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Contract

## **Apollo Solution**

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-031749

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-048943

Published 3 October 2024, 3:04pm

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

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

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

1100 Ceturty Way, Thorpe Park Business Centre, Colton

LEEDS

LS158TU

### **Contact**

Rebecca Rowley

### **Email**

[rrowley@northerngas.co.uk](mailto:rrowley@northerngas.co.uk)

### **Telephone**

+44 7935077342

### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKE42 - Leeds

**Companies House**

NORTHERN GAS NETWORKS LIMITED

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk](http://www.northerngasnetworks.co.uk)

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

Apollo Solution

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

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

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.2) Description**

**II.2.1) Title**

Apollo Solution

**II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKE42 - Leeds

**II.2.4) Description of the procurement at the time of conclusion of the contract:**

A contract term of 3 years have been awarded for Apollo Solution. These services are used on all NGN laptops, tablets System Control desktops and Offtake Site Comms PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control to access NGN services to conduct their work duties.

Brand provide us capabilities within its services to overcome some critical restrictions within our AWS design architecture that Amazon natively does not support from an network routing prospective.

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession**

Duration in months

36

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Contract award notice concerning this contract**

Notice number: [2024/S 000-027150](#)

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

### **Contract No**

Apollo Solution

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

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract/concession award decision:**

23 August 2024

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

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

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Brand Communications Limited

Huntingdon

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

Companies House

Brand Communications Limited

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

#### **V.2.4) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (at the time of conclusion of the contract;excluding VAT)**

Total value of the procurement: £335,441.95

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

Northern Gas Networks

Leeds

Country

United Kingdom

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## **Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession**

### **VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications**

#### **VII.1.1) Main CPV code**

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

#### **VII.1.3) Place of performance**

NUTS code

- UKE42 - Leeds

#### **VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:**

A contract term of 3 years have been awarded for Apollo Solution. These services are used on all NGN laptops, tablets System Control desktops and Offtake Site Comms PCs, to enable secure remote access to NGN's IT systems. This enables widescale home-working and supports secure day to day operations for NGN's field force and system control to access NGN services to conduct their work duties.

Brand provide us capabilities within its services to overcome some critical restrictions within our AWS design architecture that Amazon natively does not support from an network routing prospective.

#### **VII.1.5) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession**

Duration in months

36

### **VII.1.6) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)**

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£335,441.95

### **VII.1.7) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Brand Communications Limited

Huntingdon

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

Companies House

Brand Communications Limited

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

## **VII.2) Information about modifications**

### **VII.2.1) Description of the modifications**

Nature and extent of the modifications (with indication of possible earlier changes to the contract):

Currently the infrastructure is running on EoSL OS and requires replacing. There is also a dependency on the back-office services to support authentication for System Control staff to access the network on their workstations, highlighting a single point of failure with the architecture. Finally, the infrastructure is over complex, and the HA is active/passive, needing infrastructure support to manually intervene and failover servers to restore BAU services.

Upgrading the Brand infrastructure and client VPN from v2 onto v3 will enable us to simplify aspects of the architecture and remove the identified single points of failures. The

infrastructure will be completely segregated from the back-office services, whilst the new v3 service will enhance security across the board and enable future work planned in the roadmap.

### **VII.2.2) Reasons for modification**

Need for additional works, services or supplies by the original contractor/concessionaire.

Description of the economic or technical reasons and the inconvenience or duplication of cost preventing a change of contractor:

Currently the infrastructure is run by Brand and requires replacing and upgrading.

Upgrading the Brand infrastructure and client VPN from v2 onto v3 will enable us to simplify aspects of the architecture and remove the identified single points of failures. The infrastructure will be completely segregated from the back-office services, whilst the new v3 service will enhance security across the board and enable future work planned in the roadmap. There is no other supplier capable of delivering this service due to the technicalities involved.

This software is a critical part of our IT infrastructure and would be a multi-million pound investment to replace, procure and swap out all devices if Brand was replaced. Therefore there is a need to vary the contract to save NGN time and money that has been spent on building our current infrastructure to replace this with a new solution.

### **VII.2.3) Increase in price**

Updated total contract value before the modifications (taking into account possible earlier contract modifications, price adaptations and average inflation)

Value excluding VAT: £105,000

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £440,441.95