

The Technology Services Procurement Framework Update - March 2021

Better connecting Tasmanian Government agencies and information technology suppliers

In late 2020 the Minister for Finance announced that the Government Information Technology Conditions and the ICT Professional Services Panel will be retired on 30 June 2021.

This follows a review of the way Tasmanian Government agencies procure information technology.

A contemporary information technology procurement framework will be implemented on **1 July 2021**, to better connect suppliers and Tasmanian Government agencies.

The new framework

The Technology Services Multi-use List

A Technology Services Multi-use List (TSL) will replace the ICT Professional Services Panel.

Suppliers can apply to be added to the TSL from **10 April 2021**, via the Tenders website (www.tenders.tas.gov.au). The TSL will be open to applications indefinitely - suppliers can be added at any time.

Tasmanian Government agencies will use the TSL for the procurement of technology services valued at \$100 000 or more, from **1 July 2021**.

Agencies will approach suppliers on the TSL via a RFQ or RFT process (depending on the value), using updated and streamlined templates.

A new contract suite

A new suite of contract documentation is being developed to replace the GITC. Any information technology contract entered into on or from **1 July 2021** that would currently use the GITC will use the new contract suite.

Contracts already in place (ie those subject to the GITC) will remain as is.

Why the change?

The review identified that the existing framework is out-dated and can limit opportunities for suppliers to participate in Tasmanian Government purchasing opportunities. The new framework:

- Improves supplier's access to and opportunities to compete for Tasmanian Government contracts.
- Streamlines the ability for agencies to connect with the market.
- Ensures new entrants to the market have the opportunity to compete for Tasmanian Government contracts.
- Allows for new and emerging technologies.
- Integrates the Government's Buy Local Policy into ICT procurements.
- Includes integrated Tenders website functionality for agencies to both access the TSL and to conduct procurements end-to-end.
- Introduces a new suite of procurement templates and contract documentation.

The Technology Services Procurement Framework

The TSL categories

Similar to the ICT Professional Services Panel, suppliers will be added to the TSL in a number of categories:

- Application Development Services
- Data Analytics
- Project Management and Business Analysis
- Operational Technical Services
- Cyber Security
- Strategic Advisory and Consulting

I'm a supplier of technology services, what do I need to do?

Make sure you are registered on the Tenders website (www.tenders.tas.gov.au). You will need to have a Tenders website account to:

- submit an application and be added to the TSL; and
- for agencies to invite you to provide RFQ or RFT submissions for TSL procurements.

Registration is a two-step process. In the second step, select the *Information Technology Broadcasting and Telecommunications* category. This way, you will receive an email alert with a link to everything you need to know, as soon as applications open.

On **10 April 2021**, a notice will be published on the Tenders website with the application package and a link to where you can submit your application.

From **1 July 2021**, agencies will use the Tenders website to approach suppliers on the TSL (via RFQ or RFT, depending on the value).

I work in a Tasmanian Government agency, what does this mean for me?

If you are procuring technology services valued at **\$100 000 or more** on or after 1 July 2021, using the TSL is mandatory. There will be arrangements in place for circumstances where the TSL is not suitable.

If your procurement is valued **at less than \$100 000** you can choose to use the TSL, or you can adopt an alternate procurement method.

You will have new, streamlined RFQ and RFT templates to use when procuring from the TSL, along with a new contract suite.

The Tenders website is being updated to deliver integrated functionality specifically for the TSL. Agencies will be able to use the Tenders website to view and search the TSL, and to conduct end-to-end procurements from it.

Key dates

10 April 2021	Notice published on www.tenders.tas.gov.au with application package and link to eLodgement facility.
May - June 2021	Treasury will provide further details, guidance material and documentation directly to suppliers and agencies.
30 June 2021	The ICT Professional Services Panel and GITC are retired.
1 July 2021	The new framework commences.