



CISCO WI-FI EQUIPMENT, INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING

CLOSING DATE FOR SUBMISSIONS – 5PM (UK TIME), 29th JULY 2022

CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

The National Archives has received a number of clarification questions relating to this opportunity. Those questions, and their associated responses, can be found below.

Q1: *As the tender is for controllers only and no AP's, please can you confirm if the controllers will be managing Meraki Access Points.*

A1: The controllers will be managing Cisco Access Points.

Q2: *Would you consider a solution for the requirements based on Aruba products instead of Cisco?*

A2: Please note point 2.3 on the ITT that we will be accepting alternatives in addition to the requested list and not in place of.

We require the above specified hardware, software maintenance and licenses. If you wish to suggest alternative models that may be a suitable alternative please propose that clearly within your submission. Please note that this must be in addition to the above request and not in place of. This will not be evaluated and will only be for information purposes

Q3: *Would you be able to confirm that you already have the AP hardware and would you be able to provide the Cisco model types of the 140 APs to ensure they are compatible with the new 9800 WLCs requested within this requirement*

A3: We are not looking to purchase new AP hardware. We have 140 AP's in production connected to the WLC, 139 of them are the AIR-AP2802E-E-K9 and one is an AIR-AP1852E-E-K9. We understand that they are compatible with the new 9800WLC or equivalent.

Q4: *[Can you] clarify the existing AP DNA subscription have already expired and that this is the reason for the new subscription request*

A4: We have not purchased any AP licences on the new licensing model and the licences we currently have are not transferrable.

Q5: *Could you please define and provide more detail as to what The National Archives require when it comes to the commissioning of the hardware and software.*

A5: By commissioning we require the awarded supplier to bring the newly installed Wi-Fi equipment and software into a fully working condition.

Q6: *We will require some information regarding the end user to create a deal registration with Cisco. Would you be able to confirm the following?*

Title:

First Name:

Last Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

A6: As this is an open competition we cannot provide information that can favour one supplier over another.

Q7: *Within section 2.1 you state "To supply, install, commission and maintain the hardware and software" can you confirm this includes physical installation of the AP's. If this is the case:*

i. can you also provide floorplans and heights of the AP's

ii. do you require wireless surveys or are the positions already determined

iii. Can we assume POE cabling will be available at all AP locations

A7: We do not require the physical installation of any AP's as they are already in situ.

i.) As there is no physical installation required there shouldn't be a need to provide floorplans and heights of the AP's

ii.) No we do not require wireless surveys as the AP's are already in position

iii.) Yes POE cabling will be available at all AP locations

Q8: *Do you have an overview of the functionality required for the Wireless solution? is this an upgrade of hardware from a current solution with no functionality changes at day 1?*

A8: We are looking to replace the End of Life Anchor and Controller

Q9: *In the kit list you ask for:*

SMART Maintenance – 8x5XNBD H/W replacement only – for C9800-L-C-K9 (BRONZE)

But in 2.5.3 you ask for

Onsite supervised access during normal hours;

Can you confirm if H/W replacement only or onsite engineer is required as they will be different Cisco Smartnets and therefore costs.

A9: Please disregard the point regarding onsite supervised access during normal hours and quote for the support package quoted for SMART Maintenance

Q10: *In the equipment list there are 3 Catalyst with Controller devices (Cisco Catalyst 9800-L Wireless Controller_Copper Uplink) plus 2 Cisco Catalyst 9800-40 Wireless Controller devices. This is probably because you need High Availability Pair configuration for the Wireless Controller devices but we were just questioning the need for 3 other Catalysts with Controllers – unless you have separate Wireless LANs in high availability configuration.*

A10: Yes we do have a separate Wireless LAN in high availability configuration

Q11: *Can we confirm that you only need Next Business Day for support, 4-hour onsite delivery is available (at higher cost), but we are assuming that if you have redundant controllers then this is why the nbd support is sufficient.*

A11: Yes we can confirm we only need Next Business Day Support

Q12: *We would like to ask if the equipment (140 access points) is to replace an existing Wireless LAN in place or whether this is a brand new installation – as this might affect installation costs.*

A12: It is to replace an existing Wireless LAN that is already in place

Q13: *Has The National Archive had a Wireless audit completed to confirm the quantity of Access Points? Too many Access Points can cause interference, too few would not give enough coverage. We have done many Wi-Fi audits and so want to check for your assurance, to ensure the right equipment is purchased.*

A13: Yes we have had a Wireless audit completed to confirm the quantity of Access Points

Q14: *Has The National Archive considered Cisco Meraki as an option, the cost of the Controller is eliminated with this option, but then ongoing licensing fees need to be considered?. Cloud based controller does give an easy to support option.*

A14: TNA has considered many options. You are welcome to quote other options however this must be in addition to what has been specified. Please see point 2.3 on the ITT document:

We require the above specified hardware, software maintenance and licenses. If you wish to suggest alternative models that may be a suitable alternative please propose that clearly within your submission. Please note that this must be in addition to the above request and not in place of. This will not be evaluated and will only be for information purposes.

Q15: *The tender asks "To supply, install, commission and maintain the hardware and software in the specification below, delivered to The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, TW9 4DU"*

·Will the old equipment need to be removed?

A15: No we will dispose of any old equipment.

Q16: *Is the cabling in place?*

A16: Yes there is cabling in place.

Q17: *Maintain – do you require just the Cisco maintenance or support over and above? (You mention 4 hour call response).*

A17: We do not require anything above what has been specified. The 4 hour response time is for a response to queries rather than a resolution.

Q18: *Commissioning – will the full configuration be given. (IE no review or inspection of configuration required).*

A18: A full configuration will be given during commissioning stage.