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Contract

Highways & Infrastructure Planning Solution

Essex County Council

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-063442

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05a082 ([view related notices](#))

Published 8 October 2025, 4:39pm

Scope

Reference

CO0103

Description

Procurement of a single cross departmental solution for managing planning responses, management of onsite activities through to adoption of new highway assets, including the management of developer contributions (S106), ensuring Essex County Council is supported by the best technology in its day-to-day operations and can deliver its statutory duties.

Contract 1

Supplier

- DEF SOFTWARE LIMITED

Contract value

- £387,833.97 excluding VAT
- £465,400.76 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

6 October 2025

Contract dates

- 9 October 2025 to 8 October 2030
- 5 years

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

This contract is on a rolling (evergreen) basis. The initial term is for 5 years with a 2 year

notice period having to be given by either party and cannot be installed until Year 3 of the contract.

CPV classifications

- 30196000 - Planning systems
- 72260000 - Software-related services

Contract locations

- UKH - East of England

Justification for not setting key performance indicators

Contract is less than £5 million including VAT

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Switching to direct award

At the Prior Information Notice (PIN) stage, there were 12 expressions of interest from suppliers. The tender process for the service commenced on 21 February 2025 and two suppliers - both of whom had responded to the PIN initially expressed an interest. However, when the tender closed on 24 March 2025, no bids were received.

Supplier

DEF SOFTWARE LIMITED

- Companies House: 06813292
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXQN-2631-NPTR

Washington Business Centre

Sunderland

SR5 3NZ

United Kingdom

Email: enquiries@def.co.uk

Website: <http://def.co.uk>

Region: UKC23 - Sunderland

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

Essex County Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWVM-4844-NRQH

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

United Kingdom

Email: kate.fabricant@essex.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.essex.gov.uk>

Region: UKH36 - Heart of Essex

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government