

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/003513-2026>

Contract

Design, Editing, Production and Distribution Services for Discover Magazine, other Library Publications and associated services

National Library of Scotland

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-003513

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0606b7

Published 15 January 2026, 1:59pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

National Library of Scotland

George IV Bridge

Edinburgh

EH1 1EW

Contact

Barbara Burke

Email

b.burke@nls.uk

Telephone

+44 1316233700

Fax

+44 1316233701

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.nls.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11622

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Design, Editing, Production and Distribution Services for Discover Magazine, other Library Publications and associated services

Reference number

2020.21.001

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79970000 - Publishing services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 22314000 - Designs
- 92310000 - Artistic and literary creation and interpretation services
- 79970000 - Publishing services
- 92000000 - Recreational, cultural and sporting services
- 92312211 - Writing agency services
- 79933000 - Design support services
- 79824000 - Printing and distribution services
- 79822500 - Graphic design services
- 79810000 - Printing services
- 79800000 - Printing and related services
- 79530000 - Translation services
- 79820000 - Services related to printing

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

II.2.4) Description of the procurement at the time of conclusion of the contract:

The Library requires a Service Provider to design, provide editorial services, production and distribution in the main for the Library Magazine “Discover“ and including other Library literature as required including, but not exclusive to, the Library Annual Review and Library Brochure. All printed documents must be fully accessible and comply with Library Gaelic Language Plan.

This will be a fully managed service, subcontracted as required and will comprise of, but not limited to the following

Discover Magazine – up to three editions in a 12-month period,

Library Annual Review – one edition required in a 12-month period

Library Brochure – one edition in a 12-month period

Other corporate literature as required including but not exclusive to printed material related to upcoming major capital projects, Library centenary and a major fundraising campaign.

It is anticipated that a contract will be awarded in late November 2020 to commence on 1st January 2021 and will run for a minimum of two (2) and maximum of five (5) years; extended year on year by mutual agreement, continued business need, budget availability and the supplier's satisfactory performance.

Discover magazine – up to three editions in a 12-month period, services include

36-page (approx.) magazine

Design, art direction, picture research and artwork

Full editorial service

Some research, commissioning, interviewing and writing services

Pre-production and finalisation for print and print management

Delivery and distribution of printed copies

Online version suitable in all digital platforms

Advertising.

Library annual review – one edition required in a 12-month period, services include

28-page (approx.) document

Design, art direction, image research and artwork

Full editorial service

Pre-production and finalisation for print and print management

Delivery of printed copies and digital copy for website.

New requirement for mail out to specific mail out list

Library brochure – one edition in a 12-month period, services include

Make adjustments to current brochure including images, small text adjustments and fully update public programmes pages

Pre-production and finalisation for print and print management

Delivery of printed copies to the Library

Scope for review and full editorial and redesign services during the lifespan of this contract.

Other corporate literature as required including but not exclusive to printed material related to upcoming major capital projects, Library centenary and a major fundraising campaign.

Actual services required for other corporate literature cannot be confirmed but is likely to include:

Leaflets, flyers and posters about major capital works

Fundraising collateral, including high-quality invites and brochures

Material related to centenary planning – this could include a standalone publication similar to a magazine

Other corporate literature services

Some translation services.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Duration in months

48

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.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Contract award notice concerning this contract

Notice number: [2020/S 251-634350](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

2020.21.001

Title

Design, Editing, Production and Distribution Services for Discover Magazine, other Library Publications and associated services

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract/concession award decision:

3 December 2020

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

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

Connect Publications (Scotland) Ltd

Studio 2001 Mile End , 12 Seedhill Road

Paisley

PA1 1JS

Telephone

+44 1415610300

Fax

+44 1415610400

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM83 - Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (at the time of conclusion of the contract;excluding VAT)

Total value of the procurement: £94,525.48

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(SC Ref:820680)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Edinburgh Sheriff Court

Sheriff Court House, 27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Telephone

+44 1312252525

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/the-courts/court-locations/edinburgh-sheriff-court-and-justice-of-the-peace-court>

Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession

VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications

VII.1.1) Main CPV code

- 79970000 - Publishing services

VII.1.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 22314000 - Designs
- 79530000 - Translation services
- 79800000 - Printing and related services
- 79810000 - Printing services
- 79820000 - Services related to printing
- 79822500 - Graphic design services
- 79824000 - Printing and distribution services
- 79933000 - Design support services
- 92000000 - Recreational, cultural and sporting services
- 92310000 - Artistic and literary creation and interpretation services
- 92312211 - Writing agency services

VII.1.3) Place of performance

NUTS code

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:

This notice informs about modifications made to the Design, Editing, Production and Distribution Services for the Library's publications.

VII.1.5) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Duration in months

VII.1.6) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£322,000

VII.1.7) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Connect Publications (Scotland) Ltd

Studio 2001 Mile End , 12 Seedhill Road

Paisley

PA1 1JS

Telephone

+44 1415610300

Fax

+44 1415610400

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM83 - Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

VII.2) Information about modifications

VII.2.1) Description of the modifications

Nature and extent of the modifications (with indication of possible earlier changes to the contract):

The Library has applied Regulation 72(1)(c) of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 which states that a contract may be modified without a new procurement procedure where all of the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (i) the need for modification has been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen;
- (ii) the modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract or framework;
- (iii) any increase in price does not exceed 50 % of the initial contract value or framework agreement;

The Library sees conditions (i) and (ii) satisfied and has modified the contract value by no more than 50% of the initial contract value, which was 215,225 GBP. The maximum value of the contract modification is therefore 107,612.50 GBP.

VII.2.2) Reasons for modification

Need for modification brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority/entity could not foresee.

Description of the circumstances which rendered the modification necessary and explanation of the unforeseen nature of these circumstances:

The unforeseeable circumstances relate to our 'Dear Library' exhibition's public discourse. An important element of this intense phase of negative media attention was its unforeseeable rolling nature over seven months – from May 2025. The Library could not have foreseen the length of this intense public discourse. It started off as an FOI request, became a national news item, and resulted in an independent enquiry and ongoing press interest. This was not one event but a series of stories over at least seven months. The Delegated Purchasing Officer (DPO) was at the heart of the Library's response. The sole staff member who dealt with this intense negative experience from a media management perspective was also the sole person who could have procured this contract. Moving other staff over to contract procurement was something which the Library was not able to resource.

VII.2.3) Increase in price

Updated total contract value before the modifications (taking into account possible earlier contract modifications, price adaptations and average inflation)

Value excluding VAT: £215,000

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £322,000