the provision of broadband connectivity and related support and ICT services for the benefit of LGfL's customers.

The proprietary nature of the USO solution and the nature of its deep and wide integration with the other services provided by LGfL to its customers means that an alternative supplier could not deliver replacement services without a licence from Atomwide. LGfL determined that proper competition would also be absent due to the complexity and interconnected nature of the solution and concluded that use of the negotiated procedure without prior notice under Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 was justified.

LGfL conducted thorough due diligence of its options and satisfied itself that USO is a unique product delivering proprietary and interconnected services for which there is no comparable alternative in the Education market.

The award of this contract is made pursuant to the publication of the VEAT Notice and a further voluntary delay of 30 days' following its publication.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## Section V. Award of contract

### Contract No

DN677368

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

## **V.2) Award of contract**

### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

22 December 2023

### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

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

### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

ATOMWIDE LIMITED

Central Boulevard, Shirley,

Solihull

B90 8BG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £21,800,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Royal Courts Of Justice

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom