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Contract

Waste Water Monitoring in Wales

Welsh Government

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-029432

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0376fa

Published 19 October 2022, 11:43am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Welsh Government

Corporate Procurement Services, Cathays Park

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Email

CPSProcurementAdvice@gov.wales

Telephone

+44 3000257095

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://gov.wales/?lang=en>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0007

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Waste Water Monitoring in Wales

Reference number

C525/2021/2022

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73110000 - Research services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The wastewater monitoring contract is required to support the Client's wastewater monitoring programme and continue to develop intelligence and surveillance of wastewater, providing sample collection, transportation and analysis across 50 wastewater treatment works (WwTW) and other near-source locations for public health and environment protection in Wales.

The COVID-19 pandemic has elevated the global profile of Wastewater Based Epidemiology (WBE) as a capability to help monitor different indicators present in wastewater networks. Wastewater monitoring has been used to track the spread of COVID-19 across the UK and the methods and scientific capability has grown considerably over this time.

The Client is developing a case for wastewater monitoring in Wales as an indicator to enhance our public health surveillance systems and create a robust and timely flow of actionable data to support our response to the COVID-19 and other future public health emergencies. This capability could potentially be established earlier than with existing public health intelligence, surveillance and management of infectious disease outbreaks.

The wastewater programme aims to support the Client's commitment of promoting a better understanding of human, animal and environmental health through the 'One Health' agenda.

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: £4,368,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 72300000 - Data services
- 90700000 - Environmental services
- 85148000 - Medical analysis services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Wastewater monitoring of COVID-19 and potential VOCs/VUIs supports the Welsh Government's wellbeing objectives and goals in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in particular:

-A prosperous Wales

-A resilient Wales,

-A healthier Wales, and

-A globally responsible Wales

The wastewater monitoring programme helps support Welsh Government in strengthening its capacity to respond to future public health emergencies and crises.

Wastewater based epidemiology (WBE) is a rapidly developing science, and the new technology developed and deployed during the COVID-19 pandemic has the potential to support more sustainable services in Wales. The programme has the potential to shift the balance of our health and care system towards earlier detection and intervention, helping to prevent illness and to prolong independence.

The business need for wastewater has been enhanced since the reduction and

withdrawal of mass community testing and lateral flow testing. Wastewater surveillance is used as part of a basket of indicators to assist in the management of COVID-19.

In addition to this, the programme has been developing the capability to detect other environmental, animal and human health indicators to assist with policy development and management of the clients responsibilities in this area. This work has included the monitoring of Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and other communicable diseases like Influenza and Novovirus.

The programme helps Welsh Government maintain wastewater monitoring for COVID-19 at 50 sites across Wales as part of 'Covid stable' and 'Covid urgent' arrangements. The programme will also undertake regular surveillance of wastewater at up to 5 other sites in Wales, providing sample collection, transportation and analysis.

The aims of the contract are as follows:

- Maintain a network of up to 50 wastewater treatment works (WwTW) sampling locations in Wales, including the provision and installation of necessary equipment and samplers to ensure proper operation and maintenance.

- Provide a regular, frequent regime of sampling on at least 5 days a week at WwTW in Wales, including arrangements for effective access, sample collection, transportation and storage.

- Undertake appropriate analysis methods to determine levels of SARS-CoV-2 and other indicators which could include, ARGs (AMR), Enterovirus, Influenza, Novovirus, Polio in wastewater as required by the Client.

- Maintain and adopt best practice approaches for the analysis of wastewater samples from global wastewater testing initiatives or research.

- Undertake genomic sequencing of wastewater samples to assist in the identification of specific genetic indicators or variants.

- Maintain a library of historical wastewater samples (a biobank) that have been collected in the course of the current contract over the last 2 years as well as for this contract, in such a format that retrospective analysis and genome sequencing may be carried out at the request of the Client.

- Undertake surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 at four Welsh Prison sites, providing sample collection, transportation and analysis as required by the Client.

- Undertake surveillance of wastewater at up to 7 hospital sites in Wales, providing sample collection, transportation and analysis as required by the Client.

-Undertake surveillance of wastewater at up to 5 other sites in Wales, providing sample collection, transportation and analysis as required by the client.

-Have the capability to undertake urgent (sampling commenced within 72 hours) surveillance at up to 2 concurrent sites within sewer networks for short periods of time (up to 4 weeks) in response to the changing requirements of public health emergencies (surge capacity).

-Provide detailed insights and interpretation into the levels of monitored indicators in wastewater to help inform policy and decision making.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 80

Price - Weighting: 20

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

II.2.14) Additional information

The maximum budget for the initial contract duration of 6 months is GBP 2184000, and the maximum budget for the additional 6 months extension is GBP 2184000 - the total maximum contract value in section II.1.7 is for the potential maximum contract term of 12 months.

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: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2022/S 022-122050](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

C525/2021/2022

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

17 October 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 4

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: 4

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Bangor University

College Road

Bangor

LL572DG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £4,368,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £4,368,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:125729)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom