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Award

Specialist recruitment company for Finance Transformation Project

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-027824

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0372c1

Published 4 October 2022, 12:26pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Room G010, John Owens Building, Oxford Road

MANCHESTER

M139PL

Email

procurement@manchester.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1612758857

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD33 - Manchester

UK Register of Learning Providers (UKPRN number)

UKPRN10007798

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.procurement.manchester.ac.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/manchesteruniversity/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Specialist recruitment company for Finance Transformation Project

Reference number

2022/1953/CTR Partner/JL

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79600000 - Recruitment services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Specialist recruitment company for Finance Transformation Project.

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: £800,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD3 - Greater Manchester

Main site or place of performance

The University of Manchester

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Specialist recruitment company for Finance Transformation Project.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the

following reason:

- absence of competition for technical reasons
- Extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable for the contracting authority

Explanation:

Following the pandemic, 2022 has seen unprecedented demand for IT Contractors across the UK. So much so, that 2 stage interviews, or delays in offering positions, would invariably result in the contractor taking an offer elsewhere. Back in May 2022 ERP specialist resources were extremely difficult to find and even more so in the Northwest, as the London markets were saturated with opportunities.

University of Manchester (UoM) are implementing a critical time dependant, large and complex ERP solution which is an on-premise solution. Enquiries to the University's contracted agencies proved very challenging as the message was consistent from all:-

- It may take some time to fill this position as the demand is at an all-time high.
- All ERP contractors known to the agency were already in contract
- Contractors preferred to work on cloud-based solutions.
- Manchester was either too far to travel or they wanted to work from home

UoM had no choice but to widen the search for specialist resources to non-contracted providers, that had immediately available and contractors willing to travel to Manchester. Using several specialist ERP search and selection recruiters that are recognised as the leading agencies for top tier ERP solutions, UoM identified several candidates which were available or coming available within 2 weeks that lived in or around Manchester.

The chosen company, CTR Partners, have subsequently been able to recruit to additional hard to recruit roles that contracted providers have not been able to fill and it is our intention to retain the services of this provider for the duration of the Finance Transformation Project (October 2023).

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

2022/1953/CTR Partner/JL

Title

Specialist recruitment company for Finance Transformation Project.

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

4 October 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

CTR PARTNERS LIMITED

Lafone House, The Leather Market, Weston Street,

London

SE13ER

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Companies House

11065487

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £800,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court of Justice of England

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<http://www.procurement.manchester.ac.uk/>

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The authority will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar days standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers. Applicants who are unsuccessful shall be informed by the authority as soon as possible after the decision has been made as to the reasons why the applicant was unsuccessful. If an appeal regarding the award of the contract has not been successfully resolved, the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015 No 102) provide for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland). Any such action must generally be brought within 3 months. If a declaration of ineffectiveness is sought, any such action must be brought within 30 days where the authority has communicated the award of the contract and summary of reasons to tenderers or otherwise within 6 months of the contract being entered into. Where a contract has not been entered into, the Court may order the setting aside of the award decision or order the authority to amend any document and may award damages. If the contract has been entered into the Court may, depending on the circumstances, award damages, make a declaration of ineffectiveness, order the authority to pay a fine and/or order the duration of the contract to be shortened. The purpose of the standstill period referred to is to allow the parties to apply to the Courts to set aside the award decision before the contract is entered into.