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Award

## **Postgraduate higher qualifications for HEIW**

Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-030892

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04a360

Published 27 September 2024, 8:46am

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Health Education and Improvement Wales (HEIW)

Ty Dysgu Cefn Coed, Nantgarw,

Cardiff

CF15 7QQ

#### **Contact**

SAIRAM KUNURI

#### **Email**

[sairam.kunuri@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:sairam.kunuri@wales.nhs.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 7435577774

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://nwssp.nhs.wales/ourservices/procurement-services/>

Buyer's address

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0221](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0221)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Other activity

Health & Education

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Postgraduate higher qualifications for HEIW

Reference number

HEIW - STA - 742

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

A STA is required for the commissioning of higher qualifications in optometry for the 2024-2025 period, to be delivered by Cardiff University. This is essential to support the upskilling of the optometry workforce in Wales to meet the demands of the new NHS optometry contract. Cardiff University is the sole higher education institution (HEI) in Wales offering the necessary Level 7 qualifications, ensuring accessibility and alignment with workforce needs. Other HEIs in England offer similar courses but are not eligible for Welsh Government funding, making Cardiff University uniquely positioned for this tender.

#### **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: £178,220

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80430000 - Adult-education services at university level

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The commissioning of higher qualifications for optometrists in Wales through a STA is required for the 2024-2025 period. This is driven by the need to upskill the optometry workforce to deliver the enhanced services under the new NHS optometry contract, which utilises a Banding system and includes additional remuneration for Independent Prescribing and other advanced services. The qualifications required include Independent Prescribing, Medical Retina, and Glaucoma certificates, among others, all of which are offered at Postgraduate Level 7.

Cardiff University is uniquely positioned to deliver these courses, as it is the only higher education institution (HEI) in Wales that provides the requisite qualifications, with a proven track record of delivering high-quality training and excellent outcomes. While similar qualifications are available at HEIs in England, the funding from HEIW is exclusive to Welsh-based optometrists, making Cardiff University the only institution that can access these resources.

Additionally, choosing a Welsh HEI minimises travel time and environmental impact while supporting the Welsh economy. For these reasons, Cardiff University is the only suitable provider for the timely delivery of these qualifications to meet the 2024-2025 workforce requirements and ensure compliance with the new NHS contract standards.

#### **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

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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:

The commissioning of higher qualifications for optometrists in Wales through an STA is required for the 2024-2025 period. This is driven by the need to upskill the optometry workforce to deliver the enhanced services under the new NHS optometry contract, which utilises a Banding system and includes additional remuneration for Independent Prescribing and other advanced services. The qualifications required include Independent Prescribing, Medical Retina, and Glaucoma certificates, among others, all of which are offered at Postgraduate Level 7.

Cardiff University is uniquely positioned to deliver these courses, as it is the only higher education institution (HEI) in Wales that provides the requisite qualifications, with a proven track record of delivering high-quality training and excellent outcomes. While similar qualifications are available at HEIs in England, the funding from HEIW is exclusive to Welsh-based optometrists, making Cardiff University the only institution that can access these resources.

Additionally, choosing a Welsh HEI minimises travel time and environmental impact while supporting the Welsh economy. For these reasons, Cardiff University is the only suitable provider for the timely delivery of these qualifications to meet the 2024-2025 workforce requirements and ensure compliance with the new NHS contract standards.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

### **Contract No**

H0742

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

23 September 2023

#### **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**

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY

CARDIFF UNIVERSITY, 30 36 NEWPORT ROAD

CARDIFF

CF240DE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £178,220

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Sell2Wales Web Site at

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=144843](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=144843).

(WA Ref:144843)

### **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