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Contract

Acer Trust - Catering Services (2024)

Acer Trust

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-039726

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04b6f8

Published 14 July 2025, 4:08pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Acer Trust

Arnolds Way

Oxford

OX2 9JE

Contact

Ben Jones

Email

tenders@minervapcs.com

Telephone

+44 1256467107

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.acertrust.org.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Other type

Education Institute

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object**II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

Acer Trust - Catering Services (2024)

Reference number

MPN-10299

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Acer Trust is currently out to tender for the provision of a full daily catering service. The services at the Trust schools are a mix of in-house and outsourced provision. The Contractor will be responsible for the provision of a full school food catering service for the pupils and staff at the Trust schools. This will consist of breakfast and morning breaks at some sites and full lunch service for each school day at all sites. The catering facilities at the school include the main dining areas and servery, plus some sites also have a hot and cold Grab and Go section in the main servery as well as separate servery areas such as a food truck and/or pod to alleviate queuing issues. All outlets are available to all pupils. Across the Trust there are currently 5,688 pupils on roll for the academic year 2024/25. Of this figure, 368 pupils are entitled to UIFSM and a further 670 to Free School Meals.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

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

Value excluding VAT: £7,780,980.83

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 2 - Icknield Community College

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Full details in tender documentation

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Acer Trust is currently out to tender for the provision of a full daily catering service. The services at the Trust schools are a mix of in-house and outsourced provision. The Contractor will be responsible for the provision of a full school food catering service for the pupils and staff at the Trust schools. This will consist of breakfast and morning breaks at some sites and full lunch service for each school day at all sites. The catering facilities at the school include the main dining areas and servery, plus some sites also have a hot and cold Grab and Go section in the main servery as well as separate servery areas such as a food truck and/or pod to alleviate queuing issues. All outlets are available to all pupils. Across the Trust there are currently 5,688 pupils on roll for the academic year 2024/25. Of this figure, 368 pupils are entitled to UIFSM and a further 670 to Free School Meals.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: All criteria are stated only in the procurement documents /
Weighting: 90

Price - Weighting: 10

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be awarded for an initial period of three years with two possible extensions of 12 months meaning a maximum contract length of five years.

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

The duration detailed above includes the initial term of three years as well as the two optional contract extension periods of 12 months each.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 5 - Wood Green School

Lot No

5

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Full details in tender documentation

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Acer Trust is currently out to tender for the provision of a full daily catering service. The services at the Trust schools are a mix of in-house and outsourced provision. The Contractor will be responsible for the provision of a full school food catering service for the pupils and staff at the Trust schools. This will consist of breakfast and morning breaks at some sites and full lunch service for each school day at all sites. The catering facilities at the school include the main dining areas and servery, plus some sites also have a hot and cold Grab and Go section in the main servery as well as separate servery areas such as a food truck and/or pod to alleviate queuing issues. All outlets are available to all pupils. Across the Trust there are currently 5,688 pupils on roll for the academic year 2024/25. Of this figure, 368 pupils are entitled to UIFSM and a further 670 to Free School Meals.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: All criteria are stated only in the procurement documents /
Weighting: 90

Price - Weighting: 10

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be awarded for an initial period of three years with two possible extensions of 12 months meaning a maximum contract length of five years.

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

The duration detailed above includes the initial term of three years as well as the two optional contract extension periods of 12 months each.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 1 - Botley School, Chalgrove Community Primary School, Stadhampton Primary School and Watlington Primary School

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Full details in tender documentation

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Acer Trust is currently out to tender for the provision of a full daily catering service. The services at the Trust schools are a mix of in-house and outsourced provision. The Contractor will be responsible for the provision of a full school food catering service for the pupils and staff at the Trust schools. This will consist of breakfast and morning breaks at some sites and full lunch service for each school day at all sites. The catering facilities at the school include the main dining areas and servery, plus some sites also have a hot and cold Grab and Go section in the main servery as well as separate servery areas such as a food truck and/or pod to alleviate queuing issues. All outlets are available to all pupils. Across the Trust there are currently 5,688 pupils on roll for the academic year 2024/25. Of this figure, 368 pupils are entitled to UIFSM and a further 670 to Free School Meals.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: All criteria are stated only in the procurement documents /
Weighting: 90

Price - Weighting: 10

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be awarded for an initial period of three years with two possible extensions of 12 months meaning a maximum contract length of five years.

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

The duration detailed above includes the initial term of three years as well as the two optional contract extension periods of 12 months each.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 3 - Matthew Arnold School

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Full details in tender documentation

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Acer Trust is currently out to tender for the provision of a full daily catering service. The services at the Trust schools are a mix of in-house and outsourced provision. The Contractor will be responsible for the provision of a full school food catering service for the pupils and staff at the Trust schools. This will consist of breakfast and morning breaks at some sites and full lunch service for each school day at all sites. The catering facilities at the school include the main dining areas and servery, plus some sites also have a hot and cold Grab and Go section in the main servery as well as separate servery areas such as a food truck and/or pod to alleviate queuing issues. All outlets are available to all pupils. Across the Trust there are currently 5,688 pupils on roll for the academic year 2024/25. Of this figure, 368 pupils are entitled to UIFSM and a further 670 to Free School Meals.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: All criteria are stated only in the procurement documents /
Weighting: 90

Price - Weighting: 10

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be awarded for an initial period of three years with two possible extensions of 12 months meaning a maximum contract length of five years.

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

The duration detailed above includes the initial term of three years as well as the two optional contract extension periods of 12 months each.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 4 - The Cooper School and Glory Farm Primary School

Lot No

4

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 55524000 - School catering services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Full details in tender documentation

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Acer Trust is currently out to tender for the provision of a full daily catering service. The services at the Trust schools are a mix of in-house and outsourced provision. The Contractor

will be responsible for the provision of a full school food catering service for the pupils and staff at the Trust schools. This will consist of breakfast and morning breaks at some sites and full lunch service for each school day at all sites. The catering facilities at the school include the main dining areas and servery, plus some sites also have a hot and cold Grab and Go section in the main servery as well as separate servery areas such as a food truck and/or pod to alleviate queuing issues. All outlets are available to all pupils. Across the Trust there are currently 5,688 pupils on roll for the academic year 2024/25. Of this figure, 368 pupils are entitled to UIFSM and a further 670 to Free School Meals.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: All criteria are stated only in the procurement documents /
Weighting: 90

Price - Weighting: 10

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be awarded for an initial period of three years with two possible extensions of 12 months meaning a maximum contract length of five years.

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

The duration detailed above includes the initial term of three years as well as the two optional contract extension periods of 12 months each.

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Restricted procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-037064](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

Acer Trust

Lot No

1

Title

Catering Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 June 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 4

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 4

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Aspens Services Ltd

Ground Floor, Teme House, Whittington Hall

Whittington

WR5 2RY

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG12 - Worcestershire

Internet address

www.aspens-services.co.uk

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £990,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,315,157.22

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

Acer Trust

Lot No

2

Title

Catering Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 June 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 2

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 5

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Dolce Ltd

Lowton Business Park, Newton Road

Lowton

WA3 2AN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD4 - Lancashire

Internet address

<https://www.dolce.co.uk>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £1,050,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,280,841.91

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

Acer Trust

Lot No

3

Title

Catering Services

A contract/lot is awarded: No

V.1) Information on non-award

The contract/lot is not awarded

No tenders or requests to participate were received or all were rejected

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

Acer Trust

Lot No

4

Title

Catering Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 June 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 2

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 5

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Dolce Ltd

Lowton Business Park, Newton Road

Lowton

WA3 2AN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD4 - Lancashire

Internet address

<https://www.dolce.co.uk>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £1,230,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £2,555,877.02

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

Acer Trust

Lot No

5

Title

Catering Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 June 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 2

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 5

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Culinera Limited

12 The Broadway

Amersham

HP7 0HP

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ13 - Buckinghamshire CC

Internet address

www.culinera.co.uk

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £1,725,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £2,629,104.68

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Acer Trust incorporated a standstill period at the point information on the award of the contract was communicated to tenderers. That notification provided full information on the award decision. The standstill period, which was for a minimum of 10 calendar days, provided time for unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract was entered into. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 provide 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).