**Q** Does the Town Council have a timescale in mind as to when they would require the project to be completed by?  We note the high priority of the work and need to act quickly following appointment.  An idea of an ultimate deadline would however help us to prepare a suitable timetable which allows for the six-week purdah restrictions.

**A** We have not set a deadline, but we would like to start work as soon as possible. Please note that your proposed timetable is one of the evaluation criteria.

“Purdah” does not prevent work taking place, but bidders should be aware of the guidance on publicity during this period of heightened sensitivity.

**Q** Would your team be able to provide a draft form of contract for our Commercial team to review prior to entering into the tender (so that they can confirm that we are able to make an offer that is compliant with the contract conditions)? Alternatively, if this would not be possible, would you be prepared to receive an offer that is based upon one of our standard forms of contract?

**A** We anticipate that bidders are likely to have their own standard forms of contract which we will be able to review before placing an order. We are not asking for copies at this stage, but please do let us know if anything in your contract would contradict the terms we have set out in the tender.