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Award

Replacement of Analogue Telephony Lines

The City of Edinburgh Council

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-053787

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0593ca

Published 4 September 2025, 10:06am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

The City of Edinburgh Council

Waverley Court, 4 East Market Street

Edinburgh

EH8 8BG

Email

pauline.sutherland@edinburgh.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA00290

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Replacement of Analogue Telephony Lines

Reference number

CT1651

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 51340000 - Installation services of line telephony equipment

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Council is awarding a contract to BT for the continued use of analogue service and their PDPL solution from 1st October 2025 until 30th September 2029 to allow this rationalisation process to complete and to undertake the procurement of the new single digital services contract.

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: £3,500,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Main site or place of performance

Across the City of Edinburgh

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), including copper analogue services currently provided by Openreach, is ceasing. All PSTN services are required to transition to a digital solution before Openreach ceases all analogue provision (presently scheduled for January 2027, although exchanges will close before that date).

Throughout the City of Edinburgh Council (the Council) estate, the current analogue service is to be provided for as long as possible, whilst the Council identifies lines required and solutions for a future upgrade to a digital service.

The Council intend to novate analogue fixed lines from O2 and Enterprise Broadband lines from CGI, so all analogue services are with a single provider, in preparation for entering the market for a full digital solution.

To ensure services continue to be provided to the circa 1,500 lines which support telephones, lifts, alarms, traffic lights and other infrastructure currently on an analogue line, we require BT to continue to support, whilst the Council identify which lines require transition to which digital solution, and we cease analogue lines where no longer in use or required.

The Council will also be adopting Pre-Digital Phone Lines (PDPL) for some lines until the transition of the estate equipment, so it can accept a digital solution.

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

Contract will run from 1st October 2025 until 30th September 2029.

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 procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

PSTN Analogue services can no longer be procured. To ensure services continue to be provided to the circa 1,500 lines which support telephones, lifts, alarms, traffic lights and other infrastructure currently on an analogue line, we require BT to continue to support, whilst the Council identify which lines require transition to which digital solution, and we cease analogue lines where no longer in use or required.

BT are unique in offering Pre-Digital Phone Line (PDPL), which gives a period allowing the Council to identify lines and their use, many of which were installed decades ago and are difficult to quickly identify usage and requirements. The Council is undertaking a full audit, which will allow only the transition of those lines we correctly identify as in use and needed.

For these reasons, there are no financially, administratively reasonable or viable alternatives available.

Once the Council has consolidated all lines into a single contract, it intends to enter the market for a full digital solution by the expiry of this VEAT.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

CT1651

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 September 2025

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

British Telecommunications PLC

1 Braham Street

London

E1 8EE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £3,500,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Contract with British Telecommunications PLC is subject to agreeing terms.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=808807.

(SC Ref:808807)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Sheriff Court

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

An economic operator that suffers or risks suffering loss or damage attributable to a breach of duty under Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 may bring proceedings in the Sheriff Court or Court of Session. In general, a claim for an ineffectiveness order must be made within 10 days of the date on which the VEAT Notice is published in the Find a Tender Service