

RM6200 Artificial Intelligence DPS buyer webinar 27 October 2020

No.	Question	Response
1	In regard to asking supplier to provide evidence of how Data Ethics principles have been followed, - would this be as part of the weighted Quality criteria, and just to check this does not fall under "Social Value"	Quality should assess things like technical merit, approach to delivery of the service, added value/innovation and implementation timescales. Demonstrating evidence of how data ethics principles have been followed would fit here. There might be some crossover of how criteria is assessed and another element might fit under cultural fit, which should assess things like the supplier's approach to deliver social value, the supplier's approach to deliver ethical dimensions of the tender, how the supplier works with others, how the supplier shares knowledge and experience.
2	Social Value examples described - these examples were quite useful, are these available in the framework literature, or can they be shared post-webinar please?	These are available in the customer documentation and also available in the notes to the slides which will be sent around after the webinar and uploaded to our Artificial Intelligence webpage.
3	Does Cultural Fit fall under Social Value, or the other way around in terms of the 10% weighting?	Social value is a minimum of 10% as mandatory and falls under the Cultural Fit criteria, which has a weighting range of 10 - 20%.
4	Does Social Value 10% weighting fall within the 20-60% Quality criteria?	This falls under the Cultural Fit criteria, which is weighted as 10-20%.
5	In terms of Pricing, just to confirm there are no Maximum Charging Thresholds? (Such as under the Research Marketplace DPS)	This is correct. We have not included a pricing schedule for this DPS as we do not know enough about the market to capture it at this time. If you would like to have a maximum charging threshold you should include this up front in your specification, invitation to tender and also in the contract documentation. If you wish to add a maximum charging threshold, I recommend carrying out a pre-tender market engagement exercise to better understand your requirements and make sure you are not setting the price too high or too low.
6	Are you able to provide brief examples of contracts awarded under this DPS (if published under Contracts Finder/no confidentiality)	We plan to build a library of use cases and case studies for customers. This will involve customer engagement sessions and will come further down the line as contracts are awarded through the DPS.
7	Are there any typical misunderstandings you have encountered from customers in reviewing/considering this framework route?	<p>The different routes to market for artificial intelligence (AI DPS, Spark, G-Cloud and DOS for example). Spark is for more innovative and disruptive AI technologies. G-Cloud allows for commodity off the shelf software solutions, DOS bespoke software solutions that may contain an element of artificial intelligence). The T&Cs for each of these agreements differ, from government T&Cs to supplier T&Cs and a combination of both. This AI DPS provides a route for discovery work and data analytics, software solutions for things like chatbots and virtual assistants, through to end-to-end partnerships. The ordering process and guidance are aligned to government guidelines for AI and there are bespoke IPR terms.</p> <p>We have received a few queries from customers requiring help using the DPS Platform. Customers should access as a buyer under the Artificial Intelligence DPS (rather than accessing as a buyer on the Supplier Registration Service homepage) in order to access the filter categories.</p>
8	What level of feedback are we expected to give to unsuccessful suppliers?	<p>It is best practice to give as much detail as possible to unsuccessful suppliers.</p> <p>In accordance with PCR 55:</p> <p>On request from the candidate or tenderer concerned, the contracting authority shall as quickly as possible, and in any event within 15 days from receipt of a written request, inform—</p> <p>(a) any unsuccessful candidate of the reasons for the rejection of its request to participate;</p> <p>(b) any unsuccessful tenderer of the reasons for the rejection of its tender, including, for the cases referred to in regulation 42(14) and (15), the reasons for its decision of non-equivalence or its decision that the works, supplies or services do not meet the performance or functional requirements;</p> <p>(c) any tenderer that has made an admissible tender of the characteristics and relative advantages of the tender selected as well as the name of the successful tenderer or the parties to the framework agreement;</p> <p>(d) any tenderer that has made an admissible tender of the conduct and progress of negotiations and dialogue with tenderers.</p>
9	Just to check on that note - for filtering we wouldn't give non-shortlisted suppliers feedback? (Don't usually do this for Research Marketplace DPS for example)	Suppliers are shortlisted using the filter categories on the DPS platform. If a supplier does not meet your search criteria it is because they have not selected that they can provide the required services in their application to join the DPS. If a supplier does request feedback at the shortlisting stage, you are able to inform the supplier that they did not meet your requirements based on the services they have selected they are able to provide.
10	Apologies if I missed it at the beginning (joined slightly late), but to check financial assessments are conducted at DPS application stage? (& monitored during DPS framework life?)	That is correct. Suppliers must meet a financial credit threshold. This is to cover the minimum amount of work expected to go through this DPS. If a supplier fails to meet this score, they will go into assessing and our commercial finance team will work with the supplier to appropriately assess the status of the company's financial health. This is to ensure we do not disadvantage SMEs or start ups and also to ensure delivery of frontline services are uninterrupted. We encourage buyers to carry out their own additional financial assessments for higher value requirements.