



Crown
Commercial
Service

Invitation to Tender

Attachment 1 – About the framework

RM6157 Building Materials and Equipment

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Welcome

We invite you to bid in this competition for RM6157 Building Material and Equipment. Our Invitation to Tender (ITT) pack comes in divided into two main parts:

Attachment 1 - About the framework (this document) – what the opportunity is, who can bid, the timelines for this competition, how to ask questions.

Plus:

- the competition rules and obligations and rights between you and us
- how the Framework Alliance Contract works – what it is and what is in it.

Attachment 2 - How to bid – guidance on how to submit your bid, the selection and award stages, how we will assess your bid, what is the process at intention to award and the framework contract award stage.

You must use our eSourcing suite, to submit your bid

<https://crowncommercialservice.bravosolution.co.uk>

Guidance at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esourcing-tool-guidancefor-suppliers>

Book online training for the CCS eSourcing suite at

<https://www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/esourcing-training>

If you experience any technical issues contact Email -

eenablement@crowncommercial.gov.uk

Phone - 0345 410 2222 choose option 2

There are the following attachments to the ITT pack.

These attachments are:

Attachment 1a Specification – Part 1 Services – forms part of the Framework Alliance Contract and sets out the scope of the requirement.

Attachment 1b Specification Part 2 Technical – forms part of the Framework Alliance Contract and sets out the scope of the requirement.

Attachment 2a Selection questionnaire – this document contains the selection questions and guidance, but remember you must complete the selection questions online in the eSourcing Suite (qualification envelope).

Attachment 2b Certificate of Past Performance – you must get your customer to populate this attachment for your contract example. You must then attach the certificate to the relevant selection questions in the eSourcing Suite (qualification envelope). You are required provide only one certificate for this procurement even if you bid for more than one Lot.

Attachment 3 Price matrix – you must complete the Price Matrix attachment for the Lots which you are bidding for and complete it in accordance with the instructions

provided in paragraph 12 Attachment 2 – How to bid. Upload your completed Price Matrix for each Lot into the eSourcing suite in the commercial envelope to the relevant question as detailed in the table at paragraph 9.1 of Attachment 2 – How to bid.

There are 9 Price Matrixes, these are:

- Attachment 3a – Price Matrix Lot 1
- Attachment 3b – Price Matrix Lot 2
- Attachment 3c – Price Matrix Lot 3
- Attachment 3d – Price Matrix Lot 4
- Attachment 3e – Price Matrix Lot 5
- Attachment 3f – Price Matrix Lot 6
- Attachment 3g – Price Matrix Lot 7
- Attachment 3h – Price Matrix Lot 8
- Attachment 3i – Price Matrix Lot 9

Attachment 4 Information and declaration workbook – if you are relying upon any other organisation, including key subcontractors or consortium members, to meet the selection, you must get **each of the organisations** to populate this attachment. You must then attach each of the populated attachments to the relevant selection questions in the eSourcing Suite (qualification envelope).

Attachment 5 Financial assessment template – you do not need to populate this template as part of your bid

Attachment 6 Consortia details – you should complete this spreadsheet if you are bidding as the lead member of a consortium and attach to selection question 1.8.3 in the eSourcing Suite (qualification envelope).

Attachment 7 Key subcontractor details – you should complete this spreadsheet if you intend to use Key Subcontracts in your bid and attach to selection question 1.10.1 in the eSourcing Suite (qualification envelope)

Attachment 8 Frequently Asked Questions Framework / Contract – you do not need to submit this as part of your Bid. This document contains a list of questions and answers relating to our competitions that may be helpful to you.

Attachment 9 Letter of Intent to Guarantee – if you require a Guarantor this is the document that needs to be completed by a third party (Guarantor) to provide additional assurance to a Client that the Agency will meet their obligations under a call-off contract.

Attachment 10 – Contract Documents – this is a zip folder consisting of:

- Framework Alliance Contract
- Draft Standard _Boilerplate_ Amendments – JCT
- Draft Standard _Boilerplate_ Amendments - NEC4 – SC
- Draft Standard _Boilerplate_ Amendments -TAC-1
- Equipment Hire Agreement
- JCT Minor Works Building Contract Agreement

- JCT Minor Works With Contractors Design Contract Agreement
- Materials Purchase Order Short Form Conditions
- Materials Supply/Supply and Install Conditions - Longer Form
- NEC4 Supply Contract Agreement and Contract Data
- RM6157 CCS Construction Building Materials Framework Alliance Contract
- SBCC Minor Works Contract Agreement
- SBCC Minor Works With Contractors Design Contract Agreement

Attachment 11 CCS Offer Document – you are required to complete and submit a CCS Offer Document (attachment 11) as part of your bid attach to 1.28.7 of the eSourcing Suite (qualification envelope).

Attachment 12 – Management Information Template – this document sets out the information you are required to provide to us if you are awarded a Framework Alliance Contract, in accordance Framework Alliance Contract – Schedule 7 (Management)

Make sure you **read all the attachments, and the contract documents** which can be found <https://www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/agreements/RM6157>.

The guidance, information and instructions that we provide are there to help you to make a compliant bid.

If anything isn't clear, see paragraph 6. 'When and how to ask questions'.

Please read the Bidder guidance which can be found on the below link for help using our eSourcing suite and instructions on how to submit a compliant bid:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esourcing-tool-guidance-for-suppliers>

1. What you need to know

1.1 What 'we' and 'you' means

When we use "CCS", "we", "us" or "our" we mean Crown Commercial Service (the Authority);

When we use "you" or "your", "Bidder", Supplier or "Supplier Alliance Member", we mean your organisation, or the organisation you represent.

We are a central purchasing body that procures common goods and services for Additional Clients including central government departments and the wider public sector.

1.2 Who are 'Additional Clients'?

Additional Clients are the organisations named in the published contract notice as those able to place Project Contracts for the Deliverables via this Framework Alliance Contract. They will do this in line with Schedule 4 (Direct Award Procedure and Competitive Award Procedure) of the Framework Alliance Contract.

1.3 What is a 'lot'?

A lot is sub-division of the deliverables which are the subject of this competition as described in the published contract notice.

1.4 What do we mean by 'deliverables'?

Deliverables are the goods and/or services that will be provided under this Framework Alliance Contract as set out in Attachment 1a Specification – Part 1 Services and Attachment 1b Specification – Specification Part 2 Technical.

1.5 Who are 'key subcontractors'?

Key subcontractors are any other person other than you who under this Framework Alliance Contract will:

- be relied on to deliver any of the deliverables under this Framework Alliance Contract in their entirety (or any part of them)
- provide the facilities or services necessary for the provision of the deliverables (or any part of them)
- be responsible for the management, direction or control of the provision of the deliverables (or any part of them)

Please note we do not require all subcontractors to be named in your bid, we only want to know about key subcontractors who directly contribute to your ability to provide the deliverables under the Framework Alliance Contract and any call-off contracts. We do not need to know about subcontractors who supply general services to you (such as window cleaners etc.) that only indirectly enable you to provide the deliverables.

1.6 What is the difference between a Bidder and Supplier Alliance Members?

Successful Bidders will become Supplier Alliance Members.

1.7 The Public Contracts Regulations 2015

The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations") regulate how we procure. This means that we and you follow processes that are fair, transparent and equitable for all Bidders.

1.8 Government Security Classifications (GSC)

On 02/04/2014 the Government introduced its Government Security Classifications (GSC) classification scheme to replace the current Government Protective Marking System (GPMS). A key aspect of this was the reduction in the number of security classifications used.

You are encouraged to make yourself aware of the changes and identify any potential impacts in your bid, as the protective marking and applicable protection of any material passed to, or generated by, you during this

competition, or pursuant to any Contract awarded to you as a result of this competition, will be subject to the GSC from 02/04/2014. The link below to the Gov.uk website provides information on the GSC:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications>

2. The opportunity

Crown Commercial Service (CCS) intends to establish a Pan Government Collaborative Agreement for the provision of Building Materials and Equipment to be utilised by Central Government Departments and all other UK Public Sector Bodies, including Local Authorities, Health, Police, Fire and Rescue, Education and Devolved Administrations. It is intended that this commercial agreement will be the recommended vehicle for all Building Materials & Equipment required by UK Central Government Departments. The Agreement will consist of a wide range of Building Materials and Equipment.

The full specification is set out in Attachment 1a Specification – Part 1 Services and Attachment 1b – Specification Part 2 Technical

3. What a Framework Alliance Contract is

The form of agreement used for this competition is the CCS Building Materials and Equipment Framework Alliance Contract and the FAC-1 standard form.

See section 11 for more information on the Framework Alliance Contract. If you are a successful Bidder, we will use the information you have provided in your bid, including your pricing, to personalise the Framework Alliance Contract. You are required to complete and submit a CCS Offer Document (attachment 11) as part of your bid, and upload it in response to question 1.28.7 of the Selection Questionnaire. If you are successful we will send you an Award Confirmation Notice. The Framework Alliance Contract will be managed by you and us.

The Framework Alliance Contract, with one or more Supplier Alliance Members, sets out terms that allow Additional Clients to make specific purchases ('Project Contracts') during the life of the Framework Alliance Contract. This competition is for a multi-supplier Framework Alliance Contract. Each Project Contract will be signed and managed by you and the Additional Client.

The estimated value of call-off contracts that may be placed under this Framework is set out in the contract notice published on Find a Tender (FTS). There may be multiple call off agreements under one framework.

There may be multiple Project Contracts under the Framework Alliance Contract, but we cannot guarantee any business

3.1 How the framework is structured

The framework will be established for 48 months.

This framework will have 9 lots, the lots are:

| Lot | Lot name and description |
|-------|--|
| Lot 1 | Heavy Building Materials and 'One Stop Shop' |
| Lot 2 | Plumbing, Heating & Bathrooms |
| Lot 3 | Electrical Products |
| Lot 4 | Paints and Solvents |
| Lot 5 | Flooring |
| Lot 6 | Kitchens (Domestic) |
| Lot 7 | Personal Protective Equipment (Workwear, General and Specialist) |
| Lot 8 | Building and Construction Tools & Equipment – Purchase |
| Lot 9 | Building and Construction Tools & Equipment – Hire |

Bidders can bid for any of combination of lots.

The number of suppliers to be awarded a Framework Alliance Contract for each lot is:

| Lot | Number of places |
|-------|------------------|
| Lot 1 | 30 |
| Lot 2 | 12 |
| Lot 3 | 12 |

| | |
|-------|----|
| Lot 4 | 6 |
| Lot 5 | 6 |
| Lot 6 | 10 |
| Lot 7 | 16 |
| Lot 8 | 12 |
| Lot 9 | 30 |

4. Who can bid

We are running this competition using the 'open procedure'. This means that anyone can submit a bid in response to the published contract notice.

The URL of the new UK e-notification service, Find a Tender (FTS) is www.find-tender.service.gov.uk

You can submit a bid as a single legal entity. Alternatively, you can take one or both of the following options:

- work with other legal entities to form a consortium. If you do, we ask the consortium to choose a lead member who will submit the bid on behalf of the consortium.
- bid with named key subcontractors to deliver parts of the requirements. This applies whether you are bidding as a single legal entity or as a consortium.

We recognise that subcontracting and consortium plans can change. You must tell us about any changes to the proposed subcontracting or to the consortium as soon as you know. If you do not, you may be excluded from this competition.

5. Timelines for the competition

These are our intended timelines. We will try to achieve these however, for a range of reasons, dates can change. We will tell you if and when timelines change:

| | |
|--|------------|
| Start date (this is the date we submitted the contract notice to be published) | 09/03/2021 |
| Publication date (this is the date the ITT pack will be published) | 10/03/2021 |

| | |
|--|---|
| Clarification questions deadline | 17:00 31/03/2021 |
| Deadline for our responses to clarification questions | 07/04/2021 |
| Bid submission deadline | 15:00 14/04/2021 |
| Compliance | From the bid submission deadline through to Award of Framework Alliance Contracts |
| Issue of intention to award notices to successful and unsuccessful Bidders | 01/07/2021 |

6. When and how to ask questions

We hope everything is clear after you have this ITT pack (including the attachments).

If you have any questions you need to ask them as soon as possible after the contract notice is published. This is because we have set a deadline for submitting questions - the clarification questions deadline.

You need to send your questions to us through the eSourcing suite. This is the only way we can communicate with Bidders. Try to ensure your question is specific and clear. Do not include your identity in the question. This is because we publish all the questions and our responses, to all Bidders.

If you feel that a particular question should not be published, you must tell us why when you ask the question. We will decide whether or not to publish the question and response.

Remember that you can ask us questions about the Framework Alliance Contract and call off contract but please do not attempt to 'negotiate' the terms. All framework awards will be made under identical terms.

7. Management information and management charge

If you are awarded a Framework Alliance Contract you will need to send to us management information every month. We will use this information to calculate the management charges you must pay us for sales made through the framework. See Schedule 7 (Management) paragraph 6 of the FAC.

The percentage Management Charge is stated in the clause 8.12 (Management Charges) And Schedule 6 legal requirements & Special Terms of the Framework Alliance Contract.

8. Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 ("TUPE")

We don't think TUPE will apply to this procurement at **framework** level because:

- services will only be provided to Additional Clients under call-off contracts, no services will be provided to CCS under the Framework Alliance Contract
- services are provided to CCS by the outgoing supplier but there is no organised grouping of employees

We encourage you to take your own advice on whether TUPE is likely to apply and to carry out due diligence accordingly.

We don't think TUPE will apply to **call-off contracts** because:

- it will be a contract for delivery of goods only
- the services are to be carried out in connection with a single specific event or task of short-term duration

Again, we encourage you to take your own advice on whether TUPE is likely to apply and to carry out due diligence accordingly.

9. Competition rules

We run our competitions so that they are fair and transparent for all Bidders. This section, sets out the rules of this competition. It needs to be read together with the ITT pack.

9.1 What you can expect from us

We will not share any information from your bid which you have identified as being confidential or commercially sensitive with third parties, apart from other central government bodies (and their related bodies). However, we may share this information but only in line with the Regulations, the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) or any other law as applicable.

9.2 What we expect from you

You must comply with these competition rules and the instructions in this ITT pack and any other instructions given by us. You must also ensure members of your consortium, key subcontractors or advisers comply.

Your bid must remain valid for 6 months after the bid submission deadline.

You must submit your bid in English and through the eSourcing suite only.

9.3 Involvement in multiple bids

If you are connected with another bid for the same requirement we may make further enquiries. For example, where you submit a bid:

- in your own name and as a key subcontractor and/or a member of a consortium connected with a separate bid

- in your own name which is similar to a separate bid from another Bidder within your group of companies.

This is so we can be sure that your involvement does not cause:

- potential or actual conflicts of interest
- Supplier Alliance Members capacity problems
- restrictions or distortions in competition

We may require you to amend or withdraw all or part of your bid if, in our reasonable opinion, any of the above issues have arisen or may arise.

9.4 Collusive behaviour

You must not, and you must make sure that your directors, employees, subcontractors, key subcontractors, advisors, companies within your group or members of your consortia do not:

- fix or adjust any part of your bid by agreement or arrangement with any other person, except where, getting quotes necessary for your bid or to get any necessary security
- communicate with any person other than us the value, price or rates set out in your bid or information which would enable the precise or approximate value, price or rates to be calculated by any other person except where such communication is undertaken with persons who are also participants in your bid submission, namely those where disclosure to such person is made in confidence in order to obtain quotes necessary for your bid or to get any necessary security
- enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other Bidder, so that Bidder does not submit a bid
- share, permit or disclose to another person, access to any information relating to your bid submission (or another bid submission to which you are party)
- offer or agree to pay or give any sum or sums of money, inducement or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any other person for doing or having done or causing or having caused to be done in relation to its bid submission

If you do breach paragraph 9.4, we may (without prejudice to any other criminal or civil remedies available to it) disqualify you from further participation in this competition.

We may require you to put in place any procedures or undertake any such action(s) that we in our sole discretion considers necessary to prevent or stop any collusive behaviour.

9.5 Contracting arrangements

Only you or, as applicable, your key subcontractors (as set out in your bid) or consortium members can provide the deliverables through the Framework Alliance Contract.

9.6 Contracting arrangements for consortium

We may require a consortium to form a specific legal entity when signing a Framework Alliance Contract.

Otherwise, each member will sign the Framework Alliance Contract.

9.7 Bidder conduct and conflicts of interest

You must not attempt to influence the contract award process. For example, you must not directly or indirectly at any time:

- collude with other others over the content and submission of bids. However, you may work in good faith with a proposed partner, supplier, consortium member or provider of finance.
- canvass any Minister, officer, public sector employee, member or agent our staff or advisors in relation to this competition.
- try to obtain information from any of our staff or advisors about another Bidder or bid.

You must ensure that no conflicts of interest exist between you and us. If you do not tell us about a known conflict, we may exclude you from the competition. We may also exclude you if a conflict cannot be dealt with in any other way.

9.8 Confidentiality and freedom of information

You must keep the contents of this ITT pack confidential unless it is already in the public domain, you must keep the fact you have received it confidential. This obligation does not apply to anything you have to do to:

- submit a bid
- comply with a legal obligation.

9.9 Publicity

You must not make statements to the media regarding any bid or its contents. You are not allowed to publicise the outcome of the competition unless we have given you written consent.

9.10 Our rights

We reserve the right to:

- waive or change the requirements of this ITT pack from time to time without notice
- verify information, seek clarification or require evidence or further information in respect of your bid. You **MUST** ensure you are regularly checking your messages to ensure you are able to respond to our clarifications
- withdraw this ITT pack at any time, or re-invite bids on the same or alternative basis

- choose not to award any Framework Alliance Contracts as a result of the competition
- make any changes to the timetable, structure or content of the competition
- carry out the evaluation stages (selection and award stages) of this procurement concurrently
- exclude you if:
 - you submit a non-compliant bid
 - your bid contains false or misleading information
 - you fail to respond to any clarifications from us
 - you fail to tell us of any change in the contracting arrangements between bid submission and contract award
 - the change in the contracting arrangements would result in a breach of procurement law
 - for any other reason set out elsewhere in this ITT pack
 - for any reason set out in the Regulations

9.11 Consequences of misrepresentation

If a serious misrepresentation by you induces us to enter into a Framework Alliance Contract with you, you may be:

- excluded from bidding for contracts for three years under regulation 57(8)(h)(i) of the Regulations
- sued by us for damages, and we may rescind the contract under the Misrepresentation Act 1967

If fraud, or fraudulent intent, can be proved, you may be prosecuted and convicted of the offence of fraud by false representation under s.2 of the Fraud Act 2006, which can carry a sentence of up to 10 years or a fine (or both).

If there is a conviction, then your organisation must be excluded from the procurement procedure for five years under regulation 57(1) of the Regulations (subject to self-cleaning).

9.12 Bid costs

We will not pay your bid costs for any reason, for example if we terminate or amend the competition.

9.13 Warnings and disclaimers

We will not be liable:

- where parts of the ITT pack are not accurate, adequate or complete
- for any written or verbal communications

You must carry out your own due diligence and rely on your own enquiries.

This ITT pack is not a commitment by us to enter into a contract.

9.14 Intellectual Property Rights

The ITT pack remains our property. You must use the ITT pack only for this competition.

You allow us to copy, amend and reproduce your bid so we can:

- run the competition
- comply with law and guidance
- carry out our business

Our advisors, subcontractors and other government bodies can use your bid for the same purposes.

9.15 Government Security Classifications (GSC)

You allow us to amend any security related term or condition of the draft contract accompanying this ITT to reflect any changes introduced by the Government Security Classifications (GSC) classifications scheme.

10. How the Framework Alliance Contract is structured

10.1 CCS Building Materials and Equipment Framework Alliance Contract & FAC-1

The CCS Building Materials and Equipment Framework Alliance Contract is an innovative approach that we have developed, that combines the scope of a framework with the collaborative relationships of an alliance to create new systems for achieving greater value.

The Framework Alliance Contract allows for a multi-party structure of Alliance Members and any combination of selected consultants, contractors or suppliers to cooperate on a project or programme of work.

We have constructed the Framework Alliance Contract to encourage participation from a range of different size suppliers, particularly small and medium enterprises (SMEs), in order to assist CCS to meet a diverse range of Additional Client needs.

This Framework Alliance Contract is part of a suite of commercial agreements within the Buildings Pillar of CCS (the others being for Construction Professional Services, Construction works and Associated Services and Modular Buildings).

The CCS Building Materials & Equipment Framework Alliance Contract should be read alongside the FAC-1 document, of which we have watermarked a copy to be used during the tender period. Both documents are provided within Attachment 10 – Contract Documents.

If there is a change made to FAC-1 the Alliance Group will consider if a change is deemed to be beneficial and if the change should be implemented.

At Framework Alliance Contract award successful Bidders will be required to acquire their own copies of FAC-1 for £35 by emailing office@acarchitects.co.uk and referencing the discount CCSFAC252018.

Detailed guidance can be found at <http://www.allianceforms.co.uk/>.

10.2 Project Contracts

After the Framework Alliance Contract commences Additional Clients can buy from Supplier Alliance Members using a Project Contract. Project Contracts are awarded under the 'umbrella' terms of the Framework Alliance Contract but with Project Contract specific conditions (refer to the CCS Building Materials & Equipment Framework Alliance Contract Schedule 4 (Direct Award Procedure and Competitive Award Procedure) for details of how the Project Contract procedure operates).

The Framework Alliance Contract facilitates Project Contracts under JCT, TAC-1, NEC-4, Bespoke Supply only/Supply and Install and Hire Terms and SBCC. This enables a wide range of Additional Clients to specify contractual arrangements that are most appropriate for their particular needs.

10.3 JCT

We will provide you with a watermarked read-only set of JCT documents to review during the tender period

At Framework Alliance Contract award successful Supplier Alliance Members will be required to acquire their own copies of JCT using the link below:

- (a) www.jctltd.co.uk
- (b) JCT Minor works Building Contract 2016

10.4 NEC-3 and NEC-4

To access your free version of NEC-3 or NEC-4 during the tender period, follow the guidance below:

To access your free version of NEC-3 or NEC-4 during the tender period, follow the guidance below:

- (a) Visit <https://www.neccontract.com/> and search for the contract type you require from the list below:
 - NEC4 Supply Contract (SC)
- (b) Add one copy of the eView to the basket
- (c) Click on 'View Basket'
- (d) For NEC-4 contracts enter the code 'CCSCF' into the coupon / discount box and click 'Apply'. This should give you a 100% discount.
- (e) Complete the shopping cart process
- (f) You will then receive two emails – one telling you how to install the viewing software, and a second with the actual files

At Framework Alliance Contract Award successful Supplier Alliance Members will be required to acquire their own copies of NEC-4 with a 20% discount using the discount code CCS20.

10.5 TAC-1

We will provide you with a watermarked read-only set of TAC-1 documents to review during the competition period

At Framework Alliance Contract Award successful Supplier Alliance Members will be required to acquire their own copies of TAC-1 for £35 by emailing office@acarchitects.co.uk and referencing the discount code CCSTAC252018.

Detailed guidance can be found at <http://www.allianceforms.co.uk/>.

10.6 SBCC

We will provide you with a watermarked read-only set of SBCC contracts (for use in Scotland) documents to review during the tender period

At Framework Alliance Contract award successful Supplier Alliance Members will be required to acquire their own copies of SBCC contracts (for use in Scotland) using the link below:

www.sbcconline.com

10.7 Award Confirmation Notice

The Award Confirmation Notice is the basis of the contract between a Supplier Alliance Member and us. If you are awarded a Framework Alliance Contract, an Award Confirmation Notice will be prepared by us and issued to you.

11. Additional information

11.1 In this section 11, “Procurement Regulations” means each of:

- a) the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/102);
- b) the Concession Contracts Regulations 2016 (SI 2016/273);
- c) the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016 (SI 2016/274);
- d) the Defence and Security Public Contracts Regulations 2011 (SI 2011/1848);
- e) the Remedies Directive (2007/66/EC);
- f) Directive 2014/23/EU of the European Parliament and Council;
- g) Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and Council;
- h) Directive 2014/25/EU of the European Parliament and Council; and
- i) Directive 2009/81/EC of the European Parliament and Council.

11.2 Some purchases under this Framework Alliance Contract may have requirements that can be met under this Framework Alliance Contract but the purchase of which may be exempt from the Procurement Regulations. In such cases, call-offs from this Framework Alliance Contract will be unregulated purchases for the purposes of the Procurement Regulations,

and the Additional Clients may, at their discretion, modify the terms of the framework and any call-off contracts to reflect that Additional Clients specific needs.

12. The Armed Forces Covenant

1. The Armed Forces Covenant is a public sector pledge from Government, businesses, charities and organisations to demonstrate their support for the armed forces community. The Covenant was brought in under the Armed Forces Act 2011 to recognise that the whole nation has a moral obligation to redress the disadvantages the armed forces community face in comparison to other citizens, and recognise sacrifices made.
2. The Covenant's 2 principles are that:
 - the armed forces community should not face disadvantages when compared to other citizens in the provision of public and commercial services
 - special consideration is appropriate in some cases, especially for those who have given most such as the injured and the bereaved.

We encourage all Bidders, and their suppliers, to sign the Corporate Covenant, declaring their support for the Armed Forces community by displaying the values and behaviours set out therein. We encourage you to make your [Armed Forces Covenant pledge](#).

3. The Corporate Covenant gives guidance on the various ways you can demonstrate your support.
4. If you wish to register your support you can provide a point of contact for your company on this issue to the Armed Forces Covenant Team at the address below, so that the MOD can alert you to any events or initiatives in which you may wish to participate. The Covenant Team can also provide any information you require in addition to that included on the website.

Email address: covenant-mailbox@mod.uk

Address: Armed Forces Covenant Team, Zone D, 6th Floor, Ministry of Defence, Main Building, Whitehall, London, SW1A 2HB

5. Paragraphs 1 – 4 above are not a condition of working with CCS now or in the future, nor will this issue form any part of the tender evaluation, contract award procedure or any resulting contract. However, CCS very much hopes you will want to provide your support.