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Award

Homeland Security Group ACE Impact Lab Service - RASSO

Police Digital Service

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-013392

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-033aee

Published 18 May 2022, 5:11pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Police Digital Service

33 Queen Street,

LONDON

EC4R 1AP

Contact

Kenny Stewart

Email

commercial@pds.police.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

08113293

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://pds.police.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://uk.eu-supply.com/ctm/Company/CompanyInformation/Index/94392>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Public order and safety

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Homeland Security Group ACE Impact Lab Service - RASSO

Reference number

PDS-MOU-036-2021

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Procurement of a Homeland Security Group (Home Office) ACE Impact Lab service to support Proof of Concept (POC) and Proof of Solution (POS) discovery for Rape and Serious

Sexual Offence (RASSO) investigations.

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: £600,000

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

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

PDS relies on the ground set out within Reg 32(2)(b)(ii) (Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. For technical reasons, access to law enforcement personnel, technology, processes & operational information can be provided only to a particular tenderer, namely The Secretary of State for the Home Department acting through HSG. ACE is a government funded unit within HSG in the Home Office. It holds the requisite HMG authority, security clearance & engagement access to criminal justice system operational partners & industry/ academic communities to help address the policing technology gaps on highly sensitive Rape & Serious Sexual Offences (RASSO) cases identified in the HMG End-to-End Rape Review Report (June 21).

Competition is absent for technical reasons because:

(a) addressing the current RASSO investigation process challenge requires a partner with end-2-end influence & capability to engage across a large, dynamic & complex public,

private, not-for-profit & academic sector stakeholder landscape. As a government body, ACE is uniquely placed to collaborate with law enforcement agencies (including Police, CPS, NCA, HMCTS & the judiciary), alongside industry & academia, to identify solutions to frontline problems; and

(b) the Home Office, as the main RASSO investigation process grant provider, has determined that the proposed commissioning engagement should be delivered in-house by their own business unit i.e. ACE (and their retained supply chain partners), rather than an external service provider; and

(c) there is an urgent need for these services, and so whilst a fully compliant CPN procurement is being run by ACE (refer to FTS: 2022/S 000-005352) an interim solution for a six month period needs to be implemented by PDS as soon as possible. Because of challenges with police vetting timescales this means there are very limited options available, meaning competition is absent for technical reasons.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

II.2.14) Additional information

The absence of competition is not the result of an artificial narrowing down of parameters of the procurement; no reasonable alternative exists for procuring the required service, as other options would cause significant time and/or cost overrun, thus impacting public funds negatively and slowing the deployment of crime fighting tools to law enforcement.

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:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons
- Additional deliveries by the original supplier

Explanation:

PDS relies on the ground set out within Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) (Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. For technical reasons, access to law enforcement personnel, technology and processes and operational information can be provided only to a particular tenderer, namely The Secretary of State for the Home Department acting through the Homeland Security Group (HSG).

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 May 2022

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

The Secretary of State for the Home Department acting through the Homeland Security Group

2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

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: £600,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Important Notice:

The current release FTS VEAT Form does not provide a workflow to enable a 30 day review period before the date of contract award i.e. after publication of the VEAT notice but before the contract is signed. For the avoidance of doubt the proposed PDS contract with HSG will not be awarded before 20 June 2022. When reviewing this VEAT please read 20 June 2022 (not as stated i.e. 18 May 2002) at section V2.1 of this FTS VEAT Form.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom