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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](mailto: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

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**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

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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:

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

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## **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

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## **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