Question	Response
Key Details about Spark	
The OJEU states a length of 4 years this is different to what you have described.	4 years is the total possible length of the DPS. CCS anticipate putting in place version 2 of the DPS after 2 years, we will need to allow a transition period for products to move to an alternative framework if they product type is removed from the next version of Spark. There is some contingency built in to allow this transition.
Could you cancel the agreement earlier?	Yes, early termination is possible as detailed in the DPS Agreement.
You mentioned running Spark 1 and Spark 2 concurrently for 3-6 months to allow customers to complete their further competitions. Is there a benefit to doing this for suppliers too?	Yes this will allow suppliers to migrate their route to market - so we don't remove a route to market without supplying a new one
Who is the category lead?	Peter Kirwan and Rob Whitehead are the leads during the go live phase of the DPS. Lucy McCormack is the Commercial Agreement Manager
How much spend do you anticiapte in the first 12 months?	£10m - £20m is anticipated in the first 12 months, growing steadily thereafter. The total maximum spend under the agreement is £650m so if we start getting near that we will need to do version 2 of the Spark DPS more quickly.
Is this for products only or a mix of product and services?	The focus is the technology and services needed to support the technology / create the outcome using the technology. We would not expect to see any managed service like arrangements.
When will the pin be released?	The contract notice has been published. No associated PIN was published.
Is it going to be mandated as per the 2016 policy notice suggesting that frameworks should be?	We are unaware of any CCS frameworks being mandated.
Supplier Engagement	
What events will you be doing to engage with suppliers?	We will be holding twice yearly Innovation Knowledge
What's the best way for you to add me to the contacts for our company so I get communications as well?	Please email me info@crowncommercial.gov.uk and request to be added to the Spark supplier communications list
Do we get notified of a newsletter being published?	The Spark supplier newsletter should be published
Can you provide the link to the CCS Spark webpage where I can see copies of the Spark supplier newsletter please?	Here is the link to the CCS Spark webpage. You will find the last 2 Spark supplier newsletters under the Documents tab and the latest one for July 2020 will be uploaded once I have approval to publish: https://www.crowncommercial.gov.uk/agreements/RM6094

Can you tell us what you're doing to encourage suppliers to use it?	We will be holding regular monthly supplier briefing webinars and will be working with Gov Tech Catalyst and Innovate UK to engineer introductions to potential suppliers and customers
How many suppliers have joined the Spark DPS?	184 at the moment but there is no cap on the number that can join and suppliers can continue to join at any time
Can a supplier access the DPS bid pack without first registering on the Supplier Registration Service?	Yes they can by following this link: Bid Pack Link
Are the future monthly webinars the same content?	Yes I run the same 3 webinars every month: one for suppliers interested in joining the Spark DPS, one for suppliers who have just been appointed to the Spark DPS and one for customers interested in learning about/ using the Spark DPS
Supplier Requirements to get onto Spark	
Do we have to complete the Financial assessment template contained within the bid pack?	No this is for information only. It doesn't need to be completed.
Is a parent company guarantee required?	Depending on the outcome of the financial assessment a parent company guarantee might be requested.
I'm a start-up with no D&B history, can I still bid?	Yes. However, CCS will request further financial information if your organisation fails to meet the Dun and Bradstreet financial threshold score of 40. Please refer to the DPS Needs for full instructions to support this process and for further information of the types of additional financial data you may be requested to provide.
Do you need one contract example for Radical Innovation and one for Disruptive?	No, you need one example for either, not both. As per Attachment READ FIRST RM6094 DPS Needs V1.PDF Quality Assessment - Technical & Professional capability (Q133) of the Standard Selection Questionnaire and Question 48 to 50 of the Dynamic Purchasing Questionnaire (DPSQ): 31. You are required to provide one (1) contract example in accordance with the response guidance provided in Attachment 7 - Response Guidance for Contract Example which form part of RM6094 Spark DPS bid pack
Do we need to provide one contract example or three contract examples	Bidders are only required to provide one contract example.
Can I use a US deployment of Intelligent Voice as my disruptive or radical innovation? Or does it have to be UK / EEA based?	The US is fine as its a GPA country.

With it being for innovative technology, Spark could be the first time a supplier brings a product to market, as such previous contract examples may not be available, is there a way around this?	There isn't a way around this because a contract example of either radical or disruptive innovation is required as a mandatory requirement in order to be appointed to the Spark DPS. However your contract example does not need to be a public sector example as long as you can describe how it could be used within the public sector.
ISO10007 - do I need it? It is within the User Needs and seems a strange request	You do not need to be certified but we would expect work to completed in line with this, and other, standards stated where applicable.
Do I need Cyber Essentials to bid?	You need to commit to attaining Cyber Essentials and to have been certified for it ahead of entering into your first call-off. More details on Cyber Essentials and it's neccessity within our customer base can be found here https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0914-cyber-essentials-scheme-certification
Is it just the prime contractor who needs to have Cyber Essentials accreditation in order to be successful in applying to the Spark the Technology Innovation Marketplace DPS?	All proposed sub-contractors must also meet the Cyber Essentials accreditation requirement for your application to be successful.
I'm have Cyber Essentials Plus, does this meet the needs?	Yes, suppliers with Cyber Essentials Plus meet the requirement to have at least Cyber Essentials
Can you be ISO27001 certified instead of Cyber essentials?	Cyber Essentials certification is a requirement for all suppliers, details of this are in the PPN linked to for question 7, above.
Do suppliers have to have any certification or be on any associations?	Suppliers are required to meet all mandatory requirements including standards as set out in the Customer Needs document which forms part of the bid pack. Supplier are also required to fulfil the Cyber Certification obligations as detailed in the Selection Questionnaire and DPS Agreement (Clause 9).
Supplier Application Issues	
In the READ FIRST Document its mentioned that we do not need to answer Part 3: (Dept of Health Questions) - Q157 - Q161. But I cannot see Q157, after Q156 there is directly Q158. Also since the application was not allowing me to save and proceed without answering Q158 - Q161 I had to answer it and its not allowing to deselect it. Could you please guide on this.	The website should allow you to do this. However, if you are having technical issues please contact NQC who should be able to answer any queries. Their contact number is 0845 299 2994.
For the bit about PSCs, does this count the original founders? Or just outside investors?	It's just whoever has more than the 25% stake in the company.

As mentioned in the 'RM6094 Customer Needs v1' document-Bidders are required to indicate which categories and services they are able to bid for. It is therefore essential that Bidders select the exact elements relevant to their service offering in order to be invited to the relevant Competitions. Bidders need to specify the services as per in the Attachment 1 - Matrix. Request to clarify where we need to select these services as we could not see these services while completing the Selection Questionnaire.	CCS can see that you have started to complete the standard Selection Questionnaire, but this has not yet been completed, once this is completed and submitted you will then be presented with the DPSQ (the DPS specific Selection Questionnaire) were you will then be presented with the service offerings available, which you will select all the services that you can deliver. For clarity, the services are not shown as questions in the standard Selection Questionnaire, but this (the Standard SQ) must be completed before you are presented with the DPSQ questions, which will include questions on the service offering.
Can you please clarify if we need to create separate Selection Questionnaire for each service offering. e.g Artificial Intelligence and Automation-Machine Learning a separate Selection Questionnaire and for Artificial Intelligence and Automation-Robotic Process Automation a separate Selection Questionnaire	CCS can confirm that you are not required to complete a separate Selection Questionnaire for each service offering.
If we provide three contract examples do we need to provide the signed 'Letter of Confirmation of Works' for all three examples or only one	Bidders are only required to provide one contract example with a Letter of Confirmation of Works.
As mentioned in the document 'READ FIRST RM6094 DPS Needs v1' of BID PACK we do not need to answer 'Part 1: (CPV Codes) - Q3' but without selecting the CPV code it does not allow us to proceed further with next questions.	The website should allow you to continue your application without answering Part 1 however if you have any problems please contact NCQ who should be able to answer any queries. Their contact number is 0845 299 2994.
Could the Authority confirm that Rate Card information is not required at this stage and will only be required when responding to a Customer Call for Competition? Do Customers have the option to go Single Source or are competitions open to all suppliers who have registered the relevant services?	In order to appoint a supplier to this (or any other) DPS the contracting authority doesn't assess forward looking 'award' criteria, this includes price. All pricing will be set during a customers call-off.
Our bid contains some commercially sensitive information that cannot be public facing. Could you please confirm if the responses will be made public?	As stated in the document entitled ' READ FIRST RM6094 DPS Needs' of the Bid pack, if you feel that a particular clarification question should not be published, you must tell us why when you ask the question. We will then decide whether or not to publish the question and the response or return a response to you confidentially via the DPS Marketplace.

We have nearly completed the submission. However, upon doing this, we have encountered a new section named as SQ Evidence Submission (questions 166 to 185) - do these need to be completed? There is an ask for the Contract Example, which is capped at 4,000 characters - but we have already put in the Contract Example in the SQ where there was no word or character cap for the Contract Example description. This "new" questionnaire also asks for a Letter of Confirmation of Works - is this also required? I have had a look through the bid pack and cannot find a section which provides step by step guidance on how to put forward a submission to get onto the Spark DPS - I am thinking to possibly restart the submission to avoid any issues.	CCS can confirm with reference to the Selection Questionnaire question numbers 166 to 185 these relate to evidence requests which align to responses provided earlier in the standard Selection Questionnaire. Suppliers can submit evidence at any time where applicable and you can therefore disregard these questions. Regarding the contract example, as stated in the DPS Needs document at paragraph 31 to 34, when completing the contract example you can either complete question 133 of the Standard Selection Questionnaire, as you have done, or you can complete question 50 of the DPSQ Questionnaire. As you have already completed Question 133 you should find that your contract example has pulled through and is populated in Question 50 of the DPSQ. We will accept the information detailed in Question 133 of your Selection Questionnaire. Regarding the Letter of Confirmation of Works, this is a mandatory requirement and is detailed in the DPS Need document at paragraph 35 to 37, and the template for the Letter of Confirmation of Work can be found at Attachment 8 of the Bid Pack. On the final point the DPS Needs document contains details of how to submit a compliant tender for the Spark DPS, and will make reference to other Attachments that Suppliers must read and complete.
Please can I clarify with you whether the customer contract example provided needs to directly relate to delivery methods as listed within the Customer Needs document, page 10.? Furthermore, if the customer contract example given relates to , for example the delivery method 'Internet of Things', and the bidder is awarded onto the framework, are they eligible to bid on all requirements, not just internet of things? thank you	1) Yes your contract example needs to relate to at least one of the technologies listed in the Customer Needs document, pages 10 to 24. 2) The filter system is used to match customers to suppliers who can meet their needs, you will be invited to tenders for filters combinations that match those of your organisation, you should choose the filters that accurately match your own skills and capabilities. You can update your filters at a later date as your capabilities change. Customers can use just one or multiple filters, this includes combinations of problem area, technologies and locations.
Please can you confirm what is required for "Attachment 1 - Customer Filter" in terms of completion requirements and upload process by the Supplier?	CCS can confirm that Attachment 1 is for information only, providing bidders with details of the services filter options within this DPS, which bidders will be presented with as part of their supplier journey.
Could you clarify whether the accreditations listed in Section 3.2 of the Customer Needs Pack are mandatory criteria? If so, where in the Supplier Questionnaire/DPSQ Online Response are we expected to respond?	You do not need to be certified but we expect work under any call-off to carried out in line with the standards listed.

Within the Dynamic Purchasing System Agreement, page 23/24 section 25.4 competitive terms, point 25.4.1 and within Appendix 6 - DPS Schedule 4 - Order Form and Contract Terms, page 51 section 29.5 competitive terms, point 29.5.1, we would like to modify the clause to protect the level of security of the products and services we could deliver under this contract and therefore we propose the highlighted addition to the terms: If the Customer is able to obtain from any Sub-Contractor or any other third party more favourable commercial terms with respect to the supply of any materials, equipment, software, goods or services used by the Supplier or the Supplier Personnel in the supply of the Goods and/or Services **without compromising security**, then the Customer may: This would for example protect the delivery of the service where an item of critical IT hardware is procured from a supplier that manufactures goods in secure locations/countries over a supplier that does not.	The substitute goods should be able to perform the same function without detriment to the delivery of services/ outcomes, part of this would be the security of the goods, at present this is implicit rather than explicit but we will factor this into our guidance for customers. In relation to the terms we do not believe that suggested amendments are necessary but they would not constitute a material change if a customer and supplier wished to clarify things further at call-off."

We are having difficulty completing the online SQ for RM6094 DSP Spark Framework: 127 Are you able to provide a copy of your audited accounts for the last two years, if requested? - As a small company our accounts are exempt from audit so we have to answer No. We think you intended that if the answer is No, we should drop down to question 128, as the documents it asks for down seem necessary if you have audited accounts. But you havent indicated this on the questionnaire. 128. Please indicate which of the following you can provide (3 options) - We could provide all 3 options, but as the evidence section of the SQ immediately asks for documents to be uploaded if we tick a box, we would prefer not to have to furnish all the documents required if we did so. Are these meant to be exclusive options and in descending order? i.e 'if no, then drop down to the next'? 130. Are you able to provide parent company accounts if requested at a later stage? - Saying yes to this leads to an immediate requirement to "Upload documentary evidence for parent company accounts" - not "at a later stage" - very misleading. Can we leave this unsubmitted until requested at a later stage? 131. Would the parent company be willing to provide a guarantee if necessary? - Again, saying Yes to this leads to an immediate requirement to "Upload documentary evidence for parent company guarantee". But this hasn't been necessary in the 15 years we have been working with CCS frameworks! Can we also leave this unsubmitted until requested at a later stage? 132. Would you be able to obtain a guarantee elsewhere (e.g. from a bank)? - Surely this is redundant if we answered Yes to 131 In the light of your response, we may need to modify some of our submitted responses. But there does not appear to be a route for us to do so. Selecting the 'Start Selection Questionnaire' link and clicking "Yes, I want to re-use an existing Selection Questionnaire" does not bring up the responses we gave in our original submission.	Q127 - CCS confirms we require a full set of accounts to do our assessment therefore although as a small company your ccounts are exempt from audit they will need to be audited as part of your submission. Q128 - If you can provide the first option A statement of the turnover, Profit and Loss Account/Income Statement, Balance Sheet/Statement of Financial Positon and Statement of Cash Flow for the most recent year of trading for your organisation - this would be the preferred option but if not then option two and then option 3. Q130 - Yes if required evidence can be requested at a later stage. Q131 - Yes if required evidence can be requested at a later stage. Q132 - If you are able to submit a guarantee through your parent company then you could not require to obtain a guarantee, however if the information you provide fails then a guarantee maybe required.
Will this be a suitable route to market for providers offering security related technology products and services?	Please see the User Needs document and Attachment 1 which explain the security products within scope of this agreement, products outside of the described scope cannot be offered.

Please advise what the deadline is for submitting questionaires	"CCS confirm that suppliers can request to participate for the RM6094 SPARK DPS at any point during the lifetime of the DPS, there is no deadline for submissions as detailed in the DPS Needs document of the RM6094 bid pack. The opportunity remains open at all times unless the DPS expires or is terminated in accordance with the DPS Agreement. With effect from 15/04/2019, customers will have access to the DPS to use to conduct call for competitions based on their individual project requirements."
We have registered with the SRS. From our Dashboard, we can locate the Standard SQ with 160+ questions, but not the DPSQ. How can we locate the DPSQ questions?	It appears that you still have a couple of questions left to complete on the standard selection questionnaire. Once you have completed all of the questions you should be presented with text stating that your selection questionnaire is complete and you can click 'complete and exit' to save the selection questionnaire. You should then be presented with the DPS SQ part of the selection questionnaire.
Suppliers agreeing to the DPS Agreement	
Once I have "agreed" my DPS Agreement, is there anything else I need to do as a supplier?	No, you will then have a status of "appointed" and can appear in customers' shortlists, depending on their requirements and whether the filters a customer applies matches those you applied to provide
Supplier Marketing	
I have been successful in applying to the Spark Technology Innovation Marketplace DPS and want to issue a press release, what should I do?	Please send any press release you wish to issue to info@crowncommercial.gov.uk for them to review the wording . The below link provides the CCS logos and guidance on marketing Crown Commercial Service supplier logo and brand guidelines
Updating Supplier details	

I have been successful in getting onto the Spark Technology Innovation Marketplace DPS and want to amend my supplier details (contact name and email address). How do I do this?	You are able to update your responses as described in the sections below, however please be aware that all bidders who update their service requirements will re-enter into the 'assessing' stage, to enable us to monitor changes to submissions to ensure an effective audit trail. Once you have completed the update answers process, we will contact you by email from info@crowncommercial.gov.uk to confirm approval of the requested change and to advise that your status is in 'agreeing' stage. You are then required to complete an electronic sign off within the supplier registration service portal as directed. Following completion of above, your status will revert to 'appointed'. Further details are provided on page 19 of the "READ FIRST RM6094 Spark DPS Needs document" found in the bid pack
Once appointed to the SPARK DPS will suppliers have the ability to add/update Subject Area and Delivery Method as new products become available?	Yes - the supplier will be able to update their responses to the filter questions in the DPS selection questionnaire to reflect changes in capability.
When updating your submission are you temporarily removed from Spark	Yes, when updating your submission, your status will revert to "registered 2" until you have submitted it, when it will revert to "assessing" to allow CCS to undertake the necessary review of your updated responses to the SQ. Note if your updated responses are accepted by CCS, you will enter into the 'agreeing' status and you will need to agree to the Terms and Conditions again. Once you have agreed to the terms and conditions again your status will revert to "appointed" and at this stage you will appear in customer shortlists if eligible.
Supplier responsibilities once on the agreement	
Is there a requirement to bid once on the framework? e.g a minimum amount of bids?	There is no KPI or other clause linked to suppliers bidding on opportunities. We are aware that some suppliers may have very niche capabilities and this would present them with problems.
Will tenders be published directly to us through you or will we only be able to get them from the Contracts Finder?	Customers may choose to detail their requirements on Contract Finder by publishing a notice on Contracts Finder or you may be contacted by the customer, should you appear in their category export report (supplier shortlist) when they select the Spark filters on the Supplier Resgitration Service that match their requirements.

If a supplier successfully wins a contract from a Public Sector body, when can they expect to be paid for the service?	Payment terms as per Contract Schedule 3 of the Contract Order Form and Contract Terms between a Customer and Supplier are payment within 30 days of receipt of a valid invoice.
How does that comply with the Government's Faster Payment Scheme?	If you are referring to the Government's Prompt Payment Policy, this will come into force in September 2019 and will affect suppliers bidding for Government contracts above £5m per annum. As part of the selection process contracting authorities will be looking back at your payment performance for the previous two 6 month reporting periods. Your business's current performance will therefore be considered and may have an impact on your ability to win business. This policy was announced last year by Oliver Dowden, Minister for Implementation for the Cabinet Office. It requires bidders (during the selection process) to answer a series of questions about their supply chain management and tracking systems, which will include providing details about payment practices, processes and performance including the percentage of invoices paid within 60 days across both their private and public sector business. Suppliers who are unable to demonstrate that they have systems in place that are effective and ensure a fair and responsible approach to payment of their supply chain may be excluded from bidding.
I am having issues with RMI and have not been receiving my invoices. Who do I need to inform?	Please inform the CCS Financial team by emailing ccsfinance@crowncommercial.gov.uk
According to the current RMI reminder reporting email it states that MI reports are required by the 7th of the month, can you clarify if it is the 5th of the month or 7th of the month? thanks Rebecca	The DPS agreement states that the MI reporting date is the 5th working day of each month and this is the reporting deadline for the RM6094 Spark DPS in RMI too.
MI reporting - do we report at time of contract signing or PO being raised or us being paid?	You report the order (call off contract) that you enter into in the month following the month in which both parties signed the call off contract. This is a one off activity. You then report each customer invoice that you raise in the month following the month in whcih it was raised. e.g. invoice raised on July 9th and reported by the 5th working day in August (August 7th 2020)

You mentioned that CCS are currently updating a workflow to streamline the process for reporting MI for suppliers who are part of multiple commercial agreements that they are part off - for example GCloud & Spark. Based on this, am I to assume that my RMI will receive a request for MI for GCloud AND Spark for the time being and once this workflow is created there will only be one request?	Yes for the time being when you first log on to RMI, your homepage will be "Tasks" and you will see one task to report MI for the month for each of the commercial agreements you are on and for each task there will be an option to report MI or to report no business. I imagine that there will continue to be separate tasks for separate commercial agreements but the information requested for each agreement is hopefully being streamlined and made more consistent
The RMI submission date is different to other CCS Frameworks; 5th day as opposed to 7th day. Will other CCS Frameworks align to day 5	Yes other CCS Frameworks will align to the 5th working day as they are introduced or reprocured.
Will the structure of the Spark RMI template be the same as GCloud? Many of the Frameworks have different templates which increases the admin burden on our account teams. It can also impact data quality	Every commercial agreement is unique so it isn't possible to have the same fields in each RMI template. That said a lot of consistency has been added and the core fields are aligned from one agreement to the next. The order of columns on new agreements is always now the same.
Will spark only take the levy once payment received by the customer?	CCS use the information provided in the invoices raised to customers that suppliers report on each month via RMI to invoice suppliers the management levy. From the point that suppliers receive the CCS invoice, they have 30 days to pay so there isn't a guarantee that the customer will have paid your invoice by that date. It depends on the payment terms with the customer.
I missed where the case studies are issued, could you advise where they are placed and whether we can see other supplier case studies?	Case studies will be held in CCS folders but also published in CCS customer newsletters and linked to in blogs. As CCS does not anticipate anticipate anything commercially sensitive being included in a case study, I am happy to include them in Spark supplier newsletters.
Are there separate self-audit certificate requirements for each DPS/ framework?	Yes each CCS Commercial Agreement requires its own individual self audit certificate to be provided annually to the Commercial Agreement Manager
DPS Agreement	
The DPS agreement is marked as 'sample' - are all the documents final?	The DPS Agreement in the bid pack is sample watermaked. If your organisation is appointed to the DPS you will receive a non watermarked version.
Are the terms negotiable?	The DPS terms aren't but if you spot any issues prior to the opening of the DPS let us know. Call-off terms can be altered by the customer, any alterations should be prior to their tender being issued and will not be material changes.

Customer Engagement	
How many customers are signed up already?	Customers are not signed up per se because of how CCS works as a trading body but we are having lots of conversations with, in particular, Central Government departments about using it, so we anticipate seeing quite a few customers from big Central Government departments but also in custoemrs in the Wider Public Sector. NHS Innovation is trying to pump it out into the Health sector and we are receiving increasing enquiries from Local Government.
Customer Further Competitions	
How many contracts have been awarded to date?	There are 3 Spark Call Off Contracts that have been reported either via Contracts Finder or from suppliers in their monthly Management Information reporting.
Is the NHSX tender still open? What was it for and can we apply?	The competition for NHSX was launched in June 2020, so if a supplier wasn't appointed to the Spark DPS at that point, they would not have been eligible to participate. The NHSX tender contract notice which details what it was for can be found on Contracts Finder: https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Notice/33d1e59d-83d9-4e86-b243-a9cb0baef548 During their application to the Spark DPS suppliers would have been asked to indicate which categories and services (within the filter system) they were able to bid for in order to be invited to the relevant customer further competitions. When creating a category export report, customers should use the 4 filters to reflect their specification and create their supplier shortlist.
For the recent NHXS tender how do we get notification of success or otherwise?	The communication around the NHSX tender is being handled by CCS in Newport. It is therefore them that will semd the notification of success or failure to suppliers who participated. Once the call off contract has been awarded, NHSX should post the contract notice award on Contracts Finder.
What is the normal procurement competition duration?	This will vary by customer but if you take a look at the Spark Customer Guidance held on the CCS Spark webpage under the Documents tab, Annex 1 on page 18 provides an example timeline of a Spark further competition. We recommend customers allow 6-8 weeks if they are going to include all optional elements in a further competition.

Any thoughts on standardized proposal requests?	Work is currently underway to design a standardised further competition template for Spark for customers to use.
Is there a limit on the call-off value?	No there is no limit on the call-off value. With our colleagues in GDS and other departments we will be providing customers with advice on how to get the best outcome from working with suppliers, this will focus on agile methodologies and scaling as capability grrows.
Is there a total limit on call-off value?	The OJEU notice has been published with a maximum value of £650m, this is the upper limit of our expected spend through the agreement.
Is there a minimum term for the contract entered into between the customer and the supplier?	There is no minimum term for the call off contract
Is there a limit on call-off length?	Call-offs are capped at a total of 5 years with an initial maximum call-off length of 3 years.
Can I let a call off contract for 5 years from the start?	No, the maximum duration of the initial term is 3 years and the maximum duration of call-off contracts under the agreement is 5 years which includes any extensions.
How do I shortlist suppliers?	Spark: the Technology Innovation Marketplace is hosted on the Dynamic Purchasing System Marketplace and found under the Supplier Registration Service From here you will need to choose "Access as a buyer" and confirm your acceptance of the customer access agreement before you can use the filters to create a supplier shortlist. Please read the Customer guidance (available in the attached documents) for comprehensive details about how to conduct a call for competition.
How long is my shortlist valid for?	We recommend that you use your exported supplier shortlist within 2 working days, as new suppliers may be added at any point, thus changing the list of suppliers eligible to complete
Will all parties on the DPS be invited to bid for call-offs?	All suppliers idenfitied through a customers filter selection will be invited to participate initally. The customer may use a multi-stage process to further refine the supplier list prior to a final tender.

Will customers requirements be openly published like in DOS?	Customers need to invite all suppliers identified via their filter selection. All customers should also publish opportunites and contract details via ContractsFinder where appropriate. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0716-legal-requirement-to-publish-on-contracts-finder The DPS does not use the Digital Marketplace for the call-off process but that may change in future.
Will the number of suppliers within each fiter area be the same or will it vary?	There could be quite a few suppliers for AI but fewer for other areas. We anticipate reaching 20 suppliers quite quickly. Customers are out there trying to promote this so we anticipate somewhere in the low 100s of suppliers in total, not 3,000 odd covered by GCloud. This is a different proposition and we after something quite specific.
Do buyers still need to complete a Procurement Regulations compliant competition?	Customers will need to complete a call-off in line with process described in Schedule 5 of the DPS Agreement.
Can I direct award?	No you must follow the purchasing process detailed within the RM6094 Spark The Technology Innovation Marketplace Customer Guidance
What kind of financial due diligence has CCS done on suppliers on the RM6094 Spark The Technology Innovation Marketplace DPS and what do I need to do as a buyer?	We will undertake an assessment of a supplier's economic and financial standing using the DUNS number (as provided by Dun and Bradstreet) for their organisation which they input when registering on the SRS registration system at the following link: https://supplierregistration. cabinetoffice.gov.uk/organisation/register The report provided by the credit reference agency (Dun and Bradstreet) will be used to determine the level of financial risk the supplier represents. If the score provided by the credit reference agency is 40 or more, then their Request to participate will continue to proceed in the DPS Selection process. If the score is less than 40, further analysis of audited accounts will be undertaken before the supplier is awarded a place or not. If the risk is still too great, a supplier will be asked to provide a financial guarantor who will be subject to the same checks.
Where can I get a copy of the template contract order form and template contract terms for the RM6094 Spark The Technology Innovation Marketplace DPS?	You will find a copy of this both on the CCS Spark DPS Webpages or within the Supplier bid pack on the Supplier Registration Service
AOB	

How is this linked to TP2 Lot 6 replacement?	It isn't - that will be a separate procurement.
Does this overlap with G-Cloud?	There maybe some small overlap as products are developed, we would expect SaaS products to mature and move onto G-Cloud more quickly than other product areas.
Will the slides be available?	We will publish slides and the Q&A. Unfortunately CCS's website is in the process of being migrated so it is likely to be early April before we can post the deck online