

**1. Is it proposed that the tender covers the provision of legal services in both legal jurisdictions i.e. Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland?**

Yes.

**2. What is the value across each separate lot?**

*The values for each lot are estimated only and have been provided for guidance purposes. As this is a framework arrangement, Depaul does not guarantee any minimum or maximum spend under any individual lot.*

**3. What is the value across the respective separate jurisdictions i.e RoI and NI?**

*Similarly, the values for the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland are indicative estimates based on anticipated requirements and should not be interpreted as guaranteed expenditure. Actual spend will depend on operational needs throughout the duration of the framework.*

*Please note that these figures are intended solely to provide an indication of the potential scope of the contract and should not be relied upon as a commitment to purchase.*

**4. Must one firm / applicant be able to offer work across both separate jurisdictions or can it engage local counsel / preferred firms in e.g. NI, to provide local work on those elements.**

*An applicant could propose to engage local counsel / preferred firms provided that is specified in the tender response setting out sufficient details about the preferred firm(s) and indicating if they have agreed to participate in this framework agreement.*

**5. Does the contentious property work involve advice where the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) is the appropriate regulatory body / dispute forum?**

*Advice may be required to deal with Charities Regulatory Authority (CRA), the Approved Housing Bodies Regulatory Authority (AHBRA) or the Residential Tenancies Board (RTB) in the Republic of Ireland. For clarity we have not needed legal advice to deal with any of these agencies to date. We have sought advice in the Republic and Northern Ireland in relation to establishing / clarifying obligations in regard to leases, caretakers agreements, conveyancing and general property related obligations.*

**6. Can more than three relevant examples be submitted?**

*Yes, you are welcome to submit more than three relevant examples if you wish.*

*However, please note that only the first three examples submitted will be reviewed and evaluated as part of the tender assessment. We therefore recommend selecting the three examples that best demonstrate your relevant experience and capability in delivering services of a similar nature and scope.*

**Is there a limit on CVs required?**

*No, there is no limit.*

- 7. Regarding clause 3.2.4 in respect of Lot 3, we note that the scope of this lot concerns commercial and contract law support, including contract drafting, review, negotiation, procurement advice, commercial agreements, and contract-related disputes.**

**In circumstances where a tenderer's proposed service is focused on non-contentious advisory support, collaborative contracting, dispute avoidance, ADR, arbitration/adjudication pathways, and mitigation of litigation risk — and does not include conducting litigation, court advocacy, or appearing before the Courts of Ireland — can the requirement to provide evidence of a right of audience before the Courts of Ireland be treated as not applicable to that proposed role?**

*Yes.*

- 8. We note that the documentation provided refers to a Framework Agreement, however, a copy of this agreement has not been included within the tender documents. Could you please provide a copy of the Framework Agreement for our review? This will enable us to consider its terms and raise any associated queries by the clarification deadline.**

*Depaul does not currently have a standard framework agreement specifically tailored to the provision of legal services.*

*Accordingly, no draft framework agreement has been included with the tender documentation. Following completion of the procurement process, Depaul intends to work with the successful tenderer to agree appropriate contractual terms. Tenderers may submit their standard terms of engagement or framework agreement for review as part of the contract finalisation process.*

*Please note that any agreement will be subject to review and mutual agreement by both parties and must not materially alter the scope, requirements, or outcome of the procurement process.*