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Contract

Development of the INHFL Online Platform (Phases 2 & 3)

Defra Network eTendering Portal

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-002121

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042ef8

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Defra Network eTendering Portal

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

Contact

Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Email

network.procurement@defra.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3459335577

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-environment-food-rural-affairs>

Buyer's address

<https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Development of the INHFL Online Platform (Phases 2 & 3)

Reference number

C22063

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72222300 - Information technology services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Development of the INHFL Online Platform (Phases 2 & 3)

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: £31,303.86

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72222300 - Information technology services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This project will form the first step in a larger programme to inform all government departments about the predicted natural hazard threats which affect UK interests overseas.

Following successful development of a prototype in Phase 1 of the project under MoA (Discovery Phase), Phases 2 and 3 of this project plan to develop the full online platform to beta release level.

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

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to restricted procedure

Explanation:

The STA (Single Tender Action) purchasing strategy is best suited for this project commission for the following reasons:

- It was paramount that the platform should be designed by one of the partners because only the partners understand the sensitivity of the data being used.
- Only partners can access further required data layers (for example, population data, trade data, geological data, oceanic currents and vegetative indices) and that the developer should have a soundtrack record in developing these types of platforms (for example Geology of Britain viewer | British Geological Survey (BGS)).
- During initial conversations amongst the INHFL operational group (UK Met Office, BGS, APHA, Defra, UKHSA, Go-Science) it was identified that those science agencies with ready access to digital support should lead on the development of the new platform.
- This was passed to BGS and Met Office, and laterally BGS (due to capacity reasons, particularly the need to begin work FY21-22), as being able to provide that digital support and have an established understanding of the INHFL product
- Therefore, STA is the preferred route than going through a third party (outside of the INHFL partnership).
- There is also no in-house capacity within Defra and its network to get access to manage the platform being developed. Since completion of Phase 1 the incumbent supplier (BGS) has been working with Defra to prepare for Phases 2 and 3 work to ensure they follow Defra and Cabinet rules regarding IT and online platform.

Direct award is therefore recommended in line with regulation 32 (2b) of the Public Contract Regulations as detailed below, with particular reference to (ii) and (iii):

Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication

32.— (2) The negotiated procedure without prior publication may be used for public works contracts, public supply contracts and public service contracts in any of the following cases:—

(b)where the works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator for any of the following reasons:—

(i)the aim of the procurement is the creation or acquisition of a unique work of art or artistic performance,

(ii)competition is absent for technical reasons,

(iii)the protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights,

As such, BGS is the only choice for their inclusivity as a selected member to INHFL network to handle data and their expertise as well as for continuation of use of its prototype developed in Phase 1. Thus, direct award should be given to the BGS to continue development of the INHFL Online Platform, and this selection qualifies as an STA.

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

31 May 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

UKRI as represented by British Geological Survey

British Geological Survey, Nicker Hill, Keyworth

Nottingham

NG12 5GG

Telephone

+44 1159363100

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

n/a

Internet address

www.bgs.ac.uk

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £206,927.80

Total value of the contract/lot: £31,303.86

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

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