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Award

## **Corporate Finance Application Support and Cloud Hosting**

Telford & Wrekin Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-008727

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-044a13

Published 18 March 2024, 6:08pm

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

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

Telford & Wrekin Council

Darby House, Lawn Central

TELFORD

TF3 4JA

#### **Contact**

Rachel Best

#### **Email**

[procurement@telford.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@telford.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1952383729

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKG21 - Telford and Wrekin

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.telford.gov.uk](http://www.telford.gov.uk)

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

Regional or local authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Corporate Finance Application Support and Cloud Hosting

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

- 72260000 - Software-related services

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

Services

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

The Unit 4 Agresso (Business World Enterprise Resource Planning) application is the system used by the entire council for the management of its finances. The application is essential IT infrastructure as it provides accounting functionality which enables budget allocation and management across the whole council.

This award is lawful pursuant to Regulation 32 (2)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 insofar as is strictly necessary where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable by the contracting authority, the time limits for the open or restricted procedures or competitive procedures with negotiation cannot be complied with, and in accordance with Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) because competition is absent for technical reasons.

#### **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: £1,225,395

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKG21 - Telford and Wrekin

Main site or place of performance

Borough of Telford & Wrekin

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

The Unit 4 Agresso (Business World Enterprise Resource Planning) application is the system used by the entire council for the management of its finances. The application is essential IT infrastructure as it provides accounting functionality which enables budget allocation and management across the whole council.

This award is lawful pursuant to Regulation 32 (2)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 insofar as is strictly necessary where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable by the contracting authority, the time limits for the open or restricted procedures or competitive procedures with negotiation cannot be complied with, and in accordance with Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) because competition is absent for technical reasons.

The following details the justification for this:

Unit 4 timing of announcements regarding product changes, coupled with a 12-month timeframe to switch solutions, creates the urgency of the situation. The system is an essential part of the councils IT infrastructure would have a detrimental effect of the running of the council services. Unit 4 have mandated the switch and withdrawn support of the on-premise solution. It will not be possible for the application and the data to be hosted on premise in the future due to the availability of support for third party hosting. The Council could not have foreseen these events and no other economic provider would be able to provide this service

At the present time it would be impossible for the council to procure and implement an alternative economic operator to provide this service. This is because, the supplier will no longer support the current on premise software beyond December 2024 and council risks a non-supported financial system. Therefore it is key that the council upgrades to the cloud software so stability of provision is ensured over the next few years to allow proper consideration of the above mentioned aspects.

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

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## 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:
  - absence of competition for technical reasons
- Extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable for the contracting authority

Explanation:

The Unit 4 Agresso (Business World Enterprise Resource Planning) application is the system used by the entire council for the management of its finances. The application is essential IT infrastructure as it provides accounting functionality which enables budget allocation and management across the whole council.

This award is lawful pursuant to Regulation 32 (2)(c) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 insofar as is strictly necessary where, for reasons of extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable by the contracting authority, the time limits for the open or restricted procedures or competitive procedures with negotiation cannot be complied with, and in accordance with Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) because competition is absent for technical reasons.

The following details the justification for this:

Unit 4 timing of announcements regarding product changes, coupled with a 12-month timeframe to switch solutions, creates the urgency of the situation. The system is an essential part of the council's IT infrastructure and would have a detrimental effect on the running of the council services. Unit 4 have mandated the switch and withdrawn support of the on-premise solution. It will not be possible for the application and the data to be hosted on-premise in the future due to the unavailability of support for third party hosting. The Council could not have foreseen these events and no other economic provider would be able to provide this service.

At the present time it would be impossible for the council to procure and implement an alternative economic operator to provide this service. This is because, the supplier will no longer support the current on-premise software beyond December 2024 and the council risks a non-supported financial system. Therefore it is key that the council upgrades to the

cloud software so stability of provision is ensured over the next few years to allow proper consideration of the above mentioned aspects.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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### **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

#### **Title**

Corporate Finance Application Support and Cloud Hosting

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

18 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**

Unit 4 Business Software Limited

C/o DAC Beachcroft L1p, Portwall Lane

Bristol

BS1 9HS

Email

[tiffany.lee@unit4.com](mailto:tiffany.lee@unit4.com)

Telephone

+44 7795507819

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG21 - Telford and Wrekin

Companies House

01737985

Internet address

[www.telford.gov.uk](http://www.telford.gov.uk)

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1,225,395

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1,225,395

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.4) Procedures for review

#### VI.4.1) Review body

Borough of Telford & Wrekin

Darby House

Telford, Shropshire

TF3 4JA

Email

[emma.harvey@telford.gov.uk](mailto:emma.harvey@telford.gov.uk)

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