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Award

## **UKHSA\_Scientific- Provision of a DNA Synthesiser**

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-025910

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-048b17

Published 15 August 2024, 10:10am

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

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

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency

10 South Colonnade

London

E14 4PU

#### **Contact**

Commercial Operations

#### **Email**

[science.tendering@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:science.tendering@ukhsa.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

## **Region code**

UKI42 - Tower Hamlets

## **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-health-security-agency>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-health-security-agency>

## **I.6) Main activity**

Other activity

Health

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

UKHSA\_Scientific- Provision of a DNA Synthesiser

Reference number

C234239

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

- 38000000 - Laboratory, optical and precision equipments (excl. glasses)

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

Supplies

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

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) requires the provision of a DNA Synthesiser for use in its Diagnostic Evaluations and Innovations team laboratories. The team requires the

provision of a laboratory-based easy- to-use DNA synthesizer, consumables and maintenance services which will allow for on-demand synthesis of custom DNA oligos, suitable for use in real-time qPCR applications, sequencing and for gene-synthesis use. These ready-to-use oligos will be used in a range of molecular biology and genomics applications, capable of producing modified oligos with fluorophores, quenchers, and biotin.

These oligos will be used to support UKHSA outbreak response activities. They will be required for the evaluation of diagnostic assays, to assure rapid assay development, particularly for high consequence pathogens.

UKHSA is planning to award a contract to DNA Script, Inc. for the DNA synthesiser, associated maintenance and consumables as we believe that they are the only supplier capable of meeting our technical requirements.

#### **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: 590,100 EUR

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKK15 - Wiltshire CC

Main site or place of performance

UKHSA Porton Down

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

UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) requires the provision of a DNA Synthesiser for use in its Diagnostic Evaluations and Innovations team laboratories. The team requires the provision of a laboratory-based easy- to-use DNA synthesizer, consumables and maintenance services which will allow for on-demand synthesis of custom DNA oligos, suitable for use in real-time qPCR applications, sequencing and for gene-synthesis use. These ready-to-use oligos will be used in a range of molecular biology and genomics applications, capable of producing modified oligos with fluorophores, quenchers, and biotin.

These oligos will be used to support UKHSA outbreak response activities. They will be required for the evaluation of diagnostic assays, to assure rapid assay development,

particularly for high consequence pathogens.

UKHSA is planning to award a contract to DNA Script, Inc. for the DNA synthesiser, associated maintenance and consumables as we believe that they are the only supplier capable of meeting our technical requirements.

The DNA synthesiser needs to be able to meet below requirements.

- 15–120 nt de novo synthesis of oligos (A, T, G, and C)
- Synthesize labelled and unlabelled oligos
- Enzymatic synthesis so no harsh organic solvents
- Produces ready-to-use oligos for molecular biology and genomics applications
- Capability to produce single or dual labelled qPCR probes (fluorophores & quenchers) compatible with FAM, HEX and CY5 channels
- Flexibility for up to 96 oligos per run
- Parallel synthesis in 96-well plates
- Short set up time ( 250 pmol
- Capacity for 384 well plate production of oligos

As part of our pre-procurement market engagement, we sent a request for information to our National Microbiology Framework Lot 1 suppliers (over 130 suppliers). None of the suppliers were able to meet our requirements.

As the laboratories' requirements are very specialised, we believe that only the SYNTAX STX-200 SYSTEM from DNA Script is capable of performing the work carried out by the laboratory.

If you feel that you have a solution which could meet our requirements, please email [science.tendering@ukhsa.gov.uk](mailto:science.tendering@ukhsa.gov.uk) by no later than 5pm on 29th August 2024 with more information about your proposed solution.

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

Price

## **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**

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:

UKHSA is planning to award a contract to DNA Script, Inc. for the DNA synthesiser, associated maintenance and consumables as we believe that they are the only supplier capable of meeting our technical requirements.

As part of our pre-procurement market engagement, we sent a request for information to our National Microbiology Framework Lot 1 suppliers (over 130 suppliers). None of the suppliers were able to meet our requirements.

As the laboratories' requirements are very specialised, we believe that only the SYNTAX STX-200 SYSTEM from DNA Script is capable of performing the work carried out by the laboratory.

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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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**

13 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**

DNA Script, Inc.

2001 Junipero Serra Blvd Suite 400 Daly City, CA 94014 USA

Daly City

94014

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: 590,100 EUR

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: 590,100 EUR

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

High Court

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

High Court

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

#### **VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

High Court

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>