Vulnerability Assessment Service and Tools Supply Framework (2) Buyer’s Guide

Copyright © 2020 Jisc Services Ltd.
December 2021, Issue 6
Document Owner: Kelly Mitchell

Non-sensitive
This document becomes UNCONTROLLED if printed or when held in any other location other than the QMS or ISMS
Contents

1. Scope of the framework .............................................................................................................................. 3
2. Who can use the framework ....................................................................................................................... 3
3. Duration of the Framework ......................................................................................................................... 4
4. Compliance under EU procurement rules .................................................................................................... 4
5. Suppliers ................................................................................................................................................... 5
   5.1 Supplier Contact Details......................................................................................................................... 5
6. How the Framework operates ..................................................................................................................... 5
7. Evaluation Criteria ...................................................................................................................................... 6
8. Terms and Conditions ................................................................................................................................ 6
9. Placing a direct award under this framework .......................................................................................... 7
10. Running a mini-competition under this Framework ................................................................................... 7
11. Contacting JSL in connection with the framework ................................................................................... 8
1. Scope of the framework

This framework agreement has been set up by Jisc Services Ltd (JSL) for the provision of Vulnerability Assessment Services and Tools Supply to support JSL’s customers and other users in purchasing either a Vulnerability assessment service or the tools to undertake assessment themselves.

2. Who can use the framework

This will primarily be members of Jisc and/or those providing or supporting education, research or culture in the UK. The Janet Eligibility Policy (available on request from frameworkcontracts@jisc.ac.uk) outlines the types of organisation that are eligible to use the Janet network and its associated services. These can be summarised as:

- all institutions of higher or further education;
- all laboratories and other establishments of the Research Councils;
- the bodies funding higher and further education and research across the UK;
- local government authorities where these are providing broadband ICT services to schools, or commissioning these services from third parties;
- “Regional Broadband Consortia” (RBCs) and any other vehicles created by local government authorities in England to aggregate the provision of broadband ICT services to schools;
- the equivalent bodies in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland providing broadband ICT services to schools;
- individual schools, whether under local government control or with other governance;
- individual or groups of libraries, whether under local government control or with other governance;
- individual or groups of museums, whether under local government control or with other governance;
- any other bodies whose core purpose is the support or advancement of education or research.

Many of the above bodies are also members of higher and further education purchasing consortia. These are independent organisations that provide a wide range of collaborative purchase agreements to their member institutions through consensus and the common desire to maximise their purchasing power in the marketplace. Any member of one of these consortia will be eligible to access many of JSL’s services by virtue of its membership, as will members of any other similar purchasing consortium in higher or further education that might be formed during the lifetime of the hosting arrangement.

Membership lists for existing higher and further education purchasing consortia may be found at:

- https://www.lupc.ac.uk/member-list
- http://www.nwupc.ac.uk/our-members
- http://www.neupc.ac.uk/our-members
- http://www.hepcw.ac.uk/members/
- http://www.apuc-scot.ac.uk/#/members
These organisations may also at their own discretion use JSL services in support of their outreach, technology transfer and associated activities in support of their missions. These activities are commonly referred to as “business and community engagement”.

Under the Janet Eligibility Policy, services may also be provided to the wider public sector and associated bodies whom are providing public services other than those relating to education or research, e.g. blue light services, Courts etc. At present these include local government authorities in England and Northern Ireland, Education Scotland, the Welsh Assembly Government and (to a limited extent) the NHS in England and Scotland.

The Services are also available for use by any National Research and Education Network (NREN) and the community it serves where the NREN has either a direct connection to Janet or the NREN is a member at any time during the period of this framework of the consortium that operates GÉANT. GÉANT is the pan-European research and education network that interconnects Europe’s NRENs. A list of members of the GÉANT consortium (GÉANT Partners) may be found at the URL below. As HEAnet, the NREN of the Republic of Ireland, is connected both to Janet and is a member of the GÉANT consortium, the framework is available for use by HEAnet, its subsidiaries, member institutions and customers to include schools serviced by the HEAnet school’s network.

3. Duration of the Framework

The initial term of this framework agreement is two years from 16th April 2020 until 15th April 2022, We have now extended this framework until 15th April 2023. We have a possibility to extend for a further year subject to requirements and performance review.

4. Compliance under EU procurement rules

This Framework was advertised in OJEU on 30 January 2020 number 2020/S024-055300 and tendered using the Open Procedure as specified by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. A copy of the contract notice and the contract award notice are available on request from frameworkcontracts@jisc.ac.uk
5. Suppliers

ITT responses resulted in 4 Lots being awarded. This table shows which suppliers are capable of supplying equipment under each Lot and the preferred supplier, where applicable, is marked ‘preferred supplier’.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vulnerability Assessment Service and Tools Supply Framework (2)</th>
<th>Suppliers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Lot 1 – Vulnerability Assessment Service                       | • CCL Solutions Group – offering Tenable Nessus *(preferred supplier)*  
  • IP Performance Ltd – offering Alienvault  
  • Khipu Networks – offering Greenbone |

| Lot 2 – Supply and Support                                     | • IP Performance – offering Wallix as a solution |

| Lot 5 – Supply and Support                                     | • IP Performance – offering PCYSYS as a solution |

| Lot 8 – Other Tools                                            | • Khipu Networks – offering Greenbone as a solution |

5.1 Supplier Contact Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supplier Contact Details</th>
<th>Buyer Email address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Company name</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CCL Solutions Group</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jisc@cclgroupltd.com">jisc@cclgroupltd.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:JISC@cclsolutionsgroup.com">JISC@cclsolutionsgroup.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:Vas.ccl@jisc.ac.uk">Vas.ccl@jisc.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IP Performance Ltd</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Vas.ipp@jisc.ac.uk">Vas.ipp@jisc.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khipu Networks</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Vas.khipu@jisc.ac.uk">Vas.khipu@jisc.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. How the Framework operates

For Lot 1 the Buyer shall award the call-off to the Supplier who is considered to provide the most economically advantageous tender. This will either be:

1. Directly to the 1st ranked supplier without reopening competition;
or

ii. As a result of running a mini-competition against its specific requirement with all capable Suppliers in that Lot

For Lots 2, 5 and 8 each Lot has just one Supplier therefore option i. as described above can be utilised. If a Buyer is unsure as to which Lot to use, they may request quotes from all suppliers against all Lots in order to distinguish which offer meets their requirements. When reopening competition, each Buyer must use the evaluation criteria used to establish the Framework (refer to Section 7). The weightings may be varied as appropriate to the requirement. The evaluation scoring against the main criteria to enable you to undertake your mini-competition is available on request from frameworkcontracts@jisc.ac.uk

7. Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation of the tenders was based on the following weighting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lot 1 - Marking</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass/Fail mandatory requirements</td>
<td>The bidder’s ability to meet the pass/fail mandatory requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61% of total marks</td>
<td>The Contracting Authority’s assessment of the bidder’s technical merit and quality to enable it to provide the services described in this document on a timely basis based on the responses to the scored requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39% of total marks</td>
<td>Pricing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lots 2, 5, 8 - Marking</th>
<th>Item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pass/Fail mandatory requirements</td>
<td>The bidder’s ability to meet the pass/fail mandatory requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41% of total marks</td>
<td>The Contracting Authority’s assessment of the bidder’s technical merit and quality to enable it to provide the services described in this document on a timely basis based on the responses to the scored requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59% of total marks</td>
<td>Pricing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Terms and Conditions

Individual orders under the framework will use a simple process; Lot 1 will have terms and conditions as per those terms and conditions agreed under the overarching framework and associated call off contract and Lots 2 to 8 will make use of bidders’ terms and conditions, subject to the mandatory provisions. Bidders will however be required to sign up to a framework agreement with JSL.

Individual orders are placed by signing and returning Schedule 3 of the framework agreement, Pro-Forma Contract with Customers. This agreement is available on request from frameworkcontracts@jisc.ac.uk
9. Placing a direct award under this framework

Section 6 outlines all the options available under the framework in terms of direct appointment or mini competition.

If the Buyer wishes to raise a Request for Quote (RFQ) for a simple order, then the request should include a clear return date and any late quotes should not be considered. JSL would recommend giving suppliers a maximum of 3 working days to respond to requests for simple orders. The Buyer should clearly state if any weighting has changed from JSL’s original weighting.

Should the Buyer wish to proceed and place an order with the chosen supplier, the Buyer must use the Pro-forma Contract with Customers for orders under Lot 1 and suppliers terms and conditions for orders under Lots 2, 5 and 8. Suppliers not chosen, in the event of a mini competition, should be sent rejection correspondence.

Please ensure that in all instances you make it clear you are using the Jisc Vulnerability Assessment Services Framework.

10. Running a mini-competition under this Framework

1. Establish the requirement.
2. Develop the mini-competition document:
   a. Create a specification for the requirement.
   b. Decide on a return date for tenders. Depending on the complexity of the requirement, we would recommend a minimum of 3 working days with 3-4 weeks on more complex project work requiring a site visit prior to the supplier’s response.
3. Decide which Lot is appropriate or if a mini competition will be run across multiple Lots. If you are choosing multiple Lots, then each chosen Lot will be a distinct mini-competition in its own right.
4. Issue the specification to all capable suppliers on the relevant Lot(s) of the framework agreement. It would be advisable to make clear in any documentation issued that you reserve the right to make no award.
5. Open tenders after the published deadline and evaluate tenders. The formula used to evaluate charges is: Lowest price/price being evaluated x % weighting agreed for the Charges. For evaluations across multiple Lots, each Lot stands alone and should be assessed entirely independently of the others.
6. Issue award or regret letters as appropriate to all bidders.

For above threshold orders: In addition to steps 1 – 6, following the implementation of the remedies directive Buyers must include in the letter a summary of the reasons for the rejection of the tender, the characteristics and relative advantages of the tender selected and the name of the successful tender. The letter should also include a precise statement of the exact standstill period applicable. The standstill period must run for at least 10 calendar days between the date of despatch of this information and the date on which it proposes to enter into the contract (place the order).

Please note: For call-offs under the framework that are above the threshold the ten-day mandatory standstill should be applied. The debrief for above threshold call-offs is the letter that is issued at the start of the standstill period that includes a summary of the reasons for the rejection of the tender, the characteristics and relative advantages of the tender selected and the name of the successful tender. The letter should also include a precise statement of the exact standstill period applicable.

7. Place an order using the appropriate options outlined in Section 8.

Frameworks do not create any contractual obligations but a call-off does. By placing a call-off contract with a supplier from a framework the Buyer is making a commitment to purchase the specified goods/services from that supplier.
11. Contacting JSL in connection with the framework

Requests for documentation, queries about the framework or feedback about suppliers should be directed to frameworkcontracts@jisc.ac.uk