

**Statement of Requirement**

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| **Introduction**  **Purpose**  The ability for the Fd Army to survive to fight in winter conditions is critical for the UK’s contribution to NATO’s defence of Northern and Eastern Europe from escalating Russian aggression. The procurement of immediate basic Cold Weather Clothing (CWC) is tactical expenditure to enable strategic fighting power, and to prevent Cold Weather Injuries (CWI). These are second of the Fd Army’s force protection risks, with 85% occurring in the UK and Northern Europe. CWC is needed by key formations to survive and fight now. |
| **Background**  There is little or no existing Defence CWC inventory to enable provision to the RTR deployment on Winter Exercises (globally). The Army supply system does not have stock, and no stock is held at Loan Pool. There is no other option. Direct procurement from commercial suppliers is now critically urgent in order to meet operational need and reduce the numbers of cold weather injury. |
| **Objectives**  The UK’s contribution to NATO, in defence of Northern and Eastern Europe, plus training areas based in the United Kingdom will only be enabled through the provision of sufficient basic CWC to allow Officers and Soldiers to survive in order to fight. |
| **Specific Requirements**  See Annex A  **Specific Technical Requirements**  See Appendix 1 to Annex A |
| **Social Value**  Social value has a lasting impact on individuals, communities, and the environment. Government has a huge opportunity and responsibility to maximise benefits effectively and comprehensively through its commercial activity. A missed opportunity to deliver social value may lead to costs that the taxpayer has to absorb elsewhere through public procurement. A competitive and diverse supply landscape can help to deliver innovation in public services, manage risk and provide greater value for taxpayers’ money.  Defence is focusing on three, out of the five, priority Social Value themes that are most relevant for Defence, and the Authority has deemed these as being appropriate to this procurement:   * Tackling economic inequality - Increase supply chain resilience and capacity * Fighting climate change - Effective stewardship of the environment * Equal opportunity - Tackling inequality in the contract workforce. |
| **Outputs/Deliverables/Acceptance**  Commander Field Army has made repeated commitments to provisioning personnel with Enhanced CWC. Failing to address the clothing shortfalls with the provision of basic CWC would constitute disregard of explicit command direction and learning accounts from continued incidents of Cold Weather Injuries.  All service personnel are at readiness to operate on any strategic stage under the eyes of Russia, other hostile state adversaries and NATO. All of whom are adept and equipped to fight in cold conditions. Failure to provide basic CWC to service personnel deploying on Winter Exercises will significantly degrade both the will and ability for personnel to fight in cold conditions, substantially increase risk of injury, and degrade our reputation with NATO. The Army must both morally and visibly equip our service people appropriately (noting the political and reputational impact of the Army’s failure to do so for the early Op TELIC era).  For Deliverables and Acceptance, please refer to SC2 Sch 2 Annex A – Detailed Description of Requirement (DDOR) and SC2 Sch 2 Annex A, App 1 – Minimum Technical Specifications. |
| **Payment**  Method of payment shall be through the Authority’s Contracting, Purchasing & Finance (CP&F) portal. The expectation is that the supplier will utilise the Exostar portal to communicate with the Authority’s system. |
| **Contract management arrangements** Delivery and any other relevant instructions regarding the requirement will be issued from, and managed by, Fd Army Log Sup Clothing and Commando Helicopter Force (CHF). Contact details will be provided post contract award. |