



# Invitation to Quote

**Invitation to Quote (ITQ) on behalf of The Medical Research Council**

**Subject: Installation of Steam Boiler Feed Water Reverse Osmosis Plant**

**Sourcing reference number FM16150**

**UK Shared Business Services Ltd (UK SBS)**  
[www.ukpbs.co.uk](http://www.ukpbs.co.uk)

Registered in England and Wales as a limited company. Company Number 6330639.  
Registered Office North Star House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 1FF  
VAT registration GB618 3673 25  
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**UKSBS**  
  
*Shared Business Services*

## Table of Contents

Section	Content
1	<a href="#"><u>About UK Shared Business Services Ltd.</u></a>
2	<a href="#"><u>About our Customer</u></a>
3	<a href="#"><u>Working with UK Shared Business Services Ltd.</u></a>
4	<a href="#"><u>Specification</u></a>
5	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation model</u></a>
6	<a href="#"><u>Evaluation questionnaire</u></a>
7	<a href="#"><u>General Information</u></a>

# Section 1 – About UK Shared Business Services

## Putting the business into shared services

UK Shared Business Services Ltd (UK SBS) brings a commercial attitude to the public sector; helping our customers improve efficiency, generate savings and modernise.

It is our vision to become the leading provider for our customers of shared business services in the UK public sector, continuously reducing cost and improving quality of business services for Government and the public sector.

Our broad range of expert services is shared by our customers. This allows our customers the freedom to focus resources on core activities; innovating and transforming their own organisations.

Core services include Procurement, Finance, Grants Admissions, Human Resources, Payroll, ISS, and Property Asset Management all underpinned by our Service Delivery and Contact Centre teams.

UK SBS is a people rather than task focused business. It's what makes us different to the traditional transactional shared services centre. What is more, being a not-for-profit organisation owned by its customers, UK SBS' goals are aligned with the public sector and delivering best value for the UK taxpayer.

UK Shared Business Services Ltd changed its name from RCUK Shared Services Centre Ltd in March 2013.

## Our Customers

Growing from a foundation of supporting the Research Councils, 2012/13 saw Business Innovation and Skills (BIS) transition their procurement to UK SBS and Crown Commercial Services (CCS – previously Government Procurement Service) agree a Memorandum of Understanding with UK SBS to deliver two major procurement categories (construction and research) across Government.

UK SBS currently manages £700m expenditure for its Customers.

Our Customers who have access to our services and Contracts are detailed [here](#).

## Section 2 – About Our Customer

### Medical Research Council (MRC)

The Medical Research Council is a publicly-funded organisation dedicated to improving human health.

The organisation supports research across the entire spectrum of medical sciences, in universities and hospitals, in its own units, centres and institutes in the UK, and in our units in Africa.

#### Supporting scientists

- Around 5,700 research staff are supported by the MRC, either employed directly in our institutes and units or funded through grants and fellowships.
- We spent £86m on training awards for postgraduate students and fellows in 2011/12, including those in the MRC's own institutes and units.
- At March 2012 there were around 1,900 MRC-funded PhD students and around 400 MRC fellows in higher education institutes and MRC research establishments.

#### Research examples

- The benefits of MRC research have a national and global impact; from infections in Africa, stem cell advances that can potentially combat brain and heart diseases and improvements in the design of tests for treatments. As well as more and better healthcare, medical research can lead to wider impacts; many millions more lives saved, a vastly improved quality of life and hence a more productive workforce and economic benefits to nations.
- MRC researchers have found markers for cancer cells that may help detect thousands of new cases of cancer a year. The markers are already part of an MRC-developed device that screens for cancer of the oesophagus, are being trialled for cervical cancer screening and could potentially be used in a test for bowel cancer.
- The NHS newborn hearing screening programme, introduced in 2002, improves the early detection of hearing impairment in babies, allowing earlier and more effective treatment for the 900 babies born each year in the UK with permanent hearing loss.
- An estimated 73,000 adults are living with HIV in the UK, according to 2006 figures, but around a third of those people haven't been diagnosed and don't know they're infected. Black and ethnic minority populations accounted for just over half of all 7,000 new cases in 2006. Among many other aspects of HIV research, such as the molecular basis of the condition, treatments and diagnosis, MRC scientists are also researching social and behavioural factors.

<http://www.mrc.ac.uk>

## Section 3 - Working with UK Shared Business Services Ltd.

In this section you will find details of your Procurement contact point and the timescales relating to this opportunity.

Section 3 – Contact details		
3.1	Customer Name and address	The Medical Research Council Harwell Science and Innovation Campus Oxfordshire OX11 0RD
3.2	Buyer name	Nicola Turner
3.3	Buyer contact details	Nicola.Turner@UKSBS.co.uk
3.4	Estimated value of the Opportunity	£65,000 excluding VAT
3.5	Process for the submission of clarifications and Bids	<b>All correspondence shall be submitted within the Emptoris e-sourcing tool. Guidance Notes to support the use of Emptoris is available <a href="#">here</a>.</b> <b>Please note submission of a Bid to any email address including the Buyer <u>will</u> result in the Bid <u>not</u> being considered.</b>

Section 3 - Timescales		
3.6	Date of Issue of Contract Advert and location of original Advert	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> September 2016 Contracts Finder
3.7	Site Visits  <i>We strongly recommend that you attend a Site Visit in order to gain complete clarity of our requirements and the environment that you will be working in.</i>	Wednesday 7 <sup>th</sup> September – Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> September 2016  <i>To book a site visit please submit a suggested date, time and names of those that wish to attend through the message function on the Esourcing Portal.</i>
3.8	Latest date/time ITQ clarification questions should be received through Emptoris messaging system	<del>Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016</del> <del>11:00 am</del> <b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016</b> <b>11:00 am</b>
3.9	Latest date/time ITQ clarification answers should be sent to all potential Bidders by the Buyer through Emptoris	<del>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016</del> <del>14:00 pm</del> <b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2016</b> <b>14:00 pm</b>
3.10	Latest date/time ITQ Bid shall be submitted through Emptoris	<del>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2016</del> <del>11:00 am</del> <b>Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October</b> <b>11:00 am</b>

3.11	Anticipated rejection of unsuccessful Bids date	<del>Week Commencing Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016</del> <b>Week Commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016</b>
3.12	Anticipated Award date	<del>Week Commencing Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2016</del> <b>Week Commencing Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2016</b>
3.13	Anticipated Contract Start date	<del>10<sup>th</sup> October 2016</del> <b>17<sup>th</sup> October 2016</b>
3.14	Anticipated Contract End date	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2016
3.15	Bid Validity Period	60 Days

## Section 4 – Specification

### Medical Research Council, Harwell Science Campus

The Mary Lyon Centre is a national facility for mouse functional genomics, providing world-class expertise and tools to generate mouse models of human disease for MRC Harwell and the wider research community.

### Summary

This document sets out the requirements for the installation, commissioning and putting to work a reverse osmosis water plant to feed the Mary Lyon Centre steam boiler plant.

### Restrictions and entry procedures for visitors to the MLC animal unit

**48 hour Exclusion:** Visitors who have been in another mouse facility or in contact with rodent material are not allowed to enter the MLC for 48 hours. This exclusion period minimizes the risk of introducing infectious diseases into our mouse colony.

**Other animals can harbour laboratory mouse pathogens:** At least 18 common mouse pathogens have alternative hosts such as wild mice, pet mice, rats, hamsters, guinea pigs, rabbits and gerbils. Ownership of rodent pets, inadvertent contact with mice and rats through ownership of cats, snakes (fed mice), horses and livestock or pursuits such as rabbit shooting, also risk contact with infected animals. If you have had direct or indirect contact with the animals mentioned you may be refused entry or are required to undertake a full wet shower before entering the unit. Please speak to the member of staff showing you through the barrier or phone in advance to discuss any problems.

**The Entry Procedure into the MLC Main Unit:** There are male and female changing areas. To enter the changing rooms you step over a 20cm high 50cm wide barrier and don disposable shoe covers. You must remove your outer clothing and place these in a lockable locker. We stock a range of sizes in clothing and shoes but if you feel we may not have your size then please let us know and we will attempt to supply them. You will be provided with 100% polyester trousers, tunic and socks. As you proceed to step over the floor barrier you will be provided with unit shoes. On entering the air shower corridor you must wash your hands with bactericidal hand soap and dress in the provided one-piece coverall and mobcap. Individuals with beards will be provided with beard guards.

All staff and visitors entering the unit must proceed through the air barrier. This is a chamber in which high velocity HEPA filtered air is blown at the individual to cleanse clothing of allergens and any other dust particles. Individuals with contact lenses should keep their eyes shut during the fifty-second cycle, and those with sensitive hearing may wish to cover their ears.

On exiting the air shower you will be escorted to the area you are visiting.

**Exit Procedure:** You will exit the unit via the air showers and remove all the personal protective clothing provided as instructed, in the changing area.

**All personal protective clothing will be provided and a member of the MLC staff will be available for assistance at all times.**

## 1. Aims

- The aim of this project is to install, commission and put to work a reverse osmosis (RO) plant to supply water to the two MLC steam boilers
- The RO plant should be fit for purpose for the type of environment and incoming water quality
- The RO plant must exhibit increased efficiency and lower fuel bill with minimal maintenance costs in use
- The RO plant should aim to have a short payback period of around 3 years, which is standard for invest to save schemes

## 2. Technical requirements

a) Incoming water quality	<p>Incoming water quality should be determined before any design commences, however the following information is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The incoming water is supplied from 2 off 60,00 litre tanks located on the first floor of the MLC plant room</li><li>• These tanks are supplied via a 3200 duplex Fleck water softener plant using ion exchange</li><li>• Brine is produced and supplied from a single salt saturator located at the rear of the MLC</li></ul>
(b) Outgoing water	<p>Outgoing water quality should be at least or better than that stated by BS EN12953 Part 10 for shell and tube boilers. I.e. water should be <math>&lt;30\mu\text{s/cm}</math></p> <p>Volume of RO water required should be calculated by those wishing to tender. Meter data for hot well and both boilers is available.</p>
(c) System requirements	<p>The RO plant should consist of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Carbon filter to remove free chlorine contained in the water</li><li>• An automatic bypass to divert around the RO in event of RO non compliance</li><li>• An automatically controlled RO system capable of delivering the required volume and quality of water</li><li>• Hot well level device</li><li>• Stainless steel pipework only for both install and RO water</li><li>• Caustic Dosing</li><li>• Connection to existing boiler level controls (Spirax Sarco)</li><li>• Permeate Water Conductivity instrument and water meter</li><li>• Permeate flow gauge</li><li>• Concentrate flow gauge and water meter</li><li>• Concentrate recycle flow gauge</li><li>• Feed water pressure gauge</li><li>• Module inlet pressure gauge</li></ul>



(d) RO Controls	<p>The following data should be made available via display screen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• %Boiler blowdown and assumed kg/Hour, for up to 3 boilers and different boiler types</li> <li>• % Boiler make up rate and assumed kg/Hour, for up to 3 boilers and different boiler types</li> <li>• % condensate return assumed and assumed kg/Hour, for up to 3 boilers and different boiler types</li> <li>• Boiler Steaming Rate kg/hr, for up to 3 boilers and different boiler types</li> <li>• Enthalpy of boiler water</li> <li>• RO Efficiency</li> <li>• RO Rejection Rate</li> <li>• Run Time</li> <li>• Outlet Water Flow</li> <li>• KWH</li> <li>• Fuel Saved</li> <li>• KW fuel consumption used</li> <li>• M3 /hr flowrate using water meters</li> <li>• filter fouling &amp; RO factor</li> <li>• Membrane Fouling Factor</li> <li>• Carbon calculations tonnes saved</li> <li>• Boilers Fuel Savings</li> <li>• Cost of Fuel</li> <li>• Climate Change Levy</li> <li>• Life Cycle Cost Analysis</li> <li>• kWh Required</li> <li>• Boilers Energy Saved</li> <li>• Assumed fuel savings</li> <li>• Water to steam mass balance schematic</li> <li>• Minimum 1 year data logging of all information</li> <li>• SFDR (self-fault diagnosis &amp; reset)</li> <li>• Soft-water failure diagnosis using conductivity set points</li> </ul>
(e) Diagnostics	<p>The system should be able to indicate any faults that arise. Indication of the following is essential</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State of the Error</li> <li>• Error Class</li> <li>• Faulty Component</li> <li>• Faulty Device</li> <li>• Faulty Module</li> <li>• Faulty Channel</li> <li>• Identifier Number</li> <li>• Any battery status</li> </ul>

(f) As installed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any installed cables between RO plant and boilers will be protected by 20/25mm galvanised steel conduit with appropriate fittings and fixings</li> <li>Plastic conduits are not acceptable</li> <li>Where the use of flexible conduit is required a steel corrugated type with an overall covering of LSF PVC will be used</li> <li>Power supply will be installed by MRC E&amp;E staff</li> <li>Stainless steel pipework can be jointed using flanges, crimp or screwed fittings using the appropriate jointing compounds</li> <li>Pipe work will be flushed before connection to the hotwell</li> </ul>
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### 3. Contractor registration

- Main contractor and any electrical sub-contractors must be registered with one of: NIC EIC, ECA or NAPIT
- Applicants must state registration number and certifying body in proposal
- All works to be carried out to BS7671 requirements for electrical installations
- Piped systems must adhere to any local water bylaws

### 4. Product quality

The RO plant should be robust and appropriate for the environment (building type), location within the building and exposure.

### 5. Commissioning

The system will be commissioned as per manufacturer's documentation and the results recorded for the user manual.

### 6. User manuals

Two copies of the user manual will be supplied at hand over along with one electronic copy.

### 7. Training

Full training will be given to MRC staff once commissioning has been carried out

### 8. Warranty

1 year's warranty will be the minimum requirement. The tender price will also include any service visits required to maintain the warranty period.

An additional cost for extending the warranty & service plan to 3/5 years to be submitted as an additional cost.

### 9. Further connectivity options

Priced as an additional cost; to include installation and commissioning.

#### 1. SMS/EMAIL

Telemetry control to provide MRC with remote alarm functions. The following alarms would be required.

- Service Required Alarm
- High Pressure Alarm
- High Conductivity Alarm
- HP Pump Fault

MRC would supply an enabled SIM card. Commissioning will also be required for this option and should be included in the cost of installation and commissioning.

## 2. REMOTE SUPPORT MODEM

This will provide the support infrastructure for total remote connectivity to the entire control system. This will enable the MRC to connect to RO unit in real time for monitoring and engineering support purposes.

Available protocols to be advised by bidder.

## Section 5 – Evaluation model

The evaluation model below shall be used for this ITQ, which will be determined to two decimal places.

Where a question is 'for information only' it will not be scored.

The evaluation team may comprise staff from UK SBS, the Customer and any specific external stakeholders UK SBS deem required. After evaluation the scores will be finalised by performing a calculation to identify (at question level) the mean average of all evaluators (Example – a question is scored by three evaluators and judged as scoring 5, 5 and 6.

These scores will be added together and divided by the number of evaluators to produce the final score of 5.33 ( $5+5+6=16 \div 3 = 5.33$ )

### Pass / fail criteria

Questionnaire	Q No.	Question subject
Commercial	SEL1.2	Employment breaches/ Equality
Commercial	FOI1.1	Freedom of Information Exemptions
Commercial	AW1.1	Form of Bid
Commercial	AW1.3	Certificate of Bona Fide Bid
Commercial	AW3.1	Validation check
Commercial	AW4.1	Contract Terms
Price	AW5.6	Implementation of E-Invoicing
Quality	AW6.1	Compliance to the Specification
Quality	PROJ1.1	Contractors Offer
Quality	PROJ1.3	Declaration
Quality	PROJ2.7	Project Completion
-	-	Invitation to Quote – received on time within e-sourcing tool

### Scoring criteria

#### Evaluation Justification Statement

In consideration of this particular requirement UK SBS has decided to evaluate Potential Providers by adopting the weightings/scoring mechanism detailed within this ITQ. UK SBS considers these weightings to be in line with existing best practice for a requirement of this type.

Questionnaire	Q No.	Question subject	Maximum Marks	
Price	AW5.2	Price	40%	40%
Quality	PROJ2.3	Managing Continuity	60%	10%
Quality	PROJ2.4	Method Statement		20%
Quality	PROJ2.5	Health and Safety		10%
Quality	PROJ2.6	Pay Back		20%

## Evaluation of criteria

### Non-Price elements

Each question will be judged on a score from 0 to 100, which shall be subjected to a multiplier to reflect the percentage of the evaluation criteria allocated to that question.

Where an evaluation criterion is worth 20% then the 0-100 score achieved will be multiplied by 20.

**Example** if a Bidder scores 60 from the available 100 points this will equate to 12% by using the following calculation: Score/Total Points available multiplied by 20 ( $60/100 \times 20 = 12$ )

Where an evaluation criterion is worth 10% then the 0-100 score achieved will be multiplied by 10.

**Example** if a Bidder scores 60 from the available 100 points this will equate to 6% by using the following calculation: Score/Total Points available multiplied by 10 ( $60/100 \times 10 = 6$ )

The same logic will be applied to groups of questions which equate to a single evaluation criterion.

The 0-100 score shall be based on (unless otherwise stated within the question):

0	The Question is not answered or the response is completely unacceptable.
10	Extremely poor response – they have completely missed the point of the question.
20	Very poor response and not wholly acceptable. Requires major revision to the response to make it acceptable. Only partially answers the requirement, with major deficiencies and little relevant detail proposed.
40	Poor response only partially satisfying the selection question requirements with deficiencies apparent. Some useful evidence provided but response falls well short of expectations. Low probability of being a capable supplier.
60	Response is acceptable but remains basic and could have been expanded upon. Response is sufficient but does not inspire.
80	Good response which describes their capabilities in detail which provides high levels of assurance consistent with a quality provider. The response includes a full description of techniques and measurements currently employed.
100	Response is exceptional and clearly demonstrates they are capable of meeting the requirement. No significant weaknesses noted. The response is compelling in its description of techniques and measurements currently employed, providing full assurance consistent with a quality provider.

All questions will be scored based on the above mechanism. Please be aware that the final score returned may be different as there may be multiple evaluators and their individual scores will be averaged (mean) to determine your final score.

### Example

Evaluator 1 scored your bid as 60

Evaluator 2 scored your bid as 60

Evaluator 3 scored your bid as 40

Evaluator 4 scored your bid as 40

Your final score will  $(60+60+40+40) \div 4 = 50$

**Price elements** will be judged on the following criteria.

The lowest price for a response which meets the pass criteria shall score 100.  
All other bids shall be scored on a pro rata basis in relation to the lowest price. The score is then subject to a multiplier to reflect the percentage value of the price criterion.

For example - Bid 1 £100,000 scores 100.

Bid 2 £120,000 differential of £20,000 or 20% remove 20% from price scores 80

Bid 3 £150,000 differential £50,000 remove 50% from price scores 50.

Bid 4 £175,000 differential £75,000 remove 75% from price scores 25.

Bid 5 £200,000 differential £100,000 remove 100% from price scores 0.

Bid 6 £300,000 differential £200,000 remove 100% from price scores 0.

Where the scoring criterion is worth 50% then the 0-100 score achieved will be multiplied by 50.

In the example if a supplier scores 80 from the available 100 points this will equate to 40% by using the following calculation: Score/Total Points multiplied by 50  $(80/100 \times 50 = 40)$

The lowest score possible is 0 even if the price submitted is more than 100% greater than the lowest price.

## **Section 6 – Evaluation questionnaire**

Bidders should note that the evaluation questionnaire is located within the **e-sourcing questionnaire**.

**Guidance on completion of the questionnaire is available at**

**<http://www.uksbs.co.uk/services/procure/Pages/supplier.aspx>**

**PLEASE NOTE THE QUESTIONS ARE NOT NUMBERED SEQUENTIALLY**

## Section 7 – General Information

### What makes a good bid – some simple do's 😊

#### DO:

- 7.1 Do comply with Procurement document instructions. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.
- 7.2 Do provide the Bid on time, and in the required format. Remember that the date/time given for a response is the last date that it can be accepted; we are legally bound to disqualify late submissions.
- 7.3 Do ensure you have read all the training materials to utilise e-sourcing tool prior to responding to this Bid. If you send your Bid by email or post it will be rejected.
- 7.4 Do use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint Excel 97-03 or compatible formats, or PDF unless agreed in writing by the Buyer. If you use another file format without our written permission we may reject your Bid.
- 7.5 Do ensure you utilise the Emptoris messaging system to raise any clarifications to our ITQ. You should note that typically we will release the answer to the question to all bidders and where we suspect the question contains confidential information we may modify the content of the question to protect the anonymity of the Bidder or their proposed solution
- 7.6 Do answer the question, it is not enough simply to cross-reference to a 'policy', web page or another part of your Bid, the evaluation team have limited time to assess bids and if they can't find the answer, they can't score it.
- 7.7 Do consider who your customer is and what they want – a generic answer does not necessarily meet every customer's needs.
- 7.8 Do reference your documents correctly, specifically where supporting documentation is requested e.g. referencing the question/s they apply to.
- 7.9 Do provide clear and concise contact details; telephone numbers, e-mails and fax details.
- 7.10 Do complete all questions in the questionnaire or we may reject your Bid.
- 7.11 Do check and recheck your Bid before dispatch.



## What makes a good bid – some simple do not's 🙄

### DO NOT

- 7.12 Do not cut and paste from a previous document and forget to change the previous details such as the previous buyer's name.
- 7.13 Do not attach 'glossy' brochures that have not been requested, they will not be read unless we have asked for them. Only send what has been requested and only send supplementary information if we have offered the opportunity so to do.
- 7.14 Do not share the Procurement documents, they are confidential and should not be shared with anyone without the Buyers written permission.
- 7.15 Do not seek to influence the procurement process by requesting meetings or contacting UK SBS or the Customer to discuss your Bid. If your Bid requires clarification the Buyer will contact you.
- 7.16 Do not contact any UK SBS staff or Customer staff without the Buyers written permission or we may reject your Bid.
- 7.17 Do not collude to fix or adjust the price or withdraw your Bid with another Party as we will reject your Bid.
- 7.18 Do not offer UK SBS or Customer staff any inducement or we will reject your Bid.
- 7.19 Do not seek changes to the Bid after responses have been submitted and the deadline for Bids to be submitted has passed.
- 7.20 Do not cross reference answers to external websites or other parts of your Bid, the cross references and website links will not be considered.
- 7.21 Do not exceed word counts, the additional words will not be considered.
- 7.22 Do not make your Bid conditional on acceptance of your own Terms of Contract, as your Bid will be rejected.

## Some additional guidance notes

- 7.23 All enquiries with respect to access to the e-sourcing tool and problems with functionality within the tool may be submitted to Crown Commercial Service (previously Government Procurement Service), Telephone 0345 010 3503.
- 7.24 Bidders will be specifically advised where attachments are permissible to support a question response within the e-sourcing tool. Where they are not permissible any attachments submitted will not be considered.
- 7.25 Question numbering is not sequential and all questions which require submission are included in the Section 6 Evaluation Questionnaire.
- 7.26 Any Contract offered may not guarantee any volume of work or any exclusivity of supply.
- 7.27 We do not guarantee to award any Contract as a result of this procurement
- 7.28 All documents issued or received in relation to this procurement shall be the property of UK SBS.
- 7.29 We can amend any part of the procurement documents at any time prior to the latest date / time Bids shall be submitted through Emptoris.
- 7.30 If you are a Consortium you must provide details of the Consortiums structure.
- 7.31 Bidders will be expected to comply with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.32 Bidders should note the Government's transparency agenda requires your Bid and any Contract entered into to be published on a designated, publicly searchable web site. By submitting a response to this ITQ Bidders are agreeing that their Bid and Contract may be made public
- 7.33 Your bid will be valid for 60 days or your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.34 Bidders may only amend the Contract terms if you can demonstrate there is a legal or statutory reason why you cannot accept them. If you request changes to the Contract and UK SBS fail to accept your legal or statutory reason is reasonably justified we may reject your Bid.
- 7.35 We will let you know the outcome of your Bid evaluation and where requested will provide a written debrief of the relative strengths and weaknesses of your Bid.
- 7.36 If you fail mandatory pass / fail criteria we will reject your Bid.
- 7.37 Bidders are required to use IE8, IE9, Chrome or Firefox in order to access the functionality of the Emptoris e-sourcing tool.
- 7.38 Bidders should note that if they are successful with their proposal UK SBS reserves the right to ask additional compliancy checks prior to the award of any Contract. In

the event of a Bidder failing to meet one of the compliancy checks UK SBS may decline to proceed with the award of the Contract to the successful Bidder.

- 7.39 All timescales are set using a 24 hour clock and are based on British Summer Time or Greenwich Mean Time, depending on which applies at the point when Date and Time Bids shall be submitted through Emptoris.
- 7.40 All Central Government Departments and their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further, the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement - including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice.

For these purposes, UK SBS may disclose within Government any of the Bidders documentation/information (including any that the Bidder considers to be confidential and/or commercially sensitive such as specific bid information) submitted by the Bidder to UK SBS during this Procurement. The information will not be disclosed outside Government. Bidders taking part in this ITQ consent to these terms as part of the competition process.

- 7.41 From 2nd April 2014 the Government is introducing its new Government Security Classifications (GSC) classification scheme to replace the current Government Protective Marking System (GPMS). A key aspect of this is the reduction in the number of security classifications used. All Bidders are encouraged to make themselves aware of the changes and identify any potential impacts in their Bid, as the protective marking and applicable protection of any material passed to, or generated by, you during the procurement process or pursuant to any Contract awarded to you as a result of this tender process will be subject to the new GSC from 2nd April 2014. The link below to the Gov.uk website provides information on the new GSC:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications>

UK SBS reserves the right to amend any security related term or condition of the draft contract accompanying this ITQ to reflect any changes introduced by the GSC. In particular where this ITQ is accompanied by any instructions on safeguarding classified information (e.g. a Security Aspects Letter) as a result of any changes stemming from the new GSC, whether in respect of the applicable protective marking scheme, specific protective markings given, the aspects to which any protective marking applies or otherwise. This may relate to the instructions on safeguarding classified information (e.g. a Security Aspects Letter) as they apply to the procurement as they apply to the procurement process and/or any contracts awarded to you as a result of the procurement process.

## USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS

- [Emptoris Training Guide](#)
- [Emptoris e-sourcing tool](#)
- [Contracts Finder](#)
- [Tenders Electronic Daily](#)
- [Equalities Act introduction](#)
- [Bribery Act introduction](#)
- [Freedom of information Act](#)