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Award

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) Long Read Equipment & Consumables

Genomics England

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-005252

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-029bf5

Published 15 March 2021, 10:56pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Genomics England

Dawson Hall, Charterhouse Square

London

EC1M 6BQ

Contact

Paul Nicholson

Email

paul.nicholson@genomicsengland.co.uk

Telephone

+44 2078825030

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - UNITED KINGDOM

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.genomicsengland.co.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Health Technology

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) Long Read Equipment & Consumables

Reference number

GeL-SC-236-21

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 33696500 - Laboratory reagents

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

A large-scale Long Read Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) project using Oxford Nanopore Technologies long read technology in order to evaluate its potential for clinical use in cancer.

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: £2,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 33140000 - Medical consumables
- 33190000 - Miscellaneous medical devices and products
- 33696200 - Blood-testing reagents
- 38000000 - Laboratory, optical and precision equipments (excl. glasses)

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - UNITED KINGDOM

Main site or place of performance

Hinxton, Cambridge

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Genomics England has a Spending Review (SR) objective involving a large-scale long read whole genome sequencing (WGS) project.

In order to deliver this long read WGS project Genomics England have engaged and are proposing to partner with Oxford Nanopore Technologies Limited (ONT) to maximise its long read technology at scale to evaluate its potential for clinical use in cancer. This project requires sequencing at scale of around 2,000 germline:tumour pairs over the next 12 month period. A beneficial commercial agreement that represents the unique nature of the engagement in terms of technological development and value has been agreed between the parties to deliver the scope of this project in its entirety. ONT occupy a unique position in the sequencing market globally in terms of read length and throughput technology that makes this project viable.

The primary sequencing instrument within this project is the Promethion P48 consuming Flowcell reagents and other associated consumables. A combination of these attributes will deliver the scaling required for the project and the commercial agreement between the parties ensures successful sequencing objectives for clinical use in cancer, within the 12 month SR period.

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 products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- 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:

The Contracting Authority (i) has a legal personality; (ii) is mainly funded by the Department of Health and Social Care; and (iii) has been established for the specific purpose of meeting needs in the general interest and does not have an industrial or commercial character and therefore meets the definition of a "body governed by public law" under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR"). The PCR covers "public contracts" which means contracts for pecuniary interest which have as their object the execution of works, the supply of products or the provision of services. The Contract is a goods or services contract under PCR, therefore, caught by the PCR and bound to follow public procurement rules.

Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) PCR describes the single operator exclusion and is the premise for this award without prior publication. This specific exclusion relates to a demonstration that only Oxford Nanopore Technologies Limited could deliver the goods and services described for technical reasons and reasons of scalability, where the goods and services cannot be obtained from any other economic operator to sufficiently meet the volume throughput of long read whole genome sequencing. The scope of requirements in this notice are the basis for this assessment.

For technical reasons, it has been determined that Oxford Nanopore Technologies Limited are the only provider able to meet the justified requirements set out. Furthermore, they are also the only organisation able to deliver the requirement at the scale specified. Further details are provided within this notice and should be read in conjunction with this explanation.

The Contracting Authority will enter into a contract with Oxford Nanopore Technologies Limited following the conclusion of a minimum 10-day standstill period from the date of

issue of this notice. The 10-day standstill period will end on Thursday 25th March 2021 at 11.59pm GMT, enabling a contract to be signed on Friday 26th March 2021.

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

Contract No

GeL-SC-236-21

Title

Whole Genome Sequencing (WGS) Long Read Equipment & Consumables

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

15 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

Oxford Nanopore Technologies Limited

Oxford

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)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,000,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom