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Contract

## **International Student Conversion including Admissions Support**

University of Ulster

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-024013

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03ce66

Published 16 August 2023, 11:52am

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

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

University of Ulster

Block X Room X031, Cromore Road

Coleraine

BT52 1SA

#### **Email**

[cs.houston@ulster.ac.uk](mailto:cs.houston@ulster.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2870123132

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKN - Northern Ireland

**National registration number**

NIC100166

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.ulster.ac.uk](http://www.ulster.ac.uk)

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

International Student Conversion including Admissions Support

Reference number

project\_27572

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80300000 - Higher education services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

International Student Conversion including Admissions Support

### **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: £900,000

## **II.2) Description**

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

- 79411100 - Business development consultancy services
- 79500000 - Office-support services
- 79512000 - Call centre

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

The University is seeking to establish a contract with a Contractor for the provision of conversion services including admission support and processing for prospective international students at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels. The Contractor shall engage with and support prospective students, applicants and offer holders via targeted, personalised communications to optimise conversion at each stage of the potential student's application journey.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Methodology for Implementation and Service Delivery / Weighting: 21

Quality criterion - Name: Management and Reporting / Weighting: 8.4

Quality criterion - Name: Contract Management / Weighting: 8.4

Quality criterion - Name: Offer Conversion / Weighting: 14

Quality criterion - Name: Admissions Support and Processing / Weighting: 14

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 4.2

Price - Weighting: 30

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be for two (2) years initially, with an option to extend for any periods up to and including twenty-four (24) months.

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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

The estimated total value stated above in Section II.1.7 includes the initial 2-year contract period and the option to extend the contract for any periods up to and including 24 months.

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **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: [2023/S 000-014550](#)

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## **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**

1 August 2023

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 2

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

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Uni-Quest Ltd

77 Sidney Street

Sheffield

S1 4RG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £900,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £900,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

It is anticipated the contract will commence on 1 August 2023.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

High Court of Justice in Northern Ireland

Royal Courts of Justice, Chichester Street

Belfast

BT1 3JY

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The University incorporated a minimum 10 calendar days standstill period at the point information on award of the contract was communicated to all tenderers. The standstill period provided time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract was entered into. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 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 (Northern Ireland).