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Award

Space Weather R2O2R

Met Office

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-038679

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-055c39

Published 9 July 2025, 3:26pm

Scope

Reference

DN779859

Description

The partner, British Geological Society or 'BGS' led the 'SAGE' (ground effects) project in the SWIMMR Programme (2019-2024). BGS developed the SPIDER model - an integrated nowcast and forecasting system for the modelled effects from Geomagnetically Induced Currents (GIC) in the Great Britain high voltage power network, pipeline and railways in near-real-time.

We have worked with the partner, to agree aims and objectives for delivery of 'R2O2R' and in collaboration we have agreed overarching principles for the contract. These are

- The models will continue to be developed as required, for transition to operation and will be effectively supported by BGS;

- The collaboration between MO and the partner institution will aim to ensure the best possible resilience for the models over the long term (by seeking to retain expert support during transition to operations);
 - Partner expertise and knowledge will effectively be transferred to MO in order to secure the transfer of the models into operation;
 - The boundaries and mechanisms for of any ongoing collaborative relationship (beyond the contract period) with the partner will be defined and any principles agreed;
 - The contract deliverables will ensure that the balance of knowledge and expertise to run, support and interpret the models and their outputs, and reliance on expertise will shift away from the partners and towards the MO for transition to operation;
 - The collaboration will take a risk-based approach to ensuring the models and model outputs are able to transition to operation.
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Contract 1

Supplier

- British Geological Survey (BGS) a component of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)

Contract value

- £157,872 excluding VAT
- £189,446 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

30 July 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 August 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 8 months

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

- Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights
- Single supplier - technical reasons

Competition is absent for technical reasons and proprietary rights:

The deliverables within the contract are associated with a model and code already developed and owned by the partner, (supplier) to a specific maturity under the SWIMMR Programme. The academics hold the model code IPR and provide model access to Met Office and therefore are uniquely placed to provide these services to the Met Office. Delivery will 'accelerate' the model's development towards transition to operations within the Met Office Space Weather service. The purpose of the contract is to continue development of the models (which requires the 'deep expertise' of the model developer) and to transfer model and model code knowledge and expertise. In short, there is no other supplier for the work associated with the model. Therefore, to undertake this, work the Met Office requires the code and expertise solely located at BGS.

Supplier

British Geological Survey (BGS) a component of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWHV-7273-PGJY

Nicker Hill

Keyworth, Nottingham

NG12 5GG

United Kingdom

Email: businessdevelopment@bgs.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.bgs.ac.uk>

Region: UKF16 - South Nottinghamshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

Met Office

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVZW-3234-DTLY

Met Office

Exeter

EX1 3PB

United Kingdom

Email: procurement.enquiries@metoffice.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/>

Region: UKK43 - Devon CC

Organisation type: Public authority - central government