

eProcurement System (ITS5058 LU)

SUMMARY

Start date: 16th September, 2019

End date: 15th September, 2024

OJEU Number: 2019/S 053-122156

Lead Consortium: LUPC

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<https://www.hecontracts.co.uk/agreements/772>

Update: 1st March 2024:

Mercell users should note that the company is working closely with the Cabinet Office, to coordinate how their system will deliver the necessary changes and functionality required by the **New Procurement Regulations** (the Procurement Bill). Please contact the Agreement Manager if you would like to know more, and note the below off is **still live**.

Announcement 26 May 2023:

Please note: Merzell have made some commercial changes to their offer, which include **lower pricing, unlimited user licences and simplified access to the various eProcurement modules available**. For more information, please see **Framework Agreement Variation No. 2**, the **new Pricing Schedule (May 2023)** and the **Mercell Information Sheet - May 2023** in the **Document Library** section of this page.

This Tender Process was instigated because ...

LUPC's contract with the incumbent eProcurement system provider was coming to an end, and it was decided to extend the opportunity to all UKUPCs and their members to procure a new eProcurement system with an HE specific Framework Agreement.

The Open Procedure was chosen for this Framework Agreement.

This is because it was decided that competition should be as free as possible, and that by choosing a Restricted process, this might be stifled. There were several known suppliers in the market, but it was deemed not be extensive. Analysis showed a range of 5-10 likely bidders.

Sourcing Strategy

This was discussed and agreed by a Tender Working Group, made up from Technical and Procurement people from Institutions and Universities Purchasing Consortia, from these regions: LUPC, NEUPC, NWUPC, SUPC, JISC and Ensemble Purchasing.

The submission of the Sourcing Strategy to the Executive Committee was made on 24/10/2018 with supply of eTendering, eEvaluation, eAuction, eContractManagement, DPS and Complete Solution modules available.

Please see [this](#) link for a guide on how to use the system for an open tender.

SCOPE

In late 2020, EU Supply started trading in the UK under the name **Mercell**.

Mercell's eProcurement System is a modular solution that can offer eTendering, eEvaluation, eAuction, eContracts Management and DPS modules, which can be purchased separately or as a complete package.

Provision of a collaborative shared eProcurement Unit for individual UKUPC consortia and its Members.

Mercell can also provide the data transfer from incumbent eProcurement Systems, training and consultancy services.

AGREEMENT BENEFITS

- Helps secure best value for LUPC, its Members, Participating Consortia and their Members
- Provides an easy and compliant route to the market
- A thoroughly pre-qualified and evaluated appointed supplier
- Provision of structured SLAs to ensure effective commercial and operational management of the Framework Agreement
- All-in-one arrangement covering all eProcurement system modules, licensing arrangements, implementation, training, data transfer and consultancy services.
- Fixed pricing

USING THE FRAMEWORK

SUPPLIERS

Lot	Suppliers
eProcurement System	EU Supply Plc (t/a Mercell),

SUSTAINABILITY

The LUPC Category Manager sought to ensure that the new agreement met the requirements of the sustainability, equality and diversity policies and standards of both the Consortium and Member Institutions. The procurement processes also complied with the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, as well as the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

NEXT STEPS