



Ministry
of Defence



Procurement of Defence Virtual Simulation (DVS3) Request for Information (RFI)

04-04-2023

Section 1 - Introduction

1. The Training & Simulation Systems Portfolio (TSSP) Project Team is at early stages of considering options to best fulfil the requirement for the provision of a common, interoperable, accessible and deployable software enabler(s) for simulation-based activity across Defence for the application of decision support, research and development, training, operations planning and rehearsal; and experimentation. As such, the Authority seeks to develop its understanding of the capabilities, dependencies and competitiveness of the marketplace and the ability of industry to provide the required level of support.
2. Please note that this is a Request for Information (RFI) only. This request is not a commitment by the Authority to launch a formal procurement process and the requirement, described below, is subject to change. The Authority will assess responses to the RFI and may seek further clarification from responses provided. Participation in any further market engagement, including future consultation (s) rounds or RFIs is not a prerequisite for participation in, and will have no bearing on, any future procurement process.
3. By receiving this information, the MOD is not obligated to enter into a contract and future procurement actions will be entirely at the MOD's discretion. The Authority will not be liable to reimburse any costs incurred by parties who respond to this notice. The Authority does not intend to provide debriefs following receipt of responses. Furthermore, a response, or non-response, to this notice will not preclude involvement in future procurement activities for this requirement.

Section 2 – Brief overview of the requirement

4. This section is indicative only and subject to change as based on the information available to the TSSP delivery team at this time.
5. Defence Virtual Simulation 3 (DVS3) is anticipated to be based on a Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) based virtual simulation tool, to be used as widely as possible, promoting what was previously Defence Modelling and Simulation Coherence (DMaSC) Policy, now JSP 939, should be the simulated environment used across defence unless a greater value for money option can be sought to fulfil the required capability needs whilst underpinning the interoperability of training systems and enabling its use for applications including decision support; research and development; training; and operations planning and rehearsal. It will be made available through a licence-able approach in order to facilitate, but not limited to:
 - a. The preparation of Force Elements at Readiness (FE@R) for operations in single-Service, joint, inter-agency.
 - b. Collective Training
 - c. Interoperability between, but not limited to, the Collective Training Transformation Programme (CTTP), Gladiator and Defence Operational Training Capability (Maritime) DOTC(M) for Carrier Strike and enable the continuation of simulated/synthetic training as facilitated by the In-Service DVS.
 - d. Multinational contexts.
 - e. Embracing the ethos of 'train as we fight'.
 - f. Requirement for Constructive and Aggregation at the C2 Operational, Component and Campaign training layer.
 - g. Integration of simulation benefits at Intra-Defence agency and Other Government Department (OGD) levels, including UK operations.
6. It is expected that DVS 3 will be required to meet emerging needs captured and reviewed as part of an annual Capability Sustainment Programme (CSP). In addition to this expected growth of requirement through-life, it is also anticipated that the Off-The-Shelf purchase of a solution to DVS 3 shall grant the Authority rights to a product that contains additional functionality beyond that documented in the Statement of Requirement or User/System Requirements Document.
7. To support the CSP and wider exploitation of DVS 3, the Contractor will likely be required to operate a tasking process that allows the Authority to explore additional capabilities. New functionalities created in this manner shall be included in the System Requirement (SR) Roadmap.
8. The role of DVS 3 is to continue to provide a Defence-level, low-complexity common virtual simulation tool(s) that can be used to support and enable maximum exploitation of, but not limited to:
 - a. Individual training and education.
 - i. The ability to create material for judgement training.

- ii. Ability to capture training performance data to analyse, assess and observations.
 - b. Single Service and Joint Collective Training in the virtual environment.
 - c. Joint mission preparation and mission rehearsal.
 - d. Force development and training analysis.
 - e. Acquisition, experimentation and concept development including Concept and Doctrine, Tactical Procedures and Tactical Reconstruction (TACReC).
 - f. Virtual Reality (VR) /Augmented Reality (AR) / Mixed Reality (MR) / eXtended Reality (XR).
9. DVS3 is also expected to provide an Image Generator (IG) that is from the same software suite as the core DVS3 solution in order to optimise its utilisation and minimise integration activity and risk. The acquisition of an IG is a significant pillar of the Army's Collective Training Transformation Programme (CTTP) and will enable pan defence benefit to the User.
10. DVS3 should be capable of operating across any domain with almost unlimited training scenarios under a licencing arrangement that enables any UK MOD Employee, Contract or OGD the ability to access and use the software, as well as those competing for future UK MOD Capability Contracts.
11. DVS3 is likely to be based on the System Requirements baselined by DVS2 which is currently delivered by Bohemia Interactive Simulations (BISim) via VBS4 and VBS Blue IG, which MOD Transformation programmes such as the Collective Training Transformation Programme (CTTP) is dependent upon.
12. DVS3 as a managed service will be expected to provide the following core services, including but not limited to, the below:
- a. Support; Both remote through a user facing Portal and face to face;
 - b. Performance Management including full reporting and documentation
 - c. Support to Meetings and Events
 - d. Post Design Services
 - e. Technical and integration support
 - f. Annual DVS User Group
 - g. Training as prescribed within the Statement of Requirement (SOR) such as,
 - i. Train the Trainer (T3);
 - ii. Administrator
 - iii. Basic Scripting
 - iv. Rigging and Import
 - v. Terrain Development
 - vi. Refresher Training

Section 3 – Questionnaire

13. TSSP are inviting Industry to respond to the questions set out below. All responses to the questions set will be treated as Commercially Sensitive and respondents may answer as many or as few of the questions as they wish. Only Official or Official-Sensitive responses should be submitted.
14. Additionally, please include any further information, issues or benefits that you would consider relevant to the provision of future DVS.
15. Please keep responses short and concise wherever possible. Responses to each question should be no longer than three (3) pages [six (6) sides] of A4 to minimise the impact of this early market engagement on both the market and the MOD. Case studies are independent supporting documents and can sit alongside responses but should try to apply the same limit where possible.

(a)	<p>Delivery The Authority is keen to understand industry best practice approaches that could enable it to meet its vision while reducing the cost. Please indicate in broad terms how DVS 3 could be delivered most effectively to deliver the capability? Your response should include confirmation if your system is based upon a COTS solution or if this is based upon a bespoke and/or proprietary design.</p> <p><i>Please include response here</i></p>
(b)	<p>IPR How would you look to provide additional VfM to the UK MOD through provision of IPR. Please indicate what MOD IP, if any, will be needed in order to deliver the DVS 3 capability within your solution.</p> <p><i>Please include response here</i></p>
(c)	<p>Risk and Opportunities Please provide feedback on what you anticipate the key risks and opportunities to be, their impact and the allocation of these between the MOD and Industry. If possible, include views on how best to manage certain risks, including mitigation measures which are not available to the MOD.</p> <p><i>Please include response here</i></p>
(d)	<p>Licencing In line with previous iterations of the DVS capability it is expected that DVS 3 would follow the precedent of a ten (10) year Unlimited Enterprise Licence. Do you think this remains the best VfM option to UK MOD or would you suggest alternate routes?</p> <p><i>Please include response here</i></p>
(e)	<p>High Level Budgetary Estimate Please note that all estimates are provided without any commitment and will be used principally to determine a range of budgetary estimates. Based on the brief outline of requirement, please provide budgetary estimates of anticipated contract price. Your estimate should be exclusive</p>

	of VAT and include the following supporting information a summary of any high-level assumptions you have made (e.g. most/least likely within high level scope boundaries, inclusions/exclusions, etc). If possible, please provide high level budgetary costs for each individual element
	<i>Please include response here</i>
(f)	<p>Procurement Lessons Learned</p> <p>The Authority is seeking to obtain Learning From Experience (LFE) from the recent DVS2 competition to understand what worked and didn't. The areas of interest include, but are not limited to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Evaluation Criteria 2. Technical Demonstration Test 3. Requirement (SOR/SRD) 4. Procurement and Delivery Timelines 5. Provision of GFA 6. Contract Terms <p>What are the barriers to participation, and can you provide recommendations that will help to remove these barriers and increase participation in future competitions?</p>
	<i>Please include response here</i>
(g)	<p>Other comments</p> <p>Please include any further comments and considerations</p>
	<i>Please include response here</i>

16. Please provide your response in an electronic format via email to Christopher.fullbrook100@mod.gov.uk listed above by 23:59 on 1st June 2023.
17. The Authority may choose to release a further RFI if further information is deemed beneficial.