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Contract

LCRCA Digital Infrastructure Project

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA)

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-005028

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-029b15

Published 12 March 2021, 11:23am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA)

1 Mann Island

Liverpool

L3 1BP

Contact

Procurement

Email

tender@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKD7 - Merseyside

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

<http://www.liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

LCRCA Digital Infrastructure Project

Reference number

DN453501

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 45000000 - Construction work

II.1.3) Type of contract

Works

II.1.4) Short description

The Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) is looking to establish a joint venture or similar

partnership, with a supplier in order to build, operate and maintain a digital connectivity backhaul network across

the Liverpool City Region. LCRCA is looking to establish a partnership arrangement with a supplier, who will

support in the design, implementation, maintenance, operation and commercialisation of such network. The supplier will be prepared to enter into a long-term commercial and financial arrangement with LCRCA to support

in delivering the wider ambition around LCRCA's digital strategy for the LCR. This digital network is expected to

deliver a dedicated full fibre backhaul network, with unlimited capacity, which passes through all LCR localities

and provide the opportunity for future development of local authority local access networks as well as wider

commercial opportunities.

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: 20,000,000 AED

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 32000000 - Radio, television, communication, telecommunication and related equipment
- 39000000 - Furniture (incl. office furniture), furnishings, domestic appliances (excl. lighting) and cleaning products
- 45000000 - Construction work
- 50000000 - Repair and maintenance services
- 64000000 - Postal and telecommunications services
- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD7 - Merseyside

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Improved digital connectivity is a mayoral priority and LCR has some key digital assets that provide a significant

competitive advantage to the attractiveness of the region. The “super-computer” is located at SciTech

Daresbury, in Halton and the superfast GTT trans-atlantic cable reaches the UK mainland at Southport in

Sefton. The LCRCA has ambition that these locations are interconnected and at the same time a digital

backhaul network is established across the LCR.

To deliver this ambition, the LCRCA is looking to establish a joint venture, or similar partnership, with a supplier

in order to build, operate, commercialise and maintain a new digital connectivity backhaul network across the

LCR. To improve the value, flexibility, and future-proofing of these arrangements, LCRCA is looking to establish

a partnership arrangement with a supplier, who will support in the design, implementation, maintenance,

operation and commercialisation of such network. The supplier will be prepared to enter into a long-term

commercial and financial arrangement with LCRCA to support in delivering the wider ambition around the digital

strategy for the LCR. This digital network is expected to deliver a dedicated full fibre connectivity network,

with unlimited capacity, which passes through all LA localities. This will also support the future development of

LA local access networks as well as wider commercial opportunities. In some cases, the network will provide

immediate connectivity opportunities for key strategic locations and assets across the LCR. The LCRCA has

undertaken some initial route mapping and worked with LA partners to “optimise” where a such a backhaul

network could be located across each LA locality. The supplier will be expected to develop this initial work and

identify opportunity for further improvement and refinement.

To help stimulate demand and support with immediately available asset, the LCRCA is currently undertaking a

“dig-once” programme to install ducting and chambers, in-advance of the partnership with the selected supplier

being established. The “dig-once” programme will be delivered jointly with LA partners, and assets will be

installed where possible along the indicative route during planned capital and maintenance work programmes. This will provide a significant amount of infrastructure asset which will be made available to the supplier in

accordance with state aid and public procurement requirements.

The LCRCA will make a significant contribution to the project through its Strategic Investment Fund and expects

to contribute up to 50% of the overall commercial arrangement. In order to facilitate LCRCA’s contribution to the

project, both in terms of infrastructure to be provided under the “dig once” programme and in terms of financial

contributions, the LCRCA has assumed that a joint venture structure will be established. The procurement

will include an opportunity for prospective suppliers to enter into dialogue with LCRCA and propose initial and

then more detailed solutions, before LCRCA selects a preferred partner organisation. The LCRCA expects to

down-select interested parties during this process and will seek to establish a preferred supplier and enter into

commercial arrangements that deliver the best solution in terms of network, commercial ambition and value for

money.

LCRCA will be the Contracting Authority and will enter into any future joint venture or similar partnering

arrangement with a preferred supplier, on behalf of itself and all the Liverpool City Region Local Authorities

(Wirral, Sefton, Knowsley, St Helens, Liverpool and Halton Councils). The LCRCA has authorised Merseytravel

to administer this procurement on its behalf.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 70

Price - Weighting: 30

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

Competitive dialogue

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2020/S 006-007685](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

DN453501

Title

LCRCA Digital Infrastructure Project

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

22 February 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 7

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 3

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 7

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

ITS Technology Group Limited

House Farm Saughton Lane

Chester

CH3 6EN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD6 - Cheshire

National registration number

0876229

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

NGE Concessions SAS

Parc d'activités de Laurade

St-Etienne du Grès

13103

Country

France

NUTS code

- FR - France

National registration number

RCS Tarascon 789 270 360

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £29,800,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £29,800,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom