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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): ocids-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](mailto: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](http://www.ulster.ac.uk)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **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.

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## 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](#)

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### **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

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## **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).