

# Mini Competition

Questions



## Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

**Mini Competition against an existing Framework Agreement (MC)**

**on behalf of Department for Energy Security and Net Zero**

**Subject: Specialist Services on the Design of Cap and Floor Arrangements for Long Duration Electricity Storage (LDES) Projects**

**Sourcing Reference Number: BE24088**

**UK Shared Business Services Ltd (UKSBS)**  
[www.ukpbs.co.uk](http://www.ukpbs.co.uk)

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Version 8.0

## **Section 6 – Response Evaluation Questionnaire**

Bidders should note that the response evaluation questionnaire is located within the **eSourcing questionnaire**.

Guidance on how to register and use the e-sourcing portal is available at <https://beisgroup.ukp.app.jaggaer.com/>

**PLEASE NOTE THE QUESTIONS ARE NOT NUMBERED SEQUENTIALLY**

## QUALIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

<b>SEL1.1</b>	<b>Please state the full legal name and address and contact details of the organisation tendering (or organisation acting as lead contact where a consortium bid is being submitted).</b>																						
Bidder Guidance	The information should be based on the details of the organisation bidding (or organisation acting as lead contact where a consortium bid is being submitted).  This is the legal entity with whom we will Contract if successful.																						
Scoring Criteria	For information only																						
Answer Type	Text <table border="1"> <tr><td>(a)Bidders full legal name</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>(b)Address line 1</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Address line 2</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Address line 3</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Address line 4</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Town / City</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Country</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>Post code (or equivalent)</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>(c)Bidder contact</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>(d)Telephone No.</td><td></td></tr> <tr><td>(e)Email</td><td></td></tr> </table>	(a)Bidders full legal name		(b)Address line 1		Address line 2		Address line 3		Address line 4		Town / City		Country		Post code (or equivalent)		(c)Bidder contact		(d)Telephone No.		(e)Email	
(a)Bidders full legal name																							
(b)Address line 1																							
Address line 2																							
Address line 3																							
Address line 4																							
Town / City																							
Country																							
Post code (or equivalent)																							
(c)Bidder contact																							
(d)Telephone No.																							
(e)Email																							

<b>SEL1.4</b>	<b>Please state the relevant classification of your organisation (state whether you fall within one of these, and if so which one)</b>				
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall choose from the following options;  A. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE) B. Sheltered Workshop C. Public Service Mutual D. N/A  Where options A, B and C are not applicable to your organisation please respond with option D				
Scoring Criteria	For information only				
Answer Type	Option List <table border="1"> <tr><td>A. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE)</td></tr> <tr><td>B. Sheltered Workshop</td></tr> <tr><td>C. Public Service Mutual</td></tr> <tr><td>D. N/A</td></tr> </table>	A. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE)	B. Sheltered Workshop	C. Public Service Mutual	D. N/A
A. Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE)					
B. Sheltered Workshop					
C. Public Service Mutual					
D. N/A					

<b>SEL1.5</b>	<b>Please state the size of your organisation at the time of bid submission</b>
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall choose from the following options;  A. Micro – fewer than 10 persons employed B. Small – 10-49 persons employed C. Medium – 50-249 persons employed

	D. Large – 250 or more persons employed
Scoring Criteria	For information only
Answer Type	Option List  A. Micro – fewer than 10 persons employed B. Small – 10-49 persons employed C. Medium – 50-249 persons employed D. Large – 250 or more persons employed

<b>SEL1.10</b>	<b>Information Security</b>  The following information security requirements are mandatory for this procurement:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ISO 27001 certification or,</li> <li>2. IASME Governance standard certification or</li> <li>3. Cyber Essentials certification or</li> <li>4. Cyber Essentials Plus certification</li> </ol> You must be able to demonstrate you have or intend to have one of the above information security requirements in place.
Bidder Guidance	Bidders can answer  <b>Yes</b> – the requirements are currently in place  <b>Intend</b> – the requirements are not in place and we intend to have them in place for commencement of the contract.  <b>No</b> – the requirements are not in place and we have no intention of having them in place for commencement of the contract  A response of ' <b>Yes</b> ' or ' <b>Intend</b> ' will result in a <b>pass</b> and a response of ' <b>No</b> ' will result in a <b>fail</b> against this question.
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Options List  <b>Yes</b> – the requirements are currently in place  <b>Intend</b> – the requirements are not in place and we intend to have them in place for commencement of the contract.  <b>No</b> – the requirements are not in place and we have no intention of having them in place for commencement of the contract

<b>SEL1.10.1</b>	<b>Supporting Documentation for SEL1.10</b>
Bidder Guidance	Where a bidder has responded 'Yes' to SEL1.10 please provide a copy of the valid certificate.  This information should be provided as an attachment to this question.

	<p>Any bidder responding Yes to SEL1.10 but not providing evidence may not be considered.</p> <p>Bidders that responded “Intend” to SEL1.10 will be asked to provide evidence of meeting these requirements in order for the contract to be awarded. Failure to evidence compliance to these requirements prior contract award will result in the contract not being awarded to the bidder.</p>
Scoring Criteria	For Information Only
Answer Type	Attachment

SEL2.12	<p><b>United Kingdom General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018</b></p> <p><b>The UK GDPR is a mandatory requirement for all contracts or agreements both in the Public, Private and Third sectors that involves the transfer, storing and processing of personal data. The UK GDPR sits alongside the Data Protection Act 2018 as the UK's data privacy law that governs the processing of personal data domestically.</b></p> <p><b>The UK GDPR was drafted as a result of the UK leaving the EU, which resulted in the EU's GDPR not applying domestically to the UK any longer. The UK GDPR sits alongside the Data Protection Act 2018. It is mandatory for bidders to demonstrate that they are able to meet the technical requirements and obligations prescribed by the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 and that they will adhere to their processing obligations and as detailed in the supporting Annex 1 of Joint Schedule 11.</b></p> <p><b>All contracts or agreements that are awarded by the Contracting Authority (the data controller) shall contain terms and conditions that oblige the successful bidder and any bidder supply chain (data processor or sub-processors) used under this Contract to comply with their information law obligations and indemnify the Contracting Authority (data controller). Please note that the appointment of any sub-processor/s should only occur after authorisation is received in writing from the Data Controller or UKSBS.</b></p> <p><b>Further information and helpful guidance relating to the UK GDPR is available from the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) at:</b>  <a href="https://ico.org.uk/">https://ico.org.uk/</a></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Contracting Authority actively encourages all bidders to ensure that they visit the ICO website via the advised link and understand the implications of information legislation in the UK (including Data Protection Act, UK GDPR and other relevant legislation) and have your Data Protection Officer complete this section if you have one or alternatively seek external professional advice before completing this section of your bid</p> <p>Bidders can answer</p> <p><b>Yes</b> – We can demonstrate full compliance as is required by the UK GDPR now and will adhere to the processing obligations detailed within Annex 1 of Joint Schedule 11 – <b>Pass</b></p>

	<b>No – We will not be compliant prior to any award – Fail</b>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	<b>Yes – We can demonstrate full compliance as is required by the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 now and will adhere to the processing obligations detailed within Annex 1 of Joint Schedule 11 – Pass</b> <b>No – We will not be compliant prior to any award – Fail</b>

<b>SEL2.13</b>	<b>Data Storage</b>  <b>Please confirm where UK GDPR data, as detailed within the Annex 1 of Joint Schedule 11, will be stored for the duration of this Contract, including any additional Countries that data may be transferred to / accessed from throughout the life of this Contract.</b>
Bidder Guidance	Bidders are required to confirm where UK GDPR data, as detailed within the Annex 1 of Joint Schedule 11, will be stored for the duration of this Contract, including any additional Countries that data may be transferred to / accessed from throughout the life of this Contract.  Please note, where successful bidders confirm that data may be stored, transferred, or accessed outside of the UK, there may be a requirement to include additional Contract Clauses to ensure UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 Compliance prior to Contract Award.
Scoring Criteria	For Information Only
Answer Type	<b>Text</b>

<b>FOI1.1</b>	<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 (FOI) AND / OR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004 (EIR)</b>  <b>Information provided in the course of the procurement process may be disclosed under Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004 if requested under an FOI request or EIR request.</b>  <b>Please note that some of the information provided may be protected under the FOI Act exemptions and EIR Exceptions. More information on applying the exemptions or exceptions can be found under the Information Commissioners Office (ICO) website <a href="http://ico.org.uk">http://ico.org.uk</a></b>  <b>Please confirm you have been informed that information provided under this Bid may be disclosed under the FOI Act 2000 and Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and agree to it being published irrespective of submitting a successful or unsuccessful Bid.</b>
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b> <b>Yes – Pass</b> <b>No – Fail</b>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	<b>Option List</b> <b>Yes – Pass</b>

	<b>No – Fail</b>
<b>FOI1.2</b>	<p><b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 (FOI) AND / OR ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REGULATIONS 2004 (EIR) EXEMPTIONS</b></p> <p>Please complete this section <u>only</u> if you have agreed for your information to be disclosed under the FOI Act or EIR in Question FOI1.1. If you have not agreed to your information to be disclosed under the FOI Act or EIR in Question FOI1.1 please complete a field 'N/A' (Not applicable)</p> <p>If you have agreed for your information to be disclosed under the FOI Act or EIR in Question FOI1.1 please tell us what exemptions or exceptions may apply to your information and why?</p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Bidder shall provide details of their proposed exemptions/exception in the fields below.</p> <p>The Bidder shall note that if the Contracting Authority believes that the suggested exemptions or exceptions have not been applied properly, the Contracting Authority will disclose the requested information unless another exemption or exception can be applied by the Contracting Authority.</p> <p>Be aware that by completing FOI1.1 and answering 'yes' you have agreed for the Contracting Authority to disclose the provided information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulation 2004; therefore, you will not be approached for consent.</p> <p>Bidders are required to complete the table fields below, highlighting your proposed exemptions to this question.</p> <p>If you are not relying on any exemptions or exceptions, please complete each field 'N/A' (not applicable).</p>
Scoring Criteria	For information only
Answer Type	Confidential Information and justification for exemption/exception under FOI Act
	Text
	Commercially sensitive information and justification for exemption/exception under FOI Act
	Text
<b>AW1.1</b>	<p><b><u>FORM OF BID</u></b></p> <p>I declare that to the best of my knowledge the answers submitted in this Mini Competition are correct. I understand that the information will be used in the process to assess my organisation's suitability to be invited to bid for the Contracting Authority's requirement and I am signing on behalf of my organisation. I understand that the Contracting Authority may reject this Mini Competition if there is a failure to answer all relevant questions fully or if I provide false/misleading information.</p>

	<p>I understand that the Government's transparency agenda requires that sourcing documents, including Mini Competition templates such as this, are published on a designated, publicly searchable web site, and, that the same applies to other sourcing documents issued by the Contracting Authority, including the Request for Quotation, and any contract entered into by the Contracting Authority with its preferred supplier once the procurement is complete.</p> <p>By submitting a response to this Mini Competition, I agree that our participation may be made public.</p> <p>I understand that the answers given in this response will not be published on the web site (but may fall to be disclosed under Freedom of Information Act 2000 or Environmental Information Regulations 2004).</p> <p>By submitting a response to this Mini Competition, I agree and accept the justification for the Contracting Authority's evaluation criteria.</p> <p>By submitting a response to this Mini Competition I agreed and accept that the Contracting Authority reserves the right to change without notice the procedure for awarding the Contract, to reject any or all bids for the Contract, to stop the process and not award the Contract (in whole or in part) at any time without any liability on its part.</p> <p>By submitting a response to this Mini Competition, I agree and accept that nothing in this process is intended to form any express or implied contractual relationship between the Parties unless and until a Contract is awarded. The Contracting Authority is not liable for any costs resulting from cancellation of this process nor any costs incurred by Bidders taking part in this procurement process.</p> <p>I understand that where sourcing documents issued by the Contracting Authority or contracts with its suppliers fall to be disclosed the Contracting Authority will redact them as it thinks necessary, having regard (inter alia) to the exemptions/exceptions in the FOIA or EIR.</p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b> – Pass</p> <p><b>No</b> – Fail</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	<p>Option List</p> <p><b>Yes</b> – Pass</p> <p><b>No</b> – Fail</p>
AW1.3	<p><b><u>CERTIFICATE OF BONA FIDE BID</u></b></p> <p>The essence of procurement is that the customer shall receive bona fide competitive Bids, from all those Bidding. In recognition of this principle, we certify that this is a bona fide bid, intended to be competitive and that we have not fixed or adjusted the amount of bid by or under or in accordance with any agreement with any other person.</p>



	<p><b>We also certify that we have not done and we undertake that we will not do at any time before the hour and date specified for the return of this bid any of the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>(a) Communicate to a person other than the person calling for these bids the amount or approximate amount of the proposed bid, except where the disclosure, in confidence, of the approximate amount of the bid was necessary to obtain insurance premium quotations for the preparation of the bid;</b></li> <li><b>(b) Enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person that he shall refrain from bidding or as to the amount of any bid to be submitted;</b></li> <li><b>(c) Offer to pay or agree to pay or give any sum of money or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any person for doing or having done or causing or have caused to be done in relation to any other bid or proposed bid for the said supply / service any act or thing of the sort described above.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>In this certificate, the word "person" includes any persons and any body or association, corporate or unincorporated, and any "agreement or arrangement" includes any such transaction, formal or informal, and whether legally binding or not.</b></p> <p><b>We acknowledge that the Contracting Authority will be entitled to cancel the contract and to recover from us the amount of any loss resulting from such cancellation if we or our representatives (whether with our without our knowledge) shall have practiced collusion in Bidding for this contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority or shall employ any corrupt or illegal practices either in the obtaining or execution of this contract or any other contract with the Contracting Authority.</b></p> <p><b>We agree that the Contracting Authority may disclose the Bidders information/documentation (submitted to the Contracting Authority during this Procurement) more widely within Government for the purpose of ensuring effective cross-Government procurement processes, including value for money and related purposes.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b></p> <p><b>Yes – Pass</b></p> <p><b>No – Fail</b></p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	<p>Option List</p> <p><b>Yes – Pass</b></p> <p><b>No – Fail</b></p>
<b>AW3.2</b>	<p><b>Conflict of Interest</b></p> <p><b>Please confirm you have nothing to declare with respect to any current or potential interest or conflict in relation to this project (or any subcontractors or consortium member where applicable) which could be reasonably perceived to affect the actual or perceived deliverables.</b></p>

Bidder Guidance	<p>By conflict of interest, we mean, anything which could be reasonably perceived to affect the impartiality of this project, or to indicate a professional or personal interest in the outcomes from this project.</p> <p>The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No with justification</b>.</p> <p><b>Yes</b>, we can confirm we are not in a position of a conflict of interest – Pass</p> <p><b>No with justification</b>, we declare all interests and have given full details in response to AW3.2.1. Please refer to AW3.2.1 for details of what amounts to a valid justification - Pass</p> <p>If your situation changes during the procurement process you must promptly notify the Contracting Authority via Jaggaer eSourcing Portal if any conflicts of interest arise or any additional information arise in relation to the conflict of interest you have declared.</p> <p>For absolute clarity should a bidder select 'Yes' you are not required to respond to AW3.2.1, however if you select 'No with Justification' you will be required to complete AW3.2.1 in order to be considered.</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass/Fail
Answer Type	<p>Option List</p> <p><b>Yes</b>, we can confirm we are not in a position of a conflict of interest – Pass</p> <p><b>No with justification</b>, we declare all interests and have given full details in response to AW3.2.1. Please refer to AW3.2.1 for details of what amounts to a valid justification.</p>

<b>AW3.2.1</b>	<p><b>Where a Bidder has answered question AW3.2 with 'No with justification' they must provide full details of any current or potential interest or conflict in relation to this project (including any subcontractors or consortium member where applicable) which could be reasonably perceived to affect the actual or perceived deliverables.</b></p> <p><b>Bidders are also required to give a full account of the actions or processes that it will use to ensure that a conflict of interest is avoided. In any statement of mitigating actions, bidders are to outline how they propose to achieve a robust, impartial and credible approach to the project.</b></p> <p><b>Where a bidder has responded 'Yes' to AW3.2 you are not required to respond to this question.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>By conflict of interest, we mean, anything which could be reasonably perceived to affect the impartiality of this project, or to indicate a professional or personal interest in the outcomes from this project.</p> <p>If your situation changes during the procurement process you must promptly notify the Contracting Authority via Jaggaer eSourcing Portal if any conflicts of interest arise or any additional information arise in relation to the conflict of interest you have declared.</p> <p>Where there is an actual or potential conflict of interest, it is suggested the organisation (or consortia where applicable) design a working arrangement such that the deliverables cannot be influenced (or perceived to be</p>

	<p>influenced) by the organisation which is the owner of an actual or potential conflict of interest. For example, consideration should be given to maintain an impartial approach to the project.</p> <p>Bidders are required to give a full account of the actions or processes that it will use to ensure that a conflict of interest is avoided. In any statement of mitigating actions, bidders are to outline how they propose to achieve a robust, impartial and credible approach to the project.</p> <p>The information received will be subject a Pass or Fail, according to whether based on the information provided there remains a conflict of interest which may affect the impartiality of the project and the deliverables.</p> <p>Failure to declare or avoid a conflict of interest at this or a later stage may result in exclusion from the procurement process.</p> <p>Any bidder selecting 'No with Justification' to AW3.2 and failing to upload an attachment to this question detailing the information above may not be considered further.</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Attachment

<b>AW4.1</b>	<b>Please confirm your acceptance of the Contract Terms that can be found within the Instructional Attachments section within this question.</b>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b>, <b>No with justification</b> or <b>No</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b> – Pass We accept the special terms and condition in their entirety  <b>No with justification</b> – Pass. Complete the document upload attached to AW4.2 with details of what amounts to a valid justification.  <b>No</b> – Fail</p> <p>For absolute clarity should a bidder select 'Yes' or 'No' you are not required to respond to AW4.2, however if you select 'No with Justification' you will be required to complete AW4.2 in order to be considered.</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Option List
	<p><b>Yes</b>, we accept the terms and condition in their entirety – Pass  <b>No with justification</b> – Pass. Complete the document upload attached to AW4.2 with details of what amounts to a valid justification.  <b>No</b> – Fail</p>

<b>AW4.2</b>	<p><b>Where a Bidder has answered question AW4.1 with 'No with justification' they must detail the justification and the proposed change to the clause.</b></p> <p><b>Where a bidder has responded 'Yes' or 'No' to AW4.1 you are not required to respond to this question.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	A justification for not accepting a specific clause or series of clauses from the attached Special Terms is that the Bidder would be in breach of legal

	<p>requirements or statutory regulations by complying with that clause or series of clauses (i.e. for the avoidance of doubt, being unable to comply with a clause or series of clauses because of an internal policy reason will not be considered to be a justification for a legal requirement or statutory regulation).</p> <p>Where the Bidder has answered question AW4.1 as "no with justification", the Bidder shall provide a Contract mark-up utilising track changes detailing the relevant clause, the proposed changes to the clause and the justification for the changes. In this case, the Bidder shall score a pass if (but only if) the Contracting Authority considers both the following requirements are satisfied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the reasons stated as justifying the Bidder's statement that it cannot accept the Special Terms due to legal requirements or statutory regulations are valid; and</li> <li>• the changes submitted do not create significant risk for the Contracting Authority and are reasonably necessary and proportionate to ensure the Bidder complies with the legal requirements and statutory regulations.</li> </ul> <p>In the event of a Bidder answering Yes or No to Question AW4.1 and then providing a proposed mark up, rejection of a clause or a justification for a change then the response will be a Fail.</p> <p>Any bidder selecting 'No with Justification' to AW4.1 and failing to upload an attachment to this question detailing the information above may not be considered further.</p> <p>Bidders are to note that any requested modifications to the Contracting Authority Terms and Conditions on the grounds of statutory and legal matters only, should be raised as a formal clarification during the permitted clarification period.</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Attachment

<b>AW4.3</b>	<p><b>Public Procurement Policy Note 01/22 - Contracts with suppliers from Russia or Belarus</b></p> <p>The Government introduced its Public Procurement Policy Note 01/22 'Contracts with suppliers from Russia or Belarus' (PPN 01/22) in response to the invasion of Ukraine by Russia, which was met with unprecedented global condemnation. The UK Government has introduced financial and investment sanctions aimed at encouraging Russia to cease actions which destabilise Ukraine.</p> <p>The PPN requires the Contracting Authority to decline to consider (or otherwise exclude from participating in the procurement) bids from suppliers (or their sub-contractors) who are constituted or organised under the law of Russia or Belarus, or whose 'Persons of Significant Control' information states Russia or Belarus as the place of residency or where materials in the supply chain originate from those states in accordance with Procurement Policy Note PPN 01/22.</p>
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	<p>Unless exceptions within the PPN apply, the Contracting Authority may exclude from this competition any tenders that are deemed from suppliers (including any subcontractors) who are constituted or organised under the law of Russia or Belarus, or whose 'Persons of Significant Control' information states Russia or Belarus as the place of residency; or materials within the supply chain originate from those states.</p> <p>Mandatory Information questions:</p> <p><b>Question 1-</b> Please confirm if the country or territory of origin of any supplies to be used within the supply chain for this contract opportunity is the Russian Federation or the Republic of Belarus.</p> <p><b>Question 2-</b> Please confirm if your own (or your subcontractors) location of business activities or interests of a contractor is constituted or organised under the law of Russia or Belarus, or whose 'Persons of Significant Control' information states Russia or Belarus as the place of residency</p> <p>Bidders are to complete the document provided in the instructional attachment and state Yes or No to each question.</p> <p>If you answer Yes to either of the questions in this table above, then you must clearly set out in your attachment provided, why you believe one of the exceptions within PPN 01/22 apply.</p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Bidder shall replicate the above 2 questions in an attachment and answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b> to each of the above, along with an explanation to any question answered as <b>Yes</b>.</p> <p>A failure to provide a Yes or No response may result in your exclusion from further consideration under this procurement.</p> <p>A failure to provide a supporting justification of an exemption to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority, may result in your exclusion from further consideration under this procurement.</p> <p>The Contracting Authority may seek further clarification from any bidder in regards to any attachment provided, that seeks to rely upon any exemptions provided in PPN 01/22.</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Attachment

## TECHNICAL QUESTIONNAIRE

<b>AW6.1</b>	<b>Please confirm your compliance to the requirements of Section 4 Specification</b>
Bidder Guidance	The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>  <b>Yes</b> – Pass <b>No</b> – Fail
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Option List  <b>Yes</b> – Pass <b>No</b> – Fail

<b>AW6.2</b>	<b>Variable Bids</b>
Bidder Guidance	The Contracting Authority shall not accept variable bids as part of this Procurement. The criteria in regard to variable bids for this Procurement is outlined below.  The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b>  <b>Yes</b> - We have provided a variable bid only – <b>Fail</b> <b>No</b> - We have chosen to only offer a main bid and have not chosen to provide an alternative bid submission – <b>Pass</b>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail
Answer Type	Option List  <b>Yes</b> - We have provided a variable bid only – <b>Fail</b> <b>No</b> - We have chosen to only offer a main bid and have not chosen to provide an alternative bid submission – <b>Pass</b>

<b>PROJ1.1</b>	<b><u>Understanding the Requirements &amp; Context</u></b>  Please demonstrate that you have a clear and thorough understanding of the requirements of this specification and how you will deliver the objectives the contract seeks to achieve.
Bidder Guidance	As a minimum your response should include (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Interpretation of the contract and what is required.</li> <li>• Understanding of cap and floor arrangement and how this can provide revenue support.</li> <li>• How you will ensure the successful delivery of this contract within the working environment</li> <li>• Demonstration of strong understanding of the policy context and how this might influence, and be influenced by, this research project.</li> </ul> <p>Please attach your answer as a pdf document limited to <b>3</b> sides of A4 – <b>Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process.</b> Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.</p>

Scoring Criteria	Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology. <b>Maximum Mark: 25.00%</b>
Answer Type	Attachment

<b>PROJ1.2</b>	<b><u>Methodology and Approach – Work Package 1</u></b>  Please clearly explain and give reasoning for your proposed methodology and approach to achieving the objectives and delivering the outputs for Work Package 1 as highlighted in the specification.
Bidder Guidance	As a minimum your response should include (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A detailed description of the methods to be used in undertaking work package 1 indicating the resources that will be utilised, outlining a clear justification as to why your chosen methodology will provide the best outcome; and</li> <li>• Set out how your methods meet the project objectives.</li> <li>• A detailed timetable and delivery plan for carrying out Work Package 1 based on your proposed approach and method.</li> <li>• Detail how you will monitor and maintain the quality of the services delivered. This should include the approach to analysis and reporting on Work Package 1.</li> <li>• In detail, please specify the techniques you intend to use and give some indication of their strengths and limitations. Please indicate whether you intend using existing datasets and/or whether you intend using an alternative source. If the latter, please include a recommendation for the size and composition of the sample and justification for your approach.</li> </ul> <p>Please attach your answer as a pdf document limited to <b>3</b> sides of A4 in addition to a Gantt Chart– <b>Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process.</b> Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.</p>
Scoring Criteria	Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology. <b>Maximum Mark: 20.00%</b>
Answer Type	Attachment

<b>PROJ1.3</b>	<b><u>Ability to Deliver (Resource, Expertise and Risk Management)</u></b>  Please detail how you will ensure the appropriate level of resource is allocated to the projects when work packages are identified to ensure timely completion with no reduction in output quality.
Bidder Guidance	As a minimum your response should include (but not limited to): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Your team's energy sector expertise, including in energy markets and arbitrage.</li> <li>• Your team's expertise in financial modelling and reporting</li> <li>• Your team's commercial expertise</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please provide details of how your organisation will apply lessons learned from previous contracts to ensure that learnings have been applied using examples.</li> <li>• Details of your project management approach including how you will ensure there is sufficient capacity to increase delivery resource.</li> <li>• Details of how you will manage planned and unplanned absences of staff and how you will ensure DESNZ will have access to suitable expertise to deliver the technical requirements.</li> <li>• Detail your approach to risk management and mitigation including a risk register.</li> </ul> <p>Please attach your answer as a pdf document limited to <b>5</b> sides of A4 plus a risk register in a Word table or Excel sheet – <b>Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process.</b> Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm.</p>
Scoring Criteria	<p>Scoring shall be based on 0-100 scoring methodology.</p> <p><b>Maximum Mark: 25.00%</b></p>
Answer Type	Attachment

<b>PROJ1.4</b>	<p><b>Social Value</b></p> <p><b>For the Theme &amp; Measure detailed in the bidder guidance below, please describe the commitment(s) your organisation will make. You should include:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a 'Method Statement' stating your commitments, how you will achieve them, and highlighting how your commitments meet the Award Criteria.</li> <li>- a detailed project plan and process, including how you will implement your commitments and by when, how they will be monitored, measured and reported. You should include specific metrics, the tools / processes that will be used to gather data and report on it, feedback and improvement, and how the whole process will maintain transparency.</li> <li>- an overview of how you will influence staff, suppliers, customers and communities to support delivery of your commitments (for example through engagement, co-design / creation, training and education, partnering / collaborating, volunteering, etc.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Planned Metrics are provided below, your commitments to social value should align to one or more of these metrics. If you believe that alternative metrics would be more effective at achieving the Theme / Measure, please outline them in your proposal with a clear explanation of the comparable benefit.</b></p> <p><b>For each theme, we will be assessing the qualitative aspects and outcomes of your commitments. Priority should be given to incremental value that you will commit to as a direct result of being</b></p>
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	<p><b>awarded this contract. If you are not in a position to commit to specific Social Value deliverables directly related to this contract award, you must demonstrate your corporate track record of delivering Social Value that aligns with the Theme and Measure below.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>Bidders are required to detail how they intend to support and develop best practices and appropriate personnel support systems regarding equal opportunity, mental health and wellbeing.</p> <p>Describe the commitment your organisation(s) will make to ensure that the opportunities under the contract demonstrate effective measures to deliver the following: Please note, the items listed below are to be delivered through the contract, providing additionality to standard 'business as usual' practice.</p> <p>MAC 6.1: Demonstrate action to identify and tackle inequality in employment, skills and pay in the contract workforce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of the issues affecting inequality in employment, skills and pay in the market, industry or sector relevant to the contract, and in the tenderer's own organisation and those of its key sub-contractors.</li> <li>• Measures to tackle inequality in employment, skills and pay in the contract workforce. Illustrative examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Inclusive and accessible recruitment practices, and retention-focussed activities.</li> <li>- Offering a range of quality opportunities with routes of progression if appropriate, e.g. T Level industry placements, students supported into higher level apprenticeships.</li> <li>- Working conditions which promote an inclusive working environment and promote retention and progression.</li> <li>- Using skill-based assessment tasks in recruitment.</li> <li>- Collection and publication of retention rates, e.g. for pregnant women and new mothers, or for others with protected characteristics.</li> <li>- Regular equal pay audits conducted.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>MAC 7.1: Demonstrate action to support health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health, in the contract workforce.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of issues relating to health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health, in the contract workforce.</li> <li>• Inclusive and accessible recruitment practices, development practices and retention-focussed activities including those provided in the Guide for line managers on recruiting, managing and developing people with a disability or health condition.</li> <li>• Actions to invest in the physical and mental health and wellbeing of the contract workforce. Illustrative examples include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- implementing the 6 standards in the Mental Health at Work commitment and, where appropriate, the mental health enhanced standards for companies with more than 500 employees in Thriving at Work with respect to the contract workforce, not just 'following the recommendations.</li> <li>- public reporting by the tenderer and its supply chain on the health and wellbeing of staff comprising the contract workforce, following the recommendations in the Voluntary Reporting Framework.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- engagement plans to engage the contract workforce in deciding the most important issues to address.</li> </ul> <p>This question is limited to <b>4</b> sides of A4. <b>Any additional content provided beyond this will not be considered or scored during the evaluation process.</b> Responses should be submitted in Font Arial 11pt using single line spacing. Please use the Normal margin setting 2.54cm</p>
Scoring Criteria	<p>Scoring is based on the 0 – 100 scoring methodology.</p> <p>Maximum Marks – <b>10.00%</b></p>
Answer Type	Attachment

## COMMERCIAL QUESTIONNAIRE

<b>AW5.1</b>	<p><b>Please confirm your bid submission price as per Cell E21 of Tab 1 for the completion Work Package 1 as detailed in the Section 4 Specification.</b></p> <p><b>All prices shall be in £ GBP and exclusive of VAT.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>Bidders shall provide their bid submission price as per Cell E21 of Tab 1 for the completion of Work Package 1 as detailed in the Section 4 Specification.</p> <p>The scoring methodology for this question shall be:</p> <p>Price will be evaluated using proportionate pricing (lowest bid / bid * mark). A bidder's score will be based on the lowest total score received divided by their total cost and then multiplied by the marks available.</p> <p>For example, if the total basket price for three bid responses is received and Bidder A has quoted £50,000 as their total price, Bidder B has quoted £80,000 and Bidder C has quoted £100,000 then the calculation will be as follows:</p> <p>(Maximum marks available in this example being 12.5)</p> <p>Bidder A Score = <math>50000/50000 \times 12.5 = 12.5</math></p> <p>Bidder B Score = <math>50000/80000 \times 12.5 = 7.81</math></p> <p>Bidder C Score = <math>50000/100000 \times 12.5 = 6.25</math></p> <p>This evaluation criteria will therefore not be subject to any averaging, as this is a mathematical scoring criterion, but will still be subject to a commercial review.</p> <p>The lowest score possible is 0.</p>
Scoring Criteria	<b>Maximum Marks: 7.50%</b>
Answer Type	<b>Numeric</b>

<b>AW5.1.1</b>	<p><b>Please confirm your blended rate as per Cell C15 of Tab 2 of AW5.2 Price Schedule. This rate will be used for evaluation purposes.</b></p> <p><b>All Rates shall be in £ GBP and exclusive of VAT.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>Bidders shall provide their blended rate as per cell C15 of Tab 2 of AW5.2 Price Schedule.</p> <p>The scoring methodology for this question shall be:</p> <p>Price will be evaluated using proportionate pricing (lowest bid / bid * mark). A bidder's score will be based on the lowest total score received divided by their total cost and then multiplied by the marks available.</p> <p>For example, if the total basket price for three bid responses is received and Bidder A has quoted £50,000 as their total price, Bidder B has quoted</p>

	<p>£80,000 and Bidder C has quoted £100,000 then the calculation will be as follows:</p> <p>(Maximum marks available in this example being 12.5)</p> <p>Bidder A Score = <math>50000/50000 \times 12.5 = 12.5</math></p> <p>Bidder B Score = <math>50000/80000 \times 12.5 = 7.81</math></p> <p>Bidder C Score = <math>50000/100000 \times 12.5 = 6.25</math></p> <p>This evaluation criteria will therefore not be subject to any averaging, as this is a mathematical scoring criterion, but will still be subject to a commercial review.</p> <p>The lowest score possible is 0.</p>
Scoring Criteria	<b>Maximum Marks: 12.50%</b>
Answer Type	<b>Numeric</b>

<b>AW5.2</b>	<p><b>Based on the Bidders AW5.1 and AW5.1.1 response Bidders are now required to complete the attached Excel AW5.2 Pricing Schedule document with a breakdown of all the costs.</b></p> <p><b>All prices shall be in £ GBP and exclusive of VAT.</b></p> <p><b>All costs appearing elsewhere in the Bid but not mentioned in this Pricing Schedule shall be presumed waived.</b></p>
Bidder Guidance	<p>Based on the Bidders AW5.1 and AW5.1.1 response, Bidders are now required to complete the attached Excel AW5.2 Pricing Schedule document with a breakdown of all the costs.</p> <p>All prices shall be in £ GBP and exclusive of VAT.</p> <p>All costs appearing elsewhere in the Bid but not mentioned in this Pricing Schedule shall be presumed waived.</p> <p>The total submitted within your excel pricing schedule in Tab 1 must equal the total price submitted in AW5.1. The blended rate submitted in Tab 2 must equal the blended rate submitted in AW5.1.1.</p>
Scoring Criteria	For Information Only
Answer Type	<b>Attachment</b>

<b>AW5.3</b>	<b>Please confirm your Work Package 1 price and Schedule of Rates shall remain firm and fixed for the full term of the Contract.</b>
Bidder Guidance	<p>The Bidder shall answer <b>Yes</b> or <b>No</b></p> <p><b>Yes</b> – Pass</p> <p><b>No</b> – Fail</p>
Scoring Criteria	Mandatory Pass / Fail

Answer Type	Option List  <b>Yes</b> – Pass <b>No</b> - Fail
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