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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

Telephone

+44 2870123760

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKN - NORTHERN IRELAND

National registration number

NIC100166

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

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.

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](#)

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

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).