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Contract

NIHR Office for Clinical Research Infrastructure (NOCRI)

Department of Health and Social Care

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-026212

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-048bc9

Published 16 August 2024, 4:23pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Health and Social Care

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Contact

Natasha Boreham

Email

natasha.boreham@dhsc.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI32 - Westminster

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

NIHR Office for Clinical Research Infrastructure (NOCRI)

Reference number

C0292

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 75120000 - Administrative services of agencies

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 98113000 - Services furnished by specialist organisations

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement at the time of conclusion of the contract:

- The NIHR provides a health research system in which the NHS supports outstanding individuals working in world class facilities, conducting leading-edge research focused on the needs of patients and the public. The NIHR works in partnership with many sectors including the public and service users, the NHS, public health, other Government funders, the academic and third sectors and industry.

- The NIHR Office for Clinical Research Infrastructure (NOCRI) aims to maximise the Department of Health's substantial investment in clinical research infrastructure and help other research funders, such as industry and charities, to navigate this infrastructure by:

- o facilitating collaborations between NIHR-funded infrastructure and funders of research, including industry and charities, prioritising those of greatest significance to the health and wealth of the nation;

- o promoting and enhancing the nation's reputation as a world-class centre for early translation (experimental medicine), clinical and applied clinical research, as well as supporting how the NIHR contributes to broader economic growth, including through working with other government departments and functions such as UKTI;

- o maximising the impact of the NIHR as a whole, by contributing or leading work to shorten the time it takes to develop new therapies and medical technologies;

- o managing the NIHR Translational Research Partnerships and Collaborations
 - o provide oversight of operation of the UK CRF Network;

- o facilitating NIHR Translational Research Collaborations created to enhance translation into patient benefit and collaboration across the NIHR research infrastructure – currently there is a Collaboration in Dementia and one in rare Diseases, with the potential of others being created at the direction of the DH. NOCRI supports opportunities where collaborations bring added value and overcome disease and technical challenges;

- o providing analyses, intelligence and information on NIHR research infrastructure portfolios to facilitate collaborations including with other public, industry and charity research funders;

- o providing information and intelligence and support as required for meeting information and briefing requests, responding to parliamentary questions and other requests for information as required;

- o providing seamless and rapid links to the NIHR's Clinical Research Network to ensure efficient and effective delivery of appropriate research studies;

- o strengthening enduring relationships between the NIHR and NIHR research infrastructure with biotech, medtech and pharma companies and contract research

organisations, charities and other public research funders;

o acting as a unique resource for the global life sciences industry - sign post to and improve the quality, efficiency and success of translational research. NOCRI will help companies of all sizes work with the right people within the NIHR infrastructure and makes it easy for infrastructure and industry to work together.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Start date

1 April 2018

End date

31 March 2025

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years

N/A

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Contract award notice concerning this contract

Notice number: [2017/S 123-249984](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

2016/S 208-376509

Lot No

3

Title

NIHR Office for Clinical Research Infrastructure (NOCRI)

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract/concession award decision:

18 May 2017

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

LGC LIMITED

Queens Road, Teddington, Middlesex

Teddington

TW11 0LY

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

02991879

Internet address

<http://www.lgcstandards.com/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (at the time of conclusion of the contract;excluding VAT)

Total value of the procurement: £12,045,698.99

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Department intends to re-tender the services at the end of the contract term. The Prior Information Notice can be found here <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/025178-2024>

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession

VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications

VII.1.1) Main CPV code

- 75120000 - Administrative services of agencies

VII.1.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 98113000 - Services furnished by specialist organisations

VII.1.3) Place of performance

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

United Kingdom

VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:

- The NIHR provides a health research system in which the NHS supports outstanding individuals working in world class facilities, conducting leading-edge research focused on the needs of patients and the public. The NIHR works in partnership with many sectors including the public and service users, the NHS, public health, other Government funders, the academic and third sectors and industry.

- The NIHR Office for Clinical Research Infrastructure (NOCRI) aims to maximise the Department of Health's substantial investment in clinical research infrastructure and help other research funders, such as industry and charities, to navigate this infrastructure by:

o facilitating collaborations between NIHR-funded infrastructure and funders of research, including industry and charities, prioritising those of greatest significance to the health and wealth of the nation;

o promoting and enhancing the nation's reputation as a world-class centre for early translation (experimental medicine), clinical and applied clinical research, as well as supporting how the NIHR contributes to broader economic growth, including through working with other government departments and functions such as UKTI;

o maximising the impact of the NIHR as a whole, by contributing or leading work to shorten the time it takes to develop new therapies and medical technologies;

- o managing the NIHR Translational Research Partnerships and Collaborations
- o provide oversight of operation of the UK CRF Network;
- o facilitating NIHR Translational Research Collaborations created to enhance translation into patient benefit and collaboration across the NIHR research infrastructure – currently there is a Collaboration in Dementia and one in rare Diseases, with the potential of others being created at the direction of the DH. NOCRI supports opportunities where collaborations bring added value and overcome disease and technical challenges;
- o providing analyses, intelligence and information on NIHR research infrastructure portfolios to facilitate collaborations including with other public, industry and charity research funders;
- o providing information and intelligence and support as required for meeting information and briefing requests, responding to parliamentary questions and other requests for information as required;
- o providing seamless and rapid links to the NIHR's Clinical Research Network to ensure efficient and effective delivery of appropriate research studies;
- o strengthening enduring relationships between the NIHR and NIHR research infrastructure with biotech, medtech and pharma companies and contract research organisations, charities and other public research funders;
- o acting as a unique resource for the global life sciences industry - sign post to and improve the quality, efficiency and success of translational research. NOCRI will help companies of all sizes work with the right people within the NIHR infrastructure and makes it easy for infrastructure and industry to work together.

VII.1.5) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Start date

1 April 2018

End date

31 March 2027

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

A 5-year initial term and an option to extend for 4 years due to need for stability and continuity of services.

VII.1.6) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£12,436,417

VII.1.7) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

LGC LIMITED

Queens Road, Teddington, Middlesex

Teddington

TW11 0LY

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

02991879

Internet address

<http://www.lgcstandards.com/>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

VII.2) Information about modifications

VII.2.1) Description of the modifications

Nature and extent of the modifications (with indication of possible earlier changes to the contract):

This modification extends the existing NOCRI contract from 31st March 2025 by 2 years to 31st March 2027.

This modification does not change NOCRI's existing core functions to provide identification, prioritisation, research commissioning and management facilities.

Previous changes to the contract have been made, bringing the current contract value to 9,543,169 GBP (this value excludes this 2-year extension modification.)

VII.2.2) Reasons for modification

Need for additional works, services or supplies by the original contractor/concessionaire.

Description of the economic or technical reasons and the inconvenience or duplication of cost preventing a change of contractor:

The Authority believes that the modification was permitted under Regulation 72(1)(b) of the PCR 2015 (SI 102) due to the following reasons:

- a) the modification was necessary to utilise the option to extend for the final 2 years of the 4-year extension term as permitted in the Contract Award Notice.
- b) a change of contractor could not have been made for economic or technical reasons as such additional services required highly specialised, health and care research management expertise, reliance on extensive, established stakeholder relationships and an up-to-date working knowledge of NIHR strategy, policies and systems
- c) a change of contractor would have caused significant inconvenience and substantial duplication of costs as a result of:
 - i) the fragmentation and duplication of existing NIHR research programmes;
 - ii) significant, increased contractual management costs
 - iii) significantly higher admin costs

VII.2.3) Increase in price

Updated total contract value before the modifications (taking into account possible earlier contract modifications, price adaptations and average inflation)

Value excluding VAT: £9,543,169

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £12,436,417