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Award

Clinical Testing Laboratory Logistics Including Clinical Sample Management

Medicines Discovery Catapult

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-004762

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-029a0b

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Medicines Discovery Catapult

Block 35, Mereside, Alderley Park

Cheshire

SK10 4TG

Contact

Ms Laura Hough

Email

laura.hough@md.catapult.org.uk

Telephone

+44 1625708394

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKD6 - Cheshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://md.catapult.org.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://md.catapult.org.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Other type

Health - Drug Discovery

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Health - Drug Discovery

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Clinical Testing Laboratory Logistics Including Clinical Sample Management

Reference number

DN530214

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 63120000 - Storage and warehousing services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Medicines Discovery Catapult (MDC) is a national facility for collaborative R&D exploring and developing new approaches to the discovery and proof of well targeted medicines, diagnostics and biomarkers. Funded by Innovate UK, an agency of the UK government, MDC are an independent not-for-profit company bringing together a fragmented UK sector of industry, academia, charities, technologists, services, finance companies, SMEs and start-ups who together can turn good science into new, high value products. By sharing problems, rare expertise and assets we support the growth of this new community through a time of radical business and national change.

The UK Lighthouse Laboratories (LHL) were established across the UK in a matter of weeks to dramatically increase the number of coronavirus tests that can take place each day to support the national effort against the coronavirus pandemic.

The new LHL have been constructed through a partnership with the Department of Health, MDC, UK Biocentre and the University of Glasgow. Their development is closely supported by both the NHS and Public Health England.

MDC is leading the LHL located in new dedicated labs at Bruntwood SciTech's Alderley Park. More information on the UK LHL network is available here:

<https://www.lighthouselabs.org.uk/>

MDC require a service provider to provide a 24/7 service ensuring the LHL located at Alderley Park labs are kept stocked with all consumables and clinical samples.

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: £800,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 63120000 - Storage and warehousing services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD6 - Cheshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

MDC require a service provider to provide a 24/7 service ensuring the LHL located at Alderley Park labs are kept stocked with all consumables and clinical samples.

To do this the service provider will operate a forward store that draws on the main warehouse and other stock locations to keep the lab supplied with the consumables they need to operate, this includes predication of requirements; stocking of the forward store; and distribution of the consumables to the labs as required.

The service provider will also manage the reception of clinical samples from couriers, including Royal Mail, and other couriers and the subsequent storage and distribution of these samples to the unboxing team.

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

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

This VEAT provides notification that MDC will (after a 10 day standstill period) directly award an interim contract for clinical testing laboratory logistics including clinical sample management for a six (6) month period which will allow MDC to complete a tender process compliant to PCR 2015 in this time period. The tender will be advertised on Find a Tender Service and Contracts Finder.

This interim contract is considered essential to ensure a continuity of the essential service for coronavirus tests, and to support the national effort against the coronavirus pandemic while MDC tender for this service. It is expected that the tender will be advertised on Find a Tender Service / Contracts Finder in May 2021.

The Department of Health and Social Care extended the contract with MDC for the LHL at the end of December 2020. The current contract with the provider ends February 2021. The provider is an accessible solution in the short term given the need to include TUPE information for any replacement exercise which will form part of the procurement exercise MDC is due to undertake. Therefore, the provider is the only supplier who can provide the required essential services in the limited time available for the implementation of a new contract. The award of this interim contract to the provider is considered a proportionate decision given the current circumstances and recognising the role that competition will play in the tender which is due to be issued during the interim contract period.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

9 March 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

(1) VWR LAB SERVICES LTD

Hunter Boulevard, Magna Park

Lutterworth

LE17 4XN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - UNITED KINGDOM

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £800,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Medicines Discovery Catapult Limited

Mereside, Alderley Park

Macclesfield

SK10 4TG

Country

United Kingdom