

# Invitation to Quote

Invitation to Quote (ITQ) on behalf of **Engineering and Physical  
Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)**

Subject Contracting Authority **RIFS (Research and Innovation  
Funding Service)**

Sourcing reference number **PS17317**



**UK Shared Business Services Ltd (UK SBS)**  
[www.uksbs.co.uk](http://www.uksbs.co.uk)

Registered in England and Wales as a limited company. Company Number 6330639.  
Registered Office Polaris House, North Star Avenue, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 1FF  
VAT registration GB618 3673 25  
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# Section 1 – About UK Shared Business Services

## Putting the business into shared services

UK Shared Business Services Ltd (UK SBS) brings a commercial attitude to the public sector; helping Contracting Authorities improve efficiency, generate savings and modernise.

It is our vision to become the leading service provider for Contracting Authorities for of shared business services in the UK public sector, continuously reducing cost and improving quality of business services for Government and the public sector.

Our broad range of expert services is shared by our Contracting Authorities. This allows Contracting Authorities the freedom to focus resources on core activities; innovating and transforming their own organisations.

Core services include Procurement, Finance, Grants Admissions, Human Resources, Payroll, ISS, and Property Asset Management all underpinned by our Service Delivery and Contact Centre teams.

UK SBS is a people rather than task focused business. It's what makes us different to the traditional transactional shared services centre. What is more, being a not-for-profit organisation owned by the Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS), UK SBS' goals are aligned with the public sector and delivering best value for the UK taxpayer.

UK Shared Business Services Ltd changed its name from RCUK Shared Services Centre Ltd in March 2013.

## Our Customers

Growing from a foundation of supporting the Research Councils, 2012/13 saw Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) transition their procurement to UK SBS and Crown Commercial Services (CCS – previously Government Procurement Service) agree a Memorandum of Understanding with UK SBS to deliver two major procurement categories (construction and research) across Government.

UK SBS currently manages £700m expenditure for its Contracting Authorities.

Our Contracting Authorities who have access to our services and Contracts are detailed [here](#).

## Section 2 – About the Contracting Authority

### Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC)

EPSRC is the main UK government agency for funding research and training in engineering and the physical sciences, investing more than £800 million a year in a broad range of subjects – from mathematics to materials science, and from information technology to structural engineering.

The research EPSRC fund affects every aspect of our lives, from energy and the environment, through health, crime prevention, transport, construction and leisure time, to communications, nanotechnology and fundamental science.

The organisation's funded research has already led to improvements in MRI scanning to detect cancer, new ways of predicting and preventing flooding, the first controlled production of atomic antimatter, more durable artificial joints for our bodies, the lasers in our CD and DVD systems and software technologies to boost on-line shopping and the film industry

#### Examples of funded research

- University research into the technology and economics of energy storage, with an emphasis on securing environmentally-friendly and affordable power for the UK.
- A new national Carbon Capture and Storage Research Centre aimed at developing a low- carbon energy system for the UK.
- Developing the next generation of supercomputers.
- Creating a robotic organism for medical use.

Facing the uncertain economic future EPSRC strives to be ahead of the game, investing in world-class research into green technologies, medical advances and high-value manufacturing.

The organisation meets the needs of industry and society by working in partnership with universities to invest in people, scientific discovery and innovation. The knowledge and expertise gained maintains a technological leading edge, builds a strong economy and improves people's quality of life.

[www.epsrc.ac.uk](http://www.epsrc.ac.uk)

## Section 3 - Working with the Contracting Authority.

In this section you will find details of your Procurement contact point and the timescales relating to this opportunity.

Section 3 – Contact details		
3.1	Contracting Authority Name and address	Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council Polaris House North Star Avenue SN2 1ET
3.2	Buyer name	Amelia Stroud
3.3	Buyer contact details	professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk
3.4	Estimated value of the Opportunity	£67,000.00 Ex VAT
3.5	Process for the submission of clarifications and Bids	<b>All correspondence shall be submitted within the Emptoris e-sourcing tool. Guidance Notes to support the use of Emptoris is available <a href="#">here</a>. Please note submission of a Bid to any email address including the Buyer <u>will</u> result in the Bid <u>not</u> being considered.</b>

### Section 3 - Timescales

3.6	Date of Issue of Contract Advert and location of original Advert	09/02/2018 Contracts Finder
3.7	Latest date/time ITQ clarification questions shall be received through Emptoris messaging system	15/02/2018 11.00am
3.8	Latest date/time ITQ clarification answers should be sent to all Bidders by the Buyer through Emptoris	16/02/2018 14.00pm
3.9	Latest date/time ITQ Bid shall be submitted through Emptoris	23/02/2018 14.00pm
3.10	Date/time Bidders should be available if clarifications are required	W/C 26/02/2018
3.11	Anticipated selection and the selections of Bids notification date	06/03/2018
3.12	Anticipated Award date	06/03/2018
3.13	Anticipated Contract Start date	12/03/2018
3.14	Anticipated Contract End date	11/05/2018
3.15	Bid Validity Period	60 Days

## Section 4 – Specification

- **Introduction**

Fixed price professional service support is being sought to assist with the generation of a Research and Innovation Funding Service (RIFS) that will satisfy the UK Research and Innovation funding (UKRI) mission of being the best research and innovation agency in the world.

More information on UKRI can be found here: <https://www.ukri.org/>

- **Aims**

The ultimate aim of this tender exercise is to generate a report that informs the RIFS project by defining the 'art of the possible', describing what a good funding service looks like and identifying any best practice approaches. The output will be a series of reports generated at the conclusion of each of the four consultation stages that will be informed by key RIFS project goals; RIFS project work already undertaken; approaches / solutions utilised by world-leading funding agencies etc.

The expertise sought could include tasks such as helping support the generation of a business case that will define the key options available for the future (such as build / buy / modify existing solution etc.).

- **Objectives**

It is proposed that the work to be undertaken will be divided into the following stages:

- **Phase 1 – Discovery**

- Stage 1 - Discovery background understanding, initiation and planning
- Stage 2 - Discovery initial analysis
- Stage 3 - Discovery detailed analysis
- Stage 4 - Discovery summary

- **Pause for reflection**

A pause will take place between the two phases to enable the project to reflect on the phase 1 discovery findings, review the internal consultation and prepare for the stage 2 future service design

- **Phase 2 – Future service design**

- Stage 5 – TBD

Factors associated with each stage:

- Project Manager Sign-off is required at the end of each stage before moving onto the next stage.
- The sign-off process at the end of each stage will include a meeting / presentation with the winning supplier to enable them to present their findings and for both parties to discuss the implications of the output, challenge / ask questions and discuss / agree commencement of the next stage (and any adjustments required).
- The winning supplier will document the findings / output from each stage in the form of a report with accompanying visualisations and any necessary supporting evidence etc.
- Prior to the commencement of each stage, a discussion will take place to agree key headings / general content that need to be included in the next stage report. Although the winning supplier is

free to add additional headings / content, the purpose of agreeing the core headings is to ensure the professional service provider satisfies the primary objective of the stage.

## **Phase 1 - Discovery**

### **Stage 1 – Discovery background understanding, initiation and planning**

#### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- RCs/UKRI provide the professional service provider with additional information associated with the RIFS project, review key existing project documentation etc
- Discuss / validate the objectives, scope, schedule of work etc required to be undertaken by the professional service provider.
- Complete a stakeholder engagement exercise to agree stakeholders, type / level of engagement etc

#### **Output from stage 1**

- Summary document comprising:
  - initial consideration factor identified by the professional service provider
  - output from the stakeholder engagement process
  - updated additional project management documentation – such as updated project plan and associated deliverables etc

### **Stage 2 – Discovery initial analysis**

#### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- Begin building the picture that will ultimately define the ‘art of the possible’ by identifying key approaches, goals, outcomes, best practice etc associated with:
  - Existing funding approaches / world leading grants funding providers
  - Grants funding systems
  - Additional associated software that can be used to augment any funding service

#### **Output from stage 2**

- Discovery report and accompanying visualisations to define key approaches, goals, outcomes, best practice etc for:
  - Existing funding approaches / world leading grants funding providers
  - Grants funding systems
  - Additional associated software that can be used to augment the funding service

### **Stage 3 – Discovery detailed analysis**

#### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- Further enhance the discovery report from stage 2 where necessary.

- Generate a high-level mapping and associated commentary that compares / contrasts the discovery stage findings with the UKRI RIFS funding service i.e. identify any key gaps that exist, how the RIFS service can benefit from any findings from the discovery piece etc.
- Conduct a high-level McKinsey 7s analysis to determine how the UKRI organisation is positioned to achieve its intended funding purpose and where the opportunities from the discovery piece (stage 2) can supplement any proposed service.

### **Output from stage 3**

- Enhanced discovery report where necessary
- Report comprising a high-level mapping and associated commentary that compares / contrasts the discovery stage findings with the UKRI RIFS funding service
- High-level McKinsey 7s analysis defining how the UKRI organisation is positioned to achieve its intended funding purpose when taking into account opportunities from the discovery work.

## **Stage 4 – Discovery summary**

### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- Final summarised report describing the key investigation findings that defines the ‘art of the possible’ / ‘what a good funding service looks like’, along with any best practice approaches and proposed recommendations.

### **Output from stage 4**

- Final summarised report describing the key investigation findings that defines the ‘art of the possible’ / ‘what a good funding service looks like’, along with any best practice approaches and proposed recommendations.
- **Requirement**

The specific activities and outputs associated with this consultancy are described below (the timescales and effort associated with each stage are described in the next section of this document):

## **Phase 1 - Discovery**

### **Stage 1 – Discovery background understanding, initiation and planning**

#### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- RCs/UKRI provide the professional service provider with additional information associated with the RIFS project, review key existing project documentation etc
- Discuss / validate the objectives, scope, schedule of work etc required to be undertaken by the professional service provider.
- Complete a stakeholder engagement exercise to agree stakeholders, type / level of engagement etc

## **Output from stage 1**

- Summary document comprising:
  - initial consideration factor identified by the professional service provider
  - output from the stakeholder engagement process
  - updated additional project management documentation – such as updated project plan and associated deliverables etc

## **Stage 2 – Discovery initial analysis**

### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- Begin building the picture that will ultimately define the ‘art of the possible’ by identifying key approaches, goals, outcomes, best practice etc associated with:
  - Existing funding approaches / world leading grants funding providers
  - Grants funding systems
  - Additional associated software that can be used to augment any funding service

### **Output from stage 2**

- Discovery report and accompanying visualisations to define key approaches, goals, outcomes, best practice etc for:
  - Existing funding approaches / world leading grants funding providers
  - Grants funding systems
  - Additional associated software that can be used to augment the funding service

## **Stage 3 – Discovery detailed analysis**

### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- Further enhance the discovery report from stage 2 where necessary.
- Generate a high-level mapping and associated commentary that compares / contrasts the discovery stage findings with the UKRI RIFS funding service i.e. identify any key gaps that exist, how the RIFS service can benefit from any findings from the discovery piece etc.
- Conduct a high-level McKinsey 7s analysis to determine how the UKRI organisation is positioned to achieve its intended funding purpose and where the opportunities from the discovery piece (stage 2) can supplement any proposed service.

### **Output from stage 3**

- Enhanced discovery report where necessary
- Report comprising a high-level mapping and associated commentary that compares / contrasts the discovery stage findings with the UKRI RIFS funding service
- High-level McKinsey 7s analysis defining how the UKRI organisation is positioned to achieve its intended funding purpose when taking into account opportunities from the discovery work.

## **Stage 4 – Discovery summary**

### **Objectives / Activity breakdown**

- Final summarised report describing the key investigation findings that defines the ‘art of the possible’ / ‘what a good funding service looks like’, along with any best practice approaches and proposed recommendations.

### **Output from stage 4**

- Final summarised report describing the key investigation findings that defines the ‘art of the possible’ / ‘what a good funding service looks like’, along with any best practice approaches and proposed recommendations.

### **Timetable**

#### **Phase 1**

#### **Stage 1 – Discovery background understanding, initiation and planning**

Start: circa 12<sup>th</sup> Mar 2018

End: circa 16<sup>th</sup> Mar 2018

#### **Stage 2 – Discovery initial analysis**

Start: circa 19<sup>th</sup> Mar 2018

End: circa 30<sup>th</sup> Mar 2018

#### **Stage 3 – Discovery detailed analysis**

Start: circa 2<sup>nd</sup> Apr 2018

End: circa 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 2018

#### **Stage 4 – Discovery summary**

Start: circa 19<sup>th</sup> Apr 2018

End: circa 20<sup>th</sup> Apr 2018

### **Terms and Conditions**

Bidders are to note that any requested modifications to the Contracting Authority Terms and Conditions on the grounds of statutory and legal matters only, shall be raised as a formal clarification during the permitted clarification period.

## Section 5 – Evaluation model

The evaluation model below shall be used for this ITQ, which will be determined to two decimal places.

Where a question is 'for information only' it will not be scored.

The evaluation team may comprise staff from UK SBS, and the Contracting Authority ----- and any specific external stakeholders the Contracting Authority deems required. After evaluation the scores will be finalised by performing a calculation to identify (at question level) the mean average of all evaluators (Example – a question is scored by three evaluators and judged as scoring 5, 5 and 6. These scores will be added together and divided by the number of evaluators to produce the final score of 5.33 ( $5+5+6 = 16 \div 3 = 5.33$ ))

Pass / fail criteria		
Questionnaire	Q No.	Question subject
Commercial	SEL1.2	Employment breaches/ Equality
Commercial	FOI1.1	Freedom of Information Exemptions
Commercial	AW1.1	Form of Bid
Commercial	AW1.3	Certificate of Bona Fide Bid
Commercial	AW3.1	Validation check
Commercial	AW4.1	Contract Terms
Commercial	AW4.2	Contract Terms 2
Price	AW5.5	E Invoicing
Price	AW5.6	Implementation of E-Invoicing
Quality	AW6.1	Compliance to the Specification
Commercial	SEL3.11	Compliance to Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act
-	-	Invitation to Quote – received on time within e-sourcing tool

## Scoring criteria

### Evaluation Justification Statement

In consideration of this particular requirement the Contracting Authority has decided to evaluate Potential Providers by adopting the weightings/scoring mechanism detailed within this ITQ. The Contracting Authority considers these weightings to be in line with existing best practice for a requirement of this type.

Questionnaire	Q No.	Question subject	Maximum Marks
Price	AW5.2	Price	25%
Quality	AW6.2	Approach & Skills	40%
Quality	AW6.3	Project Plan / Risk Management etc	10%
Quality	AW6.4	Delivery	25%

## Evaluation of criteria

### Non-Price elements

Each question will be judged on a score from 0 to 100, which shall be subjected to a multiplier to reflect the percentage of the evaluation criteria allocated to that question.

Where an evaluation criterion is worth 20% then the 0-100 score achieved will be multiplied by 20%.

Example if a Bidder scores 60 from the available 100 points this will equate to 12% by using the following calculation:

$$\text{Score} = \{\text{weighting percentage}\} \times \{\text{bidder's score}\} = 20\% \times 60 = 12$$

The same logic will be applied to groups of questions which equate to a single evaluation criterion.

The 0-100 score shall be based on (unless otherwise stated within the question):

0	The Question is not answered or the response is completely unacceptable.
10	Extremely poor response – they have completely missed the point of the question.
20	Very poor response and not wholly acceptable. Requires major revision to the response to make it acceptable. Only partially answers the requirement, with major deficiencies and little relevant detail proposed.
40	Poor response only partially satisfying the selection question requirements with deficiencies apparent. Some useful evidence provided but response falls well short of expectations. Low probability of being a capable supplier.
60	Response is acceptable but remains basic and could have been expanded upon. Response is sufficient but does not inspire.
80	Good response which describes their capabilities in detail which provides high levels of assurance consistent with a quality provider. The response includes a full description of techniques and measurements currently employed.
100	Response is exceptional and clearly demonstrates they are capable of meeting the requirement. No significant weaknesses noted. The response is compelling in its description of techniques and measurements currently employed, providing full assurance consistent with a quality provider.

All questions will be scored based on the above mechanism. Please be aware that the final score returned may be different as there may be multiple evaluators and their individual scores will be averaged (mean) to determine your final score.

### Example

Evaluator 1 scored your bid as 60

Evaluator 2 scored your bid as 60

Evaluator 3 scored your bid as 40

Evaluator 4 scored your bid as 40

Your final score will  $(60+60+40+40) \div 4 = 50$

**Price elements** will be judged on the following criteria.

The lowest price for a response which meets the pass criteria shall score 100.

All other bids shall be scored on a pro rata basis in relation to the lowest price. The score is then subject to a multiplier to reflect the percentage value of the price criterion.

For example - Bid 1 £100,000 scores 100.

Bid 2 £120,000 differential of £20,000 or 20% remove 20% from price scores 80

Bid 3 £150,000 differential £50,000 remove 50% from price scores 50.

Bid 4 £175,000 differential £75,000 remove 75% from price scores 25.

Bid 5 £200,000 differential £100,000 remove 100% from price scores 0.

Bid 6 £300,000 differential £200,000 remove 100% from price scores 0.

Where the scoring criterion is worth 50% then the 0-100 score achieved will be multiplied by 50.

In the example if a supplier scores 80 from the available 100 points this will equate to 40% by using the following calculation:  $\text{Score/Total Points multiplied by 50}$  ( $80/100 \times 50 = 40$ )

The lowest score possible is 0 even if the price submitted is more than 100% greater than the lowest price.

## **Section 6 – Evaluation questionnaire**

Bidders should note that the evaluation questionnaire is located within the **e-sourcing questionnaire**.

Guidance on completion of the questionnaire is available at <http://www.uksbs.co.uk/services/procure/Pages/supplier.aspx>

**PLEASE NOTE THE QUESTIONS ARE NOT NUMBERED SEQUENTIALLY**

## Section 7 – General Information

### What makes a good bid – some simple do's 😊

#### DO:

- 7.1 Do comply with Procurement document instructions. Failure to do so may lead to disqualification.
- 7.2 Do provide the Bid on time, and in the required format. Remember that the date/time given for a response is the last date that it can be accepted; we are legally bound to disqualify late submissions. Unless formally requested to do so by UK SBS e.g. Emptoris system failure
- 7.3 Do ensure you have read all the training materials to utilise e-sourcing tool prior to responding to this Bid. If you send your Bid by email or post it will be rejected.
- 7.4 Do use Microsoft Word, PowerPoint Excel 97-03 or compatible formats, or PDF unless agreed in writing by the Buyer. If you use another file format without our written permission we may reject your Bid.
- 7.5 Do ensure you utilise the Emptoris messaging system to raise any clarifications to our ITQ. You should note that we will release the answer to the question to all Bidders and where we suspect the question contains confidential information we may modify the content of the question to protect the anonymity of the Bidder or their proposed solution
- 7.6 Do answer the question, it is not enough simply to cross-reference to a 'policy', web page or another part of your Bid, the evaluation team have limited time to assess bids and if they can't find the answer, they can't score it.
- 7.7 Do consider who the Contracting Authority is and what they want – a generic answer does not necessarily meet every Contracting Authority's needs.
- 7.8 Do reference your documents correctly, specifically where supporting documentation is requested e.g. referencing the question/s they apply to.
- 7.9 Do provide clear, concise and ideally generic contact details; telephone numbers, e-mails and fax details.
- 7.10 Do complete all questions in the questionnaire or we may reject your Bid.
- 7.11 Do check and recheck your Bid before dispatch.

## What makes a good bid – some simple do not's Ⓜ

### DO NOT

- 7.12 Do not cut and paste from a previous document and forget to change the previous details such as the previous buyer's name.
- 7.13 Do not attach 'glossy' brochures that have not been requested, they will not be read unless we have asked for them. Only send what has been requested and only send supplementary information if we have offered the opportunity so to do.
- 7.14 Do not share the Procurement documents, they are confidential and should not be shared with anyone without the Buyers written permission.
- 7.15 Do not seek to influence the procurement process by requesting meetings or contacting UK SBS or the Contracting Authority to discuss your Bid. If your Bid requires clarification the Buyer will contact you. All information secured outside of formal Buyer communications shall have no Legal standing or worth and should not be relied upon.
- 7.16 Do not contact any UK SBS staff or the Contracting Authority staff without the Buyers written permission or we may reject your Bid.
- 7.17 Do not collude to fix or adjust the price or withdraw your Bid with another Party as we will reject your Bid.
- 7.18 Do not offer UK SBS or the Contracting Authority staff any inducement or we will reject your Bid.
- 7.19 Do not seek changes to the Bid after responses have been submitted and the deadline for Bids to be submitted has passed.
- 7.20 Do not cross reference answers to external websites or other parts of your Bid, the cross references and website links will not be considered.
- 7.21 Do not exceed word counts, the additional words will not be considered.
- 7.22 Do not make your Bid conditional on acceptance of your own Terms of Contract, as your Bid will be rejected.

## Some additional guidance notes

- 7.23 All enquiries with respect to access to the e-sourcing tool and problems with functionality within the tool must be submitted to Crown Commercial Service (previously Government Procurement Service), Telephone 0345 010 3503.
- 7.24 Bidders will be specifically advised where attachments are permissible to support a question response within the e-sourcing tool. Where they are not permissible any attachments submitted will not be considered as part of the evaluation process.
- 7.25 Question numbering is not sequential and all questions which require submission are included in the Section 6 Evaluation Questionnaire.
- 7.26 Any Contract offered may not guarantee any volume of work or any exclusivity of supply.
- 7.27 We do not guarantee to award any Contract as a result of this procurement
- 7.28 All documents issued or received in relation to this procurement shall be the property of the Contracting Authority. / UKSBS.
- 7.29 We can amend any part of the procurement documents at any time prior to the latest date / time Bids shall be submitted through Emptoris.
- 7.30 If you are a Consortium you must provide details of the Consortiums structure.
- 7.31 Bidders will be expected to comply with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.32 Bidders should note the Government's transparency agenda requires your Bid and any Contract entered into to be published on a designated, publicly searchable web site. By submitting a response to this ITQ Bidders are agreeing that their Bid and Contract may be made public
- 7.33 Your bid will be valid for modify duration if not 60 days or your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.34 Bidders may only amend the contract terms during the clarification period only, only if you can demonstrate there is a legal or statutory reason why you cannot accept them. If you request changes to the Contract terms without such grounds and the Contracting Authority fail to accept your legal or statutory reason is reasonably justified we may reject your Bid.
- 7.35 We will let you know the outcome of your Bid evaluation and where requested will provide a written debrief of the relative strengths and weaknesses of your Bid.
- 7.36 If you fail mandatory pass / fail criteria we will reject your Bid.
- 7.37 Bidders are required to use IE8, IE9, Chrome or Firefox in order to access the functionality of the Emptoris e-sourcing tool.
- 7.38 Bidders should note that if they are successful with their proposal the Contracting Authority reserves the right to ask additional compliancy checks prior to the award of

any Contract. In the event of a Bidder failing to meet one of the compliancy checks the Contracting Authority may decline to proceed with the award of the Contract to the successful Bidder.

- 7.39 All timescales are set using a 24 hour clock and are based on British Summer Time or Greenwich Mean Time, depending on which applies at the point when Date and Time Bids shall be submitted through Emptoris.
- 7.40 All Central Government Departments and their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further, the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement - including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice.

For these purposes, the Contracting Authority may disclose within Government any of the Bidders documentation/information (including any that the Bidder considers to be confidential and/or commercially sensitive such as specific bid information) submitted by the Bidder to the Contracting Authority during this Procurement. The information will not be disclosed outside Government. Bidders taking part in this ITQ consent to these terms as part of the competition process.

- 7.41 The Government is introducing its new Government Security Classifications (GSC) classification scheme on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 to replace the current Government Protective Marking System (GPMS). A key aspect of this is the reduction in the number of security classifications used. All Bidders are encouraged to make themselves aware of the changes and identify any potential impacts in their Bid, as the protective marking and applicable protection of any material passed to, or generated by, you during the procurement process or pursuant to any Contract awarded to you as a result of this tender process will be subject to the new GSC . The link below to the Gov.uk website provides information on the new GSC:

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

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to amend any security related term or condition of the draft contract accompanying this ITQ to reflect any changes introduced by the GSC. In particular where this ITQ is accompanied by any instructions on safeguarding classified information (e.g. a Security Aspects Letter) as a result of any changes stemming from the new GSC, whether in respect of the applicable protective marking scheme, specific protective markings given, the aspects to which any protective marking applies or otherwise. This may relate to the instructions on safeguarding classified information (e.g. a Security Aspects Letter) as they apply to the procurement as they apply to the procurement process and/or any contracts awarded to you as a result of the procurement process.

## USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS

- [Emptoris Training Guide](#)
- [Emptoris e-sourcing tool](#)
- [Contracts Finder](#)
- [Bribery Act introduction](#)
- [Freedom of information Act](#)