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Award

Specialist cryptocurrency training for UK police forces and other law enforcement and public sector bodies on behalf of the NPCC Cybercrime Programme

City of London Corporation (City of London Police)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-008345

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-032733

Published 29 March 2022, 9:11am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

City of London Corporation (City of London Police)

Po Box 270

London

EC2P 2EJ

Contact

Aga Watt

Email

Aga.Watt@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 2073321595

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI - London

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/>

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

Specialist cryptocurrency training for UK police forces and other law enforcement and public sector bodies on behalf of the NPCC Cybercrime Programme

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80500000 - Training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The provision of a specialist cryptocurrency training, including licenses for online access to the bespoke advanced Investigating Cryptocurrencies training as well as associated support services.

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: £270,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Across the United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

An extension of the contract for the supply of specialist cryptocurrency training, including the licenses for an online access to the bespoke Foundation and Advanced Investigating Cryptocurrencies training provision and associated support services.

The existing contract to deliver the foundation courses was awarded in January 2022 and funded via a grant under the Home Office's Asset Recovery Incentivisation Scheme (ARIS) fund. The contract falls under Schedule 3 services of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 (light touch regime). The value of the contract is £547,413 thus under the FTS threshold. The supplier was chosen as they were able to deliver the specific courses through a self-paced distance learning model whilst possessing the specific expertise in the field required by the programme and able to deliver the courses on time in the short timescale as was required by the grant.

An additional Home Office grant funding, 'top slice' funding under the ARIS fund, became available at a short notice at the end of March 2022 (on 18th March 2022), the grant having to be committed by 31st March 2022, the value being £270,000. As a result, there was insufficient time to run a compliant procurement process.

The extension and increase in contract value will bring the total contract value to £817,413 thus over the procurement threshold for Schedule 3 services. A decision was thus made to extend the existing contract under urgency in line with Regulation 72(1)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: 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:

Justification:

The need for modification has been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen, thus was considered in line with Regulation 72(1)(c). The authority considered refusing the grant, however, it believes it is in the public interest to modify the contract given the nature of the services. Moreover, the supplier is the only supplier who can provide the specific training required by the programme at such a short notice.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

29 March 2022

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

CSI Tech Ltd

5th Floor Castlemead, Lower Castle Street

Bristol

BS1 3AG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.csitech.co.uk/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £817,413

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Justification of an award of contract extension:

The extension is awarded in line with Regulation 72(1)(c) of the Procurement Contract Regulations 2015 as a result of an unforeseen urgency in regard to extending the contract due to the additional grant funding having become available and the requirement to commit the funds by 31st March 2022 , as well as Regulation there is insufficient time to observe a standstill period of 10 days following the publishing of the notice, therefore the extension and modification of the contract will take place immediately.

This notice is being published as the new total contract value will be over the procurement threshold applicable to Schedule 3 services under the Public Contract Regulations 2015 and the authority chose to publish this notice for transparency.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court of England and Wales

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom