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Award

## **PLOS OA Tiered Flat Fee Publishing Agreement 2025**

Jisc Services Limited

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-033818

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04ade2

Published 18 October 2024, 3:34pm

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

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

Jisc Services Limited

4 Portwall Lane

Bristol

BS1 6NB

#### **Contact**

Claire Forkner

#### **Email**

[procurement@jisc.ac.uk](mailto:procurement@jisc.ac.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**National registration number**

02881024

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

PLOS OA Tiered Flat Fee Publishing Agreement 2025

Reference number

Proc2728

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

Jisc Services Limited is entering into a contract with Public Library of Science for Jisc members publishing in PLOS Biology and/or PLOS Medicine and/or PLOS Sustainability

and Transformation. Jisc members pay an annual participation fee for un-metered (uncapped) publishing. Participating institutions will be part of a community supporting a new funding model for highly-selective open access journals.

#### **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: £1,003,998.85

### **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

Jisc Services Limited is entering into a contract with Public Library of Science for Jisc members to publish in PLOS Biology and/or PLOS Medicine and/or PLOS Sustainability and Transformation. Jisc members pay an annual participation fee for un-metered (uncapped) publishing. Participating institutions will be part of a community supporting a new funding model for highly-selective open access journals.

#### **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**

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
  - protection of exclusive rights, including intellectual property rights

Explanation:

Public Library of Science is the sole rightsholder and supplier of this resource.

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

#### **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**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

17 October 2024

#### **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**

Public Library of Science

1265 Battery Streetsuite 200

San Francisco

CA 94111

Country

United States

NUTS code

- US - United States

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: £1,003,998.85

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

The scope of the framework covers purchases by public sector organisations, including but not limited to the following:

- Higher Education institutions
- Further Education institutions
- Consortiums and any other Organisation or Body whose core purpose is the support or advancement of further or higher education or of research.
- Any other education institute such as Schools or Colleges
- Multi Academy Trusts and other such organisations established and acting on behalf Schools and Colleges
- Specialist Colleges Research Council establishments
- Charities and Third sector organisations
- Local Authorities
- Housing Associations
- NHS bodies and bodies acting on behalf of the NHS
- Emergency services and bodies acting on behalf of the NHS
- Regional Broadband Consortia and any other the organisations connected to or eligible to connect to the Janet network.
- JSL, Jisc, any Jisc subsidiaries and its members.
- Any other wider public sector organisation.

The framework is open to organisations in England, Wales, Northern Ireland and Scotland, as well as members of NRENs outside the UK.

Many of the above organisations are members of higher and further education purchasing consortia. These consortia are independent organisations that provide a wide range of

collaborative purchase agreements to their member institutions. Any member of one of these consortia will be eligible to purchase from this framework by virtue of its membership, as will members of any other similar purchasing consortium in higher or further education that might be formed during the lifetime of the framework.

The Framework is available for use by any National Research and Education Network (NREN) and the community it serves where the NREN has either a direct connection to Janet or the NREN is a member at any time during the period of this framework, or the consortium that operates GÉANT.

GÉANT is the pan-European research and education network that interconnects Europe's NRENs. A list of members of the GÉANT consortium (GÉANT Partners) may be found at the URL below. GÉANT may also use this framework.

The framework is available for use by HEAnet, its subsidiaries, member institutions and customers to include schools serviced by the HEAnet school's network. As HEAnet, the NREN of the Republic of Ireland, is connected both to Janet and is a member of the GÉANT consortium.

Membership lists for existing higher and further education purchasing consortia may be found at:

- <https://www.lupc.ac.uk/member-list> (<https://www.lupc.ac.uk/member-list>)
- <https://www.supc.ac.uk/about-us/our-members/our-members>  
(<https://www.supc.ac.uk/about-us/our-members/our-members>)
- <http://www.nwupc.ac.uk/our-members> (<http://www.nwupc.ac.uk/our-members>)
- <http://www.neupc.ac.uk/members> (<http://www.neupc.ac.uk/members>)
- <http://www.hepcw.ac.uk/members/> (<http://www.hepcw.ac.uk/members/>)
- <http://www.apuc-scot.ac.uk/#!/members> (<http://www.apuc-scot.ac.uk/#!/members>)
- <https://www.heanet.ie/who-we-are>

<https://about.geant.org/membership/members-associates-general-assembly-representatives/>

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

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

Jisc Services Limited

4 Portwall Lane

Bristol

BS1 6NB

Email

[procurement@jisc.ac.uk](mailto:procurement@jisc.ac.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Jisc Services Ltd will incorporate a standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract is communicated to suppliers. This notification provides information on the award decision. The standstill period, which will be for a minimum of 10 calendar days, provides time for suppliers to challenge the award decision before the contract is entered into. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 article 91 provides for aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court (England, Wales and Northern Ireland).