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Tender

Explosive Material Identification Procurement Project

Defence Equipment and Support

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-045386

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050fb0 ([view related notices](#))

Published 1 August 2025, 5:00pm

Scope

Reference

714783450

Description

The Explosive Material Identification Procurement Project is the requirement is for the procurement and in service support of 126 Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) Handheld explosive material identification equipment. This Project is being split into two Lots as detailed below:

a. Lot 1: The procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum analysers

This requirement is for the Procurement and In-Service Support of x63 Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers, with the option to purchase additional analysers if required. The requirement is for the delivery of Initial Operating Capability (IOC) of x20 FTIR units within 4 months of Contract Award. In-Service Support shall commence from IOC and continue for a period of 8 years from acceptance of Full Operating Capability (FOC). FOC shall be delivered within 1 year and 4 months of Contract Award. Options to extend Contract duration are detailed in Paragraph 4.

The in-service support shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of spares, repairs, servicing and maintenance, training, and obsolescence management.

The Hand-held FTIR analysers capability shall be a single Hand-held unit able to identify Substances of Interest (SOI's) such as explosive material, narcotics and other threat chemicals, providing indication and identification of SOI's by direct Sample.

The capability is expected to be Hand-held, deployable and robust for deployment in all environmental climates and able to identify SOI present in a material, mixture, and provide Identification of DARK and highly fluorescent SOI's.

The capability is expected to be updated with supplier-based threat data and spectrum libraries, with the opportunity to utilise third-party libraries as and when required.

b. Lot 2: The procurement and in-service support of 63 x Hand-Held RAMAN spectrum analysers.

The requirement is for the procurement and in service support of x63 Hand-held RAMAN spectrum analysers, with the option to purchase additional analysers if required. The requirement is for the delivery of Initial Operating Capability (IOC) of x20 units within 4 months of contract award. In-Service support shall commence from IOC and continue for a period of 8 years from acceptance of Full Operating Capability (FOC). FOC shall be delivered within 1 year 4 months of contract award. Options to extend Contract duration are detailed in Paragraph 4.

The in-service support shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of spares, repairs, servicing and maintenance, training, and obsolescence management.

The Hand-held RAMAN analysers capability shall be a single Hand-held unit able to identify Substances of Interest (SOI's) such as explosive material, narcotics and other threat chemicals, providing indication and identification of SOI's by through barrier and standoff methods.

The capability is expected to be Hand-held, deployable and robust for deployment in all environmental climates and able to identify SOI present in a material, mixture and through barrier.

The capability is expected to be updated with supplier-based threat data and spectrum libraries. With the opportunity to utilise third party libraries as and when required.

The highest classification of the requirements and data managed through any resulting Contracts for Lot 1 or Lot 2 is OFFICIAL SENSITIVE.

The Cyber Risk level for this procurement is MODERATE for both LOTs. The Risk

Assessment Reference (RAR) are as follows:

- a. Project 1: RAR-250404A03
- b. Project 2: RAR-250404A06

A full description of the Cyber Risk levels is available at DEFSTAN 05-138. Potential Providers should make themselves familiar with the requirements against

the profile assessment for this risk level.

Total value (estimated)

- £8,000,000 excluding VAT
- £9,600,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 30 April 2026 to 31 August 2035
- Possible extension to 31 August 2037
- 11 years, 4 months, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

Any resulting Contract of Lot 1 (Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-held FTIR Spectrum Analysers) will include the following Contract Options to extend the in-service support duration for a further 2 years:

- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.
- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.

Any resulting Contract of Lot 2 (Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-held

RAMAN Spectrum Analysers) will include the following Contract Options to extend the in-service support duration for a further 2 years:

- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.
- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.

The Authority reserve the right, at its absolute discretion, to not take up any or all the option(s) listed above. Further information on the option(s) will be provided in the Invitation to Tender.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Any resulting Contract of Lot 1 (Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-held FTIR Spectrum Analysers) will include the following Contract Options to extend the in-service support duration for a further 2 years:

- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.
- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.

Any resulting Contract of Lot 2 (Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers) will include the following Contract Options to extend the in-service support duration for a further 2 years:

- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.
- Extension of In-Service Support for an additional one-year period.

The Authority reserve the right, at its absolute discretion, to not take up any or all the option(s) listed above. Further information on the option(s) will be provided in the Invitation to Tender.

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 38546100 - Bomb detectors
- 38434500 - Biochemical analysers
- 38433300 - Spectrum analyser

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom
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Lot 1. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers

Description

a. Lot 1: The procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum analysers

This requirement is for the Procurement and In-Service Support of x63 Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers, with the option to purchase additional analysers if required. The requirement is for the delivery of Initial Operating Capability (IOC) of x20 FTIR units within 4 months of Contract Award. In-Service Support shall commence from IOC and continue for a period of 8 years from acceptance of Full Operating Capability (FOC). FOC shall be delivered within 1 year and 4 months of Contract Award. Options to extend Contract duration are included.

The in-service support shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of spares, repairs, servicing and maintenance, training, and obsolescence management.

The Hand-held FTIR analysers capability shall be a single Hand-held unit able to identify

Substances of Interest (SOI's) such as explosive material, narcotics and other threat chemicals, providing indication and identification of SOI's by direct Sample.

The capability is expected to be Hand-held, deployable and robust for deployment in all environmental climates and able to identify SOI present in a material, mixture, and provide Identification of DARK and highly fluorescent SOI's.

The capability is expected to be updated with supplier-based threat data and spectrum libraries, with the opportunity to utilise third-party libraries as and when required.

Lot value (estimated)

- £3,800,000 excluding VAT
- £4,560,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Lot 2. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers

Description

Lot 2: The procurement and in-service support of 63 x Hand-Held RAMAN spectrum analysers.

The requirement is for the procurement and in service support of x63 Hand-held RAMAN spectrum analysers, with the option to purchase additional analysers if required. The requirement is for the delivery of Initial Operating Capability (IOC) of x20 units within 4 months of contract award. In-Service support shall commence from IOC and continue for a period of 8 years from acceptance of Full Operating Capability (FOC). FOC shall be delivered within 1 year 4 months of contract award. Options to extend Contract duration are included.

The in-service support shall include, but not be limited to, the provision of spares, repairs, servicing and maintenance, training, and obsolescence management.

The Hand-held RAMAN analysers capability shall be a single Hand-held unit able to identify Substances of Interest (SOI's) such as explosive material, narcotics and other threat chemicals, providing indication and identification of SOI's by through barrier and standoff methods.

The capability is expected to be Hand-held, deployable and robust for deployment in all environmental climates and able to identify SOI present in a material, mixture and through barrier.

The capability is expected to be updated with supplier-based threat data and spectrum libraries. With the opportunity to utilise third party libraries as and when required.

Lot value (estimated)

- £4,200,000 excluding VAT
- £5,040,000 including VAT

Same for all lots

CPV classifications, contract locations, contract dates and options are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

Participation

Legal and financial capacity conditions of participation

Lot 1. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers

Lot 2. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers

The legal and financial capacity conditions of participation and the associated evaluation criteria are set out in the PSQ and PSQ supporting documentation.

Suppliers, associated persons and tier one suppliers are required registered on the Central Digital Platform and share up-to-date information.

The Authority shall assess suppliers (or where relevant, a connected person), an associated person or a sub-contractor to determine whether mandatory or discretionary grounds for exclusion apply, in accordance with The Procurement Act 2023.

Please see section 1.12 on the PSQ for full information on financial requirements.

Stage 1 - Qualification (Pass / Fail)

Part 1 -Confirmation of core supplier information

Documentation

Preliminary SI Basic Information

Confirmation of CDP SI Basic Information

Part 2 - additional exclusion information

Associated Persons

List of all Intended Sub-Contractors

Subcontractors CDP Information

Part 3 - conditions of participation

Electronic Trading

Financial Assessment

Technical ability conditions of participation

Lot 1. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers

The technical condition of participation and the associated evaluation criteria are set out in the PSQ and PSQ supporting documentation.

Stage 2 - Technical (Pass / Fail and Scored)

Part 3 - conditions of participation

Russian / Belarusian Entities

Insurance

Data Protection

Technical Ability and Project Experience - Lot 1

Experience of Sub-contractor Management

Health and Safety

Tackling Modern Slavery in Supply Chains

Questions where a 'fail' or a score of 0 will result in exclusion from the competition have been clearly identified within the evaluation criteria against each question in PSQ and PSQ supporting document.

Lot 2. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers

The technical condition of participation and the associated evaluation criteria are set out in the PSQ and PSQ supporting documentation.

Stage 2 - Technical (Pass / Fail and Scored)

Part 3 - conditions of participation

Russian / Belarusian Entities

Insurance

Data Protection

Technical Ability and Project Experience - Lot 2

Experience of Sub-contractor Management

Health and Safety

Tackling Modern Slavery in Supply Chains

Questions where a 'fail' or a score of 0 will result in exclusion from the competition have been clearly identified within the evaluation criteria against each question in PSQ and PSQ supporting document.

Particular suitability

Lot 1. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers

Lot 2. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

26 August 2025, 2:00pm

Submission type

Requests to participate

Deadline for requests to participate

12 September 2025, 2:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

PSQ responses should be submitted by the Authority using the DSP by the deadline. Responses submitted via any other medium will not be accepted or considered - <https://contracts.mod.uk>.

PSQ reference can be found here - <https://contracts.mod.uk/go/628679800198664B198E>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Suppliers to be invited to tender

Lot 1. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers

1 to 6 suppliers

Selection criteria:

Following completion of the PSQ evaluation, the top six highest scoring compliant Suppliers, in accordance with the evaluation criteria, will be invited to tender.

Lot 2. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers

1 to 6 suppliers

Selection criteria:

Following completion of the PSQ evaluation, the top six highest scoring compliant Suppliers for each Lot, in accordance with the evaluation criteria, will be invited to tender.

Award decision date (estimated)

30 April 2026

Award criteria**Lot 1. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held FTIR Spectrum Analysers**

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Conditions of Participation PSQ	Suppliers will be evaluated in two stages, Stage 1 - Qualification and Stage 2 - Technical, only suppliers that pass Stage 1 - Qualification shall be deemed compliant and progress to Stage 2 - Technical evaluation. Stage 1 - Qualification (Pass / Fail) Part 1 -Confirmation of core supplier information Documentation Preliminary SI Basic Information Confirmation of CDP SI Basic Information Part 2 - additional exclusion information Associated Persons List of all Intended Sub-Contractors Subcontractors CDP Information Part 3 - conditions of participation Electronic	Quality	100%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
	Trading Financial Assessment Stage 2 - Technical (Pass / Fail and Scored) Part 3 - conditions of participation Russian / Belarusian Entities Insurance Data Protection Technical Ability and Project Experience - Lot 1 Q1 - Equipment Delivery - Scored - 20% Q2 - Quality - Scored - 20% Q3 - Project Management - Scored - 20% Q4 - Integrated Logistic Support (ILS) - Scored - 20% Q5 - Safety - Scored - 20% Experience of Sub- contractor Management Health and Safety Tackling Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Questions where a 'fail' or a score of 0 will result in exclusion from the competition have been clearly identified within the evaluation criteria against each question in PSQ and PSQ supporting document.		

Lot 2. Procurement and In-Service Support of Hand-Held RAMAN Spectrum Analysers

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Conditions of Participation PSQ	<p>Suppliers will be evaluated in two stages, Stage 1 - Qualification and Stage 2 - Technical, only suppliers that pass Stage 1 - Qualification shall be deemed compliant and progress to Stage 2 - Technical evaluation. Stage 1 - Qualification (Pass / Fail) Part 1</p> <p>-Confirmation of core supplier information Documentation Preliminary SI Basic Information Confirmation of CDP SI Basic Information Part 2 - additional exclusion information Associated Persons List of all Intended Sub-Contractors Subcontractors CDP Information Part 3 - conditions of participation Electronic Trading Financial Assessment Stage 2 - Technical (Pass / Fail and Scored) Part 3 - conditions of participation Russian / Belarusian Entities Insurance Data Protection Technical Ability and Project Experience - Lot 2 Q1 - Equipment Delivery - Scored - 20% Q2 - Quality - Scored - 20% Q3 - Project Management - Scored</p>	Quality	100%

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
	- 20% Q4 - Integrated Logistic Support (ILS) - Scored - 20% Q5 - Safety - Scored - 20% Experience of Sub-contractor Management Health and Safety Tackling Modern Slavery in Supply Chains Questions where a 'fail' or a score of 0 will result in exclusion from the competition have been clearly identified within the evaluation criteria against each question in PSQ and PSQ supporting document.		

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Special regime

Defence and security

Competitive flexible procedure description

The Explosive Material Identification Procurement Project is currently being procured through the Competitive Flexible Procedure in accordance with the Procurement Act 2023 ('The Act') via x2 Lots which will result in x2 Contracts, one for each Lot. Please note the Authority reserve the right to merge these requirements into one Contract if, as a result of the Competitive process, one Supplier entity is awarded both Lot 1 and Lot 2. Suppliers can apply to participate for Lot 1, Lot 2 or both Lots.

The following steps to arrive at contract award decision are as follow;

Project Specific Questionnaire (PSQ) -The top 6 compliant suppliers with the highest technical scores shall be invited to Invitation to Tender (ITT) for each Lot. PSQ reference - <https://contracts.mod.uk/go/628679800198664B198E>. Some questions will have different evaluation criteria for each Lot or only be applicable to one Lot. These questions will be identified in the evaluation criteria in the PSQ Guidance document. You must pass the evaluation criteria specific to the Lot(s) you have applied for to proceed to the next stage of the competition.

Invitation to Tender, the evaluation shall have two stages;

1. Paper Based evaluation - the top 3 compliant suppliers with the highest technical scores will progress to confirmation trials.
2. Confirmation Trials - the proposed solution shall be tested against specific system requirements as set out in the ITT.

Full information on how the procurement procedure, including evaluation criteria, strategy and stages of evaluation shall be provided within the ITT.

The Authority reserves the right under the Procurement Act 2023 to:

To cancel the procurement procedure at any stage.

Not to award a contract as a result of the procurement process.

Make any modifications during a competitive flexible procedure, provided that the deadline to participate or submit a first or only tender has not passed (section 31(1)(b))

Make non substantial modifications, during a competitive flexible procedure, up to the deadline of the final tendering stage (section 31(2)(a))

Refine or supplement the award criteria during a competitive flexible procedure (section 24(1))

Documents

Documents to be provided after the tender notice

PSQ Supporting documentation Ref '20250801 Explosive Material Identification Procurement Project PSQ Supporting Document' will be provided with the PSQ on DSP.

Following completion of the PSQ evaluation, ITT documentation will be issued to the the top six highest scoring compliant Suppliers for each Lot via DSP

Contracting authority

Defence Equipment and Support

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVRL-5831-GLMM

MOD Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

United Kingdom

Contact name: Maia Harris

Email: deslestsp-seec-commercial@mod.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-equipment-and-support>

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government