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Contract

(NU/1433-49) Neudio: The Provision of Business Consultancy to Assist Commercialisation of University Research

Newcastle University
Durham University
Northumbria University
University of Sunderland
Teesside University
University of Bath on behalf of the SETsquared

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-008134

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03b4a8

Published 21 March 2023, 11:41am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Newcastle University

3rd Floor Northumberland House, Princess Square

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE1 8ER

Email

purchasing@ncl.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1912086680

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.1) Name and addresses

Durham University

The Palatine Centre, Stockton Road

Email

Edwin.e.milligan@durham.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.1) Name and addresses

Northumbria University

Newcastle Upon Tyne

Email

chelsea.brain@northumbria.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://northumbria.ac.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Sunderland

Sunderland

Email

Cheryl.Holmstrom@sunderland.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://sunderland.ac.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

Teesside University

Middlesbrough

Email

David.Pratt@tees.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Bath on behalf of the SETsquared

Bath

Email

pb487@bath.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

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

(NU/1433-49) Neudio: The Provision of Business Consultancy to Assist Commercialisation of University Research

Reference number

DN648470

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Neuroscience has revealed the importance of brainwaves for healthy and pathological brain function. Manipulating brainwaves can affect mood, memory, attention and sleep, with therapeutic benefits in conditions ranging from ADHD to anxiety to Alzheimer's, but current neuromodulation techniques are limited.

Through research led by Newcastle University, we have demonstrated how 'closed-loop' neurostimulation (whereby brain signals control brain stimulation in a real-time feedback loop) can boost or suppress brainwave oscillations at different frequencies). Neudio combines closed-loop algorithms with non-invasive technologies (surface EEG recordings and musical stimulation) to regulate brainwaves. Effectively, our technology establishes a resonance between brain activity and music that enhances or suppresses brainwaves at specific frequencies.

The initial brief of the executive will be to:

Phase 1 – Write an ambitious business plan in line with ambitions and market opportunities

Phase 2 – Obtain IP Spin Out Committee Approval

Phase 3 – Complete spin-out legal process and act as company representative in legal formation of the company

Phase 4 – Prepare investment pitch deck and due diligence documents

Phase 5 – Initial negotiations to secure angel, seed or capital funding

Stage (5) will produce the funds by which the new start-up company can consider employing the executive going forward.

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: £30,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The initial brief of the executive will be to:

Phase 1 – Write an ambitious business plan in line with market potential and opportunities

Phase 2 – Obtain IP Spin Out Committee Approval

Phase 3 – Complete spin-out legal process and act as company representative in legal formation of the company

Phase 4 – Prepare investment pitch deck and due diligence documents

Phase 5 – Initial negotiations to secure angel, seed or capital funding

Stage (5) will produce the funds by which the new start-up company can consider employing the executive going forward. It is expected, and the intent of the scheme, that the Executive will remain with the business following the end of the contract period. However, such appointment will be at the discretion of the board and appropriate university and will be subject to confirmation, typically at Stage 3 above

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 70

Price - Weighting: 30

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

Northern Accelerator programme involving funding from both the European Regional Development Funding (ERDF) and Research England

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Restricted procedure

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

The procurement involves the setting up of a dynamic purchasing system

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2022/S 186-528050](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

(NU/1433-49)

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

3 February 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 2

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 2

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Dr Joern Rickert Consulting

San Andres Cholula

Country

Mexico

NUTS code

- MX - Mexico

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £30,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Newcastle University

Newcastle Upon Tyne

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Newcastle University

Newcastle Upon Tyne

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The University will incorporate a standstill period at the point information on the award of the

contract is communicated to tenderers. That notification will provide full information on the award decision. The standstill period, which will be for a minimum of 10 calendar days, provides time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into.

The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No 102) provide for aggrieved parties who

have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High

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Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) within 30 days of knowledge or constructive knowledge of breach.

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Newcastle University

Newcastle Upon Tyne

Country

United Kingdom