**New Medium Helicopter (NMH) Prior Information Notice - Market Interest Day**

1. **Requirement**

* 1. The Ministry of Defence (MoD) is considering the procurement of a New Medium Helicopter (NMH) to replace existing rotorcraft systems for Army and Strategic Commands.
  2. The draft scope for NMH procurement includes:
     1. Between 36 and 44 aircraft.
     2. Design Integration services.
     3. Simulators: 2 x cockpit Flight Simulation Training Devices (FSTD) and 1 x cabin FSTD.
     4. Industry supplied Qualified Helicopter Instructor (QHI) training, Aircrew training and Maintainer training.
     5. Courseware material for enduring aircrew and maintainer training.
     6. An initial In-Service Support Package to include: Initial Provisioning Spares, Deployed Support Packages (DSPs), Ground Support Equipment and Specialist Tooling, Technical Publications and Aircrew Publications, Logistics (Spares) Management, Depth Maintenance, Forward Maintenance and Design Organisation (DO) technical support.
  3. The purpose of this Prior Information Notice is to invite potential and interested suppliers to a Market Interest Day, planned for Thursday 25 November, and subsequent market engagement to further inform the NMH requirement and procurement strategy. The Market Interest Day is planned to be held virtually unless advised otherwise.
  4. The Authority is open to engaging with UK and international suppliers or consortiums that can clearly demonstrate their experience in supplying and supporting Defence Capabilities (Air Systems) in a Rotary Wing environment.
  5. As part of Market Interest Day and to better understand the market, the Authority intends to issue Requests for Information (RFIs) with invited Suppliers on key elements of the NMH programme and for industry to respond to in writing.
  6. The Market Interest Day will be used to explain the Authority’s requirement further and to take any clarification requests and questions from the industry regarding the requirement.
  7. The Market Interest Day is intended to be in-person, but spaces may be limited for social distancing reasons. Details and agenda for the day will be shared with the Suppliers who register interest and are invited to the Market Interest Day.
  8. The Authority will require interested suppliers to sign a Confidentiality Agreement in the form of a DEFFORM 94, which can be found within the Commercial Manager’s Toolkit. To register for access, please use this link; https://www.gov.uk/guidance/knowledge-in-defence-kid . If invited to participate in the Market Interest Day, this will also be issued following a supplier’s written expression of interest.

1. **General & Data Room** 
   1. It is our planning assumption that this procurement will be concluded within the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations (DSPCR) 2011.
   2. This is not a commitment from the Authority to start the procurement process and the Authority does not bind itself to enter any contract(s) arising out of the proceedings envisaged by this Prior Information Notice. This is a market sounding exercise only and should not be construed as either an invitation to submit proposals or a commitment by the MoD to pursue any potential options.
   3. All information supplied by the Authority is DRAFT and subject to change.
   4. Neither the Authority, nor its respective advisers, will be liable for any costs or expenses incurred by industry participants in connection with this engagement, including but not limited to, participation in the Market Interest Day and subsequent responses to RFIs.
   5. Any discussions on potential solutions should be based on information currently held by industry and there is no expectation that industry will be required to undertake any work to develop solutions in support of Market Interest Day engagement.
2. **Next Steps**
   1. Suppliers that are interested in participating in the Market Interest Day should write to the Authority at DESHels-NMH-Commercial@mod.gov.uk to confirm their interest to attend. The response should include:
      1. Details of the company name.
      2. Two (2) points of contact that will represent your organisation at this event and any subsequent and their contact details (name, role, phone number, email address, postal address).
      3. Evidence that meets criteria at section 1.4 (no more than 500 words);
      4. Availability to attend Market Interest Day on 25 November 2021.
      5. Notification of any questions you wish to be covered during these discussions, noting any responses provided will be under a best endeavour basis at this stage; and
      6. Provide written confirmation that you understand and will adhere to the Confidentiality Arrangements contained in DEFFORM 94 and as per paragraph 1.8.
   2. The agenda for the Market Interest Day will be shared with Suppliers who have expressed interest and have been invited to the event.
   3. All interest shall be registered by 17:00 GMT on 18 November 2021 with all the supporting information requested in this Prior Information Notice. Any expression of interest received after this time will not be considered by the Authority, however, this would not preclude a company responding to a potential future Contract Notice as part of a formal competitive process for this requirement.