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Planning

Freight Agency Services

University Of Edinburgh

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-010603

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04f72c

Published 21 March 2025, 10:51am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

University Of Edinburgh

Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1HT

Contact

Iain Davies

Email

idavies@ed.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1316502759

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.ed.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00107

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Freight Agency Services

Reference number

EC1049

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 63521000 - Freight transport agency services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Requirement to procure the services of a supplier to provide a 4PL service facilitating an optimisation of the entire supply chain for UoE - from courier services for UK domestic, to import and export shipments. Must include a software solution which ideally will be able to integrate with UoE's Oracle Fusion "People and Money" system and also comply with our "No PO No Pay" protocol.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £750,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 64120000 - Courier services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Requirement to procure the services of a supplier to provide a 4PL service facilitating an optimisation of the entire supply chain for UoE - from courier services for UK domestic, to import and export shipments. Must include a software solution which ideally will be able to integrate with UoE's Oracle Fusion "People and Money" system and also comply with our "No PO No Pay" protocol. There is a significant level of fragmented spend with couriers from various colleges and schools at UoE. The new service will enable spend to be centralised through one service.

The appointed freight agent would act on UoE's behalf as a 4PL logistics supplier and be responsible for sourcing multiple transit options and providers for each consignment. This would involve a software solution for UoE staff to book consignments on. All communication, billing and responsibility for delivering the service will reside with the supplier. This would provide 2 overarching benefits to UoE:

- (1) Improved freight rates; one provider understanding our requirement will be able to be active in the freight market in the most advantageous way for UoE. Truly centralising the requirement will avoid UoE being subject to high one-off freight rates.
- (2) Improved processes; a single stream of invoices and customs clearance instruction documents will simplify the paperwork process between stores, procurement operations and P&M system. Centralisation of the function will create efficiencies with existing teams and allow time to be redeployed into more effective areas to improve value streams elsewhere.

As well as financial benefits this solution should make it easier to group together sustainability goals in freight which has traditionally had a high carbon cost.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 May 2025

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The total estimated spend is over a three year period.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=793667.](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=793667)

(SC Ref:793667)