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Award

EA Integrated Financial Management Information System Inc. HR/Payroll (Formerly the iFS Project / now known as the EA One Project)

the Education Authority

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-013472

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058fa8

Published 13 February 2026, 2:16pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

the Education Authority

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

Email

ict.procure@eani.org.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

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

EA Integrated Financial Management Information System Inc. HR/Payroll (Formerly the iFS Project / now known as the EA One Project)

Reference number

40622

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72250000 - System and support services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Provision of a fully integrated Finance and HR/Payroll system for the Education Authority

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: £40,401,666

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The contract is for an integrated Financial Management Information system and HR/Payroll (including DE's Teachers' payrolls) to meet the Financial Accounting and Reporting requirements and the HR management and Payroll requirements of the

Education Authority and the Department of Education.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Best Technical Score / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The initial contract duration for the iFS Contract will be for a period of ten (10) years. The contract will include an option to extend the contract for five (5) further periods of one (1) year (15 years in total).

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

This VEAT is to inform the market of the proposal to modify this contract to enable the addition and introduction an integrated Punchout solution to the iFS system. The introduction of this solution will involve the addition of £213,000.00 to the Overall Contract Value (this value is for all envisaged costs for the delivery and operation of the Punchout solution up to 31/03/2027).. . The revised overall contract value will then be £40,401,666.00.. . The introduction of the module will aid EA to comply with its legal requirements as detailed below: . - The Procurement Act 2024 (section68(2)) requires that 100% undisputed invoices are paid within 30 days. EA currently has a Prompt Payment target to pay invoices within 30 days, and achievement of this is dependent on having an efficient way of raising orders. Punchout will support ordering accuracy, leading to less credit notes and payment delays due to difficulties in invoice matching.

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

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The legislation governing the Contract Modification is the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) and Regulation 72 (Modification of contracts during . their term).

For this particular contract modification EA could rely on Reg 72(1)(e).

Regulation 72(1)(e) states; The changes are “not substantial”, and further defines “not substantial” as under Regulation 72(8) of the PCRs as:

- (a) the modification does not render the contract materially different in character;
- (b) the modification does not introduce any conditions which, had they been part of the initial procurement, would have (i) allowed for admission of other candidates than those initially selected; (ii) allowed for the acceptance of a tender other than that originally accepted; or (iii) attracted additional participants in the procurement procedure;
- (c) the modification does not change the economic balance of the contract in favour of the contractor;
- (d) the modification does not extend the scope of the contract considerably; and
- (e) the modification does not replace the contractor that the contract was initially awarded to.

The introduction of the e-Invoicing module to this contract does not:

- (f) render the contract materially different in character – (this is an integral module to most modern Finance and Payment systems);
- (g) it doesn't introduce any new conditions that would have allowed for the admission of other candidates, or, allowed for the acceptance of another tender, or, attracted additional participants in the original procurement procedure;

(h) the modification value of £213,000.00 represents a very small percentage increase (i.e. 0.7%) to the original contract value;

(i) the scope of the modification does not extend the scope of the contract considerably (it is a fairly small piece of functionality that is being added to the overall solution); and

(j) the modification does not replace the contractor that the contract was initially awarded to (the contract remains with Fujitsu).

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: [2025/S 000-052127](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

40622

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

30 November 2015

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

Fujitsu Services Limited

Bracknell

Email

askfujitsu@uk.fujitsu.com

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://global.fujitsu/en-uk>

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: £40,401,666

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not currently have any such bodies with responsibilities for appeal/mediation procedures

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom