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Contract

Private 5G network (P5GN) solution for the CoSTAR National Lab

ROYAL HOLLOWAY AND BEDFORD NEW COLLEGE

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-022886

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0483c8

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

ROYAL HOLLOWAY AND BEDFORD NEW COLLEGE

Egham Hill

Egham

TW20 0EX

Email

procurement@rhul.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1784917645

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI - London

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.royalholloway.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

Private 5G network (P5GN) solution for the CoSTAR National Lab

Reference number

RHUL-24080

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 32400000 - Networks

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Provision of Private 5G network (P5GN) solution for the CoSTAR National Lab

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: £1,098,201

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

Main site or place of performance

London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The University is engaging BT to provide private 5G network to 4 sites for the CoSTAR Network: at Pinewood Studios, Abertay University, Ulster University and University of York sites, plus silver package service support.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Please see Annex D / Weighting: 100

Cost criterion - Name: Please see Annex D / Weighting: 100

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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 services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The contract with BT Telecommunications for the provision of private 5G network to the CoSTAR National Lab and 3 x Network Labs is at the centre of the CoSTAR Network's ability to perform collaborative R&D, connecting CoSTAR network sites in Pinewood Studios, Abertay University, Ulster University and University of York.

The private 5G network is a core deliverable for the first 12 months of AHRC/UKRI funding, and the supplier was required to be able to provide the services nationally by Q2 of 2024. Without the ability to supply the 5G network within scope, the funding of the CoSTAR National Lab could have been affected.

The CoSTAR National Lab competition required bidders to provide commercial partners who would coinvest in the development of the lab, with a specific requirement to provide 5G network as part of the competition. During an open call available to all universities and commercial creative industries, the University negotiated partnership with BT for the 5G network as part of the bid. It is our view that if the University had not followed this approach the CoSTAR grant would have delayed and deliverables put at risk, given that the BT contract is a foundational requirement and forms an integral part of the CoSTAR National Lab delivery to the CoSTAR Network. This partnership will allow CoSTAR R&D programme to collaborate and share data.

The Negotiated Procedure Without Prior Publication has been utilised for the above reasons.

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

25 June 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

British Telecommunications plc.

1 Braham Street

London,

E1 8EE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Companies House

01800000

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: £1,098,201

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,098,201

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom