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Contract

(NU/1433-31) Signapse Ltd: The Provision of Business Consultancy to Assist Commercialisation of University Research.

Newcastle University
Durham University
Northumbria University Newcastle
University of Sunderland
Teesside University
University of Bath on behalf of the SETsquared

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-019987

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0354bb

Published 22 July 2022, 10:52am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Newcastle University

Newcastle University, Procurement Services, Kingsgate

Newcastle

NE1 7RU

Contact

Mrs Natalie Morton

Email

natalie.morton@ncl.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1912086396

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

<https://www.ncl.ac.uk>

I.1) Name and addresses

Durham University

The Palatine Centre, Stockton Road

Email

Edwin.e.milligan@durham.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.durham.ac.uk>

I.1) Name and addresses

Northumbria University Newcastle

Newcastle

NE1 7RU

Email

Hugh.Rhodes@northumbria.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://northumbria.ac.uk>

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Sunderland

Sunderland

NE1 7RU

Email

Cheryl.Holmstrom@sunderland.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://Sunderland.ac.uk>

I.1) Name and addresses

Teesside University

Middlesbrough, Tees Valley

NE1 7RU

Email

pb487@bath.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKC - North East (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.tees.ac.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

University of Bath on behalf of the SETsquared

Claverton Down, Bath

NE1 7RU

Email

pb487@bath.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.bath.ac.uk/>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

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

(NU/1433-31) Signapse Ltd: The Provision of Business Consultancy to Assist Commercialisation of University Research.

Reference number

DN599831

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79400000 - Business and management consultancy and related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Our vision is to solve the challenge of automatic sign language translation by using Artificial Intelligence (AI). We will do this by creating an AI platform that uses neural networks and deep learning to: Provide anonymization, consistency, and reliability to sign language interpretation • Generate sign language from text/voice. • Detect and understand sign language and translate to text/voice • Develop an interactive and dynamic product Our mission is to open the world for Deaf people, meaning Deaf people can communicate freely and easily with hearing people and provide access to information where none currently exists. This will be far safer, quicker, and cheaper than the current provision, meeting the UK and the EU Governments' Green agenda. The initial brief of the executive will be to: Phase (1) Produce a viable 5-year business plan, finance strategy and pitch pack Phase (2) Act for the company in the spin-out legal process and address all company formation matters Phase (3) Create an investment strategy and bring in the first £100k. Phase (4) Get 2 use cases up and running, with support from a freelance product manager. These will be either Network Rail, Lloyds bank, Finnish or Swiss broadcast companies or ASDA.

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: £30,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Our vision is to solve the challenge of automatic sign language translation by using Artificial Intelligence (AI). We will do this by creating an AI platform that uses neural networks and deep learning to: Provide anonymization, consistency, and reliability to sign language interpretation • Generate sign language from text/voice. • Detect and understand sign language and translate to text/voice • Develop an interactive and dynamic product Our mission is to open the world for Deaf people, meaning Deaf people can communicate freely and easily with hearing people and provide access to information where none currently exists. This will be far safer, quicker, and cheaper than the current provision, meeting the UK and the EU Governments' Green agenda. The initial brief of the executive will be to: Phase (1) Produce a viable 5-year business plan, finance strategy and pitch pack Phase (2) Act for the company in the spin-out legal process and address all company formation matters Phase (3) Create an investment strategy and bring in the first £100k. Phase (4) Get 2 use cases up and running, with support from a freelance product manager. These will be either Network Rail, Lloyds bank, Finnish or Swiss broadcast companies or ASDA.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Ability to meet the required programme / Weighting: Pass/Fail

Quality criterion - Name: Quality: Ability to meet the Job Description / Weighting: Pass/Fail and Weighted 75%)

Quality criterion - Name: Formal Appointment as CEO to confirm acceptance / Weighting: Pass/Fail

Price - Weighting: 25

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 IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Restricted procedure

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

The procurement involves the setting up of a dynamic purchasing system

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: [2019/S 009-016574](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

(NU/1433-31

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

30 June 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 2

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 2

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 2

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Signapse/Sally Chalk

Cambridge, Cambridgeshire

CB12HF

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £30,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £30,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Newcastle University

Tyne and Wear

NE1 7RU

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Newcastle University

Tyne and Wear

NE1 7RU

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The University will incorporate a standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers. That notification will provide full information on the award decision. The standstill period, which will be for a minimum of 10 calendar days, provides time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into.

The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No 102) provide for aggrieved parties who

have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland) within 30 days of knowledge or constructive knowledge of breach.

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Newcastle University

Tyne and Wear

NE

Country

United Kingdom