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Contract

Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study

Scottish Government

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004216

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04a4bb

Published 7 February 2025, 3:25pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Scottish Government

4 Atlantic Quay, 70 York St

Glasgow

G2 8EA

Contact

Jonathan Nicolson

Email

jonathan.nicolson@gov.scot

Telephone

+44 1412420133

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10482

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study

Reference number

737511

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73110000 - Research services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) is preparing for the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2027, which will mark the ninth cycle of this international assessment. TIMSS, conducted every four years since its inception in 1995, provides invaluable trend data on pupils' mathematics and science achievements, as well as contextual information about their learning experiences.

Scotland has confirmed its participation in TIMSS 2027. The TIMSS International Study Centre (ISC) at Boston College, USA, will serve as the international study centre for this cycle, working closely with the IEA and the National Study Centres of participating countries to ensure the study's success. Each participating country is responsible for appointing a National Research Coordinator (NRC). The NRC plays a crucial role in ensuring the success of the study within their country by working closely with the ISC and adhering to its guidelines.

This Scottish Government wish to appoint a suitably qualified institution or organisation to undertake the responsibilities of the NRC and conduct the required fieldwork for TIMSS 2027 in Scotland.

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: £947,847.76

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The specific aims of the work will be to:

Act as National Research Coordinator (NRC) for Scotland: Serve as the primary liaison between Scotland and the TIMSS International Study Centre (ISC) at Boston College, IEA Amsterdam, IEA Hamburg, and RTI International.

Participate in International NRC Meetings: Engage in international NRC meetings conducted in English to collaborate on study protocols and procedures.

Prepare and Administer TIMSS 2027 Assessments for P5 and S2: Ensure that the TIMSS 2027 study instruments are prepared and administered according to IEA specifications and strict operational and response rate requirements, while aligning with Scottish Government research guidelines.

Manage Sampling, Data Collection, and Data Processing: Oversee the sampling, data collection, coding, and data cleansing processes for TIMSS 2027 in Scotland.

Provide Cleaned Data Sets: Deliver cleaned electronic data sets from TIMSS 2027 field trials and main studies to the ISC and the Scottish Government.

Contribute to the TIMSS 2027 Encyclopaedia: Prepare and submit a country chapter detailing Scotland's educational context and practices.

Submit Reports to the Scottish Government: Provide one report on the TIMSS 2027 field trials and one on the main studies to the Scottish Government.

The contract does not include delivering Scotland's national report as this will either be

prepared by Scottish Government or commissioned to a service provider under a separate contract at a later date.

Tenderers are encouraged to propose cost-effective solutions that optimise the the available budget, focusing on efficient management of expenses, overheads, and profit to ensure successful delivery. While bids should generally align with this budget, some flexibility is expected where necessary, and the Scottish Government reserves the right to clarify any aspects of a price proposal.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery and Approach / Weighting: 30%

Quality criterion - Name: Project and Quality Management / Weighting: 20%

Quality criterion - Name: Staff, Skills and Resource / Weighting: 30%

Quality criterion - Name: Climate Emergency / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Community Benefits / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Fair Work First / Weighting: 5%

Quality criterion - Name: Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery / Weighting: 5%

Price - Weighting: 40

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

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 000-033332](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

737511

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

24 January 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Pearson Education Limited

80 Strand

London

WC2R 0BP

Telephone

+44 7769961544

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: £947,847.76

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(SC Ref:789220)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Edinburgh Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

27 Chamber Street

Edinburgh

EH11LB

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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