

Small and Medium Enterprises

16. The Authority is committed to supporting the Government's Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) policy, and we want to encourage wider SME participation throughout our supply chain. Our goal is that 25% of the Authority's spending should be spent with SMEs by 2022; this applies to the money which the Authority spends directly with SMEs and through the supply chain. The Authority uses the European Commission definition of SME.

17. A key aspect of the Government's SME Policy is ensuring that its suppliers throughout the supply chain are paid promptly. All suppliers to the Authority and their Sub-Contractors are encouraged to make their own commitment and register with the <https://www.smallbusinesscommissioner.gov.uk/ppc/>.

18. Suppliers are also encouraged to work with the Authority to support the Authority's SME initiative, however this is not a condition of working with the Authority now or in the future, nor will this issue form any part of the Tender evaluation. Information on the Authority's purchasing arrangements, our commercial policies and our SME Action Plan can be found at [Gov.UK](https://www.gov.uk) and the DSP.

19. The opportunity also exists for Tenderers to advertise any Sub-Contract valued at over £10,000 on the Defence Sourcing Portal and further details can be obtained directly from: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/subcontract-advertising>. This process is managed by the Strategic Supplier Management team who can be contacted at: DefComrclSSM-Suppliers@mod.gov.uk.

Transparency, Freedom Information and Environmental Information Regulations

20. The Authority shall publish notification of the Contract and publish Contract documents where required following a request under the FOI Act except where publishing such information would hinder law enforcement; would otherwise be contrary to the public interest; would prejudice the legitimate commercial interest of any person or might prejudice fair competition between suppliers.

21. The Authority may publish the contents of any resultant Contract in line with government policy set out in the Government's [Transparency Principles](#) and in accordance with the provisions of either DEFCON 539, SC1B Conditions of Contract Clause 5 or SC2 Conditions of Contract Clause 12.

22. Before publishing the Contract, the Authority will redact any information which is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("the FOIA") or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ("the EIR").

23. You must complete the attached Tenderer's Sensitive Information form (DEFFORM 539A, SC1B Schedule 4 or SC2 Schedule 5) explaining which parts of your Tender you consider to be Sensitive Information (as defined in DEFCON 539). This includes providing a named individual who can be contacted with regard to FOIA and EIR.

24. You should note that while your views will be taken into consideration, the ultimate decision whether to publish or disclose information lies with the Authority. You are advised to provide as much detail as possible on the form. It is highly unlikely that a Tender will be exempt from disclosure in its entirety. Should the Authority decide to publish or disclose information against your wishes, you will be given prior notification.

Electronic Purchasing

25. Tenderers must note that use of the [Contracting, Purchasing and Finance \(CP&F\)](#) electronic procurement tool is a mandatory requirement for any resultant Contract awarded following this Tender. By submitting this Tender, you agree to electronic payment. You may

consult the service provider on connectivity options. Failure to accept electronic payment will result in your Tender being non-compliant and excluded from the tender process.

Change of Circumstances

26. In accordance with paragraph A31, if your circumstances have changed, please select 'Yes' to the appropriate question on DEFFORM 47 Annex A and submit a Statement Relating to Good Standing with your Tender.

Asbestos, Hazardous Items and Depletion of the Ozone Layer

27. The Authority is required to report any items that use asbestos, that are hazardous or where there is an impact on the Ozone. Where any Contractor Deliverables fall into one of these categories select 'Yes' to the appropriate question on DEFFORM 47 Annex A and provide further details in your Tender.

Defence Safety Authority (DSA) Requirements

28. There are no DSA Requirements.

Bank or Parent Company Guarantee

29. A Bank or Parent Company Guarantee is not required.