

Ref: CFT8495035 - T21680 - Request for Tenders to establish a Multi Supplier Framework Agreement for the provision of legal services to the Commission for Communications Regulation.

Clarification Questions dated 03rd July 2026 Q1-4

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
726384	Q1: At Appendix 1 of the RFT, the scope for Lot 3 (Core Regulatory and Legal Services) states that the following is included in this lot: Core Regulatory and Legal Services shall consist of legal advice and / or assistance relating to ComReg's functions and obligations under Irish and EU law including: Irish and EU regulatory law; Public, administrative and constitutional law; EU law; Compliance and enforcement in relation to this Lot or any of the Lots; Any related dispute resolution including but not limited to litigation, adjudication, arbitration, mediation, etc. for this Lot (including the sub-lots below) or any of the Lots Any of the matters described at sub lots 3.1 – 3.6 below, to include any related legislation arising in relation to those sub lots. Can tenderers tender for Lot 3 and certain of the sub lots under 3.1 – 3.6 (i.e. not all sub lots), and put forward experience for the sub lots for which they are applying, but not include experience for those sub lots for which they are not applying? Will tenderers be penalised if they do not demonstrate experience to cover each of sub lots 3.1-3.6 under lot 3?	There is no obligation or restriction for any tenderer to apply for any specific lot(s) or sub-lot(s). Tenderers will not be penalised in only applying for specific lot(s) or sub-lot(s) and for not applying for others. For example, a tenderer may apply specifically for a sub-lot and no other lot. Tenders will be evaluated on the submissions and supporting documentation provided by the tenderer for the relevant lot or sub-lot.
	Q2: Section 3.3.1 of the RFT refers to "1.15 paragraph spacing". Can it be assumed that this is included in error and should in fact be "1.15 line spacing"?	Correct should read 1.15 line spacing
	Q3: We note the Grades as set out in the Pricing Schedule. Grade 1 is defined as a "qualified solicitor who is a partner or consultant". Can we assume that the role of "Of Counsel" fits into this grade also?	Grade 1 would include 'Of Counsel' on the condition that they are a qualified solicitor.

	Q4: Section 3.2A of the RFT requests that tenderers provide audited accounts for the last three years as evidence that the minimum turnover threshold is met. Will the Contracting Authority accept a Statement of Audited Turnover to satisfy this requirement as this firm will not provide audited accounts.	In accordance with the RfT - Where a Tenderer is unable, for a valid reason, to provide the specified documentation, the Tenderer must inform ComReg of the reason why the documentation cannot be supplied. A Statement of Audited Turnover from the tenderers auditor must state that turnover exceeds the minimum threshold as set out in Selection Criteria 3.2.A (2).
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Clarification Questions dated 06th of July 2026 Q1-2

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
726708	Q1. We note that clause 3.2.B of the Request for Tenders requires 3 relevant contracts within the last 3 years and contact details for same. Clause 3.3.1 Award Criteria Section 3 on page 30 requires 2 referees on comparable contracts in the last 3 years. You might confirm whether you require 2 or 3 referees in respect of past contracts.	Two (2) references are required for each contract for the past three years.
	Q2. We refer to Clause 3.3.1 Award Criteria Section 4 on page 31. Section 4 requires tenderers to submit details of members of the Designated Team by way of curriculum vitae. You might clarify whether there is a minimum and or maximum number of CVs that should be submitted, whether there is a page limit (e.g. 2 pages) per CV and whether you require the CVs to be in any particular format or template?	There is no minimum or maximum limit applied to the members of the proposed team and a CV should be provided for each. A page limit of 2 pages will apply and there is no specific format.

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Clarification Questions dated 06th of July 2026 (003) Q1

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
727315	We note that under the "Technical and Professional Ability" selection criteria 3.2B (2) Certification – Practising Certificates and Conduct (Pass/Fail), ComReg asks: "Tenderers must declare by way of eESPD that all of the Legal Practitioners who will provide or who may be proposed to provide the Services will hold current valid practising certificates to act as a Solicitor in Ireland issued by the Law Society of Ireland in accordance with the Solicitors Act 1954-2015, (as amended)." As EU law advice does not require an Irish practising certificate, we would be grateful if you could confirm whether practitioners admitted in other EU jurisdictions are eligible to tender for Lot 3, or whether the requirement is limited to solicitors holding Irish practising certificates. Our services under this lot would primarily be provided out of our Brussels office, by lawyers admitted to the Belgian and / or French Bar.	Practitioners admitted in other EU jurisdictions are eligible to apply. Equivalent evidence of being admitted to a European bar should be provided in place of practising certificates from the Law Society of Ireland.

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Clarification Questions dated 06th of July 2026 (004) Q1

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
727553	Can you please confirm our understanding that tenderers are required submit up to 3 proposals (one for each of lots 1, 2 and 3)?	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly.

	Our understanding is that Lot 3, 3.1- 3.6 should be responded to within Lot 3 Core regulatory and Legal Services. Our understanding is that only 3 references are required to cover Lot 3 which includes sub-lots 3.1-3.6 and that the sub-lots do not require a separate submission and references.	Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate Lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area. Tenders will be evaluated on the submissions and supporting documentation provided by the tenderer for the relevant lot or sub-lot. Two (2) references are required for each contract for the past three years.
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Clarification Questions dated 07th of July 2026 (005) Q1-6

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
727819	1. How many firms does ComReg intend to appoint to each Lot and, additionally, each sub Lot?	The number appointed will depend on the number of Tenderers applying and meeting the required standards.
	2. Can ComReg confirm that the three reference projects required for Lot 1 should, collectively, demonstrate the provision of legal advice across the 18 areas of service outlined under Lot 1?	There is no requirement the reference projects to cross all the areas of service listed in Lot 1.

	3. Can ComReg clarify the relationship between Lot 3 and sub-Lots 3.1–3.6? Specifically, is Lot 3 intended to be a standalone service area distinct from sub-Lots 3.1–3.6, or does Lot 3 encompass all services described within sub-Lots 3.1–3.6?	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly. Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area.
	4. We note per section 2.6.6 of the RFT, that “Tenderers tendering for more than one Lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific Lot clearly.”	Correct – See previous answers
	5. In relation to sub Lots 3.1 – 3.6, could you please clarify if tenders are to submit the full tender response covering Award Criteria items A – C for each sub Lot?	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly.
	6. Could you please clarify if 3 reference projects are required for each sub-Lot in addition to the 3 reference projects required per Lot?	If submitting a Tender for any of the sub-lots, Yes. Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly.

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Clarification Questions dated 10th of July 2026 (006) Q1-2

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
730764	Lot 2 (General Circuit Court and District Court Litigation) Appendix 1 of the RFT describes the scope of Lot 2 as follows: <i>a) Irish Circuit Court and Irish District Court prosecutions relating to any of the Lots.</i> <i>b) Circuit Court and District Court litigation where substantive pre-litigation advice is not required.</i> We would be grateful if ComReg could provide further clarification on the following: 1. Scope of work: Could ComReg provide further detail or illustrative examples of the type, nature and volume of prosecutions and litigation anticipated to fall within Lot 2, including the areas of ComReg's regulatory or operational activity from which such prosecutions or litigation are most likely to arise, and the anticipated split (if any) between Circuit Court and District Court matters?	Details of enforcement actions taken by ComReg, including prosecutions, can be viewed on our publicly available enforcement page Enforcement Commission for Communications Regulation. Only offences that may be prosecuted summarily can be prosecuted by ComReg. There are a limited number of areas that provide for Circuit Court enforcement (e.g. under Consumer legislation) however District Court enforcement is more likely to arise in practice.
	2. Estimated expenditure: The RFT states at paragraph 1.6 that ComReg estimates total expenditure across all Lots under the Framework Agreement may amount to €15.5 million (excl. VAT) over the four-year term. Could ComReg confirm whether an estimated or indicative breakdown of this figure is available as between the individual Lots, and specifically what proportion (or estimated value) of this expenditure is anticipated to relate to Lot 2?	An estimated or indicative breakdown of the estimated total expenditure is not available as between individual lots. The estimated total expenditure reflects expected expenditure, to include projected increases that ComReg considers appropriate. Its purpose was to measure estimated total expenditure against applicable thresholds and on that basis to determine the rules that govern the process.

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Clarification Questions dated 10th of July 2026 (007) Q1

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
732366	1. Some proposed personnel may have been qualified as barristers for a longer period then they have been qualified as solicitors. Will you accept years of post-qualification experience as a barrister as equivalent to years of qualification as a solicitor?	The requirement is for post qualification experience as a solicitor and so time spent practising as a barrister would not be included.

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Clarification Questions dated 14th of July 2026 (009) Q1-5

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
733506	We note that Lot 3 "is accompanied by a number of specialist sub lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area". Can the contract Authority please clarify: 1. If firms are permitted to make a submission for Lot 3 in relation to only items (a) - (e) as listed under "Specification Requirements Lot 3 – Core Regulatory and Legal Services"	Confirmed. There is no obligation or restriction for any tenderer to apply for any specific lot(s) or sub-lot(s).
	2. Where a firm would like to be considered for a sub lot, is a separate submission document required or can relevant expertise be outlined as part of that firm's main submission document for Lot 3	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly. Any relevant expertise outlined should be appropriate to the lot or sub lot being applied for.

		Per the Specification in the RfT, Lot 3 includes Any of the matters described at sub lots 3.1 – 3.6
	3. Will firms be specifically appointed to each sub lot, or will relevant services be drawn down from the main Lot 3 panel as appropriate?	Each lot and where relevant each sub lot will result in a separate Framework Agreement.
	4. How many firms does the Contracting Authority envision appointing to each panel/sub-panel?	The number appointed will depend on the number of Tenderers applying and meeting the required standards.
	5. Can a copy of Tenderers Statement in an editable format please be provided to allow for completion by tenderers?	Documents updated.

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Clarification Questions dated 14th of July 2026 (011) Q1

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
734562	1. Can you please advise if a letter of comfort from our Auditor stating our turnover is satisfactory for the purpose of this tender. Please confirm that this evidence is required upon request and not at submission stage.	In accordance with the RfT - Where a Tenderer is unable, for a valid reason, to provide the specified documentation, the Tenderer must inform ComReg of the reason why the documentation cannot be supplied.

		Documentation from the tenderers Auditor must state that turnover exceeds the minimum threshold as set out in Selection Criteria 3.2.A (2). This should be supplied as part of the Tender
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Clarification Questions dated 15th of July 2026 (012) Q1

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
734929	1. Could you please confirm that where tendering for Lot 3 - Core Regulatory and Legal Services, but with respect to only certain sub lots (namely, 4 sub lots concerning – sub lot 3.1: Electronic Communications; sub lot 3.2: Cybersecurity and Resilience; sub lot 3.3: EU Data Act Regulation; and sub lot 3.6 EU AI Act and Product safety), it is possible to provide one response for Lot 3, specifying the specific sub lots covered, so that we would not need to provide 4 versions of the (same) documents required under Sections 1, 2, and 3 of the RFT?	If only tendering for Lot 3, confirmed As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly. Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate Lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area. Tenders will be evaluated on the submissions and supporting documentation provided by the tenderer for the relevant lot or sub lot. Each lot and where relevant each sub lot will result in a separate Framework Agreement.

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Clarification Questions dated 15th of July 2026 (013) Q1-27

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
735204	We have a number of additional queries in relation to this tender, please see below: 1. The RFT references one standalone response is required comprising of 3 key sections, Compliance, Selection Criteria, and Tender. It is then referenced that tenders must complete a <i>'separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific Lot clearly'</i>. Can ComReg please clarify where a tenderer tenders for multiple Lots, a full response should comprise: 2. 1. Compliance, 3. 2. Selection Criteria 4. Lot 1, 5. Lot 2, 6. Lot 3 7. 3. Tender Responses: 8. 3.1 Tender Lot 1, 9. 3.2 Tender Lot 2, 10. 3.3 Tender Lot 3.1, 11. 3.4 Tender Lot 3.2, 12. etc?	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly. Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate Lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area. Tenders will be evaluated on the submissions and supporting documentation provided by the tenderer for the relevant lot or sub lot. Each lot and where relevant each sub lot will result in a separate Framework Agreement.
	13. We understand that ComReg wish to appoint up to 15 framework members to each lot. In relation to Lot 3, can you please confirm if up to 15 will be appointed to each sub lot or will 15 be appointed overall to Lot 3?	Subject to the quantity and quality of the Tenders received, ComReg anticipates that it may admit up to 15 Framework Members for each Lot. ComReg reserves the right to admit less or more members to a Framework Agreement at its absolute discretion. The number appointed will depend on the number of Tenderers applying and meeting the required standards.

	14. Where a tenderer applies for multiple sub lots under Lot 3, can ComReg confirm: 15. whether each sub lot will be evaluated independently; 16. whether each sub lot will require a standalone response; 17. whether previous experience contracts can be replicated across the sub-lots; 18. whether the team can be replicated across the sub lots; and 19. how each sub lot will be evaluated how marks will be allocated?	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RfT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly. Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate Lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area. Tenders will be evaluated on the submissions and supporting documentation provided by the tenderer for the relevant lot or sub lot.
	20. The RFT appears to request similar information across a number of the Selection and Award Criteria. Can ComReg clarify the intended distinction between these sections and confirm whether Tenderers may cross-reference information already provided elsewhere in their submission where it fully addresses the relevant criterion? For example:	Please see RfT Guidance Pages 30 to 32. Tenderers may cross-reference information already provided elsewhere in their submission where it fully addresses the relevant criterion and is not overly duplicative
	21. Selection Criterion 3.2.B(1) (Previous Experience) requires Tenderers to provide three reference projects demonstrating similar services, while Award Criterion C2 (Quality of the Designated Team) also requests details of contracts delivered by members of the Designated Team.	Please see RfT Guidance Pages 30 to 32
	22. Selection Criterion 3.2.B(1) (Previous Experience) requires Tenderers to provide three reference contact details whom ComReg can contact while Award Criterion B (Reliability and Continuity of Supply) also requests the same details in relation to referee contact details.	Please see RfT Guidance Pages 30 to 32

	23. Award Criterion A (Approach and Methodology) requests details of project management, response times, reporting mechanisms and quality assurance procedures, while Award Criterion B (Reliability and Continuity of Supply) appears to seek similar information regarding service delivery and reliability.	Please see RfT Guidance Pages 30 to 32
	24. Award Criterion C1 (Quantity and Balance of the Designated Team) requires CVs, roles and responsibilities, while Award Criterion C2 (Quality of the Designated Team) also requires information relating to the experience and expertise of those same team members.	Please see RfT Guidance Pages 30 to 32
	25. For Lot 1, based on previous framework usage and anticipated future requirements, can ComReg identify the top five areas of legal work from the list that are most likely to be required under this framework so that we can present the most appropriate team?	No.
	26. On page 25-26 of the RFT, can ComReg please clarify the paragraph highlighted in green?	Please note that the highlighting of the text has no meaning and does not change or affect in any way the meaning of the text that is highlighted.
	27. Where a tenderer is a partnership, our audited accounts are not publicly disclosed or available, can ComReg confirm if a letter confirming turnover in lieu of audited accounts would satisfy the requirements of Selection Criteria 3.2.A (2)?	In accordance with the RfT - Where a Tenderer is unable, for a valid reason, to provide the specified documentation, the Tenderer must inform ComReg of the reason why the documentation cannot be supplied. Any document, which should be from the tenderers auditor, must indicate that turnover exceeds the minimum threshold as set out in Selection Criteria 3.2.A (2).

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Clarification Questions dated 15th of July 2026 (016) Q1-2

Message Ref No:	Question	ComReg Response
736003	Further to our previous message, we wish to clarify that items 5 and 6 are subpoints of item number 4. See below. 4) We note per section 2.6.6 of the RFT, that “Tenderers tendering for more than one Lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific Lot clearly.” In relation to sub Lots 3.1 – 3.6, could you please clarify if tenders are to submit the full tender response covering Award Criteria items A – C for each sub Lot? Could you please clarify if 3 reference projects are required for each sub-Lot in addition to the 3 reference projects required per Lot?	As per paragraph 2.6.6 of the RFT, Tenderers tendering for more than one lot must complete a separate bespoke Tender for each Lot and each sub lot, identifying each specific lot or sub lot clearly. Lots 3.1-3.6 are considered separate Lots which are included to facilitate applications by firms who can demonstrate specific appropriate expertise in the relevant area. Tenders will be evaluated on the submissions and supporting documentation provided by the tenderer for the relevant lot or sub-lot. Two (2) references are required for each contract for the past three years.