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Contract

Security Operations Centre

Essex County Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-028581

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0498b7

Published 6 September 2024, 11:33am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Essex County Council

COUNTY HALL

CHELMSFORD

CM11QH

Contact

Georgia Agius

Email

georgia.agius@essex.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH36 - Heart of Essex

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.essex.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

Security Operations Centre

Reference number

CO0521

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

Essex County Council's Technology Services department operates a hybrid security operations centre (SOC) model, in which an internal team is complimented by an external

supplier providing a 24/7 service.

This contract is to procure a service that will provide 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year monitoring and alerting service on the Council's systems designed to rapidly detect and alert the Council to cyber threats.

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: £205,031.06

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

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

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This service will provide a 24/7/365 SOC service capable of detecting and alerting ECC to any potential cyber security incidents.

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

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:

Direct award via a waiver to the incumbent provider for one year only. It is not possible for another contractor to be procured for this one year period because it requires bespoke code to be written for the Council. Also, the current monitoring system is owned by Phoenix Software Ltd and was purpose built to the Council's requirements. Another organisation cannot provide the commissioned service given the code owned by the incumbent provider would not be transferrable. Failure to maintain this system, exposes the Council to a far greater risk of undetected cyber-attack.

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

Title

Security Operations Centre

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

14 August 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Phoenix Software Limited

Bytes House

Surrey

KT22 7TW

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ26 - East Surrey

Companies House

2548628

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £205,031.06

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Essex County Council

Chelmsford

Country

United Kingdom