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Award

## **EDIS-23-002 Unified Customer Experience for EA Admissions, Transport, SEN and Free School Meals**

the Education Authority

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-005665

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04e37a

Published 18 February 2025, 3:58pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

the Education Authority

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

#### **Email**

[laura.magee@eani.org.uk](mailto:laura.magee@eani.org.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

#### **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

#### **I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

EDIS-23-002 Unified Customer Experience for EA Admissions, Transport, SEN and Free School Meals

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

- 48000000 - Software package and information systems

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

Supplies

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

The Education Authority carried out a procurement to further develop the Unified Customer Experience for EA Admissions, Transport, SEN and Free School Meals for the period 4 September 2023 - 3 September 2025 with the option of a further 12 months extension).

This was a mini competition via CCS Framework Digital Outcomes 6 Lot 1.

#### **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: £1,250,000

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

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

- 48000000 - Software package and information systems

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

The Education Authority carried out a procurement to further develop the Unified Customer Experience for EA Admissions, Transport, SEN and Free School Meals for the period 4 September 2023 - 3 September 2025 (with the option of a further 12 months extension).

This was a mini competition via CCS Framework Digital Outcomes 6 Lot 1.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Technical Competence / Weighting: 50

Quality criterion - Name: Cultural Fit / Weighting: 10

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10

Price - Weighting: 30

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

Option of a further 12 month extension.

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

**Explanation:**

This is not an award without without prior notice, the purpose of this VEAT notice is to make the market aware that EA intent to modify this contract as detailed below.

This opportunity was originally awarded as a call-off contract following a further competition under Crown Commercial Services Digital Outcomes 6 Framework Lot 1.

In October 2024 the contract value was increased by 50% of the original awarded contract value under published VEAT 2024/S 000-030912 and subsequent modification notice 2025/S 000-004627.

EA now intend to further modify the contract value to increase by £625,000 i.e. 50% of the original awarded contract value. The new total contract value will be £2,500,000.

No aspect of the modification will alter the overall nature of the current contract as the scope of services will remain unaltered and any expenditure will not be permitted to exceed 50% of the original awarded contract value.

For technical reasons a change in supplier is not possible at this stage. The services must continue to be technically compatible with what has already been developed by the Contractor under this contract and to contract with a different supplier at this stage would result in significant risk to current development timeframes as well as the substantial duplication of costs which would be incurred to procure replacement services.

Regulation 72(1)(b) permits an amendment to an existing contract: for additional works, services or supplies by the original contractor that have become necessary and were not included in the initial procurement, where a change of contractor

(i) cannot be made for economic or technical reasons such as requirements of interchangeability or interoperability with existing equipment, services or installations procured under the initial procurement, or

(ii) would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of costs for the contracting authority, provided that any increase in price does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract.

The EA shall observe a period of no less than 10 days, beginning with the day after the date of publication, before modifying the contract as set out in this notice.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **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**

8 August 2023

#### **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**

Version 1 Solutions Ltd

Birmingham

Email

[tendernotices@version1.com](mailto:tendernotices@version1.com)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.version1.com>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Lowest offer: £1,250,000 / Highest offer: £2,500,000 taken into consideration

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The UK does not currently have any such bodies with responsibilities for appeal/mediation procedures

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom