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Contract

Flexible Tactical Uncrewed Air System (FTUAS) - Navy UCR

Ministry of Defence

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-004114

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02b502

Published 10 February 2023, 9:09am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

DE&S, Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS348JH

Email

Steven.Eustace100@mod.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK11 - Bristol, City of

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

Flexible Tactical Uncrewed Air System (FTUAS) - Navy UCR

Reference number

RPAS/00002

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 35613000 - Unmanned aerial vehicles

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The requirement is for the provision of a number of Uncrewed Air Systems (UAS) and ancillaries under a Military Owned Military Operated (MOMO) arrangement to be delivered to the Royal Navy (RN) and Integrated onto a Naval Warship, to provide the RN with a Flexible Tactical Uncrewed Air System (FTUAS) Urgent Capability Requirement (UCR) for RN forward presence shipping to counter Crewed and Uncrewed Surface Vessels (USVs) in an operational theatre. The requirement will also require the Contractor to provide a FTUAS system at a UK Royal Navy Air Station, technical information, through life support, as well as the provision of training for operators and maintainers.

The requirement is for a capability to FIND, FIX, TRACK and ASSESS Fast Inshore

Attack Craft, Crewed and Uncrewed, operating alone, in large numbers. It is anticipated that the solution will permanently embark on a Naval Warship to provide a persistent, intimate, integrated and assured capability. The ability to operate at sufficient range from its parent ship to facilitate timely decision making is anticipated as is the need for a Maritime Surface Surveillance Radar to satisfactorily deliver “FIND”.

It is anticipated that the equipment will be in service for a period of 24 months from the date of the delivery of the initial operating capability (IOC), with options including a Contract extension up to an additional 24 months, subject to Ministry of Defence approval.

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: £16,603,402

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ31 - Portsmouth

Main site or place of performance

Portsmouth

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

There are a number of Key Principles, which the Authority believe the Contractor and its supply chain will need to be able to fulfil, in order for the FTUAS solution to be able to operate effectively. These Key Principles include:

1. The ability to supply a Rotary Wing Air Vehicle able to operate embarked within the constraints posed by a Naval Warship, with integrated Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (including a Maritime Surface Surveillance Radar), and the Air System being able to supply / disseminate / process information in the format designated for the Combat Management System, all to be delivered within the programme timescales.

2. The successful solution will most likely be a mature system, possibly with some civil approvals and need little adaptation or modification (e.g. COTS / MOTS) to meet the requirement and be deployable in the operational theatre at sea.

3. Hold ISO9001 or AS9100 accreditation or equivalent

4. The ability to immediately engage with the Authority at the correct classification of Security, manage this information securely, manage export controls appropriately, and supply personnel security cleared to the appropriate level.

There will be a requirement for the Contractor to occasionally deploy Field Service Representatives (FSRs) / trainers to embark on the vessel to provide short term support. Depending on the nature of operations, deployment of the FSR may need to be governed by policy and processes in line with Contractors on Deployed Operations (CONDO).

There may be a requirement for the chosen supplier to transfer the equipment to a different class of Naval Warship in an emergency situation / unforeseen circumstance.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Willingness to Pay / Weighting: 100

Cost criterion - Name: Willingness to Pay / Weighting: 100

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Options including the extension to the Contract, additional goods and services.

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

Competitive procedure with negotiation

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2021/S 000-011664](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

RPAS/00002

Title

Flexible Tactical Uncrewed Air System (FTUAS) - Navy UCR

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

29 November 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 2

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Thales UK Ltd

350 Longwater Avenue, Green Park

Reading

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: £16,603,402

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Ministry of Defence

RPAS DT, DE&S, Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS348JH

Country

United Kingdom