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Contract

## **Dark Fiber Maintenance**

University Of Edinburgh

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-039969

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c739

Published 11 December 2024, 3:44pm

## **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

University Of Edinburgh

Charles Stewart House, 9-16 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1HT

### **Contact**

Suzanne Toole

### **Email**

[suzie.toole@ed.ac.uk](mailto:suzie.toole@ed.ac.uk)

### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.ed.ac.uk>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00107](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00107)

**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**

Dark Fiber Maintenance

Reference number

NCA31082

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

- 32400000 - Networks

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

Supplies

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

The University of Edinburgh has a large and disparate estate which relies on connectivity to the university network via dark fiber. This contract is for the maintenance of dark fiber and does not include installation.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

Value excluding VAT: £349,577.28

### **II.2) Description**

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

- 32400000 - Networks

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

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

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

The University has a large and disparate estate which relies on connectivity to the university via fiber cables. The connectivity is essential for learning and teaching, research, security, door access control and building management. This procurement is for the maintenance and lease of existing dark fiber cables for an initial period of 12 months, with two optional extensions of 12 months.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 50

Price - Weighting: 50

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

#### **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**

Please note - as this procurement is an NCA, no quality weighting was required however the system will not allow for this to be null.

This procurement is for an initial period of 12 months and includes the option to extend by two further periods of 12 months.

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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

- Additional deliveries by the original supplier

#### Explanation:

The fiber connections includes those that were installed at the Universities request to connect two specific locations, and those installed directly by the University as part of the EasMAN (Metropolitan Area Network), which the university ran for the East of Scotland and are now maintained by Jisc. The cost of the fiber installations has already been incurred and this solely relates to the maintenance. Changing supplier of these fibers would incur additional installation costs for every dark fiber connection. Additionally, there are some locations which can only be delivered by JISC due to requiring a resilient link which is configured to match the primary link allowing traffic to be re-routed seamlessly. The University require the fiber network connections to be provided by one supplier otherwise there would be disproportionate technical difficulties in the operation and maintenance of the service with multiple varying policies to navigate and different escalation paths and contacts. Additionally, the University require a consistent way of monitoring security and service alerts. If there were to be multiple providers of dark fibre connections, this would result in disproportionate technical difficulties in the operation and maintenance of the network as the University would be required to navigate multiple alerting and monitoring systems, different account management and technical and cyber security escalation paths. Jisc provide an over-arching and integrated service for all of the University's data connectivity. Splitting out the dark fiber contracts would result in additional complexity across technical, security, and account management functions. If there was to be a break in this service then it would impact the internet connection for the entire university through loss of resilience as well as cut service to over 2000 student bedrooms plus significant areas of the University including Western General and Easter Bush campuses plus other key buildings

#### **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 000-000000](#)

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

NCA31082

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

2 December 2024

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

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

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 0

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

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Jisc

3rd Floor, One Castlepark

Bristol

BS 2 0JA

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKK11 - Bristol, City of

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £349,577

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

The contract includes the option to extend for a further two periods of 12 months.

(SC Ref:784717)

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

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

Edinburgh Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

Sheriff Court House, 27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Country

United Kingdom