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Contract

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools

Education Authority NI

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-032061

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02a0a5

Published 22 December 2021, 12:35pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Education Authority NI

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

Email

educationresource.procure@eani.org.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools

Reference number

EDR 21-004

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

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

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in Northern Ireland Special Education Needs Schools

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

Start date

23 December 2021

End date

31 March 2022

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Contract award notice concerning this contract

Notice number: [2021/S 000-006452](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

EDR 21-004

Title

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in Northern Ireland Special Educational Needs Schools

V.2) Award of contract/concession

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

31 March 2021

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

Queens University Belfast

Belfast

Email

t.edgar@qub.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

www.etendersni.gov.uk

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: £1,430,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The weekly asymptomatic testing service of 10,000 special school staff (teaching, non-teaching and ancillary) and students with special. educational needs is urgently required due to the emergency situation regarding Covid-19 within Special Educational Needs schools in Northern Ireland and will ensure that these schools can remain open. The service will run in. all 39 Special Educational Needs schools within Northern Ireland from March 2021 to the end of March 2022 with the provision to extend until 30th November 2022 following advice from the Public Health Agency regarding testing in Special Education Needs Schools. The samples will be tested using the direct LAMP (loop-mediated isothermal amplification) method as this is a viable and readily available deliverable method and is less invasive for children in Special Educational Needs schools and therefore uptake is likely to be maximised and testing objectives met. Queen's University Belfast is part of the UK national plan for testing and is the only laboratory that is accredited within Northern Ireland to provide all elements of the testing service including the requirement for the testing to be turned around with results within several hours. The aim of this service is to find asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic cases so they

can be isolated along with their contacts, therefore reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in the school settings, and consequently the wider community. Special Educational Needs schools have remained open during the Pandemic and while children, even those with significant underlying medical conditions, do not generally become very unwell if they contract COVID-19, some children in Special Educational Needs schools have extremely complex medical needs and all possible steps must be taken to protect them from COVID-19. Any infection can be serious for them as their baseline condition is so fragile. The provision of this service will also contribute to reducing the rate of infections in Special Educational Needs Schools as regular testing will identify cases either before they are symptomatic, or asymptomatic cases, allowing immediate self-isolation, thereby reducing the potential for wider transmission, both within the school and in the contact groups of pupils. and staff.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not currently have any such bodies with responsibilities for appeal/mediation procedures

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession

VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications

VII.1.1) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

VII.1.3) Place of performance

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools

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

concession

Start date

23 December 2021

End date

30 November 2022

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£2,115,000

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

Queens University Belfast

Belfast

Email

t.edgar@qub.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

www.etendersni.gov.uk

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):

Contract to be extended to 31st March 2022 with the provision to extend to 30th November 2022 on advice from the public health agency regarding testing in special education needs schools.

VII.2.2) Reasons for modification

Need for modification brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority/entity could not foresee.

Description of the circumstances which rendered the modification necessary and explanation of the unforeseen nature of these circumstances:

The original contract covered asymptomatic Testing in SENS over the school term provided by Queens University Belfast up until 30 June 2021. A subsequent modification extended the contract for a further period up to 31 August 2021 to cover children attending summer schemes. There is now a requirement to extend the LAMP testing further to ensure provision of testing for pupils up to 31st March 2022 with the provision to extend up to and including 30th November 2022. The decision to extend past the 31st March 2022 will be based on advice from the Public Health Agency regarding testing in special education needs schools.

This modification is in accordance with Regulation 72 (1) (c) and will comply with each of the following conditions pertaining to this

regulation as outlined below:

(ii)the modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract (services provided will remain the same);

(iii)the value of the modification does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract

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: £1,430,000

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £2,115,000

