This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <a href="https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/058011-2025">https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/058011-2025</a>

Award

## Winter Bureau and Weather Station Maintenance Services

Kent County Council

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - view information about notice types

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-058011

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059de8 (view related notices)

Published 19 September 2025, 10:33am

# Scope

#### Reference

CN250206

### **Description**

This requirement is for Road Weather Information System maintenance and operation required within the Growth, Environment and Transport Directorate. This contract covers the maintenance and operation of the existing network of Weather Stations throughout the County of Kent.

#### **Contract 1**

### **Supplier**

VAISALA LIMITED

#### **Contract value**

- £300,000 excluding VAT
- £360,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

#### Earliest date the contract will be signed

1 October 2025

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 October 2025 to 30 September 2028
- Possible extension to 30 September 2030
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

The contract may be extended by up to 2 years (24 months), either through two separate 1 year (12 months) extensions or a single 2 year (24 months) extension.

Please note that these are optional extensions, subject to the Council's discretion.

Main procurement category
Goods
CPV classifications
• 38127000 - Weather stations
Other information
Conflicts assessment prepared/revised
Yes
Yes
Yes  Procedure
Procedure Procedure type
Yes  Procedure

# **Direct award justification**

Single supplier - technical reasons

Software Compatibility - The existing weather station software operates the weather stations using a specific operating system. Alternative providers do not offer compatible software, leading to integration issues and potentially costly reconfiguration.

Proprietary Parts - Spare and consumable parts are unique to the current manufacture,

Vaisala. These components are not universally interchangeable. Alternative suppliers would be required to source these from the original manufacturer, Vaisala, resulting in additional costs and delays.

Continuity of Service - Retaining the same manufacturer for weather stations and components ensures uninterrupted delivery of weather forecasting services, maintaining consistency and reliability across the system.

Seamless Integration - New and additional weather instruments can be added to our existing weather stations infrastructure without the need to seek additional software or operating systems, ensuring operational efficiency.

Established In-House Capability - KCC staff are already trained with this type of equipment. In-house experts are capable of performing frontline repairs, testing, trouble shooting and basic maintenance, reducing reliance on external support and delivers long term cost savings.

Alternative Solutions Impact- Any alternative solution would likely require significant reconfiguration due to incompatibility with the existing operating system and infrastructure. This would introduce additional costs for integration, training, and support, while also increasing the risk of operational disruption and reduced service efficiency.

# **Supplier**

#### **VAISALA LIMITED**

Companies House: 01487125

Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPCV-2355-BDRZ

6230 Bishops Court Solihull Parkway

Birmingham

**B37 7YB** 

**United Kingdom** 

Email: weathersales.uk@vaisala.com

Website: <a href="http://www.vaisala.com">http://www.vaisala.com</a>

Region: UKG32 - Solihull

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

# **Contracting authority**

# **Kent County Council**

• Public Procurement Organisation Number: PLDL-8938-YGYW

County Hall

Maidstone

**ME14 1XQ** 

**United Kingdom** 

Email: sourcingsupportteam@kent.gov.uk

Website: <a href="https://www.kent.gov.uk/">https://www.kent.gov.uk/</a>

Region: UKJ45 - Mid Kent

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government