

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/031107-2023>

Contract

Posit R-Studio Cloud

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX(THE)

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-031107

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-040dee

Published 20 October 2023, 4:55pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

UNIVERSITY OF SUSSEX(THE)

Sussex House, Falmer

BRIGHTON

BN19RH

Contact

Julian Blankson

Email

j.blankson@sussex.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1273876934

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ21 - Brighton and Hove

Companies House

RC000672

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.sussex.ac.uk/>

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

Posit R-Studio Cloud

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72200000 - Software programming and consultancy services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

System used for feedback between staff and students in Psychology.

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: 215,184.08 USD

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

System used for feedback between staff and students in Psychology.

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 services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

This contract is essential for students and staff in our Psychology School. The service has

been used for the last year and has been highly beneficial to the school and been central to teaching.

Posit's services are not available through any Frameworks and are below the price for a mandatory open procedure . Other suppliers in the market were explored, namely Noteable, but cannot provide the specific service that Posit does.

Using Noteable the School of Psychology would have no direct control over how servers are set up. For example if they want to install a package for students at short notice it would be impossible. They would have to ask the Noteable team to do this for them. This was a dealbreaker as you sometimes need to update things at very short notice. Posit cloud gives complete control over the student's environment. Individual module leads have direct control over their module workspaces on the cloud.

It was felt that the overall user interface would not serve our specific aim of reducing the technical load (and associated anxiety) on students. In contrast Posit could is simply organised, students just log in and see RStudio (no set up). Our Psychology staff are able to control their environments to keep everything as simple as possible (e.g. pre-install everything they need for particular modules). With posit cloud students can also be organised into groups, have projects/infomration easily shared with them and staff can set up template projects as assignments. It eliminates some term 1 technical material that puts many students off. Posit cloud is purpose-built for making RStudio accessible and easy to use with zero barriers to getting started with the software.

For this reason we are citing the Public Contracts Regulation 32 (b) - "where the works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator for any of the following reasons: (ii)competition is absent for technical reasons".

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

29 September 2023

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

Posit Software PBC, 250 Northern Avenue Suite 410 Boston Suffolk 02210 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Boston

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: 215,184.08 USD

Total value of the contract/lot: 215,184.08 USD

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Public Procurement Review Service (PPRS)

London

Country

United Kingdom