

Webinar 4 (12.12.2017) - Q&A

Question No.	Question	Response
1	Will there be a separate Libraries webinar as discussed previously?	No plans as a communication went out on bravo re: libraries
2	Should Libraries attend the Launch events?	Yes, you may. However, it may be of limited use as we will be focusing our presentations on the detail of the Prison Education Framework specification and ITT process.
3	are you still intending to have a market cap on how much one provider can secure?	There will be no market cap on how much business one provider can secure?
4	Please could you give an update around the procurement of CABs - are you still aiming to announce by the 19th of December as previously stated?	The current plan is that bidders will be told the results of the procurement on or around the 19 th December. Any formal announcement is likely to take place in the New Year
5	In the draft specification, on page 11, there are a list of standards (ISO 9001, 27001 etc) -- is there an expectation that everyone delivering (e.g. supply chains and prime contractors) will need to have this in place--- this could be a major issue for smaller supply chain partners	We are discussing internally and will provide more information in due course.
6	Although there is no webinar around prison libraries planned, are there any plans for further documented guidance on this outside of the main ITT?	No, but we will keep this under review should further issues arise.
7	As Governors have the flexibility of choosing to procure Libraries either from the PEF or the DPS, does this mean that providers need to bid twice for each Framework?	We are reconsidering whether it is appropriate to offer both procurement routes for this service.
8	Can you elaborate on what you will be looking for by way of pricing at ITT stage please? Particularly, do you expect pricing to be binding/capable of acceptance at ITT stage?	We are developing the pricing schedule. Further information will be available as part of the ITT.

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9	Has any decision been made re length of contacts on DPS?	No.
10	have the Q's & As from the digital webinar been released yet?	We received very few questions at the digital webinar and unfortunately due to a technical issue, the questions were not saved. We will publish a complete list of questions received to date on Bravo and will theme them so for example the digital questions and answers received to date can be easily identified.
11	If a governor wants to continue with an SLA for libraries do we still have to prepare tender docs	Governors will clarify their arrangements with Public Library Authorities and/or their library service procurement strategies on a case-by-case basis.
12	Also re price competition – what do you expect this to look like at framework stage	At ITT stage, we expect it to involve a rate card for services based on the specification and a table to be completed. A scenario for price evaluation purposes only will also be provided.
13	Will TUPE information be available immediately with the full ITT release for all prisons/lots	We are currently compiling TUPE information and are aiming to release complete staff TUPE information with the ITT.
14	Could you please define mobilisation?	Mobilisation primarily relates to the process of starting the mini-competition stage.
15	No mention of work experience in the spec but WE plays a crucial role in developing vocational / employability skills. Any plans to tie education provision in to prison and existing work opportunities?	Governors will make specific requirements clear at call-off stage.
16	Will Libraries be in Lots?	Libraries will not have their own separate lot on the Prison Education Framework. Prison groups will have the option to include library services as a service requirement in their call-off contract specifications under the Prison Education Framework. Governors securing Public Library Authority delivery of library services through a Service Level Agreement will make that arrangement at establishment level.
17	Please can you tell us more about the format of the responses you require? Will these be character/word limited?	We are currently planning to ask for responses in three areas: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Qualification questions (e.g. financial standing) 2. Skills in delivering educational services (quality) 3. Local knowledge of the geographic lot being bid for (employment links, partnerships, Local Labour Market knowledge)

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18	Will you impose a lower price limit at ITT stage to prevent bidders from supplying prices that turn out to be non-viable when specific lots, volumes etc become available? How will you know bids are economically viable?	We do not expect to impose a lower price limit. Financial assessments of bidders and their bids will be undertaken across the framework and call off stages – and we will provide more information on this as part of the ITT.
19	Slide 4 states: Mini-competition contract awards - September - December 2018. Please can you state when the tender process will be released for this stage, is it within the same time period or earlier in the year?	The mini-competitions are anticipated to commence between August and December 2018. We will attempt to phase the competitions as much as possible in order to allow suppliers who gain places on multiple lots to resource each bid.
20	Are we now likely to get clarity on current IAG in Custody contract duration prior to the webinar in mid-January? The risk of the market losing experienced staff increases as weeks go by	We understand these concerns and will be communicating the decision as soon as we can.
21	Are you able to provide any further clarification on likely groupings for the Lots?	We will be releasing this information as soon as we can.