

Identity service requirements

Request for Information (RFI)
Supporting document

October 2020



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Objectives of the market engagement process

The PDP is issuing a market engagement notice via the government portal Contracts Finder, and the MaPS PDP website to raise awareness in the wider market of a potential future procurement activity to procure a product or service, which will meet its requirements for the identity service elements of the central digital architecture solution.

This notice intends to facilitate an electronic market engagement exercise, so the PDP can examine the readiness, capacity and capability of interested commercial providers in the market prior to undertaking a formal competitive procurement exercise.

The aims and objectives for this exercise will be to:

- Brief suppliers and pensions industry organisations interested in the future identity service procurement opportunity.
- Engage with suppliers and pensions industry organisations, to identify the technical components presently available within the marketplace (as they understand it), and to help inform and progress the development of the identity service requirements.
- Receive feedback from suppliers on what their proposed approach to key aspects of the identity service requirements could be, which will help inform a detailed commercial and procurement strategy, (including scope, delivery, market/supplier capacity, and potential commercial approaches) prior to launching any formal procurement exercise.

We therefore wish to invite interested organisations to complete a Request for Information (RFI) questionnaire in order to gather views and information concerning certain aspects of the identity service requirements prior to commencement of any formal competitive tendering process.

Please note, no detailed discussions will be held relating to any commercially sensitive or confidential information during the market engagement process. The approach for duration of future contract(s), any opportunities for splitting the identity service requirements into separate procurement lots, and route to market for the future procurement is currently undecided. We reserve the right to use a pre-existing compliant digital services framework agreement (Crown Commercial Service or other public sector digital framework agreements) should that be identified to be the most suitable option during this process.

Market engagement approach

Stage 1- Publication of market engagement notice and expressions of interest

- This stage will incorporate the publication of a market engagement notice. The alert serves as an invitation to interested organisations to participate in the market engagement exercise.
- The RFI documents will be available for suppliers to review and complete via the PDP website.

Stage 2 - Submission of completed RFI questionnaire responses

- We request that all questionnaires are submitted to us by 17:00 on Friday 27th November 2020. Whilst we are unable to guarantee we will incorporate all feedback into the

subsequent future procurement exercise, we would state that there is greater potential for your suggestions to be considered in more depth, if you are able to submit your response in accordance with the deadline above.

Stage 3 – Procurement scoping and feedback

- We will collate and review the responses received. Responses will be used to develop and scope the commercial procurement strategy and inform the most suitable route to market.
- We will publish a summary of non-commercial generalised feedback in respect of the responses received and confirm the final route to market for the future procurement exercise via the PDP website.

Market engagement exercise indicative timetable

Activity	Time/ Date
Deadline for RFI questionnaire submissions	17:00hrs Friday 27 th November 2020
PDP to publish summary of supplier feedback and advise on final procurement route to market via their website	Monday 18 th January 2021

General guidance

Please note that the Money and Pensions Service (“MaPS”) Pensions Dashboards Programme (“PDP”), is conducting the market engagement exercise in accordance with the EU principles of equal treatment, non-discrimination (in respect of suppliers based in other EU member states) and transparency.

It is the intention that no one organisation will be in receipt of information which will not be available to all. To that end, it is important to stress that the eventual identity service requirements product or service requirements, will not be designed to give direct or indirect advantage to any potential supplier. All information concerning the procurement will be disseminated to all interested parties at the same time.

In submitting a response to this questionnaire, participating organisations acknowledge:

- that the information provided within their responses could potentially be disclosed to external stakeholders and funders of MaPS. Organisations are therefore invited to clearly identify any information within its response that it considers is ‘commercially sensitive’.

Confirm that they have not, and they will not:

- canvass responses for acceptance with any MaPS and PDP staff.
- attempt to fix or fix with any other person, the amount (including rates and prices to be quoted) of any future prospective tender.
- enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person that a person shall refrain from submitting a response to this

questionnaire, or any subsequent formal competitive tendering documents including, Capability Assessment, Selection Questionnaire (SQ) or Invitation to Tender (ITT).

- offer, give or agree to give any inducement or reward in respect of this prospective procurement.

For the avoidance of doubt, the above provisions shall not restrict any organisation in respect of discussing responses with their professional advisers or prospective commercial partners.

The market engagement notice, and any market engagement (RFI) documents issued pursuant to this exercise, are **not a formal call for competition**. Such documents have been produced solely for the purpose of conducting an early market engagement exercise to gather market intelligence and will not formally commence any procurement process or constitute any commitment by MaPS PDP to undertake any subsequent procurement exercise.

Potential bidders will not be prejudiced by any response or failure to respond to this market engagement alert notice or RFI Questionnaire.

Potential bidders must also note, that a response to this market engagement exercise does not guarantee an invitation to participate in any future procurement that MaPS PDP may conduct, as this will be advertised separately as a formal call for competition, nor that MaPS PDP will procure any such supply and/or services or accept any proposals offered.

MaPS PDP intends to conduct any subsequent formal procurement exercise of the required supplies and/or services by following the procedures laid down in the Public Contracts Regulations 2015

(PCR 2015) via a compliant route to market.

In line with this legislation, market engagement will help identify that there is genuine competition (>5 suppliers) in the marketplace prior to commencing the procurement exercise.

Instructions for submission of RFI questionnaire responses

The main contact and Commercial Lead for this market engagement exercise is:

Ms Rahat Khalil (MCIPS)

Email: procurementpdp@maps.org.uk

If you are interested in participating in this market engagement opportunity, please send an email to us with the following subject title:

“Market Engagement for PDP Identity Service Requirements - [Supplier Name]”

The RFI Supporting Document is available to access via the [PDP website](#).

[The RFI questionnaire is available to complete online.](#)

The deadline for completing and submitting the RFI questionnaire is: 17:00 Friday 27th November 2020.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to consider any responses received after this deadline.

Please note, information gathered during this process including any RFI responses, will not be scored or used to pre-select or prohibit suppliers from participating in any future formal procurement process. Any competitive tender opportunity will be advertised as per the Public Contracts Regulations (PCR 2015) guidelines through a compliant route to market.

