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Planning

## **Professional Services CSConnected Srength In Places Fund (SIPF)**

Cardiff University

F01: Prior information notice

Reducing time limits for receipt of tenders

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-035569

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0391a7

Published 15 December 2022, 5:03pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

Cardiff University

Procurement Services, McKenzie House, 30-36 Newport Road

Cardiff

CF24 0DE

#### **Email**

[oliverj6@cardiff.ac.uk](mailto:oliverj6@cardiff.ac.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 2920879648

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKL - Wales

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/business/why-work-with-us/for-suppliers>

Buyer's address

[https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0258](https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0258)

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/cardiffuniversity/>

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/cardiffuniversity/>

**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**

Professional Services CSConnected Srength In Places Fund (SIPF)

Reference number

CU.1226.JO

### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

### **II.1.4) Short description**

The CSconnected Strength in Places Fund project ('CSconnected SIPF') is seeking a Provider to deliver a range of professional services that will support the South Wales semiconductor community in its next stages of evolution and growth.

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £3,200,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 79000000 - Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, printing and security
- 31711000 - Electronic supplies
- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

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

NUTS codes

- UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Main site or place of performance

## South Wales

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

The CSconnected Strength in Places Fund project ('CSconnected SIPF') is seeking a Provider to deliver a range of professional services that will support the South Wales semiconductor community in its next stages of evolution and growth.

CSconnected SIPF is a large-scale project part-funded under the UK Research and Innovation's Strength in Places Fund (SIPF). The project consortium consists of 12 Partners across; Higher Education Institutions, Research Technology Organisations, Industry Partners and Civic Bodies.

Cardiff University (lead partner), Swansea University, Compound Semiconductor Centre, Compound Semiconductor Applications Catapult, IQE Plc, Nexperia Newport, SPTS Technologies, Microchip Technologies Caldicot, Rockley Photonics, Microlink Devices UK, Cardiff Capital Region City Deal and Welsh Government.

Key long-term objectives of the CSconnected SIPF investment are to encourage exploitation of compound semiconductor research and development, and innovation in technologies and know-how in South Wales, and to support high-quality, sustainable skills and job creation in South Wales to underpin regional economic growth.

We are seeking to appoint an organisation to independently represent and develop the South Wales compound semiconductor community, professionally promoting the interests and capabilities of organisations within this community to UK and global audiences.

This Services contract is intended to pump-prime an organisation to position itself as a self-sustaining entity to maintain 'CSconnected' beyond the end of the SIPF project. The end of this period is anticipated to be 31 May 2025.

Core services required include extensive relationship management (coordinating activities and strategy, offering a "collective voice of the community"), a comprehensive marketing and communication function, alongside events management, and skills development and outreach activities.

These functions should be co-located in Cardiff Capital Region of South Wales, open to Partners and visitors. Services should operate effectively to support the virtual and physical connection of multiple, distributed Partner sites under a coherent 'cluster' brand and operational model.

The appointed Provider must have experience of working in the semiconductor sector and be capable of delivering well-informed and credible support to a diverse stakeholder base.

A strong foundation the of services described has been developed through contributions of staff (particularly at IQE plc) and more recently by a small team of staff employed at Cardiff University with SIPF funds. It should therefore be noted that TUPE may apply to this services contract.

This PIN is not a call for competition. By publishing this PIN, Cardiff University may avail itself of the opportunity to reduce the submission period from 30 days (with electronic submission) to 15 days (if the PIN has been published for at least 35 days and no longer than 12 months).

All procurement documents will be available free of charge via the University's e-tendering portal: In-Tend

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/cardiffuniversity/>

**DOCUMENTS ONCE RELEASED; MUST BE ACCESSED AND SUBMISSIONS MADE VIA THIS PORTAL.**

Interested organisations are encouraged to register on the In-Tend system in advance so they are alerted to the release of the documents without delay.

The University is not inviting any formal response to this early opportunity notice. Please await the release of the procurement documentation. However, if you have any feedback on the proposed tender method which you consider imperative to your company's bid/no bid decision please contact the buyer via In-Tend.

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £3,200,000

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

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

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

Link to further information relating to CSconnected SIPF;  
<https://csconnected.com/projects/projects/csconnected-sipf/>

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

23 January 2023

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

### **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract**

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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

#### **IV.2.5) Scheduled date for start of award procedures**

17 February 2023

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.3) Additional information**

(WA Ref:127507)

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

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

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom