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Award

002652 Shared Repository Service

British Library Board

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-074499

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059137 ([view related notices](#))

Published 17 November 2025, 4:02pm

Scope

Reference

002652

Description

The British Library was seeking suppliers for the Shared Repository Service (<https://iro.bl.uk/>) for its next phase of operation from 1.1.2026 - 31.3.2029. During this period, the Shared Repository Service will transition to a cost recovery model. The initial duration of this contract is 15 months (1.1.2026-31.3.2027) with an option to extend for a further 12 + 12 months, subject to the success of the cost recovery model. The service currently provides discovery and access to over 16,000 research outputs, including articles, datasets, conference contributions, theses etc.

Contract 1. 002652 Shared Repository Service

Supplier

- 4Science S.p.A.

Contract value

- £296,650 excluding VAT
- £355,980 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

17 November 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

17 November 2025

Standstill period

- End: 26 November 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

27 November 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 January 2026 to 31 March 2027
- Possible extension to 31 March 2029
- 3 years, 3 months

Description of possible extension:

The initial duration of this contract is 15 months 1.1.2026-31.3.2027 with an option to extend for a further 12 + 12 months, subject to the success of the cost recovery model.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Information about tenders

- 9 tenders received
- 5 tenders assessed in the final stage:

- 5 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- 5 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 4 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Supplier

4Science S.p.A.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVRG-1445-NNXP

Viale Achille Papa, 30

Milano

20149

Italy

Email: administration@4science.com

Website: <https://4science.com/>

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. 002652 Shared Repository Service

Contracting authority

British Library Board

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCXZ-9362-XQJM

96 Euston Road

London

NW1 2DB

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@bl.uk

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Organisation type: Public authority - central government