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Award

University of York VLE Assessment Tools Expansion

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-022378

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03ec2e

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Heslington

YORK

YO105DD

Contact

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Email

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Telephone

+44 1904328201

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKE21 - York

UK Register of Learning Providers (UKPRN number)

10007167

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.york.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

University of York VLE Assessment Tools Expansion

Reference number

UY PROC 942

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 48190000 - Educational software package

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The University of York is looking to extend the range, and capabilities, of its "in VLE" (BlackBoard Learn) assessment capability in the most economic way in terms of resource, solutions and cost without overlapping features of existing assessment tools; which could create alternate mechanisms in operation across faculties.

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: £240,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKE21 - York

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The University of York is looking to extend the range, and capabilities, of its "in VLE" (BlackBoard Learn) assessment capability in the most economic way in terms of resource, solutions and cost without overlapping features of existing assessment tools; which could create alternate mechanisms in operation across faculties.

The required features additional to our current estate (BlackBoard Learn/Turnitin Feedback Studio) are:

Ability to bridge the gap between handwritten (paper based) responses (either as coursework or exams) and digital marking activities, with well supported entry points for handwritten content into an online digital workflow for marking and feedback irrespective of the source of the submitted work (ie from an open coursework or a closed exam activity).

Ability to use complex technical and scientific nomenclature, formulas and equations in both questions and feedback responses. This is expected to work in concert with handwritten responses, allowing questions to be posed requiring detailed handwritten answers which can then be rendered digitally and technical responses provided digitally - using scientific formulae and equations as necessary.

Tools which can identify and direct specific questions within a response to specific markers who have responsibility for marking that specific question. Enabling a single multi-answer submission to be marked in parallel by multiple markers and then collating that information through a structured workflow so the student receives a single mark and set of feedback.

Ability to batch mark student work (primarily short answer texts) where responses are the same or similar. Being able to group or categorise responses providing a more rapid marking capability; this may utilise machine learning in order to facilitate that batching activity.

Ability to support computer code review, grading and feedback. Automation of the grading activity is also being sought in order to provide economies of scale.

The delivery model needed to align to our strategy must:

- be SaaS
- be delivered through an LTI 1.3 connection with the VLE
- production ready status with an enterprise level service.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.14) Additional information

Contract sums equate to a 4-year commitment with a growth path to extend to 24000 student users

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

No other SaaS solution is able to meet the needs of the university

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

UY PROC 942

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 August 2023

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

Turnitin LLC

2101 Webster St., Suite 1800

Oakland

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £240,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £240,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

University of York - Legal Services

York

Country

United Kingdom