

Question	Answer
<p>Call off award procedures</p> <p>Will there be an ability to direct award and if so, will the conditions and process for direct award be made very clear and unambiguous. This would be helpful.</p> <p>Do you recommend to assess Social Value again at call-off?</p> <p>Will the new framework have an Expression of Interest or Early Procurement Notice that acts as a down select? I.e 40 suppliers on the Lot and 10 express interest and tender sent to those ten. This is an important requirement cross gov</p>	<p>We intend to include award without competition (AWOC) under every lot. The process for direct award must be compliant with the Procurement Act 2023 regulations. Whilst the framework will enable AWOC as a route to market, the criteria should be determined by the contracting authority. Any guidance on AWOC will be published nearer to the time.</p> <p>It is mandatory to include a minimum 10% social value for central government contracts as this is compliant. Anything beyond this is the contracting authority's decision. We cannot provide recommendations on when to assess social value.</p> <p>This is under review.</p>
<p>Scope and service lines</p> <p>What are the "Professional Services" in C&PS?</p> <p>Would be helpful for a service line that covers human rights assessments - unless this is going to be available under due diligence?</p>	<p>Please review the service lines document on the CaPS webpage. You can view the full scope of services under each lot.</p> <p>Please review the service lines document on the CaPS webpage to determine whether the scope of work is included.</p>
<p>Procurement Act 2023</p> <p>Under PA23 you had the choice to use the new type of framework, to be able to add suppliers on throughout the framework term. Was this discounted and why?</p>	<p>The category team explored every possible commercial agreement option under PA23, including dynamic markets and open frameworks. Our findings concluded that a closed 4 year framework was the most appropriate based on the scale and scope of the agreement.</p>
<p>Lot structure</p> <p>Which lot would a multidisciplinary piece of work over £2m go through? We have a lot of these.</p> <p>By limiting suppliers to Lot1 or Lots 2-9 does that prevent them from delivering projects to companies who require over £2m - prevents sme growth</p> <p>What is the rationale for such a high number of suppliers (40) on Lots 2-9 given there are 100 on the multidisciplinary lot? Wouldn't fewer strike a better balance for buyers (noting evaluation of bids) and suppliers for bid appetite/value?</p>	<p>Requirements above £2m can be tendered through lots 2 - 10. You cannot run a tender across more than one lot. If your requirement spans across more than one lot, you will need to run separate tenders.</p> <p>There are no restrictions for which lot an SME can bid for. This is each supplier's own commercial decision.</p> <p>We have reviewed the number of places across all lots and are comfortable that the limit is set at the appropriate level.</p>
<p>Digital tool</p> <p>I find the downselection tools are often unhelpful as I often find that suppliers tick that they can deliver most services.</p> <p>How will the award without competition via digital tool work? Will this result in a single supplier, or shortlist to small number of suppliers as per currently?</p> <p>Will there be a down selection option for the multi disciplinary Lot 1 with 100 suppliers?</p> <p>there were recognised difficulties in using the filtering tool in previous iterations of MCF . Is a different approach being utilised in this framework?</p>	<p>Suppliers cannot be shortlisted on lot 2 and lot 3 as they must evidence all service lines. However, the downselect works for all other lots as suppliers do not need to offer every service line.</p> <p>The digital tool will downselect suppliers based on the service lines that they have selected when bidding for a place onto the framework. The objective mechanism is currently being designed.</p> <p>A downselect will be available via the digital tool.</p> <p>The category team are working with the digital team to develop the filtering tool. Please email info@crownccommercial and detail the difficulties you have been facing so that we are able to investigate further.</p>
<p>Pricing</p> <p>Will there be 2 rates cards under the new RM6399 as MCF4 currently has, for delivery & advice? If yes, will you provide more guidance on the use & application?</p> <p>Will PQP be explicitly built into the framework and call-off process?</p> <p>Alongside relative pricing and PQP it would be useful to have the flexibility to award to highest quality score within a budget envelope or lowest price above a quality threshold, has this been considered/will it be enabled?</p>	<p>There will be one rate card under CaPS.</p> <p>This is under review.</p> <p>We will take this into consideration</p>
<p>Standards and requirements</p> <p>What are the technical compliance certificates - are they a form that suppliers populate or do they exist elsewhere?</p>	<p>Suppliers will be required to submit Technical Ability Certificates (previously known as COPTAs: certificate of professional and technical ability). This is a mandatory, signed document used in government procurement to prove a supplier has successfully delivered similar services, demonstrating their capability to fulfill a new contract.</p>