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Award

Contract for the provision of WORKTRIBE Research Contract to the University of Birmingham

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-016318

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0469ff

Published 23 May 2024, 12:21pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

Edgbaston

BIRMINGHAM

B152TT

Contact

Teisha Ravenscroft

Email

T.Ravenscroft@bham.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG - West Midlands (England)

UK Register of Learning Providers (UKPRN number)

10006840

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.bham.ac.uk

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

Contract for the provision of WORKTRIBE Research Contract to the University of Birmingham

Reference number

SC12641/24

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 48900000 - Miscellaneous software package and computer systems

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Worktribe is a market-leading research management system. Through examination of the

market and discussions with staff at other institutions, there appear to be few main options currently available for consideration.

Since first procuring Worktribe, the University has made a substantial investment in terms of integrations into the rest of the technical estate, working processes and staff training, as such the impact of moving to a new system would be significant, such as:

- **System Integration Data:** Migrating data to a new system entails significant financial and non-financial costs, including data extraction, transformation, and loading (ETL) processes, data cleansing, validation, and ensuring data integrity during the migration process which would entail significant internal UoB resources to support.
- **Staff Training:** Transitioning to a new system would require comprehensive training for staff members to ensure they are proficient in its use. Extending the contract with WorkTribe allows us to leverage existing staff expertise and minimise the need for extensive retraining, thereby reducing overall training costs.
- **Project Managing Implementation:** Implementing a new system necessitates effective project management to ensure a smooth transition and minimise disruptions to ongoing operations. Project management costs include personnel expenses, software licenses for project management tools, and other resources required to oversee the implementation process. By extending the contract with WorkTribe, we can mitigate the need for additional project management costs, as the UoB team is already familiar with our systems and processes.

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: £722,860

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG - West Midlands (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Unique Market Technology: Worktribe is a market-leading research management system. Through examination of the market and discussions with staff at other institutions, there

appear to be few main options currently available for consideration.

Return on the University's Investment: Since first procuring Worktribe, the University has made a substantial investment in terms of integrations into the rest of the technical estate, working processes and staff training, as such the impact of moving to a new system would be significant, such as:

- **System Integration Data:** Migrating data to a new system entails significant financial and non-financial costs, including data extraction, transformation, and loading (ETL) processes, data cleansing, validation, and ensuring data integrity during the migration process which would entail significant internal UoB resources to support.
- **Staff Training:** Transitioning to a new system would require comprehensive training for staff members to ensure they are proficient in its use. Extending the contract with WorkTribe allows us to leverage existing staff expertise and minimise the need for extensive retraining, thereby reducing overall training costs.
- **Project Managing Implementation:** Implementing a new system necessitates effective project management to ensure a smooth transition and minimise disruptions to ongoing operations. Project management costs include personnel expenses, software licenses for project management tools, and other resources required to oversee the implementation process. By extending the contract with WorkTribe, we can mitigate the need for additional project management costs, as The University team is already familiar with our systems and processes.

Customisation and Integration: WorkTribe's systems are customised to The University's specific requirements and seamlessly integrated with our existing infrastructure. Migrating to a new system would require reconfiguring workflows, customisations, and integrations, leading to additional costs and potential compatibility issues.

Conclusion: In conclusion, extending the contract with WorkTribe is the most cost-effective and practical solution to meet our system needs. The substantial costs associated with migrating data, training staff, and project managing implementation make transitioning to a new system financially prohibitive at this time. Furthermore, maintaining our relationship with WorkTribe ensures system stability, reliability, and ongoing support tailored to our business requirements. Therefore, it is recommend to extend the contract with WorkTribe to sustain the University's operational efficiency and effectiveness in the long term.

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:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

Unique Market Technology: Worktribe is a market-leading research management system. Through examination of the market and discussions with staff at other institutions, there appear to be few main options currently available for consideration.

Return on the University's Investment: Since first procuring Worktribe, the University has made a substantial investment in terms of integrations into the rest of the technical estate, working processes and staff training, as such the impact of moving to a new system would be significant, such as:

- **System Integration Data:** Migrating data to a new system entails significant financial and non-financial costs, including data extraction, transformation, and loading (ETL) processes, data cleansing, validation, and ensuring data integrity during the migration process which would entail significant internal UoB resources to support.
- **Staff Training:** Transitioning to a new system would require comprehensive training for staff members to ensure they are proficient in its use. Extending the contract with WorkTribe allows us to leverage existing staff expertise and minimise the need for extensive retraining, thereby reducing overall training costs.
- **Project Managing Implementation:** Implementing a new system necessitates effective project management to ensure a smooth transition and minimise disruptions to ongoing operations. Project management costs include personnel expenses, software licenses for project management tools, and other resources required to oversee the implementation process. By extending the contract with WorkTribe, we can mitigate the need for additional project management costs, as the UoB team is already familiar with our systems and processes.

Customisation and Integration: WorkTribe's systems are customised to our specific requirements and seamlessly integrated with our existing infrastructure. Migrating to a

new system would require reconfiguring workflows, customisations, and integrations, leading to additional costs and potential compatibility issues.

Conclusion: In conclusion, extending the contract with WorkTribe is the most cost-effective and practical solution to meet our system needs. The substantial costs associated with migrating data, training staff, and project managing implementation make transitioning to a new system financially prohibitive at this time. Furthermore, maintaining our relationship with WorkTribe ensures system stability, reliability, and ongoing support tailored to our business requirements. Extending the contract with WorkTribe will sustain our operational efficiency and effectiveness in the long term.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

SC12641/24

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

20 May 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

Worktribe Ltd

Bristol

BS8 3NB

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKK - South West (England)

Companies House

04576074

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: £722,860

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

01 August 2024 to 31 July 2025: £160,418.00

01 August 2025 to 31 July 2026: £173,251.00

01 August 2026 to 31 July 2027: £187,111.00

01 August 2027 to 31 July 2028: £202,080.00

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The University of Birmingham

Birmingham

B15 2TT

Country

United Kingdom

