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Planning

## **Dstl – Competitive PhD Requirements – Prior Information Notice**

Ministry of Defence

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-015001

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03cf92

Published 25 May 2023, 5:31pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Ministry of Defence

Salisbury

SP4 0JQ

#### **Email**

[caflynn@dstl.gov.uk](mailto:caflynn@dstl.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKK - South West (England)

## **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-science-and-technology-laboratory>

## **I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/r-cloud>

## **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

## **I.5) Main activity**

Defence

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Dstl – Competitive PhD Requirements – Prior Information Notice

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) is part of the UK Ministry of Defence. Historically, Dstl has run a number of individual procurement calls for a variety of PhD requirements. Each of these calls has had a different theme and application process. Dstl currently run these calls through its R-Cloud: marketplace for defence science and technology research.

Following a review of how Dstl delivers its PhD calls, Dstl is planning to run a single call (via R-Cloud) covering a number of different themes, with a single application process, instead of running multiple calls.

It is intended that this call will be formally launched during July 2023. The call will cover a number of different Technology areas, including but not limited to:

Chemical, Biological and Radiological

Advanced Materials

Comms and Networks

Sensing

Additional PhD requirements may arise during the period of this Prior Information Notice, and therefore the scope may increase to further technology areas to those stated above.

As stated above, the PhD call will be launched via the Dstl R-Cloud: Marketplace for defence

science and technology research.

The way that R-Cloud operates is that you have to initially apply to join R-Cloud. Crucially, only those suppliers who are successfully registered on R-Cloud on the date of call launch (planned for the 14th July 2023) will be eligible to participate. Failure to successfully register on R-Cloud before this date will mean you will be ineligible to participate in the call. You are therefore encouraged to submit any application to join R-Cloud at your earliest opportunity.

To find out more about R-Cloud, please visit [www.gov.uk/guidance/r-cloud](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/r-cloud)

To formally register to join R-Cloud, and be notified of both this specific PhD call and other Dstl research funding opportunities, you can click the link on the above web-page, or alternatively visit [www.rcloud.dstl.gov.uk](https://www.rcloud.dstl.gov.uk) to begin the application process. A copy of the terms and conditions which apply to any task awarded under R-Cloud are linked on this page, and you are required to accept those terms as part of your application process.

Before submitting an application to join R-Cloud, you can check if your university/public institution is already registered on R-Cloud by discussing with your university commercial departments, or alternatively visiting [www.rcloud.dstl.gov.uk/capability-area/suppliers](https://www.rcloud.dstl.gov.uk/capability-area/suppliers). If in doubt, contact us.

Note – Dstl does not accept R-Cloud/PhD applications from individual students or academics; if you are a student or academic you will need to approach a relevant department at a university/public institution.

This notice is issued as a Prior Information Notice and announces an intention to potentially run a PhD call. This is not issued as a formal contract notice and is not inviting expressions of interest. If you are interested in participating in any future call, please apply to join R-Cloud as set out above.

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £3,500,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 10

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

Each PhD Requirement will be issued as a separate lot. Where the same tenderer wins PhDs across multiple lots, Dstl will seek to award a single contract covering all such PhDs.

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

PhD: Development and application of the Crystal Sponge (CS) method for chemical attribution in defense

Lot No

1

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd Requirement 1 of 10

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Development of Novel Binding Partners for the Identification and Quantification of Small Molecules PhD

Lot No

2

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 2

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

PHD3 - Molecular mechanisms affecting establishments, displacement, substitution or modification of commensal microorganisms

Lot No

3

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 3

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

PHD4 - Self-driving horizontal transfer of complex genetic circuits through microbiomes

Lot No

4

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 4

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Immobilisation of molecular amplification chemistries on surfaces for the sensing of liquid chemical warfare agent contamination

Lot No

5

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 5

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

CBFUT Materials

Lot No

6

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 6

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

AMP - FAME - Communications PHDs

Lot No

7

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**



Phd 7

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

AMP - FAME - Sensing PHDs

Lot No

8

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 8

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

AMP - FAME - Novel ElectroMagnetic Effects PHDs

Lot No

9

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 9

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.1) Title**

AMP - FAME - Morphing PHDs

Lot No

10

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 73410000 - Military research and technology

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Phd 10

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

14 July 2023

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

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