# TCA 3/7/1068

# INSTRUCTIONS ON SUBMISSION OF TENDERS

1. The MCA looks forward to receiving your tender for the work described in the attached documents. To ensure fairness all tenderers are required to submit their tenders in accordance with these instructions. **Failure to comply could invalidate your tender**.

1. The decision not to submit a Tender should be indicated by **e-mail** to contracts@mcga.gov.uk**.** If you are willing to state your reasons this would be appreciated and may help to inform us on future procurement exercises.

**Communications During the Tender Process**

1. This contract has been advertised on the Contracts Finder portal, and all communications with tenderers during the process will, as far as possible, take place via that portal. Tender documents, including the specification and documents for return with your tender, can be found in the ‘Attachments’ section of the Contracts Finder advertisement.
2. Tenderers are welcome to ask questions about any aspect of the procurement process. Such queries should be addressed to the Procurement Team at contracts@mcga.gov.uk, and should contain the reference number or title of the contract. The deadline for submission of queries is **5pm on 7th December 2018**.
3. In the interest of fairness, all answers will be published on the Contracts Finder website as a further attachment to the advertisement, unless clearly only relevant to one supplier. **Answers to questions will not be individually emailed to tenderers**, so you are strongly advised to keep up to date with any additional documents posted to the site.
4. Please ensure that you have read all documents attached to the Contracts Finder advert before asking a question, as your query may already have been answered.
5. The MCA will inform all tenderers individually whether or not they have been successful in the tendering process.

**Submission of Tenders**

1. You should send your tender in a plain envelope, to the address on the eTender Label. It is your responsibility to ensure that your tender arrives at the address shown no later than **11am on 14th December 2018** (unless the date is subsequently amended in writing by the MCA). Your tender may be submitted before the due date, but **all** late tenders will be rejected.
2. Tenders **must not** be submitted by e-mail. The legal status of documents submitted by e-mail has yet to be clarified sufficiently to satisfy the Department’s needs to ensure the integrity and probity of the Tender process.
3. The envelope and any other packaging or labelling **should not identify the tenderer**. (You should note that courier firms often put the sender’s name and address on their outer envelopes).
4. You must ensure that your tender is completed legibly, in ink or typed, in English, with all prices in Sterling (exclusive of VAT), and is signed and dated where required. Any manuscript amendments you make to your tender, prior to submission, must be initialled and preferably also noted separately. Correction fluid must not be used.

12. You must include as part of your tender:

1. The MCA’s Form of Tender signed and dated by an authorised representative of the tendering organisation.
2. A completed Pricing Schedule showing full costs for your proposed solution (a template can be downloaded from Contracts Finder);
3. A complete specification for the ATV Operators Training you propose to offer, this must cover all of the requirements as detailed in section 3.2 of the specification.
4. Copies of your course approval certification from either LANTRA, ROSPA or NPTC and copies of the qualification certificates of the trainers who will be providing the training.
5. Details of your insurance cover for the following policies:

• Employer’s liability

• Public liability (£5 million)

• Professional indemnity (of at least £5 million per individual claim)

1. Details of how your organisation promotes and practices sustainable development and how this can impact on this contract as detailed in section 7.1 of the specification.
2. A Business Continuity Plan to include the following:
* Trainer is unable to undertake the course due to unforeseen circumstances
* Vehicle breakdown
1. You must not alter any of the MCA’s tender documents.
2. You must not tell anyone else, even approximately, what your tender price is or will be, before the date of contract award. The only exception is if you need an insurance quotation to calculate your tender price - in which case you may give your insurance company or brokers any essential information they ask for, provided that you do so in strict confidence.
3. You must not try to obtain any information about anyone else’s tender or proposed tender before the date of contract award.
4. You must not make any arrangements with anyone else about whether or not they should tender, or about their or your tender price. The only exception is where tenderers are considering joint or team bids, which will be allowed providing all participants to the discussions surrounding the bid are clearly stated in the tender response. (See also ‘Group Bids’ below).
5. Tender documents must not be transferred to anyone without the prior approval of the MCA in writing.

**Group Bids**

1. The MCA welcomes tenders from groups/consortia of suppliers, each providing part of the specified requirement. In the event of a group of suppliers submitting an acceptable offer, the group will be required to nominate a lead partner with whom the Department can contract. Alternatively, the group will need to form themselves into a single legal entity before the contract is awarded. An undertaking that the group will so form themselves, if required by the Department, must be provided when the tender is submitted.

**Alternative Tenders**

1. If you wish you may tender on the basis of an alternative specification, but if you do this then you must also submit a separate, primary, tender based strictly on the MCA’s specification. Alternative tenders must be fully priced to show clearly how and where costs differ from the primary tender. You should also note that the MCA reserves the right to accept an alternative tender without recourse to re-tendering.

**Tender Validity**

1. The MCA will assume that your tender will remain open for acceptance for a minimum of 60 calendar days from the Tender Deadline.

**Scoring of Tenders and Acceptance of Offers**

1. The MCA will safeguard all tenders received and open them once the tender deadline has expired.

**Evaluation Criteria**

1. The scoring criteria for the contract will be as follows:

Evaluation Criteria

**Price Score represents 40% of Total Scores Weightings**

Cost of Service inclusive of travel expenses 100%

CA e eTen der Labelocess.nderers individually whether or not they have been successfulnts posted to the site.dressed to the Pro

**Quality Score represents 60% of Total Scores Weightings**

Compliance with specific programme requirements 50%

Certification compliance and expert knowledge 30%

Delivery and risk 15%

Sustainability 5%

**o process for awarding the contract will be as follows:ng part of the tenderered requirement.**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Criterion** | **Sub-Criteria**  | **Criterion Weighting** | **Sub-Criteria Weightings** |
| **Confirmation of accredited course completion certificate to be issued.** |  | **CRITICAL** |  |
| **Price** |  | **40%** |  |
| Cost of Service inclusive of travel expenses |  | 100% |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| **Quality** |  | **60%** |  |
| **Compliance with the specific programme requirements** |  | **50%** |  |
|  | A detailed summary of how delivery of the learning objectives detailed at 3.2 of the specification and a detailed course syllabus that covers the use of ATVs in an operational (SAR) role provided. |  | 40% |
|  | A detailed summary of how the training on the requested ATVs at the locations listed in section 5 Lot Details will be provided |  | 30% |
|  | A summary of course details to be provided over a 2 day period including details of written materials to be provided.  |  | 20% |
|  | GDPR compliant and details of how personal data will be processed. |  | 5% |
|  | Details of the flexibility you can provide for additional locations and vehicles.  |  | 5% |
| **Certification compliance and expert knowledge** |  | **30%** |  |
|  | Copies of company accreditation together with details of the governing and accreditation body  |  | 60% |
|  | Details provided of experience of training other emergency services or similar organisations  |  | 20% |
|  | CVs and certification for the instructors who will be delivering the courses.  |  | 10% |
|  | Confirmation supplier can provide specialist telephone/email advice on occasion as required. |  | 10% |
| **Delivery and risk**  |  | **15%** |  |
|  | Details provided of risks identified in the delivery of training and details of a Business Continuity Plan. |  | 100% |
| **Sustainability**  |  | **5%** |  |
|  | Timber policy in relation to course materials  |  | 50% |
|  | Policy to reduce transport emissions  |  | 50% |

Compliance with specific programme requirements, certification compliance and expert knowledge, delivery and risk and sustainability together make up the Quality section of the scoring, which will be worth 60% of the overall score (with cost of service and travel and expenses as the Price element receiving the other 40%).

1. The method of scoring all tenders will be:
	1. Any scoring criterion shown as ‘Critical’ above will be assessed first. These criteria are the most important ones to the MCA, and will be marked on a pass/fail basis. Any supplier that fails on a Critical criterion will be excluded from this procurement and their tender will not be assessed further.
	2. A score out of 5 will then be assigned to each sub-criterion for the other Quality aspects, according to the scheme below:

**0** – Inadequate response

**1** – Major weaknesses in the response

**3** – Minor weaknesses in the response or detail missing

**5** –Satisfactory response that fully meets the requirement and includes all relevant supporting evidence.

* 1. The score for each sub-criterion will be converted into a weighted percentage of the total score for the criterion it sits under, using the formula:

**Quality Score for the**

**sub-criterion = \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Tenderer’s Score\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ x Weightings**

 **Highest Quality Score Possible for the Sub-Criterion**

* 1. Once all sub-criteria have been scored and weighted, the total weighted score for each Quality criterion will be calculated by:

**Weighted Score for the**

 **Criterion = (Total of the Weighted Scores for each sub-criterion) X Criterion Weighting**

* 1. A final Quality score will be arrived at by adding up all weighted scores for overall criteria and multiplying by 0.6 (to represent the 60% weighting given to the Quality score overall). Any supplier scoring less than 70% on quality will not go forward to a price assessment
	2. Each element of the price will be scored according to the formula below, and the total price score arrived at by adding up the two weighted scores and multiplying by 0.4:

**Price Score = \_\_\_\_\_Lowest Price\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ x Weightings**

 **Each Tenderer’s Price**

g. Each supplier’s total score will be:

**TOTAL SCORE** **= Total Quality Score + Total Price Score**.

The MCA intends to award the contract to the tenderer that receives the highest Total Score.

1. You should note that: -
2. The MCA reserves the right not to accept the lowest, or any, tender.
3. The MCA reserves the right to accept any part of the tender without accepting the remainder.
4. Acceptance of a tender/award of contract will be by written communication from the MCA.
5. Where the tender process has been subject to the full EU Procurement Process, a mandatory 10-day standstill period must be applied between communicating the award decision to tenderers and awarding the contract.
6. Complaints arising from the tender process should be directed in the first instance to the Procurement Team (contracts@mcga.gov.uk). If you are still aggrieved by the outcome then please contact the Crown Commercial Service customer service desk, at supplier@crowncommercial.gov.uk.

**Tender Costs**

1. You should note that any expenditure, work or effort undertaken by you prior to the award of a contract is a matter solely for your own commercial judgement. The MCA reserves the right to withdraw this tender invitation at any time or to re-invite tenders on the same or any alternative basis. In such circumstances, and in any event, the MCA and/or its advisers shall not be liable for any costs or loss of expenses whatsoever incurred by the bidder or any company, agent, subsidiary or organisation who may have contributed to the proposals submitted by the bidder in response to this tender invitation.

**Trading Names/Invoicing**

1. If your tender is submitted in the name of one organisation but you intend submitting invoices in the name of another, or require payments to be made to another, please give full details. Otherwise there may be delay in payment.

**Access to Government Information**

1. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (“FOIA”) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (“EIRs”), the Department is obliged (subject to the application of any relevant exemptions and, where applicable, the public interest test) to disclose information in response to requests for information.

You need to be aware that the Department could receive requests for *any* information relating to this contract. The contract will include provisions to reflect the Department’s obligations under those disclosure regimes. The Department cannot contract out of its obligations in this respect and will only accept confidentiality clauses in very exceptional and narrowly defined circumstances. In this regard, your attention is drawn to the Code of Practice (in particular, section V thereof) issued by the Lord Chancellor under section 45 of the FOIA (section IX of the Code of Practice issued under regulation 16 of the EIRs includes similar guidance).

**Payment**

27. The MCA has migrated its invoicing activity to the DfT Shared Service Centre (Swansea). Invoices should be sent to the address below and include details of the purchase order number (provided by the Contract Manager) issued by the MCA and a full description of items provided:

DfT Shared Service Centre

Arvato Bertelsmann

Sandringham Park,

Swansea Vale,

Swansea, Wales,

SA7 0EA