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Award

Forensic Pathology Service

Police & Crime Commissioner for South Wales

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-007723

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04475c

Published 11 March 2024, 3:55pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Police & Crime Commissioner for South Wales

Police Headquarters, Cowbridge Road

Bridgend

CF31 3SU

Email

swp-procurement@south-wales.police.uk

Telephone

+44 1656655555

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL17 - Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.south-wales.police.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0583

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Public order and safety

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Forensic Pathology Service

Reference number

JCPS 0548

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85111800 - Pathology services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Provision of a highly specialised, critical Forensic Pathology Service to South Wales Police, Gwent Police, Dyfed-Powys Police and Gloucestershire Constabulary as part of a joint service to the four police forces in areas of post-mortem and the interpretation of injury, including generation of reports, assistance in legal enquiries, court and other proceedings.

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: £750,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85111800 - Pathology services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan
- UKL17 - Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot
- UKL18 - Swansea
- UKL15 - Central Valleys
- UKL2 - East Wales
- UKL1 - West Wales and the Valleys
- UKL14 - South West Wales
- UKL21 - Monmouthshire and Newport

Main site or place of performance

South Wales Police force area

Other forces to use the same service - Gwent, Dyfed-Powys and Gloucestershire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Provision of a highly specialised, critical Forensic Pathology Service across the region of four police forces in areas of post-mortem and the interpretation of injury, including generation of reports, assistance in legal enquiries, court and other proceedings.

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

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:

South Wales Police and Gwent Police intend to award a contract to Cardiff University for the supply of a Forensic Pathology Service. This service is required by the forces of South Wales, Gwent, Dyfed-Powys and Gloucestershire to be provided by pathologists of suitable status, experience and qualifications. The service is currently provided by Cardiff University which hosts the Wales Institute of Forensic Medicine (WIFM). The WIFM is a 'School of Medicine' based unit, providing highly specialised, critical services to the police, coroners and the public in areas of post-mortem examination and interpretation of injury. It is relatively unique in conducting additional work to the post-mortem, known as 'sub-speciality' and includes areas of specific expertise in relation to examination of parts of the human body such as neuropathology, bone pathology and paediatric pathology.

Scoping work undertaken with forensic pathology consortia established across the UK to identify another host for the WIFM failed to find a party willing to take over the service. This is primarily due to the highly specialised service - there is a dearth of expertise across the UK in this highly skilled area and to obtain a Home Office licence to provide forensic pathology services to a police force, there must be a minimum of three qualified Home Office pathologists affiliated to a consortium; the size of the demand and geographical area and the alignment of Cardiff University with the University Hospital of Wales and its mortuary and laboratory capability.

Other forensic pathology consortia established around the UK provide a service to several forces and coronial areas and are generally location based. We approached the South West consortium during early scoping as the closest consortia to the WIFM but it has no appetite to take on the additional areas.

Therefore, the only economic operator able to supply the service is Cardiff University. Competition is absent for technical reasons due to the specialised service, scarcity of expertise, Home Office requirements and the level of demand across the area.

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

JCPS0548

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

8 March 2024

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

Cardiff University School of Medicine

University Hospital Wales, Heath Park

Cardiff

CF144XN

Email

medicine@cardiff.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 2920688113

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Internet address

<https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/medicine>

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: £1,260,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

NB The value of the contract shown is the SWP annual estimated value only. It does not include the value of spend by the other forces.

The estimated contract value is based on previous years' demand but by nature of the contracted service, most of the value will be dictated by demand.

(WA Ref:132805)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom