

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Name Of Tender: BID NUMBER: RFP/014/22

The design, construction, operation and maintenance of alternative sanitation (sewer) solutions for informal settlements and other Gauteng Department of Human Settlements projects for a period of five (5) years

Briefing session recording link:

https://qpfzamy.sharepoint.com/:v/q/personal/florencem_gpf_org_za/EUFXZDBY6hZJnoZwCWL6nRcBU9GsTMaObsPTII6dnKu-uA

Question 1: What type of disability will be accepted within that application?

Answer: Any kind of disability is accepted, as long as the person is disabled.

Question 2: On the implementation plan it talks about a Gantt chart showing a specific implementation of that system, do we have to make it like for example 10 households or maybe one household or 100 households? Or for example, our system installation process takes 3 days to complete but if there's 100 houses that changes.

Answer: Yes, we need a Gant chat as opposed to getting a theoretic part only.

Settlements vary in sizes in terms of the number of households. We are expecting you to give us a detailed solution on how long it takes for you if your solution let's say it takes 3 days to install for an X number of households, we would expect you to take us into confidence to say for a typical size of settlement this is how long it will take to implement so that we understand that for your solution, if it takes a week for five households, then it will take maybe two weeks for 10 households, 3 weeks for 15 and so on. Craft it in such a way that you cover your longest possible period.

Question 3: Are we allowed to choose who we should add in a team since the organogram does not specify?

Answer: We wouldn't know who you would use for your solution, so you can present to us the team that you have. There is no prescription in that regard.

Question 4: On the authority for accreditation is there a specific authority required?

Answer: We deliberately did not specify the accreditation for these solutions because we did not want to disadvantage people who have different accreditation, you can provide us with the accreditation that support your solution.

Question 5: It is for centralized toilet systems where there's no bulk in the bulk connections currently and if you want flushing the toilet, so I assume there must be some sort of water connection.

There's no indication of land or area available for the implementation of the solution, and the request that the system be movable but. It must be able to be integrated with the bulk services when becoming available, is there that can give me some technical feedback on those questions?

Answer: If in your solution there is no bulk, we would like you to think out-of-the-box in terms of how you provide that specific community in the absence of bulk with a solution that can give them flushing toilets.

In the document we made reference to availability of bulk, your solution should be able to be linked to bulk should bulk be available.

In your particular solution, if the settlement gets relocated, we want to make sure that there is an opportunity for us to move with your solution. We want to be able to, if it's still there and then power becomes available, you want to be able to take your solution, plug it into a bulk that becomes available and use it for whatever period.

Question 6: Would the geological investigation report per site be readily available for the bidders or should it be part of our site visit to investigate?

Answer: By virtue of these settlements being a category B2 and C, these are going to be eventually relocated, there is no geological investigations within commissioned. The idea is not to develop anything insitu, so we don't have that geological information on those settlements.

Question 7: Do we need to price for the due diligence work that will be done, for example geological investigation?

Answer: As part of your proposed solution you need to include it if you feel like that is what needs to be done, we need to understand the associated costs because we are on the drive to reduce the use of chemical toilets.

Question 8: Will it be feasible to visit all sites before the 6th of March so that one does not find themselves guessing.

Answer: There is a pricing schedule that you need to complete as part of your submission. That must talk specific to each of the settlements. We won't prescribe, but it's advisable that one makes the best effort to understand the environment on the ground. So that when you give us a cost rate per household, it is as close as possible to the actuals.

Question 9: Is there anyone we can engage with when we do the site visits?

Answer: You can conduct an independent site visit.

Question 10: Will the time allocated for the visibility due diligence be enough?

Answer: That's the pressing time that we have available. We plead with you to try and your level best to accommodate the available time. There's a bit of pressure for us to conclude the process so we can then move to the next stages.

Question 11: In some communities that we are going to do assessment, in terms of informing stakeholders that we are coming, will that be managed by the bidders or someone?

Answer: For your protection, we will sensitize the municipalities and the respective counsellors.

Question 12: What qualifications and experience are needed for this request?

Answer: We are looking for a specific solution that you have implemented it somewhere, that you have worked with the client that will either give you a reference letter to say they're happy with the solution or not.

Question 13: With the three-year experience required, are the effects of COVID-19 considered?

Answer: An erratum is issued out to increase the years from 3 to 10 years.

Question 14: What is the minimum threshold for qualifying on functionality?

Answer: The minimum threshold is 70 points.

Question 15: Page 12 and Page 16 refers: The RFP requires a mandatory detailed implementation plan and page 12 indicates the required implementation timeline for all the listed 37 Municipal areas. It would be quite difficult to do an implementation plan for such a large section, considering that there may be multiple service providers appointed (as per the briefing on Monday the 20th of Feb). Would it not be more reasonable to complete an implementation plan based on an average number of units? With this then all the submitted RFPs are based on a similar number and it is a more reasonable approach to compare and adjudicate.

Answer: Please respond based on your proposed solution, if it will be possible for you to respond with an implementation plan based on average number of units, please do so and clearly articulate the logic associated to your approach.

Question 16: Page 18 refers: The GEYODI targets require either an 80/20 or 90/10 split regarding employment of labour, with regards to the People with disabilities, can you forward a list of type of disabilities that are considered to cover this item?

Answer: We do not have a list of type of disabilities, any type of disability is considered. Your CSD report should be able to indicate to us the total percentage of people with disabilities.

Question 17: Page 14 refers: “It is a mandatory requirement that proof of accreditation / certification of the proposed technology / solution by the relevant authority be provided” – The question is to what standard/s must these comply? (I.e. South African National Standards etc) and further, Surely the **Sanitation System as a whole** must be accredited and tested by Department of Science and Technology / NHBRC / Agreement / SABS or similar approved body and been successfully piloted and implemented with a proven track record of not less than 5 years? The reason for this is that a lot of companies has ISO certification, but this is only a Quality Management System on the actual manufacturing of the individual products and **NOT a certification of the sanitation SYSTEM**

Answer: We have not prescribed the relevant authority with the fear of leaving some out. As clarified at the briefing meeting – the bidder must convince the GPF of the authenticity of the proposed solution; rather over supply evidence to sell your solution.

Question 18: Page 13 refers: the proposed solution should be retrofittable to existing VIP toilets: This is only possible should the existing VIP structure be in a structurally safe condition. Should allowance be made for any new structures in the event of the existing structures not being a viable and/or structural safe option?

Answer: Yes

Question 19: Page 13 refers: Remote monitoring: Some of our sanitation solutions only requires de-sludging after an average 8 years – what would the benefit be for remote monitoring and/or would it still be required?

Answer: If remote monitoring is not required, it must be captured so in the solution write-up.

Question 20: Page 15 refers: Signed contract of appointment and reference letters from clients must not be older than 3 years: Surely projects that has been in operation for a longer period indicates more accurate and more reliable results? Surely this item should be extended to rather facilitate projects that are more than 5 years old. Reference letters may be newer, and references can be contacted to understand if the system/s are still performing as it should, but projects less than 3 years old may NOT indicate such and hasn't been “properly” tested over a longer period. Can this not be extended to 8 years instead of 3?

Answer: An erratum is issued out to increase the years from 3 to 10 years.