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Tender

## **Framework for the Provision of Services of Virtual Learning Environment Accessibility for the University of Birmingham**

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-005955

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-043c79

Published 23 February 2024, 12:18pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston

BIRMINGHAM

B152TT

#### **Contact**

Chris Morgan

#### **Email**

[c.morgan.2@bham.ac.uk](mailto:c.morgan.2@bham.ac.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKG31 - Birmingham

**Companies House**

RC000645

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/>

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/universityofbirmingham.aspx/Home>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/universityofbirmingham.aspx/Home>

**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**

Framework for the Provision of Services of Virtual Learning Environment Accessibility for the University of Birmingham

Reference number

FRAM842/24

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

- 72212190 - Educational software development services

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

Services

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

The University of Birmingham invites tenders for the provision of an integrated solution to support digital accessibility of teaching materials in our Virtual Learning Environment, Canvas VLE.

The University has a number of aims with regards to this solution:

1. The solution should be in place and ready to use from August 2024.
2. For staff, the aim is to improve staff engagement with creating accessible teaching content by providing automated identification of accessibility issues with the VLE and to provide

means by which they may remedy these issues, for example by serving point of need guidance and to support them in making improvements with the accessibility of their content.

3. For students, the aim is to provide access to automatically produced accessible alternatives of content within the VLE.
4. For the institution, the aim is to access reports on the accessibility of content within the VLE.

5. The preferred solution(s) will fully integrate in Canvas in a way which provides a consistent experience for students and staff. There should be little to no manual interventions required to synchronise data or user permissions between the solution and Canvas.

6. The preferred solution(s) will have experience working with other Higher Education Institutes in the UK and will have a well-developed Roadmap with a proven track record of meeting Roadmap timescales.

7. There are 38,000 students of which circa 32,000 are based in the University Birmingham's Edgbaston campus, circa 2000 in the University's Dubai campus, and circa 4000 on Distance

Learning programmes (current published HESA FTE 33,570). There are also circa 900 students at the University's Jinan-Birmingham-Joint-Institute (JBJI) in China. The preferred solution will need to cater to these variations in student populations, programme types and location.

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

- 48190000 - Educational software package

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

NUTS codes

- UKG31 - Birmingham

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

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The University has a number of aims with regards to this solution:

1. The solution should be in place and ready to use from August 2024.
2. For staff, the aim is to improve staff engagement with creating accessible teaching

content by providing automated identification of accessibility issues with the VLE and to provide means by which they may remedy these issues, for example by serving point of need guidance and to support them in making improvements with the accessibility of their content.

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4. For the institution, the aim is to access reports on the accessibility of content within the VLE.

5. The preferred solution(s) will fully integrate in Canvas in a way which provides a consistent experience for students and staff. There should be little to no manual interventions required to synchronise data or user permissions between the solution and Canvas.

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7. There are 38,000 students of which circa 32,000 are based in the University Birmingham's Edgbaston campus, circa 2000 in the University's Dubai campus, and circa 4000 on Distance Learning programmes (current published HESA FTE 33,570). There are also circa 900 students at the University's Jinan-Birmingham-Joint-Institute (JBJI) in China. The preferred solution will need to cater to these variations in student populations, programme types and location.

Supplier demonstrations are expected to take place during the weeks commencing 29th April 2024 and 6th May 2024.

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

Quality criterion - Name: ITSPQs / Weighting: 10

Quality criterion - Name: Standard Supplier Questionnaire (SQ) / Weighting: 10

Quality criterion - Name: Pass/Fail Questions / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Experience / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Reporting and Analytics / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: User Experience - Permissions / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: User Experience - General / Weighting: 15

Quality criterion - Name: Technical and Professional Ability / Weighting: 5

Quality criterion - Name: Supplier Presentations/Demonstrations / Weighting: 30

Price - Weighting: 10

**II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

No

**II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

**II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with a single operator

#### **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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

25 March 2024

Local time

11:59am

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

#### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

25 March 2024

Local time

12:00pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

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

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

The University of Birmingham

Birmingham

B15 2TT

Country

United Kingdom