

Title: Maritime & Coastguard Agency – Contract for the Exploration of Data for Autonomous and Smart Shipping

Date: 8th February 2019

Reference Number: TCA 3/7/1086 (CON02)

The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) is an Executive Agency of the Department for Transport. The MCA is responsible throughout the UK for implementing and developing the UK Government's maritime safety and environmental protection policy. That includes co-ordinating Search and Rescue (SAR) at sea through Her Majesty's Coastguard 24 hours a day, and checking that ships meet UK and international safety rules. The MCA works to prevent the loss of lives at the coast and at sea, to ensure that ships are safe, and to prevent coastal pollution.

Safer Lives Safer Ships Cleaner Seas

The MCA provide a full range of search and rescue, counter pollution, survey, and inspection and enforcement activities and has 12 major business activities:

- Survey
- Inspection
- Enforcement
- Ship Registration
- Navigation Services
- Strategic Prevention Design/Development
- Seafarers Services
- Search & Rescue
- Pollution Response & Salvage
- Stakeholder Communication
- Ministerial Services
- Regulatory Process

These activities are supported through services responsible for providing a range of administrative functions including infrastructure, MCA people, financial management & administration and corporate management.

We are looking for a partner to help with the delivery of the data workstream, detailed below.

1. Background

- 1.1 Smart and autonomous vessels rely heavily on situational awareness data to build a picture of the world around them, and to help them navigate efficiently and safely.
- 1.2 The data workstream of this project aims to explore the ways in which data held by the MCA, alone or in combination with other complimentary datasets, can be used by industry to promote innovation in this sector, and to inform us as to the regulatory issues and obligations associated with the operation of autonomous ships.
- 1.3 The MCA collects a large volume of marine and maritime data, including but not limited to vessel movement data (AIS), port call data and bathymetry. The majority of this data is used for operational purposes, and as such is not in a structure that can be readily used by industry.

2. Objectives

- To learn what data, formats and platforms industry needs to help it realise its ambitions to test and operate autonomous vessels in UK waters.
- To understand the options and barriers to making MCA data available to industry.
- To create a minimal viable data product or platform for a test area of UK water, in an accessible, non-proprietary format and in conjunction with other complimentary/interoperable datasets (weather, tide, bathymetry), that can be made available to industry.
- To engage industry with this MVP, to understand the value in this data product and to help understand our role as the regulator in this new data landscape.

3. Tasks to be Delivered

- 3.1 We are seeking an innovation services provider to work with us to undertake the above steps for the lifetime of the project (March 2019 – February 2020).
- 3.2 We require an organisation that has national reach, is platform/product/software agnostic, has experience working with and sourcing data from a variety of different governmental, academic and industry partners and has experience building and testing data platform MVPs.

4. Management and Contract Administration

- 4.1 The MCA Product Manager will agree work in line with the above described range of tasks as the project progresses. The timescale, cost & outputs of these tasks will be agreed before work commences and will be monitored throughout the lifecycle of the contract.

5. Service Conditions

- 5.1 It is expected that the successful bidder will work mainly at their own office, but attendance at MCA meetings may be required.
- 5.2 Services will be supplied in accordance with the standard terms of contract applicable to this requirement.

6. Invoicing and Payments

- 6.1 Payment shall be made upon service delivery in accordance with the 'General Conditions of Contract, and subject to the receipt of a valid and correctly submitted invoice. The MCA pays undisputed invoices 30 days in arrears.
- 6.2 Contractors should note that the MCA has migrated its invoicing activity to the DfT Shared Service Centre (Swansea). Invoices should be sent to the address below and include a case reference number and transaction account code (to be assigned by the Agency). Invoices also need to detail the purchase order number 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

- 6.3 To further support swift payment of invoices, it is important that the invoices are compliant and that they include a valid PO Number, PO Number item number (if applicable) and the details (name and telephone number) of your Customer contact (i.e. Contract Manager).
- 6.4 Non-compliant invoices will be sent back to you, which may lead to delays in payment. If you have a query regarding an outstanding payment, please contact our Accounts Payable section either by email to Acccounts.payable@mcga.gov.uk or by telephone on 020381 72261 between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday.

7. Conflicts of interest

- 7.1 Bidders' written proposals must disclose any potential conflicts of interest.

- 7.2 Bidders should assess any potential conflicts of interest. They should include a clear statement which:
- Explicitly sets out that there is no conflict of interest, or sets out any existing conflicts of interest, either real or perceived, for their firm in relation to this Statement of Requirement;
 - Provides full details of proposed risk management arrangements (e.g. segregation of staff and security of information); and
 - Provides a clear description of how any subsequently arising conflicts would be dealt with.
- 7.3 Conflicts of interest are assessed on a pass/fail basis.
- 7.4 The Department will discuss any conflict of interest issues that have been disclosed by each Bidder.
- 7.5 The Department will decide whether any internal management processes and controls that Bidders have in place are satisfactory.
- 7.6 Bidders will be ruled out of the competition if, in the Department's view, there is a conflict of interest which could compromise the delivery and integrity of the contract, or if the arrangements to deal with a future conflict of interest arising offer insufficient protection for the Department.

8. Confidentiality and Security

- 8.1 The successful bidder will be expected to take all appropriate measures to ensure that confidential or sensitive material is not disclosed and provide details of how and where MCA data will be stored. Bidders must also demonstrate compliance with the Security Policy Framework.

9. Evaluation Criteria

- 9.1 Bids will be evaluated based on the Criteria and weightings set out in Annex 1 - Evaluation Criteria & Weighting.

10. Financial / Price Evaluation Scoring Methodology

- 10.1 The evaluation of price will be carried out as set out in the Pricing Schedule.

11. Interviews

- 11.1 MCA reserves the right to invite to interview bidders who have achieved the highest scores based on their written submissions. Bidders will not be interviewed who are mathematically incapable of winning the competition after the written bids have been assessed.

12. Your Response

- 12.1 Bidders are tasked with developing a comprehensive ITT response informing the MCA of their experience, allocated project resources to coordinate activities, their methodology and governance process that will be used to coordinate this requirement as well as raise issues/concerns.

All queries/ questions should be sent to the procurement contact detailed in the bidding documents

Annex 1 - Evaluation Criteria & Weighting

Primary Criteria	Primary Criteria Weighting (%)	Sub-Criteria Description	Sub-Criteria Weighting (%)
Capability/ Delivery	60	Evidence of prior performance on complex commercial projects, demonstrating the skills and capability to deliver the key requirements of the tasks outlined.	15
		A viable, well-constructed plan for delivering on the Authority's objectives is provided, demonstrating a suitable understanding of the objectives of the review and the policy context. Proposals should identify a robust methodology for delivering each of the tasks outlined, including a rationale and explanation of how the proposed method will achieve the Authority's objectives and produce the specified outputs. Your delivery plan should set out the number of days required to complete each proposed stage of the project.	30
		The skills, experience and expertise of the individuals proposed are demonstrated, with clear evidence of their ability to respond swiftly, clearly and succinctly to queries and work efficiently and collaboratively with DfT/MCA and policy makers. Please provide CVs (of the lead Director/Associate and up to 4 other individuals who would be allocated to work on the project).	15
Management	10	The approach to management of advice, the provision of timetables, cost estimates and billing. Higher scores will be achieved where the process proposed provides clear, timely information meeting all stated needs.	10
Price	30	(Methodology for evaluating price outlined in Annex 2)	30

Each response to the above criteria (except for Price) will be awarded a mark out of 5 in accordance with the following marking scheme:

Mark	Standard
0	Unacceptable - The method of fulfilling the stated requirement is totally inadequate / not addressed.
1	Unacceptable - Response meets some requirements but with major gaps or concerns about deliverability and understanding.
2	Not fully compliant - Response demonstrates that bidder can meet some but not all critical requirements and with minor gaps or concerns about deliverability and understanding.
3	Compliant and acceptable - Response demonstrates that bidder can fully meet all critical requirements but with minor shortcomings in respect of non-critical requirements.
4	Fully compliant and of a high standard - Detailed response that demonstrates that bidder can fully meet all aspects of the requirement as detailed in the Specification.
5	Exceptional - Detailed response that demonstrates that bidder can fully meet all aspects of the requirement as detailed in the Specification and provide innovation or added value.

The marks awarded in accordance with the above table will then be adjusted in accordance with the weightings.

The Department/MCA will not consider tenders scoring less than a total of 45 out of the total of 70 available for Capability/Delivery and Management.