

**INVITATION TO TENDER**

**&**

**STATEMENT OF REQUIREMENT**

**Preparing for Road Investment Strategy 3:** **Enhancements**

**CPV Code: 66171000**

**Tender Reference: ORR/CT/21-12**

**Purpose of document**

The purpose of this document is to invite proposals for **Preparing for Road Investment Strategy 3: Enhancements** for the Office of Rail and Road (ORR).

This document contains the following sections:

1. Introduction to the Office of Rail and Road

2. Statement of Requirement

3. Tender Proposal & Evaluation Criteria

4. Procurement Procedures

**1. Introduction to the Office of Rail and Road (ORR)**

The Office of Rail and Road is the independent safety and economic regulator of Britain’s railways who now also hold Highways England to account for its day-to-day efficiency and performance, running the strategic road network, and for delivering the five year road investment strategy set by the Department for Transport (DfT).

ORR currently employs approximately 300 personnel and operates from 6 locations nationwide. The majority of personnel are located at ORR’s headquarters, 25 Cabot Square, London.

Our strategic objectives

**1. Drive for a safer railway:**  
Enforce the law and ensure that the industry delivers continuous improvement in the health and safety of passengers, the workforce and public, by achieving excellence in health and safety culture, management and risk control.

**2. Support a better service for customers:**  
Use our powers to hold the industry to account for performance and standards of service across the railway network, for passengers and freight. Promote on-going improvement in the experience of passengers by encouraging the industry to work together, including to provide greater transparency of information.

**3. Secure value for money from the railway, for users and funders:**  
Strengthen incentives for the whole industry, including through competition and contestability in the supply chain, to drive greater efficiency from the use and maintenance of existing railway capacity and more cost-effective investment in the network.

**4. Secure improved performance and value for money from the strategic road network:**  
Secure improved performance, including efficiency, safety and sustainability, from the strategic road network, for the benefit of road users and the public, through proportionate, risk-based monitoring, increased transparency, enforcement and robust advice on future performance requirements.

Supplying ORR

The ORR procurement unit is responsible for purchasing the goods and services necessary for ORR to achieve its role as the economic and health & safety regulator of the rail industry.

The ORR Procurement unit subscribes to the following values:

* to provide a modern, efficient, transparent and responsible procurement service;
* to achieve value for money by balancing quality and cost;
* to ensure contracts are managed effectively and outputs are delivered;
* to ensure that processes have regard for equality and diversity; and
* to ensure that procurement is undertaken with regard to Law and best practice.

For further information on ORR please visit our website: [www.orr.gov.uk](http://www.orr.gov.uk)

Small and Medium Enterprises

ORR considers that this contract may be suitable for economic operators that are small or medium enterprises (SMEs) and voluntary organisations. However, any selection of tenderers will be based on the criteria set out for the procurement, and the contract will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender.

Small and Medium Enterprises and Voluntary Organisations:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Enterprise Category** | **Headcount** | **Turnover** | **Or** | | **Balance Sheet Total** |
| **Micro** | **<10** | **≤ € 2 million** | | **≤ € 2 million** | |
|
| **Small** | **<50** | **≤ € 10 million** | | **≤ € 10 million** | |
|
| **Medium** | **<250** | **≤ € 50 million** | | **≤ € 43 million** | |
|
| **Large** | **>251** | **> € 50 million** | | **> € 43 million** | |

Please ensure that you indicate how your organisation is categorised on the Form of Tender document which should be submitted along with your proposal.**2. Statement of Requirement**

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| **2.1 Background to the project** |
| The Office of Rail and Road (ORR) independently monitors Highways England’s management of the Strategic Road Network (SRN) – the motorways and main A roads in England. We monitor how Highways England delivers performance, including efficiency, safety and sustainability, for the benefit of road users and the public. This can include investigating, publishing reports and giving advice to the Secretary of State (SoS) on whether and at what cost it is meeting the objectives of the second Road Investment Strategy (RIS2) and providing advice to the SoS on the development of future RISs. We also monitor Highways England to ensure compliance with its licence[[1]](#footnote-1).  The third Road Investment Strategy (RIS3) will set out the requirements to be delivered by Highways England during the period 2025 to 2030 (road period 3 or RP3). The process of setting and varying the RIS is set out in Highways England’s licence. A key part of our role in the RIS3 development process is to provide advice to the Secretary of State on whether the Draft Road Investment Strategy (DRIS) and Draft Strategic Business Plan (DSBP) are challenging and deliverable with the financial resources available. This includes assessing the level of efficiency proposed by Highways England. Further information on our role can be found on our website[[2]](#footnote-2).  This commission forms part of our preparations for the RIS3 development process. It relates to our assessment of the costs and timescales attached to the portfolio of enhancement schemes.  The commission has been sub-divided into two tasks.  Task 1 relates to the Highways England’s cost estimation for candidate RIS3 enhancement schemes.  Task 2 relates to project timescales and schedule risk. |
| **2.2 Project Objectives & Scope** |
| Task 1: Benchmarking Highways England’s enhancement cost estimating tools and assumptions **Context**  Highways England has committed to delivering £2.23bn of efficiencies (across all its activities) during RP2 (2020 to 2025). During the RIS2 development process, much of our efforts were focussed on the efficiency savings that Highways England would be able to delivery during RP2 and therefore the adjustments that should be made in its spending plans to reflect this. However, any assessment of efficiency savings is only as good as the baseline (or the ‘pre-efficient’) cost estimates to which the adjustment is applied. During the RIS3 development process, we intend to pay particular attention to ensuring that the costs of enhancements have been robustly estimated and challenged.  In 2019, to inform the RIS2 Efficiency Review, we commissioned an assessment of Highways England’s cost estimation approach[[3]](#footnote-3). The assessment concluded that Highways England has a comprehensive and effective cost estimating process and procedures in place. The 2019 assessment provides the starting point for this review which will focus less on the processes that Highways England employs, and more on the evidence and assumptions that underpin Highways England’s cost estimation tools.  **Objectives**  The purposes of this study are two-fold. Firstly, it is intended to provide understanding to the ORR of the independently audited unit rates and assumptions underlying Highways England’s internal scheme cost estimates, and that these are comparable with appropriate external benchmarks.  Secondly, the study should provide the ORR with a better understanding of the way in which rates are updated over time. In doing so, the study should assess the extent to which improvements in efficiency are reflected in the forecast costs of future projects.  We expect the outcomes of the study to shape the approach we take to assessing Highways England’s plans for RP3. For example, if we have a high level of confidence in the assumptions underlying Highways England’s forecasts, this will allow us to devote less resources to challenging the cost estimates for individual projects.  **Requirement**  This study is concerned with evidence on which Highways England bases its internally generated cost estimates (i.e., schemes for which an initial or final target cost has yet to be agreed) for the enhancements programme. The purpose of the study is not to challenge the cost estimates for any specific enhancement projects, but to examine and benchmark the rates and assumptions upon which Highways England base their estimates. By ‘rates and assumptions’ we refer to both the unit rates for construction elements in addition to adjustments applied to account for indirect costs (e.g. design, preparation, supervision).  The requirements of this commission are as follows:   1. Building on the previous review the consultants should engage with Highways England’s Commercial and Procurement Directorate (through an initial workshop) to understand how the evidence from past project delivery is reflected in the unit rates and other assumptions used in the models. The consultants should also explore how Highways England/their independent assessors use benchmark evidence from elsewhere to inform its models and/or challenge its cost estimates. The consultant should understand the independent assurance regime applied to this data. 2. As part of the review, particular attention should be paid to the way in which rates applied by Highways England are updated over time and the extent to which efficiency gains achieved during road periods 1 and 2 will be built-in to the cost estimates for projects delivered in future road periods. The consultants should engage with Highways England to consider how it can provide assurance that increasing efficiency is reflected in cost estimates. This could include the use of unit cost or reference scheme costs (the costs for theoretic generic schemes of a particular type) that can be tracked and updated over time. 3. The consultants should compare the rates and assumptions with appropriate external benchmarks. The starting point for this assessment will be benchmarking work already undertaken by Highways England and the scope of this element of the task will depend on the consultants’ assessment of the quality and coverage of this work. We would expect the benchmarking exercise to focus on a limited selection of ‘key’ rates and assumptions. The purpose of this part of the commission is to provide the ORR with confidence that these key assumptions are in line with what we might expect given evidence from elsewhere. Consideration should be given both to unit rates for works costs and the uplifts applied to cost estimates to account for indirect costs. The ORR is mindful of the challenges involved in collecting good quality benchmark data. In their response, consultants should set out how they consider this element of the task can be best achieved based on their knowledge of available data sources.  Task 2: Delivery timescales and risks associated with Highways England’s enhancement projects **Context**  One of our chief responsibilities within the RIS3 development process is to assess whether the requirements of the RIS are both challenging and deliverable. As part of this we will need to advise the government on whether the portfolio of enhancement schemes can be delivered within the programme that has been proposed.  In undertaking our assessment, our overarching objective is to ensure that the enhancement programme achieves a sensible balance of two competing requirements: firstly, that the programme is sufficiently stretching such that it represents an efficient use of resources; and, secondly, that there is a high level of confidence that the projects can be delivered to programme.  To underpin our assessment, we would like to gain a better understanding of how long it takes to deliver a highways scheme, the factors that determine project timescales, and the primary risks to projects not being delivered to schedule.    **Objectives**  The purpose of this commission is to provide the ORR with an improved basis upon which it can assess the challenge and deliverability of the RIS3 enhancement programme. The study should build on previous studies commissioned by ORR and Highways England’s past and current continuous improvement projects It should:   * Define a framework for the analysis (for example of project type, value and complexity) and, within each category, establish the typical timescales involved in progressing projects through the principal Project Control Framework (PCF)[[4]](#footnote-4) phases of options, development and construction. * Identify the key factors within that framework that determine project timescales. * Identify the key risk factors that lead to projects suffering delays and taking longer to achieve ‘start of works’ and ‘open for traffic’ benchmarks. * To consider the implications of the above findings for the ORR’s assessment of programme risks during the RIS3 development process – including the role and form of quantified schedule risk assessment (QSRA).   **Requirements**  It is envisaged that this commission will comprise two stages. The first stage will explore the factors that determine project timescales. The second stage will focus on the implications for the ORR’s assessment of the enhancement programme as part of the RIS3 development process.  Stage 1 has been subdivided into two parts. The requirements of **stage 1(a)** are as follows:  Building on previous studies and through an initial workshop with Highways England, the consultants should:   * establish a framework of project / programme types; * develop a qualitative understanding of what influences project timescales; and * gain a clear understanding of Highways England’s PCF process.   The requirements of **stage 1(b)** are as follows:   * to use sample project level data for each project / programme type to establish a suitable and realistic baseline for the time that it takes Highways England’s projects to progress through the principal phases of the PCF process. * to identify patterns in the sample data and draw out the influence of factors such as project type, project scale (as measured by cost), consenting/planning route (e.g. the requirement for a DCO), procurement approach and the strength of the business case. * to explore the reasons why some projects take longer than others and the risk factors to projects being delivered later than scheduled. We recognise that this will include factors – such as the political decision-making process – that are largely outside the control of Highways England.   We would expect this review to include samples of the major enhancement project types that have been delivered by Highways England since 2015 or that are currently in progress (i.e. including those that have commenced construction but are not yet open for traffic).  In their response, bidders should consider the feasibility of benchmarking project timescales against external comparators. In identifying comparators, consultants should be mindful of differences in planning regimes or other requirements that Highways England faces that will influence project timescales.  The requirements of **stage 2** are:  The consultants should consider the findings from stage 1 and draw out the implications for the ORR’s assessment of the deliverability of the RIS3 enhancement programme. This is likely to include consideration of:   * the evidence we should expect Highways England to provide on their portfolio of projects; * the merits of undertaking project level assessments of programme risks as opposed to reviewing the portfolio as a whole; * the feasibility and merits of quantitative tools (QSRA) to assess programme risks.   **Engagement/collaboration with Highways England**  Highways England is supportive of this review and will facilitate access to its staff and other information as appropriate. Highways England’s involvement will be co-ordinated through its Strategy and Planning Division who are responsible for managing the relationship with ORR. The Strategy and Planning Division will assist in scheduling meetings and dealing with data requests. Engagement with Highways England should be proportionate and sensitive of Highways England resource pressures.  Highways England will be involved in the evaluation of proposals against the stated criteria except for the proposed cost of the work, which will remain confidential and be evaluated solely by ORR.  The consultancy should note that Highways England will require a confidentiality agreement in relation to any of its confidential information that is disclosed to the consultancy and the outputs this generates. The onward disclosure of such information by the consultancy (other than to DfT or ORR) will usually require approval in writing from Highways England. The fact that the consultancy has been engaged by ORR on this contract is not of itself confidential information although the content of any information, findings, data, analysis or reports prepared for ORR by the consultancy, and which includes any of the confidential information, is.  The appointed consultancy will have access to available information necessary to carry out the project and to deliver the objectives and requirements identified above.  The appointed consultancy should work with ORR and Highways England to ensure that findings and opportunities are understood and agreed as appropriate. Any conclusions drawn should be backed up by material and balanced evidence, and recommendations should primarily be aimed at ORR. The consultancy is expected to manage its own inputs and ensure the impacts of its work are conducted in a manner which is cognisant of the wider licence and monitoring framework principles – i.e. the approach should be proportionate, seek to avoid duplication, and use existing management information where available |
| **2.3 Project Outputs, Deliverables and Contract Management** |
| **Outputs and Deliverables**  The consultant is to deliver dedicated reports for each of the two tasks. The required deliverables are:   * a focussed inception report setting out the programme to which the consultants will deliver as well as any changes to the approach set out in the consultants’ proposal; * an interim presentation and report of emerging findings; * a draft report for comment which details the findings, conclusions and recommendations; * a second draft report which incorporates the amendments from the ORR; and * a final report which incorporates amendments from Highways England.   **Contract Management Requirements**  We would expect to hold progress meetings on a fortnightly basis via MS Teams. Consultants should provide a brief emailed progress report in advance. Should there be periods when the tasks are running concurrently, we would expect that the progress meetings would cover both tasks. If it should suit the consultants to arrange separate progress meetings for each task, then this can also be accommodated. If circumstances allow, face-to-face meetings will be scheduled to discuss key deliverables. |
| **2.4 Project Timescales** |
| A provisional timetable for each of the tasks has been defined. The provisional timetable has been developed considering the availability of Highways England staff. A project timetable should be refined by the consultants at the outset of the commission in consultation with both ORR and Highways England.  **Task 1**   * Start-up meeting and commencement: **week commencing 30th August 2021** * Fortnightly updates on progress and any issues * Presentation of interim findings by **mid October 2021** (or as agreed) * Draft report by **late November 2021** * Final report by the **mid December 2021**   **Task 2**   * Start-up meeting and commencement: **early October 2021** * Fortnightly updates on progress and any issues * Presentation of interim findings by **December 2012** (or as agreed) * Draft report by **end January 2022** * Final report by **mid February 2022** |
| **2.5 Budget and Payment Schedule** |
| The maximum budget for this piece of work is **£120,000 (inc. of expenses, exc. of VAT).** This amount covers both Tasks 1 and 2 in aggregate.  We envisage that a similar level of resource will be dedicated to each task although this should be determined by the consultants. Bids will be assessed based on their total cost, but we would expect bidders to show how their cost has been built up according to the resources allocated to each task.  The successful consultant will be paid according to their progress against each task based on the following payment schedule:  10% on delivery of an inception report  30% on delivery of interim presentation/report  60% on delivery and acceptance by ORR of the final report |
| **2.6 Further project related information for bidders** |
| **Intellectual Property Rights**  ORR will own the Intellectual Property Rights for all project related documentation and artefacts.  **Transparency requirements**  Please note ORR is required to ensure that any new procurement opportunity above £10,000 (excluding VAT) is published on Contracts Finder, unless the ORR is satisfied it is lawful not to. Once a contract has been awarded as a result of a procurement process, ORR is required to publish details of who won the contract, the contract value and indicate whether the winning supplier is a SME or voluntary sector organisation.  **Confidentiality**  All consultants working on the project may be required to sign a confidentiality agreement and abide by the Cabinet Office’s protective marking guidelines, which ORR uses to protectively mark a proportion of its information. In addition, the consultant may be required to sign additional confidentiality agreements as required by external stakeholders.  **Sub-Contractors**  Contractors may use sub-contractors subject to the following:   * That the Contractor assumes unconditional responsibility for the overall work and its quality; * That individual sub-contractors are clearly identified, with fee rates and grades made explicit to the same level of detail as for the members of the lead consulting team.   Internal relationships between the Contractor and its sub-contractors shall be the entire responsibility of the Contractor. Failure to meet deadlines or to deliver work packages by a subcontractor will be attributed by ORR entirely to the Contractor.  **Conflict of Interest**  At the date of submitting the tender and prior to entering into any contract, the tenderer warrants that no conflict of interest exists or is likely to arise in the performance of its obligations under this contract; or  Where any potential, actual or perceived conflicts of interest in respect of this contract exist, tenderers need to outline what mitigation/safeguards would be put in place to mitigate the risk of actual or perceived conflicts arising during the delivery of these services.  The ORR will review the mitigation/safeguards in line with the perceived conflict of interest, to determine what level of risk this poses to them. Therefore, if tenderers cannot or are unwilling to suitably demonstrate that they have suitable safeguards to mitigate any risk then their tender will be deemed non-compliant and may be rejected. |

**3. Tender Response & Evaluation criteria**

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| **3.1 The Tender Response** |
| The proposals for this project should include an outline of how bidders will meet the requirement outlined in section (ii) “Statement of Requirement”. The following information should be included:  **a) Understanding of customer's requirements**   * Demonstrate an understanding of the requirement and overall aims of the project.   **b) Approach to customer's requirements**   * Provide an explanation of the proposed approach and any methodologies bidders will work to. * Details of your assumptions and/or constraints/dependencies made in relation to the project. * A project plan to show how outputs and deliverables will be produced within the required timescales, detailing the resources that will be allocated. * An understanding of the risks, and explain how they would be mitigated to ensure delivery. * What support bidders will require from ORR.   **c) Proposed delivery team**   * Key personnel including details of how their key skills, experience and qualifications align to the delivery of the project. * Project roles and responsibilities. * Confirmation that you have carried out the necessary employment checks (e.g. right to work in the UK). * Some relevant examples of previous work that bidders have carried out (e.g. case studies).   **d) Pricing**  A fixed fee for the project inclusive of all expense. This should include  a breakdown of the personnel who will be involved with the project, along with associated charge rates and anticipated time inputs that can be reconciled to the fixed fee.  **e) Conflicts of Interest**  Confirm whether you have any potential, actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may by relevant to this requirement and outline what safeguards would be put in place to mitigate the risk of actual or perceived conflicts arising during the delivery of these services.  **f) Page Limit**  A strict page limit for bidders’ proposals will not be enforced, although we would not normally expect responses to (a – understanding) and (b - approach) extending beyond 5 sides of A4 for either of Task 1 or Task 2 (i.e. 10 sides in aggregate). |
| **3.2 Evaluation Criteria** |
| Tenders will be assessed for compliance with procurement and contractual requirements which will include:   * Completeness of the tender information * Completed Declaration Form of Tender and Disclaimer * Tender submitted in accordance with the conditions and instructions for tendering * Tender submitted by the closing date and time * Compliance with contractual arrangements.   Tenders that are not compliant may be disqualified from the process. We reserve the right to clarify any issues regarding a Bidder’s compliance. It will be at ORR's sole discretion whether to include the relevant Bidder’s response in the next stage of the process.  The contract will be awarded to the Bidder(s) submitting the **‘most economically advantageous tender’**. Tenders will be evaluated according to weighted criteria as follows:  **Methodology (30%)**  The proposal should set out the methodology by which the project requirement will be initiated, delivered and concluded. In particular, it must:  a) Explain the methodology and delivery mechanisms to ensure that the requirements of this specification are met in terms of quality;  b) Explain how your organisation will work in partnership with ORR’s project manager to ensure that the requirement is met  c) Explain how your organisation will engage with external stakeholders (including Highways England).  **Delivery (20%)**  The proposal should set out how and when the project requirement will be delivered. In particular, it must:  a) Explain how this work will be delivered to timescale and how milestones will be met, detailing the resources that will be allocated to each stage;  b) Demonstrate an understanding of the risks, and project dependencies and explain how they would be mitigated to ensure project delivery;  c) Explain the resources that will be allocated to delivering the required outcomes/output, and what other resources can be called upon if required.  **Experience (30%)**  The proposal should set out any experience relevant to the project requirement. In particular, it must:  a) Provide CVs of the consultants who will be delivering the project;  b) Highlight the organisation’s relevant experience for this project, submitting examples of similar projects.  **Cost / Value for money (20%)**  A **fixed fee** for delivery of the project requirement (inclusive of all expenses), including a full price breakdown for each stage of the project and details of the day rates that will apply for the lifetime of this project.   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | Name of consultant | Grade | Role | Day rate | Number of days | Total cost (ex VAT) | |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  |   Please note that consultancy grades should align with the following definitions:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Grade** | **Requirement** | | Junior consultant | Demonstrable experience in a wide range of projects in their specialist field. Evidence of client facing experience and support services to wider consultancy projects. | | Consultant | Notable experience and in-depth knowledge of their specialist field. Evidence of a wide range of consultancy projects and client facing experience. Support work in process and organisational design and leading workshops and events. | | Senior Consultant | Substantial experience in their specialist field and in a consultancy/training role. Previous experience in project management and working in a wide range of high quality and relevant projects. Familiarity of the issues/problems facing public sector organisations. | | Principal Consultant | Substantial experience in their specialist field and in a consultancy/training role. Sound knowledge of the public sector and current policy and political issues affecting it. Previous experience in project management on at least three major projects, preferably in the public sector and using the PRINCE2 or equivalent method. | | Managing Consultant | Substantial experience in their specialist field and in a consultancy role. In depth knowledge of the public sector and of current policy and political issues affecting it. Previous experience in project management on at least 5 major projects, preferably in the public sector and using PRINCE2 or equivalent methods. | | Director / Partner | Extensive experience in their specialist field, in which they are nationally or internationally renowned as an expert. Extensive experience of leading or directing major, complex and business critical projects; bringing genuine strategic insight. In depth knowledge of the public sector and of current policy and political issues affecting it. |   **Marking Scheme**   |  |  | | --- | --- | | Score 0 | Unanswered or totally inadequate response to the requirement. Complete failure to grasp/reflect the core issues | | 1 | Minimal or poor response to meeting the requirement. Limited understanding, misses some aspects | | 3 | Good understanding and interpretation of requirements, providing clear evidence of how the criterion has been met | | 5 | Excellent response fully addressing the requirement and providing significant additional evidence of how the criterion has been met and how value would be added |   For the Price evaluation the following shall apply:  Fixed fee  The lowest fixed fee will be awarded the maximum price score of 100.  All other bidders will get a price score relative to the lowest fee tendered.  The calculation we will use to calculate your score is as follows:  Price Score = Lowest Total Fee x 100  Bidder’s Total Fee  Your score will then be multiplied by the weighting we have applied to this aspect of the price evaluation to provide a weighted score for the fee. |

**4. Procurement procedures**

Tendering Timetable

The timescales for the procurement process are as follows:

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| **Element** | **Timescale** |
| Invitation to tender issued | 18/06/2021 |
| Deadline for the submission of clarification questions | 23/07/2021 12pm |
| Deadline for submission of proposals | 30/07/2021 12pm |
| Shortlisted suppliers notified | 13/08/2021 |
| Interviews and presentations\* \*\* | 23/08/2021 |
| Award contract | 27/08/2021 |
| Project Inception Meeting | Week commencing 30/08/2021 |

\*If required.

\*\*Please ensure that the Project Manager and other key consultants who will be delivering this work are available to give presentations on the interview date

Tendering Instructions and Guidance

**Amendments to ITT document**

Any advice of a modification to the Invitation to Tender will be issued as soon as possible before the Tender submission date and shall be issued as an addendum to, and shall be deemed to constitute part of, the Invitation to Tender. If necessary, ORR shall revise the Tender Date in order to comply with this requirement.

**Clarifications & Queries**

Please note that, for audit purposes, any query in connection with the tender should be submitted via the ORR eTendering portal.The response, as well as the nature of the query, will be notified to all suppliers without disclosing the name of the Supplier who initiated the query.

**Submission Process**

Tenders must be uploaded to the ORR eTendering portal **no later** than the submission date and time shown above. Tenders uploaded after the closing date and time may not be accepted. Bidders have the facility to upload later versions of tenders until the closing date/time.

Please submit the Form of Tender and Disclaimer certificate along with your proposal. If you are already registered on our eTendering portal but have forgotten your login details, please contact the portal administrator.

An evaluation team will evaluate all tenders correctly submitted against the stated evaluation criteria.

By issuing this Invitation to Tender ORR does not undertake to accept the lowest tender, or part or all of any tender. No part of the tender submitted will be returned to the supplier

**Cost & Pricing Information**

Tender costs remain the responsibility of those tendering. This includes any costs or expenses incurred by the supplier in connection with the preparation or delivery or in the evaluation of the tender. All details of the tender, including prices and rates, are to remain valid for acceptance for a period of 90 days from the tender closing date.

Tender prices must be in Sterling.

Once the contract has been awarded, any additional costs incurred which are not reflected in the tender submission will not be accepted for payment.

**References**

References provided as part of the tender may be approached during the tender stage

**Contractual Information**

Following the evaluation of submitted tenders, in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated in this document, a contractor may be selected to perform the services and subsequently issued with an order.

Any contract awarded, as a result of this procurement will be placed with a prime contractor who will take full contractual responsibility for the performance of all obligations under the contract. Any sub-contractors you intend to use to fulfil any aspect of the services must be identified in the tender along with details of their relationship, responsibilities and proposed management arrangements.

The proposal should be submitted in the form of an unconditional offer that is capable of being accepted by the ORR without the need for further negotiation. Any contract arising from this procurement will be based upon ORR’s standard Terms & Conditions (see Form of Agreement attached). You should state in your proposal that you are willing to accept these Terms & Conditions.

The ORR does not expect to negotiate individual terms and expects to contract on the basis of those terms alone. If you do not agree to the Conditions of Contract then your tender may be deselected on that basis alone and not considered further.

The ORR may be prepared to consider non-fundamental changes to the standard terms and conditions in exceptional circumstances. If there are any areas where you feel you are not able to comply with the standard ORR terms and conditions, then details should be submitted as a separate annex to the proposal using the following format:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Clause Number*** | ***Existing Wording*** | ***Proposed Wording*** | ***Rational for amendment*** |
|  |  |  |  |
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Any services arising from this ITT will be carried out pursuant to the contract which comprises of:

* ORR Terms & Conditions;
* Service Schedules;
* this Invite to Tender & Statement of Requirement document; and
* the chosen supplier’s successful tender.

## ORR’s Transparency Obligations and the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act)

The ORR is a central Government department and as such complies with the Government’s transparency agenda. As a result, there is a presumption that contract documentation will be made available to the public via electronic means. The ORR will work with the chosen supplier to establish if any information within the contract should be withheld and the reasons for withholding it from publication.

Typically the following information will be published:

* contract price and any incentivisation mechanisms
* performance metrics and management of them
* plans for management of underperformance and its financial impact
* governance arrangements including through supply chains where significant contract value rests with subcontractors
* resource plans
* service improvement plans

Where appropriate to do so information will be updated as required during the life of the contract so it remains current;

In addition, as a public authority, ORR is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. All information submitted to a public authority may need to be disclosed by the public authority in response to a request under the Act. ORR may also decide to include certain information in the publication scheme which it maintains under the Act. If a bidder considers that any of the information included in its proposal is commercially sensitive, it should identify it and explain (in broad terms) what harm may result from disclosure if a request is received and the time period applicable to that sensitivity. Bidders should be aware that even where they have indicated that information is commercially sensitive ORR may be required to disclose it under the Act if a request is received. Bidders should also note that the receipt of any material marked “confidential” or equivalent by the public authority should not be taken to mean that the public authority accepts any duty of confidence by virtue of that marking. If a request is received ORR may also be required to disclose details of unsuccessful bids.

Please use the following matrix: to list such information:

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| Para. No. | Description | Applicable exemption under FOIA 2000 |
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1. <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/431389/strategic-highways-licence.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. [ORR’s role in the second Road Investment Strategy | Office of Rail and Road](https://www.orr.gov.uk/monitoring-regulation/road/investment-strategy) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://www.orr.gov.uk/sites/default/files/om/ris2-cost-estimation-report.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. <https://assets.highwaysengland.co.uk/roads/road-projects/A46+Coventry+Junctions+Upgrade/Proofs+of+evidence/J.01+PROJECT+CONTROL+FRAMEWORK+HANDBOOK++V4-NOVEMBER+2018_.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-4)