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Award

Fully Funded Data and Digital Skills Assessment and Development Programme

North Hertfordshire District Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-027270

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04959e

Published 27 August 2024, 12:48pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

North Hertfordshire District Council

Council Offices, Gernon Road

LETCHWORTH

SG63JF

Contact

Procurement Team

Email

procurement.team@north-herts.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1462474000

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH - East of England

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.north-herts.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

Fully Funded Data and Digital Skills Assessment and Development Programme

Reference number

NHDC0130121

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80510000 - Specialist training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

North Herts Council intends to award a contract directly to Multiverse for a fully funded data and digital skills development programme.

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: £990,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH - East of England

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

North Herts Council intends to directly award a contract to Multiverse for the provision of a fully funded skills assessment and development programme aimed at enhancing the digital and data skills of its staff.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

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:

North Hertfordshire District Council ('the Council') intends to directly award a contract to

Multiverse for the provision of a fully funded skills assessment and development programme aimed at enhancing the digital and data skills of its staff. The contract, which is estimated to have an intrinsic value as both parties receive a benefit, reflects the worth of the services provided, even though there is no direct financial cost to the Council. Although the Council incurs no direct cost, the intrinsic value of the contract exceeds the thresholds established by the World Trade Organisation's Government Procurement Agreement (GPA). Accordingly, the Council is publishing this Voluntary Transparency Notice in compliance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Council will observe a 10-day standstill period following the publication of this notice before finalising the contract, allowing any interested parties to raise objections or seek further clarification.

Justification for Direct Award:

This contract will be awarded without prior publication of a call for competition under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 due to technical reasons:

1. Unique Provider Capabilities: Multiverse is the only supplier capable of delivering a fully funded, scalable digital and data skills development programme, specifically tailored to meet the Council's needs, without requiring direct financial expenditure. This value is derived from the use of unspent and donated apprenticeship levies, a unique feature that no other provider can offer.
2. Regulatory and Quality Assurance: Multiverse is the sole provider regulated by Ofsted and rated as outstanding in all areas, ensuring the highest standard of training in line with the Council's digital strategy.
3. Lack of Alternatives: Market analysis confirms that no other supplier can provide the same combination of services, funding model, and scale required by the Council.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

NHDC0130121

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

Multiverse

2 Eastbourne Terrace, 5th And 6th Floors

London

W2 6LG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Companies House

10027474

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: £990,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £990,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Legal

North Hertfordshire District Council, Council Offices, Gernon Road

Letchworth Garden City

SG6 3JF

Country

United Kingdom