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Award

Financial Management System Migration to Cloud Solution

LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-040305

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04c809

Published 13 December 2024, 3:22pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

LIVERPOOL HOPE UNIVERSITY

HOPE PARK, TAGGART AVENUE

LIVERPOOL

L169JD

Contact

Steven Parker

Email

procurement@hope.ac.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD72 - Liverpool

Companies House

03285547

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.hope.ac.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Other type

University

I.5) Main activity

Education

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Financial Management System Migration to Cloud Solution

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 72260000 - Software-related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This procurement covers the migration the University's existing on-premise financial management system to a vendor managed cloud solution.

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: £324,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD72 - Liverpool

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This procurement covers the migration the University's existing on-premise financial management system to a vendor managed cloud solution.

The Unit4 system used by the entire university for the management of its finances. The system is essential IT infrastructure which provides accounting functionality which enables budget allocation and management across the whole university.

It is also the system that handles all expense claims (staff & students), procurement, accounts receivable (commercial), accounts payable, estates inventory management, research costing & pricing, general ledger and commitment accounting.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

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

Explanation:

The University has been a user of Unit 4's on-premise Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) services for over 10 years. Unit 4 are moving their solution to the Cloud. This is a material change to the current license arrangements with no possibility of extension.

Unit 4's systems are:

- Performing over 30 functions across the entire University.
- Integrated with 10 other systems - each having an implementation phase to ensure integration.

As Unit 4's systems are absolutely critical to the functioning of the University, the University is of the view that the Contract cannot be awarded to another economic operator and that therefore, the University's award of this Contract to Unit4 is duly justified in accordance with regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons.

This is because of:

- The near technical impossibility of disintegration with allied systems;
- The wholly disproportionate cost of tender preparation and delivery, re-integration of systems and retraining of University operators;
- The timelines for migration and discontinued support for the ERP system

The proposed Contract term is 3 years with no further extension options.

The planned award date is 24th December 2024.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 December 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Unit4 Business Software Limited

Bristol

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ21 - Brighton and Hove

Companies House

01737985

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £324,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Liverpool Hope University

Hope Park, Taggart Avenue

Liverpool

L16 9JD

Country

United Kingdom