

26 May 2026

Clarification #	Question	Response
1	For accuracy of pricing submission, can you supply more detailed information around the quantities in the pricing schedule.	As this contract is a drawdown agreement designed to support ongoing & fluctuating recruitment campaigns, exact drawdown volumes cannot be guaranteed. However, for the purpose of a transparent & equal evaluation of all bids, tenderers must input their costs against the specific baseline quantities currently detailed in <i>Pricing Schedule V 1 PB</i> . This ensures all submissions are assessed on an identical financial footprint.
2	In the spreadsheet Pricing Schedule V 1 PB, there are exact quantities to price, however in the request for tender document 1_PDF Merchandise V5 there is a requirement for variable unit quantity pricing. It is impossible to give an exact price per unit when you require quantities varying from 501 to 1000 etc. For example, a unit price for 500 would be more expensive than a unit price for 1000.	We appreciate that economies of scale significantly impact production costs. Costs should be entered against the quantities indicated on the Pricing Schedule
3	Where we see 1001+ could be any figure, for example 5000. The unit price here would change if you only order say 2500 & since you did not stipulate exact pricing it would stand.	See Question 2
4	Are there fixed quantities available to quote on.	No, there are no guaranteed or fixed purchase quantities for the duration of this framework, as spending is entirely demand-led. The quantities listed in the tender documents are careful estimates based on historical recruitment cycles & are intended solely as a baseline mechanism for scoring your financial templates.
5	You require options in colour of Black, Gold, White, Navy, Blue & Green for every item. Printing a	The mandatory branding palette of the Defence Forces is comprehensively detailed in the newly uploaded



	colour logo on colour items will affect your logos & some items do not come in all the colours required. Can we supply the colours available in the items?	DFPP_Brand_guideline document. This document outlines the permitted logo versions, background contrasts & colour application rules to protect the integrity of the crests. If a specific merchandise item cannot be sourced in a required colour, you may propose the closest commercially available alternative matching the guidelines. Clarification Request for Tenderers: Please formally list on Tender response document which specific merchandise items face colour restrictions & what alternative shades your supply chain can offer that align with the approved brand guidelines.
6	Would you be able to share with us the logo required on the branded merchandise or the number of colours required for branding the merchandise. As it is impossible to price branded merchandise without knowing how many colours are required for the logo.	The official logos, crests, layout specifications, & precise Pantone colour references are fully outlined in the DFPP_Brand_guideline document, which has been uploaded to the eTenders portal. For the purpose of your financial submission, please calculate all print costs based on a standard three-colour print process as specified within these guidelines.
7	In Section 3.2A of the RFT states that tenderers must have a minimum annual turnover of €1 million for each of the last three financial years, supported by an Auditor's Statement. However, Step 3 of the Tender Response Document (TRD) states that tenderers should declare they have an average annual turnover in excess of €250,000 over the last three years. As these two requirements appear to be inconsistent, could the Contracting Authority please clarify which turnover requirement applies for this competition?	We acknowledge this administrative error & thank you for bringing it to our attention. In accordance with the principle of proportionality under national procurement guidelines, the lower threshold is the correct requirement. The financial capacity criterion is officially amended to a minimum average annual turnover of €250,000 over the last three financial years. A revised RFT & TRD will be issued to reflect this.
8	Could the Contracting Authority please confirm the branding specification to be used when	Yes, unless explicitly stated otherwise in the item description within Appendix 1 or the DFPP_Brand_guideline, all pricing must be



	pricing the products in Appendix 1 & the Pricing Schedule? Specifically:	based on a single branding position (front centre for garments, or single-side print for pens/mugs).
9	Should pricing be based on a single branding position?	No. As noted in the response to Question 6 & in accordance with the DFPP_Brand_guideline, tenderers must assume a three-colour print process as the baseline for all printed items to accommodate the standard Defence Forces/Joint Recruitment Office branding.
10	Where products typically use different branding methods (e.g. embroidery, laser engraving or digital print), should tenderers price using the standard branding method appropriate to the product?	Yes, tenderers should utilise the industry-standard branding method most appropriate to the durability & material of each specific product, while strictly adhering to the application rules in the DFPP_Brand_guideline (e.g., embroidery for apparel, laser engraving for metal items, screen/digital print for plastics). Please clearly specify the chosen branding method within your technical submission for each item.
11	Should artwork origination & setup costs be included within the unit prices?	Yes. To satisfy public sector accounting & evaluation rules, all setup, origination & tooling costs must be amortised & fully inclusive within the unit prices submitted in the pricing schedule. No separate or hidden setup fees will be paid during the contract term.
12	Are all the items to be branded or blank? Also, if branded is it a how many colours is the logo?	All items under this framework are to be supplied fully branded according to the rules in the DFPP_Brand_guideline. Blank items are not required. As stated previously, please calculate all costs using a standard logo application.
13	Do you want us to offer sustainable products where they are available?	Tenders must submit their proposals strictly in accordance with the specifications, requirements and evaluation criteria outlined in the published RFT. Please refer to Section 3.3.1 for specific environmental and sustainability scoring applicable to the products requested.
14	Do evaluation samples need Defence Forces branding or are identical products with alternative logos acceptable?	Defence Forces branding or colours are NOT required for the purpose of the sample evaluation.

