

Appendix 2

The Crown Commercial Service (CCS) Management Consultancy Framework (MCF) Lot 3 is specifically designed for complex and strategic projects that require expert consultancy services.

Mechanisms for Ensuring VFM in MCF Lot 3

1. Competitive Supplier Selection

Rigorous Tender Process: Suppliers on Lot 3 have been vetted through a competitive process, demonstrating their ability to provide high-quality services at reasonable costs. This typically includes providing evidence of cost-effectiveness, ensuring a baseline level of VFM.

All suppliers are pre-qualified based on their capability, experience, and adherence to public sector procurement standards. This reduces the risk of poor performance or hidden costs, which can erode VFM.

Pre-negotiated Rates: Suppliers are required to offer transparent and competitive day rates, which are benchmarked during the tender process to avoid inflated costs. Pricing models in the framework often include capped rates, which help control costs.

2. Mini-Competitions

Buyers can run mini-competitions among pre-approved suppliers to secure the most cost-effective solution tailored to their specific needs.

These competitions allow public sector bodies to consider price, quality, and delivery times, which supports achieving optimal VFM.

3. Expertise for Complex Projects

Lot 3 specializes in complex, high-value, or high-risk projects, where expertise is critical to prevent costly errors and delays.

Engaging experts for strategic decision-making can lead to better long-term outcomes and cost savings.

4. Centralised Terms and Conditions

Pre-negotiated contracts with standardized terms reduce legal and administrative costs.

Suppliers are bound by the terms to adhere to agreed-upon deliverables and performance standards.

5. Transparency and Reporting

The framework encourages open-book accounting and clear reporting mechanisms, allowing buyers to monitor costs and supplier performance.