

Provision of Services for Smart Bins to Facilitate Food Waste Collection at Private Housing Estates
Response to Enquiries on the Tender Document
(Tender Briefing on 18 October 2023)

Categories of Question	Enquiry	Response
Company/ Business Organisation Status	Item 1. Is it acceptable for a parent company and one of its subsidiaries to submit their own tenders as two individual companies?	<p>According to paragraph 17 of the Terms of Tender, the ECC will award two contracts, each to a different Tenderer. The objective behind this provision is to foster diversification within the smart bin industry and promote increased competition in the market.</p> <p>According to paragraphs 26.1 and 26.2 of Terms of Tender, the Tenderers must ensure that their submissions are prepared without any agreement, arrangement, communication, understanding, promise or undertaking with other parties, except as provided in Confirmation of Compliance with Anti-Collusion Requirement mentioned in paragraph 26.2.</p> <p>While a parent company and its subsidiary can submit separate tenders, their proposals must be prepared independently. Should the ECC determine two proposals from related companies to be excessively similar including but not limited to the smart bin appearance, technical specifications and pricing, it reserves the right to award the contracts to other tenderers who better align with diversification, originality and uniqueness of each tender.</p>
Contract Period	Item 2. Will the provision of service for FWSB at designated locations (i.e., Preparation Period, Operation Period and Post-	According to Clauses 4.1 and 4.2 of Service Specification, during the open-application period, the EPD would refer successful applications

	<p>Operation Period) commence during the twenty-four (24) months of the open-application period?</p>	<p>to the Contractor from time to time. The provision of service for FWSB at each location shall commence on the date when successful applicants are referred to the Contractor.</p>
	<p>Item 3. In the case when all 60 FWSBs have been distributed and installed in designated locations during the early stage of Open Application Period, will the Contract Period be shortened to less than 54 months?</p>	<p>According to Clause 3.1.3 of Service Specification, the actual number of FWSBs and food waste buckets provided, as well as their delivery, installation and operation schedule shall be subject to the progress of application approval under the Scheme. The EPD would refer successful applications to the Contractor from time to time during the Contract Period. In the event that all 60 FWSBs have been distributed and installed in designated locations during the early stage of the Open Application Period, the Contractor shall provide services for all these successful applicants for a period of twenty-eight (28) months, and submit all the reports after the completion of services, during the Post Application Period.</p> <p>According to Clauses 3.12.1 and 3.12.2 of Service Specification, the Contractor may be required for the provision of additional FWSBs / Food Waste Buckets in addition to the initial 60 units of FWSBs and the 30,000 nos. of Food Waste Bucket. The ECC shall have absolute discretion to adjust the quantity and the operation period of the Additional FWSBs, as well as the quantity of the Additional Food Waste Bucket.</p>
<p>Designated Location</p>	<p>Item 4. Will ECC/EPD refer eligible private housing estates to Contractors, or should the Contractors look for eligible private housing estates on their own?</p>	<p>According to Clause 3.1.3 of Service Specification, the EPD would refer successful applications (i.e. private housing estates) to the Contractors from time to time during the Contract Period. However, the Contractor can also refer private housing estates to the ECC/EPD</p>

		for follow up and assessment of their eligibility for application.
The Scheme	Item 5. Does the Scheme overlap with the existing FWSB scheme funded by the Recycling Fund?	Both schemes support the adoption of FWSB for food waste collection in private residential buildings. However, there are differences in terms of the service requirements of FWSBs, subsidized items under the funding schemes, and applicants' requirements. More details on the smart bin application by private housing estates under the ECC will be announced shortly.
Timeline for the Provision of FWSBs	Item 6. As observed from Appendix D, the expected number of FWSBs to be installed by the Contractor during 1 st year (2023/2024) and 2 nd year (2024/2025) are 20 and 40, respectively. Does the ECC/EPD have a confirmed list of participating private housing estates?	The tentative timeline shown in Appendix D is for reference only. According to Clause 3.1.3 of Service Specification, the actual number of FWSBs and food waste buckets provided, as well as their delivery, installation and operation schedule shall be subject to the progress of application approval under the Scheme. The EPD would refer successful applications to the Contractor from time to time during the Contract Period.
Testing and Commissioning	Item 7. Is it acceptable to conduct testing and commissioning tests using equipment calibrated according to other international standard, or calibrated by a calibration organization outside Hong Kong?	Pursuant to Clause 3.9.5 of the Service Specification, all testing and measuring equipment shall be calibrated by a competent calibration organization accredited by the Hong Kong Laboratory Accreditation Scheme (HOKLAS).
Innovative Suggestions	Item 8. Is there any breakdown of marks for each innovative suggestion proposed by tenderers? Will tenderers get a higher mark by proposing more innovative suggestions?	According to Annex IV (Marking Scheme) to the Terms of Tender, the innovative suggestion(s) shall be evaluated as a whole under Section A – A1 and Section A – A2 of the Technical Proposal. While tenderers can make multiple innovative suggestions, the mark awarded is based on the overall quality, practicality and details provided for the innovative suggestion(s). i.e. a well-developed

		innovative suggestion with practical implementation details and significant potential advantages could get a higher mark based on the marking guidelines.
Essential Requirement	Item 9. Regarding Essential Requirement 2, are tenderers who previously conducted the Basic API Tests or Full API Tests with HKPC required to re-conduct the tests?	Pursuant to item 2.2 of Annex I to Terms of Tender, a passed result of the Basic API Tests or Full API Tests obtained from HKPC can be submitted to fulfill this Essential Requirement. However, the result of Basic API Tests or Full API Tests submitted should be exclusively for food waste recycling bin system . Please refer to Appendix A for the details of the API test under this contract.
	Item 10. Do tenderers need to bear the expense for conducting the Basic API Tests or Full API Tests?	Yes. This tender does not cover the expense for conducting the Basic API Tests or Full API Tests.
Payment of Services	Item 11. Does it mean that the payment for services completed in the 1 st month will be made in the 4 th month, while the payment for services completed in the 2 nd month will be made in the 5 th month?	According to Clauses 6.1 and 6.2 of Service Specification, payment shall be made to the Contractor on a quarterly basis . The Contractor shall be paid based on the quantity of FWSBs installed, the quantity of operating FWSBs, and the quantity of Food waste buckets delivered to the Designated Location(s) in that quarter . The cut-off date for payment shall be the last date of that quarter, unless otherwise specified by the ECC.