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Award

UKRI-5717 Support and Maintenance for ORCA quantum computer

UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)

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Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-011337

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-064b06 ([view related notices](#))

Published 9 February 2026, 12:07pm

Scope

Reference

UKRI-5717

Description

Support and Maintenance for ORCA quantum computer hosted at RAL

Contract 1. UKRI-5717 Support and Maintenance for ORCA quantum computer

Supplier

- ORCA Computing Limited

Contract value

- £480,000 excluding VAT
- £576,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

20 February 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 23 February 2026 to 22 February 2028
- 2 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72261000 - Software support services

Contract locations

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

The system is a one-off, state of the art system at the cutting edge of quantum computing R&D. It is bespoke to the SBRI testbed call and relies on proprietary technology and Orca-specific know-how and expertise. Orca Computing Ltd are the only organisation able to support and maintain this system effectively, and its continued operation is key to delivering benefits. A direct award is therefore justified for technical reasons.

Supplier

ORCA Computing Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQHT-3258-LTGM

30 Eastbourne Terrace,

London

W2 6LA

United Kingdom

Email: media@orcacomputing.com

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. UKRI-5717 Support and Maintenance for ORCA quantum computer

Contracting authority

UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDQJ-7126-JDHG

Polaris House

Swindon, Wiltshire

SN2 1FL

United Kingdom

Telephone: +441793442000

Email: stfcprocurement@ukri.org

Website: <https://www.ukri.org/>

Region: UKK14 - Swindon

Organisation type: Public authority - central government