

National Mobilities Procurement Hub Managed by SAM

email: procurement@nationalmobilitiesprocurementhub.co.uk

To: ALL FRAMEWORK 1: REAL TIME PASSENGER INFORMATION SYSTEM DISPLAY BOARD/POINTS EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES BIDDERS

13th July 2022

Dear Bidders,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - UPDATE

Please find below the response to all RFI Questions received.

Title/Summary:	RFI 1 – Single Suppliers			
Question:	Quality Question 2 implies you want consortia bids. Can single product suppliers who don't intent to co-bid submit?			
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.			
Response:	Yes - absolutely. The intent behind Q2 is to request how Suppliers work with e.g., incumbents; it's not intended that bidders must co-bid or work as part of consortia for the Framework submission. The focus is ensuring suppliers can work in a mix of others including incumbents and new.			

Title/Summary:	RFI 2 – Quali	RFI 2 – Quality Question 1		
Question:	complete ans	It is unlikely anyone has yet worked with BCDMS, so no complete answers are likely in this area or be possible. Please expand on the intent?		
Confidential Response?	No	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	and deliver in	The intent is that bidders demonstrate how they could work and deliver in an open environment, esp. in context of RTIG and other standards.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 3 - Gene	RFI 3 - General		
Question:	as a more lo	This Lot feels as if it should come after larger Lots e.g. BDCMS as a more logical flow. We feel the timeline is too short to respond, could it be expanded?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:		Acknowledged. The timeline is led by current customer demand, and prior to extant extended frameworks expiring this		

Title/Summary:	RFI 4 – New Entrants Post Award		
Question:	We note the that the length will be 4+1+1 for the framework, so new entrants will be excluded until subsequent re-competition.		
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	using the "Open Fran procurement legislati Public Contracts Reg	e-running some frame mework" as planned in ion that is being prepa gulations (2015). This tisting, live framework ed points.	n the draft ared to replace the may then allow new

Title/Summary:	RFI 5 – Role of SAM			
Question:	How does SAM fit into the process of administering the framework?			
Confidential Response?	No	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	further competition. the 'Most Economica meet its need from a	mbership organisation uent orders may be plead orders may be plead orders with its ally Advantageous Terball Suppliers on the Fradentified Supplier and Order.	laced by call-off, or Member to identify nderer (MEAT)' to amework. SAM will	

Title/Summary:	RFI 6 - SAM Members		
Question:	What is the mix of SAM Members?		
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	SAM currently has around 70 public sector, and 70 private (public transport operator bus/rail) Members. Membership is free and open to any public or private transport operator within the sector.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 7 – Availability of the Framework				
Question:	As TfW started this framework, will the Framework be available to other Members?				
Confidential Response?	No	No If yes, set out reasons why.			
Response:	Yes. The Framework is open and available to all UK public and private Members of SAM. Membership of SAM is free, with membership number changing regularly.				

Title/Summary:	RFI 8 – Procurement Portal		
Question:	As SAM has no portal yet, what will be provided to facilitate communication? Could we e.g., subscribe and be notified in future of SAM opportunities?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	SAM bases its Supplier engagement around direct email, as detailed in the Tender Notice to ensure all bidders are kept informed of all developments/RFIs etc. SAM is developing a Portal for the new Framework – but this will be to provide notice-board type functionality.		bidders are kept M is developing a

Title/Summary:	ary: RFI 9 – Suitability for the Framework		
Question:	Are we suitable as a potential supplier, if we only have a limited product range/market focus?		

Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:		encourage a broad mi ers providing they bring	

Title/Summary:	RFI 10 – Buyers Use of the Framework		
Question:	How will Buyers use the Framework?		
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	SAM will directly sup where the correct cri the quality or social vapplication, but price specific recommendate requirements. Where	e to RFI 5. Access is opport a Member to apport and teria are met. The provalue scores from the will be re-assessed for ation to Members, base revised technical / cochey will be addressed	oint via direct award cess will not change framework or MEAT to make ed on e.g., volume ontractual

Title/Summary:	RFI 11 – Buye	RFI 11 – Buyers		
Question:	How will SAM identify the best supplier for a Customer?			
Confidential Response?	No	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	with them to ich need can be no report for the State their need — at Technical/Quar Assessment, the Members required locally determining options will be	per wishes to use the Fram dentify how their specific nemet from a Direct Award, SASAM Member detailing which what price. The Report wality and Social Value score ogether with the actual costirements. If a Direct Awardined Further Competition managery subject to each Member's able in public authority Member in the subject was actually and subject to each Member's able in public authority Member in the subject was actually and subject was actually as a subject was actually actually and subject was actually as a subject was actually actual	eed can be met. If this AM will prepare a ch Supplier can meet ill be based on the es from the Framework of meeting the SAM rd is not possible a nay be run. These own governance too,	

Title/Summary:	RFI 12 – Standard vs Innovative Equipment		
Question:	Can the Framework support those Members existing compliant equipment, as well as equipment incorporating a more innovative approach?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Yes. The Pricing Matrix allows for all compliant equipment to be detailed in the main response sheet. In addition, there is also a second sheet within the Matrix where a Supplier can make available additional/complementary items – these will not be scored and remain optional for a Member.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 13 - Clien	RFI 13 – Client Referral		
Question:	Can Supplier of	Can Supplier clients be referred to use the framework?		
Confidential Response?	No	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	a Direct Award sector, then M raise awarenes	nt is an Operator, they car I with any Supplier they wi EAT rules will apply. It is as of the Framework to the nt and easy route to acces	ish. If a Client is public normal for Suppliers to eir potential clients as a	

Title/Summary:	RFI 14 – Open Data		
Question:	What is your opinion on Open data? Some legacy systems exclude integration through the use of closed interfaces.		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	The Framework is absolutely based on the use of an open approach to data and interfaces, and standardisation through the work of RTIG.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 15 – Rail	RFI 15 – Rail		
Question:		Can the Framework be used to purchase display screens for the Rail Sector if products are available and meet the standards?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	revisions to scre	Yes. They should be listed in the Price Matrix. Subsequent revisions to screens can be added to ensure up-to-date solutions are available.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 16 – Audio Feeds		
Question:	Can direct audio feeds be used to replace the now-typical on- site hosted products like PCs, with a centralised solution including Text-To Speech?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Yes. See also RFI 38 for a response from REACT.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 17 – Innovation			
Question:	TfL are doing good work on digital design language, is this captured?			
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.			
Response:	Where a Supplier is engaged in User Research and Innovation, this can be included within their response to Technical/Quality Question 2.			

Title/Summary:	RFI 18 – Rail Operators	
Question:	What is SAM's engagement with Rail Operators?	

Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	seemed more alignn a larger single-owne	il Operator Members. In the past nent between Bus & Rail busine rship Transport Group, than tod ppy to work with any Transport ices.	esses within lay.

Title/Summary:	RFI 19 – Price Scoring			
Question:	Could we please have further detail on how the pricing is scored? We're unsure how the pricing is scored fairly when bidders are free to choose display types (not a like-for-like comparison)?			
Confidential Response?	No	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	As the catalogue allo equipment to be add above the minimum tappraisal process is A SAM Member comrequires a Direct Awa against ALL Supplier the Member based of meeting the Member the total Score for MI Framework Technical	malies and unfeasibly of Framework appoints of Framework appoints a range of complied, which may have frechnical requirement as follows: The set of SAM with their and SAM then costs are equipment, and proposed in identifying the MEA as requirements will be sear will be based on al/Quality Score plus the selly identified financial.	y low tender prices. intments. ant Suppliers' features over and its, the call-off requirements and their requirement epares a report for a CT. Whilst the cost of e uniquely costed, a Supplier's the Social Value	

Title/Summary:	RFI 20 – Pricing Matrix			
Question:	On the pricing sheet there are only 9 price tables. We wish to offer more than this. Are we able to add more tables?			
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.			
Response:	Yes. Please cut and paste the existing tables to ensure continuity.			

Title/Summary:	RFI 21 – Catalogue Content		
Question:	Will the full catalogue be placed onto the framework or are each display types evaluated separately?		
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	It is the intention that all compliant equipment, fully costed and tested (where required) be available via the framework.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 22 – Social Value Scoring		
Question:	The social value scoring is not consistent between the social value response proforma and the ITT scoring section. Could you please confirm the correct percentage breakdown?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Proforma – i.e., Questo Therefore, in the main be updated as follows. In scoring the relevant panel will use the follows. 1. The response to The total score (equivalent 2. The response to The final total score (equivalent 3. The response to The final total score (equivalent 4.)	Social Value responses wing scoring system: emed Question a). will lent to 50% of the total Semed Question b). will lent to 25% of the total semed Question c). will lent demed Question c).	5% and C = 25%. 7.4 Page 33, should 5, SAM's evaluation be worth 5% of the final locial Value score); be worth 2.5% of the otal Social Value score);

Title/Summary:	RFI 23 – Price Comparison for Clients		
Question:	How will Pricing be Compared?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	As detailed in the response to RFI 11, SAM will compare all prices from all Suppliers on the Framework where they meet the individual needs of the SAM Member. A report identifying the MEAT will be produced. Where relevant, Suppliers may be		

asked to check the values identified by SAM to ensure the full
cost is captured correctly for a Call-Off.

Title/Summary:	RFI 24 – Unit Testing		
Question:	Will all Units / Catalogue Items be required for testing?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	To be determined, and will depend on the total/range of catalogue items submitted.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 25 – Standards		
Question:	You state compliance with IP54 as a minimum. If we certify to a higher standard (IP65 for example), is that OK?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Yes, so long as there is no compromise in meeting the defined minimum Technical Requirements as detailed.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 26 – Tiered Pricing		
Question:	Will tiered pricing be ok and is that assessed order-by-order?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Yes. All pricing will be considered on an order-by-order basis as outlined in response to RFI 23.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 27 - Number of Suppliers on the Framework	
Question:	How many Suppliers will be on framework?	
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.

Response:	The aim is to have good quality suppliers, over quantity, so we are aiming for 10 maximum as per the advert. Currently, no SAM Framework has more than 8 Suppliers on it.
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Title/Summary:	RFI 28 – Selection Questionnaire (SQ)		
Question:	Will Supplier Questionnaire success then grant access to the full Framework?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	No. The SQ qualifies you to move to the next Stage of Framework Assessment – that of the technical/quality compliance & social value.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 29 – Cla	RFI 29 – Clarifications Post Award	
Question:		Are clarifications about supplier's items allowed post framework award?	
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Unusual but	Unusual but it has happened.	

Title/Summary:	RFI 30 – Enhancements Post Award		
Question:	Can a Suppliers Product be updated Post Award?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Entries can be updated only if it's an improvement and not a price increase (without agreement).		

Title/Summary:	RFI 31 – Price C	RFI 31 – Price Comparison for Clients	
Question:	How will Pricing be Compared - Framework Award & Order Awards?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	

	Framework Award = At the framework award stage we have said in the RFI section 7.3 that we will evaluate a mix of scenarios based only on the requirements section. We have deliberately not stated these in more detail to ensure applications are not manipulated, but reflect normal and submitted prices.
Response:	Order Award = As detailed in the response to Q11, SAM will compare all prices from all Suppliers on the Framework where they meet the individual needs of the SAM Member. A report for the Member identifying the MEAT will be produced. Where relevant, Suppliers may be asked to confirm the values identified by SAM to ensure the full price is captured correctly for a Call-Off.

Title/Summary:	RFI 32 – On S	RFI 32 - On Site Replacements/Upgrades	
Question:		Previously, upgrades to kit have been responsibility of the manufacturer, often as part of a closed System? How will this now work?	
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	integration is o	The Framework and its open approach to equipment integration is designed to make swapping out, and multi supplier integration of kit, easier for Members.	

Title/Summary:	RFI 33 – USB Security		
Question:		You ask for bidders to submit files on an USB. How will the unmarked USBs be treated for infosec purposes?	
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	We are asking for a USB with files on it instead of requiring paper submissions. This is based on Supplier feedback from the previous Framework. When we receive the USB, we check consistency with the submitted email of files. We will then securely store the USB in line with data protection requirements.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 34 – Technical Requirements	
Question:	For the MoSCoW requirements do we simply say "yes" rather than addressing each one in the text?	

Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	we have mo based comp rather than I	to Supplier feedback from previous Framewo oved to a process of Suppliers confirming Sect bliance with the Framework Technical requiren having to confirm and provide narrative on an ne by line basis.	tional-

Title/Summary:	RFI 35 – Ability to update Post Framework Award	
Question:	Are upgrades to scope/prices ok?	
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.
Response:	Please see response to RFI 30.	

Title/Summary:	RFI 36 – Ongoing Role of SAM		
Question:	What is SAM's involvement in further competition/call offs?		
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	Where a SAM Men not automatically c prepare a simple F	swers to RFI 5 & RFI 1 nber wishes to receive overed by Direct Award urther Competition for the S. SAM will manage the development.	Goods and Services I, then SAM will hem, which will be

Title/Summary:	RFI 37 - SAM 3% Fee		
Question:	How is the 3% fee collected?		
Confidential Response?	No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	It is to be managed and paid in line with the monthly report process for Suppliers as per other CCS frameworks, upon which the mechanism is based.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 38 – REACT Details		
Question:	Please describe the REACT feedback.		
Confidential Response?	No If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	enhancements to the not be reissuing the the feedback from R	orrespondence from Re Technical Requireme requirements, it is right EACT so you can see ready compliant with a	ents. Whilst we will at that all bidders see how much of their

Title/Summary:	RFI 39 - Consortia & Sub Contractors
	Clause 2.2 says
	"You can submit a bid as a single legal entity. Alternatively, you can take one or both of the following options:
	 work with other legal entities to form a consortium. If you do, we ask the consortium to choose a lead member, registered in the UK, who will submit the bid on behalf of the consortium.
	 bid with named key subcontractors to deliver parts of the requirements. This applies whether you are bidding as a single legal entity or as a consortium."
Question:	But Clause 3.8 says
	"SAM is concerned to avoid conflicts of interest. In particular, SAM is likely to regard a conflict of interest as arising where:
	 a sub-contractor or adviser put forward by one Bidder is the same firm or company or a member of the same group of companies as that put forward by another Bidder; or
	 a sub-contractor or adviser is currently advising or has previously advised SAM at any time in any capacity in respect of the Project."
	The 2 clauses seem to conflict with each other. Please explain.

Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	submissions from inc Clause 3.8 is outlining	Clause 2.2 is outlining dividual Bidders or Cor ng that there may be a ame sub-contractor as	nsortium. conflict if multiple

Title/Summary:	RFI 40 – Change of Sub-Contractor Post Award	
Question:	"We recognise that subcontracting and consortium plans can change. You must tell us about any changes to the proposed subcontracting or to the consortium as soon as you know. If you do not, you may be excluded from this competition." but changes are more likely to occur over time including after Framework award. What if we need to change one of our key subcontractor midterm? How will this process work? What are the rules about change? Can we add a sub-contractor at a later date? If so, how?	
Confidential Response?	Yes / No If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	If a Supplier needs to refresh their Sub-Contractor provision after Framework Award and this will not be to the detriment of a SAM Member in relation to Quality or increase prices, then I would expect this to be supported via a change request. The starting point would be to talk to SAM in the planning of any such changes.	

Title/Summary:	RFI 41 - Testing
	ITT 2.6 – Testing Stage Evaluation How will SAM decide which bidders are to be selected for testing?
Question:	It seems unfair to test some and not others as this is an evaluation stage.
	SAM then refers to the Req Sec 2.6 which details the Testing. We assume that this acceptance testing is done by a Call Off customer for a project and not by SAM as part of the evaluation stage.
	Is that correct?
	If so, what will SAM test during its evaluation?

Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Suppliers and not C Tender states that E test process.	the Tender that states the there as implied in the Bidders may be require the detailed testing will the fordering.	question. The d to participate in a

Title/Summary:	RFI 42 - Threshol	RFI 42 - Thresholds		
Question:	The ITT states "A defined threshold	ITT 2.6 Appointment of Framework providers The ITT states "All Bidders whose Tender scores above a defined threshold will be accepted on to the Framework" Where is that threshold stated?		
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:		Threshold levels are outlined in the tables of Sections $7.2 - 7.4$ and there is a further limit of 10 suppliers in total.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 43 - Shortlisting		
Question:	SAM stated that "Where SAM needs to shortlist the number of bidders to be taken forward to the next stage, this will be done using responses to the Technical and Professional Ability" Why does SAM need to short-list bidders if they can meet the selection criteria?		
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	The Contract Notice states we would expect to have up to 10 Suppliers on the Framework. We believe that 10 good Suppliers with a decent range of compliant suitable catalogue items would be welcomed by SAM Members. There are limited advantages to having a very high number of Suppliers in a MEAT governed environment.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 44 - Shortlisting	3	
Question:	framework. How doe with competition? How does this work	SAM expects multiple es shortlisting the nur when different suppl Vhat are SAM's objec	mber of bidders help liers may be offering
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	As outlined in response to RFI 43 above, the aim is to up to 10 Suppliers on the Framework, covering a range of catalogue products. With Public Sector customers legally required to appoint the MEAT there is little advantage to Customers or Suppliers of having a significantly higher number available on the Framework as those with Low Technical Score / High Prices would be unlikely to be identified as the MEAT.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 45 – Scoring for Purchasers		
Question:	purchasers? Part B - What different/additional quant Part C - How does to	se does the scoring purpose is the so	coring if LA's set
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Part A – Please see RFI Response 23. Part B – If a Customer sets different quality requirements, then we would support them with a Further Competition. Part C – No, we welcome Suppliers with a limited product range just as much as those with a higher product range.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 46 – Financial Scoring	
Question:	ITT 7.3 Financial Scoring	

	As pricing matrix allows us to propose any number of items, it seems as if a supplier who can supply everything might score better than a supplier who proposes to supply a very cost-effective/cheap single product. How does this work if a bidder only bids on one type of display or item?		
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	For entry to the framework, all suppliers must meet the minimum requirements and it is from within that minimum set that price evaluation will be undertaken. Pricing is compared and scored on a Customer by Customer basis ensuring they get the best Supplier for their need. As such if a bidder only has 1 product, so long as this is the product desired by a Customer, they will have the same opportunity as all other Suppliers.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 47 – Deliver	RFI 47 - Delivery Timelines		
Question:		expected delivery time: via this framework as th		
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.		
Response:	It will be Order dependant to reflect the range/scale of Customer requirements. If a Customer is not happy with the MEAT's delivery timelines, they have the right to use the next Supplier in line.			

RFI 48 - Special Terms		
ITT 2.8 Order form		
You state on "The Order Form lays out: the Supplier and contact details, details of what will be supplied, how supplied, how much it'll cost, and a list of all the call-off as schedules, including any special terms." What do "special terms" mean?		supplied, how it'll be
What if we can't comply with an order because of eg "special terms", Can we refuse the order?		
Yes / No	If yes, set out	
	You state on "The O contact details, deta supplied, how much schedules, including What do "special term What if we can't cor	You state on "The Order Form lays out: the contact details, details of what will be a supplied, how much it'll cost, and a list of a schedules, including any special terms." What do "special terms" mean? What if we can't comply with an order be terms", Can we refuse the order?

Response:	Special terms generally relate to variations in the Customer requirements which have been the basis of a Further Competition.
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Title/Summary:	RFI 50 - Scoring		
Question:	We found an inconsistency in the quality Scoring, between the Framework document and the Technical questionnaire document. In the first one states that, Technical Compliance is 50% and q1 and q2 are 25% each one (for the total quality score): Confirmation of compliance with the Technical/Quality Requirements Specification document for the 8 detailed areas will be worth 30% of the final Total Score (equivalent to 50% of the total Technical/Quality score) The response to Essay question 1 will be worth 15% of the final total score (equivalent to 25% of the total technical score); The response to Essay question 2 will be worth 15% of the final total score (equivalent to 25% of the total technical score); However, in the Technical Quality Response document, mentions that the compliance checklist is 70% of the Quality Score "Technical Compliance: (70% of Total Quality Score)" and q1 and q2 are 15% each.		
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	Please see response to RFI 22.		

Title/Summary:	RFI 51 – Low Power Displays and REACT		
Question:	ND12 requires all displays to have REACT Audio. Is this required for Low Power Displays as the REACT product itself is not low power? Audio on Low Power Displays is fine if triggered by a low power product.		
Confidential Response?	Yes / No	If yes, set out reasons why.	
Response:	We understand that there are Low Power Displays which have implemented REACT. If a Supplier has a product which they wish to make available, but is non-compliant with all parts of the Technical Requirements, then we suggest this is included within the Optional Section of the Pricing Matrix.		

Thank you

Andrew Seedhouse Chairman – Smart Applications Management