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**Bath & North East  
Somerset Council**

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**UWE  
Bristol** | University  
of the  
West of  
England

**INVITATION TO TENDER  
for the Provision of**

**A Print Services Framework  
under the Open Procedure**

**OJEU NOTICE REFERENCE NO: 19-004317-001  
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## **SECTION 1 – THE REQUIREMENT**

### **1.1 Introduction**

Bath & North East Somerset Council (the Council) in collaboration with Bristol City Council and the University of the West of England wishes to establish a multi-provider Framework Agreement for both digital and litho printing services.

### **1.2 Overview**

The Council is managing this procurement in line with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

This is a **Framework Agreement for services** being procured under the Open procedure.

The Council is procuring the **Framework Agreement** as a central purchasing body for itself, Bristol City Council and the University of the West of England (UWE Bristol) hereby referred to as 'The Participating Organisations'.

### **1.3 Background**

Bath and North East Somerset Council have an in house print service that currently meets the majority of its printing requirements. However, this service will close in May 2019 and therefore there will be a requirement to source our printing services entirely from external contractors moving forward.

Bristol City Council Graphic Design Team (Bristol Design) oversees and manages all the City Council's design and digital / litho printing requirements. They have nine in house graphic designers who be the main point of contact for suppliers and will oversee each print job from start to finish.

UWE Bristol has their own in-house printing service covering all its digital printing and finishing requirements. It has a team of print experts who procure all other print work, placing with appropriate suppliers based on quality, timely delivery and value for money. UWE have a need to contract with B2 Litho printers who can provide work to a very high standard that enhances their reputation.

### **1.4 Specification**

See appendix 2 of attached Framework Agreement.

### **1.5 Lots**

The Council will, where appropriate, break contracts into lots to facilitate SME participation in line with the Public Contracts Regulation 2015.

This Contract **will not** be split into lots because individual call offs will be of a size that will allow participation of SMEs

## **1.6 Term of Contract**

This agreement will commence on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and expire on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2022. There is an option to extend for a final 12 months until the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

## **1.7 Value**

The estimated spend below is based on the average annual spend for each participating organisation over the last 3 years;

Bath and North East Somerset Council – £261,000

Bristol City Council – £182,940

UWE - £287,000

## SECTION 2 – INSTRUCTIONS TO TENDERERS

### 2.1 E-tender System

The Council uses ProContract as its e-tendering system. Assistance in relation to the e-tender system is available to Tenderers via the Supplier Help facility on the Homepage.

Supplier Guidance documents are also available to view and download.

**Suppliers must ensure that they have the most up to date Invitation to Tender document by registering on the e-tendering system at [www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk](http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk) and expressing an interest. This will enable suppliers to view the latest documents and see any comments and discussions on those documents.**

If you are still unable to resolve your issue in using the system you should send an e-mail to [ProContractsuppliers@Proactis.com](mailto:ProContractsuppliers@Proactis.com) explaining the nature of your query.

### 2.2 Register Intent or opt out

The “Register Intent” button will be greyed out until the mandatory requirement to click on “View ITT” has been carried out.

Once the Tender Information has been viewed Tenderers will be able to click on “Register Intent” which will inform the Council of your intention to respond to this opportunity.

If a Tenderer does not wish to, or is unable to submit a Tender and not interested in proceeding, then they are required to click on “Opt Out” to decline the opportunity.

### 2.3 Preparation of tender

Organisations must obtain for themselves all information necessary for the preparation of their Tender response and all costs, expenses and liabilities incurred by the Tender in connection with the preparation and submission of the Tender shall be borne by the Tenderer, whether or not their offer is successful.

Information supplied to the Tenderer by Council staff or contained in Council publications is supplied only for general guidance in the preparation of the Tender. It shall remain the property of the Council and shall be used only for the purpose of this procurement exercise.

Tenderers must satisfy themselves as to the accuracy of any such information and no responsibility is accepted by the Council for any loss or damage of whatever kind and howsoever caused arising from the use by Tenderers of such information.

Responses to each Tender question should be written concisely and clearly answer the question posed in English.

Tenderers will only be able to respond to questions that require an input from them and are located within the Invitation to Tender document attached within the e-tender system.

#### **2.4 Price Schedule/s**

The Council requires Tenderers to complete and upload Price Schedule(s) where requested to do so within the e-tender system.

All prices shall be in Pounds Sterling excluding VAT .

#### **2.5 Other Documents or Supporting Evidence**

As instructed to do so within the e-tender system, the Tenderer must complete and upload other documentation that may be provided with this Tender process, or upload evidence to support their Tender submission.

Tenders must not be qualified, conditional, or accompanied by statements that could be construed as rendering them equivocal and/or placed on a different footing to those of other Tenderers. Only tenders submitted without qualification, in accordance with this invitation to tender will be accepted for consideration. The Council's decision on whether or not a tender is acceptable will be final and the Tenderer concerned will not be consulted. If a Tenderer is excluded from consideration, the Tenderer will be notified.

#### **2.6 Submission deadline**

Tenderers are required to submit their Tender within the e-tender system by **11<sup>th</sup> February 2019 at 8am.**

Tenderers are advised to allow sufficient time to complete questions and upload documentation to the e-tender system, where requested to do so.

It is the Tenderer's responsibility to ensure that the Tender is submitted and has fully uploaded all required documentation within the e-tender system by the closing date and time. Emailed or hard copy Tenders will not be accepted.

Failure to answer and complete the Tender within the e-tender system will result in the Council rejecting the Tender as a Fail / Non-compliant tender.

Failure to complete and upload any required documentation within the e-tender system will result in the Council rejecting the Tender as a Fail / Non-compliant tender.

Documentation: If you are uploading multiple documents, it is recommended that you zip them using WinZip or WinRAR. Do not include any macro enabled spreadsheets or embedded documents. Acceptable file formats are: *txt, rtf, mpp, vsd, dwg, rar, msg, ics, html, gif, jpg, png, jpeg, tiff, tif, zip, pdf, doc, xls, ppt, docx, xlsx, pptx, mp3, mov, m4a, swf, wmv, mpg, mpeg, avi, wav, odt, odp, ods, numbers and pages.*

Late Tender Submissions: Tenders received after the closing date will not be considered.

The Council is under no obligation to consider partial submissions.

If the Council issues an amendment to the original Tender process, and if it regards that amendment as significant, an extension of the closing date may, at the discretion of the Council, be given to all Organisations.

The information supplied in response to the Tender will be checked for completeness and compliance before responses are evaluated. The Council expressly reserves the right to require a Tenderer to provide additional information supplementing or clarifying any of the information provided in response to the requests set out in the Tender. However, the Council is not obliged to make such requests.

Tenderers shall accept and acknowledge that by issuing this ITT the Council shall not be bound to accept any Tender and reserves the right not to conclude a **Framework Agreement** for some or all of the **services** for which tenders are invited.

## 2.7 **Tender Validity**

The tender should remain open for acceptance for a period of 120 days. A Tender valid for a shorter period may be rejected.

## 2.8 **Communication**

All contact and communication during this procurement should be submitted in writing through the e-tender system.

Tenderers should seek to clarify any points of doubt or difficulty via the e-tender system in sufficient time before the closing date of the Tender, to enable the Council to respond to all Tenderers. It is not acceptable for Tenderers to seek clarifications via telephone or e-mail outside of the e-tender system.

Where the Council considers any question or request for clarification to be of material significance it may communicate both the query and the response, in a suitably anonymous form, to all interested parties. Tenderers should therefore not include within the question their organisation's name or any potential commercially sensitive information.



## 2.9 Confidentiality

The supplier must keep confidential and will not disclose to any third parties any information contained within their bid. They shall not release details other than on an 'In Confidence' basis to those whom they need to consult for the purpose of preparing the Quote response, such as professional advisors or joint bidders.

The Tender shall not be canvassed for acceptance or discussed with the media, any other Organisation, member/officer of Bath & North East Somerset Council, or their representatives. Any supplier trying to exert any undue influence during the tender process could be excluded from the process.

## 2.10 Grounds for Rejection

The Council reserves the right to reject or disqualify a Tender and/or its Consortium Members where:-

- A Tender is submitted late, is completed incorrectly, is materially incomplete or fails to meet the Council's submission requirements which have been notified to Tenderers;
- the Tenderer and/or its Consortium Members are unable to satisfy the terms of Regulation 57 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and/or fails to certify at Appendix 1 that it has fulfilled these requirements;
- the Tenderer and/or its Consortium Members are guilty of material misrepresentation in relation to its application and/or the process;
- the Tenderer and/or its Consortium Members contravene any of the terms and conditions of this document or the ITT; or
- there is a change in identity, control, financial standing or other factor impacting on the selection and/or evaluation process affecting the Tenderer and/or its Consortium Members;
- dis-qualification of a Tenderer will not prejudice any other civil remedy available to the Council and will not prejudice any criminal liability that such conduct by a Tenderer may attract.

## 2.11 Disclaimer

Whilst the information in this ITT and supporting documents has been prepared in good faith, it does not purport to be comprehensive nor has it been independently verified.

Neither the Council, [nor any relevant Other Contracting Bodies], nor their advisors, respective directors, officers, members, partners, employees, other staff or agents:

- make any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the ITT; or
- accepts any responsibility for the information contained in the ITT or for their fairness, accuracy or completeness of that information nor shall any of them be liable for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation) arising as a result of reliance on such information or any subsequent communication.

Any Framework Agreement or Contract concluded as a result of this ITT shall be governed by English law.

## 2.12 Freedom of Information Act

Tenderers should note that the Council is subject to the 'Freedom of Information Act 2000' and provisions are in force allowing any person access to information held by the Council. There are limited exemptions to this. The exemptions include information, the disclosure of which would be an actual breach of confidence or likely to prejudice the commercial interests of any person, or information that constitutes a trade secret. Tenderers are requested to state which part, if any, of the information supplied with their tenders is confidential or commercially sensitive or should not be disclosed in response to a request for information. Where Tenderers state that any information is confidential or commercially sensitive, they must also state why they consider the information to be confidential or commercially sensitive. Tenderers' statements will be considered in the context of the exemptions provided for under the Act and the Council is unable to give any guarantee that the information in question will not be disclosed.

## 2.13 Transparency

Suppliers and those organisations who bid should be aware that if they are awarded a contract, the resulting contract between the supplier and the Council will be published under the government transparency policy. To view details of what we MUST publish, see the Local Government Transparency Code 2015 at the link below.

[Local Government Transparency code 2015](#)

The Council is required to publish details of all expenditure over £500 made to its suppliers and all contracts and framework agreements over £5000.

Details will be published on the Council's website and the government's transparency website (Data.gov.uk) and Contracts Finder.

Suppliers and those organisations who bid should be aware that if they are awarded a contract, the resulting contract between the supplier and the Council will be published. In some circumstances limited redactions will be made to some contracts before they are published in order to comply with existing law and for the protection of national security.

In submitting a tender, the supplier accepts the Council's right to publish details of expenditure as well as information contained within the supplier's tender.

## **2.14 Equality**

Bath & North East Somerset Council is committed to equality of opportunity for everyone and believes that the diversity of the local community is a major strength that contributes to the social and economic prosperity of the area. This extends to the way it deals with its suppliers. All suppliers will be treated fairly and equitably before, during and after this tender procedure.

## **2.15 Ethical Standards**

Ethical procurement takes the wider view and incorporates the net benefits for both the buyer organisation and the wider world. The Council will consider the impact of environmental, economic and social factors along with price and quality.

The Council must ensure that the practices it undertakes in business are above reproach. They will be aware and lookout for signs of unacceptable practices in the supply chain such as fraud, corruption, modern-day slavery, human trafficking and wider issues such as child labour.

## **2.16 Social Value**

The Council will procure its services, where appropriate, in line with the Public Service (Social Value) Act 2012. The Act asks commissioners to think about securing extra benefits for their area when they are buying services. Before they start procurement, commissioners should think about how the services they are going to buy, or the procurement process they are going to use to buy them, could secure the most valuable benefits for their area.

The benefits sought should depend on what would best meet that area's particular needs, and could be in the form of social benefits (for example reducing anti-social behaviour), economic benefits (for example increasing local employment), or environmental benefits (for example reducing local congestion).

When responding to an Invitation to Tender, Suppliers might wish to consider the following:-

- Understand the needs of the local area and the Council's priorities.
- Articulate the social value offer - quantify the value for money you will provide and make the case for your social value offer being a way for commissioners to navigate cost savings pressures.
- Help the Council to understand the full range of innovation you can provide.
- Consider guidelines for paying a Living Wage

For further details on the Council's Social Value Policy, tenderers can request a copy of the policy from the Procurement Team by e-mailing [procurement@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:procurement@bathnes.gov.uk)

## 2.17 Payment to Sub-Contractors

Suppliers should be aware that where they will enter into a sub-contract with a supplier or contractor for the purpose of performing its obligations under the Contract, it shall ensure that a provision is included in such a sub-contract which requires payment to be made of all sums due by the supplier to the sub-contractor within a specified period not exceeding 30 days from the receipt of a valid invoice.

## 2.18 Procurement Timetable

The indicative timetable for this procurement is set out below. This is intended as a guide and, whilst the Council does not intend to depart from the timetable, it reserves the right to do so at any time.

Date or Target Date	Activity
4 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	ITT issued to potential suppliers
30 <sup>th</sup> January 2019	Closing date for clarification questions to be submitted
3 <sup>rd</sup> February 2019	Council responds to clarification questions
11 <sup>th</sup> February 2019 @ 8am	Closing date and time for receipt by the Council of tenderers responses to the ITT
Between 4 <sup>th</sup> and 21 <sup>st</sup> February 2019	Evaluation of the ITT responses by tender panel & supplier financial accounts by Internal Audit
WC 18 <sup>th</sup> February (TBA)	Reference Site Visits
4 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Award decision made and standstill letter issued
14 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Expiry of standstill period
15 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Contract award concluded
18 <sup>th</sup> March 2019	Framework Commencement Date

## 2.19 Required documents

Within this Tender process Tenderers have been provided with the following documentation. Where indicated these are required to be completed and uploaded within the e-tender system.

DOCUMENT TITLE	COMPLETE AND UPLOAD
Section 1 – The Requirement including specification	x
Section 2 – Instructions to Tenderers	x
Section 3 – Questionnaire	✓
Section 4 – Pricing Schedule	✓
Section 5 – Evaluation and Award	x
Appendix 1 – Non Collusion Certificate	✓
Appendix 2 – Framework Terms and Conditions	x
Appendix 3 – DPIA Questionnaire	✓

Please Note: The completion and electronic return of all the documents ticked above is mandatory

## 2.21 Appendices

You are required to complete the following questionnaire(s) which can be found at Appendix 3 and return with your completed response.

- DPIA Questionnaire

## SECTION 3 - Standard Selection Questionnaire



Print Services  
Framework - SSQ.doc

## SECTION 4 – PRICING SCHEDULE

### 4.1 Pricing

Tenderers must complete the spreadsheet attached in ProContract with all the proposed charges/prices to provide the requirement(s) as well as any supplementary spreadsheets to provide transparency of the metrics used for calculating fixed minimum and variable charges. Tenderers should assume a single delivery location to any of the postcodes listed. Upon award, where a job matches a job on the matrix it is expected the matrix price or cheaper will be quoted for at **least the first 6 months of the contract.**

All charges/prices must be in pounds sterling and should be exclusive of VAT. All pricing information will form the basis of any resulting framework or contract.



Print Pricing  
Schedule.xlsx



## **SECTION 5 – EVALUATION AND AWARD**

### **5.1 Evaluation and Award**

Evaluations will be undertaken by officers of all three Participating Organisations who will follow a systematic and comprehensive process in accordance with the Council's procedures. Tenders will be evaluated and the 8 highest scoring tenderers who can meet the Specification and provide competitiveness of price will be allocated a place on the framework.

The panel expects to make an award for the Contract within 60 days of the closing date for the submission of tenders. The panel may, if necessary, extend the period for completing the award process.

The decision of the award will be based on the evaluation criteria as outlined under Award Criteria and Weightings.

Tenderer(s) that are successfully awarded will receive in writing an award decision notice pursuant to Regulation 86 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

Tenderers who have not been successful will equally receive in writing an award decision notice pursuant to Regulation 86 of the Public Contracts Regulation 2015.

Upon acceptance, the Contract shall thereby be constituted and become binding on both parties and, notwithstanding that, the Tenderers upon request of the Participating Organisation execute a formal Contract in the form contained in this Tender process.

Tenderers must not undertake work without written notification that they have been awarded a Contract and are required to start work.

Tenderers should note that the Participating Organisations reserve the right to terminate this procedure without any decision to award and will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Tenderers in preparing their responses.

Tenderers should also note that, should they be successful the Participating Organisations reserve the right to terminate the Contract, if at any time it is discovered that the Tenderer made any material misrepresentation and/or have not notified to the Council about any material changes in relation to the information provided in the Tender submission.

### **5.2 Award Criteria & Weightings**

Submitted Tenders will be evaluated by officers of all three Participating Organisations using the award criteria and weightings detailed in the table below.



<b>AWARD CRITERIA &amp; WEIGHTINGS</b>		
<b>Price</b>	<b>40%</b>	<b>Price - 40%</b>
<b>Quality</b>	<b>60%</b>	<b>Samples - 40%</b> <b>Scored Questions - 20%</b>
	<p><b>All the individual questions are mandatory therefore Tenderers are required to submit a response. Failure to complete the questions will result in a Fail as Evaluators will not be able to evaluate fully the submitted Tender.</b></p> <p><b>Pass / Fail:</b> Where sections or questions have the criteria as a Pass or Fail, it will be clearly stated as such. Sections or questions scored as a Fail will result in the disqualification of the Tender and it will not proceed to full evaluation.</p> <p><b>Quality Scoring</b></p> <p>Where responses to questions are to be scored, the following scores are applied by Evaluators to a Tenderer's submitted responses.</p> <p>The scores are awarded dependent on the level of evidence provided to each question. A score of 3 represents an acceptable level of evidence. Sections or questions scored as 0 or 1 may result in the Tender not proceeding to full evaluation.</p> <p>0 – No response and/or evidence is unacceptable or non-existent, or there is a failure to properly address any issue. The Participating Organisations do not have any confidence in the Tenderer's experience, capacity and ability to meet its requirements.</p> <p>1 – The response and/or the evidence are deficient (or not relevant) in the majority of areas and The Participating Organisations have a low level of confidence in the Tenderer's experience, capacity and capability to meet its requirements.</p> <p>2 – Large portions of the response are not satisfactory and/or are not supported by a satisfactory level of evidence and The Participating Organisations have limited confidence in the Tenderer's experience, capacity and capability to meet its requirements.</p> <p>3 – The response is satisfactory and supported by an acceptable standard of relevant evidence but with some reservations/issues not addressed.</p>	

The Participating Organisations are satisfied with the Tenderer's experience, capacity and capability to meet its requirements.

4 – The response is comprehensive and supported by a good standard of relevant evidence and provides The Participating Organisations with a good standard of confidence in the Tenderer's experience, capacity and capability to meet its requirements.

5 – The standard of the response is very high and the relevance of the response and the supporting evidence is very comprehensive and provides The Participating Organisations with a very high level of confidence in the Tenderer's experience, capacity and capability to meet The Participating Organisations' requirements.

### **Applying weightings to scores**

The weighting for the overall tender between quality and price is listed in the table above. The quality and price criteria are given sub-weightings (also listed above).

The total score will depend on the number of questions for that criterion. So if there are 20 questions for Contract Management, for example, then the maximum marks will be 100 (20 x 5) because each question is scored out of 5.

The weighted score is the total score represented as a percentage of the sub-weighting. So if the sub-weighting for Contract Management was 20%, then scoring 100 would achieve the full 20%. 50 would achieve 10% out of 20% etc.

All sub-criteria weighted scores are added together to achieve a total weighted score out of the main quality weighting.

See the attached blank score sheet for further details.

**Price Evaluations:** The scoring is carried out within an Excel spread sheet outside of the e-tender system.

All price bids are compared against the lowest bid to reach the percentage difference from the lowest bid.

Example with price weighting 40%, the calculation is:

$(40 * \text{lowest price}) / \text{bid price}$

The lowest price bid would receive the full 40 points.

The price weighting applicable to this tender is in the table above.

### 5.3 Clarifications

Upon examination of the tenders, it may be necessary for the evaluators to request clarifications from the tenderers. The question(s) will be submitted on the e-tendering system and tenderers must respond in the same manner.

Clarifications received from tenderers outside the e-tendering system will not be responded to.

It may be necessary to also hold a clarification meeting with one or more tenderers for due diligence purposes. These may result in the initial scores being moderated.

### 5.4 Site Visits

It may be necessary to conduct Site visits to see a service in situ at a tenderer's Print Plant for due diligence purposes. These may result in the initial scores being moderated. Site visits will be held on the week commencing the 18<sup>th</sup> February (further details will be provided following tender submissions).

### 5.5 Final score

All the scores from the tender, presentation, clarifications, and site visits (where relevant) will be combined to produce a final score and the top 8 tenderers with the best overall scores shall be identified.

### 5.6 Customer References

The tender panel will take up references for the winning Contractors.

### 5.7 Evaluation Report and Recommendation

An evaluation report will be produced by the evaluators and a recommendation made to award to the top 8 winning Contractors.

### 5.8 Contract Approval

The approval of the award will be made by the appropriate Council representative, usually the budget holder for the project.

### 5.9 Contract Award and Debriefing

Upon completion of the tender exercise, The Participating Organisations will debrief the successful and unsuccessful tenderers as follows:-

The successful companies will receive a written notification letter that The Participating Organisations are intending to award them the business subject to a 10 day standstill period. During this period unsuccessful companies are able to challenge the award of contract, should they wish to do so. The award

letter must contain information to explain why the offer was successful, including scores and commentary pertaining to the award criteria published in the Invitation to Tender.

Unsuccessful companies will receive a written notification that The Participating Organisations intends to award the Contract. The notification will explain the 10 day standstill period and must state the name of the winning tenderers, the overall score of all the tenders and reasons to justify the award and must pertain to the published award criteria. The Participating Organisations must explain the advantages of the winning tenders and the disadvantages of the unsuccessful tenders.

The 10 day standstill period starts on the day after the date of the notification letter. The letter will advise the date the standstill elapses which shall not be on a weekend or Bank Holiday.

The Participating Organisations will be careful not to disclose confidential information of the successful Contractor and may withhold debriefing information in certain circumstances including where disclosure would be contrary to the public interest, would prejudice the legitimate commercial interests of any supplier, or might prejudice fair competition.

## **SECTION 6 - APPENDICES**

1. Non-Collusion Certificate
2. Terms and Conditions of Contract
3. DPIA Questionnaire

**APPENDIX 1**

**NON-COLLUSION CERTIFICATE**

I, the undersigned, in submitting the accompanying tender to

(Name of Client).....

.....

in relation to (details of tender and reference).....

.....

certify on behalf of (name of Tenderer).....

that, with the exception of any information attached hereto (see \* below):

- 1) this tender is made in good faith, and is intended to be genuinely competitive;
- 2) the amount of this tender has been arrived at independently, and has not been fixed, adjusted or influenced by any agreement or arrangement with any other undertaking, and has not been communicated to any competitor;
- 3) we have not entered into any agreement or arrangement with any competitor or potential competitor in relation to this tender;
- 4) I have read and I understand the contents of this Certificate, and I understand that knowingly making a false declaration on this form may result in legal action being taken against me.

In this certificate, the word 'competitor' includes any undertaking who has been requested to submit a tender or who is qualified to submit a tender in response to this request for tenders, and the words 'any agreement or arrangement' include any such transaction, whether or not legally binding, formal or informal, written or oral.

\* Information is/is not attached hereto (delete as appropriate)

SIGNED:.....

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF:.....

DATE:.....

## **APPENDIX 2**

### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT**

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **DPIA Questionnaire**



20180201-DPIA\_Non  
\_ICT\_Questionnaire.c

### **Glossary**

‘Bidder’ means the company that is submitting a tender response to this Invitation to Tender document;

Contracting Bodies’ or ‘Contracting Body’ means any other public sector organisation or Local Authority described in the Contract or Framework Agreement who is allowed to procure under the Contract;

‘Contractor’ means the person, firm or company appointed by The Participating Organisations or Contracting Body to supply the Goods or Services under this Contract and shall include the Contractor’s employees, personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns;

‘Council’ means Bath & North East Somerset Council;

‘Contract’ means the written agreement between The Participating Organisations or Contracting Body consisting of the clauses within the terms and conditions of contract and the Order;

“e-tender system” means the electronic tender system named Pro-Contract. It is provided by ProActis and is hosted via <http://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk>

‘Invitation to Tender’ means this document and all its components, which is inviting Bidders to bid for the Contract or for inclusion in the Framework Agreement;

‘Offer’ means the offer made by the Bidder in relation to the proposed Contract

‘Specification’ means the scope and description of the Goods or Services to be provided pursuant to this Contract as set out in Section 1 – Specification;