

United Kingdom-Downpatrick: IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support**OJ S 81/2021 27/04/2021****Contract award notice****Services****Legal Basis:**

Directive 2014/24/EU

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Newry Mourne and Down District Council

Postal address: Downshire Civic Centre

Town: Downpatrick

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT30 6GQ

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Only Online through portal at: www.newrymournedown.org/procurementE-mail: David.Barter@nmandd.org**Internet address(es):**Main address: www.newrymournedown.orgAddress of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement**I.1. Name and addresses**

Official name: Antrim & Newtownabbey Borough Council

Postal address: Civic Centre, 50 Stiles Way

Town: Antrim

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT41 2UB

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org**Internet address(es):**Main address: www.newrymournedown.orgAddress of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement**I.1. Name and addresses**

Official name: Ards and North Down Borough Council

Postal address: The Castle

Town: Bangor

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT20 4BT

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org**Internet address(es):**Main address: www.newrymournedown.orgAddress of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council

Postal address: The Palace Demesne

Town: Armagh

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT60 4EL

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council

Postal address: 66 Portstewart Road

Town: Coleraine

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT52 1EY

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Derry City and Strabane District Council

Postal address: 98 Strand Road

Town: Derry

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT48 7NN

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Postal address: 2 Townhall Street

Town: Enniskillen

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT74 7BA

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council

Postal address: Lagan Valley Island

Town: Lisburn

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT27 4RL

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Postal address: 1-29 Bridge Street

Town: Ballymena

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT43 5EJ

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Mid Ulster District Council

Postal address: Burn Road

Town: Cookstown

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT80 8DT

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.1. Name and addresses

Official name: Business Services Organisation (BSO)

Postal address: 2 Franklin Street

Town: Belfast

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

Postal code: BT2 8DQ

Country: United Kingdom

Contact person: Michael Forster

E-mail: michael.forster@nmandd.org

Internet address(es):

Main address: www.newrymournedown.org

Address of the buyer profile: www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

I.2. Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

I.4. Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5. Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1. Scope of the procurement

II.1.1. Title

Full Fibre Northern Ireland — Gigabit Capable Fibre Tranche 1

Reference number: 79-2019

II.1.2. Main CPV code

72000000 IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support - JA14

II.1.3. Type of contract

Services

II.1.4. Short description

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is the host organisation for the Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI) Consortium.

FFNI is a Consortium of the ten councils in Northern Ireland outside Belfast.

FFNI was awarded a grant of GBP 15 000 000 from the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport's Wave 3 Local Full Fibre Network Programme. This is supplemented by other sources of funding, including DCMS Rural Gigabit Connectivity grant funding and Consortium Member and Customer funding.

FFNI's Gigabit Capable Fibre project recognises that the provision of high quality, reliable high-speed connectivity is a necessity for a 21st century economy and society. FFNI is therefore seeking to future proof its own network connectivity requirements for the next 20 years or more through the installation of gigabit capable digital infrastructure services.

II.1.6. Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.1.7. Total value of the procurement

Value excluding VAT: 13 771 085,00 GBP

II.2. Description

II.2.2. Additional CPV code(s)

72720000 Wide area network services, 32410000 Local area network, 32400000 Networks, 32420000 Network equipment, 32430000 Wide area network, 32500000 Telecommunications equipment and supplies, 32510000 Wireless telecommunications system, 32520000 Telecommunications cable and equipment, 32560000 Fibre-optic materials, 32570000 Communications equipment, 32580000 Data equipment, 51300000 Installation services of communications equipment, 45000000 Construction work, 50330000 Maintenance services of telecommunications equipment

II.2.3. Place of performance

NUTS code: UKN0 Northern Ireland

II.2.4. Description of the procurement

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council (The Council) hosts the Full Fibre Northern Ireland (FFNI) Consortium and is procuring services on behalf of the Consortium Members and other public sector customers.

FFNI is a Consortium of the ten Northern Ireland Councils outside Belfast.

This procurement is one of several that will be operated by the Council on behalf of the customers, dividing the total requirement into smaller collections of sites.

The Council wishes to procure a supplier of Gigabit-Capable Fibre connectivity services that will underpin wide area network connectivity to customer sites.

FFNI's Gigabit Capable Connectivity Project is part-funded by the Department for Digital, Media, Culture and Sport (DCMS) through Wave 3 of its Local Full Fibre Network Programme (LFFN). It may also be part-funded by the DCMS Rural Gigabit Connectivity (RGC)

Programme, and by other sources of funding.

The Council requires the supplier to design, build and operate the services over the duration of the contract.

The Council wishes to procure replacement access circuits in the form of Point-to-Point (P2P) dark fibre, or virtual equivalent circuits (Tail Circuit Services) to customer locations across the Consortium Members' administrative areas.

These infrastructure services will be procured over the long term, from 20 to 30 years or more. It is anticipated that through the potentially large number of connected sites, economies of scale may be realised through aggregation, leading to innovative and cost-effective solutions from the market.

The customers intend to separate the provision of these infrastructure services from the provision of their Wide Area Network (WAN) services. Their WAN managed services will be delivered through the arrangements with existing WAN suppliers, or will be separately procured.

The supplier may provide all elements of the Solution itself or may combine commodity services and products from telecoms providers, services from subcontractors, and its own tools, services and expertise, to provide the Solution.

The supplier will provide a service management function to manage proactively the availability of the solution to agreed service levels, and to provide prompt remedial action in the event of failure. All aspects of the service should be compliant with the relevant security, information management and regulatory requirements.

All bids must provide dark fibre (or equivalent) gigabit-capable fibre circuits that meet the requirements described in Requirement 1 of the Volume 2 Requirements document.

The B end connection must be to a Point of Presence that is directly or indirectly accessible to typical WAN Suppliers, so that the circuits may be quickly, cost effectively and practically integrated into the Customers' WANs.

The circuit must be maintained in usable condition, available to the Customer for a period of at least 20 years.

The supplier will hold a separate contract with each customer, so that this procurement is expected to result in ten separate contracts. However, the contracts will be almost identical, other than in respect of the sites that they cover.

II.2.5. Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: As specified in the documents / Weighting: 70

Cost criterion - Name: As specified in the documents / Weighting: 30

II.2.11. Information about options

Options: yes

Description of options:

The customer may order connections to or between further sites at a future time, for example where further budget becomes available, where new sites are acquired or built, where additional resilience is required, or for other reasons.

The customer may order additional ancillary services and equipment to support the Tail Circuits, including optical network termination equipment and relevant technical services.

II.2.13. Information about European Union funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds:

no

II.2.14. Additional information

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1. Description

IV.1.1. Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3. Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

IV.1.8. Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: no

IV.2. Administrative information

IV.2.1. Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number in the OJ S: [2020/S 067-160600](#)

IV.2.8. Information about termination of dynamic purchasing system

IV.2.9. Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

Section V: Award of contract

Title:

Full Fibre Northern Ireland — Gigabit Capable Fibre Tranche 1

A contract/lot is awarded: yes

V.2. Award of contract

V.2.1. Date of conclusion of the contract

V.2.2. Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 3

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: no

V.2.3. Name and address of the contractor

Official name: Fibrus Networks Ltd

Town: Belfast
NUTS code: UKN Northern Ireland
Postal code: BT12 6QH
Country: United Kingdom
The contractor is an SME: no

V.2.4. Information on value of the contract/lot

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: 18 000 000,00 GBP
Total value of the contract/lot: 13 771 085,00 GBP

V.2.5. Information about subcontracting

Section VI: Complementary information

VI.3. Additional information

Suppliers will be expected to deliver services that demonstrate a best value approach. Newry, Mourne and Down District Council is a Public Authority within the meaning of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and all correspondence received will be dealt with in accordance with the Act.

Newry Mourne and Down District Council is procuring the public contract on behalf of itself and the following bodies delivering public services (Contracting Bodies):

- Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council;
- Ards and North Down Borough Council;
- Armagh City, Banbridge and Craigavon Borough Council;
- Causeway, Coast and Glens Borough Council;
- Derry City and Strabane District Council;
- Fermanagh and Omagh District Council;
- Lisburn and Castlereagh City Council;
- Mid and East Antrim Borough Council;
- Mid Ulster District Council;
- Business Services Organisation.

Any such contracting body will be entitled, with the prior written consent, of and through the Authority, to contract with and require services to be delivered to it by the appointed organisation on the same or substantially the same terms and conditions as agreed with the Authority.

The contracting authority intends to use an e-Tendering system for this procurement process, e-hub www.newrymournedown.org/procurement

Supplier registration is free of charge.

Follow the registration instructions on the e-hub portal.

Browse to the opportunity

Access the volumes of the Invitation to Tender provided.

Submit your Tender Response by the deadline indicated.

It is strongly recommended that suppliers unfamiliar with the e-hub Procurement Portal ensure that they are able to access all relevant functions well ahead of the closing dates, since late responses may not be accepted.

If you have any difficulties with the e-hub Procurement Portal, please call 0800 731 6575.

VI.4. Procedures for review

VI.4.1. Review body

Official name: Royal Courts of Justice (NI)

Postal address: Chichester St.
Town: Belfast
Postal code: BT1 3 JF
Country: United Kingdom
E-mail: adminoffice@courtsni.gov.uk
Telephone: +44 2890235111
Internet address: <http://www.courtsni.gov.uk>

VI.4.3. Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures:

The Council will incorporate a minimum 10 calendar day standstill period when information on the award of the contract is communicated to tenderers.

This period allows tenderers to seek further debriefing from the Council before the contract is entered into. Applicants have 2 working days from notice of the award decision to ask for additional debriefing and that information has to be provided a minimum of 3 working days before the expiry of the standstill period. Such additional information should be requested from email address:

david.barter@nmandd.org

If a dispute about contract award has not been successfully resolved the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 allow aggrieved parties who have been harmed or are at risk of harm by a breach of the rules to take action in the High Court. Any such action must be brought promptly (generally within 1 month). The purpose of the standstill period referred to above is to allow parties to apply to the Courts to set aside the award decision before the contract is entered into.

VI.5. Date of dispatch of this notice

22/04/2021