This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/001337-2025

Contract

UKRI-3797 AI Skills Hub

UK Research & Innovation

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-001337

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047dd5

Published 15 January 2025, 12:05pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

UK Research & Innovation

Polaris House, North Star Avenue

Swindon

SN2 1FL

Email

corporateprocurement@ukri.org

Telephone

+44 1793867000

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK14 - Swindon

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.UKRI.org

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Research

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

UKRI-3797 AI Skills Hub

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79410000 - Business and management consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Contract Award by United Kingdom research and Innovation through its component body Innovate for AI Skills Hub to UK business beneficiaries as part of a larger programme of activities that seek to stimulate adoption and diffusion of AI & ML in the UK. The skills hub will stimulate adoption by addressing one of the major barriers in AI adoption, identified by both government and industry surveys, as the gap in data and AI skills in the industry. Achieving this objective will have a positive impact on underperforming sectors and on UK productivity, ensuring AI benefits all sectors of the UK economy.

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: £4,148,645

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

• UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UNITED KINGDOM

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Contract Award Notice for United Kingdom Research and Innovation through its component body, Innovate UK, for delivery an AI Skills Hub to UK business beneficiaries as part of a larger programme of activities that seek to stimulate adoption and diffusion of AI & ML in the UK. The skills hub will stimulate adoption by addressing one of the major barriers in AI adoption, identified by both government and industry surveys, as the gap in data and AI skills in the industry. Achieving this objective will have a positive impact on underperforming sectors and on UK productivity, ensuring AI benefits all sectors of the UK economy.

An independently run, self-sustainable skills hub can act in coordinating the activities required to address the current skills gap faced by industry. The main activities to be delivered by the hub include a systematic archiving of AI and data skills training providers and training material. The AI Skills Hub will embed the values of the skills value chain and will align with and interface with parallel and tangential activities (e.g. Workforce Foresighting - Innovate UK Business Connect (ktn-uk.org)) outlined by the relevant authority in the setup phase of the project. The data skills training archive and gap analysis will be aligned to the AI skills for business framework and the Skills Hub will act as a central point for industry to identify skills training opportunities, feedback on exact training needs and promote a more diverse workforce.

There are a number of key stakeholders in the UK, including government departments, Innovation Centres and Catapults that serve to shape the direction and adoption of AI in alignment with the National AI strategy. Representatives of such bodies sit on the

BridgeAI Advisory Group providing governance over ongoing activities. The AI skills for business framework will be reviewed by the supplier throughout the lifetime of the Skills Hub and updated subject to review by the BridgeAI Advisory Group during the lifetime of the BridgeAI programme and by the national custodians of the document, The Alan Turing Institute, on programme cessation. This will place the UK at the forefront of international best practice for AI and data skills provision and delivery.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 85

Price - Weighting: 15

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

II.2.14) Additional information

There is an optional extension of up to one year included £822,522.00 to be decided near the end of the contract

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: 2024/S 000-021898

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

16 December 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 11

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

1 Embankment Place,

london

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

OC303525

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £4,166,666.67

Total value of the contract/lot: £4,148,645

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The contracting authority considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs). However, any selection of tenderers will be based solely on the criteria set out for the procurement.

To view this notice, please click here:

https://ukri.delta-esourcing.com/delta/viewNotice.html?noticeId=917483579

GO Reference: GO-2025115-PRO-29134847

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

United Kingdom Research & Innovation

Swindon

SN2 1FL

Country

United Kingdom