

Invitation to Quote (ITQ) on behalf of Research England (UKRI)

**Subject: The Responsible use of Technology-Assisted Research** 

**Assessment** 

**Sourcing Reference Number: PS21219** 

# Section 6 – Evaluation questionnaire

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

Guidance on how to register and use the e-sourcing portal is available at <a href="http://www.uksbs.co.uk/services/procure/Pages/supplier.aspx">http://www.uksbs.co.uk/services/procure/Pages/supplier.aspx</a>

# PLEASE NOTE THE QUESTIONS ARE NOT NUMBERED SEQUENTIALLY COMMERCIAL QUESTIONNAIRE

SEL1.1	Please state the full legal name and address and contact details of the organisation tendering (or organisation acting as lead contact where a consortium bid is being submitted).
Bidder Guidance	The information should be based on the details of the organisation bidding (or organisation acting as lead contact where a consortium bid is being submitted).  This is the legal entity with whom we will Contract if successful.
Scoring Criteria	For information only
Answer Type	Text  (a) Bidders full legal name (b) Address line 1  Address line 2  Address line 3  Address line 4  Town / City  Country  Post code (or equivalent)  (c) Bidder contact (d) Telephone No.  (e) Email

SEL1.2	In the last three years, has any finding of unlawful discrimination been made against your organisation by an Employment Tribunal, an Employment Appeal Tribunal or any other court (or in comparable proceedings in any jurisdiction other than the UK)? And/or;
	In the last three years, has your organisation 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?
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>
Gardanes	Yes – Fail – Please provide details within SEL1.2.1
	No – Pass – No response required to SEL1.2.1
	*If you have answered "yes" please provide, as an attachment to SEL1.2.1 a summary of the nature of the investigation and an explanation of the outcome of the investigation to date.
	If the investigation upheld the complaint against your organisation, please use

	the attachment to explain what action (if any) you have taken to prevent unlawful discrimination from reoccurring.
	You may be excluded if you are unable to demonstrate to the Contracting Authority's satisfaction that appropriate remedial action has been taken to prevent similar unlawful discrimination reoccurring.
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	<b>Yes</b> – Fail – Please provide details within SEL1.2.1 <b>No</b> – Pass – No response required to SEL1.2.1

SEL1.2.1	Supporting Documentation for SEL1.2.1
Bidder Guidance	Where a bidder has responded 'Yes' to SEL1.2 please provide a supporting document attached to this question, including a summary of the nature of the investigation and an explanation of the outcome of the investigation to date.  If the investigation upheld the complaint against your organisation, please use the attachment to explain what action (if any) you have taken to prevent unlawful discrimination from reoccurring.
	You may be excluded if you are unable to demonstrate to the Contracting Authority's satisfaction that appropriate remedial action(s) have been taken to prevent similar unlawful discrimination reoccurring.
	This information should be provided as an attachment to this question. Any bidder declaring unlawful discrimination within SEL1.2 but not providing evidence may not be considered.
Scoring Criteria	For Information Only
Answer Type	Document Upload

SEL1.4	Please state the relevant classification of your organisation (state whether you fall within one of these, and if so which one)
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall choose from the following options;  A. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE) B. Sheltered Workshop C. Public Service Mutual D. N/A  Where options A, B and C are not applicable to your organisation please respond with option D
Scoring Criteria	For information only
Answer Type	Multiple Choice Dropdown  A. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE) B. Sheltered Workshop C. Public Service Mutual D. N/A

SEL1.5	Please state the size of your organisation at the time of bid submission
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall choose from the following options;
	A. Micro – fewer than 10 persons employed
	B. Small – 10-49 persons employed
	C. Medium – 50-249 persons employed
	D. Large – 250 or more persons employed
Scoring Criteria	For information only
Answer	Multiple Choice Dropdown
Type	
	A. Micro – fewer than 10 persons employed
	B. Small – 10-49 persons employed
	C. Medium – 50-249 persons employed
	D. Large – 250 or more persons employed

#### SEL2.12 United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the **Data Protection Act 2018** The UK GDPR is a mandatory requirement for all contracts or agreements both in the Public, Private and Third sectors that involves the transfer, storing and processing of personal data. The UK GDPR sits alongside the Data Protection Act 2018 as the UK's data privacy law that governs the processing of personal data domestically. The UK GDPR was drafted as a result of the UK leaving the EU, which resulted in the EU's GDPR not applying domestically to the UK any longer. The UK GDPR sits alongside the Data Protection Act 2018. It is mandatory for bidders to demonstrate that they are able to meet the technical requirements and obligations prescribed by the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 and that they will adhere to their processing obligations and as detailed in the supporting Annex A. All contracts or agreements that are awarded by the Contracting Authority (the data controller) shall contain terms and conditions that oblige the successful bidder and any bidder supply chain (data processor or sub-processors) used under this contract to comply with their information law obligations and indemnify the Contracting Authority (data controller). Please note that the appointment of any subprocessor/s should only occur after authorisation is received in writing from the Data Controller or UK SBS. Further information and helpful guidance relating to the UK GDPR is available from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) at: https://ico.org.uk/ Bidder The Contracting Authority actively encourages all bidders to ensure that they Guidance visit the ICO website via the advised link and understand the implications of information legislation in the UK (including Data Protection Act, UK GDPR and other relevant legislation) and have your Data Protection Officer complete this section if you have one or alternatively seek external professional advice before completing this section of your bid

	Bidders can answer
	Yes – We can demonstrate full compliance as is required by the UK GDPR now and will adhere to the processing obligations detailed within Annex A – Pass
	No – We will not be compliant prior to any award – Fail
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	<b>Yes</b> – We can demonstrate full compliance as is required by the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 now and will adhere to the processing obligations detailed within Annex A – <b>Pass</b>
	No – We will not be compliant prior to any award – Fail

SEL2.13	Data Storage
	Please confirm where UK GDPR data, as detailed within the Annex A, will be stored for the duration of this Contract, including any additional Countries that data may be transferred to / accessed from throughout the life of this Contract.
Bidder Guidance	Bidders are required to confirm where UK GDPR data, as detailed within the Annex A, will be stored for the duration of this Contract, including any additional Countries that data may be transferred to / accessed from throughout the life of this Contract.
	Please note, where successful bidders confirm that data may be stored, transferred, or accessed outside of the UK, there may be a requirement to include additional Contract Clauses to ensure UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 Compliance prior to Contract Award.
Scoring	For Information Only
Criteria	
Answer	Document Upload
Туре	

FOI1.1	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 (FOIA) AND / OR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004 (EIR)
	Information provided in the course of the procurement process may be disclosed under Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004.
	Please note that some of the information provided may be protected under the FOIA exemptions and EIR exceptions. More information on applying the exemptions or exceptions can be found under the information Commissioners Office (ICO) website <a href="http://ico.org.uk">http://ico.org.uk</a>
	Please confirm you have been informed that information provided under this Bid may be disclosed under the FOIA and EIR and agree to it being published.
Bidder	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>
Guidance	
	Yes – Pass

	No – Fail
Scoring	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Criteria	
Answer	Yes – Pass
Type	No – Fail

FOI1.2	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 AND / OR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004 EXEMPTIONS
	Please complete this section only if you have agreed for your information to be disclosed under the FOIA or EIR in FOI1.1  If you have not agreed for your information to be disclosed under the
	FOIA or EIR in Question FOI1.1 please complete each field 'N/A' (not applicable)
	If you have agreed for your information to be disclosed under the FOIA or EIR in Question FOI1.1 please tell us what exemptions or exceptions may apply to your information and why?
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall provide details of their proposed exemptions/exception in the fields below.
	The Bidder shall note that if the Contracting Authority believes that the suggested exemptions or exceptions have not been applied properly, the Contracting Authority will disclose the requested information unless another exemption or exception can be applied by the Contracting Authority.
	Be aware that by completing FOI1.1 and answering 'yes' you have agreed for the Contracting Authority to disclose the provided information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulation 2004; therefore, you will not be approached for consent.
	Bidders are required to complete the table fields below, highlighting your proposed exemptions to this question.
	If you are not relying on any exemptions or exceptions, please complete each field 'N/A' (not applicable).
Scoring Criteria	For information only
Answer Type	Confidential Information and justification for exemption/exception under FOI Act
	Large Text Field
	Commercially sensitive information and justification for exemption/exception under FOI Act
	Large Text Field

AW1.1	FORM OF BID
	I declare that to the best of my knowledge the answers submitted in this ITQ are correct. I understand that the information will be used in the process to assess my organisation's suitability to be invited to bid for the Contracting Authority's requirement and I am signing on behalf of my organisation. I understand that the Contracting Authority may reject

this ITQ if there is a failure to answer all relevant questions fully or if I provide false/misleading information. I understand that the Government's transparency agenda requires that sourcing documents, including ITQ templates such as this, are published on a designated, publicly searchable web site, and, that the same applies to other sourcing documents issued by the Contracting Authority, including the ITQ, and any contract entered into by the Contracting Authority or its customers with its preferred supplier once the procurement is complete. By submitting a response to this ITQ I agree that our participation may be made public. I understand that the answers given in this response will not be published on the web site (but may fall to be disclosed under Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004). By submitting a response to this ITQ I agree and accept the justification for the Contracting Authority's evaluation criteria. By submitting a response to this ITQ I agreed and accept that the Contracting Authority reserves the right to change without notice the procedure for awarding the Contract, to reject any or all bids for the Contract, to stop the process and not award the Contract (in whole or in part) at any time without any liability on its part. By submitting a response to this ITQ I agree and accept that nothing in this process is intended to form any express or implied contractual relationship between the Parties unless and until a Contract is awarded. The Contracting Authority is not liable for any costs resulting from cancellation of this process nor any costs incurred by Bidders taking part in this procurement process. I understand that where sourcing documents issued by the Contracting Authority or contracts with its suppliers fall to be disclosed the

Contracting Authority will redact them as it thinks necessary, having regard (inter alia) to the exemptions/exceptions in the FOIA or FIR

	regard (inter ana) to the exemptions/exceptions in the FOIA or EIR.
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>
	Yes – Pass
	No - Fail
Scoring	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Criteria	
Answer	Yes – Pass
Type	No – Fail

AW1.3	CERTIFICATE OF BONA FIDE BID
	The essence of procurement is that the customer shall receive bona fide competitive Bids, from all those Bidding. In recognition of this principle, we certify that this is a bona fide Bid, intended to be competitive and that we have not fixed or adjusted the amount of Bid by or under or in accordance with any agreement with any other person.

We also certify that we have not done, and we undertake that we will not do at any time before the hour and date specified for the return of this Bid any of the following: (a) Communicate to a person other than the person calling for these Bids the amount or approximate amount of the proposed Bid, except where the disclosure, in confidence, of the approximate amount of the Bid was necessary to obtain insurance premium quotations for the preparation of the Bid: (b) Enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person that he shall refrain from bidding or as to the amount of any Bid to be submitted; (c) Offer to pay or agree to pay or give any sum of money or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any person for doing or having done or causing or have caused to be done in relation to any other Bid or proposed Bid for the said supply / service any act or thing of the sort described above. In this certificate, the word "person" includes any persons and anybody or association, corporate or unincorporated, and any "agreement or arrangement" includes any such transaction, formal or informal, and whether legally binding or not. We acknowledge that the Contracting Authority will be entitled to cancel the contract and to recover from us the amount of any loss resulting from such cancellation if we or our representatives (whether with our without our knowledge) shall have practiced collusion in Bidding for this contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority or shall employ any corrupt or illegal practices either in the obtaining or execution of this contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority. We agree that the Contracting Authority may disclose the Bidders information / documentation (submitted to the Contracting Authority during this Procurement) more widely within Government for the purpose of ensuring effective cross-Government procurement processes, including value for money and related purposes. The Bidder shall answer Yes or No. Bidder Guidance Yes - Pass No – Fail Mandatory Pass / Fail Scoring Criteria **Yes** – Pass Answer No – Fail Type AW3.1 In the event of a Bidder successfully providing the most advantageous offer to the Contracting Authority against a procurement requirement, the Bidder is expected to provide an answer to the validation check that can be seen within Stage One: Overview Section prior to the award of any Contract.

	If the Bidder fails to meet the Contracting Authority's expectations, we reserve the right to not award the Contract to the relevant Bidder and either award to the Bidder with the second most advantageous response or run a new procurement.
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder is not required to complete the validation check at this stage but will be required to respond to the questions in the event of providing the most advantageous offer to the Contracting Authority's against a procurement requirement.  Yes – Pass No – Fail
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Yes - Pass No - Fail

AW4.1	Please confirm your acceptance of the Contract Terms that can be found within the Stage One: Overview section.
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes, No with justification</b> or <b>No</b>
	Yes, we accept the terms and condition in their entirety – Pass
	<b>No with justification</b> – Pass. Complete the document upload attached to AW4.2 with details of what amounts to a valid justification.
	No - Fail
	For absolute clarity should a bidder select 'Yes' or 'No' you are <b>not</b> required to respond to AW4.2, however if you select 'No with Justification' you will be required to complete AW4.2 in order to be considered.
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Multiple Choice Dropdown
71.	Yes, we accept the terms and condition in their entirety – Pass
	No with justification – Pass. Complete the document upload attached to
	AW4.2 with details of what amounts to a valid justification.  No – Fail

AW4.2	Where a Bidder has answered question AW4.1 with 'No with justification' they must detail the justification and the proposed change to the clause.
	Where a bidder has responded 'Yes' or 'No' to AW4.1 you are not required to respond to this question.
Bidder Guidance	A justification for not accepting a specific clause or series of clauses from the attached Contract Terms is that the Bidder would be in breach of legal requirements or statutory regulations by complying with that clause or series of clauses (i.e. for the avoidance of doubt, being unable to comply with a clause or series of clauses because of an internal policy reason will not be considered to be a justification for a legal requirement or statutory regulation).
	Where the Bidder has answered question AW4.1 as "no with justification", the

Bidder shall provide a Contract mark-up utilising track changes detailing the relevant clause, the proposed changes to the clause and the justification for the changes. In this case, the Bidder shall score a pass if (but only if) the Contracting Authority considers both the following requirements are satisfied: the reasons stated as justifying the Bidder's statement that it cannot accept the Contract Terms due to legal requirements or statutory regulations are valid; and the changes submitted do not create significant risk for the Contracting Authority and are reasonably necessary and proportionate to ensure the Bidder complies with the legal requirements and statutory regulations. In the event of a Bidder answering Yes or No to Question AW4.1 and then providing a proposed mark-up, rejection of a clause or a justification for a change then the response will be a Fail. Any bidder selecting 'No with Justification' to AW4.1 and failing to upload an attachment to this question detailing the information above may not be considered further. Bidders are to note that any requested modifications to the Contracting Authority Terms and Conditions on the grounds of statutory and legal matters only, should be raised as a formal clarification during the permitted clarification period. Scoring Mandatory Pass / Fail Criteria Answer **Document Upload** Type

## PRICE QUESTIONNAIRE

AW5.1	Please confirm your price shall remain firm and fixed for the full term of the Contract. Thereafter they shall be subject to change in accordance with the terms of the contract.
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>
Caldarios	Yes – Pass
	No – Fail
Scoring	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Criteria	
Answer	Yes – Pass
Туре	No - Fail

туре	110 - Fall
AW5.2	Bidders are required to complete the Excel Pricing Schedule attached in the Document Upload attachments.
	All prices shall be in £ GBP and exclusive of VAT.
	All costs appearing elsewhere in the Bid but not mentioned in this Pricing Schedule shall be presumed waived.
Bidder Guidance	Bidders shall confirm they have completed the Pricing Schedule.
Guidance	The scoring methodology for this question shall be:
	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.
	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.
	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 lowest score possible is 0.
	For example, assuming the lowest bid is £100,000.
	Bid Price £100,000 Differential to the lowest price which meets mandatory pass criteria ('Differential') 0 Score 100
	Bid price - £120,000 Differential - 20% Score - 80

Scoring Criteria	Bid price - £140,000 Differential - 40% Score - 60 Bid Price - £150,000 Differential - 50% Score - 50 Bid Price - £175,000 Differential - 75% Score - 25 Bid Price - £200,000 Differential - 100% Score - 0 Bid Price - £300,000 Differential - 200% Score - 0 Maximum Marks 20%
Answer	Price Document Upload
Type	

## **QUALITY QUESTIONNAIRE**

AW6.1	Please confirm your compliance to the requirements of Section 4 Specification
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>
	Yes – Pass
	No – Fail
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer	Yes – Pass
Туре	No – Fail

AW6.2	Variable Bids
	The Contracting Authority shall not accept variable bids as part of this Procurement. The criteria in regard to variable bids for this Procurement is outlined below.
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>
	Yes - We have provided a variable bid only - Fail
	<b>No</b> - We have chosen to only offer a main bid and have not chosen to provide an alternative bid submission – <b>Pass</b>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer	Yes - We have provided a variable bid only - Fail
Туре	<b>No</b> - We have chosen to only offer a main bid and have not chosen to provide an alternative bid submission – <b>Pass</b>

PROJ1.1	Approach/ Methodology
	Please clearly explain and give reasoning for your proposed methodology and approach to achieving the objectives and delivering the outputs highlighted in the specification.
Bidder guidance	As a minimum your response should include:
	<ul> <li>Methodological Challenges</li> <li>Give a detailed description of the methods to be used in each work strand, indicating the resources that will be utilised, outlining a clear justification as to why your chosen methodology will provide the best outcome for the work packages. Please provide details of your proposed approach to each work strand:         <ul> <li>Literature review</li> <li>Experimental work</li> <li>Sector engagement</li> </ul> </li> <li>Set out how your methods meet the project objectives;</li> <li>Please also detail how you will ensure each work strand (literature review, experimental work, sector engagement) is aligned with each other</li> <li>Dissemination</li> <li>Provide details of how you would propose to work with Research England</li> </ul>

	emerging and final findings to stimulate policy debate.
	An attachment is allowed for this question
	This question is limited to 8 sides of A4 <b>Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process.</b> Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.
Scoring criteria	Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology.
	Maximum Mark: 30%
Answer	Document Upload
Type	

PROJ1.2	Staff to Deliver/ Skills & Expertise
	Please demonstrate your knowledge of the skills and expertise that are essential to the successful delivery of this project. Please provide your methodology as to how you will maintain your ability to deliver these through the lifetime of the project.
Bidder guidance	As a minimum your response should include:
	<ul> <li>Any support that would be needed and from whom, in order to undertake and complete this project.</li> <li>How you plan on having the appropriate knowledge and skills for the literature review and expertise for the experimental work</li> </ul>
	An attachment is allowed for this question
	This question is limited to 4 sides of A4. Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process. Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.
Scoring	Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology.
criteria	Maximum Mark: 20%
Answer Type	Document Upload

PROJ1.3	<u>Understanding the Project Environment</u>
	Demonstrate your understanding of the project environment, detailing any knowledge relevant to the project and policy/programme area, including any data sources or research relevant to the project.
Bidder guidance	As a minimum your response should include:
	Interpretation of the project and what is required

	<ul> <li>How the bidder will ensure the successful delivery of this project within the working environment</li> <li>Demonstrate an understanding of the key stakeholders impacted from the use technology in research assessment</li> <li>Demonstrate an understanding of the key risks associated with using technology in research assessment</li> <li>Your understanding of the UK's research policy landscape and the key strategic drivers that affect it with relation to the project.</li> </ul>
	An attachment is allowed for this question
	This question is limited to 3 sides of A4. Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process. Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.
Scoring criteria	Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology.
3113114	Maximum Mark: 10%
Answer Type	Document Upload

PROJ1.4	Project Plan and Timescales
	Please outline your proposed project plan and timescales, ensuring the key deadlines outlined in the specification are met.
Bidder guidance	Bidders are asked to demonstrate/provide:
	A detailed timetable for carrying out the work based on the proposed approach and method
	Highlight key milestones and deadlines, including suggested meetings and progress reports.
	A detailed table showing how resources will be allocated over the contract
	An attachment is allowed for this question
	This question is limited to 4 side of A4 Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process. Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm
Scoring criteria	Maximum Mark: 10%
Answer Type	Document Upload

PROJ1.5	Risk Management

	Please provide details of all key risks that could affect the delivery of this project
Bidder guidance	<ul> <li>Bidders are asked to provide details of all key risks that could affect the delivery of this project. As a minimum your response should include: <ul> <li>Any possible risk factors</li> <li>A Demonstration of your tools and processes to mitigate risk in this project;</li> <li>The likelihood of the risk occurring</li> </ul> </li> <li>An attachment is allowed for this question.</li> <li>This question is limited to 3 side of A4 Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process. Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.</li> </ul>
Scoring criteria	Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology.  Maximum Mark: 10%
Answer Type	Document Upload