

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/011392-2024>

Planning

## **Glow Blogs Hosting and Support Services**

Education Scotland

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-011392

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04508d

Published 9 April 2024, 10:03am

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Education Scotland

Denholm House, Almondvale Business Park

Livingston

EH54 6GA

#### **Email**

[EdSProcurement@educationscotland.gov.scot](mailto:EdSProcurement@educationscotland.gov.scot)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKM - Scotland

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11402](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11402)

## **I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

## **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**

Glow Blogs Hosting and Support Services

Reference number

EDUC#670

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Provision of Glow Blogs Hosting and Support Services to Education Scotland

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Education Scotland has a requirement to place a contract with an external Service Provider for ongoing support and development of the Glow Blogs service. Glow is Scotland's national digital environment that offers a number of different services to support learning and teaching across the curriculum.

Glow Blogs is a service that is available to all Glow users to allow them to create, manage and host websites. It is currently a fully managed WordPress multisite environment which resides on an AWS infrastructure. There are around 60,000 sites (blogs) in the environment and an average of 1,500,000 monthly page views. These sites may, for example, be private and used by learners recording their work or be public for schools to share resources. The service offers users a selection of themes and plugins that have educational value and these must be kept up to date and sometimes customised with factors such as safeguarding in mind.

The AWS infrastructure has provided a high level of reliability and was designed to be flexible with features such as auto-scaling used. A high level of reliability and flexibility is required due to ever changing user requirements, including but not limited to, an increase in remote working. The WordPress application provides a selection of themes and plugins that provide functionality based on user requirements. Both the infrastructure and application continue to be improved by taking an Agile approach to development and making changes based on user stories.

It is expected that any potential Service Provider would have sufficient technical knowledge and an understanding of how such a service should be best provided and maintained. It is anticipated that the current offering of Glow Blogs through a WordPress multisite hosted in AWS will continue to be how the service is provided.

Potential Service Providers must note that the information provided as part of this process will be used as background to the procurement strategy and tender documents for the requirement only.

This process will be undertaken entirely on a without commitment basis and no undertaking is given that any potential Service Provider will be included in the tender process. Submitted questionnaires shall not be evaluated or scored and shall be excluded from evaluation at the tender stage. Please note that at this stage we are not issuing any additional documents to describe the requirement. All tender documentation shall be available at the next stage of the procurement process.

Interested Service Providers are asked to complete the Market Engagement questionnaire. Responses are requested by Friday 03 May 2024.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

1 August 2024

---

## **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**

Education Scotland will be managing the procurement process under the call-off conditions of the Scottish Government Digital Technology and Cyber Services Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS). Accordingly, potential Service Providers must be successfully appointed to the DPS at the point of tender to be eligible to participate. A link to further information on the Digital Technology and Cyber Services DPS, including the Suppliers Guide and a copy of the Contract Notice is contained in the Market Engagement Questionnaire.

Please send your completed Market Engagement Questionnaire response to [edsprocurement@educationscotland.gov.scot](mailto:edsprocurement@educationscotland.gov.scot) by 5:00pm on Friday 03 May 2024.

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=762791](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=762791).

(SC Ref:762791)