

**Standard Selection Questionnaire (SQ)**

**Background**

The standard Selection Questionnaire has been developed to simplify the supplier selection process for businesses, in particular for smaller firms, and One Person Businesses. In developing the SQ the opportunity has been taken to make the questionnaire compliant with the European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) and amended the rules on the selection of suppliers.

Supplier selection is a key stage in public procurement where we gather information on and make assessments of the prospective bidders' credentials, before considering tenders. This includes gathering information about companies' track records, financial credentials, whether they have been involved in corruption, meet various selection criteria etc.

The standard Selection Questionnaire asks potential suppliers to initially just self-declare their status against the exclusion grounds and selection questions. Usually we will only check the status of the winning supplier. This reduces the burden on unsuccessful suppliers and on organisations providing evidence for those checks .

The standard Selection Questionnaire is structured in 3 separate parts:

Part 1 of the standard Selection Questionnaire covers the basic information about the supplier, such as the contact details, trade memberships, details of parent companies, group bidding and so on.

Part 2 covers a self-declaration regarding whether or not any of the exclusion grounds apply.

Part 3 covers a self-declaration regarding whether or not the company meets the selection criteria in respect of their financial standing and technical capacity. This guidance covers:

* A summary of the key points
* More detailed advice on particular aspects, including-
* General guidance on scope, format, and deviations
* Guidance on particular subsections of the standard Selection Questionnaire
* Standard Selection Questionnaire
* List of exclusion grounds
* Frequently asked questions
* **FINALLY - SIGN OFF ON LAST PAGE**

**Summary** **of Key Points**

**General rules for standard Selection Questionnaire**

Standard Selection Questionnaire. Potential suppliers are asked to complete the standard Selection Questionnaire and submit a copy alongside the selection evidence.

To reduce the administrative burden of a procurement procedure, documentary evidence is not required when the standard Selection Questionnaire is submitted. Where the evidence is available in a relevant national database, free of charge, the potential supplier can state where the requested evidence can be found (i.e. the name of the repository, website, identification of the file etc.).

However, we may ask any potential supplier at any time during the procurement to submit all or part of the evidence if it is necessary to ensure the proper conduct of the procedure. We will check the evidence of the winning bidder before award of the contract.

**Guidance on Part 1 and Part 2 (exclusion grounds[[1]](#footnote-1)) - key principles**

It is mandatory for a potential supplier to complete Part 1 and Part 2 of the standard Selection Questionnaire.

As Part 1 and Part 2 of the standard Selection Questionnaire provide a formal statement that the relevant grounds for exclusion do not apply to the potential supplier completing it, a completed form is required for each organisation the potential supplier will rely on to meet the selection criteria. This also means that where the potential supplier is actually a group of suppliers, including joint ventures and partnerships, each potential supplier in that group must complete Part 1 and Part 2 of the standard Selection Questionnaire self-declaration. This requirement must be made clear in the procurement documents.

**Self-declarations**

We will normally allow potential suppliers to self-declare that they meet the relevant criteria in the supplier selection stage. Only the winning supplier (and any organisations relied upon to meet the winning supplier's selection criteria) should submit evidence. This reduces the need for potential suppliers to submit supporting documents every time they wish to bid for a public contract.

If the winning supplier fails to provide the required evidence within set timeframes, or the evidence proves unsatisfactory, the award of the contract will not proceed. We may then choose to amend the contract award decision and award to the second-placed supplier, provided that they have submitted a satisfactory bid. Alternatively, the procurement process may be terminated.

We can require information from any supplier at any stage if it is necessary to ensure proper conduct of the procurement procedure.

**Group of potential suppliers**

If the potential supplier is bidding on behalf of a group, for example, a consortium, or intends to use sub-contractors, there are different actions required for completion of Part 3 of the standard Selection Questionnaire compared to Part 1 and Part 2.

The consortium lead should complete all of the questions on behalf of the consortium and/or any sub-contractors. The consortium lead should make it clear who the lead member of the group is, and who will be contractually responsible for delivery of the contract.

All members of the group are required to provide the information required in Part 3 of the standard Selection Questionnaire or procurement documents, as part of a single composite response (unless the question specifically directs otherwise). We may require members of the group to assume a specific legal form if awarded the contract, if considered necessary for the satisfactory performance of the contract. Where the group is proposing to create a separate legal entity, such as a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) or consortium, they should provide details of the actual or proposed percentage shareholding of the constituent members within the new legal entity. They should also provide the name for the new entity and details of its legal and operational structure. An SPV is a legal entity that is formed to perform a specific contract.

**Technical and professional ability** - **Past Performance**

We may evaluate the past performance of a potential supplier. Suppliers may be required to have sufficient level of experience demonstrated by suitable references.

We may request details of contract examples or references from either the public or private sector that are relevant to the requirement. The number requested will be relevant and proportionate. Contracts for supplies or services should have been performed during the past three years. Contracts for works should have been performed during the past five years. The criteria for evaluating the responses from suppliers should not be discriminatory or disproportionate towards smaller businesses.

To assess whether a potential supplier has the required level of experience use the template provided. Potential suppliers should be asked to submit details of contracts where the named customer contact is prepared to provide written evidence to confirm the accuracy of the information provided. Customer references should be factual.

We may ask the lead supplier to provide a relevant example where one or more group members have delivered similar requirements. If this is not possible (for example a consortium is newly formed or an SPV will be created for the contract) up to three separate examples should be provided from the principal members of the group. This approach will help us establish that the new entity demonstrates the required level of experience.

**Sub-contractors and supply chains**

Bids submitted by a potential supplier proposing to use sub-contractors should provide a relevant example where one or more of the essential sub-contractors have delivered similar requirements (separate examples are not required from each sub-contractor).

**Modern Slavery Act 2015[[2]](#footnote-2)**

Since 1 October 2015, commercial organisations that carry on a business or part of business in the UK, supply goods or services and have an annual turnover of £36 million or more ("relevant commercial organisations") have been required under Section 54 of the Act to prepare a slavery and human trafficking statement as defined by section 54 of the Act.

**Additional questions**

**Project Specific Questions**

We can ask further project-specific questions relating to the potential supplier’s technical and professional ability. Any project-specific questions asked must be relevant and proportionate to the contract.

**Insurance**

We will allow potential suppliers to self-certify that they have, or will have in place, any required insurance in the event that they are awarded the contract.

# Standard Selection Questionnaire

**Potential Supplier Information and Exclusion Grounds: Part 1 and Part 2.**

The standard Selection Questionnaire is a self-declaration, made by you (the potential supplier), that you do not meet any of the grounds for exclusion[[3]](#footnote-3). If there are grounds for exclusion, there is an opportunity to explain the background and any measures you have taken to rectify the situation (we call this self-cleaning).

A completed declaration of Part 1 and Part 2 provides a formal statement that the organisation making the declaration has not breached any of the exclusions grounds. Consequently we require all the organisations that you will rely on to meet the selection criteria to provide a completed Part 1 and Part 2. For example these could be parent companies, affiliates, associates, or essential sub-contractors, if they are relied upon to meet the selection criteria. This means that where you are joining in a group of organisations, including joint ventures and partnerships, each organisation in that group must complete one of these self-declarations. Sub-contractors that you rely on to meet the selection criteria must also complete a self-declaration (although sub-contractors that are not relied upon do not need to complete the self-declaration).

When completed, this form is to be sent back to the contact point given in the procurement documents along with the selection information requested in the procurement documentation.

**Supplier Selection Questions: Part 3**

The procurement document will provide instructions on the selection questions you need to respond to and how to submit those responses. If you are bidding on behalf of a group (consortium) or you intend to use sub-contractors, you should complete all of the selection questions on behalf of the consortium and/or any sub-contractors.

If the relevant documentary evidence referred to in the Selection Questionnaire is not provided upon request and without delay we reserve the right to amend the contract award decision and award to the next compliant bidder.

**Consequences of misrepresentation**

If you seriously misrepresent any factual information in filling in the Selection Questionnaire, and so induce an authority to enter into a contract, there may be significant consequences. You may be excluded from the procurement procedure, and from bidding for other contracts for three years. If a contract has been entered into you may be sued for damages and the contract may be rescinded. If fraud, or fraudulent intent, can be proved, you or your responsible officers may be prosecuted and convicted of the offence of fraud by false representation, and you must be excluded from further procurements for five years.

**Community Services Re-Procurement Programme**

**Stakeholder Engagement and Formal Consultation Support**

**Submission of open market Tender – Below EU Threshold**

**Notes for completion**

The “authority” means the contracting authority, or anyone acting on behalf of the contracting authority, that is seeking to invite suitable candidates to participate in this procurement process.

“You” / “Your” refers to the potential supplier completing this standard Selection Questionnaire i.e. the legal entity responsible for the information provided. The term “potential supplier” is intended to cover any economic operator as defined by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (referred to as the “regulations”) and could be a registered company; the lead contact for a group of economic operators; charitable organisation; Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE); Special Purpose Vehicle; or other form of entity.

Please ensure that all questions are completed in full, and in the format requested. If the question does not apply to you, please state ‘N/A’. Should you need to provide additional information in response to the questions, please submit a clearly identified annex.

The authority recognises that arrangements set out in section 1.2 of the standard Selection Questionnaire, in relation to a group of economic operators (for example, a consortium) and/or use of sub-contractors, may be subject to change and will, therefore, not be finalised until a later date. The lead contact should notify the authority immediately of any change in the proposed arrangements and ensure a completed Part 1 and Part 2 is submitted for any new organisation relied on to meet the selection criteria. The authority will make a revised assessment of the submission based on the updated information.

For Part 1 and Part 2 every organisation that is being relied on to meet the selection must complete and submit the self-declaration.

For answers to Part 3 -If you are bidding on behalf of a group, for example, a consortium, or you intend to use sub-contractors, you should complete all of the questions on behalf of the consortium and/ or any sub-contractors, providing one composite response and declaration.

The authority confirms that it will keep confidential and will not disclose to any third parties any information obtained from a named customer contact, other than to the Cabinet Office and/or contracting authorities defined by the regulations, or pursuant to an order of the court or demand made by any competent authority or body where the authority is under a legal or regulatory obligation to make such a disclosure.

**Part 1: Potential supplier Information**

Please answer the following questions in full. Note that every organisation that is being relied on to meet the selection must complete and submit the Part 1 and Part 2 self-declaration.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 1 | Potential supplier information | |
| Question number | Question | Response |
| 1.1(a) | Full name of the potential supplier submitting the information |  |
| 1.1(b) – (i) | Registered office address (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(b) – (ii) | Registered website address (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(c) | Trading status   1. public limited company 2. limited company 3. limited liability partnership 4. other partnership 5. sole trader 6. third sector 7. other (please specify your trading status) |  |
| 1.1(d) | Date of registration in country of origin |  |
| 1.1(e) | Company registration number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(f) | Charity registration number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(g) | Head office DUNS number (if applicable) |  |
| 1.1(h) | Registered VAT number |  |
| 1.1(i) - (i) | If applicable, is your organisation registered with the appropriate professional or trade register(s) in the member state where it is established? | Yes ☐  No ☐  N/A ☐ |
| 1.1(i) - (ii) | If you responded yes to 1.1(i) - (i), please provide the relevant details, including the registration number(s). |  |
| 1.1(j) - (i) | Is it a legal requirement in the state where you are established for you to possess a particular authorisation, or be a member of a particular organisation in order to provide the services specified in this procurement? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1.1(j) - (ii) | If you responded yes to 1.1(j) - (i), please provide additional details of what is required and confirmation that you have complied with this. |  |
| 1.1(k) | Trading name(s) that will be used if successful in this procurement |  |
| 1.1(l) | Relevant classifications (state whether you fall within one of these, and if so which one)   1. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE) 2. Sheltered Workshop 3. Public service mutual |  |
| 1.1(m) | Are you a Small, Medium or Micro Enterprise (SME)[[4]](#footnote-4)? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1.1(n) | Details of Persons of Significant Control (PSC), where appropriate: [[5]](#footnote-5)  - Name;  - Date of birth;  - Nationality;  - Country, state or part of the UK where the PSC usually lives;  - Service address;  - The date he or she became a PSC in relation to the company (for existing companies the 6 April 2016 should be used);  - Which conditions for being a PSC are met;  - Over 25% up to (and including) 50%,  - More than 50% and less than 75%,  - 75% or more. [[6]](#footnote-6)  (Please enter N/A if not applicable) |  |
| 1.1(o) | Details of immediate parent company:    - Full name of the immediate parent company  - Registered office address (if applicable)  - Registration number (if applicable)  - Head office DUNS number (if applicable)  - Head office VAT number (if applicable)  (Please enter N/A if not applicable) |  |
| 1.1(p) | Details of ultimate parent company:  - Full name of the ultimate parent company  - Registered office address (if applicable)  - Registration number (if applicable)  - Head office DUNS number (if applicable)  - Head office VAT number (if applicable)  (Please enter N/A if not applicable) |  |

Please note: A criminal record check for relevant convictions may be undertaken for the preferred suppliers and the persons of significant in control of them.

Please provide the following information about your approach to this procurement:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 1 | Bidding model | |
| Question number | Question | Response |
| 1.2(a) - (i) | Are you bidding as the lead contact for a group of economic operators? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes, please provide details listed in questions 1.2(a) (ii), (a) (iii) and to 1.2(b) (i), (b) (ii), 1.3, Section 2 and 3.  If no, and you are a supporting bidder please provide the name of your group at 1.2(a) (ii) for reference purposes, and complete 1.3, Section 2 and 3. |
| 1.2(a) - (ii) | Name of group of economic operators (if applicable) |  |
| 1.2(a) - (iii) | Proposed legal structure if the group of economic operators intends to form a named single legal entity prior to signing a contract, if awarded. If you do not propose to form a single legal entity, please explain the legal structure. |  |
| 1.2(b) - (i) | Are you or, if applicable, the group of economic operators proposing to use sub-contractors? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 1.2(b) - (ii) | If you responded yes to 1.2(b)-(i) please provide additional details for each sub-contractor in the following table: we may ask them to complete this form as well.   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Name |  |  |  |  |  | | Registered address |  |  |  |  |  | | Trading status |  |  |  |  |  | | Company registration number |  |  |  |  |  | | Head Office DUNS number (if applicable) |  |  |  |  |  | | Registered VAT number |  |  |  |  |  | | Type of organisation |  |  |  |  |  | | SME (Yes/No) |  |  |  |  |  | | The role each sub-contractor will take in providing the works and /or supplies e.g. key deliverables |  |  |  |  |  | | The approximate % of contractual obligations assigned to each sub-contractor |  |  |  |  |  | | |

**Contact details and declaration**

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the answers submitted and information contained in this document are correct and accurate.

I declare that, upon request and without delay I will provide the certificates or documentary evidence referred to in this document.

I understand that the information will be used in the selection process to assess my organisation’s suitability to be invited to participate further in this procurement.

I understand that the authority may reject this submission in its entirety if there is a failure to answer all the relevant questions fully, or if false/misleading information or content is provided in any section.

I am aware of the consequences of serious misrepresentation.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 1 | Contact details and declaration | |
| Question number | Question | Response |
| 1.3(a) | Contact name |  |
| 1.3(b) | Name of organisation |  |
| 1.3(c) | Role in organisation |  |
| 1.3(d) | Phone number |  |
| 1.3(e) | E-mail address |  |
| 1.3(f) | Postal address |  |
| 1.3(g) | Signature (electronic is acceptable) |  |
| 1.3(h) | Date |  |

**Part 2: Exclusion Grounds**

Please answer the following questions in full. Note that every organisation that is being relied on to meet the selection must complete and submit the Part 1 and Part 2 self-declaration.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 2 | Grounds for mandatory exclusion | |
| Question number | Question | Response |
| 2.1(a) | **Regulations 57(1) and (2)**  The detailed grounds for mandatory exclusion of an organisation are set out on this [webpage](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551130/List_of_Mandatory_and_Discretionary_Exclusions.pdf), which should be referred to before completing these questions.  Please indicate if, within the past five years you, your organisation or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control in the organisation been convicted anywhere in the world of any of the offences within the summary below and listed on the [webpage](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551130/List_of_Mandatory_and_Discretionary_Exclusions.pdf). | |
|  | Participation in a criminal organisation. | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 2.1(b) |
|  | Corruption. | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 2.1(b) |
|  | Fraud. | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 2.1(b) |
|  | Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 2.1(b) |
|  | Money laundering or terrorist financing | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 2.1(b) |
|  | Child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 2.1(b) |
| 2.1(b) | If you have answered yes to question 2.1(a), please provide further details.  Date of conviction, specify which of the grounds listed the conviction was for, and the reasons for conviction,  Identity of who has been convicted  If the relevant documentation is available electronically please provide the web address, issuing authority, precise reference of the documents. |  |
| 2.2 | If you have answered Yes to any of the points above have measures been taken to demonstrate the reliability of the organisation despite the existence of a relevant ground for exclusion? (Self Cleaning) | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 2.3(a) | **Regulation 57(3)**  Has it been established, for your organisation by a judicial or administrative decision having final and binding effect in accordance with the legal provisions of any part of the United Kingdom or the legal provisions of the country in which the organisation is established (if outside the UK), that the organisation is in breach of obligations related to the payment of tax or social security contributions? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| 2.3(b) | If you have answered yes to question 2.3(a), please provide further details. Please also confirm you have paid, or have entered into a binding arrangement with a view to paying, the outstanding sum including where applicable any accrued interest and/or fines. |  |

**Please Note:** The authority reserves the right to use its discretion to exclude a potential supplier where it can demonstrate by any appropriate means that the potential supplier is in breach of its obligations relating to the non-payment of taxes or social security contributions.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Section 3 | Grounds for discretionary exclusion | |
|  | Question | Response |
| 3.1 | **Regulation 57 (8)**  The detailed grounds for discretionary exclusion of an organisation are set out on this [webpage](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551130/List_of_Mandatory_and_Discretionary_Exclusions.pdf), which should be referred to before completing these questions.  Please indicate if, within the past three years, anywhere in the world any of the following situations have applied to you, your organisation or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control in the organisation. | |
| 3.1(a) | Breach of environmental obligations? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1 (b) | Breach of social obligations? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1 (c) | Breach of labour law obligations? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(d) | Bankrupt or is the subject of insolvency or winding-up proceedings, where the organisation’s assets are being administered by a liquidator or by the court, where it is in an arrangement with creditors, where its business activities are suspended or it is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under the laws and regulations of any State? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(e) | Guilty of grave professional misconduct? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(f) | Entered into agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(g) | Aware of any conflict of interest within the meaning of regulation 24 due to the participation in the procurement procedure? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(h) | Been involved in the preparation of the procurement procedure? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(i) | Shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity, or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions? | Yes ☐  No ☐  If yes please provide details at 3.2 |
| 3.1(j)  3.1(j) - (i)  3.1(j) - (ii)  3.1(j) –(iii)  3.1(j)-(iv) | Please answer the following statements  The organisation is guilty of serious misrepresentation in supplying the information required for the verification of the absence of grounds for exclusion or the fulfilment of the selection criteria.  The organisation has withheld such information.  The organisation is not able to submit supporting documents required under regulation 59 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.  The organisation has influenced the decision-making process of the contracting authority to obtain confidential information that may confer upon the organisation undue advantages in the procurement procedure, or to negligently provided misleading information that may have a material influence on decisions concerning exclusion, selection or award. | Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 3.2  Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 3.2  Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 3.2  Yes ☐  No ☐  If Yes please provide details at 3.2 |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 3.2 | If you have answered Yes to any of the above, explain what measures been taken to demonstrate the reliability of the organisation despite the existence of a relevant ground for exclusion? (Self Cleaning) |  |

**Part 3: Selection Questions**[[7]](#footnote-7)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Section 4** | **Economic and Financial Standing** | |
|  | Question | Response |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **4.1** | Are you able to provide a copy of your audited accounts for the last two years, if requested?  If no, can you provide **one** of the following: answer with Y/N in the relevant box. | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| (a) A statement of the turnover, Profit and Loss Account/Income Statement, Balance Sheet/Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Cash Flow for the most recent year of trading for this organisation. | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| (b) A statement of the cash flow forecast for the current year and a bank letter outlining the current cash and credit position. | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
|  | (c) Alternative means of demonstrating financial status if any of the above are not available (e.g. forecast of turnover for the current year and a statement of funding provided by the owners and/or the bank, charity accruals accounts or an alternative means of demonstrating financial status). | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| **4.2** | Where we have specified a minimum level of economic and financial standing and/ or a minimum financial threshold within the evaluation criteria for this procurement, please self-certify by answering ‘Yes’ or ‘No’ that you meet the requirements set out. | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 5** | **If you have indicated in the Selection Questionnaire question 1.2 that you are part of a wider group, please provide further details below:** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Name of organisation** |  |
| **Relationship to the Supplier completing these questions** |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **5.1** | Are you able to provide parent company accounts if requested to at a later stage? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| **5.2** | If yes, would the parent company be willing to provide a guarantee if necessary? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |
| **5.3** | If no, would you be able to obtain a guarantee elsewhere (e.g. from a bank)? | Yes ☐  No ☐ |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 6** | **Modern Slavery Act 2015:** **Requirements under Modern Slavery Act 2015 - Annual turnover of £36 million or more.** |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **6.1** | Are you a relevant commercial organisation as defined by section 54 ("Transparency in supply chains etc.") of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ("the Act")? | Yes ☐  N/A ☐ |
| **6.2** | If you have answered yes to question 7.1 are you compliant with the annual reporting requirements contained within Section 54 of the Act 2015? | Yes ☐  Please provide the relevant url …  No ☐  Please provide an explanation |

**7. Additional Questions**

Suppliers who self-certify that they meet the requirements to these additional questions will be required to provide evidence of this if they are successful at contract award stage.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Section 8** | **Additional Questions** |
| **7.1** | **Insurance** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| a. | Please self-certify whether you already have, or can commit to obtain, prior to the commencement of the contract, the levels of insurance cover indicated below:  Y/N  Employer’s (Compulsory) Liability Insurance = £x  Public Liability Insurance = £x Professional Indemnity Insurance = £x  Product Liability Insurance = £x this is not necessary for this submission.  \*It is a legal requirement that all companies hold Employer’s (Compulsory) Liability Insurance of £5 million as a minimum. Please note this requirement is not applicable to Sole Traders. |
|  |  |
| 8 | **DIVERSITY & EQUALITY - General Equality Information – all suppliers – (If you are a one Person Business please indicated where this applies)** |
|  | *In order that we may make an assessment of your current Diversity & Equality status, please provide answers to the following questions. Please ensure that any supporting documentation is clearly marked with the name of the respondent and the number of the question to which the response refers.* |
| a. | Is it your practice NOT to discriminate directly or indirectly on grounds of race, disability, gender and transgender, sexual orientation, age and religion and belief in the provision of goods, facilities or services to the public?  YES / NO |
| b. | Is it your practice to promote equality in the provision of goods, facilities or services to the public?  YES / NO |
| c. | In the last 3 years has any finding of unlawful discrimination in ANY field been made against your organisation by the Employment Tribunal, The Employment Appeal Tribunal or any court or in comparable proceedings in any other jurisdictions or has your organisation been the subject of formal investigation (which had a negative finding) by relevant authorities (such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission or its predecessors) on the grounds of alleged unlawful discrimination?  If the answer is Yes, please advise what the unlawful finding(s) was/were and what corrective actions have been taken by your Company as a result.  YES / NO  IF YES, PLEASE ATTACH DETAILS |
| d. | In the last three years has any contract with your organisation been terminated on grounds of your failure to comply with either or both of:  i) Legislation prohibiting discrimination or  ii) Contract conditions relating to equal opportunities in the provision of goods, facilities or services?  If yes, provide details of each occasion and state the corrective action you have taken.  YES / NO  IF YES, PLEASE ATTACH DETAILS |
| e. | Is your approach to equality and diversity set out in:  Instructions to those concerned with recruitment, selection, remuneration, training and promotion?  YES / NO / OPB  Documents available to employees, recognised trade unions or other representative groups of employees? (e.g. induction, training, newsletters, web etc).  YES / NO / OPB  Recruitment advertisements or other literature?  YES / NO / OPB  Are your staff with managerial responsibilities required to receive mandatory training on equal opportunities?  YES / NO / OPB |
| f. | Do you observe, as far as is possible, the relevant authorities (such as the Equality and Human Rights Commission or its predecessors) Codes of Practice for Employment, or equivalent code of statutory guidance issued under equivalent legislation in another country, which gives practical guidance to employers and others on elimination of unlawful discrimination and the promotion of equality of opportunity in employment, including monitoring of workforce matters and steps that can be taken to encourage members of all parts of society to apply for jobs or take up training opportunities?  If yes, please supply evidence to support your answer. Evidence may be examples or copies of documents such as your equality, diversity or equal opportunities in employment policy, documents containing instructions to staff, or outlining arrangements for advertisements, recruitment, selection, access to training, opportunities for promotion, copies of recruitment advertisements, extracts from staff handbooks, or other materials that demonstrate your organisations commitment to race equality.  YES / NO / OPB  IF YES, PLEASE ATTACH DETAILS |
| g. | Is it your policy as an employer to comply with relevant equality legislation to positively challenge discrimination on grounds of race, disability, gender and transgender, sexual orientation, age and religion and belief and to promote equality in line with either UK legislation or equivalent legislation which applies in the countries in which your company employs staff?  YES / NO/OPB |
| h. | Do you have a process in place to allow for tailoring your offering of goods and services to meet the needs of different racial / social groups?  YES / NO / Not Applicable |

***REMEMBER TO SIGN OFF ON LAST PAGE***

**Mandatory Exclusion Grounds**

**Public Contract Regulations 2015 R57(1), (2) and (3)**

**Public Contract Directives 2014/24/EU Article 57(1)**

**Participation in a criminal organisation**

Participation offence as defined by section 45 of the Serious Crime Act 2015

Conspiracy within the meaning of

* section 1 or 1A of the Criminal Law Act 1977; or
* article 9 or 9A of the Criminal Attempts and Conspiracy (Northern Ireland) Order 1983.

Where that conspiracy relates to participation in a criminal organisation as defined in Article 2 of Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA on the fight against organised crime;

**Corruption**

Corruption within the meaning of section 1(2) of the Public Bodies Corrupt Practices Act 1889 or section 1 of the Prevention of Corruption Act 1906;

The common law offence of bribery;

Bribery within the meaning of sections 1, 2 or 6 of the Bribery Act 2010, or section 113 of the Representation of the People Act 1983;

**Fraud**

Any of the following offences, where the offence relates to fraud affecting the European Communities’ financial interests as defined by Article 1 of the convention on the protection of the financial interests of the European Communities:

* the common law offence of cheating the Revenue;
* the common law offence of conspiracy to defraud;
* fraud or theft within the meaning of the Theft Act 1968, the Theft Act (Northern Ireland) 1969, the Theft Act 1978 or the Theft (Northern Ireland) Order 1978;
* fraudulent trading within the meaning of section 458 of the Companies Act 1985, article 451 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 or section 993 of the Companies Act 2006;
* fraudulent evasion within the meaning of section 170 of the Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 or section 72 of the Value Added Tax Act 1994;
* an offence in connection with taxation in the European Union within the meaning of section 71 of the Criminal Justice Act 1993;
* destroying, defacing or concealing of documents or procuring the execution of a valuable security within the meaning of section 20 of the Theft Act 1968 or section 19 of the Theft Act (Northern Ireland) 1969;
* fraud within the meaning of section 2, 3 or 4 of the Fraud Act 2006;
* the possession of articles for use in frauds within the meaning of section 6 of the Fraud Act 2006, or the making, adapting, supplying or offering to supply articles for use in frauds within the meaning of section 7 of that Act;

**Terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities**

Any offence:

* listed in section 41 of the Counter Terrorism Act 2008;
* listed in schedule 2 to that Act where the court has determined that there is a terrorist connection; or
* under sections 44 to 46 of the Serious Crime Act 2007 which relates to an offence covered by the previous two points.

**Money laundering or terrorist financing**

Money laundering within the meaning of sections 340(11) and 415 of the Proceeds of Crime Act 2002

An offence in connection with the proceeds of criminal conduct within the meaning of section 93A, 93B or 93C of the Criminal Justice Act 1988 or article 45, 46 or 47 of the Proceeds of Crime (Northern Ireland) Order 1996

**Child labour and other forms of trafficking human beings**

An offence under section 4 of the Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants etc.) Act 2004;

An offence under section 59A of the Sexual Offences Act 2003

An offence under section 71 of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009;

An offence in connection with the proceeds of drug trafficking within the meaning of section 49, 50 or 51 of the Drug Trafficking Act 1994

An offence under section 2 or section 4 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015

**Non-payment of tax and social security contributions**

Breach of obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions that has been established by a judicial or administrative decision.

Where any tax returns submitted on or after 1 October 2012 have been found to be incorrect as a result of:

* HMRC successfully challenging the potential supplier under the General Anti – Abuse Rule (GAAR) or the “Halifax” abuse principle; or
* a tax authority in a jurisdiction in which the potential supplier is established successfully challenging it under any tax rules or legislation that have an effect equivalent or similar to the GAAR or “Halifax” abuse principle;
* a failure to notify, or failure of an avoidance scheme which the supplier is or was involved in, under the Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Scheme rules (DOTAS) or any equivalent or similar regime in a jurisdiction in which the supplier is established

**Other offences**

Any other offence within the meaning of Article 57(1) of the Directive as defined by the law of any jurisdiction outside England, Wales and Northern Ireland

Any other offence within the meaning of Article 57(1) of the Directive created after 26th February 2015 in England, Wales or Northern Ireland

**Discretionary exclusions**

**Obligations in the field of environment, social and labour law.**

Where an organisation has violated applicable obligations in the fields of environmental, social and labour law established by EU law, national law, collective agreements or by the international environmental, social and labour law provisions as amended from time to time; including the following:-

* Where the organisation or any of its Directors or Executive Officers has been in receipt of enforcement/remedial orders in relation to the Health and Safety Executive (or equivalent body) in the last 3 years.
* In the last three years, where the organisation has had a complaint upheld following an investigation by the Equality and Human Rights Commission or its predecessors (or a comparable body in any jurisdiction other than the UK), on grounds of alleged unlawful discrimination.
* In the last three years, where any finding of unlawful discrimination has been made against the organisation by an Employment Tribunal, an Employment Appeal Tribunal or any other court (or incomparable proceedings in any jurisdiction other than the UK).
* Where the organisation has been in breach of section 15 of the Immigration, Asylum, and Nationality Act 2006;
* Where the organisation has a conviction under section 21 of the Immigration, Asylum, and Nationality Act 2006;
* Where the organisation has been in breach of the National Minimum Wage Act 1998.

**Bankruptcy, insolvency**

Bankrupt or is the subject of insolvency or winding-up proceedings, where the organisation’s assets are being administered by a liquidator or by the court, where it is in an arrangement with creditors, where its business activities are suspended or it is in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under the laws and regulations of any State;

**Grave professional misconduct**

Guilty of grave professional misconduct

**Distortion of competition**

Entered into agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition

**Conflict of interest**

Aware of any conflict of interest within the meaning of regulation 24 due to the participation in the procurement procedure

**Been involved in the preparation of the procurement procedure.**

**Prior performance issues**

Shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity, or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions.

**Misrepresentation and undue influence**

The organisation has influenced the decision-making process of the contracting authority to obtain confidential information that may confer upon the organisation undue advantages in the procurement procedure, or to negligently provided misleading information that may have a material influence on decisions concerning exclusion, selection or award.

Additional exclusion grounds

**Breach of obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions.**

**LIST OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONVENTIONS REFERRED TO IN ARTICLE 18(2) —**

* ILO Convention 87 on Freedom of Association and the Protection of the Right to Organise;
* ILO Convention 98 on the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining;
* ILO Convention 29 on Forced Labour;
* ILO Convention 105 on the Abolition of Forced Labour;
* ILO Convention 138 on Minimum Age;
* ILO Convention 111 on Discrimination (Employment and Occupation);
* ILO Convention 100 on Equal Remuneration;
* ILO Convention 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labour;
* Vienna Convention for the protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol on substances that deplete the Ozone Layer;
* Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal (Basel Convention);
* Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (Stockholm POPs Convention)
* Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for Certain Hazardous Chemicals and Pesticides in International Trade (UNEP/FAO) (The PIC Convention) Rotterdam, 10 September 1998, and its 3 regional Protocols.

**Consequences of misrepresentation**

A serious misrepresentation which induces a contracting authority to enter into a contract may have the following consequences for the signatory that made the misrepresentation:-

* The potential supplier may be excluded from bidding for contracts for three years, under regulation 57(8)(h)(i) of the PCR 2015;
* The contracting authority may sue the supplier for damages and may rescind the contract under the Misrepresentation Act 1967.
* If fraud, or fraudulent intent, can be proved, the potential supplier or the responsible officers of the potential supplier may be prosecuted and convicted of the offence of fraud by false representation under s.2 of the Fraud Act 2006, which can carry a sentence of up to 10 years or a fine (or both).
* If there is a conviction, then the company must be excluded from procurement for five years under reg. 57(1) of the PCR (subject to self-cleaning).

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**What about sub-contractors?**

If a potential supplier proposes to sub-contract part of a contract, and in doing so they rely on the capacity of that sub-contractor to fulfill the selection criteria then a separate completed standard Selection Questionnaire Part 1 and Part 2 is required from that sub-contractor.

We may also choose to ask for a separate completed standard Selection Questionnaire Part 1 and Part 2 from any other sub-contractor to verify if there are grounds for excluding it or not. If there are grounds for mandatory exclusion then the sub-contractor must be replaced. However if the grounds fall into the discretionary list then you may, at your discretion, require the potential supplier to replace the sub-contractor.

**What is Self-Cleaning?**

A potential supplier who has been excluded from public procurement can have the exclusion ended if they effectively “self-clean”.

Potential suppliers are required to demonstrate that they have taken remedial action, to the satisfaction of the contracting authority in each case. In order for the evidence provided to be sufficient it must, as a minimum, prove the supplier has “self-cleaned” as follows:

* paid or undertaken to pay compensation in respect of any damage caused by the criminal offence or misconduct;
* clarified the facts and circumstances in a comprehensive manner by actively collaborating with the investigating authorities; and
* taken concrete technical, organisational and personnel measures that are appropriate to prevent further criminal offences or misconduct.

The actions agreed on deferred prosecution agreements (DPAs) may be submitted as evidence of self-cleaning and evaluated by the contracting authority as described below.

The measures taken shall be evaluated taking into account the gravity and particular circumstances of the criminal offence or misconduct. If such evidence is considered by the contracting authority (whose decision will be final) as sufficient, the potential supplier shall be allowed to continue in the procurement process.

If the potential supplier cannot provide evidence of ‘self-cleaning’ that is acceptable to you, they are to be excluded from further participation in the procurement and provided with a statement of the reasons for that decision.

**What do I ask the suppliers for in a Light Touch Regime (LTR) procurement?**

Use of a selection of questions from Part 3 of standard Selection Questionnaire for above-threshold LTR contracts.

While the grounds for mandatory and discretionary exclusion do not apply to procurements under the LTR as a matter of law, we would still normally exclude suppliers that had been found guilty of the mandatory exclusion offence as a matter of routine and sensible business practice. We will also consider the circumstances surrounding breach of the discretionary grounds for exclusion.

**Declaration of Interest:**

Interests that must be declared including:

1. Roles and responsibilities held within the CCG or member practices;

2. Directorships, including non-executive directorships, held in private companies or PLCs that could be associated with the CCG;

3. Ownership or part-ownership of private companies, businesses or consultancies likely or possibly seeking to do business with the CCG and/or NHS England;

4. Shareholdings (more than 5%) of companies in the field of health and social care;

5. Positions of authority in an organisation (e.g. charity or voluntary organisation) in the field of health and social care;

6. Any connection with a voluntary or other organisation (public or private) contracting for NHS services;

7. Research funding/grants that may be received by the supplier or any organisation they have an interest or role in;

8. Any other role or personal relationship which the public could perceive as impairing or otherwise influence the individual’s judgement or actions in their role with or associated to the CCG or bring both parties into disrepute.

**Interest to declare? Yes / No**

If yes please complete form below and duplicate if there are multiple interests that could impact your tender.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Name:** | |  | | | | **Date** | |  | | |
| **Current position(s) of person if known that creates an interest:**  ***(please indicate)*** | | **Governing Body** | | Member Practice | CCG  Employee | | Other: *(please state)* | | | |
|  | | | |
| **Other Declared Interest: name of organisation and nature of business (e.g. another CCG, Trust or linked employment)** *(please include relationship with the person who has the interest)* | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Type of interest:**  ***(please indicate)*** | Financial | | Non-financial Professional | | | | Non-financial Personal | | | Indirect |
| **Please provide details of the interest:** | | | | | | | | | | |
| |  | | --- | |  | | | | | | | | | | | |
| **Date of interest:** | **From:** | |  | | | | **To:** | |  | |
| **Actions to mitigate risk** *(to be agreed with CCG)* | | | | | | | | | | |
|  | | | | | | | | | | |

**Policy Checklist:**

* equalities statement, practice and proof of equalities training;
* submission of relevant Health & Safety policies;
* submission of working with vulnerable persons policies;
* submission of data protection policies; and
* business continuity arrangements both for the physical “disaster / ICT recovery” aspects but also loss of key staff to the project.

**To the best of my knowledge the above is a correct and accurate response to the questionnaire.**

**Signed (Digital or Physical):**

**Print Name:**

**Position (Director, Partner or Company Secretary):**

**Date:**

1. List of exclusion grounds can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/551130/List\_of\_Mandatory\_and\_Discretionary\_Exclusions.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. For background see Home Office publication <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/471996/Transparency_in_Supply_Chains_etc__A_practical_guide__final_.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. For the list of exclusion please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/551130/List_of_Mandatory_and_Discretionary_Exclusions.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. See EU definition of SME <https://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. UK companies, Societates European (SEs) and limited liability partnerships (LLPs) will be required to identify and record the people who own or control their company. Companies, SEs and LLPs will need to keep a PSC register, and must file the PSC information with the central public register at Companies House. [See PSC guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-the-people-with-significant-control-requirements-for-companies-and-limited-liability-partnerships). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Central Government contracting authorities should use this information to have the PSC information for the preferred supplier checked before award. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. [See Action Note 8/16 Updated Standard Selection Questionnaire](https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/procurement-policy-notes) [↑](#footnote-ref-7)