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Contract

## **Rehosting Partner for Stanage Data Centre**

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-013347

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04fdf2

Published 7 April 2025, 11:50am

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

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

UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

Firth Court, Western Bank

Sheffield

S102TN

#### **Contact**

Savio Arinda

#### **Email**

[s.t.arinda@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.t.arinda@sheffield.ac.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKE32 - Sheffield

**Companies House**

RC000667

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.sheffield.ac.uk/>

**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**

Rehosting Partner for Stanage Data Centre

Reference number

4346.IT.STA.24

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72317000 - Data storage services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

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

As a result of growing demand for data storage to support existing and new research projects, the University has concluded an exercise to identify a suitable data centre partner to provide reliable hosting services and expanded hosting capacity. This requirement was fulfilled under the NHSSBS Digital Workplace Solutions Framework Agreement.

## **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: £2,939,429.59

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 72514000 - Computer facilities management services

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

NUTS codes

- UKD - North West (England)

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

The University has identified a supplier for the provision of secure, scalable data storage and hosting services as well as the ability to provide ad hoc services as needed. The selected supplier was awarded through the NHSSBS Digital Workplace Services Framework Agreement.

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

Price

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

Options: No

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- New works/services, constituting a repetition of existing works/services

Explanation:

The decision to award this contract is lawful as it was carried out through the NHS SBS Digital Workplace Framework an established, fully PCR-compliant route. This framework permits direct awards to approved suppliers, and Softcat was selected from the list of awarded suppliers. Using this framework allowed us to act quickly and efficiently, without the delays and risks associated with running a full open tender. Given the scale and urgency of the project, as well as the pre-existing relationship with both Softcat and the incumbent hosting provider, this route ensured best value and full legal compliance.

Maintaining continuity with our existing supplier was critical. The data centre supports vital research infrastructure, and any disruption could have seriously impacted ongoing academic and critical research activities. Moving to a new provider would have meant relocating sensitive equipment, a process made even more challenging by the current state of the ageing cabling, which poses risks of downtime or failure during a move. The incumbent supplier not only offered continuity and familiarity but also responded to our new requirement for expanded hosting capacity by offering additional space within the data centre. This, along with favourable discounted rates and an aligned approach to the university's long-term objectives, made staying with the current supplier the most practical and value-driven choice.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

27 March 2025

### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

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

### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Softcat PLC

Marlow

SL7 1LW

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ1 - Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire

Companies House

02174990

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £2,939,429.59

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is an estimated value over the duration of the contract. Due to the nature of the services, the actual spend over this period could be either lower or higher than this.

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

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

The University of Sheffield

Sheffield

Country

United Kingdom