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Tender

Executive Search Process for Vice-Chancellor role and Chief Executive Role (with option to extend for other Executive Search processes)

UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-011189

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-064ab1

Published 6 February 2026, 7:44pm

Scope

Reference

26/AG/003

Description

The current Vice-Chancellor confirmed an intention to retire from Higher Education in January 2026 and will leave the University in the summer.

As such, the University is now seeking to appoint an Executive Search Firm to run the end-to-end search process for a new Vice-Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer.

To include attraction, search, longlisting/ shortlisting and selection activities as minimum requirements. Other value-add services as may be required, e.g. selection psychometrics etc.

Full details can be found at: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/winchester>

Return Date: 12 Noon 6th March 2026

Total value (estimated)

- £160,000 excluding VAT
- £192,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 30 March 2026 to 31 December 2026
- Possible extension to 30 March 2029
- 3 years, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

Single activity contract, with option for the University to extend by 3 years from date of appointment for other Executive Search processes.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79600000 - Recruitment services

Contract locations

- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

27 February 2026, 6:00pm

Tender submission deadline

6 March 2026, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Full details can be found at:

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/winchester>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Award criteria

Price:

- Competitive and clear financials
- Details of any payment staging
- Strong value proposition

35%

Experience:

- Proven sector Executive Search experience
- Access to established and diverse talent pools
- Track record of inclusive and diverse approaches to attraction, search and selection (C-Suite level)

35%

Approach:

- Full compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory obligations
- Strong partnering approach with University, including named consultant/ single point of contact
- The overall ability of the Executive Search Firm to understand and meet the University's requirements for this tender

30%

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Contracting authority

UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER

- Companies House: 05969256
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMPV-1431-CPBW

Sparkford Road

Hampshire

SO22 4NR

United Kingdom

Email: andrew.gannon@winchester.ac.uk

Region: UKJ36 - Central Hampshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government