

Specialist Professional Services - Neutral Vendor for the provision of (PFB4029 SU)

SUMMARY

Start date: 1st December, 2015

End date: 30th November, 2019

OJEU Number: 2015/S 109-198397

Lead Consortium: SUPC

Main contact: Jayne Thorn
jayne.thorn@reading.ac.uk

- Offers excellent opportunities for gaining visibility and control of expenditure
- The neutral vendor provides as much (or as little) support throughout the sourcing process as required

Website:
<https://www.hecontracts.co.uk/agreements/228>

SCOPE

This agreement covers the provision of specialist professional services via a neutral vendor arrangement. This includes, if required, support with scoping your requirement, building a business case and specification, and pre-market engagement. The following table gives an example of some of the categories included:

Construction, Design & Engineering	Finance, Audit & Accounting	Asset Management & Delivery
Organisational Advice & Support	Environmental, Sustainability & Waste	Information, Communication & Technology
Health & Wellbeing	Marketing, Media & Public Relations	Education & Learning
Leisure, Culture & Heritage	Facilities Management	Business Strategy

This route will allow members to contract with individuals, SMEs and larger advisory organisations

AGREEMENT BENEFITS

- Provides an EU compliant and fast route to market
- Highly competitive – savings ranging from 5% to 27% can be achieved against budget
- Offers excellent opportunities for gaining visibility and control of expenditure
- Facilitates access to a wide range of suppliers with excellent opportunities for SMEs
- The neutral vendor provides as much (or as little) support throughout the sourcing process as required
- Extensive range of management information available
- Robust approach to contract management and risk mitigation through the neutral vendor

USING THE FRAMEWORK

If your Member Institution hasn't already done so, complete the Call-Off Contract Terms & Conditions available for download from HE Contracts Database. This only needs to be done once and does not need to be repeated for each individual engagement.

Once the Call-Off Contract has been completed, Bloom can engage Specialist Professional Services providers either by way of mini competition or through a direct award.

All appointments shall adhere to the principles of the EU Treaty.

Member Institutions may wish to assist Bloom in the engagement process to varying degrees and may discuss and agree:

- Which suppliers to invite to respond to a competition
- The time allowed to respond to a competition
- The contents of the Business Case
- The criteria to use to evaluate where a mini competition is used

SUPPLIERS

Bloom Procurement Services Ltd.,

SUSTAINABILITY

- Bloom evaluates all of the suppliers within their supply chain to ensure compliance with environmental and sustainability legislation.
- Bloom operates a fully electronic process minimising their impact on the environment
- This model positively supports and facilitates the use of local and small to medium-sized enterprises (SME) suppliers

NEXT STEPS

To start taking advantage of this agreement right away, please visit the agreement page on HE Contracts Database at: www.hecontracts.co.uk. From there, you can view the agreement, supplier details and terms and conditions.

If you need assistance, please contact the person with responsibility for procurement at your institution, or contact SUPC Category Manager Jayne Thorn at jayne.thorn@reading.ac.uk.