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Contract

## **Virtual Learning Environment Software and Support Services**

University of Ulster

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-004524

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02991d

Published 5 March 2021, 10:56pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

University of Ulster

Block X Room X031, Cromore Road

Coleraine

BT52 1SA

#### **Email**

[d.quinn@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:d.quinn@ulster.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2870123760

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKN - NORTHERN IRELAND

**National registration number**

NIC100166

**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

## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Virtual Learning Environment Software and Support Services

Reference number

project\_26218

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Virtual Learning Environment Software and Support 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: £1,087,028

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 48190000 - Educational software package
- 48611000 - Database software package
- 72212190 - Educational software development services
- 72261000 - Software support services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN0 - Northern Ireland

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

This call-off contract is for the provision of hosted and managed Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) Software and Support Services to Ulster University.

This contract is a combination of software and managed hosting services for the hosting of Ulster's VLE (Blackboard Learn) and synchronous teaching tools (Blackboard Collaborate). The contract also includes transition to SaaS services which includes consultancy and project management services. The platform supports all of Ulster's blended learning provision, including all teaching, learning and assessment.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

The Services shall commence on 1 August 2021 for an initial period of three (3) years with the option to extend for a further two (2) periods of one (1) year each.

#### **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 call-off contract was awarded as a direct award to the first ranked contractor as provided for under the Advanced Procurement for Universities and Colleges (APUC) framework agreement for Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) Solutions and Associated Services - Reference ITS1026AP.

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## **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: [2017/S 079-152667](#)

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

project\_26218

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

4 March 2021

#### **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**

Blackboard International B.V.

Paleisstraat 1-5, 1012 RB

Amsterdam

Country

Netherlands

NUTS code

- NL - NETHERLANDS

National registration number

NL 30170649

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,087,028

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The call-off contract is effective from 5 March 2021 and the Services will commence on 1 August 2021.

### **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

The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (Northern Ireland).