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Contract

Digital Open Access Publishing Platform and Associated Publishing Services

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-036386

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042d0b

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Heslington

YORK

YO105DD

Contact

Donna Lyon

Email

donna.lyon@york.ac.uk

Telephone

+44 1904328207

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKE21 - York

Companies House

RC000679

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.york.ac.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Digital Open Access Publishing Platform and Associated Publishing Services

Reference number

UY PROC 1037

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 48312000 - Electronic publishing software package

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The White Rose University Press (WRUP) is a non-profit, open access digital publisher of peer-reviewed academic journals and books, publishing across a wide range of academic disciplines. WRUP has entered into a five-year contract with a single established service provider for the provision of technical and publishing services to support the operation of the press. This involves system provision (platform and infrastructure) as well as a full range of publishing services.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Lowest offer: £490,000 / Highest offer: £790,000 taken into consideration

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 79970000 - Publishing services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber

Main site or place of performance

White Rose Libraries (University of York, University of Leeds, University of Sheffield)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The contract covers the provision of an established publishing platform, and all necessary infrastructure for the publishing of open access digital journals, books, research data and conference proceedings under the institution's own university press branding. Additional services will be provided to support editorial management, peer-review, anti-plagiarism checking, copyediting, typesetting, design and layout, long-term preservation, and indexing, alongside content promotion, an online portal for making publications available for free download, and capacity to support print-on-demand hardcopy distribution of books through a range of channels.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

While individual elements of the service are available from various suppliers, the University doesn't have the resource/capacity to implement and manage separate supply contracts. A VEAT notice was published earlier this year and this affirmed there is currently only one supplier currently in the market capable of providing all of the required elements of the contract.

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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-001240](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

UY PROC 1037

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

4 September 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Ubiquity Press Ltd

London

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Companies House

06677886

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Lowest offer: £490,000 / Highest offer: £790,000 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Value:

Note the values quoted above are for the full five-year period, include VAT and cover the fixed platform fees, the fees for our five existing journals, and also an estimation of our book project costs over the whole duration of the contract. The latter is difficult to predict as a number of book projects were delayed by the pandemic but are now expected to go ahead within the next three years. Therefore the highest figure provided allows for an increase in throughput which we hope to achieve during the contract period. In reality, the five-year contract could be closer to the lower value if this is not realised. Also note that a proportion of the book/journal costs are invoiced directly to external funders, but they have been included in the value as they are all part of the total value of the business that the contract brings to the contracted supplier.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

University of York (Legal Services Team)

York

Country

United Kingdom