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## Heavy Lift Challenge

### Ministry of Defence

Publication reference: 2021/S 000-014466

Publication date: 24 June 2021

F02: Contract notice

## Section I: Contracting authority

### I.1) Name and addresses

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### Email

[leroy.howell101@mod.gov.uk](mailto:leroy.howell101@mod.gov.uk)

#### Country

United Kingdom

#### NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

#### Internet address(es)

#### Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence>

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

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

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/web/login.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/web/login.html>

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

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://www.contracts.mod.uk/web/login.html>

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

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

Defence

## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Heavy Lift Challenge

#### **Reference number**

701570378

#### **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**

Heavy Lift Challenge

The Heavy Lift Challenge (HLC) Framework (the Framework) has been created by the Authority in order to accelerate the development of a range of autonomous Heavy Lift Uncrewed Air Systems for use predominantly, but not exclusively, in the maritime domain.

The intention is to address the lack of current options in the market by increasing the number of delivery ready platforms in order to help support and develop the Authority's understanding of the potential capabilities and uses for of such autonomous systems.

The Authority will facilitate accelerated development of a number of Supplier Uncrewed Air Systems (UAS) to meet or exceed the requirements of an Authority defined Minimum Viable Product.

Our intent is to ensure that Defence will have access at the speed of relevance to current and future emerging cutting-edge capabilities for use within the Royal Navy and other domains.

The Authority will facilitate, via the use of this competitive framework, an environment whereby suppliers are able to demonstrate current capabilities, set out product

development and commercial exploitation roadmaps and work with both the Authority and potentially with other suppliers to accelerate pace of development and reduce time to market.

The purpose of the HLC Framework is therefore to support and inform the development of Maritime operating concepts and enable assessment, analysis, exploration and evaluation of the use of un-crewed air systems (UAS) for beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) payload delivery.

The Framework is designed specifically to:

- i) provide Sponsor / User confidence in the potential for UAS systems to provide recoverable, adaptable, remotely piloted air systems, capable of accurately delivering heavy payloads at range;
- ii) enable the Authority to identify and as appropriate fund the most viable solutions in the market for accelerated further development in order to meet the Authority's minimum requirement (the Minimum Viable Product or "MVP") within the times stated,
- iii) provide the Authority with a mechanism for end users to potentially acquire for further evaluation or other use those solutions which demonstrably meet or exceed the MVP.

Risk Assessment Reference: 927478142

Cyber Risk Profile: Not Applicable

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

Value excluding VAT: £20,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for one lot only

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

20,000,000

**Lot No**

1 & 2

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

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

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

#### **NUTS codes**

- UK - United Kingdom

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

#### Heavy Lift Challenge

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

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

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

##### **End date**

22 August 2025

##### **This contract is subject to renewal**

No

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

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **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

## **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

## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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

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

##### **Date**

26 July 2021

##### **Local time**

12:00pm

**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: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

**IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

**Date**

26 July 2021

**Local time**

12:00pm

**Section VI. Complementary information**

**VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

**VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic payment will be used

**VI.4) Procedures for review**

**VI.4.1) Review body**

Ministry of Defence

Bristol

**Country**

United Kingdom



