



Bid Pack For Open Market Competition

This procurement event will be conducted in accordance with the Public Contract Regulations 2015, specifically Chapter 8, Below Threshold Procurements.

Attachment 2 – How To Bid Including Evaluation Criteria

Contract Reference: CCCO20A06 Hard Copy News Delivery

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1. How To Make Your Bid

- 1.1. Your bid must be made by the organisation that will be responsible for providing the deliverables if your bid is successful.
- 1.2. Remember to:
 - 1.2.1. Accept or Decline this Bid Pack. If you Decline please provide a reason for doing so
 - 1.2.2. Enter your bid into the e-Sourcing Suite. We can only accept bids that we receive through the e-Sourcing Suite
 - 1.2.3. Make sure you answer every question
 - 1.2.4. Each question must be answered in its own right. You must not answer any of the questions by cross referencing other questions or other materials e.g. reports located on your website.
 - 1.2.5. Submit your bid in good time and before the bid submission deadline.
 - 1.2.6. Upload **ONLY** those attachments we have asked for in line with the requirements specified – any other supporting evidence, certificates for example, will be requested separately by us.
 - 1.2.7. If we **do not** require attachments and have specified this please only use the Text Boxes provided for your answer.
 - 1.2.8. Check for messages in the e-Sourcing Suite throughout the competition.
 - 1.2.9. Press the Submit all **Draft Bids** button when your bid is ready, otherwise we will not be able to see it.
 - 1.2.10. If you are unsure, ask questions before the Clarification Questions Deadline.

2. How The Questionnaires Are Structured:

- 2.1. A summary of all the questions in the quality questionnaire, along with the marking scheme, and weightings for each question is set out below:
- 2.2. QUESTIONNAIRE 1 – QUALIFICATION - KEY PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS
- 2.3. QUESTIONNAIRE 2 – QUALIFICATION - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
- 2.4. QUESTIONNAIRE 3 – QUALIFICATION – Information Only

TECHNICAL ENVELOPE – 20%

- 2.5. QUESTIONNAIRE 4 - TECHNICAL - Service Delivery – 40%
- 2.6. QUESTIONNAIRE 5 - TECHNICAL - Account Management – 30%
- 2.7. QUESTIONNAIRE 6 - TECHNICAL- Supply Risk Mitigation – 30%

COMMERCIAL ENVELOPE – 80%

- 2.8. QUESTIONNAIRE 7 – Commercial Scenario Pricing – 100%

QUESTIONNAIRE 1 – QUALIFICATION - KEY PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Response Guidance

The following questions are 'Pass/Fail' questions. If Potential Bidders are unwilling or unable to answer "Yes", their submission will be deemed non-compliant and shall be rejected. Potential Bidders should confirm their answer by selecting the appropriate option from the drop down menu.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response |
|------------------------|--|----------------------|
| 1.1 | Do you accept the competition rules as described in Attachment 1 – About the Procurement? | Yes/No |
| 1.2 | Have you read, understood and accepted the Bid Pack and all associated attachments, specifically Attachment 3 - Statement of Requirements? | Yes/No |
| 1.3 | Do you agree, without caveats or limitations, that in the event that you are successful Attachment 5 - Terms and Conditions will | Yes/No |

| | | |
|-----|---|--------|
| | govern the provision of this contract? | |
| 1.4 | Do you confirm your Organisation's e-Sourcing suite profile is complete and accurate at the time the bid closed and that any amendments made following acceptance of this event will be notified to the buyer in writing? | Yes/No |
| 1.5 | Please confirm that you understand that CCS reserve the right to use a credit reference agency to obtain a financial risk score for you and any members of your consortium or any nominated guarantor(s)? | Yes/No |
| 1.6 | Do you agree without caveat or limitations that you will provide upon request any relevant Insurance or Accreditation certificates? | Yes/No |
| 1.7 | Please confirm that you are able to deliver all in scope required Hard Copy news items. | Yes/No |
| 1.8 | Please confirm that you are able to start delivering the services required by the 1 st October 2020. | Yes/No |

QUESTIONNAIRE 2 – QUALIFICATION - CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Response Guidance

Question 2.1 is a 'Yes/No' question and will dictate whether or not question 2.2 needs to be answered.

Question 2.2 is a Pass / Fail question. Potential Bidders are required to provide details of how the identified conflict will be mitigated. The Contracting Authority will review the mitigation in line with the perceived conflict of interest, to determine what level of risk this poses to them.

Therefore, if Potential Bidders cannot or are unwilling to suitably demonstrate that they have suitable safeguards to mitigate any risk then their Bid will be deemed non-compliant and will be rejected.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response |
|-----------------|--|---------------|
| 2.1 | Please confirm whether you have any potential, actual or perceived | Yes/No |

| | | |
|-----|--|----------|
| | conflicts of interest that may be relevant to this requirement. | |
| 2.2 | We require that any potential, actual or perceived conflicts of interest in respect of this Bid Pack are identified in writing and that companies outline what safeguards would be put in place to mitigate the risk of actual or perceived conflicts arising during the delivery of these services. | Text Box |

QUESTIONNAIRE 3 – QUALIFICATION - INFORMATION ONLY

Response Guidance

The following questions are for information only and do not form part of the evaluation. Information provided in response to these questions may be used in preparation of any Contract Award and any omissions may delay completion of this procurement exercise.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response |
|-----------------|--|---------------|
| 3.1 | <p>What are your details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name (registered name if registered) • Office address (registered address if registered) • Website address (if applicable) • Date of registration (if applicable) or date of formation • Registration number (company, partnership, charity etc.) if applicable • DUNS number (of head office, if applicable) • VAT number | Text Box |
| 3.2 | <p>What is your trading status:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public limited company • Limited company • Limited liability partnership • Other partnership • Sole trader • Third sector | Text Box |

| | | |
|-----|---|----------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Other | |
| 3.3 | Are you a Small, Medium or Micro Enterprise (SME)? See the definition of SME | Text Box |
| 3.4 | Please provide details of where the Award Outcome should be directed. Your response must include their; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Name • Role/Title • Registered Address • Email Address | Text Box |
| 3.5 | Please provide details of any sub-contractors you propose to use in order to meet your obligations should you be awarded a Contract. Your response must include their; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trading Name(s) • Registered Address(es) and contact details • Goods/Services to be provided | Text Box |
| 3.6 | Please provide details of your Data Protection Officer for this Contract. This information will be used for Annex 1 of the Schedule 6 as part of the Attachment 5 Terms and Conditions. | Text Box |

QUESTIONNAIRE 4 - TECHNICAL - Service Delivery

WEIGHTING 40%

Response Guidance

Potential Bidders MUST answer ALL the following questions. The method of response, page limit on attachments and evaluation criteria is set per question.

Unless otherwise specified, response must be uploaded as Attachments.

Attachments may be submitted in Microsoft Word, Excel. PDF format and must be in Arial font size 11. Page limits include the use of headers footers and diagrams. Upload ONLY those attachments we have asked for – any other supporting evidence, certificates for example, will be requested separately by us

No costings should be included in responses to this Questionnaire.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response | Minimum Acceptable Score | Maximum Available Score | Weighting |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 4.1 | <p>Please describe how you will meet the requirement for newspapers and journals to be delivered within the required timescales and frequencies.</p> <p>Your response should include but not be limited to details of how you will work with your supply chain to ensure all of the required Hard Copy News items will be delivered to the required SLAs.</p> <p>Your Response must not exceed 3 pages of A4.</p> | Attachment | 66 | 100 | 100% |

QUESTIONNAIRE 5 - TECHNICAL – Account Management

WEIGHTING 30%

Response Guidance

Potential Bidders MUST answer ALL the following questions. The method of response, page limit on attachments and evaluation criteria is set per question.

Unless otherwise specified, response must be uploaded as Attachments.

Attachments may be submitted in Microsoft Word, Excel. PDF format and must be in Arial font size 11. Page limits include the use of headers footers and diagrams. Upload ONLY those

attachments we have asked for – any other supporting evidence, certificates for example, will be requested separately by us

No costings should be included in responses to this Questionnaire.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response | Minimum Acceptable Score | Maximum Available Score | Weighting |
|-----------------|---|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 5.1 | Please provide detail on the types of reporting you can offer to meet the reporting requirements set out in the Statement of Requirements? Your Response must not exceed 2 pages of A4. | Attachment | 66 | 100 | 40% |
| 5.2 | Please provide detail for how you intend to deliver on the Authority account management requirements? Your Response must not exceed 3 pages of A4. | Attachment | 66 | 100 | 60% |

QUESTIONNAIRE 6 - TECHNICAL – Supply Risk Mitigation

WEIGHTING 30%

Response Guidance

Potential Bidders MUST answer ALL the following questions. The method of response, page limit on attachments and evaluation criteria is set per question.

Unless otherwise specified, response must be uploaded as Attachments.

Attachments may be submitted in Microsoft Word, Excel. PDF format and must be in Arial font size 11. Page limits include the use of headers footers and diagrams. Upload ONLY those attachments we have asked for – any other supporting evidence, certificates for example, will be requested separately by us.

No costings should be included in responses to this Questionnaire.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response | Minimum Acceptable Score | Maximum Available Score | Weighting |
|-----------------|--|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| 6.1 | Please provide detail on the business continuity measures you have in place to prevent a disruption to the service. Your Response must not exceed 3 pages of A4. | Attachment | 66 | 100 | 100% |

QUESTIONNAIRE 7 – COMMERCIAL

WEIGHTING 80%

Response Guidance

Potential Bidders must enter costs by uploading the relevant Attachment 4 - Price Schedule at the question level on the e-Sourcing event.

Prices must be submitted in pounds Sterling inclusive of any expenses but exclusive of VAT.

Potential Bidders will be scored in accordance with the marking scheme at Section 2.

| Question Number | Question | Your Response | Minimum Acceptable Score | Maximum Available Score | Weighting % |
|-----------------|---|---------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|
| 7.1 | Please confirm, by selecting 'YES' that you have attached a completed Price Schedule to the response to question 7.2. In so doing, you are also confirming that prices offered are inclusive of any expenses, exclusive of VAT and firm for the | Yes/No | Pass | Pass | N/A |

| | | | | | |
|-----|---|------------|---|-----|------|
| | period following the Deadline for Submission as stated in the Attachment 1 - Bid Pack. | | | | |
| 7.2 | Please attach your completed Attachment 4 Price Schedule at this question. Instructions on completing the Attachment 4 are detailed within the attachment itself. | Attachment | 0 | 100 | 100% |

3. Award Criteria

- 3.1. The award stage consists of a technical evaluation and a commercial evaluation.
- 3.2. The award of the resultant contract will be on the basis of the 'Most Economically Advantageous Tender' (MEAT).
- 3.3. The weighting for the technical evaluation is 20%; and, the commercial evaluation is 80%.
- 3.4. **Award process - What you need to do**
 - 3.4.1. Answer the questions in section 2 above in the e-Sourcing suite.
 - 3.4.2. Complete the Attachment 4 – Price Schedule.
 - 3.4.3. You must upload your completed Price Schedule into the e-Sourcing suite at questionnaire 7.
- 3.5. **What we will do**

Compliance Check including Qualification Envelope

First, we will complete a mandatory evaluation to make sure that you have answered all questions and have completed the Attachment 4 - Price Schedule in line with our instructions. All bids passing the mandatory evaluation will be progressed to the technical Evaluation.

Technical Evaluation

We will give your responses to the **TECHNICAL questionnaires** to the Contracting Authority's evaluation panel. Each evaluator will independently assess your responses to the technical questions using the response guidance and the evaluation criteria.

They will give a score and a reason for their score for each question they are assessing. The evaluators will enter the scores and reasons into the e-Sourcing suite.

If the evaluation panel wishes to clarify any areas of your bid, bid clarification questions will be issued via the e-Sourcing suite on an individual basis.

Consensus

Once the evaluators have independently assessed your answers to the questions we will arrange for the evaluators to meet. We will facilitate the discussion.

At this meeting, the evaluators will discuss the technical responses and review their scores and reasons for that score. The discussion will continue until they reach a consensus regarding the score, and reason for that score, for each question.

These final scores will be used to calculate your technical score. If the evaluation panel wishes to clarify any areas of your bid, bid clarification questions will be issued via the e-sourcing suite on an individual basis.

Technical Threshold

If you have not met the minimum acceptable score for each question, you will be excluded from the competition. We will tell you that you have been excluded from the procurement and why at award stage

Evaluate Commercial

We will then evaluate your price and calculate your price score using the evaluation criteria specified.

If we wish clarify any areas of your bid, bid clarification questions will be issued via the e-Sourcing suite on an individual basis.

Final Score

Your technical score will be added to your commercial score, to create your final score.

Award

Award will be made to the successful bidder, subject to contract.

We will notify successful and unsuccessful bidders providing feedback.

4. Marking Scheme

- 4.1. The evaluation criteria set out below will be used during the Technical Evaluation:

| Marking Scheme | Description |
|---|---|
| 100 - Good | The response fully meets all requirements with detail provided minimising risks to delivery. The response is comprehensive and unambiguous, demonstrating a thorough understanding of the requirements and provides details of how the requirement will be met in full without additional support from the Contracting Authority, other than that outlined within the Statement of Requirements. |
| 66 – Acceptable – Minor Concerns | The response is acceptable and meets all the basic requirements. However, the response, is not sufficiently detailed to minimise risk and/or the proposed approach may require additional support (in addition to that outlined in the Statement of Requirements) from the Contracting Authority to meet its deliverables. |
| 33 – Non Acceptable - Major Concerns | The response has met some, but not all elements of the requirement, which poses risk that the proposal will not meet the deliverables required. The response does not demonstrate a full understanding of the requirement posing major concerns. |
| 0 - Unsuitable | The response does not meet any of the requirements or no response has been provided. An unacceptable and/or non-compliant response with serious reservations, demonstrating no understanding of the requirement. |

5. Technical Evaluation

- 5.1. Questionnaires Q1 and Q2 are mandatory question(s) and will be evaluated PASS / FAIL. If you fail any of these questions, you will be excluded from the competition. We will tell you that your bid has been excluded.
- 5.2. When the consensus meeting has taken place and the final score for each question has been agreed by the evaluators, your final score for each question will be multiplied by that question's weighting to calculate your weighted score for that question.
- 5.3. Each weighted score for each question will then be added together to calculate your technical score.
- 5.4. Please see table A below for an example of how your technical score will be calculated.

Table A – EXAMPLE ONLY

| Questionnaire | Questionnaire Weighting | Question | Question Weighting | Bidder A | | | Bidder B | | | Bidder C | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | | | Consensus Score (Max 100) | Weighted Question Score | Weighted Questionnaire Score | Consensus Score (Max 100) | Weighted Question Score | Weighted Questionnaire Score | Consensus Score (Max 100) | Weighted Question Score | Weighted Questionnaire Score |
| 4. Service Delivery | 40% | 4.1 | 50% | 100 | 50 | 33.2 | 66 | 33 | 26.4 | 100 | 50 | 26.6 |
| | | 4.2 | 50% | 66 | 33 | | 66 | 33 | | 33 | 16.5 | |
| Questionnaire 4 Totals | | | | | 83 | | | 66 | | | 66.5 | |
| 5. Account Management | 30% | 5.1 | 75% | 66 | 49.5 | 22.35 | 66 | 49.5 | 17.33 | 33 | 24.75 | 9.9 |
| | | 5.2 | 25% | 100 | 25 | | 33 | 8.25 | | 33 | 8.25 | |
| Questionnaire 5 Totals | | | | | 74.5 | | | 57.75 | | | 33 | |
| Quality Total Score | | | | | | 55.55 | | | 43.73 | | | 36.5 |

6. Commercial Evaluation

6.1. This section contains information on how to complete Attachment 4 - Price Schedule and the commercial evaluation process.

6.2. How to complete your Attachment 4 – Price Schedule

- 6.2.1. Read and understand the instructions in the Attachment 4 - Price Schedule, and in this section before submitting your prices.
- 6.2.2. Your prices should compare with the technical element of your offer.
- 6.2.3. Your prices must be sustainable and inclusive of all costs for example your operating costs and profit.
- 6.2.4. Your prices are to exclude VAT.
- 6.2.5. Pricing is to be inclusive of expenses.
- 6.2.6. The currency is British pounds sterling, up to two decimal places.
- 6.2.7. The percentages submitted shall be up to two decimal places.
- 6.2.8. We will investigate where we consider your bid to be abnormally low.
- 6.2.9. The prices submitted shall not exceed the overarching commercial agreement rates.
- 6.2.10. You must download and complete the Attachment 4 – Price Schedule you are submitting a bid for. Further detail may be provided within the Attachment 4 – Price Schedule.
- 6.2.11. When you have completed your Attachment 4 - Price Schedule, you must upload this into the e-Sourcing Suite at question Q7. If you do not upload your Attachment 4 – Price Schedule your bid may be rejected from this competition.
- 6.2.12. Do not alter, amend or change the format or layout of the Attachment 4 – Price Schedule.

6.3. Commercial Evaluation Process

- 6.3.1. This is how we will evaluate your pricing:

- 6.3.2. We will check you have completed the Attachment 4 – Price Schedule as instructed.
- 6.3.3. Failure to complete the Attachment 4 - Price Schedule as instructed may result in your bid being deemed non-compliant and it may be rejected from this competition.
- 6.3.4. The commercial evaluation will be undertaken separately to the technical evaluation process.
- 6.3.5. The Potential Bidder with the lowest total price will be awarded the maximum score available for that.
- 6.3.6. All other Potential Bidders will get a price score relative to the lowest total price.
- 6.3.7. The calculation we will use to evaluate your total price per element, you are bidding for, is as follows:

$$\text{Price Score} = \frac{\text{Lowest total price}}{\text{Potential Bidder's total price}} * \text{maximum score available}$$

- 6.3.8. Please see table B below for an example of how your Price score will be calculated.

Table B – EXAMPLE ONLY

| | | Bidder A | | | | Bidder B | | | | Bidder C | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------|---------------|----------------------|--------|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-------|------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|-------|------------------------------|
| Questionnaire | Questionnaire Weighting % | Bid Submitted | Lowest Bid Submitted | Score | Weighted Questionnaire Score | Bid Submitted | Lowest Bid Submitted | Score | Weighted Questionnaire Score | Bid Submitted | Lowest Bid Submitted | Score | Weighted Questionnaire Score |
| 6. Price | 30 | £ 217,000.00 | £ 217,000.00 | 100.00 | 30.00 | £432,000.00 | £217,000.00 | 50.23 | 15.07 | £542,000.00 | £217,000.00 | 40.04 | 12.01 |

- 6.3.9. Where we consider any of the total price(s) you have submitted to be abnormally low will ask you to explain the price(s) you have submitted (as required in regulation 69 of the Public Contract Regulations 2015).

7. Final Decision to Award

- 7.1. We will add your quality score to your price score to calculate your final score.
- 7.2. Please see table C below for an example of how your Quality score and Price score will be added together to identify your final score.

Table C – EXAMPLE ONLY:

| Questionnaire | Weighted Questionnaire Score | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|----------|----------|
| | Bidder A | Bidder B | Bidder C |
| 4. Service Delivery | 33.20 | 26.40 | 26.60 |
| 5. Account Management | 22.35 | 17.33 | 9.90 |
| 6. Price | 30.00 | 15.07 | 12.01 |
| Total Score | 85.55 | 58.80 | 48.51 |

- 7.3. The bidder with the highest final score will be awarded the contract.

8. Further Information

- 8.1. We will tell you if you have been successful or unsuccessful via the e-Sourcing Suite.