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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): ocids-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

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

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