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Award

SEStran-24/25-Integrated Mobility Platform

South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-023835

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-048610

Published 30 July 2024, 4:58pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

South East of Scotland Transport Partnership (SEStran)

Area 3D (Bridge), Victoria Quay

Edinburgh

EH6 6QQ

Contact

Rebecca Smith

Email

rebecca.smith@sestran.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 7730210863

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.sestran.gov.uk

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA13442

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Transport

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

SEStran-24/25-Integrated Mobility Platform

Reference number

SEStran-24/25-01P

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

The main aims of IMPS are:

- Make it easier for every resident & visitor to the SEStran and Tactran regions to make the most of the

Transport ecosystem.

- To secure a model for long term financial sustainability by 30 September 2024.
- Support Scotland Objectives (MIF objectives but also wider national objectives)
- Make it easier for new transport modes to connect in to the transport ecosystem.

The next phase of the MaaS platform will be made available to potential other public sector partners to allow them to commission further integrations/improvements to the existing apps powered by the platform or develop new 'grey label' apps from the same platform – the Integrated Mobility Platform Scotland concept.

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: £11,625

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72232000 - Development of transaction processing and custom software
- 72250000 - System and support services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The existing SEStran and Tactran pilots provided journey planning tools that enabled the planning, booking and paying for a variety of transport services. These tools were ‘powered’ by a shared MaaS platform initially provided by Fuse Mobility, which novated its contract to Ember Technology on 19 February 2024.

SEStran and Tactran have secured additional funding to extend the present contract for a further short 3 month extension to 31 December 2024 at which point Transport Scotland should be in a position to make any decisions on the direction of a national MaaS platform, and whether this could be publicly funded.

Ending the pilot projects before a way forward has been determined for the long term could:

Seriously limit the opportunities to take forward the MaaS aspirations. If current MaaS projects stop, there will be a loss of confidence by the public, operators, and partner public sector services.

Conversely, there could also be a lost opportunity to digitally promote new transport initiatives (such as DRT, Mobility Hubs, bike hire schemes and Community Transport etc) via MaaS platforms;

Represent a significant loss of investment by all partners in getting this new and exciting technology established; and

Whilst MaaS is a growth sector, there are limited MaaS suppliers in Scotland. The lack of a continuous plan for establishing and expanding MaaS will seriously affect the confidence of suppliers to invest in the programme in Scotland. It will also present a reputational risk to those public sector partners involved.

IMPS aims to share the learnings from the Transport Scotland MIF projects, help public sector organisations understand how MaaS could help them to achieve their sustainable objectives, and to help MaaS services grow, learn and develop. We will do this by having open access to an IMPS website, offer advice on design and implementation of a MaaS app, offer the use of the existing apps, and also offer a new 'grey label' app via a financial contribution from the third party.

Tactran and Sustran propose to maintain the platform and existing interfaces and continue to make this available to the public until a time when Transport Scotland are able to consider and confirm funding for a new MaaS platform project with the intention that the contract for that project will be fully advertised in a public procurement procedure.

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

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:

The purpose of the contract award is to keep the contract running for a further 3 months as procurement is completed for the MaaS project and to ensure the service continues running whilst the new supplier is awarded contract. That short extension with a value of 11,625 GBP

(even in addition to the previous 6 month long extension with a value of 23,500 GBP) is not a “substantial” change in terms of Regulation 72(1)(e) and (8) of The Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015, because none of the following apply to this particular extension/modification:

“(a) the modification renders the contract or the framework agreement materially different in character from the one initially concluded;

(b) the modification introduces conditions which, had they been part of the initial procurement procedure, would have—

(i) allowed for the admission of candidates other than those initially selected;

(ii) allowed for the acceptance of a tender other than that originally accepted; or

(iii) attracted additional participants in the procurement procedure;

(c) the modification changes the economic balance of the contract or the framework agreement in favour of the contractor in a manner which was not provided for in the initial contract or framework agreement;

(d) the modification extends the scope of the contract or framework agreement considerably; or

(e) a new contractor replaces one to which the contracting authority had initially awarded the contract or framework in cases other than those provided for in paragraph (1)(d).”

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

23 July 2024

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

Ember Technology Ltd

8 Pentland House

Glenrothes

KY6 2AH

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKM - Scotland

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £11,625

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

None

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=773863.

(SC Ref:773863)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LA

Country

United Kingdom