Market testing for an Education Student Placement and Management System

To enable the University to reach out to potential solution providers, we have published this notice. In addition to our own market research, the aim is for potential providers to let us know if they have products that relate to this requirement that we might not be aware of.

Depending on the scale of investment, (and in respect of the Public Contracts Act 2015 etc), we may have to undertake a competitive process, and are conscious of ensuring there is no advantage of disadvantage for any candidate, should a tendering stage be required.

The University of Chichester is a leading provider of high-quality Teacher Training, as is demonstrated by the by the award of outstanding in its Ofsted Inspection in 2023 and its links with over 250 primary schools, more than 100 secondary schools and seven teaching alliances across seven local authorities. Annually, we help achieve over 200 new expert teachers, and expect this to grow this over the forthcoming years.

The core, expected functions of the system includes:

- Hosting and managing student placements with schools, and managing their e-portfolios

- Automating the student placement allocation process that includes the integration of mapping APIs for proximity assessment between student residences and placement locations.

- Enabling links to external educational bodies and information e.g UK school information
- Hosting the students contact and identity information and enabling changes where necessary.

- Enabling interaction between placement providers, our students, and the University

- Identifying the combined objectives and needs of the student for their placement

- Establishing the supervisory arrangements, and how in-placement performance is evaluated

- Collecting information about attendance, and experimental achievements in a structured format.

- Enable data to be acquired, created, accessed, and managed in relation to regulatory and legal retention.

- Enable interactivity with other University systems – expressly, Tribal SITS, and Moodle VLE.

- Enable reporting to regulatory requirements, for example collation of student teacher data for Ofsted.

Systems implementation and maintenance:
- We would expect a simple continuity plan, with minimal disruption in the introduction of any system, or system changes.

- Coherent interfaces, and simple to use secure access, available to staff and students via a web browser.

- Robust security, that interacts with the University's single-sign-on, and multi-factor-authentication facilities.

- Robust business continuity, with automated back-up capabilities.

- Excellent customer support, and expertise to collaborate on our roadmap for continued leading excellence in teacher training.

Further Requirements for our partnerships

- We will ultimately need to establish 'minimum security standards', in use and operation of any system. Typically, we would expect any provider to be able to demonstrate compliance with key security frameworks such as Cyber Essentials, and ISO27001.

- A Supplier experienced within the education sector for the provision of systems that are capable of managing School Education placements, in particular within Higher Education Institutions (HEIS).

- We will ned to agree contractual commitments to notify and engage the university in cyber-threat prevention, and under any circumstances that there is a risk of data compromise.

- The University is committed to (for example) the Social Values Act, and pays particular attention to the Modern Slavery Act, and to issues such as Environmental Sustainability., in everything it, and its supply chain does.

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The University of Chichester invites expressions of interest from suppliers capable of meeting these requirements and delivering a solution that meets our needs, and that empowers our Education Department and students alike.

Ideally, we don't want to build from scratch, so, if this requirement is something that you believe that you have matured products in, then please do send us information about what your system does, and how to contact you through tenders@chi.ac.uk