**Genetic Counselling Courses**

**Stage One and Stage Two Technical Questions**

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| **Name of Contracting Authority** | **The National Health Service Commissioning Board (NHS England)** |
| **Tender for** | **Downs Syndrome Screening Quality Assurance Service (DQASS)** |
| **ATAMIS Contract reference** | **C249733** |
| **Return Deadline** | **30 May 2024 at 1500 hrs** |

**Responses are to be provided within Atamis – 2 Technical Envelop**

**ITT Stage One Questions**

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| **Q#** | **Question** | **Scoring and threshold** |
| **1** | The DQASS will be led by a member of staff who holds a PhD in applied statistics?  Yes/No | **Pass/fail** |

Tenderers should note that if they respond “No” to any of the above Stage One questions their tender will be disqualified and cease to be evaluated at this stage.

**Responses to these questions shall not form part of 70% weighting for Technical assessment.**

**ITT Stage Two Technical Questions**

**Response to the following questions shall form part of the 70% weighting for Technical assessment.**

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| **Q#** | **Sub-criteria (question)** | **Specification Reference** | **Maximum Length of Response (words)** | **Question Weighting** |
| Communication Processes (12%) | | | | |
| 1 | Please describe how you will ensure effective communication processes are in place and maintained between DQASS and relevant stakeholders: the SQAS, NHS FASP, PCAs, screening laboratories, SSSs/deputies and colleagues in Scotland and Wales | 3.1.2, 3.2.3, 3.3.1, 4.1.1, 4.1.4, 4.2.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.6, 4.5.1, 4.6.1, 4.6.2, 4.7.1, 5.1 | 400 | 8% |
| 2 | Please describe the processes and systems you will use for communicating reports to screening laboratories, SSS/deputies and SQAS and describe how these processes can be made more efficient during the lifetime of the contract. | 2.7, 4.1.3, 6.4.2 | 200 | 4% |
| 3 | Please describe how you will ensure the DQASS contributes to the aims and expected health outcomes of the NHS FASP | 1.2, 1.3 | 300 | 3% |
| 4 | Please describe the statistical methods and SOP/service model you will use to produce the reports as defined in the specification.    Please describe how you will adapt the above methods to include the addition of T18 to the quadruple test (approval by UK National Screening Committee pending) [Addition of quadruple test to Edwards' syndrome screening pathway - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/addition-of-quadruple-test-to-edwards-syndrome-screening-pathway) | 4.1.1, 4.9.1 | 700 | 15% |
| 5 | Please describe how the DQASS will add value to education and training events and quality improvement initiatives    Please provide examples | 4.8, 4.9 | 600 | 8% |
| 6 | The outputs of the DQASS require certain data fields to be completed for example maternal age, maternal weight, ethnicity etc. Please describe how you will ensure data completeness is robust | 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.3.1 | 300 | 5% |
| 7 | Please describe how you would effectively manage the following scenarios:     * A screening laboratory consistently fails to submit data on time. * During routine analysis you become concerned that several ultrasound practitioners in a single ultrasound department may have very negative CRL/NT biases     The response should clearly describe the governance and escalation process | 4.1.2, 4.2.1,5.2, 6.2.2 | 400 words | 4% (2% per scenario) |
| 8 | Please describe the processes you will have in place to maintain an up-to-date accurate database of ultrasound practitioners matched to identity codes including trainees | 4.3.2, 4.3.3 | 300 | 3% |
| 9 | Please describe how you will ensure the data processes are efficient, secure and adheres to the Data Protection Act 1998 | 6.3 | 200 | 3% |
| 10 | Please a.) provide a detailed mobilisation plan that meets the minimum criteria outlined in the specification   and b.) describe your approach to successfully delivering the outputs of the mobilisation plan.  *Bidders will be marked on their approach to delivering the outputs of the plan with the mobilisation plan used as reference. Project plans and diagrams are acceptable for part a of this question* | 4.10.3 | 500 | 7% |
| 11 | Describe the commitment your organisation will make to ensure that opportunities under the contract deliver against the following themes and policy outcomes the Social Value Model:    Theme 3 – Fighting Climate Change.  Policy outcome – Effective stewardship of the environment    [Guide-to-using-the-Social-Value-Model-Edn-1.1-3-Dec-20.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fc8b804d3bf7f7f53e5a503/Guide-to-using-the-Social-Value-Model-Edn-1.1-3-Dec-20.pdf) |  | 350 | 5% |
| 12 | Describe the commitment your organisation will make to ensure that opportunities under the contract deliver against the following themes and policy outcomes the Social Value Model:  Theme 5- Wellbeing. Improve health and wellbeing.  Policy outcome- Improve Health and wellbeing      [Guide-to-using-the-Social-Value-Model-Edn-1.1-3-Dec-20.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5fc8b804d3bf7f7f53e5a503/Guide-to-using-the-Social-Value-Model-Edn-1.1-3-Dec-20.pdf) |  | 350 | 5% |