**Q&A Record**

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| **Question** | **Response** | **Date** |
| We would be grateful if you could confirm whether there is an indicative or estimated project value/budget that the University is working within for this procurement? | Our budget is £100k (inc. VAT) There is a weighting which puts favour towards the lowest cost proposal. However, we also understand that the market sets the rate, so if our requirement cannot be met within this budget we will review accordingly. | 23/06/25 |
| Can you confirm if we would be able to utilise the scaffolding installed by the roofing company to access the roof, or would we be required to reinstall new scaffolding for this project? | Yes, there is an option to utilise the scaffolding erected by the roofing contractor. The cost of extending the hire period is £2,500(+VAT) Contact name and number for the scaffolding contractor is provided in the tender document at section 0.3 (page4). You also have the option to use your own provider/ access solution. | 23/06/25 |
| Is the site visit mandatory? | No, you do not need to attend the site visit. You will not be penalised for not attending. However, we do recommend attending as you may see something previously overlooked, get a better understanding of the site, or hear questions raised by other contractors during the visit. | 23/06/25 |
| Are you able to confirm that all buildings are supplied by the same MPAN? | Yes, the single MPAN covers all 3 buildings. I’ll also highlight that in addition to the three halls, the MPAN also covers the Music Building, Sports Dome, Tudor Hale Centre for Sport and Laundry to the north of Harting Hall.  A map of our campus if available here <https://maps.chi.ac.uk/> | 24/06/25 |
| There is a possibility of some occasional exporting to the grid. Have you contacted the DNO? | Currently we don’t consider export recharge/ other options as being worthwhile for the levels involved. Consequently, we haven’t contracted the DNO. However, the team are interested to know if a contractor considers we would be generating enough power to sell back. They expect the vast internal power supply within the campus would use the entire solar power before it reaches the origin and back to the network. | 25/06/25 |
| Have you considered PPA? | We have considered PPA previously and discounted it, given we are in the fortunate position of having the capital to invest. | 25/06/25 |
| We note on the tender document; “*Halls are covered by one of six fiscal meters serving the Chichester Campus. This meter additionally serves supplies to the Music Building, Sports Dome, Tudor Hale Centre for Sport and Laundry to the north of Harting Hall”.*  Could you provide further clarity about this data? Assuming this is the total for the meter across all the buildings listed, could you give an approximate indication of how much is consumed at each of the tendered sites? | Yes, the data provided in Appendices is the consumption data for all the buildings listed. They are all fed by the same substation and are on a single meter.  Unfortunately, we do not have meters for each individual building and therefore cannot identify each buildings’ consumption. | 30/06/25 |
| Please can you advise if there is a kWp target? | We have no kWp target, although suppliers are asked to advise anticipated PV wattage output as part of their response to question C1.3 | 09/07/25 |
| Will there be any hoist or plant available to lift materials to the roof? | Our understanding is that none will be provided as part of the roofer’s scaffold. The roofing contractor intends to use a mobile crane which they will hire as and when required. Global scaffolding’s contact details have however been provided as part of the tender so suppliers are welcome to confirm details for themselves or have any alterations they require to the scaffolding priced. | 09/07/25 |
| Have you submitted a grid application for the proposed PV in this project? | Currently we have not made any application. If a G99 application is required, we are asking suppliers to make this application on the University’s behalf as part of the contractor’s duties under the design and build contract. Our preference is also to neither order nor install equipment until G99 approval is received in case this is not successful. This should be factored into the programme. | 09/07/25 |
| Are we able to install before we receive G99 approval if this is when it needs to be fitted (in line with the roofing works) or are we to wait for G99 approval first? | If a G99 application is required, we are asking suppliers to make this application on the University’s behalf as part of the contractor’s duties under the design and build contract. Our preference is also to neither order nor install equipment until G99 approval is received in case this is not successful. This should be factored into the programme. | 09/07/25 |
| If the scaffolding has come down by the time the G99 is through and therefore solar panels can go on, can we provide our own scaffolding as long as the costs are the same or lower? | Our preference is not to have two sets of scaffold erection and dismantling due to the levels of noise and disruption this will cause. If installation is planned to co-ordinate with the completion of each roof, we would also be surprised this will be economically viable in comparison with extending the hire of the roofer’s scaffold.  Currently roofing works on the first block is scheduled to complete circa February 2026 and April 2026 for the second. The third block is subject to ongoing discussion but a break in programme to allow for summer conferences could see this as late as January or February 2027. | 09/07/25 |
| Will those who have attended the site be prioritised or preferred during the tender evaluation process? | No. Evaluations are based solely on the criteria given in the tender documentation. | 09/07/25 |
| Do you have a standard specification for the fire stops between floors, or should we refer to a British Standard? | Suppliers should confirm their installation will comply with UK legislation | 17/07/25 |
| Regarding the "roof riser" cable, could you confirm its cable size? | We have now posted a new document on the Help Site [<https://help.chi.ac.uk/tenders>] to show this cable. For clarity, the cable is believed to be 25-35mm CSA and is connected to a 100-125 amp breaker. The breakers can be seen in photo 15 of Appendix 6. | 17/07/25 |
| G99 and Voltage optimiser | Please note that we have voltage optimisers on site. Distributed Generation (DG) can be installed together with voltage optimisers but the integration point for any DG has to be carefully considered. G99/100 Regs stipulate that any for DG must be integrated upstream of any Voltage Optimisation. Simply put, it must be connected into the electrical system on the UN-Optimised side of the Voltage Optimiser. This is covered in section 7.7 of G99.  Although the blanket statement of PV cannot be fitted if there is a Voltage Optimiser on site is not correct, its connection point and design do need to be carefully considered.  As a result of this we will be **removing the voltage optimiser** from the main power supply before works on this project commence. | 18/07/25 |
| Welfare consideration | Please see the word document included under additional documents. This advises on the constraints, proposed location, and identifies what we would like you to include in your tender response. | 18/07/25 |
| Requirement for data points | In your proposals please state where you require data points to be installed. The university team will ensure that these will be installed at the desired locations. You do not need to cost for this provision in your proposal. | 18/07/25 |
| Fire proofing | Please ensure your costings include for fire protection/ fire proofing. Although we do have our own contractor for this we would like you to include costing and plan for you to cover this provision yourself. | 18/07/25 |
| Inverter locations | Following the site visits, it has been mentioned that our initially proposed locations for the inverters shown in Appendix 3 is not large enough.  If you consider that this is the case, please state this and provide size of your proposed inverter unit, and the maximum distance it can be installed away from our proposed locations included in your price. Specify also power, and ventilation requirements in your proposal document and whether or not you have included for its provision in your price. | 18/07/25 |
| Do our insurers would impose any restriction on the make of inverter units to be fitted? | In short no. However, they have made some observations: the question on restrictions on the manufacturer of an inverter has never come up as an issue. It is an interesting point that most fires appear to have occurred at the inverter location, so I am assuming the contractor has experience of particular inverters failing.  Ideally, inverters will not be on the rooftop location but in a self-contained unit away from the building but this may not be practicable.  There are currently new insurance industry Best Practice guidance documents being developed with respect to PV installations, but which have not yet been published.  Appended are the 2 most relevant and recent best practice documents.  Undernoted are some additional comments.   * *It is always recommended a Fire Service switch for PVs as turning the existing isolating switch at the AC/DC inverter point does not turn off the DC side. (As long as there is light (this includes streetlights during the night) the PV arrays are working. The Fire Service switch is not a “given” for all manufacturers, so it is worth checking).* * *It is always recommended that an in-line fire detection system is installed within arrays”*   As such, for pricing purposes, please include for installation of the linear heat detection cabling on the PV array itself only. The University will then establish how best to connect and commission. | 18/07/25 |