

01 August 2023

Dear ,

ATISN 18742 Spend and independent testing of AST IVMS

Information requested

Thank you for your request which I received on 17 July 2023.

You asked for:

a) When did Welsh Government enter into a contract with AST for IVMS under 12m vessel monitoring. How was it decided they were to be the sole supplier of the devices.

Our response

WG contract with AST commenced on 12 March 2020. The tender was advertised through sell2wales and OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) on the 4th of January 2019 conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015

b) What procurement route was taken to enter into this sole supplier contract and what is the initial AST contract term?

Our response

The tender was advertised through sell2wales and OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) on the 4th of January 2019 conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 for a 3 year term with a maximum total contract extension of 2 years

c) During the tender process, what evaluation split was applied with Quality & Price.

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details

d) Please provide a copy of the specification suppliers had to meet.

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details.

e) The number of valid tenders received.

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details.

f) What questions were asked during the tender to ensure that AST were the Most Economical Advantageous Tender and achieving value for money for the fisherman of Wales.

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details.

g) Contract value to date, contract spend per annum since being introduced / mandated since 22/12/2021.

Our response

Contract value to date can be accessed at [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#)

Contract spend per annum

2020 £382,550

2021 £171,286

2022 £149,348

2023 £ 34,200

h) When was this contract last advertised in accordance with Public Contract Regulations (PCR) 2015?

Our response

The tender was advertised through sell2wales and OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) on the 4th of January 2019 conducted in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015

i) If over PCR thresholds, please confirm the Contract Notice & Award Reference

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details

j) How has the market been tested and ensured compliance to the PCR Regulations over the past 11 years?

Our response

The choice of which vessel tracking device a vessel owner uses to comply with legislative requirements since 2012 is at personal discretion. Welsh Government have not mandated a specific device.

k) Please can you navigate me to the IVMS contract notices and award notices issued by Welsh Government since 2012.

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details

l) If this latest AST contract has not been tendered, how has the spend been approved to ensure compliance to expenditure thresholds since being implemented?

Our response

Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details

m) How many single tenders, similar to this AST contract, have been completed for IVMS trackers in Wales and please provide details.

Our response

There is one tender relating to IVMS trackers in Wales, please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details

n) What post implementation reviews have been undertaken on this sole AST supplier contract? Please provide details of the review undertaken.

Our response

A supplier performance review is undertaken monthly based on agreed KPI's.

Provision of spend per annum for all IVMS contracts since 2012 and navigation links to the various Contract Notices & Contract Award Notices.

Our response

There has been one IVMS contract Please refer to OJEU (ref: 2019/S 003-003378) [Services - 3378-2019 - TED Tenders Electronic Daily \(europa.eu\)](#) for details

The annual spend is:

2020 £382,550

2021 £171,286

2022 £149,348

2023 £ 34,200

Next steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ
or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office,

Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.