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Award

Legal Subscription Services

Government Legal Department

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-012683

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04535c

Published 18 April 2024, 2:17pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Government Legal Department

102 Petty France

London

SW1H9GL

Email

procurement@governmentlegal.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/government-legal-department>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

National or federal Agency/Office

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Legal Services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Legal Subscription Services

Reference number

GLD048 2023

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79980000 - Subscription services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

An online legal subscription service.

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: £8,600,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79980000 - Subscription services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

An online legal subscription service, which provides large and sophisticated databases of legal information (e.g. case law) for the UK and abroad.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

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

Explanation:

The Government Legal Department ("the Contracting Authority") is intending to enter into a contract with Thomson Reuters Professional UK Limited ("TR") for the provision of online legal resource information services.

In summary, TR provides access to an online legal database containing unique content that the Contracting Authority requires. This content can only be made available from the source publisher i.e. TR. Further, Westlaw Edge and Practical Law are proprietary services which contain unique content only published by TR.

The purpose of this VEAT notice is to provide sufficient notice of the intention to award a four year contract to TR, in accordance with Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) and 32(b)(iii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR").

Having reviewed its requirements for this contract, the Contracting Authority has concluded that an award to TR is permissible under Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) and (iii) of the PCR because TR (i) is the only supplier in the market that can provide these technical services to the required specification and (ii) has protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights. The Contracting Authority is satisfied that no reasonable alternative or substitute exists and the absence of competition is not as a result of an artificial narrowing down of the parameters of the procurement.

The Contracting Authority shall enter into the contract with TR ten days after the date on which this VEAT notice is published.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

18 April 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Thomson Reuters Professional UK Limited

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Companies House

1679046

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £8,600,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Government Legal Department

London

Country

United Kingdom