Invitation to Quote

Invitation to Quote (ITQ) on behalf of Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy Subject: Online Investigation Resilience Sourcing Reference Number: CS18080



UK Shared Business Services Ltd (UK SBS) 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 Copyright (c) UK Shared Business Services Ltd. 2014

Version 3.6

Table of Contents

Section	Content
1	About UK Shared Business Services Ltd.
2	About the Contracting Authority
3	Working with the Contracting Authority.
4	Specification
5	Evaluation model
6	Evaluation questionnaire
7	General Information

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 our Contracting Authorities improve efficiency, generate savings and modernise.

It is our vision to become the leading service provider for the Contracting Authorities 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 <u>here</u>.

Privacy Notice

This notice sets out how the Contracting Authority will use your personal data, and your rights. It is made under Articles 13 and/or 14 of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

YOUR DATA

The Contracting Authority will process the following personal data:

Names and contact details of employees involved in preparing and submitting the bid; Names and contact details of employees proposed to be involved in delivery of the contract; Names, contact details, age, qualifications and experience of employees who's CVs are submitted as part of the bid.

Purpose

The Contracting Authority are processing your personal data for the purposes of the tender exercise, or in the event of legal challenge to such tender exercise.

Legal basis of processing

The legal basis for processing your personal data is processing is necessary for the performance of a task carried out in the public interest or in the exercise of official authority vested in the data controller, such as the exercise of a function of the Crown, a Minister of the Crown, or a government department; the exercise of a function conferred on a person by an enactment; the exercise of a function of either House of Parliament; or the administration of justice.

Recipients

Your personal data will be shared by us with other Government Departments or public authorities where necessary as part of the tender exercise. The Contracting Authority may share your data if required to do so by law, for example by court order or to prevent fraud or other crime.

Retention

All submissions in connection with this tender exercise will be retained for a period of 7 years from the date of contract expiry, unless the contract is entered into as a deed in which case it will be kept for a period of 12 years from the date of contract expiry.

YOUR RIGHTS

You have the right to request information about how your personal data are processed, and to request a copy of that personal data.

You have the right to request that any inaccuracies in your personal data are rectified without delay.

You have the right to request that any incomplete personal data are completed, including by means of a supplementary statement.

You have the right to request that your personal data are erased if there is no longer a justification for them to be processed.

You have the right in certain circumstances (for example, where accuracy is contested) to request that the processing of your personal data is restricted.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data where it is processed for direct marketing purposes.

You have the right to object to the processing of your personal data.

INTERNATIONAL TRANSFERS

Your personal data will not be processed outside the European Union

COMPLAINTS

If you consider that your personal data has been misused or mishandled, you may make a complaint to the Information Commissioner, who is an independent regulator. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office Wycliffe House Water Lane Wilmslow Cheshire SK9 5AF 0303 123 1113 casework@ico.org.uk

Any complaint to the Information Commissioner is without prejudice to your right to seek redress through the courts.

CONTACT DETAILS

The data controller for your personal data is:

The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

You can contact the Data Protection Officer at:

BEIS Data Protection Officer, Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H0ET. Email: <u>dataprotection@beis.gov.uk</u>.

Section 2 – About the Contracting Authority

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) was created as a result of a merger between the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS), as part of the Machinery of Government (MoG) changes in July 2016.

The Department is responsible for:

• developing and delivering a comprehensive industrial strategy and leading the government's relationship with business;

• ensuring that the country has secure energy supplies that are reliable, affordable and clean;

- ensuring the UK remains at the leading edge of science, research and innovation; and
- tackling climate change.

BEIS is a ministerial department, supported by 46 agencies and public bodies.

We have around 2,500 staff working for BEIS. Our partner organisations include 9 executive agencies employing around 14,500 staff.

http://www.beis.gov.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.

Sectio	Section 3 – Contact details		
3.1	Contracting Authority Name and address	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), 1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET	
3.2	Buyer name	Laura Goodhall	
3.3	Buyer contact details	professionalservices@uksbs.co.uk 01793 867005	
3.4	Estimated value of the Opportunity	£60,000 (ex VAT, including all expenses)	
3.5	Process for the submission of clarifications and Bids	All correspondence shall be submitted within the Emptoris e-sourcing tool. Guidance Notes to support the use of Emptoris is available <u>here</u> . 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.	

Section 3 - Timescales		
3.6	Date of Issue of Contract Advert and location of original Advert	05/02/2019 Contracts Finder
3.7	Latest date/time ITQ clarification questions shall be received through Emptoris messaging system	19/02/2019 11.00
3.8	Latest date/time ITQ clarification answers should be sent to all Bidders by the Buyer through Emptoris	21/02/2019
3.9	Latest date/time ITQ Bid shall be submitted through Emptoris	28/02/2019 11.00
3.10	Anticipated notification date of successful and unsuccessful Bids	15/03/2019 14.00
3.11	Anticipated Award date	15/03/2019
3.12	Anticipated Contract Start date	25/03/2019
3.13	Anticipated Contract End date	25/03/2021
3.14	Bid Validity Period	60 Days

Section 4 – Specification

Introduction

The Office for Product Safety and Standards (" the Office") was created in January 2018 by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), and takes forward the work of the previous Regulatory Delivery directorate. Responsibilities of the Office include:

- Giving detailed advice on the interpretation of safety related regulations and sits on many standards making committees.
- Responding to incidents where the safety of a consumer product is called into question.
- Offering policy advice to HMG on product safety issues.
- Enforcement of a wide range of other product standards and regulations, including WEEE, RoHS, lvory and Conflict Mineral regulations.
- Support of businesses through an expanded "Primary Authority" scheme to act as a single point of information for a wide variety of regulations impacting business.
- The work of the former national Measurement Organisation is also within the Office, which brings a world class test and measurement capability

This project is part of the BEIS Office for Product Safety and Standards National Capacity development for product safety enforcement. We currently have no capacity for online enforcement and whilst we develop this, we will be procuring an external organisation to deliver this capacity on a call off contract for a period of 24 months.

Aims & Objectives

Enforcement is one key objective for the Office for Product Safety and Standards. Without effective enforcement, safety outcomes can be undermined, as can fair competition for compliant businesses who may find themselves undercut by competitors who do not invest in safety compliance.

We recognise the emergence of online supply of products and acknowledge that this marketplace must be monitored for compliance as any other part of the traditional supply chain. So, we want to establish our own online investigation team, and whilst we do this, we want to retain an external provider to provide enforcement services to our offices over two years whilst we build up our own capacity.

The key objectives of this project are to:

1) Obtain practical advice and guidance on online investigations and the capture of digital evidence from experts.

2) Have capacity to capturing websites and secure digital evidence pertaining to any digital investigations delivered over a two-year period.

3) Have capacity for the technical examination of seized digital evidence, that can be easily presented in Court as required.

4) Have capacity to be available on retention for the period of the contract.

Background to the Requirement

The Office for Product Safety and Standards are actively working on building our online investigation capacity to enable us to deliver enforcement online in future. We anticipate that it will take us up to two years to complete our recruitment and training, before we are completely operational.

We understand that non-compliant products could be supplied online now, so to enable us to respond and investigate breaches of legislation, we want to call on a third party to provide officer guidance, website capture and device examination for evidential purposes.

We would expect practitioners to be trained and competent in recovering and reproducing seized digital evidence, so that it can be presented as evidence in Court. Practitioners should follow the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Good Practice Guide on how to identify, preserve and recover electronic evidence (2012).

Scope

Our primary focus is on consumer products made available via a digital format online or via a mobile application. E-commerce is an enabler for manufacturers and distributors both inside and outside the EU to easily sell goods to UKI consumers and potentially ship them from anywhere in the world or utilise a fulfilment house based in the UK.

We have developed an enforcement capacity to support local authority Trading Standards in their work tackling the placing on the market of unsafe consumer goods. Whilst experience in investigation and the gathering of evidence, we acknowledge that we need to introduce online investigation expertise and relevant systems to deliver online enforcement.

The focus of the procurement is to introduce a capacity immediately following the procurement, to enable us to capture online evidence and receive expert guidance, whilst we continue to build our own in-house capacity.

Our work is primarily product safety enforcement; however, we also deliver additional enforcement workstreams involving environmental and trade control legislation.

Requirement

The contractor will deliver the key important requirements:

- Answer a minimum of 10 enquiries per week of phone / email enquiries from Office for Product Safety and Standards (OPSS) investigators during office hours (Monday – Friday, 9-5pm, excluding bank holidays) on relevant topics (online investigations, website capture, securing digital evidence).
- 2) Actively capture website or other digital evidence as directed by OPSS investigators, starting any action within two working days of a request.
- 3) Provide training to a minimum of 16 OPSS investigators on digital investigation principles and techniques.
- 4) Provide technical examination of seized digital evidence in line with good practice, with production of an appropriate report and witness statement to criminal court standard.

The contractor is required to:

- Keep a record of requests received and answered from OPSS investigators
- Keep a record of investigation activity undertaken on behalf of OPSS investigators
- Prepare written criminal witness statements and present evidence in Court as required.
- Deliver training sessions covering the range of elements to online digital investigation.
- Produce a monthly progress report outlining the activity completed under the contract to date.

The contractor should maintain good communication with the OPP project manager and succinctly summarise recent and imminent work activity and flag up any problems that might lead to delay.

Timetable

Week 1: Project Initiation Meeting - Birmingham

Monthly: Email Progress Report

Month 6: Project Progress Meeting - Birmingham

Month 12: Project Progress Meeting - Birmingham

Month 18: Project Progress Meeting - Birmingham

Month 23: Project Review & Learning points - Birmingham

The above timeline is indicative only, tenderers are welcome to suggest alternatives that they consider to be more appropriate. Please note that the contract will end after 24 months.

Budget

The guide budget for the work is $\pounds 60,000.00$. This is divided as follows: Requirement 1 - $\pounds 10,000.00$; Requirement 2, 3, 4 - $\pounds 25,000.00$. Additional ad hoc call-off days - $\pounds 25,000.00$.

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 belowshall 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÷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	SEL3.11	Compliance to Section 54 of the Modern Slavery Act	
Commercial	SEL3.12	Cyber Essentials	
Commercial	SEL3.13	General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)	
Commercial	AW4.1	Contract Terms Part 1	
Commercial	AW4.2	Contract Terms Part 2	
Price	AW5.5	E Invoicing	
Price	AW5.6	Implementation of E-Invoicing	
Quality	AW6.1	Compliance to Section 4	
Quality	AW6.2	Variable Bids	
Quality	PROJ1.6	Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) Good Practice Guide (2012)	

Evaluation Justification Statement

In consideration of this 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	PROJ1.1	Methodology	15%
Quality	PROJ1.2	Project Team and Capability to Deliver	15%
Quality	PROJ1.3	Project Plan and Timescales	10%
Quality	PROJ1.4	Understanding of product safety environment	20%
Quality	PROJ1.5	Understanding of the enforcement training environment	15%

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:

Score = {weighting percentage} x {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: 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 <u>http://www.uksbs.co.uk/services/procure/Pages/supplier.aspx</u>

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. Responses received after the date indicated in the ITQ shall not be considered by the Contracting Authority, unless the Bidder can justify that the reason for the delay, is solely attributable to the Contracting Authority
- 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, emails and fax details.
- 7.10 Do complete all questions in the questionnaire or we may reject your Bid.
- 7.11 Do ensure that the Response and any documents accompanying it are in the English Language, the Contracting Authority reserve the right to disqualify any full or part responses that are not in English.
- 7.12 Do check and recheck your Bid before dispatch.

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

DO NOT

- 7.13 Do not cut and paste from a previous document and forget to change the previous details such as the previous buyer's name.
- 7.14 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.
- 7.15 Do not share the Procurement documents, they are confidential and should not be shared with anyone without the Buyers written permission.
- 7.16 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.
- 7.17 Do not contact any UK SBS staff or the Contracting Authority staff without the Buyers written permission or we may reject your Bid.
- 7.18 Do not collude to fix or adjust the price or withdraw your Bid with another Party as we will reject your Bid.
- 7.19 Do not offer UK SBS or the Contracting Authority staff any inducement or we will reject your Bid.
- 7.20 Do not seek changes to the Bid after responses have been submitted and the deadline for Bids to be submitted has passed.
- 7.21 Do not cross reference answers to external websites or other parts of your Bid, the cross references and website links will not be considered.
- 7.22 Do not exceed word counts, the additional words will not be considered.
- 7.23 Do not make your Bid conditional on acceptance of your own Terms of Contract, as your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.24 Do not unless explicitly requested by the Contracting Authority either in the procurement documents or via a formal clarification from the Contracting Authority send your response by any way other than via e-sourcing tool. Responses received by any other method than requested will not be considered for the opportunity.

Some additional guidance notes d

- 7.25 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.
- 7.26 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.
- 7.27 Question numbering is not sequential and all questions which require submission are included in the Section 6 Evaluation Questionnaire.
- 7.28 Any Contract offered may not guarantee any volume of work or any exclusivity of supply.
- 7.29 We do not guarantee to award any Contract as a result of this procurement
- 7.30 All documents issued or received in relation to this procurement shall be the property of the Contracting Authority. / UKSBS.
- 7.31 We can amend any part of the procurement documents at any time prior to the latest date / time Bids shall be submitted through Emptoris.
- 7.32 If you are a Consortium you must provide details of the Consortiums structure.
- 7.33 Bidders will be expected to comply with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.34 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
- 7.35 Your bid will be valid for 60 days or your Bid will be rejected.
- 7.36 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.
- 7.37 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.
- 7.38 If you fail mandatory pass / fail criteria we will reject your Bid.
- 7.39 Bidders are required to use IE8, IE9, Chrome or Firefox in order to access the functionality of the Emptoris e-sourcing tool.
- 7.40 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.

- 7.41 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.
- 7.42 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.

7.43 The Government introduced its new Government Security Classifications (GSC) classification scheme on the 2nd 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
- <u>Contracts Finder</u>
- Equalities Act introduction
- Bribery Act introduction
- Freedom of information Act