

DDaT24324– Early Engagement Notice**Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology Sector's Classification Project****Summary**

The Department for Science, Innovation, and Technology (DSIT) anticipates it will shortly launch a procurement for an organisation to produce a list of companies for several DSIT sectors and subsequently assist in the development of economic statistics describing these sectors.

For this procurement, we intend to use the following framework: *CCS Spark DPS RM6094*. Interested suppliers can join this framework, with instructions found here in Annex 1 attached to this notice. Crown Commercial Services, who operate the framework, advise it can take up to 15 days from application to registration on the framework.

On the 6th of August 2024 (exact time to be confirmed), we will host a session with suppliers who have registered an interest in this procurement. Within this session, we will provide further information on this procurement and the wider requirement and give suppliers an opportunity to ask questions. Following the session, we may hold individual 1-2-1 meetings with interested suppliers to further discuss the procurement if this is required.

During the market engagement, DSIT's intention is to present suppliers with their planned requirements and further details on the intended output of this project. Supplier feedback will help to inform the final specification that will be advertised.

This notice aims to inform potential suppliers of our intention to procure via framework and our upcoming supplier engagement event.

Please note, the DPS list of appointed suppliers is updated every 48 hours by CCS. In the event this requirement proceeds to market, on the day of launch of this tender the list of appointed suppliers will be run and only those appointed on the day will be invited to bid. There is no allowance for suppliers that are appointed after this date to be added to a competition once live.

Context

DSIT is responsible for some of the UK's most dynamic and developing sectors. These sectors tend to be poorly served by Standard Industry Classification (SIC) codes, so traditional SIC-based methods for developing statistics on their size and health have limited applicability.

Teams across DSIT have experimented with solutions to this issue, which has spawned multiple approaches. DSIT's central analysis directorate is undertaking a project with the aim of consolidating and replacing these approaches with one that uses machine-learning methods.

Key attributes of the supplier

The resource and capability of the supplier will be assessed as part of the selection criteria. You would need to demonstrate that you have expertise and capabilities in:

- Utilising machine-learning methods to develop company lists for different sectors.
- Ability to work with and communicate to a senior analytical audience.
- Effective delivery of programmes and projects, with clear Project Management.

Indicative timelines & costs

It is expected this project will run from September 2024 into March 2026, with a break clause after 6 and 12 months. Exact timings for the project are a topic for discussion at the event.

We are finalising the budget for this project, so are unable to share it at this stage. We would be interested in views from suppliers on what amount would be sufficient.

Suppliers are to note that at this stage there is no guarantee that the work will commence.

Route to Market

For the avoidance of doubt, this notice is not a Call for Competition. DSIT will be utilising the CCS Spark DPS RM6094. Instructions on how to join this framework can be found via this link <https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps?fh=1>.

Supplier Engagement Session

In the coming weeks, we will undertake a market consultation exercise to explain and discuss our current view of requirements detailed above. If you believe this will be of interest to you and your organisation, please register your interest by sending an email to the following address – ddatprocurement@uksbs.co.uk

The supplier engagement session is anticipated to take place on 6th August via Microsoft Teams. The timing of the supplier engagement session is still to be confirmed however we anticipate the session will take place in the morning. We will confirm the time for this session on 26th July and will circulate invitations to those who have registered (as well as any who register subsequently).

The supplier engagement will last approximately 60 minutes, comprising of the following:

- Overview of the requirements
- Open floor Q&A

Attendance is restricted to 3 individuals per supplier. We would request that attendance is restricted to key members of your organisation that would have a keen interest in this project and be able to add value to the discussions that will take place.

Following this group session, we will offer suppliers the opportunity to meet directly with DSIT. This session will last no longer than 60 minutes, with the supplier limited to 3 attendees. This further engagement round will comprise:

- A detailed discussion of the technical requirements that DSIT require.

Answers to questions posed during these sessions will be shared when the procurement is launched as well as a copy of the presentation.

By registering and attending you will be engaging in non-competitive dialogue which will enable DSIT to develop and assess the market's appetite, concerns and views on formulation of its requirements. DSIT may consider the information and responses received as part of the preliminary market consultation to help inform the specification and further decision making in relation to the planning and conduct of the proposed procurement, ensuring all valid options are considered.

Any information supplied as part of preliminary market consultation shall not place any supplier at an advantage in a potential procurement process but will be used to help build the final specification.