

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/009703-2021>

Award

## **Research Data Hosting and Storage Software Solution**

Heriot-Watt University

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-009703

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02ad58

Published 5 May 2021, 2:14pm

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

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

Heriot-Watt University

Moyen House, Research Park North, Heriot-Watt University

Riccarton, Edinburgh

EH14 4AP

#### **Contact**

Fred Davidson

#### **Email**

[f.davidson@hw.ac.uk](mailto:f.davidson@hw.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1314513700

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://hw.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00307](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00307)

**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**

Research Data Hosting and Storage Software Solution

Reference number

HWU 2016

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 48782000 - Storage management software package

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

Supplies

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

Heriot-Watt University currently stores 135TB of research data in a cloud hosted and storage solution provided by Dropbox Business.

### **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: £165,000

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

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

Heriot-Watt University currently stores over 135TB of key dynamic research data within a cloud hosted and storage software solution provided by Dropbox Business.

### **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**

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- Additional deliveries by the original supplier

Explanation:

Heriot-Watt University proposes to enter a contract with Dropbox Inc. in accordance with Paragraph 33 Part 4(b) of The Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015. Specifically, the contract pertains to purchasing additional supplies of an existing research data storage solution with relevant support and maintenance element which is cloud hosted. Any change to such a supply arrangement would oblige Heriot-Watt University to encounter a solution with different technical characteristics resulting in a high level of disproportionate technical difficulty being encountered in implementing and the subsequent operation of the system due to the challenges of transferring a large volume of critically important research data. Any file transfer process would require to be specifically designed and would require to incorporate several iterative actions and subsequent planned downtime with disruption to key research programmes. Additionally, the capacity to migrate large volumes of data would require the involvement of a third party adding to the disproportionate complexity of the process whilst increasing the risk data corruption to critical research projects.

#### **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**

HWU2016

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

30 April 2021

### **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**

Dropbox

Henry Wood House, 2 Riding Street

London

W1W7FA

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

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: £165,000

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

(SC Ref:652905)

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Edinburgh Sheriff Court

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom