TENDER SPECIFICATION AND EVALUATION INFORMATION

FOR

DN589873 - Collation and Analysis of Weather Impacts from social media

CONTENTS

1. Introduction to the Met Office (Authority)

As a world leader in providing weather and climate services, we employ more than 1,700 people at 60 locations throughout the world. We are a Trading Fund within the Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy, operating under set targets and returning a dividend.

Recognised as one of the world's most accurate forecasters, we use more than 10 million weather observations, an advanced atmospheric model and a high-performance supercomputer to create 3,000 tailored forecasts and briefings every day. These are delivered to a huge range of customers from the Government to businesses, the general public, armed forces, and other organisations.

As a foremost weather and climate service, we play a key role on the international stage by providing vital services, advancing global understanding through research and being an important participant in projects and organisations.

We are at the forefront of climate change research, playing a key role in helping determine the worldwide response to climate change. Our involvement in global collaborative projects includes advising the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and our tailored advice and services help decision-makers and businesses across public and private sectors to manage risks and opportunities associated with a changing climate.

Further information about the Met Office is available on the following website:
http://www.metoffice.gov.uk

2. Background Information for the Requirement

The Met Office and Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC) require access to filtered, relevant and geolocated impact information in near real time during weather events. This is to support operational situational awareness, real-time forecast modification and to support post event verification of the National Severe Weather Warning Service and the Flood Guidance Statement.

Impacts are often reported on social media and the ability to obtain this information quickly, consistently and with minimal noise is becoming increasingly important. This is because there is an increased expectation for the Met Office and FFC to have a detailed awareness of impacts as they happen, and the collation of higher quality and quantity impact information improves the confidence in the assessment of the skill of our forecasts.

This project will procure an operational tool that collates, filters and geo-locates near real-time impact information to support operational forecasts and verification. This will support the Met Office corporate vision to be recognised as global leaders in weather and climate science, given this is a nascent and emerging technology that we will be among the first to develop and use. It will also support our anchor of improving the skill and verification of our 0–2-hour forecasts (nowcasts) as well as exploiting this particular branch of data science.

3. Specification of Requirements

The Met Office and Flood Forecasting Centre (FFC) requires the supply of a Software as a Service (SaaS) web-based tool that collates, filters and geo-locates information to support operational forecasts and verification and that complies with the specifications set out in the following document:

- **Document 6 - Technical Specification Questions**.

The Met Office intends to award a two (2) year agreement to a single supplier, there will be the option to extend for up to two further periods of 12 months, subject to approval.

4. Evaluation of Tender Returns and Contract Award Criteria

a. **Selection Questionnaire:**
The standard Selection Questionnaire (Document 5) is a self-declaration, made by you (the Bidder), that you do not meet any of the grounds for exclusion. Any submission that does not pass the mandatory elements within the Selection Questionnaire will disqualify the bid from further consideration.

b. **MEAT:**
Evaluation and selection of the successful offer will be based upon the Most Economically Advantageous Tender (MEAT), taking into account the below criteria.

Criteria	Weighting
Compliance to Specification • Non-Functional Requirements • Functional Requirements	60%
Social Value	10%
Price	30%

Each of the criteria above is described in more detail below

c. **Compliance to Specification:**
Scores for the "Compliance to Specification" criteria will be derived from bidders' responses to Document 6 ("Technical Specification Questions"). There are three types of questions within Document 6:

Question type	Description
Mandatory	These questions will be evaluated to ensure that the solution meets the minimum standards required by the Met Office. Responses will be scored on a "Pass" or "Fail" basis and where they fail, this will disqualify the bid from further consideration.
Desirable	These questions will be evaluated to ensure that any features of the solution considered to be desirable by the Met Office are factored into the award criteria.

	These questions will be marked on a fixed five-point scale against a pre-defined matrix (as found in 4.3.1 below). Some Desirable questions carry extra weighting e.g. if a question has a weighting of 2, the score attributed to this question will be doubled. So, a score of 4 with a weighting of 2 will score 8 points.
Information Only	These questions are designed to provide the Met Office with helpful background information about your solution. Responses to these questions are not scored and carry no weighting.

Bidders must provide responses to all of the Technical Specification Questions.

Furthermore, your responses must provide explicit and comprehensive detail to give the Met Office confidence that you are able to meet each requirement.

d. **Marking:** Responses to the Desirable questions will be marked against the following matrix:

Description	Score
Response does not answer the requirement(s). No evidence/detail provided.	0
Response partially answers the requirement(s), with major deficiencies. Little relevant evidence/detail provided.	1
Response partially answers requirement(s), with some deficiencies. Some useful evidence/detail provided.	2
Response mostly answers requirement(s), with few deficiencies. Most of the evidence/detail provided.	3
Response fully answers requirement(s) and all the required evidence/detail provided.	4

e. **Response Quality**: A statement of the form 'this requirement will be met' is not sufficient. The responses must provide explicit and comprehensive detail to give the confidence that you have the experience and capability to meet each requirement.

For each answer, the response needs to be self-contained and confined to a number of words - no more than 400 words for each response, unless otherwise specified

f. **Overall quality score:** The Bidder with the highest overall quality score will achieve the full 70% (split between Compliance to Specification 60% & Social Value 10%) available for the Quality Evaluation; all other Bidders' scores will be pro-rated against this.

g. **Overall price score:** The Bidder proposing the solution with the lowest total cost of ownership will achieve the full 30% available for the Price Evaluation; all other Bidders' scores will be pro-rated against this.
The 'Total Price for 2-years' provided within Document 7 Pricing Schedule will be used for the price evaluation.

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5. Indicative Timetable for Tender

Stage	Target Times
ITT Submission Deadline date	Friday 25 February 2022 at 14 noon
Tender Evaluation	Monday 28 February – Tuesday 15 March 2022
Contract Award	Friday 04 April 2022
Target Start Date	Tuesday 03 May 2022

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