

An assessment of the determinants of business competitiveness and the role of carbon pricing policy in the UK Q&A

Q: Would it be possible to have the deadline extended by two weeks to allow more time to get together a response?

A: No, the deadline remains Friday 9th August.

Q: You state that we have a 14 page limit on page 21, with 8 pages for phase 1 and 6 pages for phase 2.

The criteria and weightings attached to phase 1 and 2 are the same, and we were just wondering whether it would be possible to submit a combined answer for phase 1 and 2, as some of the content will be repeated / very similar? We could always clearly show where our answers relate to one of the phases, so you can still evaluate them separately.

A: BEIS will accept a combined answer if this is preferable for bidders. However, please note that it may not be in the bidder's interest as it would make it more difficult for BEIS to evaluate the bid. Bidders should be aware that the rationale for Phase 1 and Phase 2 bids to be evaluated separately is that BEIS is looking for details in the bid specific to each phase. In addition, Phase 2 may not be taken up by BEIS as an option so it would make forming the contract more difficult.

Q: I understand that the tender will be evaluated separately for Phase 1 and Phase 2. As such, the proposal should cover the 6 evaluation criteria separately for each Phase. However, certain sections might contain similar pieces of information, for example quality assurance processes followed. In such cases, I wanted to know whether there is any scope for a section Phase 2 to refer to a section in Phase 1, or whether the Phase 1 and Phase 2 proposals will be divided and considered entirely separately?

A: BEIS will accept references to other parts of the submission when reviewing bids. Bidders should be aware that the rationale for Phase 1 and Phase 2 bids to be evaluated separately is that BEIS is looking for details in the bid specific to each phase.

Q: According to the evaluation criteria, both Phases will be evaluated separately, but on the same points (and so the same structure is repeated). This may result in a lot of repetition in some places (e.g. the background policy sections would, we anticipate, cover the same ground) – is it indeed the case that if a potential Contractor seeks to bid for both phases, it has to repeat certain parts of the bid to comply with the requirements?

A: BEIS will accept references to other parts of the submission when reviewing bids to avoid repetition where necessary. Bidders should be aware that the rationale for Phase 1 and Phase 2 bids to be evaluated separately is that BEIS is looking for details in the bid specific to each phase - and that BEIS may choose to only award phase 1.

Q: The Invitation to Tender outlines that Phase 2 will apply the framework developed in Phase 1 of the project. As a result, at the proposal stage we expect that there will be some uncertainty as to how Phase 2 will be implemented with respect to scope, coverage, and complexity, as it depends partly on the outputs of Phase 1. Are BEIS willing to accept more than one pricing option for Phase 2, or does BEIS envisage a single price offer in the proposal for both Phase 1 and Phase 2? If there is scope for more than one pricing option for Phase 2, how would that be evaluated/scored?

A: BEIS expects one single price offer for both phases 1 and 2, set out separately as per the evaluation criteria. Whilst we understand there will be some uncertainty around the implementation of Phase 2, this can be addressed with the winning bidder in due course – but should remain within the stated budget. However, as per the ITT, for the purposes of this tender exercise, please submit your single best estimate and pricing for each phase.