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Award

## **HOLMES 2 Application**

Ministry of Defence

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-031184

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-040e24

Published 23 October 2023, 12:22pm

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

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

Ministry of Defence

Kentigern House, 65 Brown Street

Glasgow

G2 8EX

#### **Contact**

Jonathan McNiven

#### **Email**

[jonathan.mcniven101@mod.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.mcniven101@mod.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence>

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Defence

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

HOLMES 2 Application

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72512000 - Document management services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

Acquisition of HOLMES 2 application to investigate major incidents

**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: £375,742

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

IT system specifically designed to investigate major incidents

### **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 Secretary of State for Defence intends to enter into a supply contract with Unisys Ltd for the purchase of HOLMES 2 application to enable MOD to set up a Major Incident Room ("MIR") functionality within the ModNet (Secret) Cloud. This application is an IT system specifically designed to investigate major incidents. This is in accordance with the provisions of The Public Procurement (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020 SI No. 2020/1319, this procurement falls to be regulated under the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as amended (in particular by SI 2020/1319). Prior publication of a contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union is no longer appropriate. It is considered that the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (as required by the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with regulation 32(b)(ii) of the PCR 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons

Within Defence, the Service Justice System is required to operate in accordance with the Armed Forces Act 2006 and the Laws of England and Wales. This includes operating to College of Policing guidelines (MIRSAP 2021 and the Major Crime Investigation Manual 2021) which lay out how serious and complex crime must be investigated. Unisys HOLMES 2 is the only system accredited by the NPCC (National Police Chiefs Council) for the purpose of setting up MIRs. The MIR is the repository for all material gathered from the public, enquiry officers and other sources. It is managed using standardised administrative procedures and supports the Senior Investigating Officer to direct and control the investigation. As such, the Service Justice System is held up against the same levels of scrutiny as other Home Office Police Forces and hence the required application must enable the Service Prosecuting Authority and Military Court Service to obtain the same performance data as the Crown Prosecution Service and His Majesty's Courts and Tribunal Service in order to be compliant with Home Office and College of Policing Standards.

The Defence Serious Crime Command (DSCC) is establishing a MIR which requires a system for gathering and processing evidence which is SUKEO (Secret for UK Eyes Only). The HOLMES 2 application has been developed by Unisys (built on the Unisys Law

Enforcement Application Framework (U-LEAF) and is a bespoke application designed to meet the complex requirements of MIR Standard Administrative Procedures (“MIRSAP 2021”) in line with the unique technical requirements for investigating serious, complex crimes/incidents.

The HOLMES 2 application is the only accredited UK national application for investigating complex crime and is accredited by the Home Office. The DSCC have an urgent operational requirement to bring the application into service within the ModNet (Secret) Cloud by 4 December 2023 in order to conduct urgent investigations at SUKEO and respond to allegations identified from the Independent Inquiry into Deliberate Detention Operations in Afghanistan.

Unique technical features of HOLMES 2 include but are not limited to:

- Searching
- Incident Linking
- Exhibit/Property Management
- Disaster Victim Identification compliant with Interpol standards.
- Associations
- Tag Management
- Disclosure & Case Preparation
- Covert Operations.
- Digital Evidence Vault and Management Store
- Ensures chain of custody of evidence through preservation of original assets with an audit trail

#### **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**

### **Title**

HOLMES 2 Application

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

22 October 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**

Unysis Ltd

51-55 Gresham Street,

London

EC2V 7EL

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: £375,742

### **V.2.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

MOD

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