**The Department for Education Videoconferencing Offering for Large Rooms – Supplier Event**

Date & Time: 20/10/2022 11:00-12:00

Our vision and purpose: At our heart, we are the department for realising potential.

As we continue to move through the pandemic, the work of our Department is as crucial as ever. Our vision highlights that we must support every learner to catch up on what they have missed and push beyond the immediate crisis to continue to improve our education and care system so that it levels up opportunity and supports every person, regardless of their background, to maximise their potential.

At the Department for Education, we enable children and students to thrive, by protecting the vulnerable and ensuring the delivery of excellent standards of education, training, and care. This helps realise everyone's potential –​​​​​​​ and that powers our economy, strengthens society, and increases fairness.

DfE’s IT is managed internally by the Customer Experience, Digital and Technology directorate. Videoconferencing is one of our most important core services, enabling multi-office teams to collaborate effectively and deliver for the education sector. Given the recent rise in ‘hybrid working’, videoconferencing has become more important than ever as teams are now rarely co-located.

The department has recently completed two phases of videoconferencing upgrades to make the service more resilient and suitable for hybrid working in small, medium, and large meeting rooms. We are now exploring options to tailor the audio offering in a small number of extra-large and multifunctional meeting rooms.

Given the requirement for a more bespoke solution, we are looking to engage with suppliers and utilise their expertise in this sector to understand what products are available to achieve our requirements. Once we have a full understanding of the technology offers available, we will be able to decide on the most appropriate solution for DfE, finalise the requirements, and proceed to market.

We will be hosting a supplier event on 20/10/2022 11:00-12:00, held virtually via a Microsoft Teams meeting. This will kick off with a presentation by DfE on the current videoconferencing set up and the outcomes that we’re trying to achieve. There will also be time for suppliers to ask clarification questions to help prepare a response.

After the event, suppliers will be invited to complete a questionnaire to highlight their proposal(s). The supplier responses will be reviewed and where appropriate, suppliers may be invited to a 1-2-1 to explore ideas and discuss further.

Supplier interested in this event should register their interest by emailing technology.category@education.gov.uk by close of play 17/10/2022. A teams invite will be issued prior to the event.

Registration is for the Pre-Market Engagement Event only. Please note, this is NOT a Contract Notice nor an invitation to tender for a contract opportunity and any suppliers invited to the event will not have a privileged position in relation to any future contract opportunity. Any subsequent procurement(s) that DfE conducts will be based on the fair and objective outcome of a procurement process.

I look forward to your response.

Liane Dell

Commercial Lead for Hardware & Hosting

DfE Commercial Directorate