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Contract

Schools Information Management System (SIMS)

Powys County Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-009398

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-032b51

Published 7 April 2022, 3:19pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Powys County Council

County Hall

Llandrindod Wells

LD1 5LG

Email

mary.salmon@powys.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 01597826000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL24 - Powys

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://en.powys.go.uk/>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0354

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Schools Information Management System (SIMS)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

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

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Transition from existing contractual model of perpetual licence of SIMS to local authority

with associated support services, to software as a service model contracting directly with individual schools to provide SIMS and 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)

Lowest offer: £4,845 / Highest offer: £16,845 taken into consideration

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72260000 - Software-related services
- 72268000 - Software supply services
- 72261000 - Software support services
- 72300000 - Data services
- 72310000 - Data-processing services
- 72320000 - Database services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL24 - Powys

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Prior to the award of these contracts, the current provider (ESS) had a contract with the local authority under which it provided a perpetual licence to the local authority for the purpose of providing SIMS to the schools in the local authority's area, with associated support services.

ESS has now served notice to terminate that contract and requires that, in order to continue provision of SIMS, individual schools must enter into direct contracts with ESS to receive SIMS as software as a service.

In order to bring about the transition, the local authority will enter into a Facilitation Agreement ("FA") with ESS under which nothing of value is received by ESS and no material services are provided to the local authority; it is purely an administrative arrangement to effect the transition. Each school in the local authority's area will enter into a School Contract ("SC") with ESS for the direct provision of SIMS as software as a service, at substantially the same cost as before.

The highest value SC is 16845 GBP (3 years) and the lowest value SC is 4845 GBP (3 years)

The schools in the local authority's area whose governing bodies will enter into contracts with ESS are as follows:

Brecon High School, Crickhowell High School, Gwernyfed High School, Llanidloes High School, Newtown High School, Welshpool High School, Ysgol Bro Hyddgen, Ysgol Calon Cymru, Ysgol, Llanfyllin, Ysgol Maesydderwen, Ysgol Uwchradd Caereinion High School.

The local authority publishes this notice on behalf of itself and the schools listed above but is not acting as a central purchasing body on behalf of the schools.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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

II.2.14) Additional information

Contract duration 36 months

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:

This contract award notice is intended to be a relevant contract award notice pursuant to Reg.93(2),(3)and(4) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. It is published on a wholly voluntary basis and without prejudice to the local authority's (LA) and the governing body of each individual school. No prior publication of a contract notice, and thus no competitive tender exercise was required in respect of the Facilitation Agreement (FA) and/or the individual Schools Contracts (SC) as neither are within the scope of application of Part 2 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) due to the following reasons:- The FA has no "value" but simply puts in place an administrative mechanism to transition contracts from LA to schools. It is therefore below the threshold set out in Reg. 5 (as reviewed pursuant to Reg.5A) of the 2015 Regulations. -The governing body of each individual school is a separate contracting entity and each individual SC is a separate contract, each of the individual SCs in the LA's area ranging between 4845 GBP and 16845 GBP in total over the three-year duration of each SC. Each individual contract is therefore below the threshold set out in Reg.5 (as reviewed pursuant to Reg.5A) of the 2015 Regulations. Further or in the alternative, neither the FA nor individual SCs are subject to a requirement to carry out prior publication of a contract notice and/or any form of competitive tender, because; - the services can only be provided by one particular economic operator (ESS), because competition is absent for technical reasons pursuant to Reg. 32(2)(b)(ii) of the 2015 Regulations. All of the schools in the LA currently use ESS' SIMS product. It would take a minimum of 12mths to transition from ESS'SIMS product to another product. ESS served 90 days notice to terminate the current arrangements mid December 2021, therefore not possible in the timescales for schools to tender and purchase an alternative product and transition to it. - urgency pursuant to Reg. 32(2)(c) of the 2015 Regulations. The provision of SIMS is essential to the running of a school and a school cannot function without it. Due to the short notice given by ESS timescales did not allow for the open or restricted procedure, or competitive procedure with negotiation to be undertaken. It is intended to advertise a competitive tender for SIMS on an all-Wales basis. Award and transition of new contracts to coincide with the end of the 3yr term of the SCs with ESS.

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

28 February 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Education Software Solutions Limited

11 Kingsley Lodge, 13 New Cavendish Street

London

W1G9UG

Telephone

+44 7999709125

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Internet address

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

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Lowest offer: £4,845 / Highest offer: £16,845 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:119282)

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