

Hierarchy of Assessment Criteria

The Council has three major categories of criteria which it will apply to potential suppliers. The first two of these, ethical and social responsibility issues and financial assessment are pass / fail assessments. I.e. any proposals that do not meet these requirements will not proceed to the next stage of assessment.

Ethical and social responsibility issues

The Council has declared a climate emergency, and so will apply Regulation 68(2) which adds that the costs mentioned in Regulation 68(1) (b) may include the cost of emissions of greenhouse gases and of other pollutant emissions and other climate change mitigation costs.

Potential Tenderers will be required to provide evidence of their carbon Footprint and level of pollutants associated with the manufacture of their equipment.

A prerequisite for the further consideration of all tender proposals will be the requirement for tenderers to provide the following;

- i) An environmental impact assessment on the specific proposals set forward.
- ii) an assessment of how the proposal will lead to a net gain in biodiversity
- iii) an assessment of the whole life carbon footprint of the proposal.

Tenderers who fail to provide a robust set of documents above will not be considered for further stages in the assessment of their proposals.

Financial assessment

The Council will apply the “Most Economically Advantageous Tender” (MEAT) approach. The Council will take into account a wide range of characteristics as award criteria, and will evaluate the cost-effectiveness of tenders through life-cycle costing. This will be done through a best price-quality ratio (BPQR) assessment. In order to minimise the wider societal costs impacted by this work the Council will apply Life Cycle Costing (LCC), i.e. as set out in Regulation 68(1), LCC will cover the following costs over the life cycle of the product, service or works, (to the extent that they are relevant):

- (a) Costs, borne by the contracting authority or other users.
 - (i) costs relating to acquisition,
 - (ii) costs of use, such as consumption of energy and other resources,
 - (iii) maintenance costs,
 - (iv) end of life costs, such as collection and recycling costs;
- (b) costs imputed to environmental externalities linked to the product, service or works during its life cycle.

Tenderers will be required to provide estimates for the above; the council will then use these estimates as evidence when undertaking their own costing assessment.

Please note that the first of these, costs relating to acquisition, is the contract tendered sum. This must be within the narrow range of costs set out by the Council. Tendered amounts outside this range will render the bid invalid.

Design Issues

When the above, generic issues have been satisfied, the Council will use a points system to assess the specific proposals from each tenderer. Points will be awarded on a scale of 1-5 and will be subject to a percentage loading to reflect the relative priority given to each aspect of the design proposals.

The Council's ambition is to create opportunities for children to build/explore/create.

The following elements must be contained within proposals, which will include for the retention/enhancement of some of the exiting equipment.

- Safety and avoidance of exposure to harm - loading 30%
- Play value – loading 25%
- Aesthetics and design – loading 20%
- Educational value – loading 10%
- Inclusivity – loading 10%
- Sustainability

Proposals must include a narrative showing how each of the above requirements have been met.

Please note – The Council believe that Inclusivity is a central tenant for every aspect of design. Proposals that attempt to address this issue in part, rather than as a fundamental element of every aspect of provision, will not score well in the assessment of proposals.

The Council proposes to employ a small panel to assess the proposals and intends to make the deliberations and scoring of the panel known to any tenderer wishing to see the assessment of their own proposal.