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Award

Procurement of software maintenance and development services

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-001916

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042e7d

Published 19 January 2024, 12:58pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Mine Hunting Capability Team, ASH 0B, NH3, MoD Abbey Wood, Filton

Bristol

BS34 8JH

Contact

Mr Peter Allsop and Mr Garry Ogborne

Email

desshipsacq-ifc-mhc-comrcl@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://des.mod.uk/>

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

Procurement of software maintenance and development services

Reference number

709378450

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72231000 - Development of software for military applications

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Procurement of software maintenance and development services

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: £50,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Main site or place of performance

SeeByte Ltd, Edinburgh, UK

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Procurement of software development and maintenance services for Autonomy Software.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

There will be 2 contractual options, each facilitating an additional year of services, within a maximum contract term of 5 years.

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

This notice is not a request for expressions of interest so please do not apply to be invited to tender. This notice advises that the Authority has decided to negotiate a contract with the named supplier on a single source basis, and is published for reasons of transparency.

Link to DSP Opportunity: <https://www.contracts.mod.uk/go/39479209018D219DD6EE>

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:

- absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

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 (in accordance with the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the DSPCR 2011 (as amended) for Technical Reasons. This requirement is for the continued support and development of SeeByte's suite of proprietary software which was privately developed by SeeByte. This software is widely used in different applications by the Royal Navy and works collectively and collaboratively to optimise the operation and effectiveness of its autonomous vehicles (both surface and underwater).

This requirement is a direct continuation of the same services previously procured by the MoD, initially under the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory's Science & Technology (S&T) programme and more recently by MHC. Ensuring contractual cover to facilitate the continuing support and evolutionary development of this software is critical to maintaining the Royal Navy's existing capability. Given the history of the development of this software by SeeByte Limited, integrated into Royal Navy autonomous vehicles, there is no other reasonable alternative software available on the market that would meet the MoD's continuing requirements.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

709378450

Title

Autonomy Software Development and Maintenance

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

23 November 2023

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

SeeByte Ltd

Orchard Brae House, 30 Queensferry Road

Edinburgh

EH4 2HS

Telephone

+44 1314474200

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £50,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £50,000,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

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VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Mine Hunting Capability delivery Team

Ash 0B, NH3, MoD Abbey Wood, Filton

Bristol

BS35 8JH

Email

desshipsacq-ifc-mhc-comrcl@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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