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Contract

Specialist Analytical Service for NRW

Natural Resources Wales

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-084339

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02afeb

Published 18 December 2025, 12:34pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Natural Resources Wales

Welsh Government Building, King Edward VII Avenue, Cathays Park

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Email

cmss@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3000653000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKL - Wales

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://naturalresourceswales.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0110

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Specialist Analytical Service for NRW

Reference number

86123

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

Main site or place of performance

NRW Analytical Services, Faraday Building (2nd Floor), Singleton Park Campus, Swansea University, Swansea, SA2 8PP. Collection points for samples to be agreed during implementation.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement at the time of conclusion of the contract:

NRWAS manage an outsourced analysis contract for the wider business, delivering samples from our laboratory to a third-party laboratory for analysis. The reasons for outsourcing are generally when specialised methods are yet to be developed by NRW or where setting up in-house capability is uneconomical due to low sample numbers. The samples are collected from a range of matrices; including freshwater, trade, treated sewage, saline, biota and sediment. Reporting limits are often required in low, or very low ranges.

This Invitation to Tender is for a contract to provide NRW with water quality and environmental analysis and for providing results in a suitable format. The contract also includes the provision of a refrigerated courier service to collect samples from an agreed location.

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Start date

13 September 2021

End date

31 December 2024

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Contract award notice concerning this contract

Notice number: [2021/S 000-022961](#)

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

86123

Title

Specialist Analytical Service for NRW

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract/concession award decision:

7 September 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract/concession has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

RPS Environmental Management Limited

13 St Martins Way, Bedford

Bedfordshire

MK420LF

Telephone

+44 1623663372

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (at the time of conclusion of the contract;excluding VAT)

Total value of the procurement: £800,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST / COMPLETING THE ITT

- i) Suppliers should register on the eTendering portal
<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>
- ii) Once registered, suppliers must express their interest as follows
 - a) login to the eTendering portal
 - b) select ITT'
 - c) select 'ITTs Open To All Suppliers'
 - d) access the listing relating to the contract (itt_86123 "Specialist Analytical Services for NRW") and view details
 - e) click on 'Express Interest' button in the 'Actions' box on the left-hand side of the page
- iii) Once you have expressed interest, the ITT will move to 'My ITTs', where you can download and view documents and where you can construct your reply as instructed. You must then publish your reply using the publish button.
- iv) For any support in submitting your expression of interest, please contact the eTendering helpdesk on 0800 0112470 or at help@bravosolution.co.uk.

(WA Ref:159577)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom

Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession

VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications

VII.1.1) Main CPV code

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

VII.1.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

VII.1.3) Place of performance

NUTS code

- UKL18 - Swansea

Main site or place of performance

NRW Analytical Services, Faraday Building (2nd Floor), Singleton Park Campus, Swansea University, Swansea, SA2 8PP. Collection points for samples to be agreed during implementation.

VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:

NRWAS manage an outsourced analysis contract for the wider business, delivering samples from our laboratory to a third-party laboratory for analysis. The reasons for outsourcing are generally when specialised methods are yet to be developed by NRW or where setting up in-house capability is uneconomical due to low sample numbers. The samples are collected from a range of matrices; including freshwater,

trade, treated sewage, saline, biota and sediment. Reporting limits are often required in low, or very low ranges.

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VII.1.5) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession

Start date

13 September 2021

End date

31 December 2026

VII.1.6) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£1,456,214.88

VII.1.7) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

RPS Environmental Management Limited

13 St Martins Way, Bedford

Bedfordshire

MK420LF

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

VII.2) Information about modifications

VII.2.1) Description of the modifications

Nature and extent of the modifications (with indication of possible earlier changes to the contract):

Implementation of 12-month extension option to 31/12/2026.

Rates to increase by 6%. The modification relates to regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 clause 72(1)(c).

Maximum variation value is 399747 GBP. This includes 151727 GBP contingency estimates for emergency use only for if additional analysis is required during the HVAC

improvement works at NRWAS in early 2026.

VII.2.2) Reasons for modification

Need for modification brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority/entity could not foresee.

Description of the circumstances which rendered the modification necessary and explanation of the unforeseen nature of these circumstances:

1. Case for Change
2. Direct Data Capture System delayed Roll-out
3. Lack of confirmed monitoring plans for 2026/7-2031
4. Ongoing HVAC issues
5. Changing analytical requirements mid-year
6. Courier supplier performance issues

The LIMS Admin team, already under significant pressure and reduced capacity, would be responsible for implementing a new contract, a process that previously took 7 months. Delays to the rollout of the Direct Data Capture system and the inability to automate 3rd party data uploads have further limited resource.

The complexity of launching an internal waste analysis service and the need for full Chain of Custody arrangements also require stability and time to become fully embedded.

Attempting to procure a new supplier now, in the absence of confirmed long-term monitoring plans, would carry considerable risk. It may also result in a poorly defined specification, reduced supplier interest, and implementation difficulties.

VII.2.3) Increase in price

Updated total contract value before the modifications (taking into account possible earlier contract modifications, price adaptations and average inflation)

Value excluding VAT: £1,056,467.88

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £1,456,214.88

