



## Prison Education Framework ITT – Clarification Question Responses

No.	Question	Authority Response
1	<p>Can the Authority confirm the volumes for each regional framework that would align with the values detailed in the 'ITTD Part A – Information FINAL' Page 8, section 4.6 Table 2.</p>	<p>The values included in table 2 of 'ITTD Part A – Information FINAL' reflect the full year 2017-18 budget for the establishments in each lot. These are used here as indicative figures for potential spend under the PEF.</p> <p>Bidders considering volumes should refer to the Excel Spreadsheet included as Annex 14 to Part A, which includes the OLASS 4 commissioning data from 17/18. The data can be filtered by establishment.</p> <p>Bidders should be aware that this commissioning data relates to approaches under OLASS 4 which are not the same as those under the PEF (and DPS). Volumes and types of services commissioned under the PEF may differ for a range of reasons. Further information is given on the 'notes' tab of the spreadsheet.</p>
2	<p>What proportion of the £130 million budget will be spent on the PE Framework and DPS system?</p> <p>Do you envisage that the budget will remain £130 million per annum during the lifetime of the contract or will it be reduced?</p>	<p>c£130m per annum, plus indexation after year one, is the full annual budget for Core and DPS services. The proportionate split each year will be for governors to determine. We do not plan to reduce the budget during the lifetime of the contract.</p>
3	<p>Some indicative numbers for years 2017/18 have been provided with regards to forecasted volumes but these are based on the current service which will fundamentally change in scope with the implementation of the new provision. Will you be publishing more accurate figures for the new service at Call Off stage?</p>	<p>The mix and volumes will be set out at the Call Off competition stage but for Contract Year 1 only. i.e. from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Beyond that the annual delivery plan process will set the volumes and mix of education services for Contract Years 2, 3 and 4.</p>
4	<p>Can I confirm that the anticipated service volumes and the exact scope of the curriculum will be determined by Prison Governors at Call Off stage? Will Governors be consulted during the procurement of the Framework?</p>	<p>Yes, a detailed specification for each establishment in the lot will be prepared by governors and their teams for the Call Off. Governors and learning and skills staff have been consulted in the development of the framework and will take part in the framework evaluation and lead the Call Off evaluation.</p>

5	Will multiple providers be invited to deliver services across each Lot at call off stage or will the contract be awarded to a single provider?	Up to 5 framework providers will be selected for each lot. There will then be a mini competition as detailed in schedule F6.
6	Will successful providers need to develop their own digital solution for the service?	<p>At this point in time, the Virtual Campus platform is operating in prisons which will be in the Framework. In addition, current suppliers use a variety of other software and digital systems within their provision of education and for assessment. Other platforms could be proposed to work in parallel, compliment or instead of the Virtual Campus – taking into account the existing position of Virtual Campus as an accredited tool to provide (restricted) access to the internet in custody and through the gate services.</p> <p>However, it is not a strict requirement that providers develop their own digital solutions for the service and, following the policy of empowering governors to make decisions regarding their services, they might have their own requirements for delivery of digital solutions at the Call Off stage.</p>
7	Is the budget for the DPS procurement dependent on how much money is procured through the Framework or is there a specific ring-fenced budget for DPS?	The DPS spend is dependent on governor commissioning decisions. There is no ring fenced DPS budget.
8	Are successful Lot providers contractually obliged to bid for all call off services procured through the Framework? If so, what will happen if they decline to bid for some specific call off procurements?	Yes, all framework suppliers for a particular lot are obliged to bid at the mini tender at call off stage. Suppliers should refer to the contract Scheduled F6 for full details
9	What engagement mechanism will be in place at call off stage so that successful Lot providers can engage with Prison Governors to better understand their strategic priorities?	This will be detailed at the mini competition stage following award of the framework.
10	Will efficiencies gained through eLearning need to be shared with the buyer if it results in a potential reduction of teaching staff?	<p>Please refer to paragraph 14 of Schedule C12 to the contract (extract below)</p> <p>“14.1 The Parties acknowledge and agree that the rates set out in the Appendix are based on the provision of the Services using primarily teacher led delivery of education. In the event that the Supplier proposes through the Continuous Improvement Plan (Schedule C3) to adjust the method of delivery to include increased levels of e-learning which reduce the hours required for teachers to lead delivery of education and if that Continuous Improvement Plan is Approved then any corresponding savings shall be passed to the Buyer through a reduction of the rates set out in the Appendix.”</p>
11	Would it be possible to provide historical data around what percentage of prisoners that leave	No. The data does not exist. The 2008 National Audit Office report (MEETING NEEDS? THE OFFENDERS' LEARNING AND SKILLS SERVICE - <a href="https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2008/03/0708310.pdf">https://www.nao.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2008/03/0708310.pdf</a> ) included some analysis on this subject, but very little data.

	prison education after moving to other prisons across the estate?																																																
12	In the specification it states that you are unable to publish the number prisoners with LLD needs due to a lack of data? Without some insight it will be difficult to develop a robust product that could be used across each Lot? Would it be possible to investigate this further?	The only available data is the largely self-reported information published as part of the Statistical First Release covering maths and English assessments ( <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/665788/OLASS_participation_demographic_tool_201011_to_201617.xlsx">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/665788/OLASS_participation_demographic_tool_201011_to_201617.xlsx</a> ) and there is additional data on the nature of the learning difficulties and/or disabilities of those in learning in custody here: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/517212/offender-learning-lld-v2.xls">https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/517212/offender-learning-lld-v2.xls</a> . This latter set of data is based upon self-declaration by the learner, following the provider indicating that the learner had a disability, learning difficulty or health problem.																																															
13	Will you be imposing a market share cap on the number of Framework Lots and call off contracts awarded to any one organisation?	No																																															
14	What proportion of the £130 million budget will be used for the Careers Advice Service which will be procured after the PE Framework?	On current plans, none, although decisions on how best to spend their education budget are for prison governors. PEF Suppliers will be expected to deliver informal information and advice as an incidental part of learning delivery as would be normal professional practice in any education setting.																																															
15	Will the MoJ use any of the £130 million funding per year currently available to manage the service?	MoJ intends the budget to be used for the delivery of education.																																															
16	Employment skills and Foundation Learning and Life Skills, account for approximately 20% of delivery. Will this provision be called off through the PE Framework or DPS system?	That will be a decision for governors, set out in Call Off Specifications for the Further Competitions. Either route is permissible.																																															
17	Can the Authority confirm the current rates paid for each qualification to incumbent providers?	<p>We are unclear what point your question seeks to explore.</p> <p>If your question is about the funding rates per learner undertaking qualification bearing provision under the current OLASS4 contracts, the table below sets out the rates paid:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Funding band (credits)</th> <th colspan="5">Programme weighting (PW)</th> </tr> <tr> <th>A – Base (un-weighted)</th> <th>B – Low</th> <th>C – Medium</th> <th>D – High</th> <th>E or F (specialist)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Small provision (1)</td> <td>£56.00</td> <td>£62.72</td> <td>£72.80</td> <td>£89.60</td> <td>£96.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small provision (2)</td> <td>£112.00</td> <td>£125.44</td> <td>£145.60</td> <td>£179.20</td> <td>£192.64</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small provision (3 to 5)</td> <td>£168.00</td> <td>£188.16</td> <td>£218.40</td> <td>£268.80</td> <td>£288.96</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small provision (6 to 8)</td> <td>£336.00</td> <td>£376.32</td> <td>£436.80</td> <td>£537.60</td> <td>£577.92</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small provision (9 to 11)</td> <td>£504.00</td> <td>£564.48</td> <td>£655.20</td> <td>£806.40</td> <td>£866.88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Small provision (12)</td> <td>£672.00</td> <td>£752.64</td> <td>£873.60</td> <td>£1,075.20</td> <td>£1,155.84</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Funding band (credits)	Programme weighting (PW)					A – Base (un-weighted)	B – Low	C – Medium	D – High	E or F (specialist)	Small provision (1)	£56.00	£62.72	£72.80	£89.60	£96.32	Small provision (2)	£112.00	£125.44	£145.60	£179.20	£192.64	Small provision (3 to 5)	£168.00	£188.16	£218.40	£268.80	£288.96	Small provision (6 to 8)	£336.00	£376.32	£436.80	£537.60	£577.92	Small provision (9 to 11)	£504.00	£564.48	£655.20	£806.40	£866.88	Small provision (12)	£672.00	£752.64	£873.60	£1,075.20	£1,155.84
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Certificate (13 to 24)	£810.88	£908.32	£1,053.92	£1,298.08	£1,395.52
Certificate (25 to 36)	£1,416.80	£1,587.04	£1,842.40	£2,268.00	£2,437.12
Diploma (37 to 48)	£2,225.44	£2,492.00	£2,892.96	£3,560.48	£3,827.04
Diploma (49 to 72)	£2,881.76	£3,227.84	£3,746.40	£4,611.04	£4,956.00
Diploma – Access to Higher Education	£3,384.64	£3,790.08	£4,399.36	£5,415.20	£5,820.64
Diploma (73 to 132)	£4,670.40	£5,230.40	£6,071.52	£7,471.52	£8,032.64
Diploma (133 or more)	£7,394.24	£8,282.40	£9,612.96	£11,831.68	£12,718.72

These are identical to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)'s rates for AEB Funded learning. (Note that if comparing the figures in the table above with ESFA rates, prisoners are classed as disadvantaged learners and so a 1.12 disadvantage uplift factor applies but is 'built in' to the each of the rates above.) To incentivise the take up of English and maths GCSE providers receive a higher rate of funding of £908.32 instead of £810.88.

We also apply an area cost uplift to the figures in the table above to reflect the higher cost of delivering in some parts of the country. The uplift is based on the location of the prison.

#### Area cost uplifts by Local Authority area

##### Uplift factor of 1.2

Camden	Haringey	Newham
City of London	Islington	Southwark
Greenwich	Kensington and Chelsea	Tower Hamlets
Hackney	Lambeth	Wandsworth
Hammersmith and Fulham	Lewisham	Westminster

##### Uplift factor of 1.12

Barking and Dagenham	Guildford	Runnymede
Barnet	Harrow	Slough
Bexley	Havering	Spelthorne
Bracknell Forest	Hillingdon	Surrey Heath
Brent	Hounslow	Sutton
Bromley	Kingston upon Thames	Tandridge
Crawley	Merton	Waltham Forest
Croydon	Mole Valley	Waverley
Ealing	Reading	West Berkshire
Elmbridge	Redbridge	Windsor and Maidenhead
Enfield	Reigate and Banstead	Woking
Epsom and Ewell	Richmond upon Thames	Wokingham

**Uplift factor of 1.1**

Broxbourne	Hertsmere	Watford
Chiltern	South Buckinghamshire	Welwyn Hatfield
Dacorum	St Albans	East Hertfordshire
Three Rivers		

**Uplift factor of 1.07**

Aylesbury Vale	Oxford	West Oxfordshire
Cherwell	South Oxfordshire	Wycombe
Milton Keynes	Vale of White Horse	

**Uplift factor of 1.06**

Basildon	Epping Forest	Thurrock
Brentwood	Harlow	Dartford
Sevenoaks		

**Uplift factor of 1.03**

Bedford	Luton	South Bedfordshire
Central Bedfordshire	North Hertfordshire	Stevenage

**Uplift factor of 1.02**

Basingstoke and Dean	Gosport	Portsmouth
Cambridge	Hart	Rushmoor
East Cambridgeshire	Havant	South Cambridgeshire
East Hampshire	Huntingdonshire	Southampton
Eastleigh	Isle of Wight	Test Valley
Fareham	New Forest	Winchester
Fenland	Peterborough	

**Uplift factor of 1.01**

Adur	Chichester	Mid-Sussex
Arun	Horsham	Worthing

		<p>In addition, providers can claim an additional £150 per learning aim if the learner has a learning difficulty and/or disability, with additional payments possible should there be a significantly higher cost in adapting learning delivery to take account of that need.</p> <p>If your question is about the fees current OLASS4 providers pay to Awarding Organisations for the use of their qualifications in education delivery in custody, that is a commercial matter between the provider and the Awarding Organisation whose qualifications they use. We have no information on the prices. Different OLASS providers use different Awarding Organisations' qualifications, and the requirements (in Schedules F1 and C17) about the use of specified Awarding Organisations' qualifications in seven curriculum areas aims to remove the dislocation and disruption on prisoner transfer that the current arrangements cause.</p>
<p><b>18</b></p>	<p>Among the “Universal Quality Question”, the MOJ included provisions for delivery of “Digital Innovation” (question 6). Part D of pricing documents for specific Lots resembles this question, requesting price per hour for “Enabling access to digital learning” and “Supporting distance learning and Open University” (“unit prices” tab). However, the “Scenario cost” of the same document include only provisions for enabling access to digital learning via Virtual Campus.</p> <p>Can MOJ confirm that the governors are not bound to use Virtual Campus for digital learning? Can other virtual learning platforms be suggested in question 6 and if yes, will they have to be priced in Table D: “Other Education Services” for each lot?</p>	<p>Governors will not be “bound to use the Virtual Campus for digital learning” in their establishments and other platforms can be suggested in the answer to question 6. Other platforms could be proposed to work in parallel, compliment or instead of the Virtual Campus – taking into account the existing position of Virtual Campus as an accredited tool to provide (restricted) access to the internet in custody and through the gate services.</p> <p>The “enabling access to digital learning” price within “other educational services” relates to the service of facilitating access to digital learning for example: support to users logging into and using digital learning, running sessions to register and teach learners how to use a digital learning tools. It is not intended to be a route to price for the purchase or development of digital learning solutions. Digital solutions should be considered in the cost of the delivery of learning.</p>
<p><b>19</b></p>	<p>Schedule C4: Call Off Specification in point 7. allow governors of individual establishments to suggest suppliers to use “local digital systems”. Can “digital systems” and “education delivery systems” be defined?</p> <p>Does this mean the governors may decide which learning platform they want to use, regardless of the digital platform the suppliers included and priced in their bid?</p>	<p>At this point in time, the Virtual Campus platform is operating in prisons in the Framework. In addition, suppliers use a variety of other software and digital systems within their provision of education and for assessment. Other systems may be investigated and, following the policy of empowering governors to make decisions regarding their education provision, they will specify any requirements that they might have for learning platform use. We anticipate that this will be discussed with bidders at the Call Off stage.</p>

20	Schedule C4: Call Off Specification in point 2 request governors to assess if they are one of the “digital prisons”. Can MOJ update interested suppliers on the progress of the Digital Prisons programme? What are the expected outcomes, prisons involved in the programme, type of technology and number of laptops and any other devices in place? What will be implemented within the duration of this framework (between April 2019 -2023)?	Information on the current status of an establishment with respect to the ‘digital prisons’ programme will be communicated at Call Off stage.
21	Will MOJ seek to procure additional network infrastructure and hardware to provide access to digital learning during the duration of the framework?	MoJ and HMPPS are currently investigating opportunities for improving infrastructure. We expect that any new hardware required to deliver services under the Prison Education Framework will be provided by suppliers.
22	The MOJ in Schedule C8: Security requested any supplier system to be accredited or assured, which will include an IT Health Check. Can MOJ issue guidelines to suppliers interested in providing software innovation on whether the substantial cost associated with the accreditation/assurance should be included in pricing or be added during the Call Off Contract?	Any costs anticipated by bidders should be included in pricing at the Framework stage. The prices may be changed in light of further information provided at Call Off stage but can only be revised downwards.
23	The Bidders are required to outline their implementation plans including but not limited to: mobilising the new service within the timescales; delivering effective and lawful TUPE transitions (where applicable); and recruiting suitably qualified staff (where required). We have interpreted this question as to mean our planned approach for implementation following the award of a call-off contract rather than providing an outline Implementation Plan in the form of a Gant Chart. Can you please provide further clarity as to whether this is the correct interpretation of this question?	Your interpretation is correct. ITT Part B question 5.1 requires Bidders to outline their implementation plans. The more detailed Outline Implementation Plans described in Schedule C9 will be required at Call Off stage, not as part of this procurement process.