

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/006479-2021>

Award

## **SHEDL eBook Collections - Springer Nature**

APUC Limited

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-006479

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02a0c0

Published 30 March 2021, 9:08am

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

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

APUC Limited

Unit 27, Stirling Business Centre, Wellgreen

Stirling

FK8 2DZ

#### **Email**

[mmclaughlin@apuc-scot.ac.uk](mailto:mmclaughlin@apuc-scot.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1314428930

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.apuc-scot.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10402](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10402)

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

---

## **Section II: Object**

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

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

SHEDL eBook Collections - Springer Nature

Reference number

LIB1017AP

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

- 800000000 - Education and training services

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

Services

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

APUC is seeking to enter into an agreement with Springer Nature to offer its member institutions access to Springer Nature online books, free of digital rights management (DRM), for up to 4 years.

Springer Nature is the owner of the intellectual property rights to this content and is the sole supplier of this unique product and service.

#### **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: £2,100,000

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

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

- 800000000 - Education and training services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Various

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

APUC is seeking to commence an agreement with Springer Nature to offer its member institutions to purchase access to its online eBook Collection. The agreement will be on facilitated by APUC on behalf of the higher education (HE) institutions in Scotland and the National Library of Scotland. APUC will not make any purchases under the agreement

Springer Nature is the owner of the intellectual property rights to this content and is the sole supplier of this unique product and service.

#### **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 works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
  - procurement aiming at the creation or acquisition of a unique work of art or artistic performance

Explanation:

The publishing service is unique to the supplier and sector. The agreement falls within the derogation contained within Regulation 33(b)(i) of the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, permitting APUC to enter into the direct award.

#### IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

#### 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

LIB1017AP

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### V.2) Award of contract/concession

#### V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

26 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**

Springer Nature

The Campus, 4 Crinan Street

London

N1 9XS

Telephone

+44 000000

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)**

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,200,000

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

The contract value is estimated based on expenditure aggregated for four years, with full participation from all Scottish HE institutions and the National Library of Scotland.

(SC Ref:649014)

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

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

Stirling Sheriff Court

Viewfield PI, Stirling

Stirling

FK8 1NH

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

Under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, may bring proceedings in the Sheriff Court

or the Court of Session