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Planning

## **SBCD Connected Places Hub Sites Project**

Carmarthenshire County Council (Swansea Bay City Deal)

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-021618

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-035979

Published 5 August 2022, 4:41pm

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

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

Carmarthenshire County Council (Swansea Bay City Deal)

County Hall

Carmarthen

sa313py

#### **Contact**

Rebecca Llewellyn

#### **Email**

[rsllewellin@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:rsllewellin@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1267234567

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKL14 - South West Wales

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.swanseabaycitydeal.wales/projects/digital-infrastructure/>

Buyer's address

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0281](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0281)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Regional or local 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**

SBCD Connected Places Hub Sites Project

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

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

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

Services

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

Swansea Bay City Deal is a partnership led by the four regional local authorities of South West Wales, Carmarthenshire County Council, Swansea Council, Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council and Pembrokeshire County Council, together with the Swansea Bay and Hywel Dda University Health Boards, Swansea University and the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, supported by other public sector bodies in the region.

The partnership's 55m GBP Digital Infrastructure Programme is hosted by Carmarthenshire County Council. It aims to ensure that the region's business, domestic and public sector premises have competitive access to full fibre connectivity.

It aims to supplement its own funding with funding from other sources including Welsh Government, UK Government (DCMS), and inward investment from the private sector in the regions digital infrastructure.

The partnership and other public sector bodies in the region recognise that the provision of high quality, reliable high-speed connectivity is a necessity for efficient public sector delivery. They seek to future proof their network connectivity requirements over a period of 20-30 years or more through the installation of gigabit capable fibre infrastructure services.

The Digital Infrastructure Programme plans to run one or more procurements or procurement lots to identify the best value provision of those fibre infrastructure services.

This PIN concerns the pre market engagement for that procurement activity.

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

Value excluding VAT: £16,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 72720000 - Wide area network services
- 32400000 - Networks
- 32410000 - Local area network
- 32420000 - Network equipment
- 32430000 - Wide area network
- 32500000 - Telecommunications equipment and supplies
- 32510000 - Wireless telecommunications system
- 32520000 - Telecommunications cable and equipment
- 32560000 - Fibre-optic materials
- 32570000 - Communications equipment
- 32580000 - Data equipment
- 51300000 - Installation services of communications equipment
- 50330000 - Maintenance services of telecommunications equipment
- 45000000 - Construction work

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

NUTS codes

- UKL14 - South West Wales

Main site or place of performance

Please see additional information at bottom of page for a list of participating organisations

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

This PIN concerns the pre market engagement for procurements for the Swansea Bay City Deal (SBCD) Digital Infrastructure Programme.

The Digital Infrastructure Programme is hosted by Carmarthenshire County Council.

The Programme envisages that each customer will have a separate contract with the supplier, on materially the same terms. The Digital Infrastructure programme will ensure that the customer implementations are closely co-ordinated to be as similar as possible.

The 55m GBP Digital Infrastructure Programme plans to supplement its own funding with potential further funding from other sources, including other partner budgets, and government bodies including Welsh Government and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.

The SBCD partnership and other public sector bodies in the region recognise that the provision of high quality, reliable high-speed connectivity is a necessity for efficient public sector delivery. They seek to future proof their network connectivity requirements over a period of 20-30 years or more through the installation of gigabit capable fibre infrastructure services.

The Programme intends to procure the long-term use of flexible and future proofed gigabit capable fibre infrastructure services for as much of the public sector estate as possible within budget constraints. The method of providing this long-term use is not defined. For example, bidders will be free to propose an Indefeasible Right of Use, or to propose an alternative approach that provides long-term availability in a different way.

The Programme aims to procure maintained fibre infrastructure access circuits to connect around 3000 public sector locations across South West Wales. The infrastructure will be required to support dark fibre connectivity, dedicated bandwidth connectivity or shared and contended services, according to the site requirements.

The Programme intends to procure infrastructure services that will support a wide range of overlay network services, including through the existing Public Sector Broadband Aggregation programme (PSBA) and other network services arrangements. Although the procurement will focus primarily on infrastructure services, it may also procure options for internet broadband connectivity to ensure best value use of the infrastructure.

The infrastructure services will be procured over the long term, 20 to 30 years or more. It is anticipated that through the potentially large number of connected sites, economies of scale may be realised through aggregation, leading to innovative and cost-effective solutions from the market.

The Programme requires the Supplier to design, build and operate the infrastructure

services over the duration of the contract.

The Supplier may provide all elements of the solution itself or may combine commodity services and products from telecoms providers, services from subcontractors, and its own tools, services and expertise, to provide the Solution.

The Supplier will provide a service management function to proactively manage the availability of the solution to agreed service levels, and to provide prompt remedial action in the event of failure. All aspects of the service will be compliant with the relevant security, information management and regulatory requirements.

The procurement aims to allow suppliers to submit consortium bids, for example partnering with suppliers with different geographical footprints.

The procurement may take the form of a single procurement with multiple lots, or of multiple similar procurements. It is currently envisaged that the lots or procurements will be broadly defined by geographical boundary.

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

Carmarthenshire County Council

Swansea Council

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Pembrokeshire County Council

Hywel Dda University Health Board

Swansea Bay University Health Board

Swansea University

University of Wales Trinity Saint David

Dyfed Powys Police

#### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

19 September 2022

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## Section IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

A market information day will be held on Tuesday 23rd August 2022 by webinar. All potential suppliers are invited to attend, this will be an opportunity to discuss the Programme's current plans and to ask any questions.

The market information day will also provide an opportunity for 1:1 sessions with the Programme, so that commercially sensitive topics may be addressed privately. These private sessions will be conducted to the same agenda, with each organisation given equal access time to the Programme team.

Organisations wishing to attend the market information day, and/or to participate in a 1:1 session are asked to register by emailing Rebecca Llewellyn at [rsllewhellin@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:rsllewhellin@carmarthenshire.gov.uk) as early as possible. A recording of the event will be made available, including for organisations that are unable to attend the webinar.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Sell2Wales Web Site at [https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=123547](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=123547).

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