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Contract

## **NRWAS Water Purification System - Service & Maintenance Contract**

Natural Resources Wales

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-024644

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0469fe

Published 6 August 2024, 11:35am

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

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

Natural Resources Wales

Maes Y Ffynnon

Bangor

LL57 2DW

#### **Contact**

Naomi Hammond

#### **Email**

[naomi.hammond@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk](mailto:naomi.hammond@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 03000653574

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKL - Wales

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Environment

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

NRWAS Water Purification System - Service & Maintenance Contract

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

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

The contract involves the supply of consumables, provision of maintenance services (including diagnostics, Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM), and fault fixing), and the purchase of two additional water purification stations to integrate with the current system and maintenance contract.

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

#### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Lowest offer: £152,615 / Highest offer: £212,001 taken into consideration

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

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

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

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

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

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

Natural Resources Wales Analytical Services (NRWAS) at Swansea University is an analytical laboratory testing samples taken from sites across Wales. NRWAS provide high quality environmental testing and analysis by professional and experienced staff operating to the highest industry standard; accredited by UKAS, the national accreditation body for the United Kingdom to ISO/IEC 17025:2005. The analysis conducted at NRWAS is Inorganic chemistry, Metals analysis, Organic chemistry, and Microbiological analysis. The testing is conducted as part of the Welsh Government's statutory obligations set out in the European Union's Water Framework Directive (WFD); specifically achieving prescribed environmental quality standards listed in Directives 2008/105/EC, 2013/39 and 2015/495.

De-ionised and ultrapure water is essential in analytical laboratories. Purification removes contaminants that may interfere with testing processes. Purified water is used in many ways in water quality testing laboratories for instance to make analytical reagents, to rinse glassware and to make agar for microbiological applications. NRW Analytical Services requires ultrapure water for testing water quality samples collected by NRW.

The specialised water purification system procured by NRWAS in 2020 for their laboratory at Swansea University, was supplied by Merck Life Science and is currently serviced and maintained by the supplier. The service contract was included as part of the procurement of the new system which has now expired. This procurement is for a support and maintenance contract for the existing water purification system for the next 4 years.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Core Service and Maintenance approach / Weighting: 25

Quality criterion - Name: Fault reporting and breakdown response / Weighting: 20

Quality criterion - Name: Quality Management, Health and Safety, Engineer competency / Weighting: 17.5

Quality criterion - Name: Reliability, Value and Contract Management / Weighting: 17.5

Quality criterion - Name: Support for Operational Expansion and Changes in Demand / Weighting: 10

Quality criterion - Name: Environmental Credentials and Sustainability / Weighting: 10

Price - Weighting: 40

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract includes the option to purchase two Milli-Q additional water purification stations to support the expansion of our operations. These new stations will be fully integrated with our existing system and covered under the same maintenance contract.

#### **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

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:

A Speculative Notice, with requests for Expression of Interest (EOI), was posted in November to publicise this opportunity. We received two responses, one from the existing supplier and one from a company deemed unsuitable for the work. As the manufacturer and incumbent supplier, Merck Life Science Ltd, is uniquely positioned to supply the necessary consumables at a competitive rate and has the expertise to run diagnostics and undertake the Planned Preventative Maintenance (PPM) and fault fixing. Additionally, the manufacturer can integrate two new purification stations with our current system and maintenance contract, ensuring consistency and reliability in our operations.

#### 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: [2024/S 000-016314](#)

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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

20 June 2024

#### V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 0

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

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

Merck Life Science UK Limited

The Old Brickyard, New Road

Gillingham

SP84XT

Telephone

+44 0800717181

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Lowest offer: £152,615 / Highest offer: £212,001 taken into consideration

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

(WA Ref:143580)

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

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

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom