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Award

Mainframe Support Services

Met Office

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-025768

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-048ac3

Published 14 August 2024, 11:47am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Met Office

Fitzroy Road

EXETER

EX13PB

Contact

David Golledge

Email

david.golledge@metoffice.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK43 - Devon CC

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

National or federal Agency/Office

I.5) Main activity

Environment

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Mainframe Support Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 50000000 - Repair and maintenance services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Support service for existing IBM mainframes and associated operating systems and the overall environment. The requirement includes a technical knowledge transfer before the end of September, on-going support, 24x7 support and ad hoc work such as completing an enterprise storage refresh, carrying out a planned upgrade to the z/VM mainframe and other works.

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: £416,075

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

Main site or place of performance

Met Office

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Support service for existing IBM mainframes and associated operating systems and the overall environment. The requirement includes a technical knowledge transfer before the end of September, on-going support, 24x7 support and ad hoc work such as completing an enterprise storage refresh, carrying out a planned upgrade to the z/VM mainframe and other works.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- Extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable for the contracting authority

Explanation:

The primary driver behind the urgency to put the support service in place is the premature and unforeseen departure of key technical resources within Met Office that will effectively leave existing IBM mainframes without support and expose the Met Office to significant operational risk. For the z/OS mainframe this would mean a stop to the critical services/products issued from the Product and Commercial suites where currently the key technical resources are needed to manually generate products on a daily basis for systems and internal/external customers. For the z/VM mainframe the impact would be on important internal systems and services such as WAVE/Ripple, Decoupler, the Cloud Transfer Service (CTS), as well as other services.

An immediate urgent need is for knowledge transfer from the current support resource who is scheduled to leave in early October 2024 and the selected provider. If Met Office is unable to proceed this opportunity will be lost and critical technical knowledge will be lost to the Met Office and the 3rd party support provider.

The Met Office undertook market discussions with a number of providers and concluded that the market for supporting the full scope of Met Office requirements for this support service is niche. Only the selected provider was able to evidence a sufficient depth of technical knowledge, experience and resource capacity to fully meet the Met Office requirements in the timescales needed.

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

Title

Mainframe Support Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

14 August 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

Vertali Limited

Unit 13 The Courtyard, Buntsford Drive

Bromsgrove

B60 3DJ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Companies House

08662195

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £416,075

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £416,075

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

London

Country

United Kingdom