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Tender

## **Purchase of Closed-Cycle Helium Cryogenic System**

Heriot-Watt University

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-006090

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-060d16

Published 23 January 2026, 11:01am

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

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

Heriot-Watt University

Moyen House, Research Park North, Heriot-Watt University

Riccarton, Edinburgh

EH14 4AP

#### **Contact**

Richard Kinghorn

#### **Email**

[R.G.Kinghorn@hw.ac.uk](mailto:R.G.Kinghorn@hw.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1314513704

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://hw.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00307](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00307)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

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

<https://www.publictenderscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictenderscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

**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**

Purchase of Closed-Cycle Helium Cryogenic System

Reference number

HWU-UK-2526-237-00

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

- 38000000 - Laboratory, optical and precision equipments (excl. glasses)

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

Supplies

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

The University is seeking a contractor to supply, deliver and install a closed-cycle helium cryogenic system for quantum-optics experiments,

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £220,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 31000000 - Electrical machinery, apparatus, equipment and consumables; lighting

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

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Main site or place of performance

Heriot-Watt University

Riccarton Campus

Edinburgh

EH14 4AS

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

The University is seeking a contractor to supply, deliver and install a closed-cycle helium cryogenic system for quantum-optics experiments capable of cooling small semiconductor chips to a temperature of 4K, which are mounted with on-chip optical and electrical connections.

The chips should be optically addressable using a low working distance

objective.

The system will be used for a range of experiments in quantum optics and

quantum technologies, with particular focus on characterising devices in silicon carbide where solid-state defect spins are coupled to optomechanical microcavities.

The system will be situated in an optics lab at the University's Edinburgh campus

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

Quality criterion - Name: Technical / Weighting: 70

Cost criterion - Name: Commercial / Weighting: 30

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

Duration in months

12

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

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

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: Yes

Identification of the project

RES923491

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

List and brief description of selection criteria

Bidders will be required to have a minimum “general” yearly turnover of the amount listed below, for the last 2 years. Where turnover information is not available for the time period requested, the bidder will be required to state the date which they were set up/started trading.

The Successful Contractor will be required to provide two years audited accounts, or equivalent prior to awarded to the Contract, or confirm in their tender submission the publicly accessible, free, online location of accounts if available in such a format. There must be no qualification or contra-indication from any evidence provided in support of the Contractor’s economic and financial standing.

It is a requirement of this contract that bidders hold, or can commit to obtain prior to the commencement of any contract, the types and levels of insurance listed below.

Bidders also must confirm they can provide the following supporting evidence at point of award.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Turnover Requirements:

Bidders will be required to have a minimum “general” yearly turnover of 440,000 GBP for the last 2 years.

Insurance Requirements:

It is a requirement of this contract that bidders hold, or can commit to obtain prior to the commencement of any contract, the following types and levels of insurance:

Employer's (Compulsory) Liability Insurance = 5,000,000 GBP

Product Liability Insurance = 2,000,000 GBP

Public Liability Insurance = 2,000,000 GBP

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## Section IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

#### 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

23 February 2026

Local time

12:00pm

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

English

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

Date

23 February 2026

Local time

12:00pm

Place

Heriot-Watt University

Riccarton Campus

Edinburgh

EH14 4AS

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.3) Additional information**

Economic operators may be excluded from this competition if they are in any of the situations referred to in regulation 58 of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015.

Tenderers will be asked to submit the following forms. These forms are for information only and will not be scored.

Form of Tender

Bona Fide Tender

Freedom of Information

Supply Chain Code of Conduct

The Successful Tenderer must confirm that they comply with the requirements of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

The Successful Tenderer will be required to provide two years audited accounts, or equivalent prior to awarded to the Contract, or confirm in their tender submission the publicly accessible, free, online location of accounts if available in such a format.

There must be no qualification or contra-indication from any evidence provided in support of the Contractor's economic and financial standing.

Where the capability & capacity of a subcontractor, members of a consortia or any other body will be relied on, separate SPD(s) are required from each of those other parties relied on.

Where subcontractors are to be used but their capability & capacity are not relied on, the University may choose to request separate SPD(s).

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 31036. The ITT code is itt\_62580.

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<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

(SC Ref:821492)

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

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

Edinburgh Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom