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Tender

## **EdIS-22-001 Strategic Partner Services and School Management System (SMS) Solution**

Education Authority

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-011917

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-031ec8

Published 6 May 2022, 5:48pm

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

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

Education Authority

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

#### **Email**

[michelle.carlisle@eani.org.uk](mailto:michelle.carlisle@eani.org.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

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

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

### **I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

### **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

### **I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## Section II: Object

### II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

EdIS-22-001 Strategic Partner Services and School Management System (SMS) Solution

Reference number

EdIS-22-001 / Resource ID 4161848

#### 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

The Education Authority (EA) has a requirement to procure a Strategic Partner, to provide services including a School Management System (SMS) for Nursery, Primary, Post Primary, Special schools and EOTAS centers. The Strategic Partner will be required to deploy, support and manage a modern architecture, technical infrastructure and secure services for schools. These services will improve the learning experience of our young people, supporting teaching through technology, develop skills for the future and support the EA and its educational stakeholders to improve educational outcomes. The education service will deliver high levels of reliability, stability and performance and reduces the burden and risk on the Education Authority and school staff with regard to the security, technical setup, configuration, maintenance and support of any element of the future service. The EA is seeking a fully integrated and interoperable solution which will provide anywhere anytime access to, and associated support for, the EdIS services accessible by school staff, pupils, parents and authorised stakeholders. The School Management System will be a key component of the overall solution to be delivered by the Strategic Partner, providing a centralised master record for school users which will enable the sharing of accurate up-to-date student data for educational purposes and for access to technology services delivered through the EdIS programme. Under this procurement the successful Supplier will be required to support EA's social value objectives. Accordingly, contract performance conditions and award criteria will relate, in particular, to social value. The estimated total value set out in Section II.1.5 represents EA's estimate of the total potential value of the contract over its full duration, including (without limitation): the transition of services from the existing supplier; EA's option (subject to necessary approvals and at its discretion) to extend the term for a period of 2 years; and certain

optional additional services which EA may request the successful supplier to provide under the contract (as set out in further detail in the procurement documents).

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £485,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

- 48200000 - Networking, Internet and intranet software package
- 48600000 - Database and operating software package
- 72200000 - Software programming and consultancy services
- 72300000 - Data services
- 48190000 - Educational software package
- 72500000 - Computer-related services

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

The Education Authority (EA) has a requirement to procure a Strategic Partner, to provide services including a School Management System (SMS) for Nursery, Primary, Post Primary, Special schools and EOTAS centers. The Strategic Partner will be required to deploy, support and manage a modern architecture, technical infrastructure and secure services for schools. These services will improve the learning experience of our young people, supporting teaching through technology, develop skills for the future and support the EA and its educational stakeholders to improve educational outcomes. The education service will deliver high levels of reliability, stability and performance and reduces the burden and risk on the Education Authority and school staff with regard to the security, technical setup, configuration, maintenance and support of any element of the future service. The EA is seeking a fully integrated and interoperable solution which will provide anywhere anytime access to, and associated support for, the EdIS services accessible by

school staff, pupils, parents and authorised stakeholders. The School Management System will be a key component of the overall solution to be delivered by the Strategic Partner, providing a centralised master record for school users which will enable the sharing of accurate up-to-date student data for educational purposes and for access to technology services delivered through the EdIS programme. Under this procurement the successful Supplier will be required to support EA's social value objectives. Accordingly, contract performance conditions and award criteria will relate, in particular, to social value. The estimated total value set out in Section II.1.5 represents EA's estimate of the total potential value of the contract over its full duration, including (without limitation): the transition of services from the existing supplier; EA's option (subject to necessary approvals and at its discretion) to extend the term for a period of 2 years; and certain optional additional services which EA may request the successful supplier to provide under the contract (as set out in further detail in the procurement documents).

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £485,000,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

144

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.9) Information about the limits on the number of candidates to be invited**

Envisaged number of candidates: 3

Objective criteria for choosing the limited number of candidates:

As set out in the procurement documents.

### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

To allow for a sufficient period for the implementation and operation of services across Nursery, Primary, Post Primary, Special schools and EOTAS centers in Northern Ireland and for the successful supplier to secure an appropriate return on its investment, in addition to the period required to successfully complete the transition of services from the existing supplier to the new supplier, the contract for Strategic Partner Services and School Management System Solution (Contract) will be for an initial period of ten (10) years commencing on the Transition Completion Date (as defined in the Contract) but with EA having an option (subject to necessary approvals and at its discretion) to extend the term for another 2 years.

### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

### **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.2.2) Contract performance conditions**

As set out in the procurement documents.

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Competitive procedure with negotiation

#### **IV.1.4) Information about reduction of the number of solutions or tenders during negotiation or dialogue**

Recourse to staged procedure to gradually reduce the number of solutions to be discussed or tenders to be negotiated

#### **IV.1.5) Information about negotiation**

The contracting authority reserves the right to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2022/S 000-006191](#)

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

7 June 2022

Local time

3:00pm

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

#### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 4 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

EA reserves the right to award the contract following submission of initial tender responses and the right to down-select tenderers following submission of initial tenders, any refined tenders requested by EA and/or after each round of negotiations. For the avoidance of doubt, final tenders will not be subject to any negotiation with EA (however, they may be subject to clarification, if required at EA's absolute discretion). Under no circumstances will EA or its advisors be liable for any costs or expenses incurred by economic operators, their funders and/or their respective advisors arising directly or indirectly from the procurement process, their participation in or termination thereof, including, without limitation, preparation and submission of responses, as a result of any changes or adjustments made to the procurement documents or the exclusion/disqualification of an economic operator. Only the express terms of the contractual documents, if and when executed shall have any contractual effect in connection with the matters to which this procurement process relates. Neither the issue of the procurement documents, nor any of the information presented in them, should be regarded as a commitment or representation on the part of EA (or any other person) to enter into a contractual arrangement. Nothing in the procurement documents should be interpreted as a commitment by EA to award a contract to an economic operator as a result of this procurement process, nor to accept the lowest price or any tender. No legally binding contract shall arise (and a tenderer shall have no legitimate expectation that a contract will be entered into) until such time as entry into the contract has been confirmed by EA. As such, EA reserves the right at any time to cancel, withdraw or amend the procurement process at any stage.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland

Belfast

BT1 3JY

Country

United Kingdom

### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

EA will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period at the point information on the award of contract is communicated to all tenderers. The standstill period provides time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended) provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (Northern.. Ireland)..