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Contract

Supply of Wastewater Sampling Support Services

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-010651

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-033039

Published 26 April 2022, 8:42am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency

Nobel House, 17 Smith Square

London

SW1P 3JR

Contact

Procurement Operations

Email

procurement.operations@dhsc.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI32 - Westminster

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-health-security-agency>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-health-security-agency>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Supply of Wastewater Sampling Support Services

Reference number

852

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 90491000 - Sewer survey services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

supplier will provide wastewater sampling activities at a number of locations within the region in which the supplier operates. The two primary locations are manholes in urban or community locations and treatment centres, typically at primary inlet points

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: £931,308.79

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Warrington

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Supplier will provide wastewater sampling activities at a number of locations within the region in which the supplier operates. The two primary locations are manholes in urban or community locations and treatment centres, typically at primary inlet points

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

2 x 12 months

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**

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights

Explanation:

1. On 11 March 2020 the World Health Organisation declared a COVID-19 pandemic with the associated serious risk posed to life. The UK Government's response to the national emergency posed by COVID-19 includes the putting in place by it of arrangements for large-scale wastewater testing in respect of COVID-19.

2. A key element of ensuring an effective response to the pandemic is ensuring that there is a disease monitoring framework. Subsequently ensuring presence in key areas of interest (locally, regionally and nationally) and to have the ability to quickly respond to hotspots and new variants is crucial. The programme has engaged with 9 Water Companies in England to undertake the sampling across many of these locations. These contracts will cover the services associated with the sampling across England at both Treatment Centre locations and Network Locations across the geographic region of each water company.

3. UKHSA is satisfied the tests permitting use of the Negotiated procedure without prior publication (Regulation 32(2)(b)(iii)) are met:

A. The works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator for the protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights: United Utilities has exclusive proprietary rights over and in respect of its own water network infrastructure, plants etc. United Utilities must in all circumstances provide consent before access is permitted to their plant or network infrastructure to undertake this sampling. In relation to the sampling being undertaken by the UK Government, United Utilities has advised that only they (or their own authorised subcontractors under direct water company control) will undertake this sampling as it is their property and their risk.

B. No reasonable alternative or substitute exists – The samples can only be sourced from United Utilities infrastructure; therefore, no reasonable alternative exists.

C. the absence of competition is not the result of an artificial narrowing down of the parameters of the procurement – this procurement is part of a procurement strategy by the UK government to implement disease monitoring framework due to the Covid-19 pandemic

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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

4 April 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

UNITED UTILITIES WATER LIMITED

Haweswater House, Lingley Mere Business Park, Lingley Green Avenue Great, Sankey, Warrington, WA5 3LP

Warrington

WA5 3LP

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

02366678

Internet address

<http://www.unitedutilities.com>

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £931,308.79

Lowest offer: £931,308.79 / Highest offer: £931,308.79 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of England and Wales

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Email

website.enquiries@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.justice.gov.uk/>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

High Court of England and Wales

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Email

website.enquiries@judiciary.gsi.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.justice.gov.uk/>

