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Contract

The Provision of a BT Exchange Space & Power

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-026858

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-031c95

Published 26 September 2022, 1:21pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

GMCA Offices, 1st Floor, Churchgate House, 56 Oxford Street

Manchester

M1 6EU

Email

procurement@manchesterfire.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

The Provision of a BT Exchange Space & Power

Reference number

DN598406

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

When Greater Manchester's Digital Blueprint was launched in February 2020 it included a specific ambition to Extend Our World Class Digital Infrastructure as a cross cutting enabler to underpin the city regions economic and social ambitions.

A key element of this has been the GM Local Full Fibre Network (LFFN) "anchor tenancy" programme that is in the final stages of laying up to 2,700km of new fibre infrastructure across Greater Manchester leveraging DCMS funding plus investment from GMCA(FRS),

TFGM and seven of the councils. This work will be complete by early 2022/23 and will connect approx. 1,600 public sites drive fibre into new areas of Greater Manchester.

‘Lighting’ the fibre is the next step, each of the public sector organisations that are part of the LFFN anchor tenancy programmes operate their own networks. Recognising that LFFN is providing a shared fibre infrastructure, in 2020 several of the partners considered the option for jointly procuring network services across the fibre infrastructure for their own organisational needs and to take advantage of the economies of scale.

A set of options were considered and it was agreed to collaboratively light the fibre with other LFFN partners giving high speed gigabit access to the GM region and all public sector bodies, by implementing a next generation, software-defined, integrated gigabit network.

Early in 2021 Bury, Oldham and Rochdale and Stockport Councils plus TFGM and GMCA(FRS) went to market to select a partner to design, build and operate the GM One Network via a competitive dialogue process. A preferred supplier was selected in December and GMCA are working with the preferred supplier with a view to signing contracts and commencing the project early in April.

The core network will be a segment routed network transport that that will be delivered on top of the LFFN network covering 33 BT exchanges around the Greater Manchester region.

- Each exchange will have a Cisco NCS-57C3-MOD platform providing the core Segment Routing and P/PE functionality for GM One. The platform is routed optical networking (RON) ready and can be expanded to provide FSN to FSN speeds of 400Gbps.
- The Cisco N540X-6Z18G-D will provide access aggregation for exchanges with a higher density of partner site connections.

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: £1,613,455.99

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Virgin Media Business are in the process of installing Fibre to connect circa 1600 sites across Greater Manchester. GMCA have recently selected a Supplier to “light” the fibre and provide a GM Wide Network Platform connected the GMCA/FRS, TfGM, Bury Council, Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Stockport Council sites.

GMCA's Supplier will be providing and installing Cisco Networking equipment in each of the BT Exchange sites to create a Core Network between the BT Exchange site and terminate the fibres connected the GMCA/FRS, TfGM, Bury Council, Oldham Council, Rochdale Council and Stockport Council sites.

GMCA require a Partner to provide space and power in 33 BT Exchange sites to house Cisco Networking equipment as detailed in the table below and provide fibre connectivity from the Virgin fibre to the Cisco Network equipment.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Technical Capacity / Weighting: 45

Price - Weighting: 55

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2022/S 000-005625](#)

IV.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

GMCA 446 BT Exchange Space & Power

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

27 June 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

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: 2

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Virgin Media Business

500 Brook Drive

Reading

RG2 6UU

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

www.virginmediabusiness.co.uk

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,613,455.99

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland)

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom