



CALL FOR TENDER

Establishment of multiple supplier framework agreement for the provision of Advisory Support to Public Bodies	Lot 1: Sector Coordination, Networking Coordination and Technical Communications Lot 2: Mentorship Lot 3: Energy Management Specialists Lot 4: Transport Fleet Energy Management and Decarbonisation Experts Lot 5: Sector Strategic Technical Advisors / Monitoring & Reporting Technical Advisors Lot 6: Monitoring & Reporting Methodology Expert
Tender Procedure	OPEN
Issue Date	Wednesday, 19th of August, 2026
Closing Date for Queries	Wednesday, 9th of September 2026 at 12pm (noon)
Contact for Queries	Questions and Answers facility on www.etenders.gov.ie
Closing Date / Time for receipt of Tenders	Friday, 25th of September 2026 at 12pm (noon)

Please note that information relating to this Call for Tenders, including clarifications and changes, will be published on the Irish Government Procurement Opportunities Portal www.etenders.gov.ie . Registration is free of charge and there is no charge for documents.

Please note that SEAI cannot accept responsibility for information relayed (or not relayed) via third parties.

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1 Introduction

SEAI is the expert authority on decarbonising Ireland's energy system, using robust, objective data and an evidence-based approach to help inform policy development and energy user behaviours. SEAI empowers households, businesses, motorists and the public sector to move away from fossil fuels with practical advice and financial supports. SEAI encourages positive changes in how Ireland uses energy to deliver a more prosperous, energy efficient and cleaner environment.

SEAI's Statement of Strategy 2026-2030 is available here [Statement-of-Strategy-2026-2030.pdf](#)

SEAI is funded by the Government of Ireland through the Department of Climate, Energy and the Environment and the Department of Transport. Additionally, SEAI is partly financed by Ireland's EU Structural Funds Programme which is co-funded by the Irish Government and the European Union. Reporting to the Department of the Climate, Energy and the Environment. SEAI is responsible for an annual budget of almost €900 million in 2026.

Each year, SEAI invests a significant proportion of its government allocated budget into a range of grant and other programmes, to deliver increased energy efficiency and to decarbonise our economy. These actions stimulate vital economic growth and employment in our economy. SEAI grant programmes include support for building energy upgrades, the adoption of electric cars and to businesses and public bodies to support energy efficiency and renewable energy investments. SEAI also supports Irish communities taking charge of their own low carbon transition.

Along with our capital programmes, SEAI has a mandate to provide policy analysis, forecasting and modelling support. SEAI is central to research and innovation in the energy sector in Ireland. Internationally SEAI participates in International Energy Agency, UN and EU fora and as the national delegate to the Horizon Europe programme.

SEAI performs its functions in a flexible and efficient manner by applying the highest standards of corporate governance, risk management, information technology and human and financial resource management. This is delivered by a results-orientated and metric management-based approach, embodying strong commitment to best international practises and by being open to adopting of new approaches and their flexible incorporation into business process.

2 Objective of this Call for Tender (CfT)

The objective of this CfT is to invite proposals from suitably qualified services providers to establish **six** multi-party framework agreements for the provision of support to public bodies. Each framework agreement will cover a separate lot as listed below:

Lot 1: Sector Coordination, Networking Coordination and Technical Communications

Lot 2: Mentorship

Lot 3: Energy Management Specialists

Lot 4: Transport Fleet Energy Management and Decarbonisation Experts

Lot 5: Sector Strategic Technical Advisors / Monitoring & Reporting Technical Advisors

Lot 6: Monitoring & Reporting Methodology Expert

2.1 Background

Through its Public Sector Programmes, SEAI supports public bodies in achieving their 2030 targets first and then climate neutrality by 2050. Achieving these targets will require significant leadership commitment, long term strategic planning, resources, and investment. There are over 350 public bodies in Ireland that vary in size and complexity. The Public Sector Climate Action mandate recognises the importance of structured energy management systems. It requires all public sector bodies with an energy spend of greater than €2 million per annum to achieve ISO 50001 certification and all remaining public bodies to implement energy management programmes as per SEAI's energy management guidance and report annually via the Monitoring & Reporting (M&R) system.

There is a real urgency for public bodies to meet their 2030 targets and prepare for 2050. Therefore, the focus must be on actual performance and actions to deliver the fossil fuel reduction and energy efficiency targets. Analysis and planning are vital to understanding the position of the public bodies in relation to the targets and how they can accelerate actions to bridge the gaps.

SEAI is seeking expert support to assist public bodies with energy management, project pipeline planning, and performance monitoring. The supports provided may range from general to specialist energy management supports, as well as advanced data analysis, planning supports and supports to engage sector and public body leadership. Successful Tenderer(s) will provide supports across SEAI's Public Sector programmes and where required, other SEAI programmes that support public bodies.

For more information about the background to the requirements on public bodies, please see Appendix 7: Background and Further Information.

Public Sector Programmes

There are four programmes that are currently dedicated to supporting public bodies.

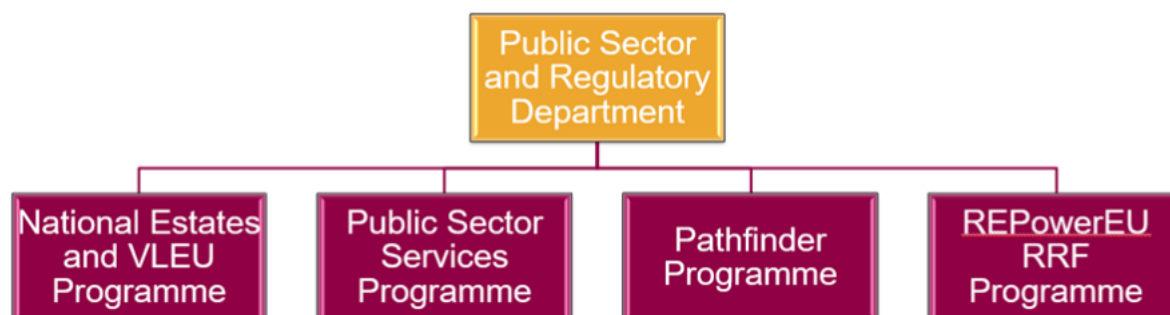


Figure 1. Public Sector Programmes

1. Public Sector Services Programme

The Public Sector Services Programme supports public bodies in achieving their energy efficiency and emissions reduction targets by providing mentoring, training, networking opportunities and practical support services. The programme works closely with public bodies through an annual partnership cycle, providing guidance, performance reviews and gap-to-target (GTT) analysis support. The programme is also developing building energy optimisation and operational and maintenance schemes.

2. Public Sector National Estates (NE) and Very Large Energy Users (VLEU) Programme

The Public Sector National Estates and Very Large Energy Users Programme works with Ireland's largest public sector organisations and sectors to develop, monitor and deliver investment and decarbonisation project pipelines. Through structured engagement, project tracking, planning support and monitoring and

reporting systems, the programme helps organisations achieve national energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction targets while also identifying opportunities to accelerate project delivery and impact.

3. Pathfinder Programme

The Pathfinder Programme supports the development and delivery of innovative energy retrofit and decarbonisation projects across the public sector. Focusing on large-scale and replicable solutions, the programme helps organisations overcome barriers, test new approaches, share best practice, and accelerate progress towards Ireland's climate and energy targets through technical support, funding, and strategic guidance.

4. REPowerEU RRF Programme

The REPowerEU RRF Programme manages the SEAI and HSE partnership project funded under the EU Recovery and Resilience Facility. The programme supports the delivery of low-carbon infrastructure, heating system upgrades and energy efficiency measures across selected healthcare sites, while ensuring compliance with requirements associated with the funding.

For more detailed information on each of the Programmes, please refer to Appendix 7: Background and Further Information.

3 Requirements & Specification

The successful service providers will be required to assist/provide support under the following Lots.

Lot 1: Sector Coordination, Networking Coordination and Technical Communications

SEAI will require work to be undertaken in the following four areas:

1. Partnership Programme Sector Coordination: Coordinate and manage sector level supports, data insights, and engagement to public bodies who have signed up to the partnership programme.
2. Sector Strategic Leads: As part of the National Estates & VLEU support team for each sector, coordinate supports and Ways of Working engagements with the National Estate Portfolio Leads (NEPLs) and VLEU.
3. Networking Coordination: Manage and continuously improve sub sector networks to enhance collaboration and knowledge exchange.
4. Technical Communications: Develop and deliver technical communications and digital content to promote best practice amongst sectors and support SEAI programme visibility.

1. Sector Coordination

Sector coordinators will be expected to coordinate and manage SEAI's supports at sector level for public bodies or groups of public bodies.

This includes the following tasks:

- Work with the Mentors in their sector to coordinate annual mentorship deliverables through the Partnership Programme. Determine if supports were delivered adequately, assess the quality, impact and client satisfaction. Recommend actions to address effectiveness and/or feedback from both mentors and public bodies.
- Analyse and interpret Mentor deliverables. Manage or create dashboards, visual summaries, and data driven insights for the sectors, to support decision making.
- Coordinate sector specific events to facilitate networking, knowledge exchange, and best practice sharing across public bodies.
- Work with SEAI's Public Sector Services Programme Manager to develop relationships with public body Energy Performance Officers / Chief Executives in sectors, where required. This may include supporting government departments' Energy Performance Officer engagements.
- Assist the programme managers of other relevant programmes to facilitate engagements that lead to piloted supports or large-scale initiatives for the sector or grouping.

- Proactively organise engagements, track and follow up on actions and act as a driver to maintain momentum and deliver impactful initiatives.

Coordinate Sector Communications, including promotion and dissemination of sector best practices. Administer and moderate communications on SEAI's Energy Link online portal relevant to the sector being coordinated.

2. NE/VLEU Sector Leads

- Support the NE team and liaise with the clients to deliver NE/VLEU programme annual deliverables:
 - Map and diagnose the project pipeline and pathway to achieving the targets.
 - An investment plan for the following year, detailing pathfinder supported projects and programmes, and other SEAI capital supports.
 - A three-year rolling investment plan.
 - Sharing good practices with other strategic groupings and the wider public sector.
- Coordinate the engagement with the NEPL's/VLEU's, which is bespoke to each grouping. This may relate to weekly or monthly meetings structured around pre agreed agendas/workstreams. These workstreams themselves have specific outputs or deliverables. For example, to gather the data, audits or evidence base to feed projects into the project pipeline tool, producing analysis on the impact of upcoming EU directives for example.
- Assist SEAI's NE/VLEU Team to coordinate and deliver strategic advisory supports to the sector leaders and leadership structures.
- Liaise with the Public Sector Services Programme and Pathfinder to consider their supports and services in the deliverables listed above. Namely:
 - Ensure SEAI capital programmes are optimised in the Sector Strategic Lead deliverables i.e. is mapped on the project pipeline, becomes a specific work stream in the ways of working arrangement.
 - Supports the team to take outputs from these programmes to utilise end goals i.e. public body Gap to Target for sectoral analysis in the NEPL/VLEU grouping, project learnings and impact data from Pathfinder and M&R, etc.

3. Networking Coordination

- Coordinate networking groups for Public Bodies on specific topics, or within specific sub-sectors e.g. Communities of Practice and/or Special Working Groups for transport, green public procurement, energy management, reduce your use etc. Working groups are usually time bound with specific objectives and deliverables and should be impactful for their lifespan.
- Develop an overall networking structure and approach, to prioritise and support the networks which are the most useful and effective. Enact a strategy to review, consolidate, enhance or cancel networks that are no longer impactful or effective.
- Support the network technical leads in developing relevant topics, content, and agendas, ensuring networks deliver high-quality meetings, sessions, and knowledge-sharing opportunities.
- Administrate and moderate SEAI's Energy Link online networking portal,
- Measure and take action to ensure positive client feedback and testimonials.
- Assess the quantitative impact of networking where possible.

4. Technical Communications

- Develop communication plans for promotion and dissemination of energy specific best practices to the public sector.
- Collate and prepare materials for publication, including copywriting, design and layout and editing, e.g. videos, best practice guides, marketing material, social media, case studies, etc.
- Collaborate with SEAI to support the communication of programme services, supports and best practice through the SEAI website.

- Support SEAI to develop offline networking to inform non-public bodies of what is happening in the public sector. Over time, expand successful networking approaches into the private sector with the main objective of informing the market of public sector targets and needs in this area. Through networking, support the development of markets for goods, services, products and works that support public bodies reaching their 2030 and 2050 targets.
- Administrate and moderate communications on SEAI's Energy Link online portal, including development and enhancement of the Energy Link online platform.

Digital Platform Development (desirable):

- Ongoing development, enhancement, and technical maintenance of digital platforms, such as Energy Link, used to provide and support SEAI's services to the public bodies. This includes website programming and digital feature development.
- Ongoing technical support to platform users. This includes managing registrations and access, group memberships, addressing issues, managing FAQs, feedback collection and more.

Sector Coordinators and Network Coordinators can be the same individual. SEAI may decide to limit the number of assigned sectors or groups depending on assigned workload, performance and client feedback. All work under this lot will be assigned to specific individuals. They can be supported by one or more team members in agreement with SEAI.

Lot 2 – Mentorship

SEAI require a panel of public body Mentors to undertake the following tasks:

1. Establish and maintain an energy management relationship

- Managing and coordinating the SEAI to Public Body relationship, i.e. being a trusted expert working on behalf of SEAI.
- Build a trusted relationship with the public body focused on achieving national energy-related targets.

2. Completion of annual partnership deliverables

- Annually assess each public body's progress, identify improvements required, and feed into their action plan to achieve government targets. Supports will most likely be delivered through an annual cycle of deliverables e.g. a critical success factor (CSF) review, a GTT assessment, etc, with deliverables adapted to reflect effectiveness and organisational needs.
- Act on behalf of SEAI to assess a public body's ability to reach the targets based on critical success factors or other criteria as deemed appropriate by SEAI.

3. Support specific public bodies and coordinate additional supports

The advisor will, where required or appropriate, undertake the following activities:

- Work with SEAI and sector coordinators to coordinate and deliver additional supports.
- Support public bodies in the development of their annual action plan, ensuring identified deficiencies in critical success factors and gaps identified are specifically tracked and addressed.,
- Assist assigned public bodies or groups of public bodies to close the specific energy management gaps identified in annual cycle of deliverables.
- Collaborate with other SEAI advisors providing a holistic support package to public bodies and sectors.
- Work with the sector coordinator to engage sector leadership and coordinate supports at sectoral level.
- Work with the networking coordinators to solicit best practices and communicate them to the networks. Lead specific networks on particular topics or technologies of interest.

4. Track and report on partnership regularly

- Report at a minimum quarterly to the sector coordinator and SEAI on progress with annual deliverables and other supports.
- Provide feedback on engagement with assigned public bodies.

5. Continually assess effectiveness and efficiency of supports

- Work with the Public Sector Programme Manager and sector coordinators to ensure supports are effective. For example:
 - a. Tracking savings/days expended per partner.
 - b. The Mentor days expended deliver actual savings and are effectively addressing critical success factors.
 - c. Solicit feedback on effectiveness of supports.
 - d. Actively engage in providing ideas and innovations to reduce administrative burden to draw down supports, ways of working between sector managers and SEAI for effective use of SEAI sponsored time.

6. Provide structured energy management advice and training to public bodies

- Provide ISO50001 training and optimisation supports and programmes.
- Provide Energy MAP training and Advanced Diagnostics.
- Provide Energy Efficient Design training.
- Provide Measurement and Verification training.
- Provide Energy in Education training.
- Energy management system or programme assessment, of e.g. ISO50001, or Energy MAP.
- Develop tools and guidance as requested.

The majority of the mentors' relationships will be at energy manager level in public bodies. A portion of time may also be dedicated to helping SEAI build a direct relationship with the Energy Performance Officers (director level) where appropriate.

To the greatest extent practical, SEAI will avoid assigning the same individual as Sector Coordinator and Mentor in the same sector.

All work under this lot will be assigned to specific individuals.

As the main purpose of this support is to develop an energy management relationship with the public body, the appointments of public body mentors may be for the duration of the framework, barring performance or client dissatisfaction issues. This is subject to change e.g. if the needs of the public bodies being supported by the public sector programme changes.

Lot 3 - Energy management specialists

SEAI require experts to undertake specific tasks in one or more of the 11 following energy management specialist areas:

1. Experts in Energy data gathering, metering, analysis and interpretation.
2. Experts in Energy assessments / audits.
3. Experts in Energy technologies – provision of specific expertise in particular technologies.
4. Experts in Financial Appraisal of energy savings.
5. Experts in Performance Guarantees and Energy Performance Contracting.
6. Experts in Energy Efficiency Design (EED).
7. Post Occupancy Performance Evaluation.
8. Experts in Measurement and Verification (M&V).
9. Experts in Energy awareness and behaviour.

10. Experts in Green public procurement (GPP) /circular economy.
11. Experts in Implementation of energy management systems e.g. ISO50001.

A competency matrix will be provided in the Tender Response Document (TRD) for Lot 3, where tenderers must indicate which of these areas, they are bidding for, under Selection and Award criteria (section 7). Experts proposed should also be familiar with the relevant legislation and policy related to their specialist areas.

Engagements likely to be procured under this Lot include:

- Provision of expert advice in any of the 11 specialist energy management areas detailed in this section.
- Provision of training and formal certification.
- Development of tools and templates.
- Energy audits/energy assessments.
- Audits/assessments relating to the specialist areas.
- Specific analysis and assessment relating to the specialist areas.
- Support to pilots or trials relating to specialist areas.
- Provision of advice and mentoring on embedding specialist areas.
- Workshops and other engagements to build understanding, awareness and familiarisation, amongst staff and senior management.
- Coordinate and deliver accelerator programmes, providing training and bespoke support to those attending until embedded in the organisation.
- Developing guidance documents, case studies, reports and web information.
- Support partnership mentors (Lot 2) and sector co-ordinators (Lot 1) with specific duties, when required.
- Coordinate or assist coordinating specialist working groups or networks.
- Undertaking quality assurance reviews (e.g. review of technical documents, evaluating program deliveries) and providing reports on suggested improvements.
- Assisting with the development and maintenance of data management and process recording systems, and any other systems necessary for implementing new schemes (portal development etc.).
- Development of Measurement and Verification (M&V) Plans/Reports compliant to International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocol (IPMVP).

The deliverables may include:

- Site assessments and audits
- Audit reports and presentations
- Technical guidance documents
- Advisory supports
- Tools and templates
- Training and certification
- Workshops
- Research reports
- M&V Plan/Reports
- EED process outputs

Detailed description of competencies and experience required:

1. **Energy data gathering, metering, analysis and interpretation**

- Knowledge of meter technology - practicalities of installing, maintaining and optimising meters; understanding of latest metering technologies and software systems.
- Meter plans – developing metering plans and meter assessment reports.
- Data analytics - analysis of meter and other energy data to produce informative reports and visuals.
- Development of scorecards, dashboards, infographics, software tools and systems to portray complex data in a visually appealing and impactful manner.
- Energy benchmarking – especially detailed and proven approaches to properly benchmark buildings, facilities or utilities.
- Development of Energy Performance metrics, pertaining to significant energy users arising from ISO50001 certification.
- Develop the procedures and protocols required for effective Energy Performance Indicators (EnPIs).
- Linking metering and energy monitoring to Correction and Corrective Action principles as part of ISO50001.

2. **Energy assessments / audits**

- Delivery of energy audits/assessments to identify short-, medium- and long-term opportunities for a particular building or technology.
- Calculation of energy saving, estimation of costs and paybacks, estimation of cost per kWh/kg GHG saved.
- Developing Register of Opportunities (ROO) and working with clients to create action plans to implement the identified opportunities.
- Preparation of detailed and comprehensive written energy audit reports.
- Preparation and presentation of audit findings and recommendations to senior stakeholders.
- High-quality energy audits, compliant with the EU EED energy audit requirements and SEAI's energy audit requirements in this context.

3. **Energy technologies – provision of specific expertise in a particular technology.**

- Technologies of particular interest are: heat pumps, solar, HVAC, BMS, public lighting, district heating, automation and controls and ICT.
- Competencies should include:
 - Audits to identify energy saving opportunities related to a technology.
 - Design/specification of energy efficient systems.
 - Expert advice and best practice guidance for installation and operation.
 - Proposed advisors would ideally have qualifications specific to the technology from an authority or certification body.

4. **Financial Appraisal**

- Expertise in undertaking advanced and comprehensive financial assessment on energy projects ranging from small (<€250k) to very large projects (>€5m).
- Experience in using the Department of Public Expenditure, Infrastructure, Public Sector Reform and Digitalisation Infrastructure Guidelines.
- Expertise in lifecycle costing analysis.
- Expertise in business case development.

- Presentation skills relating to presenting financial analysis to senior managers in public bodies.

5. **Performance Guarantees and Energy Performance Contracting**

Performance Guarantees

- Expertise in technical aspects of applying performance guarantees when procuring goods, products, works or services
- Experience of devising levels of M&V appropriate to what is being procured, robust enough to be included in a procurement process.
- Communication/preparation of guidance and training on performance guarantees.

Energy Performance Contracting (EPC)

- Expertise in technical aspects of the EPC project development in Irish contexts and experience in providing advisory supports related to technical aspects of EPC contracts.
- Experience in providing technical EPC procurement advice and support.
- Expertise in financial assessment specific to evaluating the business case of EPC projects.

6. **Energy Efficiency Design (EED)**

- Experience of acting as an EED expert and or EED facilitator for public or private sector clients, ideally for the EXEED programme and/or applying IS399 energy efficient design principles to energy efficiency and decarbonisation projects.
- Expertise in energy efficient design across a variety of sectors.
- Experience in developing and delivering EED briefings and in-depth training.
- Strong understanding of design processes.
- Experience running challenge and analyse workshops, design reviews and stakeholder coordination.

7. **Design energy performance evaluation**

- Expertise in developing and implementing protocols, procedures and practices to assess post occupancy consumption.
- Experience of utilising post occupancy evaluation approaches in building labelling schemes (BREEAM/LEED/Well/EU Levels).
- Experience in using SEAI EXEED or the IS399 standard to evaluate post occupancy performance.
- Experience of IPMVP Option D - calibrating M&V models for estimating energy performance during design with actual consumption post occupancy.

8. **Measurement and Verification (M&V) of energy savings**

- Professionally competent as M&V Analyst or Expert.
- Experience of applying M&V to assess performance of specific projects, designs or energy technologies.
- Experience in provision of formal accredited M&V training programmes complying with the International Performance Measurement and Verification Protocol (IPMVP).
- Experience in provision of introductory M&V training.

9. **Energy awareness and behaviour change**

- Experience in developing energy awareness campaigns, including developing key messages and creation and dissemination of tools and collateral.
- Awareness of best practice in behaviour change and application to energy.
- Advising on engagement with senior leadership within organisations.
- Ability to develop and apply tools to baseline and measure the impacts of such campaigns.

10. **Green public procurement and circular economy**

- Expertise in energy related green public procurement, including development of standard clauses, award criteria and life cycle assessment tools and approaches.
- Experience of providing training in GPP best practice.
- Expertise in procuring performance guarantees.
- Awareness of best practice in GPP in the EU and internationally.
- Awareness of circular economy best practice.

11. **Energy management systems and ISO50001**

- Advising/assisting clients in implementing energy management systems in organisations of different sizes, in particular ISO50001.
- Experience of developing and providing energy management training
- Experience as ISO50001 auditor

Lot 4 - Transport Fleet Energy Management and Decarbonisation Experts

SEAI is seeking experts in transport fleet energy management and transport decarbonisation. The 2025 Climate Action Plan outlined that the policy pathway for cutting transport emissions centres around the 'Avoid-Shift-Improve' approach.

SEAI will draw upon this lot to undertake tasks related to transport.

The tasks will be undertaken in the following areas:

- Logistics, vehicle management, telematics – specifically focused on energy related issues
- Cars, vans and other light vehicles
- Articulated vehicles and buses
- Rail (all forms)
- Ships/ Tugs and water transport
- Air transport
- other transport vehicles used by public bodies

Experts appointed under this lot will have expertise in:

- Areas listed above;
- Avoid-Shift-Improve approach to transport energy management and emissions reduction;
- National, European and international policy, legislation, standards and guidance relating to transport decarbonisation;
- Applying energy management frameworks such as ISO50001 and EnergyMAP to transport fleet energy

- Latest approaches to tracking energy and greenhouse gas emissions from transport systems

Engagements likely to be procured under this lot include:

- Undertaking audits and assessments pertaining to transport options and fleets
- Co-ordination of specialist working groups or networks
- Provision of expert advice on fleet decarbonisation
- Provision of expert advice on applying structured energy management to transport energy use, using the Avoid-Shift-Improve framework
- Delivering training and awareness workshops to staff and senior management, where required
- Development of tools for analysing transport decarbonisation options (such as a transport specific gap to target tool)
- Co-ordinating and delivering transport related accelerator programmes (providing training and ongoing support to participants)
- Supporting pilots or trials undertaken by public bodies
- Undertaking modelling and analysis of transport decarbonisation pathways to 2030 and beyond;
- Development of guidance documents, case studies, reports and web information
- Support to partnership mentors and/or sector co-ordinators on transport energy management and decarbonisation

The deliverables may include:

- Training sessions, workshops and formal certifications as appropriate.
- Tools, analysis and assessment.
- Audits and assessments
- Accelerator programmes
- Guidance documents, case studies, reports and web information
- Support to pilots/trials
- Advice to public bodies or groups of public bodies as well as to SEAI and its partnership mentors/sector co-ordinators.

Lot 5 – Sector Strategic Technical Advisors / M&R technical advisors

Two support areas within lot 5 are required:

1. Sector Strategic Technical Advisors – support for NEPL and VLEU groups with technical advice and guidance.
2. M&R technical advisors – team of advisors dedicated to supporting individual public bodies with M&R and energy performance data and methodology related queries.

The successful service providers must demonstrate their expertise with support to organisations. In the context of national, EU and other relevant energy related targets and requirements, information will be collated and complex datasets analysed.

1. Sector Strategic Technical “Advisors” and “Leads” to assist the NE/VLEU programme.

They will provide expert technical support to provide the annual deliverables;

- Support the clients to input robust and accurate data into the SEAI **Gap to Target sector project pipeline tool to map and diagnose the project pipeline and pathway** to achieving the targets. Specifically populate projects on project pipeline tool, and assign status, impacts, initial budget costs etc.

- When EU directives (EED & EPBD) requirements are implemented, mapping and diagnosis will be expanded in the tool as to how projects will impact these new requirements.
- Support clients to define approaches and plan how to move projects from initial ideas, undertake capital assessment, through to delivery itself (design, procurement, construction, impact review etc).
- Challenge, analyse and model energy and/or GHG savings projections and assumptions. Provide opinion on the depth and level of analysis undertaken, on assumptions and on possibility of measures, timelines etc been achieved.
- Undertake advanced data analysis, statistical analysis and use of data analytics. As well as utilizing SEAI's project pipeline tracker tool, bring to bear other relevant analytical tools as such as Power BI.
- Develop performance dashboards to effectively communicate performance - utilising firstly M&R data, and possibly other data input streams. Compile reports and dashboards to help public bodies to prioritise their energy projects.
- Diagnose and present findings to the client to encourage delivery of projects in the project pipeline. Define 'reality' to public bodies in relation to their ability (technical, human, monetary) to achieve the 2030 & 2050 targets.
- Develop professional relationships to develop robust data and analysis. Develop trust to enable the client to explore innovative solutions and think large scale in relation to achievability.
- Support the clients to produce a **robust investment plan for the following year**, detailing pathfinder supported projects and programmes, and other SEAI capital supports.
- Support the development of a **three-year rolling investment plan**.
- Support the Sector Strategic Lead with technical input into **identifying and sharing good practices** with other strategic groupings and the wider public sector.
- Support the Sector Strategic Lead with the technical aspects of workstreams associated with the Ways of Working and agreed workstreams. These workstreams themselves have specific outputs or deliverables. For example, to gather the data, audits or evidence base to feed projects into the project pipeline tool, producing analysis on the impact of upcoming EU directives for example.
 - Such workstreams often link with a particular sectors Climate Action Roadmap or Building Stock Plan. Ideally the outputs from these supports will be reflected in key strategic documents and plans issued by the NEPL or VLEU.
- Assist SEAI's Programme Manager with technical advisory supports to the sector leadership and leadership structures, where required and appropriate.
- Liaise with the Public Sector Services Programme, Pathfinder and other relevant programmes to consider their supports and services in the deliverables listed above. Namely;
 - Support them engage clients to ensure SEAI capital programmes are optimized in the Sector Strategic Lead deliverables i.e. is mapped on the project pipeline, becomes a specific work stream in the ways of working arrangement.
 - Supports the team to takes outputs from these programmes to utilize i.e. public body Gap to Targets for sectoral analysis for the NEPL/VLEU grouping, project learnings and savings impact data from Pathfinder etc.

Deliverables

- Ongoing population of the Project pipeline tool and pathway to 2030 and possibly 2050 targets – to encourage and proactively engage with the clients to input projects into the tool, and support and encourage them move projects from inception to delivery.
- Annual investment plan.
- Three year rolling plan.
- Attend Way of Working engagements.
- Good practice sharing (webinars, workshops, training).

2. M&R Expert Advisors

M&R Expert advisors will support SEAI's M&R helpdesk and M&R Methodology expert (see Lot 6).

All advice and support to public bodies/sectors on issues relating to SEAI's M&R system that cannot be answered by the helpdesk or the M&R Methodology expert may be directed to M&R expert advisors for ad hoc or predetermined level of support. This support is coordinated through the M&R helpdesk.

Highly specialised or technical support will be coordinated through the M&R Methodology expert. In these cases, work will be assigned based on the level of expertise in the relevant area or sector.

Support required may include, but is not limited to:

- Advising as to where and how to gather energy data.
- Advising bespoke to a public body on their annual return.
- Providing annual M&R training to public bodies and schools. Advisors may be asked to develop/review course materials and/or deliver training.
- Undertaking Data Verification Assessments (DVA) on a sample of public bodies selected by SEAI, and preparation of a DVA report.

Deliverables

- Provision of M&R technical advisory supports to public bodies and/or sectors;
- Training materials for annual M&R training
- Delivery M&R training.
- DVA report(s).

Competencies / experience for both support areas

- Very high level of expertise in SEAI's M&R system and methodology.
- Very high level of expertise in supporting organisations, ideally public bodies, analyse or model data and develop pathways / project pipelines towards targets.
- Excellent relationship management skills, experience of developing and maintaining relationships and engaging on complex data sets and concepts.

Lot 6 – M&R Methodology Expert

SEAI requires a service provider to act as methodology expert(s) on SEAI's M&R system, supporting both the annual M&R reporting cycle and development of the M&R system according to the 5-year M&R Strategy.

Annual cycle support

The M&R Annual Cycle support team, consisting of SEAI public sector team representative, the M&R Methodology Expert and the M&R helpdesk, meets weekly and manages the ongoing annual reporting cycle tasks. The Methodology expert undertakes the following tasks:

- Participate in weekly M&R Annual Cycle Support Team meetings
- Process and manage M&R methodology related queries.
- Maintain the guidance and help on the M&R Help Wiki.
- Provide input to M&R training, case studies and guidance materials as required.
- Manage the Annual Data Verification Assessment (DVA) programme – planning and overall coordination of DVA activity, including selection of DVA assessors and review of DVA reports.
- Act as master DVA assessor
 - Review M&R data
 - Compile rules related to the annual DVA process.
 - Mentor, coordinate and manage DVA assessors and outputs
 - Act as main arbitrator of M&R criteria when ruling on a DVA result.
 - Assist in the development of DVA procedures and exception criteria for assessing GHG returns.
- Input to drafting of the Public Sector Annual Report, including text and draft charts and tables
- Provide provisional and final data from M&R to SEAI and other stakeholders
- Provide annual scorecards for distribution to EPOs, NEPLs and VLEU groupings.
- Assist SEAI with methodology and governance related issues during the annual cycle
- Update tools such as the Gap to Target tool as required during the annual cycle

M&R Development

SEAI's 5-year M&R strategy outlines the process for development of new or enhanced functionality on the M&R system. An annual development programme is agreed every year in liaison with SEAI's IT management processes. The Methodology Expert tasks include:

- Providing subject matter & methodology expertise to SEAI with respect to the development of the M&R system.
- Supporting the Business Analysis associated at various stage gate approvals. Liaison with the M&R software provider to ensure the M&R methodology in the BA is correct.
- Utilising international expertise on energy performance measurement, ensure the M&R approach continually aligns (or does not contradict) with relevant international approaches, especially the EU approach to tracking energy efficiency, alignment with EU governance arrangements tracking savings to 2030 and beyond.
- Act as independent expert to help SEAI assess, compile and develop new methodological rules as required.

Methodology expert support, as required

- Act as custodian of the Gap to Target tool and revise it as required.
- Develop additional tools using M&R data as required. Likely to include tools to:
 - Tracking building energy performance
 - Tracking transport/fleet performance
- Act as methodology expert(s) on SEAI's M&R system in relation to tracking:
 - progress towards the energy efficiency and greenhouse gas targets,
 - buildings performance;

- transport system performance
- Develop rules on new fuels or technologies or systems and their related greenhouse gas emissions as required.
- Develop and manage methodologies to determine and track 'good' building or transport system performance on the M&R system.
- Assist SEAI in developing a complex set of rules related to broader tracking of energy related emissions outside M&R and non-energy related emissions.
- Provide expertise on international greenhouse gas measurement approaches, ensuring the M&R approach continually aligns (or does not contradict) with relevant international approaches.
- Assist SEAI in working with the EPA and other internal and external stakeholders to develop proxies and methodologies for tracking non-energy related emissions as demanded by the CAP or other policies.
- Assist SEAI with rolling out changed requirements under EED and EPBD.

Competencies / Experience

- Excellent knowledge and expertise on SEAI's M&R system.
- Excellent expertise in engaging in complex methodology aspects related to the M&R methodology.
- Excellent expertise in preparing and producing reports based on large, complex energy data sets.
- Excellent expertise in managing, analysing and presenting complex energy data sets.
- Excellent relationship management and teamwork skills.

4 Governance

Oversight

The work will be directed by SEAI's Public Sector & Regulatory Team/Programme Managers. Work of a similar nature may arise in relation to SEAI's other schemes and where so arising will be directed by the Programme Manager of that scheme.

5 Compliant Tenders and Tender Evaluation

Tenderers must read **Appendix 1 Instructions for Tenderers** which sets out guidance on submitting a compliant tender, tender queries deadline and tender closing date. It outlines how the initial submission is reviewed at selection and how a tender is evaluated and scored by SEAI against the award criteria, subject to successful demonstration of the requirements by the tenderer and in some cases, validation of same by the evaluation team.

5.1 Acceptance of CfT requirements

Each tenderer is required to accept the provisions set out in this CfT and the terms and conditions of the Framework Agreement. All tenderers must return, with their tender, a scanned signed copy of Appendix 3 'Tenderer's Statement', printed on the tenderer's letterhead. SEAI must be able to read the scanned

signature of the tenderer. Tenderers must not amend the Tenderer's Statement or any of the tender pack documentation.

SEAI may cancel this tender competition at any time prior to the Framework Agreement being executed by or on behalf of SEAI. Tenderers must note that the Framework Agreement must be accepted in the form presented in Annex 1 and is not subject to negotiation at the award stage of the competition.

5.2 Tender evaluation

Tenders will be appraised by an evaluation team comprising of SEAI employees at both the selection and evaluation stage of the competition. Additional support may be sought, consisting of advisers, consultants and such other persons engaged or nominated by SEAI for the purposes of this CfT and its associated processes.

The framework agreement will be awarded to the Most Economically Advantageous Tenders (MEAT) using the award criteria set out in **Section 7.2 Award Criteria**. The MEAT is determined based on a combination of costs and the qualitative criteria submitted in the respective tender. The outcome of the evaluation identifies the tenderers score in ranked order.

6 Establishment and Operation of the Framework

SEAI proposes to engage in a competitive process for the establishment of a framework agreement. A framework agreement constitutes a means of establishing overall terms and conditions in accordance with which, for a specified duration, individual contracts may or may not be awarded.

This competition relates to a Multiple Supplier Framework with 6 Lots.

Numbers admitted to the Framework Agreement

- The framework agreement will be established as a multiple supplier framework agreement with a maximum of
 - Lot 1: 8 framework members
 - Lot 2: 20 framework members
 - Lot 3: 20 framework members
 - Lot 4: 5 framework members
 - Lot 5: 8 framework members
 - Lot 6: 1 framework member

subject to that number meeting the minimum criteria and rules. Thereafter contracts will be awarded in accordance with the rules contained herein.

Duration of the Framework Agreement

SEAI will initially award a framework agreement for a term of **two year(s)** ("the Term") which subject to satisfactory performance, organisational needs and budget availability, **may be extended for up to two consecutive periods of twelve months each** on the same terms and conditions, depending on the project's progression and subject to SEAI's obligations at law. The framework will be for a maximum period of four years. SEAI confirms that the period of any contracts awarded under the framework agreement may extend beyond the date of expiry of the agreement. The terms of the Framework Agreement will be substantially in the form set out in Annex 1.

Estimated Value of the Framework Agreement

It is envisaged the maximum estimated value over the four years will not exceed **€12,400,000.00** (excluding VAT) over the Term and any possible extensions. It is emphasised however, that this figure is provided strictly for indicative purposes only as there is no guaranteed expenditure under the framework agreement.

The maximum expenditure (excluding VAT) per lot is detailed in the table below:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Total
Lot 1: Sector Coordination, Networking Coordination and Technical Communications	€450,000	€450,000	€450,000	€450,000	€1,800,000
Lot 2: Mentorship	€1,000,000	€1,000,000	€1,000,000	€1,000,000	€4,000,000
Lot 3: Energy Management Specialists	€750,000	€750,000	€750,000	€750,000	€3,000,000
Lot 4: Transport Decarbonisation	€250,000	€250,000	€250,000	€250,000	€1,000,000
Lot 5: Sector Strategic Technical Advisors / M&R technical advisors	€300,000	€300,000	€300,000	€300,000	€1,200,000
Lot 6: M&R Methodology Expert	€350,000	€350,000	€350,000	€350,000	€1,400,000
Total	€3,100,000	€3,100,000	€3,100,000	€3,100,000	€12,400,000

Successful Tenderers who enter into a Framework Agreement with SEAI are referred to in this Section 6 as “Framework Members”. Where a requirement arises, SEAI will draw down services from Framework Members in accordance with the process set out in this Section. For the avoidance of doubt, SEAI shall not be required to award any service requirements to any Framework Members and shall be entitled to procure any particular services requirements separately outside of the Framework.

When assigning a task under the Framework to Framework Members, SEAI will issue a Purchase Order referencing the date of the Framework Agreement which will both constitute the short form of draw-down agreement (a “Purchase Order Contract”) in respect of each requirement.

Over the duration of the Framework, resources may need to be removed, substituted, or added to a Framework Member’s team in respect of the Framework. Any removal or substitution of resources shall be subject to compliance with the terms of this CfT, the Framework Agreement and a relevant Purchase

Order and acceptance of any such removal or substitution shall be at SEAI's sole discretion. A Framework Member shall not be entitled to change its price, the rate applicable to relevant grade of seniority or other provisions of its tender where it proposes to remove, substitute or add resources. Resources with relevant expertise may, with SEAI's prior written permission, be added to a Framework Member's available resources during the term of the Framework provided that the said resources shall be charged at the same rates set out in the Framework Member's tender.

SEAI reserves the right to review the operation and administration of the Framework at any time and to make such amendments and adjustments to the operation and administration of the Framework as it considers appropriate (in accordance with public procurement requirements) to ensure optimal and efficient operation of the Framework and the best value for money for SEAI.

6.1 Awarding Contracts under the Framework Agreement

As and when SEAI decides to source services through this Framework Agreement, tasks under the Framework may be awarded as follows:

- by means of a direct appointment of a Framework Member selected by SEAI without re-opening a competition amongst Framework Members in accordance with the criteria set out in Section 6.1.1 below (a "Direct Draw Down using the Rotation Method).
- by re-opening a mini competition amongst Framework Members in the manner set out in Section 6.1.2 below (a "Mini-Competition").

Tenderers should note that Direct Draw Downs and Mini-Competitions will not apply to Lot 6 of the Framework as there will be only 1 Framework Member.

Selection of a Direct Draw Down using the Rotation method shall be determined by SEAI on a case-by-case basis having regard to the size and nature of the services requirement. Without limiting or affecting this approach, it is envisaged that service requirements with a lower size, value and/ or complexity (for example, but without limitation, services up to 10 days) may be allocated using the Direct Draw Down method whereas larger higher value and/or complex services requirements may be allocated using the Mini-Competition method.

In certain circumstances tasks may be required to be performed in specific locations/regions (e.g. on-site audits). In such cases consultant's geographical location may also be considered when making appointments. This may include appointment of one or more consultants to undertake similar work in different geographical locations.

6.1.1 Direct Draw Down using the Rotation Method

SEAI will use direct draw down by rotation of each framework member for draw down from this Framework.

The allocation of services requirements amongst Framework Members will be on the basis of a direct draw down using the rotation method whereby contracts are awarded on foot of original tenders to the first ranked firm admitted to the framework agreement. Where they are not able to deliver the contract due to availability, conflict of interest etc, the next ranked firm will be approached moving in ranked order through the Framework Members until the contract is awarded.

For the avoidance of doubt, the company ranked first will be the first company contacted and offered the first contract, each subsequent piece of work will be offered to the next company ranked. Once the last company on the list is contacted, the rotation starts back at the top and the process is repeated. When a piece of work is awarded and the list is not exhausted, the "unavailable / not contactable company(s)" will be contacted again in the next rotation.

With regards to direct draw down under Lot 3, if a particular competence is required in order to perform the piece of work being awarded, SEAI reserves the right to use the ranked order for that particular competence to award same.

SEAI will also consider the performance to date of Framework Members, as evaluated by SEAI (see Performance Review section 6.3).

6.1.2 Mini Competition

SEAI will use mini competitions for contracts likely to exceed 10 days' work.

This will be done through invitation by email to a mini competition of all firms admitted to the framework agreement. On each occasion, a Request for Mini-Tender will be issued detailing the scope of requirements, the award criteria, a closing date and time, methodology for submission of responses. SEAI shall award the contract for the mini-competition to the best tender based on the Award Criteria specified in the Request for Mini-Tender documents. The proposed rates shall not exceed the original rates quoted by the Framework Member.

6.2 Right to operate outside of the Framework

SEAI intends to use the framework for the procurement of requirements falling within its scope during the specified period; however, it reserves the right to go outside the framework for the procurement of any requirement without reference to the Framework Member(s). Admission to a framework does not guarantee the award of any contract to any economic Member, nor does it give the Framework Member(s) the right to be consulted in respect of, or tender for, any contract.

6.3 Performance Review

SEAI shall be entitled to review and monitor a Framework Member's performance of all services provided under the Framework from time to time in accordance with SEAI's regular review procedures. Without limiting or affecting this principle, this may be done

- a) on case-by-case basis by reference to random samples of work or having regard to specific categories of work provided for specific requirements; or
- b) by reference to the first piece of work carried out or deliverable provided by the Framework Member, and thereafter on a random sampling basis.

Such a review may include the following non-exhaustive criteria (and may be considered on a cumulative basis having regard to a Framework Member's performance over the duration of the Framework):

- a) whether the Framework Member has satisfactorily delivered the relevant services having regard to the identified objective of the SEAI in respect of the Purchase Order Contract;
- b) whether the Framework Member has satisfactorily delivered the relevant services having regard to the requirements of a relevant contract e.g. quality of reports and deliverables, timeliness and efficiency of delivery of the requirements by appropriately skilled team members;
- c) compliance with SEAI's procedural and administration requirements; and
- d) other relevant factors, including misconduct in the performance of the services (having regard, for example, to the terms of the Framework Agreement, and/or the Purchase Order).

At any time and from time to time during the term of the Framework Agreement and/or any contract, SEAI may give the Framework Member details of the result of its performance review.

SEAI may suspend (or, as appropriate in accordance with the terms of the Framework Agreement, exclude) a Framework Member from the Framework for such period as SEAI considers appropriate if SEAI considers that any of the following events has occurred:

- a) if the Framework Member is found, following assessment, to have misrepresented their declared competencies;
- b) if, in SEAI's reasonable opinion, any statement in the Framework Member's tender or any supplemental tender (if required) was untrue, incorrect or misleading when made or ceases to be true or correct;
- c) the Framework Member's threatens to cease, or ceases, participating in the Framework (in whole or in part) or abandons participation in the Framework;
- d) SEAI terminates any Purchase Order in accordance with its terms or SEAI becomes entitled to terminate a Purchase Order in accordance with its terms (except where SEAI can do so for convenience);
- e) if, in SEAI's reasonable opinion, there is a material detrimental change in the economic and/or financial standing and/or the credit rating of the Framework Member (or any of the persons comprising it) or if the Framework Member is insolvent, or SEAI reasonably considers that there is a risk that the Framework Member is about to become insolvent;
- f) If requested to be removed from the Framework, indefinitely or for a period of time, by the Framework Member.

SEAI becomes entitled to terminate the Framework Agreement and issue a notice to terminate:

- a) if the Framework Member commits a material breach (whether repudiatory or not) of the Framework Agreement;
- b) if the Framework Member commits a number of defaults or repeated defaults which, taken together, constitute, in the sole opinion of SEAI, a material breach (whether repudiatory or not) of the Framework Agreement or are to SEAI's material detriment;
- c) if the Framework Member ceases to hold valid insurance at the required levels.
- d) if the Framework Member ceases to hold a valid and current tax clearance certificate issued by the Irish Revenue Commissioners.

7 Selection & Award Criteria

7.1 Selection Criteria

Tender Procedure

This public procurement competition (the "Competition") will be conducted in accordance with the Open Procedure under the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (Statutory Instrument 284 of 2016) (the "Regulations"). Therefore, while all interested parties may submit a tender, only those demonstrating that they have the required level of financial and technical capacity will have their tender considered. In order to demonstrate a tenderers' eligibility, tenderers are required to provide the information set out below.

7.1.1 General, Legal and Financial Requirements Information relating to the Tenderer

Appendix 2- Company details

Please complete Appendix 2 detailing the tendering organisation - company name, address and contact details for individual responsible for this tender and company overview.

7.1.2 Legal Compliance

Appendix 3- Tenderer's Statement

Tenderers are required to complete Appendix 3 Tenderer's Statement which confirms the tenderer has read the tender documentation including the Instructions to Tenderers, the Selection and Award Criteria, the Requirements and Specifications, and the Terms and Conditions of the Framework Agreement.

Appendix 4- Declaration as to Personal Circumstances of Tenderer

Tenderers are required to complete Appendix 4- Declaration of Bona Fides as per Art. 57 of Directive 2014/24/EU as implemented by SI 284 of May 2016. The declaration also covers compliance with relevant Statutory Obligations relating to labour law, employment law, etc. The declaration is contained in Appendix 4 and must be completed, signed and returned as part of the tender submission.

7.1.3 Financial Capacity

A. European Single Procurement Document (ESPD)

Please complete the **online European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) on the eTenders platform:**

- (i) Confirmation that the tenderer / all parties associated with the tenderer are fully tax compliant in accordance with the rules of the Irish Revenue Commissioners.
- (ii) Confirmation of insurances being in place as outlined in Section 7.1.3 C below.

And that if successful you agree to implement the insurance levels required. Where these are not currently available, they will be requested by SEAI prior to (and shall be a condition of) the award of any contract.

B. Turnover

In the event of one or more Qualification Criteria in this Section 7 (Selection Criteria) achieving a fail, Tenderers will be excluded from participating in this Competition.

Tenderers must have sufficient Financial and Economic Standing to complete a project of the size, nature and complexity of the project and to perform the Contract.

Tenderers must also demonstrate that they have generated a minimum turnover as set out below for the last three (3) immediately preceding financial years.

Certified Turnover of €65,000 per annum for Lots 1-5:

Year	2023	2024	2025
Turnover €	€65,000	€65,000	€65,000

Certified Turnover of €525,000 per annum for Lot 6:

Year	2023	2024	2025
Turnover €	€525,000	€525,000	€525,000

Tenderers must provide the following documentation to demonstrate they meet this requirement:

- Copy of accounts or financial statements for each year. If the final accounts are not available for 2025 yet, please provide 2022.
- SEAI will also accept a signed certification of their turnover by their independent accountant;
- Tenderers should note that economic operators relying on the capacity of other entities must submit with their Tender an undertaking, duly evidenced, from those entities that they will place the necessary resources at the disposal of the Tenderer. This undertaking must be submitted with the Tender.

Tenderers must provide the specified documentation when requested by the Contracting Authority.

However, where the Tenderer is unable, for a valid reason, to provide the specified documentation, the Tenderer must inform the Contracting Authority of that valid reason (in the view of the Contracting Authority) as to why the documentation cannot be supplied and provide such other suitable alternative documentation to prove, to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority, their economic and financial capacity.

The documentation required under this paragraph will be requested by the Contracting Authority prior to (and shall be a condition of) the award of any contract.

C. Insurance

The successful tenderer(s) shall be required to hold for the term of the framework, the following insurances*:

Type of insurance	Indemnity limit
Employer's Liability	€13,000,000 each and every one event
Public Liability	€6,500,000 each and every one event
Professional Indemnity	€1,500,000 in the aggregate

**other national insurance standards may be accepted at SEAI's discretion*

D. Technical and Professional Capacity Requirements

All Tenderers must demonstrate that they have the following professional ability by providing the relevant details with their response.

Selection Criteria	Rule	Qualifying Threshold
Minimum Experience	For all Lots: Tenderers must provide 3 examples of work demonstrating how the service provider has provided services of a similar scale, nature, and complexity within the past 3 years relevant to Lot in question. Evidence for this Selection criteria must be completed in the template provided in Annex 2, Section 2 of this document.	Pass/Fail

Please note, the same examples can be reused in different Lots, provided they are relevant.

Tenderers should note that SEAI reserves the right to confirm that the financial and technical capacity of the tenderer is valid and unchanged prior to the award of any contract.

7.2 Award Criteria

Only tenders which meet the Selection Criteria in Section 7.1 above and are confirmed as valid and responsive to the specifications set out in this document will be evaluated against the award criteria in this section. Tenderers should ensure that they have submitted sufficient relevant information to allow their tenders to be assessed under each of the award criteria set out below.

The frameworks will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous compliant tenders taking into account the following award criteria and weightings for each lot.

Award Criteria	Minimum Score	Maximum Score
1. Quality and level of proposed resources to deliver the required services	168	280
2. Quality of the approach and methodology to ensure effective delivery of the services required	96	160
3. Demonstrated understanding of the subject area and SEAI requirements	96	160
4. Green Procurement	n/a	50
5. Cost of Service	n/a	350
Total		1,000

Award Criteria Explained:

Award Criteria 1 – Quality and level of proposed resources to deliver the required services (280 max marks)

- Tenderers must provide CVs to demonstrate how the quality and level of the proposed resources can deliver the Lot requirements. CVs should be tailored to each Lot and demonstrate how the proposed resources have the relevant expertise, qualifications and attributes to deliver the Lot requirements. Please include the primary point of contact for your organisation and an organisation chart where relevant.
- Tenderers must provide details on the contract management methodology including how the relationship would be managed on regular basis i.e. communication, regular meetings with the SEAI project team, administration and invoicing.
- For Lots 1 and 2, identify the main specific individual(s) who will be assigned to deliver the Lot requirements, and outline how the individual(s) have the relevant expertise, attributes, competencies, skills and qualifications to deliver the Lot requirements.
- For Lot 3, Tenderers must complete the Competency Matrix for the proposed resources, demonstrating the relevant expertise, attributes, competencies, skills and qualifications required to deliver at least one of the 11 energy management specialist areas.

Maximum 6 pages (pages in excess of this will not be evaluated). In addition, CVs must be provided for all the proposed personnel per Lot applied for with **maximum 2 pages per CV**. Pages in excess of this will not be evaluated. CVs with pages in excess of this is will not be evaluated.

Award Criteria 2 - Quality of the approach and methodology to ensure effective delivery of the services required under this Lot (160 max marks)

For each Lot tenderers should

- Describe their approach to delivering the Lot requirements, including any key factors tenderers consider vital for successful delivery of the requirements. Tenderers should also detail the risks associated with delivery and outline their approach to managing them.
- Provide a description of any methodologies, frameworks and or tools they will utilise relevant to delivering the Lot requirements.
- Provide their suggestions to improve
 - the support offering,
 - the customer experience,
 so as to deliver better impacts and results, relevant to the particular Lot.

Tenderers may provide relevant and tailored graphs, infographics, worked examples etc to supplement their response. **Maximum 6 pages** (pages in excess of this is will not be evaluated).

Award Criteria 3 - Demonstrated understanding of the subject area and SEAI requirements (160 max marks)

For each Lot tenderers should,

- demonstrate their understanding of the objectives of the Lot requirements, specifically, how the lot requirements support or address:
 - Public Body needs or challenges.
 - Public body targets, objectives and policy/legal requirements.
- demonstrate their understanding of the objectives of the Lot requirements, specifically, how the lot requirements align with:

- SEAI's long term strategic goals.
- Other SEAI supports (outline how the lot requirements align with other SEAI supports to provide a holistic service to public bodies).
- demonstrate their understanding of their role and objectives as a successful and high performing expert/ advisor, if appointed under the Lot.

Tenderers may provide relevant and tailored graphs, infographics, worked examples etc to supplement their response. **Maximum 6 pages** (pages in excess of this will not be evaluated).

Award Criteria 4 - Green Procurement (50 max marks):

For each Lot tenderers should,

- Demonstrate your approach to green public procurement, detailing how environmental considerations are systematically incorporated into your service management and operational methodologies as related to this competition;
- Provide details how they will minimise adverse environmental impacts in the delivery of the provision of these services as related to this competition;
- Provide details of sustainable practices employed by the tenderer as related to this competition.

Maximum 3 pages (pages in excess of this will not be evaluated).

Award Criteria 5 - Cost of Service (350 max marks)

Tenderers must complete Section 4 Pricing Schedule of Annex 2, Tender Response Document.

Tenderers must complete the table(s) required in Annex 2 Tender Response Document

Tenderers should ensure in their tenders that they provide detailed information in respect of all aspects of the contract award criteria as stated above. This will enable the awarding authority to assess fully the extent of their offers.

Weighting explained:

Based on the scores achieved by the tender in each award criterion, the weighting rating will be applied as follows:

Weighting	Meaning
91% - 100%	Excellent response with very few or no weaknesses exceeds requirements, and provides comprehensive, detailed, and convincing assurance that the Tenderer will deliver to an excellent standard.
80% - 90%	A very good response that demonstrates real understanding and fully meets the requirements and assurance that the Tenderer will deliver to high standard.
70% - 79%	A good response which demonstrates a satisfactory understanding of requirements and gives acceptable assurance of delivery to an adequate standard.
60% - 69%	A reasonable response which demonstrates some understanding of requirements and gives reasonable assurance of delivery to an adequate standard but does not provide sufficiently convincing assurance to award a higher mark.

30% - 59%	A response where reservations exist. Lacks full credibility/convincing detail, and there is a significant risk that the response will not be successful.
1% - 29%	A response where serious reservations exist. This may be because, for example, insufficient detail is provided, and the response has fundamental flaws, or is seriously inadequate or seriously lacks credibility with a high risk of non-delivery.

NOTE 1: To be considered for selection, tenderers must score equal or higher than the minimum requirement for criteria 1, 2, and 3 in order to avoid elimination from the competition. A cost score will not be assessed for tenders where this requirement is assessed to not have been met.

NOTE 2: The lowest cost tender that also meets all of the minimum requirements of the qualitative award criteria will receive the maximum score achievable under this criterion. The scores of the other valid tenders will be calculated using the following formula:

Methodology for calculating the cost score:

Lowest Cost from a Bona Fide Tender	A
Cost for the tender being evaluated	B
Maximum Points available for Cost	C
Formula employed	$\frac{C \times A}{B}$

NOTE 3: Tenderers should ensure in their tenders that they provide detailed information in respect of all aspects of the contract award criteria as stated above. This will enable the awarding authority to assess fully the extent of their offers.

NOTE 4: Admission to the Framework may be subject to attendance at a clarification and verification meeting. It would be essential that the key personnel assigned to this contract should be available and present at this meeting.

NOTE 5: Collaboration of expertise to meet the specific expertise and competency needs is allowed, under one nominated Framework Member, and meet the requirements detailed in the various Appendices.

Clarification and Verification Meetings

Award of contract/membership of the framework may be subject to attendance at a clarification and verification meeting. It would be essential that the key personnel assigned to the contract should be available and present at this meeting. If required, tenderers will be notified of the date, time, agenda and format for such meetings as soon as possible. A visit to the tenderer's premises may be required to clarify any questions or queries regarding the tender offer. Tenderers should note that SEAI reserves the right to confirm that the financial and technical capacity of the tenderer is valid and unchanged prior to the award of any contract.

Clarification of Abnormally Low Tenders

If SEAI considers the tender submission to be commercially unsustainable or otherwise problematic considering the tendered price or any other financial matter (including proposed indicative hours), the tenderer shall be invited to provide clarification to the Contracting Authority in respect of all elements of the tender submission that SEAI deems relevant. Any failure to satisfactorily comply with such a request, or to satisfactorily address SEAI's concerns, may, at the discretion of SEAI, result in elimination of the tender in question based on it being considered abnormally low.

Change Control Procedure

- a) At any time during the Term of this Agreement, either Party may propose a change or changes to any part or parts of this Agreement.
- b) The change control procedures set out in this Schedule will apply to all changes irrespective of whether the Contractor or the Client proposes the change.
- c) A change control notice ("Change Control Notice") shall be prepared for all change requests.
- d) The Change Control Notice will provide an outline description of the change requested, the rationale for the change, the effect that the change will have on the Services (where known) and an estimate of the effort and cost required to prepare an impact assessment ("Impact Assessment").
- e) All Change Control Notices proposing changes to this Agreement must be submitted for review to the other Party's Contact.
- f) The Parties must indicate their acceptance or rejection of the change control request and/or Impact Assessment within a reasonable timeframe of its completion and Tender Submission for review, subject to a maximum of twenty (20) calendar days or such other period agreed between the Parties.
- g) On approval of an Impact Assessment, this Agreement and/or the Schedules should be updated and revised as appropriate and in writing.
- h) In the event that either Party rejects the Impact Assessment, the change(s) shall not take place and the Parties shall continue to perform their obligations under this Agreement.
- i) The Contractor and the Client will agree a reasonable charge in advance for investigating each proposed variation and preparing each estimate, whether or not the variation is implemented. If the Client's request for any variation is subsequently withdrawn but results in a delay in the performance of the Services then the Contractor will not be liable for such delay and will be entitled to an extension of time equal to not less than the period of the delay.

8 Exit Strategy

The objective of the Exit Strategy is to ensure a smooth, efficient, timely and comprehensive Exit Management Plan at the conclusion of the contract pursuant to this CfT. The successful tenderer shall provide an overview of an Exit Management Plan for activities and information transfer involved for execution at the conclusion of this contract. The Exit Management Plan might include a list of tasks and timelines for execution including appropriate solutions for the ready access, supply and transfer of relevant data, information, and collateral, if any, to SEAI on the conclusion of the contract.

In addition to that, the successful Tenderer shall update the Exit Management Plan within 3 weeks of notification of termination by SEAI or on contract expiry to reflect changes in the Services and shall keep the Exit Management Plan under continuous review. Following each update, the successful Tenderer shall submit the revised Exit Management Plan to the SEAI for review and approval.

9 IT File Transfer

Tenders must conform to the following IT file transfer configurations.

- Files provided must not contain Macros, scripts or generate Child Office processes as these are not compatible with modern security standards e.g. Microsoft Defender Attack Surface Reduction.
- All files provided must be transferred/provided to SEAI in the manner SEAI request. In general, guest access will be provided to upload files to SEAI's SharePoint. SEAI IT will not be whitelisting or unblocking websites, creating FTP connections, or otherwise supporting file transfers in a manner that is inconvenient or against SEAI's security policy. The onus is on the tenderer to transfer files in the manner SEAI requires.

10 Format of the response to the Call for Tender (CfT)

10.1 The tenderer's response must contain specific responses to each of the items listed below:

- a) Details of the company as outlined in Appendix 2 (refer to Section 1 of the TRD);
- b) Complete the Tenderer's Statement in Appendix 3 (refer to Section 1 of the TRD);
- c) Declaration as to Personal Circumstances of Tenderer as outlined in Appendix 4 (refer to Section 1 of the TRD);
- d) Provide all information and documentation specified in the Selection Criteria (refer to Section 2 of the TRD);
- e) Provide all information and documentation required to answer the Qualitative Award Criteria (refer to Section 3 of the TRD);
- f) A detailed pricing schedule and signed declaration for the delivery of the services as outlined in Award Criteria – Pricing Schedule (refer to Section 4 of the TRD);
- g) Confirmation of availability to deliver the service;
- h) Valid insurance certificates for the types and levels specified or confirmation that these can be made available once the tenderer becomes the preferred tenderer;
- i) eTax clearance details and must provide SEAI with the relevant tax reference number and tax clearance access number (TCAN) to allow this to be verified or confirmation that these can be made available once the tenderer becomes the preferred bidder.

Tenderers are free to furnish any additional information which they so wish in support of their tender.

SEAI recommends tenderers limit their tender responses to 35 pages to ensure the content is concise and relevant. Responses in excess of the page limits specified under each Award Criteria may not be evaluated at SEAI's discretion.

APPENDIX 1 - INSTRUCTIONS TO TENDERERS

Submission of Tenders via www.etenders.gov.ie

All tenders must comply with the following requirements in order to be assessed under the selection and award criteria. Only those tenders that satisfy all the selection criteria will have their tenders assessed under the award criteria. Tenders must satisfy the following requirements:

- A. Tenderers should ensure that they register their interest in this competition, by clicking on the “Accept” button on www.etenders.gov.ie, in order to receive all responses to queries and other updates in relation to this competition.
- B. Tenders must be submitted in soft copy via the electronic post box available on www.etenders.gov.ie before the tender deadline. Only Tenders submitted to the electronic post box will be accepted. Tenders submitted by any other means (including but not limited to by email, fax, post or hand delivery) or late tenders will NOT be accepted. Tenders submitted via the messaging facility on eTenders is not permitted.
- C. Tenderers **must** ensure that they give themselves enough time to upload and submit all required tender documentation before the Tender Deadline. Tenderers should consider the fact that upload speeds vary. Tenderers must note that in the electronic tenderbox, there is a current file size limit of 250MB for each single file uploaded, with a maximum total limit of 2GB for all documentation (combined) in the Tender submitted. If a tenderer is having issues submitting their response, they must contact eTenders Support prior to the submission deadline. eTenders Support can be reached at

irish-eproc-helpdesk@eurodyn.com or

+353 818001459

- D. In order to submit a document to the electronic post box, please note that you must click “Submit Response”. After submitting you can still modify and re-send your response up until response deadline. Tenderers should be aware that the ‘Submit Response’ button will be disabled automatically upon the expiration of the response deadline.
- E. All tender documentation must be completed, as specified in Section 8 ‘Format of Response to the Call for Tender (CfT)’. Tenderers should submit their response as a **SINGLE UPLOADED FILE**, if possible, which is clearly labelled, page numbered and indexed. If a tenderer fails to comply in any respect with the requirements of Appendix 1, SEAI reserves the right to reject the tender as non-compliant or, without prejudice to this right and subject to its obligations at law, to take any other action it considers appropriate including but not limited to:
 - seeking written clarification from the tenderer;
 - seeking further information from the tenderer; or
 - waiving a requirement, which in the SEAI’s view, is non-material or procedural.
- F. The tender must be valid for a period of 12 months from the tender closing date. This time is required to enter into contract with the successful tenderer(s). On expiry of such period, the rates quoted in the tender are not binding upon the tenderer.

Tender Queries

All queries relating to any aspect of this tender competition or of this CfT or the tender pack documents must be directed to the messaging facility on www.etenders.gov.ie. For the avoidance of doubt, tenderers may not contact any SEAI employees directly regarding any aspect of this competition. Tenderers should note the following:

Queries will be accepted no later than the deadline of 12:00 (noon) on **Wednesday, 09/09/2026**. Queries received after this date will not be responded to. All responses to queries raised will be published on www.etenders.gov.ie. SEAI accepts no responsibility for the successful delivery of any e-mail

correspondence. SEAI will endeavour to respond to all queries as soon as possible. Where appropriate, queries may be amalgamated and notified to all. SEAI reserves the right to issue or seek written clarifications.

For the purpose of circulating responses queries will be edited to avoid disclosing the identity of the querist, and any sensitive information included in the query should be clearly indicated. Please note that SEAI cannot accept responsibility for information relayed (or not relayed) via third parties.

Tender Closing Date

All tenders **must** be submitted electronically no later than 12.00 (noon) on **Friday, 25/09/2026**. Tenders that are received late will not be considered in this competition. Tenders must be submitted in English.

SEAI reserves the right at any time before the tender deadline, to update or amend the information contained in this document and/or to extend the tender deadline. Participating tenderers will be informed of any such amendment or extension through the eTenders website.

It is the responsibility of the tenderer to ensure that their tender is complete and is uploaded by the designated deadline.

Extension of Tender Period

SEAI reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to extend the closing date for receipt of tenders by giving notice in writing to all parties who have expressed an interest in the notice via eTenders no later than six days before the original closing date.

Modifications to Tenders prior to the Closing Date for Receipt of Tenders

Modifications to Tenders will be accepted in the form of supplementary information and/or addenda, provided they are submitted electronically via the etenders postbox facility on www.etenders.gov.ie only before the closing date for receipt of tenders and clearly marked as part of the tender. Any modifications received, by whatever means, after the closing time for receipt of tenders will not be considered.

Late Tenders

Other than in exceptional circumstances (as determined by SEAI), tenders that are received late will not be considered in this competition. SEAI may accept a tender or, if applicable, part of a tender that is not submitted by the deadline for submission of tenders where SEAI considers that the principle of proportionality, in exceptional circumstances, requires the acceptance of the tender or omitted part of the tender and doing so would not breach the principles of transparency and equal treatment.

Contact during evaluation period

During the evaluation period, clarification may be sought from SEAI in writing from tenderers. Response to requests for clarification may not materially change any of the elements of the tenders submitted. No unsolicited communications from tenderers will be entertained during the evaluation period. In the event that the Contracting Authority considers a tender submission to be commercially unsustainable or otherwise problematic in light of the tendered price or any other financial matter the tenderer shall be invited to provide clarification to the Contracting Authority in respect of all elements of the tender submission that the Contracting Authority deems relevant. Any failure to satisfactorily comply with such a request, or to satisfactorily address the Contracting Authority's concerns, may, at the discretion of the Contracting Authority, result in the elimination of the tender in question based on it being considered abnormally low. Tenderers may be invited to make presentations on their proposals for the purpose of elaboration, clarification and/or aiding understanding. Tenderers will be required to bear their own costs in respect of any such presentations or demonstrations.

Notification of Tender Evaluations

All tenderers will be informed of the outcome of their proposals following tender evaluation via the messaging facility on eTenders or other written means at SEAI's discretion and any necessary clarifications. Potential outcomes can be:

- a) Appointment to Framework only
- b) Notification Letter – Unsuccessful Tender

The letters referred to in (a) and (b) above shall be issued at the same time.

Policy on Personal Debriefings

Based on the provision of the information to unsuccessful tenderers as outlined above and due to resourcing constraints, SEAI will not be offering individual debriefing meetings to unsuccessful tenderers.

Standstill Period

In the case of EU value contracts, the following information will be provided in the Letter of Regret – name of successful tenderer designates; the applicable standstill period; scores of tenderer and that of successful tender; features and characteristics of winning tender where they scored higher marks in specific criteria. SEAI will undertake not to award the contract for a period of at least 14 (or whatever period is stated in the notification letters) days from the date of notification of unsuccessful tenderers ('standstill period').

Return of Signed Framework Agreements

The successful Framework Members must sign and return the Services Contract and return to SEAI no later than **14 calendar days** from the date of expiry of the Standstill Period noted above unless notified otherwise in writing by SEAI. A signed Framework Agreement returned by the successful Framework Member(s) is not binding on SEAI until SEAI has signed the Framework Agreement.

Where the signed Framework Agreement have not been received by SEAI within the period as specified in this paragraph then SEAI may proceed to award a place to the next highest ranked Tenderer on the framework in accordance with this paragraph.

The parties acknowledge and agree that this agreement may be executed by any form of electronic signature, which shall be considered as an original signature for all purposes and shall have the same legal force and effect as an original signature.

European Single Procurement Document (ESPD) Guidance for submitting

Tenderers are required to complete and submit with their Tender the electronic version of the European Single Procurement Document ("eESPD"). Tenderers may submit an eESPD which has already been used in a previous procurement procedure if they confirm that: (i) the information contained in it continues to be correct and (ii) that they satisfy the selection criteria for this competition as set out in this Cft. In the case of a consortium submission, each Consortium Member must submit their own eESPD declaration as part of the tender submission.

Declarations and certificates will be taken at face value in the first instance. However, if provisionally selected for appointment to the framework, tenderers will be required to provide evidence verifying the substance of the declarations and certificates. If any of these tenderers fail to do so within the time required (7 calendar days), or do not provide appropriate evidence to verify the details that the certificates/declarations cover, the tender or the tenderer concerned, will be rejected. Furthermore,

tenderers should note that the provision of inaccurate or misleading information in this declaration may lead to exclusion from participation in this and future tenders.

Collusion

Collusion or any attempt by any interested party, tenderer, Tenderer Members or their suppliers or advisers to collude with any other person in order to influence this tender competition in any way may result in disqualification from further participation in this tender competition. For example, but without limitation, tenderers and Tenderer Members and their suppliers and advisers shall not directly or indirectly at any time:

- fix or adjust the amount or content of any tender response in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person, other than in good faith where such other person is a proposed Tenderer Member or a supplier, adviser or provider of finance to the tenderer or Tenderer Member (subject to compliance with Section 3.9);
- communicate to any person other than SEAI, or seek or obtain from such other person, information about the amount or content of any tender response, other than in good faith to obtain quotations for supplies, services or finance;
- enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person that will result in such a person refraining from submitting a tender response;
- enter into any agreement or arrangement with any other person as to the form, content, scope or amount of any other tender response; or
- offer or pay a sum of money, incentive or valuable consideration to any person proposing to effect changes in or omissions from any other tender response.

Any tenderer that fails to comply with this section to the satisfaction of SEAI may be treated as failing to comply with the conditions of this tender competition and may, at the discretion of SEAI, be rejected and eliminated from this tender competition.

Conflict of interest / participation in other responses

Tenderers are responsible for ensuring that no actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest (collectively and individually a “conflict of interest”) exist.

Any conflict of interest must be fully disclosed to SEAI as soon as the conflict of interest becomes apparent to the tenderer. Any tenderer who fails to comply with this obligation may be disqualified from further participation in the tender competition.

In the event of any conflict of interest, SEAI shall, at its absolute discretion, decide on the appropriate course of action. This could include rejecting the tenderer and its tender response, a prohibition in proceeding in the manner proposed (e.g. by refusing to allow a tenderer or Tenderer Member be a Tenderer Member for a competing tenderer) and/or require participation to be subject to such other steps or safeguards as SEAI considers appropriate. Tenderers which (i) are Consortia or (ii) use subcontractors, shall inquire whether the proposed Tenderer Members or sub-contractors are involved in any other tenderer’s response. This includes having any economic, legal, commercial or financial relationship with another tenderer or another tenderer’s Tender Member submitting a separate tender response, for example, where a party seeks to participate in more than one tender response. Such enquiry must protect the confidentiality of the tender process and should not seek the identity of the other tenderers in whose tender response the relevant entity is proposing to participate. In such an instance, the tenderer must notify SEAI as to the proposed multiple participation and the economic, legal commercial or financial relationship in question as soon as possible.

The tenderer is required in such event to provide an accompanying statement stating that it is aware of the proposed multiple participation and that it has been brought to the attention of all concerned whilst, at the same time, maintaining the integrity of this competition and confidentiality. The tenderer is also required in such an event to propose suitable protections and procedures to be put in place by the tenderer to protect against or minimise any conflict of interest, collusion or distortion of competition arising (e.g. directly or indirectly sharing information between competing bids). SEAI reserves the right at its absolute discretion to refuse to allow a tenderer or Tenderer Member to be part of another competing tenderer and/or to disqualify a tenderer if there is a breach of this requirement.

Tenderers are advised to make any disclosure prior to 09/09/2026 (same date as queries date), so that SEAI can determine whether it considers this to constitute a conflict of interest or whether it may give rise to a risk of collusion or distortion of competition arising. This is so that the tenderers are informed of SEAI's position in advance of submitting a tender response.

Withdrawal from this competition

Tenderers are required to notify the SEAI immediately via the eTenders messaging facility, if they decide to withdraw from this Competition at any stage.

Reliance on resources

Provided it is appropriate for the framework requirements, a tenderer may, in order to prove it can satisfy the economic and financial standing or technical and professional capability necessary to participate in the framework, rely on the resources of entities or undertakings with which it is directly or indirectly linked. This is provided, whatever the legal nature of those links may be (including, for example, but not limited to, reliance on a parent company's resources, or the resources of a subcontractor), the tenderer establishes and provides evidence to demonstrate to the satisfaction of SEAI that the tenderer has and will have available to it the resources of those entities or undertakings which are necessary for the performance of the contract. For example, a letter from such other entity confirming that it will provide the necessary support may suffice.

Tenderers must also submit a separate completed eESPD for the entity whose resources are being relied upon.

SEAI reserves the right, at its absolute discretion, to require further assurances in relation to the availability of resources to the tenderer so as to clearly demonstrate that such resources are available to the tenderer and that SEAI may have full legal recourse to such resources as if the resources were a part of the tenderer.

If sufficient evidence is not provided, or it is not appropriate for the tenderer to rely on those resources for the contract, the tenderer will be evaluated based on its own economic and financial standing, and technical and professional capability.

Change in tenderer

Any change:

- of Tenderer Member(s),
- in the ownership, control or structure of the tenderer (including to the shareholding) or of any Tenderer Members, and/or
- in the intended roles and responsibilities of the Tenderer Members,

after the tenderer has submitted its completed tender response, may lead to its disqualification unless approved by SEAI in writing. SEAI reserves the right to withhold approval for any such changes and to disqualify the tenderer concerned from any further participation in the procurement process.

Whilst SEAI is not required to approve any such change, any approval will be dependent on a number of factors including, without limitation, that, in the view of SEAI, the change is not to the detriment of SEAI and the tenderer continues to meet the conditions for selection criteria and would not have received a lower score in the selection criteria which would have impacted upon its score to the extent that it would not have been selected and provided that the change does not give rise to a breach of procurement rules.

Any proposed changes must be notified to SEAI as soon as possible. Failure to notify any changes may result in disqualification of the tenderer.

It should be noted that a change will be judged as against the structure and responsibilities of the team proposed in the Selection Criteria. Any such change is at the risk of the tenderer.

SME Participation

SEAI seeks to encourage participation on a fair and equal basis by Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in all competitions. Small and Medium Enterprises that believe the scope of any competition is beyond their technical or business capacity are encouraged to explore the possibilities of forming relationships with other SMEs or larger enterprises. Through such relationships they can participate and contribute to the successful implementation of any contracts, agreements or arrangements that result from these competitions and therefore increase their social and economic benefits.

Tie Break Rules

If there is a tie for any rank on the framework (including where there is a tie for admittance to the framework – i.e., for the lowest rank on the framework), the following tie-break approach will be adopted:

In the event the tenderers receive the same marks under the Award Criteria (Section 7.2), the tenderer who has been awarded the highest marks for Award Criterion 1 will be deemed the MEAT between the tied tenderers.

In the event of the application of this tie-break rule not resulting in the determination of a MEAT, this approach will continue to be applied to each of the Award Criteria in the descending order listed below until such time as a MEAT can be determined:

- Total marks for Criterion 2
- Total marks for Criterion 3
- Total Marks for Criterion 4

In the unlikely event of the rules set out above failing to determine a MEAT, the preferred tenderer shall be selected based on random selection. In such a circumstance, representatives of each tenderer that achieved the same tied highest marks, even after applying the above tie break procedures, may be invited to attend at the SEAI's premises to observe the random selection and relevant tenderers will be notified in advance of the time/date and location of the random selection procedure.

Qualified tenders

Tenders must not be qualified in any way and must not include or be accompanied by any statement that could be construed as rendering the tender equivocal or ambiguous or placing it on a different footing from other tenders.

Without limitation, this includes any attempt by tenderers to base their tender on one or more assumptions, such that the tender will be affected if those assumptions are not correct. For the avoidance of doubt:

- (a) any tender qualified by such assumptions may be rejected; and
- (b) without limiting or affecting this paragraph within the CfT, SEAI will not be bound by any assumptions made by a tenderer and no assumptions will be incorporated in the Framework Agreement.

SEAI's decision on whether a tender complies with this CfT will be final.

Consortia and Prime Subcontractors

Where a group of undertakings (in whatever form and regardless of the legal relationship between them) come together to submit a tender (a "Consortium") in response to this CfT, SEAI will deal with all matters relating to this competition through a single nominated entity authorised to represent all members of the group of undertakings. The tenderer must provide details of all members of the group of undertakings ("Consortium Members") and their role in the tender and clearly set out the contact details including name, title, telephone number, postal address, facsimile number and e-mail address of the nominated entity authorised to represent the tenderer and to whom all communications shall be directed and accepted until this competition has been completed or terminated. Correspondence from any other person will not be accepted, acknowledged or responded to. Prior to and as a condition of award of any contract, the successful tenderer shall be required to designate a single entity who will carry overall responsibility for the contract (the "Prime Contractor"), irrespective of whether or not tasks are to be performed by a subcontractor or other consortium member (the "Subcontractor"). Tenderers submitting as part of those defined parameters are not precluded from tendering separately as part of their own submission provided that the provisions of the Clauses on Conflict of interest / participation in other responses and Collusion shall apply, and must be complied with, in those circumstances.

Sufficiency & Accuracy of Tender

Tenderers will be deemed to have examined all the documents enclosed and by their own independent observations and enquiries will be held to have fully informed themselves as to the nature and extent of the requirements of the tender. Tenderers are cautioned to check the accuracy of their tender prior to submission. A tender found containing any clerical errors or omissions may, at the sole discretion of SEAI, be referred back to the tenderer for correction. Any subsequent adjustment(s) must be confirmed in writing.

SEAI reserves the right to disqualify incomplete tenders.

Tender Documents - Ambiguity, Discrepancy, Error, Omission

If you consider that you are missing any documents which would prevent you from submitting a comprehensive tender, please contact us as soon as possible. Tenderers shall immediately notify SEAI should they become aware of any ambiguity, discrepancy, error or omission in the Tender Documents. SEAI will, upon receipt of such notification, issue a clarification via eTenders in respect of any such ambiguity, discrepancy, error or omission. Such clarification shall then form part of the Tender Documents.

Cost of Preparation of Tender

SEAI will not be liable for any costs, charges or expenses incurred by tenderers in the preparation of proposals or any associated efforts. It is the responsibility of the tenderer to ensure that they are fully aware and understand the requirements as laid down in this document. Tenderers will be responsible for any costs incurred by them in the event that they are required to attend clarification or other meetings or make a presentation of their proposals.

Replacement Personnel

Notification must be sent in writing as soon as possible to SEAI on any proposed change of nominated personnel, such change will be subject to the written approval of SEAI. Replacement personnel must be of equal or better standing than the existing personnel in terms of qualification and experience.

Tender Validity Period

To allow sufficient time for Tender assessment a Tender Validity period of 12 months is required, this period commencing on the closing date by which the Tenders are to be returned.

Currency, Payments and eInvoicing

The currency and invoices in which all prices and rates shall be tendered, and which payments under the contract will be paid, shall be Euros (€). All prices and rates quoted should be exclusive of VAT.

A schedule of payments will be agreed with the successful tenderer. SEAI operates in accordance with the European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations 2012. The method of payment used by SEAI is normally Electronic Funds Transfer.

SEAI as a public body is compliant with European Directive 2014/55/EU in relation to eInvoicing, and as such over the course of this contract may require that the successful tenders submit their invoices to SEAI in electronic format which may include but not limited to; sending electronic invoices to SEAI's selected system "Celtrino PEPPOL Connect". Electronic invoices are machine-readable invoices which can be processed automatically and digitally by the recipient are considered to be compliant with the European standard on electronic invoicing. An image file is not considered to be an electronic invoice for the purpose of the directive.

Confidentiality

The distribution of the tender documents is for the sole purpose of obtaining offers. The distribution does not grant permission or licence to use the documents for any other purpose. Tenderers are required to treat the details of all documents supplied in connection with the tender process as private and confidential.

Freedom of Information Act / Access to Information on the Environment

All responses to this call for tenders will be treated in confidence and no information contained therein will be communicated to any third party without the written permission of the tenderer except insofar as is specifically required for the consideration and evaluation of the response or as may be required under law, including the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014, the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018 (the "AIE Regulations"), EU and Irish Government Procurement Procedures, or in response to questions, debates or other parliamentary procedures in or of the Oireachtas (the Irish Parliament).

Tenderers are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in response to this call for tenders should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity. If this is the case, tenderers should specify the information that is sensitive and the reasons for its sensitivity. SEAI cannot guarantee that any information provided by tenderers, either in response to this call for tenders or in the course of any contract awarded as a result thereof, will not be released pursuant to SEAI's obligations under law, including the Freedom of Information (FOI) Act 2014, the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2018 (the "AIE Regulations"), EU and Irish Government Procurement Procedures. SEAI accepts no liability whatsoever in respect of any information provided which is subsequently released or in respect of any consequential damage suffered as a result of such disclosure.

Tax Clearance Certificate

It will be a condition of award of this framework and any subsequent contract that the successful tenderer(s) comply with all EU and national tax laws. Tenderers are referred to the Irish Revenue web site www.revenue.ie Non-resident tenderers should apply to the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, Non-Resident Tax Clearance Unit, Office of the Collector General, Sarsfield House, Francis Street, Limerick, Ireland; e-mail: nonrestaxclearance@revenue.ie. SEAI will satisfy themselves that any tenderers being considered for award of a framework / contract are appropriately tax compliant by checking their status via the online system for which tenderers are requested to provide their Tax Clearance Access Number and Tax Reference Number to facilitate verification. By supplying these numbers tenderers acknowledge and agree that SEAI has the permission to verify its tax cleared position online at any time during the term of the framework agreement.

Withholding Tax

Where applicable, payments shall be subject to Irish 'Professional Services Withholding Tax' at the prevailing rate (currently at 20%) as laid down by the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland. Non-residents may be able to reclaim such deducted Tax from the Office of the Revenue Commissioners in Ireland, International Claims Section.

Irish Legislation and Law

Tenderers should be aware that national legislation applies in other matters such as Employment, Working Hours, Official Secrets, Data Protection and Health and Safety. Tenderers must have regard to statutory terms relating to minimum pay and to legally binding industrial or sectoral agreements in SEAI tenders and in delivering contracts awarded to them. The contract[s] awarded on foot of this tender process will be governed by Irish law.

Dignity at Work

The successful tenderer(s) shall comply with all relevant legislation relating to dignity at work. As a public body employer SEAI is committed to a policy of equality of opportunity for all personnel.

Environmental, Social and Labour Law

In the performance of any Framework awarded, the successful Tenderers and their Subcontractors (if any), shall be required to comply with all applicable obligations in the field of environment, social and labour law that apply at the place where the services are provided, that have been established by EU law, national law, collective agreements.

Tenderers shall be required to include an undertaking to comply fully with the provisions of Council Directive 2001/23/EC of 12 March 2001 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, business or parts of undertakings or business and as implemented in Irish law by Statutory Instrument No. 131 of 2003, the European Communities (Protection of Employees on Transfer of Undertakings) Regulation 2003 and to indemnify SEAI for any claim arising or loss of costs incurred as a result of its failure to incapacity to fulfil its obligations under the said Directive and Statutory Instrument. The Protection of Employee (Temporary Agency Work) Act 2012 (the "2012 Act") provides that an Agency Worker (as defined in the 2012 Act) is entitled to the same basic working and employment conditions as those which apply to employees recruited directly by the Hirer (as defined by the 2012 Act) to do the same or a similar job. Where the provision of the Services will involve the provision to SEAI of Agency Workers (within the meaning of the 2012 Act), Tenderers should ensure that they consider their obligations under the 2012 Act when pricing their Tender. SEAI shall have no liability for any increase in salaries that may be payable as a result of the application of the 2012 Act to the provision of the Services.

Correction of Errors

Detailed pricing of all tenders will be examined for errors that might alter the tender pricing as determined from the figures on the tender form or the electronic versions of the tender. In general, the following approach will be applied to manifest errors - where there is a discrepancy between the unit price and the total amount derived from the multiplication of the unit price and the quantity, the unit price as quoted will normally govern. The amount stated in the tender form will be adjusted by SEAI in accordance with the above procedure and, with the agreement of the tenderer, shall be considered as binding upon the tenderer. Without prejudice to the above, a tenderer not accepting the correction of their tender as outlined may have their tender rejected.

Award to Runner up

If for any reason it is not possible to establish the framework to the designated successful tenderer emerging from this competitive process, or if having awarded the contract, SEAI considers that the successful tenderer has not met its obligations, SEAI reserves the right to during the tender validity period to establish the framework to the next highest scoring tenderer on the basis of the terms advertised without re-opening the competition. This shall be without prejudice to the right of SEAI to cancel this competitive process and/or initiate a new contract award procedure at its sole discretion. The same procedure applies to a framework agreement.

Contract Award Notices

Following the award of a framework, an award notice will be despatched to the Official Journal of the European Union announcing the results of the competition no later than 30 days after the award of contract. It should be noted that it is standard practice for SEAI to include the price of the winning tender or the range of prices of tenders received in the publication of the award notice as required under European procurement rules.

Copyright

SEAI will have copyright ownership of any material developed for use by SEAI under the terms of this tender. The service provider may have a non-exclusive licence to use such material but only for its own purposes (to be agreed with the successful tenderer)

Payment

A schedule of payments will be agreed with the successful tenderer. SEAI operates in accordance with S.I. 580 of 2012 which transposes EU Directive 2011/7/EU on combating Late Payment in commercial Transactions. The method of payment used by SEAI is normally Electronic Funds Transfer

Right Not to Award

SEAI does not bind itself to accept the most economically advantageous tender or any tender. It also reserves the right to accept or reject in whole or in part any or all tenders received, and, in particular, to source the requirement with more than one service provider. The Call for Tender is issued in good faith; however, SEAI at its sole discretion shall not be obliged to award a contract or proceed to further stages in the procurement process and reserves the right to cancel the procurement process.

Environmental & Green Public Procurement Aspects

SEAI is committed to the principles of environmental management in its activities and it encourages the implementation of sustainability principles in its procurement practices. Tenderers/contractors should make all reasonable efforts to minimise adverse environmental impact in the methods of services delivery and in materials used.

Tenderers should demonstrate either current or planned green public procurement practices that provide increased sustainable awareness and work practices. Examples of environmental considerations that can

be factored into delivery operations may include an outline environmental management plan, an outline waste management plan or evidence of commitment to staff training in waste minimisation.

SEAI encourages tenderers to develop green initiatives and provide relevant information in their tenders as to their carbon footprint, ISO14000 or other certification/proof of working towards a greener environment.

Brand Names

Please note in relation to this tender document, where reference is made to a particular make, source, process, trademark, type or patent, that this is not to be regarded as a de facto requirement. In all such cases it should be understood that the reference in question is accompanied by the word “or equivalent”.

Data Protection Statement:

SEAI fully respect your right to privacy. Any personal information which you provide to us will be treated with the highest standards of security and confidentiality, strictly in accordance with the Data Protection Acts 1988-2018.

SEAI will keep and process the information you provide in accordance with general data protection principles and in line with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and the Data Protection Acts 1988 to 2018. The information provided will be used to facilitate the Public Sector Services framework which SEAI will use for the delivery of its services. SEAI is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2014.

SEAI Procurement Process - Privacy Notice can be viewed at the following link [Legal, Privacy and Cookies | SEAI](#)

For any queries in relation SEAI's processing of personal data, please contact dataprotection@seai.ie

If personal data as defined in the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 will be processed as part of services being provided by the vendor, the vendor will be required to complete a vendor data protection assessment prior to award of the contract.

The Following 4 documents templates and associated Appendices are provided in **Annex 2 – The Tender Response Document**

NOTE: The **Tender Response Document must be completed and included as part of the submission. The Tender Response Document is a separate document – Annex 2: Tender Response Document.**

- **APPENDIX 2 – COMPANY DETAILS**

Please see Annex 2, Section 1 of Tender Response Document

- **APPENDIX 3- TENDERERS' STATEMENT**

Please see Annex 2, Section 1 of Tender Response Document

- **APPENDIX 4 – DECLARATION RE PERSONAL STATUS**

Please see Annex 2, Section 1 of Tender Response Document

- **APPENDIX 5 – FORM OF TENDER AND BREAKDOWN OF CHARGES**

Please see Annex 2, Section 4 – Pricing Schedule of Tender Response Document

Where a pricing schedule is incomplete the tender response may be eliminated from the tender competition at the discretion of SEAI.

NOTE: The Tender Response Document must be completed and included as part of the submission.

Failure to complete the Tender Response Document in full for a Lot may invalidate the submission for that Lot and the Tenderer may be eliminated from the tender competition subject to the discretion of SEAI.

The Tender Response Document is a separate document – Annex 2: Tender Response Document.

The Following document and associated Appendix is provided in Annex 1 – Framework Agreement Terms and Conditions

- **APPENDIX 6 – FRAMEWORK TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

Please see Annex 1 Framework Terms and Conditions