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Award

PURCHASE & SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE OF DIGITAL RECORDING EQUIPMENT

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-031897

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05479b ([view related notices](#))

Published 12 June 2025, 12:44pm

Scope

Reference

CPA/SPU/2605P

Description

Support and maintenance of existing recorders including purchase and support of new recorders.

Contract 1. THE PURCHASE & SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE OF DIGITAL RECORDING EQUIPMENT

Supplier

- [David Horn Communications Limited](#)

Contract value

- £374,972.45 excluding VAT
- £449,966 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

2 July 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 1 September 2030
- 5 years, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 32332300 - Sound recorders
- 50342000 - Repair and maintenance services of audio equipment

Contract locations

- UKD6 - Cheshire

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

- Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights
- Single supplier - technical reasons
- Additional or repeat goods, services or works - extension or partial replacement

This notice is presented on the basis of two exemptions permitting direct award without competition under the Procurement Act 2023. These are as follows:-

Are required to be compatible with an existing asset. This must be intended as an extension to or partial replacement of existing goods or services where a change would result in goods or services that are different or incompatible with the existing goods and services. The difference or incompatibility must result in disproportionate technical difficulties in operation or maintenance. Cheshire Constabulary currently have 42 fixed recorders and 11 portable recorders, which were procured via a Value Added Reseller from David Horn Communications Ltd. DHC are the only Supplier who can provide support and maintenance for their recorders.

Where the provider is the sole supplier of the goods, services or works. There are clearly other suppliers of Digital recording equipment out there, however only David Horn Communications Ltd themselves or DHC via a reseller can supply the required models when replacements are needed. This is because Cheshire Constabulary can't procure other makes of recorders from alternative Suppliers because CC need DHC recorders due to compatibility issues because they need to integrate with the existing infrastructure within the Constabulary and the wider West Coast Collaboration Forces. This means there is an absence of competition for technical grounds as only a specific supplier can supply (or a particular supplier holds the intellectual property or other exclusive rights) and there are no reasonable alternatives.

Supplier

David Horn Communications Limited

- Companies House: 01916932

Bramingham Business Park, Enterprise Way

Luton

LU3 4BU

United Kingdom

Telephone: 01582490300

Email: support@davidhorn.com

Region: UKH21 - Luton

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. THE PURCHASE & SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE OF DIGITAL RECORDING EQUIPMENT

Contracting authority

Police and Crime Commissioner for Cheshire

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMWP-7421-WXRW

HQ, Clemonds Hey, Oakmere Road

Winsford, Cheshire

CW7 2UA

United Kingdom

Email: katie.howell2@cheshire.police.uk

Region: UKD63 - Cheshire West and Chester

Organisation type: Public authority - central government