

Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ)

East Coast Hydrogen FEED Engineering Design, Planning, Environmental & Consents

Issue Date: **1st December 2025**

Closing Date and Time: **12th January 2026 12:00pm**

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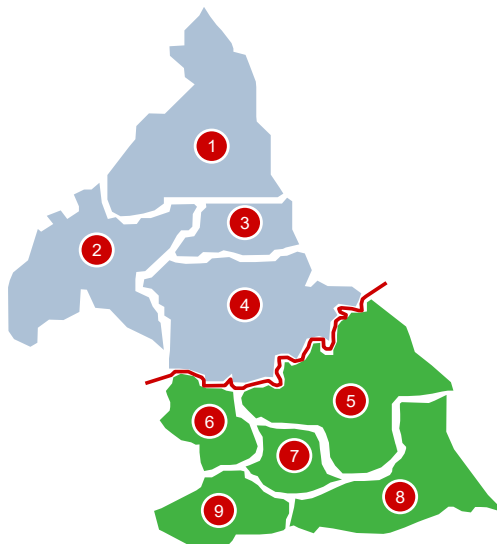
Introduction

Company overview

Northern Gas Networks Limited (NGN) is the company responsible for distributing gas to homes and businesses across the North of England. As part of the restructuring of the gas distribution business in England, NGN successfully acquired the North of England gas Distribution Network (DN) and took control of the assets on 1st June 2005. NGN has been responsible since then for the transportation of gas to the North of England via 36,000km of pipelines.

The DN is in the North of England and extends south from the Scottish border to South Yorkshire and has coastlines on both the East and West sides of the region. The DN contains a mixture of large cities such as Newcastle, Middlesbrough, Leeds and Bradford and a significant rural area including North Yorkshire and Cumbria. The area covers around 6.7 million inhabitants and has approximately 2.5 million customers. The DN is supplied via 23 off takes from the national Transmission System.

Northern Gas Networks Geographic Area



No.	Location
1	North Tyne
2	Cumbria
3	Wear
4	Tees
5	North Riding
6	Bradford
7	Leeds
8	East Riding
9	Pennines

NGN Core Values

NGNs dream is to become the UK's most loved, admired and respected company, and to establish a reputation for doing business well through a united and empowered team that is mind-blowingly great. We recognise the important role that our supply chain partners having in supporting NGN to achieve our dream.

Our dream lies at the centre everything we do and has been translated into a unique set of values that reflect and reinforce our culture:

- Trailblazing
- Intellectually curious
- Community focused
- Empowered
- Heartfelt
- Happy

Every member of our team is passionate about the contribution they make to our growing reputation as a pioneering, effective, conscious and enlightened business that is focused on changing the way that things are done.

We expect our suppliers to share our vision and values and our way to support NGN in achieving our goals.

Project Details

Project Introduction

NGN is seeking to appoint one or more experienced consultants to deliver key work packages for the East Coast Hydrogen (ECH) Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) project. This project forms a critical part of NGN's strategy to enable the transition to a low-carbon energy system, supporting the UK's net zero targets by 2050.

The ECH initiative aims to repurpose and expand existing gas infrastructure to transport hydrogen across the region, creating a reliable and scalable hydrogen network to facilitate hard-to-electrify industrial processes.

Project Background

The ECH project is a collaborative initiative between NGN, National Gas Transmission (NGT) and Cadent, to develop a 100% hydrogen transmission and distribution network in the North East of England. The project will connect hydrogen producers, storage operators, and major industrial and commercial users, enabling large-scale decarbonisation of energy-intensive processes. NGN's network will link production facilities in Teesside and the Humber with industrial customers across the Humber, Yorkshire, Teesside, and South Tyneside regions.

Following the successful completion of a feasibility study and pre-FEED, NGN has progressed into a two-year FEED phase. This stage will deliver the technical and commercial definition required to create a viable, investable solution for the project. NGN has secured funding for this phase and has finalised the delivery plan to ensure timely and efficient execution.

The Pre-FEED identified development of a hydrogen network consisting of a mix of repurposed and newbuild pipelines, with: 285km being High Pressure (HP), 77km being Intermediate Pressure (IP) and 203km being Medium Pressure (MP) as well as 55 new or modified Offtakes and PRSs. As part of the early FEED activities, NGN is reviewing the Pre-FEED network and undertaking an options rationalisation exercise to define the connection points and the extent of the network which will then progress through the FEED.

Lot 1 - Engineering Design Scope of Services

The purpose of this work is to deliver front-end engineering design for the ECH project. This package of works will expand and develop the Pre-FEED engineering to develop the technical requirements and preliminary designs to define the scope, cost and schedule of the project before committing to full execution. The purpose of this phase of the project is to establish a clear project scope, develop the design documentation to enable accurate cost estimate, identify the risks and constraints and prepare the basis for procurement and construction planning.

It is anticipated that the required design works will be undertaken to varying levels of detail, dependant on the certainty of the network section, ranging from FEED level design based on location specific assets to utilisation of standard design information for less certain route corridors. The network extent is yet to be defined however it is anticipated it will be in the magnitude of the Pre-FEED. The extent of network design will be dictated in the Request for Proposal stage.

Where the engineering design and planning, environmental and consents (PEC) are delivered separately, the design consultant will be required to undertake route refinement alongside the PEC consultant. Stakeholder engagement and network analysis including flow assurance will be undertaken by NGN.

The table below identifies the key design activities associated with the FEED. As explained earlier, not all parts of the network will require the same level of design detail, and this will be confirmed later in the tender process.

AGIs	Pipelines – New & Repurposed
Location optioneering	Corridor route assessments
Site surveys	Route & location plans
Existing site interface design	Pipeline sizing calculations
Mechanical, civil, electrical, instrumentation and cathodic protection design & calculations	General arrangements (GA)
General arrangements (GA)	Engineering line diagrams (ELD)
Engineering line diagrams (ELD)	Plan and profile drawings
Process & instrumentation diagrams (P&IDs)	Crossing assessments
3D isometric drawings	Stress analysis
Plan and profile drawings	Leak detection and monitoring system specifications
Stress analysis	Cathodic protection design
Leak detection and monitoring system specifications	HAZID / HAZOP / SIL
DSEAR assessment incl. hazardous area assessment	Safety case assessment

HAZID / HAZOP / SIL	Constructability review
Safety case assessment	Phasing and commissioning plans
Constructability review	Material take offs (MTO)
Phasing and commissioning plans	Repurposing viability assessment
Mechanical and E&I datasheets	Quantitative risk assessment (QRA)
Material take offs (MTO)	Repurposing design report
E&I equipment schedules	Phasing and commissioning plans
Construction methodology, scope and programme	Construction methodology, scope and programme
Supplier quotes for permanent materials and equipment	Supplier quotes for permanent materials and equipment

A core objective of the project is to maximise pipeline asset repurposing to provide hydrogen to industrial users and power generation. Natural gas conveying pipelines identified for repurposing will require assessment to confirm suitability to convey hydrogen. The engineering approach will be to focus identified pipelines on selected networks and develop a repurposing assessment to the level of detail necessary to obtain accurate cost estimation.

The scope of work is to define the most appropriate method of repurposing existing natural gas conveying pipelines to transport hydrogen. This will be achieved by applying pipeline specific design and construction records to an existing Pipeline Repurposing Methodology to confirm the optimal means of pipeline repurposing for any given pipeline. Two key inputs to this process are:

1. Client supplied information and documentation pertaining to pipeline assets. Available pipeline system data will include, where available; original design records, as-built construction records, commissioning records, original operational parameters, operational records, and records associated with any interventions.
2. Client supplied Repurposing Methodology developed by gas industry experts which provides guidance on the information needed and processes required for the repurposing of existing pipeline systems to transport hydrogen. A first pass of this methodology will be provided to the successful bidder however they will be required to appraise and verify or amend the repurposing outcomes to enable the design of the repurposed pipeline.

Some pipelines may be more challenging to repurpose than others. This may be due to factors such as a lack of data requiring conservative assumptions to be used for calculations, routing being too close to populated areas, unacceptable pressure cycling, low fracture toughness, etc. The work will assess appropriate mitigation strategies and appropriate recommendations for intervention which may include, additional testing requirements, operational mitigations, pipe wall barriers/inhibitors, pipe sleeving, slabbing etc. Credible mitigation strategies will require a risk-based cost benefit analysis.

Tender Requirements:

- Proven experience in engineering design for major infrastructure projects, preferably within hydrogen, gas, or energy transmission networks.

- Comprehensive understanding of UK design standards and regulatory frameworks, including IGEM, ISO, and relevant hydrogen safety codes.
- Capability to deliver Front-End Engineering Design (FEED) and detailed design for complex, multi-phase projects, ensuring integration with planning and consenting requirements.
- Demonstrated ability to design for scalability and flexibility, accommodating variability in off-taker demand, production sources, and storage solutions.
- Suitably qualified and experienced design team, including chartered engineers and specialists in pipeline, AGI and hydrogen-specific technologies.
- Proven track record in applying advanced modelling and simulation tools, such as hydraulic modelling, network optimisation, and safety integrity analysis.
- Effective stakeholder coordination, ensuring alignment with developers, operators, and statutory bodies throughout the design process.
- Robust risk management and quality assurance processes, including compliance with CDM Regulations and adherence to industry best practices.
- Ability to meet tight timescales and evolving requirements, with adequate resources to manage concurrent FEED packages and multiple design interfaces.
- Key requirement: Tenderer must demonstrate capability to undertake FEED for multiple DCO-aligned routes and associated assets simultaneously, ensuring readiness for subsequent cost estimating phases.

Lot 2 - Planning, Environmental & Consents Scope of Services

Pre-FEED studies have identified the potential for 1-2 DCOs and several TCPA applications to varying maturity, noting that a number of those may benefit from Permitted Development Rights. As such the below scope of works is set out for standard requirements for a DCO and TCPA application in isolation. More detail will be provided at RFP stage.

Overall project management will be undertaken by NGN; however, the PEC Consultant will be expected to include project management processes, document control, interface management, risk management and technical assurance processes.

The PEC scope of works during FEED includes:

- Review the Consenting Strategy, Consultation Strategy, and Route Corridor Studies prepared prior to FEED.
- Identify all necessary Consents and Permits to undertake the construction and operation of the elements of ECH within the NGN network.

- Carry out initial environmental impact assessment work to confirm the viability of proposed routes.
- Ensure that routing and location options have been correctly assessed.
- Identify any risks and obstacles by carrying out initial surveys.
- Mitigate issues and risks by identifying and completing more detailed surveys as required.
- Finalise documents on the routeing and assessment of the project and other consultation material required to ensure that initial consultations are meaningful.
- Undertake sufficient non-statutory consultation to ensure risks are identified and mitigated during the FEED stage.
- Set up and manage GIS systems and relevant plans.
- Work collaboratively with the other teams, including NGN Lands, engineering and legal throughout FEED, the latter two being appointed separately to this PEC tender.

More specifically, for the DCO(s), the PEC Consultant will need to:

- Prepare for and attend an inception meeting with PINS and subsequently engage with PINS in line with the agreed Pre-Application Service Tier. Relevant documentation should be prepared and maintained throughout the FEED stage in line with the Service Tier, and should include at minimum the Programme Document, the Issues tracker and potential main issues for the examination, the Land and rights negotiations tracker, and the Advice Log.
- Prepare a Preliminary Route Report, to be informed by a Route Corridor Study Report prepared pre-FEED. This will result in a Final Report issued to Ofgem in September 2027, with an interim update to Ofgem in December 2026.
- Prepare and submit an EIA Scoping Report.
- Undertake baseline studies, targeted surveys, and initial environmental impact assessments, resulting in a Key Assessment Findings Report. This will need to include early and ongoing engagement with statutory consultees.
- Prepare and hold a Non-Statutory Consultation following issue of the Scoping Report. This will result in a Public Project Launch Update to Ofgem following the close of the consultation, and submission of a Consultation Outcomes Reports.
- Support the NGN Lands team in undertaking Lands Referencing and Risk-Based Targeted Engagement with Landowners.

For each of the T CPA elements, the PEC Consultant will need to:

- Prepare a Preliminary Route Report, to be informed by a Route Corridor Study Report prepared pre-FEED. This will result in a Final Report in September 2027, with an interim update to Ofgem in December 2026.
- Support the NGN Lands team in undertaking Lands Referencing and Risk-Based Targeted Engagement with Landowners.
- Confirm whether Permitted Development Rights (PDR) can be relied upon, and/or whether EIA Screening is required to confirm this. EIA Screening will need to be undertaken as necessary.
- If PDR can be relied upon, undertake the prior notification requirements under Part 15A of The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended).
- If PDR cannot be relied upon:
 - Prepare and submit an EIA Scoping Report.
 - Undertake baseline studies, targeted surveys, and early environmental impact assessment work, resulting in a Key Assessment Findings Report in September 2027. This will need to include early and ongoing engagement with statutory consultees.
 - Review any pre-application consultation requirements for the relevant local planning authority and prepare and undertake any pre-application consultation as required. Where none is required, review the benefits and risks of undertaking voluntary pre-application consultation, and undertake any such consultation as agreed with NGN.
 - Review the LPA's validation checklist to confirm the submission requirements for the planning application. Identify any elements that need to be undertaken at FEED stage and undertake these works.

The programme and scope of works for the TCPA elements is more flexible as this will depend on the phasing and timing of these elements, given off-taker, producer and storage variability. The likely topics that will be covered in the Baseline Studies and early environmental impact assessment work will include:

- Ecology, including Arboricultural Assessments.
- Historic Environment and Archaeology.
- Water, including Flood Risk Assessment.
- Landscape and Visual.
- Air Quality.
- Noise and Vibration.
- Traffic and Transport.
- Agriculture and Ground Conditions.
- Land Use.
- People and Communities.
- Major Accidents and Disasters.
- Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases.
- Health and Wellbeing.

The project will prioritise desk-based studies using existing reports, maps and databases. Targeted field surveys will only be undertaken where:

- Desk data is unavailable.
- High-risk or uncertain areas require validation.

Potential targeted field surveys required at FEED could include the following, however this list will be finalised at EIA Scoping, and the PEC Consultant will need to review this and advise any suggested changes after being appointed.

- Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey.
- Fish and FWPM.
- Otter and Water Vole.
- Great Crested Newts.
- Bats.
- Badgers.
- Breeding Birds.
- Overwintering Birds.
- Landscape Visualisations in winter and summer.

Given the scale and complexity of the network, and uncertainties in routing driven by off-taker, producer and storage variability, the FEED phase will aim to create certainty where possible and appraise risk where it is not. Costly site surveys across all routes will be avoided; instead, risk-based prioritisation will guide targeted surveys where residual risk is intolerable.

The scope of works does not include activities that can be carried out as part of a later Development Expenditure (DEVEX) process or during detailed design and delivery, i.e. it does not include for:

- Any statutory consultations and associated documentation, reporting and assessment.
- Any environmental surveys or investigations that would not be required to complete the FEED study or the development of the project cost.
- Preliminary Environment Impact Assessments, Final Environmental Statements, Construction Environmental Management Plans (CEMP), Planning Statement and Design & Access Statement.
- DCO (Development Consent Order)/TCPA (Town and Country Planning Act) Final Submission and Management.

Tender Requirements:

- Proven experience in planning, environmental, and consents (PEC) services for major infrastructure projects (preferably hydrogen or gas networks).
- Strong understanding of UK planning and environmental legislation, including DCO and TCPA processes.

- Capability to deliver complex, multi-phase projects with adequate resources to meet tight timescales and evolving requirements.
- Suitably qualified and experienced resources.
- Effective stakeholder engagement and consultation skills.
- Robust risk management and quality assurance processes.
- Ability to remain flexible to project requirements, informed by off-taker, producer and storage variability.
- Key is that the tenderer will need to be able accommodate the 'worst-case' scenario of undertaking the FEED stage for 1-2 DCOs and multiple TCPA applications simultaneously.

It is at the discretion of NGN to amend requirements of the scope if there is a need to do so. Any changes to the scope will be communicated to all Bidders before any submission deadlines.

Please note that substantial amendments will not be made.

Procurement Process

Procurement Information

Procurement Act 2023 / Procurement Regulations 2024

This procurement is being conducted in accordance with The Procurement Act 2023 / Procurement Regulations 2024 using the Competitive Flexible Procedure.

NGN Contact

ALL COMMUNICATIONS MUST BE SENT VIA THE NGN'S PROCUREMENT PORTAL MARKET DOJO.

During the period of this Tender process, no contact must occur between any member of your organisation's staff and any member of NGN other than through the designated contact points. The only exception to this rule is where organisations already have staff working on NGN business, in which case their staff should be instructed not to discuss the project with NGN employees.

NGN reserves the right at its sole discretion to exclude any organisation (or third party working for any organisation) found to be in breach of these contact requirements.

Procurement Process

The procurement process will be managed electronically via Northern Gas Networks e-sourcing Spend Management portal Market Dojo

All communication will be managed through Market Dojo.

All PQQ and tender responses must be uploaded electronically.

All timings will be clearly identified in the electronic system and will be adhered to.

Tender questions should be answered in the requested format, i.e. text or attachment, and word counts adhered to where applicable. Bidders should note if they persistently fail to follow this instruction and answers are not readily available this may result in failing to achieve a score in the relevant section.

If a question requires an attachment upload as your response and you have multiple attachments, please upload these as a Zip file. If you experience any technical difficulties, please contact the person named in this document.

Responses should not be submitted via the messaging portal. Suppliers should note that if they persistently fail to follow this instruction, and answers are not readily available in the correct format then this may result in failing to achieve a score in the relevant section.

Suppliers should avoid uploading responses on the last day of any stage of the tender in case of technical difficulties as NGN will not reopen an event after it has closed.

Suppliers may save documents in Market Dojo throughout the process but must ensure that it is submitted in full before the closing date.

NGN cannot access or determine whether Suppliers have submitted a bid until after the event has closed as our process is a totally sealed bid process.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you submit your bid on time.

The submit button is clearly marked and is highlighted in yellow, after you have submitted the system will still allow you to modify your proposal at any time up to the closing date. You may review the event log to confirm that your proposal has been submitted.

Responses must be submitted within the timeframe stated in Market Dojo.

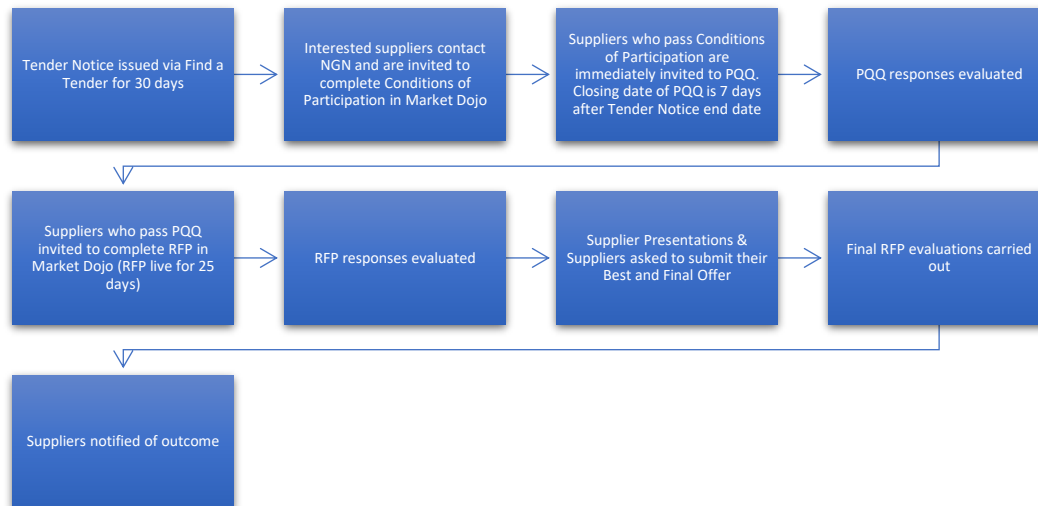
Central Digital Platform

Registration: It is important to make sure that your organisation registers onto the Central Digital Platform (CDP). NGN will be unable to award a contract with your organisation without a valid unique supplier ID (PPON number)

IMPORTANT NOTE: If at any point during the procurement event or through the lifecycle of an awarded contract your organisation is placed on the Government led debarment list it is at NGN's discretion as to whether we exclude a bidder from participating or terminate an ongoing contract.

Procurement Plan

A tender process will be carried out under the Competitive Flexible Procedure. It is anticipated that the strategy will be in line with the below;



If supplementary stages are required throughout the process, or stages noted in the strategy defined above are no longer required, it is at NGN’s discretion to include or remove stages. Please note that any additional stages added could result in the following changes to scoring -

- an enhancement of scores awarded in previous stages OR
- an additional award criteria OR
- Score from previous stage + score from additional stage added together.

The impact that any additional stage has on scoring will be clearly communicated to all bidders and will not be refined following submission of tender stages.

Basis of Contract

The initial period of any contract resulting from this procurement is intended to be 1 year.

The length of the contract may be extended by NGN for a further 1 x 1-year periods to give a maximum duration of 2 years.

Contact start date on or around June 2026.

Bidders will be expected to agree to NGN terms and conditions, a draft contract has been included below for review, bidders who proceed to the RFP stage will have the opportunity to submit contract challenges against this document as part of that process.



NGN%20PSC.docx

Bidders should note that the challenges will be scored based upon risk and NGN reserve the right to reject any bidders who propose high risk challenges, or a material change to the contract. Please see Contract Challenges Scoring Guidance.



During the RFP you should state any major Contract Challenges that you have relevant to the proposed draft agreement and state your proposed amendments in the Contract Challenge table provided. By proposing no challenges, you are confirming that you accept the proposed draft Agreement.

Bidders must raise all challenges to the proposed Terms and Conditions during the RFP stage and submit the Contract Challenges Matrix as part of their tender return, NGN will not consider any challenges raised at a later stage.

NGN reserves the right to disqualify those bidders who raise contract challenges at a later stage. NGN reserves the right to revoke conditional award and conclude terms instead with the next highest scoring bidder.

Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation criteria for the PQQ and RFP stages of this procurement process are outlined below. It is at the discretion of NGN to change the weightings/criteria or add additional sub criteria/weightings to the PQQ or RFP if there is a need to do so before the submission deadline of the relevant stage. Any changes to the evaluation criteria will be communicated to all Bidders.

Conditions of Participation Evaluation

This section is made up of Pass/Fail questions Suppliers who pass all questions will automatically be invited to submit responses to PQQ questions. Suppliers who fail any Conditions of Participation questions will be rejected from this tender.

PQQ Scoring Criteria

The tender will be split into two Lots and Bidders will be required to bid for one or both Lots. The Lots are:

1. Lot 1 - Engineering Design
2. Lot 2 - Planning, Environmental & Consents

The PQQ responses will be assessed against the scoring criteria set out below. It is split into two parts:

1. **Sections 1 to 5** – Bidders must score more than 60% in the weighted questions to progress into the second stage of the PQQ.
2. **Sections 6 & 7** – Bidders are only required to answer the questions for the Lot/s which they are wanting to tender for. Note – Bidders are required to express the Lot/s they wish to tender for in Section 1. Questions 6 & 7 are scored independent of each other and any bidders which score 70% or above in each Lot will progress through to the Request for Proposal stage of the

tender event. A maximum of 12 bidders in each Lot will progress through to RFP which will be decided by a ranking of the top highest scorers.

The scoring criteria for each Section is outlined in the table below:

Section Ref	Criteria	Score Weighting
Conditions of Participation	Mandatory & Discretionary Exclusions	Pass / Fail
Section 1	Supplier Details	For information only
Section 2	Data Protection & Cyber Security	Pass / Fail / All questions evenly scored (10%)
Section 3	Supplier Financials	All questions evenly scored (20%)
Section 4	Responsible Procurement	All questions evenly scored (35%)
Section 5	Health and Safety	All questions evenly scored (35%)
Sections 1 – 5	Subtotal	Pass / Fail / Scored (100%)
Section 6	Lot 1 - Engineering Design Specific Questions	Scored (100%)
	Question 6.1	15%
	Question 6.2	60%
	Question 6.3	25%
Section 7	Lot 2 - Planning, Environmental & Consents Specific Questions	Scored (100%)
	Question 7.1	15%
	Question 7.2	60%
	Question 7.3	25%

All applicants are required to fully complete Sections 1 – 5 and complete Sections 6 & 7 depending on which Lot/s they are tendering for. Applicants are advised to read the guidance notes at the start of this pack.

The financial assessment referred to in Section 3 will be scored relative to the table below and will represent 20% of the first stage assessment (as above) with the potential for bidders to be excluded from the process should NGN identify significant financial risk.

		Check It (ICC) / Credit Safe	Dunn & Bradstreet	Equifax	Experian	Graydons
Assessment Score	Risk Rating	Credit Score Report	Comprehensive Report		Bronze, silver, or gold report	Level 1, 2 or 3 level report
10	Minimal	95-100	5A1	A+	95-100	1A
9	Minimal	90-94	5A2/4A1	A/A-	90-94	1B/2A
8	Minimal	80-89	5A3/4A2/3A1	B+	80-89	1C/2B/3A
7	Low	70-79	4A3/3A2/2A1	B/B-	70-79	2C/3B/4A
6	Low	60-69	3A3/2A2/1A1	C+	60-69	3C/4B/5A
5	Low	50-59	2A3/1A2/A1	C/C-	50-59	4C/5B/5A
4	Average	40-49	1A3/A2/B1	D+	40-49	5C/6B/7A

3	Average	30-39	A3/B2/C1	D/D-	30-39	6C/7B/8A
2	High	20-29	B3/C2/D1	E+	20-29	8B
1	High	10-19	C3/D2/E1	E/E-	10-19	8C
0	High	Below 10	Below E1	Below E-	Below 10	Below 8C

Scoring Methodology

For qualitative questions NGN will score on the following basis.

Points	Interpretation
9-10	Excellent – Overall the response demonstrates that the bidder exceeds all areas of the requirement and provides all the areas evidence requested in the level of detail requested. This, therefore, is a detailed excellent response that meets all aspects of the requirement leaving no ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement.
6-8	Good - Overall the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement and provides all the areas of evidence requested and any omissions in relation to the level of detail requested in terms of either the response or the evidence are trivial. This, therefore, is a good response that meets all aspects of the requirement which but may have a trivial level ambiguity due the bidder's failure to provide all information at the level of detail requested.
3-5	Adequate - Overall the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement, but not all the areas of evidence requested have been provided. This, therefore, is an adequate response, but with some limited ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement due to the bidder's failure to provide all the evidence requested.
1-2	Poor – The response does not demonstrate that the bidder meets the requirement in one or more areas. This, therefore, is a poor response with significant ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement due to the failure by the bidder to show that it meets one or more areas of the requirement.
0	Unacceptable - The response is non-compliant with the requirements of the ITT and/or no response has been provided.

RFP Evaluation Criteria

The award will be based upon price and quality, and it is the intent that the award will be based on the Most Advantageous Tender result of each Lot.

RFP responses will be assessed in two stages. The first stage will assess technical competence and resources where a threshold score will need to be achieved to progress into Stage 2. The second stage will assess commercials. The overall score will be calculated by adding the scores in both Stages with the highest score being successful, subject to the criteria above.

The assessment of price will be carried out independently of the non-commercial assessment and scored against the methodology stated in the RFP documents. The Non-Commercial section will have weighted questions and weightings will be stated in the RFP documents.

If the difference between the first and second highest scoring bidder is less than 3% NGN reserves the right to award the tender to the bidder who provides the lowest price tender unless there are exceptional reasons.

RFP Scoring Criteria Table:

Stage	Criteria	Weighting
Stage 1	Technical & Resources	100%
Stage 2	Commercial	100%
Total	Technical & Resources, Commercial	200%

Evaluation Panel

NGN's team to perform the evaluation of this tender process comprises the following, note however this list may change throughout the duration of the Tender.

Name	Department
Camila Blanco	Project Management
Alexis Birchall	Engineer
Neil Pike	Commercial
Harriet Wilkes	Procurement
Alexander Walsh	Legal

Tender Timetable

Description of Event	Date
Issue Tender Notice Conditions of Participation and PQQ live on this date	1 st December '25
Tender Notice end date	5 th January '26
Conditions of Participation end date	5 th January '26
PQQ end date	12 th January '26
Evaluation of PQQ submissions	12 th January to 30 th January '26
Notification to successful/unsuccessful bidders	2 nd February '26
Issue RFP	On or around 3 rd February '26
Deadline for supplier clarification questions	6 th March '26
Deadline to circulate all suppliers clarification questions	13 th March '26
RFP end date	20 th March '26
Evaluations & clarifications	23 rd March to 17 th April '26
Supplementary phases if applicable	20 th April to 1 st May '26

Final Evaluations	4 th May to 8 th May '26
Issue assessment detailing outcome	18 th May '26
Standstill Period	18 th May to 27 th May '26
Contract Negotiations	18 th May to 29 th May '26
Contract signed	On or after 1 st June '26

Please note the above timetable is indicative and may be subject to change.