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Award

## **ASH In-Service Support**

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-026787

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-036b3a

Published 23 September 2022, 6:59pm

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

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

Ministry of Defence

Rowan Oc #8207, MoD Abbeywood, Bristol, BS34 8JH

Bristol

BS34 8JH

#### **Contact**

Maia Harris

#### **Email**

[maia.harris135@mod.gov.uk](mailto:maia.harris135@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 3001585583

**Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKK11 - Bristol, City of

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://des.mod.uk/>

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Defence

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

ASH In-Service Support

Reference number

703980455

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

- 72300000 - Data services

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

Services

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

This Contract is for the In-Service Support of ASH which is a repository for safety critical information on unexploded ordnance (UXO) for use in the support of the Armed Services of the United Kingdom, in the rendering safe and disposal of UXO worldwide.

#### **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: £2,200,000

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

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

- 48731000 - File security software package
- 48732000 - Data security software package

- 48750000 - Storage media loading software package
- 48771000 - General utility software package
- 48781000 - System management software package
- 48782000 - Storage management software package
- 48783000 - Content management software package

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

This Contract is for the In-Service Support of ASH which is a repository for safety critical information on unexploded ordinance (UXO) for use in the support of the Armed Services of the United Kingdom, in the rendering safe and disposal of UXO worldwide.

### **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**

Negotiated procedure without publication of a contract notice

- The products involved are manufactured purely for the purpose of research, experiment, study or development
- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
  - absence of competition for technical reasons

#### Explanation:

The Specialist Explosive Ordnance Disposal & Search (EOD&S), Exploitation & Countermeasures (“SEEC”) Delivery Team, part of Defence Equipment & Support (“DE&S”) within the UK Ministry of Defence (“MoD”), intends to award a three-and-a-half-year contract to DXC Technology (“DXC”) for the In-Service Support of Command & Control Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) Identification System, named “ASH”, with an estimated contract value of £2m. ASH is a repository for safety critical information on UXO for use in the support of the Armed Services of the United Kingdom, in the rendering safe and disposal of unexploded ordnance (UXO) worldwide. The requirement for ASH is OFFICIAL SENSITIVE but the physical computer-based system and its incorporated information operates at SECRET UK EYES ONLY. It is considered that this contract shall be placed using the regulation 16(1)(a)(ii) of the Defence and Security Public Contract Regulations (DSPCR) 2011 for technical reasons as when, for technical reasons, the contract may be awarded only to a particular economic operator.

It is impractical to contract for this work with any supplier other than DXC, who have managed the in-service support of ASH since its introduction to service in 1996. As the Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) and as the designers and developers of the electronic architecture that underpins the system, DXC have a unique technical know-how and understanding of the electronic architecture that underpins the system. Contracting with a third party to undertake support to this requirement would introduce an unacceptable level of technical risk that will negatively impact the successful delivery of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Military Aid to Civilian Authorities (MACA) and Contingent Operations. DXC are the only suppliers with the technical expertise to deliver the ASH system to the required technical specification to the satisfaction of the Authority.

The Authority is in the early stages of understanding the scope for a replacement capability beyond the ASH Out of Service Date (OSD) of 31 March 2026. Further information on that requirement shall be issued in due course.

#### **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**

### **Contract No**

703980455

### **Title**

ASH In-Service Support

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

23 September 2022

#### **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**

DXC Technology

7 Bartley Wood Business Park, Bartley Way

Hook

RG27 9XA

Email

[Nigel.Bailey@dxc.com](mailto:Nigel.Bailey@dxc.com)

Telephone

+44 7710926027

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://dxc.com/uk/en>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,200,000

#### **V.2.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.4) Procedures for review

#### VI.4.1) Review body

Specialist Explosive Ordnance Disposal & Search (EOD&S), Exploitation & Countermeasures (SEEC)

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Bristol

BS348JH

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