

**RM6200 Artificial Intelligence DPS supplier webinar 21 September and 24 September 2020**

No.	Question	Response
1	Will you be sharing the slides?	Yes. The slides will be sent to all webinar attendees and shared on the <a href="#">RM6200 Artificial Intelligence DPS website</a> .
2	Can buyers shortlist further (e.g. RFI) after selecting the relevant filters if it returns a large amount of suppliers or do all suppliers have to be invited to respond?	Buyers must use the filter categories to shortlist suppliers and must invite all eligible suppliers who meet those requirements to tender.
3	How does DPS relates to the sectors by category to which a supplier is able to deliver services in order contract and includes local & central government, administrations, health, and not-for-profit?	Some AI solutions are targeted at the needs of specific sectors. A buyer is able to filter by sector to create a shortlist of suppliers who have selected to provide services in that filter category.
4	Is there a pipeline of work already built up for the Framework from potential buyers?	We are aware of some requirements in the pipeline of potential buyers. It is the decision of the buyer organisation if they would like to share the pipeline. CCS does not have authority to share this information without the Contracting Authority's permission.
5	We submitted without Cyber Essentials but intend to do as part of this. Does this mean we will be rejected and have to start the process over again?	You are required to have your Cyber Essentials certificate in place before you bid for a tender and are awarded your first contract under this DPS.
6	Good q re pipeline - can suppliers have visibility of the pipeline or will we just see opportunities when published?	You will receive an invitation to tender if you meet a buyer's requirements when shortlisted using the filter categories. It is up to the buying department if they wish to share their pipeline.
7	Are buyers encouraged to provide data samples / volumes as part of the competitions? Will data already have been processed or is data cleansing/management also likely to be in scope?	Depending on the experience of the buyer organisation, some organisations will need data cleansing/management and others will have data that is processed. Buyers will be encouraged to agree with the supplier when they can expect to receive data to start work. Buyers will also be encouraged to provide a sample of data, or dummy data to help with scoping of work and to prevent delays, by way of our customer guidance and also customer webinars.
8	Very specific question, I have a submission that has been sitting in 'assessing' for months - I may be being dumb but is it likely there is something I need to do?	Our procurement support team have 10 days to assess your application, for example if there is a risk flag. Our team will then have a further 5 days to ask questions and rectify any issues, so 15 days in total. If you do not receive a response to your application being assessed within 15 days of submitting your application, please email <a href="mailto:info@crownccommercial.gov.uk">info@crownccommercial.gov.uk</a> .
9	How are contracts under this agreement evaluated at the tender stage from anything, for example depending on the complexity of the project ? or technology ? or budget ?	The award criteria is found in DPS Order Schedule 7. Tenders must be evaluated on quality, price and cultural fit. Buying departments have flexibility on assessment methods used to evaluate tenders dependent on the complexity and specifications of their requirements.
10	When is the expected launch date?	The Artificial Intelligence DPS went live and opened to cusotmers on 3 September 2020.
11	How many contracts are currently on	This agreement was recently launched. There are no tenders published as yet.
12	My submission has similarly been sitting in assessing for some time - grateful for advice as to what else we need to do. I believe we are compliant n all respects	Our procurement support team have 10 days to assess your application, for example if there is a risk flag. Our team will then have a further 5 days to ask questions and rectify any issues, so 15 days in total. If you do not receive a response to your application being assessed within 15 days of submitting your application, please email <a href="mailto:info@crownccommercial.gov.uk">info@crownccommercial.gov.uk</a> .
13	Will unsuccessful suppliers be given feedback	Buyers should give feedback to unsuccessful suppliers in line with The Public Contract Regulations 2015, <a href="#">Regulation 55</a> . In the event that you do not receive feedback from a Contracting Authority within 15 days of written request, please follow up with that organisation. If you are still do not receive feedback after this, please contact <a href="mailto:info@crownccommercial.gov.uk">info@crownccommercial.gov.uk</a> and we will contact the customer to provide guidance.
14	What are the external communication rules when you are an awarded AI DPS Supplier?	You are able to market your place on this DPS using our <a href="#">marketing toolkit</a> under documents on the RM6200 Artificial Intelligence DPS webpage. Please send us any text you wish to publish to approve and make use of our branding guidelines and guidance on how to talk about being a CCS supplier.
15	How many suppliers do you anticipate for this service?	We anticiapate approximately 90 suppliers over the duration of the DPS agreement.
16	Is it possible to get the matrix / filter list that will be used in the DPS UI for buyers?	The filter matrix is available in the bid pack documents, buyer needs. You can also view this information on slide 12 'what are the required services'.
17	How are you promoting the framework to its potential customer base?	This DPS is being promoted as part of our CCS Digital Future marketing campaign, by way of marketing communications such as animations, customer newsletters, podcasts and also customer webinars.
18	Hi, is the DPS being promoted across potential Public Sector buyers?	Yes. See response to question number 17 above.
19	What is the monthly reporting cycle i.e. the reporting due date?	The reporting due date of Management Information (MI) will be the 5th working day each month in arrears.
20	Will you be publishing the appointed supplier list and associated service categories	You are able to view the appointed suppliers using the <a href="#">Supplier Registration Service</a> and selecting 'view appointed suppliers' under the AI DPS.
21	Will these slides be made available after this session?	Yes. The slides will be sent to all webinar attendees and shared on the RM6200 Artificial Intelligence DPS website.
22	At contract award will unsuccessful suppliers be given feedback?	Buyers should give feedback to unsuccessful suppliers in line with The Public Contract Regulations 2015, <a href="#">Regulation 55</a> . In the event that you do not receive feedback from a Contracting Authority within 15 days of written request, please follow up with that organisation. If you are still do not receive feedback after this, please contact <a href="mailto:info@crownccommercial.gov.uk">info@crownccommercial.gov.uk</a> and we will contact the customer to provide guidance.
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24	Can you go back and change answers you have already written on the questionnaire after having saved them?	The first part of the Selection Questionnaire (R1) enables a supplier to make a self-declaration on behalf of the organisation in the following areas; your organisation and proposed bidding model, grounds for exclusion from procurement procedures, financial standing and technical capacity. The second part of the registration is the DPS Selection Questionnaire (R2), including procurement specific questions to the services the supplier wishes to provide. You are able to update answers to R2. You are unable to update answers to R1.
25	The terms in the overall frame work will likely require amendment based on the specific AI project - is that expected and being factored in	The terms of the DPS contract are flexible to meet buyer requirements. You are able to agree to terms specific to the AI project, provided they do not constitute as a material change to the DPS agreement.
26	Also sorry, where it says this Do you want to re-use answers from an existing Selection Questionnaire?  Can this be answers taken from G-Cloud or do they not apply?	G-Cloud is hosted on the Digital Marketplace and has a different set of requirements/award criteria to the AI DPS. The AI DPS is hosted by NQC on the Supplier Registratoin Service. You are able to re-use answeres from R1 (see response to question 24) of a previous DPS application on the Supplier Registration Service.
27	Will you send a link to the CCS web page you mentioned after this webinar?	<a href="#">RM6200 Artificial Intelligence webpage</a>
28	Does it mean that we may expect buyer requirements from now?	Yes.

29	Is there a minimum required size for startups to apply?	No. CCS does not want to disadvantage startup companies. It may be more difficult for a startup supplier to meet certain requirements, such as an assessment of a supplier's financial health, for example. If you know your financial score is below the Credit Rating Threshold for this DPS, submit that evidence up front in your application. There are other means to measure the financial health of a company and each case would be measured on its own merits, taking many points into consideration, including but not limited to; the risk appetite of an agreement, what is being procured, value of contract, current financial health of a company and how debt compares to a company's current financial health. In this example, CCS ultimately need to ensure the financial health of a Supplier does not have impact on frontline services and also to enable suppliers to deliver their service offerings.
30	Are EU-based startups eligible to apply?	Yes.
31	Will there be any support for SMEs looking to supply the public sector for the first time?	SMEs are encouraged to find out what a public sector body is looking for in an AI product or service, see how they can meet those requirements and join this DPS. CCS will continue to encourage pre-market engagement amongst Buyer organisations, to help shape their requirements and also share information up front to help SMEs. There will be future supplier engagement sessions as well.
32	Will you use attendance at webinars as part of your future mailing list?	We can add attendees from webinars to our expression of interest suppliers list for future communications.
33	We do not have a list of sub-contractors we may work with. Is it possible to add other contractors at the bidding stage?	Yes. If you require a subcontractor to deliver a specific piece of work at a later date, you can agree to this with the Buyer organisation and notify CCS. We will record this offline. It is your due diligence as the supplier awarded to the DPS agreement to manage the sub-contracted supplier and their obligations.
34	Is cyber essentials certification mandatory at the application stage?	You are required to have your Cyber Essentials certificate in place before you bid for a tender and are awarded your first contract under this DPS.
35	Are you encouraging the buyers to think about asking suppliers to collaborate on their requirements.	It is up to the Buyer organisation if they would like a supplier to collaborate to deliver their requirements.
36	When do you suspect the first bid will be released on the framework in terms of a rough date?	We cannot say for certain, though we are aware of some departments looking to go to market with requirements before the end of this calendar year.
37	Is the supplier marketing toolkit available if you are on other frameworks, e.g. G-Cloud?	Yes, the same guidelines apply. There is more guidance available on <a href="#">how to talk about being a supplier on the digital marketplace</a> .