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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

Published 11 November 2024, 11:53am

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

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

UNIVERSITY OF YORK

Heslington

YORK

YO105DD

#### **Contact**

Donna Lyon

#### **Email**

[donna.lyon@york.ac.uk](mailto: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](http://www.york.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**

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

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## 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](#)

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## 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

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## **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