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| **QUESTIONS** | **ANSWERS** |
| 1. Does the 15 page summary (bid) intend to address both Phase 1 & Phase 2 or just Phase 1 at this stage? | The bids to this Invitation to Tender (ITT) need to cover Phase 1 and phase 2 of the project. More detailed plans for phase 2 will be assessed when outputs from phase 1 are submitted.  |
| 2. Given the current timescales involved and entering into a busy period and holiday seasons, is there an option to delay the bid submission date until 21 December, as companies are also just back from European Utility Week as well and available of key staff is currently impacted.There is an understanding that this would have a knock-on to the evaluation timescales, but in order for companies to have the time to provide a good summary response this extension would aid all parties. | Extending the timescale for submission of bids would reduce time available for the feasibility studies or the full project implementation. Since both feasibility and full project implementation require more detailed work than submission of bids, we are prioritising these stages. We feel the 4-week ITT response time strikes the best balance, especially given the pre-ITT engagement that has taken place.   |
| 3. Does a company need to be registered in the UK to participate in the bid?  | In principle, companies not registered in the UK may bid on the UK work. If you are a company bidding for the UK work outside the UK, you may however wish to consider issues such as, for example, timely access to resources and partners to deliver the project, cost/ effort associated with your ability to attend meetings and implement the requirement in the UK or that payments would be impacted by currency fluctuations. As indicated in the ITT, we would normally expect the bids to come from consortia which consists of at least a (UK based) energy supplier and a meter or charge point manufacturer, so any non-UK based company would need to meet this requirement too. Finally, a successful bidder located outside the UK would need to bear in mind UK’s pending departure from the EU and understand how legal and regulatory landscape may change during the contract lifetime as a consequence and be able to meet any changing/ additional legal requirements in the future. |
| 4. Where do we submit our response to the ITT, there is only an option to ‘Watch the Notice’ and ‘Print this Notice’ here: <https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/d7b9c187-6383-4833-a540-f3adb5544eee>  | The bids to ITT must be emailed to the address indicated in the Tender (smartmeterspmo@beis.gov.uk) by 10 Dec 2018 at 14h.  |