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Award

## **Wide Area Network Services CPA/SPU/2762**

Cheshire Fire Authority

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-006825

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

Published 26 January 2026, 4:49pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

CPA/SPU/2762

### **Description**

This notice is presented on the basis of an exemption permitting direct award without competition under the Procurement Act 2023. The ground relied on is as follows:- “strictly necessary for reasons of extreme and unavoidable urgency to preserve assets or enable services to be maintained”.

This award is justified because the provision of ongoing Wide Area Network Services is critical to continued operations. There is a current contract in place for the provision of such services which comes to an end on 02nd February 2026. Steps have been taken in a timely fashion to secure a new long-term contract for the provision of wide area network services with effect from 03rd February 2026 <https://sell2.in-tend.co.uk/blpd/view-contract?secureid=5b0b705a-ec31-46c4-ab1a-92aed8a53c67>. However, given the criticality of such services to the ability to continue to provide blue light services in Cheshire and given the timing along with unexpected/ emerging risks, it is strictly necessary for reasons of extreme and unavoidable urgency to facilitate appropriate

contingency arrangements to mitigate any risk of a gap in provision.

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Such a short term contingency arrangement cannot be awarded on the basis of a competitive tendering procedure because the services are strictly necessary for reasons of extreme and unavoidable urgency and, there is both insufficient time to complete a further competitive exercise and insufficient time for any other provider (given the works involved) to set up and establish a replacement supply. These services could only be provided by the existing supplier whose infrastructure is already in place.

As indicated, this award is only for the purpose of securing services for so long as is necessary to mitigate the risk. A short-term contract for the shortest possible term has been provisioned for and a further contract is already in place for the longer term. Other options including informal competition, quotes or use of a framework were considered but the timescale means no other supplier could provision in the timeframe required even if commenced immediately. Factoring in any exercise would extend an already impossible timeframe.

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## **Contract 1. Wide Area Network Services CPA/SPU/2762**

### **Supplier**

- [Capita Business Services Ltd](#)

### **Contract value**

- £88,309.72 excluding VAT
- £105,971.66 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

### **Earliest date the contract will be signed**

27 January 2026

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 3 February 2026 to 2 May 2026
- 3 months

## **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support
- 72222300 - Information technology services

## **Contract locations**

- UKD6 - Cheshire

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## **Participation**

### **Particular suitability**

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

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## **Procedure**

### **Procedure type**

Below threshold - without competition

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## Supplier

### Capita Business Services Ltd

- Companies House: 02299747

30 Berners Street

London

W1T 3LR

United Kingdom

Email: [engagewithus@capita.com](mailto:engagewithus@capita.com)

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Wide Area Network Services CPA/SPU/2762

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## Contracting authority

### Cheshire Fire Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXBC-3252-DZQJ

HQ/Training Centre, Sadler Road

Winsford, Cheshire

CW7 2FQ

United Kingdom

Contact name: Jemma Taylor

Telephone: 01606362078

Email: [jemma.taylor@cheshire.police.uk](mailto:jemma.taylor@cheshire.police.uk)

Region: UKD63 - Cheshire West and Chester

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government