**Further information relating to tender HSL T10 15/16 (Supply of FTIR Spectrometer) Q&A Number 2**

Q1. With reference to the table of specifications shown in item 5 of the Statement of Requirements (SSR) document, line item 1 calls for spectral range coverage from 400 – 7800cm-1. Would spectral range coverage from 350 – 7000cm-1 be acceptable in this case?

A1. A spectral range of up to 7000 cm-1 would be fine. The quoted range is base on our current instrument, but the ability to go above 7000 cm-1 is unlikely to ever be needed.

Q2. With reference to the table of specifications shown in item 5 of the Statement of Requirements (SSR) document, line item 2 calls for spectral resolution of 0.5cm-1 or better, but such high spectral resolution is only useful for work with gas samples. Section 2 of the SSR describes the type of samples that will be measured with this instrument, and they are all solids and liquids. For measurement of these sample types there is no benefit in working at any resolution higher than 4cm-1, so would an instrument capable of 2cm-1 spectral resolution be acceptable in this case?

A2. For most analyses a resolution of 2 cm-1 would be OK, HSL wouldn't want to exclude any instrument capable of a spectral resolution of 2 cm-1. What HSL would say is that when we come to look at the relative merits of the different systems a system capable of achieving a lower spectral resolution would obviously receive a higher mark for that particular requirement, but that this is only one part of the overall instrument assessment.