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Award

## **TRN 23-007 - Vehicle Maintenance - Belfast Region (DAC)**

Education Authority

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-024389

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03f554

Published 18 August 2023, 3:45pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

Education Authority

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

#### **Email**

[transport.procure@eani.org.uk](mailto:transport.procure@eani.org.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

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

Regional or local authority

#### **I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

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

#### **II.1.1) Title**

TRN 23-007 - Vehicle Maintenance - Belfast Region (DAC)

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

- 50000000 - Repair and maintenance services

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

Services

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

Maintenance and Repair of EA Vehicles in the Belfast Region.

#### **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: £302,280

### **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

The purpose of this contract is to provide Vehicle Maintenance and Repair of EA vehicles in the Belfast Area. EA Transport has a statutory duty to provide Transport Assistance to eligible pupils. EA buses in the Belfast area provide transport for SEN pupils only. Due to the specialist nature of SEN Transport, a lack of suitable alternatives for transport provision it is essential that the Belfast fleet is maintained to ensure operational safety and reliability.

### **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

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- No tenders or no suitable tenders/requests to participate in response to open procedure

Explanation:

The EA Fleet Service is committed to ensuring, as far as reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of children and young people using EA Home to School Transport. Vehicle condition, roadworthiness and reliability is paramount to this. The EA holds a Bus Operator Licence and has an obligation to ensure that the vehicles are always maintained at PSV standard, receive 12 weekly safety inspections, and have an ongoing defect repair facility available.

A Regional Vehicle Maintenance tender was published in June 2023 to outsource some of

the EA vehicle maintenance requirements which included the Belfast Area. Despite an extensive premarket engagement exercise that resulted in 29 Economic Operators expressing a formal interest in the tender competition, the Regional Vehicle Maintenance tender did not return any successful bids for the Belfast region leaving the Fleet Service with no vehicle maintenance provision for the Belfast region after 1st August 2023. A Direct Award Contract is considered appropriate as no suitable submissions were received in response to the Regional Vehicle Maintenance tender – TRN-22-002- for the Belfast region. Direct Award Contracts can be entered into, where no suitable tenders, have been submitted in response to a tender procedure.

This requirement meets the conditions of Regulation 32 (c) of The Public Contracts Regulations 2015, namely the following condition has been fulfilled:

Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication

32.—(1) In the specific cases and circumstances laid down in this regulation, contracting authorities may award public contracts by a negotiated procedure without prior publication.

General grounds

(2) The negotiated procedure without prior publication may be used for public works contracts, public supply contracts and public service contracts in any of the following cases:—

(a) where no tenders, no suitable tenders, no requests to participate or no suitable requests to participate have been submitted in response to an open procedure or a restricted procedure, provided that the initial conditions of the contract are not substantially altered and that a report is sent to the Commission where it so requests;

#### **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 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**

8 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**

Rockmount Vehicle Maintenance

607 Antrim Rd, Newtownabbey

Belfast

BT36 4RF

Email

[rvm.enquiries@rockmountvm.com](mailto:rvm.enquiries@rockmountvm.com)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

<https://www.ballyvesey.com/rockmount-vehicle-maintenance-2/>

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: £302,280

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

The Education Authority

Armagh

Country

United Kingdom