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Contract

## **Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Programme - Regional Supplier Contract - Cheshire**

Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-018364

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03df35

Published 13 June 2024, 3:55pm

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

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

Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

100 Parliament Street

London

SW1A 2BQ

#### **Email**

[gis-procurements@bduk.gov.uk](mailto:gis-procurements@bduk.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKI32 - Westminster

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-science-innovation-and-technology>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-science-innovation-and-technology>

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

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

General public services

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Programme - Regional Supplier Contract - Cheshire

Reference number

C0367

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 64200000 - Telecommunications services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

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

This procurement is for the award of a Regional Supplier Contract in the Cheshire region. This is part of the Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy programme.

The Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy programme is a government programme aimed to support the build of gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure in the areas of the UK which are unlikely to attract commercial investment for gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure within a reasonable timeframe, if at all, referred to as the final 20% (f20). Building Digital UK (BDUK, part of DCMS) will be targeting its market intervention in these areas of the UK via this subsidy award programme, to subsidise the build of gigabit-capable networks providing long-term, sustainable availability of wholesale gigabit broadband services in the hardest to reach parts of the UK. The Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy programme builds on the success of existing programmes being delivered by BDUK to deliver gigabit-capable networks across the UK

#### **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: £43,137,000

### **II.2) Description**

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

- 64200000 - Telecommunications services

**II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKD6 - Cheshire

Main site or place of performance

Cheshire

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

BDUK intends to award a number of Regional Supplier Contracts over the life of the Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Programme. The UK Government has confirmed that approximately £5 billion will be allocated to target the final 20% (f20), the hardest to reach parts of the UK. BDUK will be targeting its market intervention in these areas of the UK via a programme to subsidise the design, build and operation of gigabit-capable Supplier networks providing long-term, sustainable availability of wholesale gigabit broadband services in the hardest to reach parts of the UK.

The Regional Supplier Contracts are intended to be for larger numbers of premises than those covered under contracts placed under the Gigabit Infrastructure Subsidy Dynamic Purchasing System: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/013574-2021?origin=SearchResults&p=1>

The focus of the Regional Supplier Contracts is to target the build of gigabit-capable broadband infrastructure in the final 20% (f20) of the country that is not commercially viable for the market to design, build and operate without government intervention.

This procurement is for the award of Regional Supplier Contract for Cheshire. The boundary captures Flintshire, Wrexham, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Derbyshire, Greater Manchester, (Warrington, Halton and Merseyside).

This Contract concerns the delivery of a gigabit-capable network for an estimated total number of 16428 premises. BDUK intends to make available £43137000 of public funding available for this contract.

The estimated total number of premises indicated above comprises of an Initial Scope for specified premises and a deferred list of premises ("Deferred Scope") for further specified premises. The Deferred Scope will be authorised by BDUK after the contract's Effective Date in accordance with Clause 6 (Deferred Scope Authorisation) of the Regional

Supplier Contract Terms and Conditions. The number of premises in the Deferred Scope may be subject to amendment prior to authorisation, in particular as a result of further reviews of the commercial viability of the premises.

Suppliers interested in this Regional Supplier Contract should submit a completed Standard Selection Questionnaire in order to be considered to be invited to tender. All suppliers meeting the selection criteria will be invited to tender. The selection criteria are set out in the procurement documents and are available at the address described in the additional information section.

The provision of subsidy will be provided in accordance with the UK subsidy control regime.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 65

Price - Weighting: 35

#### **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

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Restricted procedure

#### **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: [2023/S 000-019231](#)

#### **IV.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice**

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

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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**

21 May 2024

#### **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**

Freedom Fibre Ltd

One St Peter's Square

Manchester

M2 3DE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD6 - Cheshire

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £43,137,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £43,137,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

Royal Courts of Justice

Strand, Holborn

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.find-court-tribunal.service.gov.uk/courts/royal-courts-of-justice>