

Legal Services (National) (PFB5041 LU)

SUMMARY

Start date: 19th May, 2017

End date: 18th May, 2021

OJEU Number: 2016/S 202-365222

Lead Consortium: LUPC

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Website:
<https://www.hecontracts.co.uk/agreements/447>

Please note that on HEC, the supplier contacts are listed in alphabetical order and not ranked order. See the Buyers Guide for the ranked order of each lot.

This framework agreement is the result of a collaborative exercise of the English and Welsh higher education sector procurement consortia. In addition, the process had the support of British Universities Finance Directors Group (BUFDG), Association of University Legal Practitioners (AULP), Universities HR, Association of University Directors of Estates (AUDE) and HE Shared Legal. The project has had a lengthy research stage and consultation process with both Member Institutions and suppliers, which included a survey and a supplier engagement event. The following considerations were part of the procurement strategy: Current Business Needs and Functional Requirements Existing arrangements are not being utilised due to limited range of suppliers (APUC framework agreement), are regional (LUPC framework agreement) or are not specific enough to the Member Institutions requirements (CCS framework agreement). There was an opportunity to consolidate spend on legal services for England and Wales in one national legal services framework agreement. APUC will retender its framework agreement in 2017 for the Scottish Member Institutions only due to the increasingly divergent legal system in Scotland;

Market analysis

The market analysis indicated there is a good range of larger suppliers who can provide all of the specialist legal services under a national one-stop-shop. There is also a range of smaller suppliers with specialist legal expertise. Some of these suppliers cover only certain consortia regions. Not all potential suppliers in the market have higher education specific or similar experience which is seen as a key factor in determining supplier suitability. A survey has indicated that a minority of Member Institutions see regional availability as important. However, research has demonstrated that a large percentage of the current expenditure is placed with national suppliers that have regional offices in major cities.

In-house legal teams have confirmed that the bulk of legal work is completed by email and phone, with face to face meetings more irregular. Often legal representatives travel from other cities for meetings with clients as normal business practice.

SCOPE

The framework agreement covers the provision of legal services in a number of specialist areas detailed below. The framework agreement also has a one-stop-shop to cover the provision of legal services in all areas. The one-stop-shop lot is particularly useful for projects which require the input of different specialisms and for Member Institutions who prefer to have a sole supplier to cover the entirety or majority of their legal services requirements.

- Lot 1 Property (Estates)
- Lot 2 Human Resources (Including Human Resources dispute resolution)
- Lot 3 Dispute resolution (all dispute resolution/ litigation except Human Resources dispute resolution)
- Lot 4 Governance (constitutional, charity, higher education, academic registry)
- Lot 5 Commercial
- Lot 6 Student Matters
- Lot 7 One-stop-shop

AGREEMENT BENEFITS

- OJEU-compliant route
- Volume rebate at Member Institution level
- Competitive rates
- Lot structure to cover higher education specialist requirements and general requirements
- A variety of call-off options which have been embedded with additional flexibility
- A wide choice of both SMEs and larger suppliers to better match your organisational requirements and culture
- A set of standard added value services across all suppliers, complemented by supplier specific added value services detailed further in the tender response
- Provision made for Apprenticeship partnerships

USING THE FRAMEWORK

The Call-Off options are:

- Direct Award
- Desktop Award
- Mini-competition

SUPPLIERS

Lot	Suppliers
Lot 1 - Property (Estates)	Invicta Law, Michelmores LLP, Mills & Reeve LLP, Muckle LLP, Shakespeare Martineau LLP, TLT LLP, VWV,
Lot 2 - Human Resources (Employment)	Eversheds Sutherland, Invicta Law, Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, Shakespeare Martineau LLP, TLT LLP, VWV, Weightmans LLP,
Lot 3 - Dispute resolution (all dispute resolution/ litigation except Human Resources dispute resolution)	B L M, Capital Law LLP, Clarkslegal LLP, Hewitsons LLP, Hill Dickinson LLP, Michelmores LLP, Napthens LLP,
Lot 4 - Governance (constitutional, charity, higher education, academic registry)	Capital Law LLP, Eversheds Sutherland, Hewitsons LLP, JG Poole & Co, Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP, TLT LLP, Womble Bond Dickinson,
Lot 5 - Commercial	Clarkslegal LLP, DAC Beachcroft, JG Poole & Co, Michelmores LLP, Mills & Reeve LLP, Muckle LLP, Weightmans LLP, Womble Bond Dickinson,
Lot 6 - Student Matters	B L M, CMS Cameron McKenna, Capital Law LLP, Hill Dickinson LLP, JG Poole & Co, Penningtons Manches Cooper LLP,
Lot 7 - One-stop-shop	Bates Wells, Burges Salmon, CMS Cameron McKenna, Eversheds Sutherland, Mills & Reeve LLP, Muckle LLP, Shakespeare Martineau LLP, VWV, Weightmans LLP, Womble Bond Dickinson,

SUSTAINABILITY

NEXT STEPS

Please refer to the Buyers Guide for further detail.