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Contract

Security Operation Centre Services

University of Ulster

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-004220

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-031718

Published 14 February 2022, 10:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Ulster

Block X Room X031, Cromore Road

Coleraine

BT52 1SA

Email

l.simpson@ulster.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 2870123609

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.ulster.ac.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Security Operation Centre Services

Reference number

Project_26672

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72315000 - Data network management and support services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Security Operation Centre 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: £866,100

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Main site or place of performance

All Campuses of Ulster University

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Ulster University is developing its cyber response capabilities and as a part of that process a requirement has been identified for a security operations centre.

The key aims of a SOC are

- to detect and respond to threats, keeping the information held on systems

and networks secure

- to increase resilience by learning about the changing threat landscape

(both malicious and non-malicious, internal and external)

- to identify and address negligent or criminal behaviours

- to derive business intelligence about user behaviours in order to shape

and prioritise the development of technologies

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be for 1 year initially, with an option to extend for a further 2 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 relates to a direct award of a contract through the NI Public Sector Network (NI PSSN) Framework.

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

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The Public Sector within Northern Ireland has many constituent parts that serve the needs of the NI Citizen. Each Policy and Delivery Organisation had a range of network services WANs, LANs and associated services which were under a number of different contractual arrangements. These included framework type contracts, Managed Service contracts and large fully outsourced business projects where the network is only one constituent part.

The Stormont House Agreement was published on 23 December 2014 (agreed by the NI Executive on 22 January 2015) and included a commitment to the extension of shared services across the NI public sector in driving forward a comprehensive programme of public sector reform and restructuring.

Under the stated objective of the NI Executive to drive towards shared services key stakeholders in the public sector came together to consider the options for future provision of network services. IT Assist, Education Authority, Business Services Organisation and PSNI resourced a joint procurement team with assistance from CPD and SIB.

The NI Public Sector Network (NI PSSN) contract was awarded to BT in Oct 2018.

In addition to other Public Sector organisations to make use of the contract, the scope of the contract includes:

- the provision of WAN and unified communications environment.
- other network services and unified communications to be purchased and managed and/or supplied under the NI PSSN.

This framework agreement that was availed of was procured via the Open route and a notice was published on 15 October 2018 in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU) under reference 2018/S 200-455203. The Framework agreement used had already been tendered in accordance with the EU Directives. This award notice is voluntary. Reg: 50 (4); in the case of framework agreements, contracting authorities shall

not be bound to send a notice of the results of the procurement procedure for each contract based on that agreement.

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: [2018/S 200-455203](#)

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

9 February 2022

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

British Telecommunications Plc

Riverside Tower, 5 Lanyon Place

Belfast

BT1 3BT

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

National registration number

1800000

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £866,100

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The anticipated start date of this contract is 31st March 2022 for 1 year, with the option to extend for a further two years.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland

Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street

Belfast

BT1 3JY

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Public Contract Regulations 2015 provide for aggrieved Party's who have been harmed or at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (NI).