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Award

ID 5967233 - DE - Statistics and Research - The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2027

The Department of Education (DE)

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-078540

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

Published 1 December 2025, 2:45pm

Scope

Reference

ID 5967233

Description

The Department of Education is responsible, under statute, for the provision of education for the children and young people of Northern Ireland and to promote the education system of Northern Ireland needs. The Department commissions evidence-based research including a number of international large-scale assessments of education systems. One such assessment is the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS). TIMSS is a world-wide comparative study of the attainment in mathematics and science of pupils aged 9/10 years; primary year six in Northern Ireland.

TIMSS is managed internationally by the International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA). To deliver the study in participating countries the IEA, under the conditions of their agreement, require each country to employ the services of a

National Study Centre (NSC), this centre is to be led by a National Research Coordinator (NRC). The NSC will be responsible for the delivery of the TIMSS 2027 nationally. The Department therefore wishes to appoint a contractor for the provision of a NSC as well as a NRC to deliver TIMSS 2027 in Northern Ireland.

Contract 1. ID 5967233 - DE - Statistics and Research - The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2027

Supplier

- [PEARSON PLC](#)

Contract value

- £766,299.93 excluding VAT
- £919,559.92 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

1 December 2025

Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers

1 December 2025

Standstill period

- End: 11 December 2025
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

12 December 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 15 December 2025 to 28 February 2029
- Possible extension to 30 September 2029
- 3 years, 9 months, 17 days

Description of possible extension:

There will be one optional extension of any period up to 7 months.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services
-

Information about tenders

- 2 tenders received
- 2 tenders assessed in the final stage:
 - 1 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 1 supplier unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Supplier

PEARSON PLC

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBHP-6465-TLVW

80 Strand

London

WC2R 0RL

United Kingdom

Email: grace.grima@pearson.com

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. ID 5967233 - DE - Statistics and Research - The Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) 2027

Contracting authority

The Department of Education (DE)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTYH-9512-JWZZ

Rathgael House, Balloo Road

Rathgill

BT19 7PR

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.education-ni.gov.uk/>

Region: UKN09 - Ards and North Down

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

Other organisation

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

CPD - Supplies and Services Division

Summary of their role in this procurement: Construction and Procurement Delivery - Supplies and Services Division, is a Centre of Procurement Expertise and provides a central procurement function for central government in Northern Ireland.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWG-8426-YWXV

Clare House, 303 Airport Road West

Belfast

BT3 9ED

United Kingdom

Email: SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/procurement>

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Contact organisation

Contact [CPD - Supplies and Services Division](#) for any enquiries.