



National Film and Sound Archive of Australia

Request for Tender NFSA 2021/P242

Excess Audio Collection Items

Document 1 Conditions Of Tender

Tender Closing Time:
2:00 PM AEST, Friday 25 June 2021

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Important Dates

Friday, 21 May 2021	Request For Tender Release Time (5:00PM AEST)
31 May – 11 June 2021	Restricted Pallet Inspection (10-12 Baillieu Court, Mitchell ACT)
Friday, 18 June 2021	Question and Clarification Request Deadline
Friday, 25 June 2021	Request For Tender Closing Time (2:00PM AEST)

1. Invitation

- 1.1 The National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (NFSA) invites Tender Responses from collection and preservation institutions, artists and collectors, industry and private sector figures, and members of the public for the acquisition and removal of excess audio collection items in accordance with NFSA Request for Tender (RFT) 2021/P242.

2. Minimum Conditions For Participation

- 2.1 Not applicable.

3. Definitions and Interpretation

3.1 Definitions

In these conditions and the attached Tender Form, the following terms have the same meanings set out below.

AusTender	The Australian Government's procurement information system, accessible at https://www.tenders.gov.au
Contact Officer	NFSA Procurement Helpdesk National Film and Sound Archive McCoy Circuit Acton Canberra ACT 2601 Phone: +61 2 6248 2182 Email: tenders@nfsa.gov.au Please note that all question and clarification requests must be submitted in writing to tenders@nfsa.gov.au .
Draft Contract	<i>RFT Document 4 - Proposed Draft Contract</i>
Evaluation Criteria	The evaluation criteria to be applied in the assessment of received Tender Responses are set out at paragraph 14.7
NFSA	National Film and Sound Archive of Australia
NFSA Website	https://www.nfsa.gov.au/corporate-information/tenders
Offer Period	Ninety (90) days after the RFT Closing Time
Question and Clarification Request Deadline	2:00PM AEST, Friday 18 June 2021
RFT	Request For Tender
RFT Closing Time	2:00PM AEST, Friday 25 June 2021

RFT Document Pack	The RFT Document Pack comprises of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Document 0 – Process Instructions - Document 1 – Conditions of Tender (this document) - Document 2 – Statement of Requirements - Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules - Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details - Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract
Services	The acquisition and removal of excess audio collection items from the NFSA Mitchell Warehouse (ACT). Detailed information about the Services to be provided under the contract are set out in <i>RFT Document 2 – Statement of Requirements</i> and <i>RFT Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract</i>
Tender Response	Any offer or proposal submitted in response to this RFT, in the form and format set out at <i>RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules</i> and <i>RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details</i>
Tender Box	Tenders must be submitted by email to: tenders@nfsa.gov.au Subject: NFSA RFT 2021/P242 – Excess Audio Collection Items – [Company Name]
Tender Details	The name of this Tender is “NFSA Request For Tender 2021/P242 – Excess Audio Collection Items”.
Tender Form and Schedules	<i>RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules</i> and <i>RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details</i>
Tenderer	Any individual or entity which submits a Tender Response as part of this RFT or, where the context requires, is proposing to submit a Tender Response.

4. Tender Documents

4.1 Request For Tender Document Pack

4.1.1 This RFT Document Pack includes:

- RFT Document 0 – Process Instructions
- RFT Document 1 – Conditions of Tender (this document);
- RFT Document 2 – Statement Of Requirements;
- RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules;
- RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details; and
- RFT Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract

4.1.2 Tenderers may obtain the RFT Document Pack from AusTender or the NFSA Website.

4.2 **Tenderers to Inform Themselves**

4.2.1 Each Tenderer must be aware of the requirements of the RFT and must allow for those requirements when preparing and submitting a Tender Response.

4.2.2 The Tenderer is considered to have:

- (a) examined the RFT, any documents referenced herein and any other information made available in writing to Tenderers for the purpose of tendering;
- (b) independently verified all information and material included in or relevant to this RFT;
- (c) undertaken any inspection or other due diligence activity that the Tenderer requires or considers desirable to inform itself of any relevant fact, manner or circumstance;
- (d) examined all further information which is obtainable by the making of reasonable enquiries relevant to the risks, contingencies and other circumstances having an effect on their Tender Response;
- (e) has sought its own professional advice as appropriate and has not construed the RFT as containing any business, investment, legal, tax or other advice;
- (f) satisfied itself as to the correctness and sufficiency of their Tender Response including tender offers (if applicable) and associated offer assumptions (and in relation to Australian and overseas legal requirements);
- (g) in lodging its Tender Response, not relied on any express or implied statement, warranty or representation, whether oral, written or otherwise made by or on behalf of the NFSA, their respective officers, employees, agents or advisers other than any statement, warranty or representation contained in this RFT; and
- (h) not used information improperly obtained or in breach of an obligation of confidentiality in compiling its Tender Response.

4.2.3 Tenderers must familiarise themselves with all relevant Commonwealth legislation and policies relating to the RFT process and the provision of the Services including:

- (a) Division 137.1 of the Criminal Code which makes it an offence to knowingly provide false or misleading information to a Commonwealth entity;
- (b) the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (Cth) which requires Australian Government departments and agencies to provide access to certain documents in their possession;
- (c) the Auditor-General Act 1997 (Cth) which allows the Auditor-General to conduct a review or examination, at any time, of any aspect of the operations of Australian Government agencies;
- (d) the Ombudsman Act 1976 (Cth) which authorises the Ombudsman to investigate the administrative actions of Australian Government departments and agencies and to investigate the actions of certain Australian Government contractors;

- (e) the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) which aims to ensure that contractors and their subcontractors do not engage in an act or practice that would breach the requirements of Division 2 of Part III of the Privacy Act;
- (f) the Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth) which requires a person conducting a business or undertaking to ensure the health and safety of all workers and workplaces;
- (g) the Public Interest Disclosure Act 2013 (Cth) which aims to promote the integrity and accountability of the Commonwealth public sector; and
- (h) the Archives Act 1983 (Cth) which makes it an offence to destroy, dispose of, transfer, damage or alter Commonwealth records unless certain exceptions apply.

4.3 **Acknowledgement by Tenderer**

- 4.3.1 The Tenderer acknowledges that before it submitted its Tender Response it obtained a copy of the RFT Document Pack from AusTender and/or the NFSA Website.
- 4.3.2 The Tenderer acknowledges that it was fully advised and informed of the Restricted Pallet Inspection that applies to this RFT process.
- 4.3.3 The Tenderer acknowledges that before it submitted its Tender Response it viewed AusTender and/or the NFSA Website for any published RFT updates or addenda.

4.4 **Standard Tenderer Exclusions**

- 4.4.1 The NFSA have not set out any Tenderer exclusions for the purposes of this RFT.

4.5 **No Unauthorised Use**

- 4.5.1 All Tender Responses shall become the property of the NFSA on submission, noting any Tenderer intellectual property rights that may exist in a Tender Response will remain the property of the Tenderer.
- 4.5.2 The Tenderer licenses the NFSA and its respective officers, employees, agents, advisers, Ministers and other Government representatives to copy, adapt, modify, disclose or do anything else necessary (in the NFSA's sole opinion) to all material (including that which contains intellectual property rights of the Tenderer or any other person) contained in the Tender Response for the purposes of:
 - (a) evaluating or clarifying the Tender Response or any subsequent offer;
 - (b) negotiating any resultant contract with the Tenderer;
 - (c) managing the resultant contract (if any); and
 - (d) anything else related to the above purposes, including complying with governmental and parliamentary reporting requirements and any administrative or statutory review, audit or inquiry.
- 4.5.3 The NFSA may make such copies of each Tender Response, as it requires for these purposes.

4.6 **AusTender, the Australian Government Tender System**

4.6.1 AusTender is the Australian Government's procurement information and tendering system. Access to and use of AusTender is subject to its terms and conditions.

4.6.2 The RFT Document Pack is available on the AusTender website at <https://www.tenders.gov.au>.

4.6.3 All queries and requests for technical or operational support should be directed to: AusTender Help Desk
Telephone: 1300 651 698 (within Australia) / +61 2 6215 1558 (international)
Email: tenders@finance.gov.au

4.6.4 The AusTender Help Desk is available between 9am and 5pm ACT Local Time, Monday to Friday (excluding ACT and national public holidays).

4.7 **Application of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules**

4.7.1 As a non-prescribed Corporate Commonwealth Entity, the NFSA is not subject to the requirements of the Commonwealth Procurement Rules. Information on how the RFT process will be conducted is set out in the RFT Document Pack.

4.7.2 The results of this RFT process will not be published on AusTender, however they may be reported separately in accordance with the NFSA's obligations under [Department of Finance RMG 403 – Meeting the Senate Order for Entity Contracts](#). Please direct any queries regarding the outcome of this RFT process to the Contact Officer.

4.8 **Amendments**

4.8.1 The NFSA may amend the RFT Document Pack (including the issuing of addenda) at any time before the RFT Closing Time. If the RFT Document Pack is amended:

- (a) copies of the amended documents (or the amended pages of the RFT Document Pack) will be published on AusTender and the NFSA Website; and
- (b) the amendments will become part of the RFT Document Pack.

4.9 **Further information**

4.9.1 Should Tenderers have any questions or clarifications regarding the conduct of this RFT process, they must direct these to the Contact Officer in writing by the Question and Clarification Request Deadline (paragraph 3.1).

4.9.2 The NFSA will determine what, if any, response should be given to a Tenderers question or clarification request.

4.9.3 The NFSA will publish de-identified Tenderer questions and clarifications, as well as the NFSA's formal response (if any) to all other potential Tenderers. Tenderers should identify in their question or clarification request what, if any, information the Tenderer considers to be confidential.

4.9.4 Inappropriate identification of information as confidential will be considered by the NFSA when determining what, if any, formal response will be published.

4.9.5 Tenderers must nominate a central contact officer in any Tender Response for the purpose of receiving notification of, and responding to any NFSA enquiries regarding

the Tender Response. The name, postal address, e-mail address, and telephone number of that person must be set out in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules*.

4.10 Restricted Pallet Inspection

4.10.1 The NFSA will conduct one or more restricted pallet inspections at its Warehouse in Mitchell (ACT) where a sample of each pallet (International Main Run – Shellac Records; Mastertouch Collection – Piano Rolls; and International Cylinder Run – Blue Amberol Cylinders) will be opened and displayed.

4.10.2 A member of the NFSA will be present at each restricted pallet inspection to escort the attendees and take any questions and clarification requests on notice.

4.10.3 Any restricted pallet inspections will be held at:

Site	Location	Date	Time
NFSA Mitchell Warehouse	10-12 Baillieu Court, Mitchell ACT 2911	31 May – 11 June 2021	To Be Advised

4.10.4 Each restricted pallet inspection will have a limited attendance of no more than 10 concurrent non-NFSA attendees. Potential Tenderers will be limited to no more than one (1) attendee per inspection to enable equitable attendance within restricted circumstances.

4.10.5 Due to the nature of the tender requirements and current Work Health and Safety protocols in effect, physical access to the pallets will not be possible. This includes, but is not limited to, touching, handling, moving, or removing any contents of the sample pallets. The NFSA is cognisant that this limits the direct value of attendance at a restricted pallet inspection, however potential Tenderers may have an appreciation for visualising sample pallet contents and the overall volume of the pallets being offered.

4.10.6 Attendance at the restricted pallet inspection is not considered essential to facilitate a complete understanding of the RFT. Any questions or clarification requests sought at the restricted pallet inspection will be published as an addendum to the RFT on AusTender and the NFSA Website, including any formal NFSA response(s).

4.11 Tender evaluation

4.11.1 Tender Responses will be assessed on the basis of best value for money consistent with NFSA procurement policies and in accordance with the RFT Evaluation process described in paragraph 14.

4.11.2 Due to the nature of the tender requirements, potential Tenderers are advised that the NFSA will consider the merits of each Tender Response individually and collectively to maximise the attainment of value for money outcomes.

4.11.3 Should the NFSA consider it necessary to determine a clear value for money outcome, the NFSA may ask some or all Tenderers to submit new or revised offers on a different basis or ‘best and final offers’ and further evaluate such responses from Tenderers as part of the RFT Evaluation Process.

5. Offers tendered

5.1 Offers

5.1.1 All offers are to be stated in Australian Dollars and should be inclusive of:

- (a) GST (as defined in section 195-1 of the A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 (Cth));
- (b) all costs of complying with this RFT process; and
- (c) all costs associated with doing all things necessary for the due and proper performance of the Services and compliance with the proposed contract set out at *RFT Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract*.

5.2 Tender Forms

5.2.1 Offers must be clearly set out in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details* as part of any Tender Response.

5.3 All Costs and Liabilities

5.3.1 The cost of tendering and contract negotiation shall be borne by the Tenderer.

5.3.2 The NFSA shall have no liability of any kind in respect of a Tender Response or any matter related to the RFT process including on the basis of any negligence or breach of tortious duty, promissory estoppel, quantum meruit or on any other contractual, quasi contractual or restitutionary grounds whatsoever as a consequence of any matter or thing relating to a Tenderer's participation in the RFT process, including instances where:

- (a) a Tenderer is not engaged to undertake the Services;
- (b) the NFSA decides not to accept any offer for the Services;
- (c) the NFSA exercises or fails to exercise any of its rights under or in relation to this RFT process (whether or not the NFSA has informed a Tenderer of its exercise of the rights); or
- (d) the NFSA makes information available or provides information to a Tenderer relating to its assets, procedures, plans, tenders, existing arrangements for provision of the Services or any possible future arrangements.

6. Matters Concerning the Tender Response

6.1 Tenderer Information

6.1.1 The Tenderer must complete *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details* as part of any Tender Response and clearly set out the following information and documentation:

- (a) sufficient information addressing the RFT Evaluation Criteria to demonstrate to the NFSA the Tenderer's offer to perform the Services;
- (b) details of the individual nominated as the Tenderer's Representative, including that individual's name, postal address, e-mail address, and contact phone number;

- (c) the quantity and/or selection of pallets that the Tenderer is interested in; and
- (d) other information as requested throughout the RFT Document Pack.

6.2 Procedure for Submitting a Tender Response

6.2.1 Tender Responses must be submitted by email to the Tender Box.

6.2.2 All electronic submissions of a Tender Response must be:

- (a) correctly addressed;
- (b) clearly marked with the name of the Tenderer and the words 'NFSA RFT 2021/P242 – Excess Audio Collection Items' in the subject heading of the email;
- (c) the Tender Response file name/s should incorporate the Tenderer's name and should reflect the various parts of the Tender Response they represent, where the Tender Response comprises multiple files;
- (d) limited in size to approx. 15 MB per email; and
- (e) completely self-contained, and not include hyperlinked or hosted information.

6.2.3 For clarity, Tender Responses must not contain or reference materials hosted on any external file sharing website. Any such Tender Response will be excluded from consideration.

6.3 Deadline for Tender Responses

6.3.1 Tender Responses must be received by the tenders@nfsa.gov.au email server on or before the Request For Tender Closing Time.

6.4 Representative to sign

6.4.1 *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* of any submitted Tender Response must be signed by a person authorised to make an offer on behalf of the Tenderer ('Tenderer's Representative') and print their name in the space provided.

6.5 Alterations, Erasures and Illegibility

6.5.1 Tender Responses containing alterations or erasures to the RFT Document Pack, and Tender Responses in which an offer is not clearly and legibly stated may be excluded from consideration. Any alteration made to a RFT Document Pack must be initialled by the Tenderer.

6.5.2 Should the Tenderer become aware of any discrepancy, error or omission in their Tender Response following submission, and being prior to the RFT Closing Time, the Tenderer must immediately advise the Contact Officer in writing of the details regarding these discrepancies, errors and/or omissions.

6.5.3 If the NFSA considers that there are unintentional errors or omissions contained within a Tender Response, the NFSA, at its absolute discretion, may request that Tenderer correct or clarify the error in accordance with paragraph 9.1.1.

6.6 Terms of Tender Responses not to be varied

- 6.6.1 A Tender Response must not be varied by the Tenderer following submission to the NFSA. This includes, although is not limited to, withdrawal, variation, alteration, revision, or otherwise compromise of any aspect of the Tender Response.
- 6.6.2 The NFSA may, at its absolute discretion, exclude immediately any Tender Response from consideration that the Tenderer does not intend to fully deliver upon.

7. Late Tender Responses

7.1 Late Tender Response Policy

- 7.1.1 Any Tender Response will be deemed to be late if it is not lodged and received in accordance with paragraph 6.3 by the Request For Tender Closing Time.
- 7.1.2 Subject to paragraph 7.1.3, the NFSA will not accept any late Tender Responses.
- 7.1.3 The NFSA will only consider Tender Responses that are received late solely due to mishandling by the NFSA or malfunction of the NFSA email servers.
- 7.1.4 It is the responsibility of each Tenderer to ensure that a Tender Response is lodged and received in accordance with paragraph 6.3 by the Request For Tender Closing Time.

7.2 Extension of Deadline

- 7.2.1 The Request For Tender Closing Time may be extended at the sole discretion of the NFSA by written notice.
- 7.2.2 Any extension notice will be transmitted and distributed by the NFSA in a manner that is consistent with the publication of the original Request For Tender (e.g. AusTender and/or the NFSA Website).

8. Termination of the RFT

- 8.1 The NFSA may suspend, defer or terminate the RFT process at any time. The NFSA will promptly notify Tenderers of any such suspension, deferral, or termination.
- 8.2 Without limiting its other rights under this RFT, at law or otherwise, the NFSA may suspend, defer or terminate the RFT process at any time if the NFSA determines that:
 - (a) no Tenderer is capable of undertaking removal of the excess audio collection items in accordance with the terms of a resulting Contract, in draft or as negotiated with one or more preferred Tenderers;
 - (b) no Tenderer has submitted a compliant *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* or *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details*;
 - (c) no individual Tenderer, or group of Tenderers represents value for money;
 - (d) awarding a contract would be inconsistent with Commonwealth policy; or
 - (e) it is otherwise in the public interest to do so.

9. Further Information to be Supplied by Tenderer

9.1 Requests for Further Information

9.1.1 The NFSA, at its absolute discretion, may request Tenderers to supply further information (e.g. clarification) if the NFSA considers that the information supplied by the Tenderer in its Tender Response is insufficient for the NFSA to evaluate the Tender Response.

9.2 Further information to be supplied within 5 Business Days

9.2.1 The Tenderer must supply any further information requested by the NFSA within 5 Business Days after receipt of a written request for that information.

9.3 Tenderer's Financial Capacity

9.3.1 Not applicable.

9.3.2 Not applicable.

9.3.3 Not applicable.

9.4 Interview

9.4.1 The NFSA may request the Tenderer to attend an on-site or remotely hosted interview to formally present their offer.

9.5 Further information to form part of Tender Response

9.5.1 Any information supplied by the Tenderer:

(a) in response to a request for further information; and

(b) at any on-site or remote interview

may be deemed by the NFSA to form part of the Tender Response.

10. Matters Concerning Acceptance of Tenders

10.1 Non-complying Tender Responses may not be accepted

10.1.1 The NFSA may exclude from consideration any Tender Response that:

(a) does not comply with the conditions and requirements set out in *RFT Document 1 – Conditions of Tender* or *RFT Document 2 – Statement of Requirements*;

(b) does not include a completed *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details*; or

(c) is not lodged and received by tenders@nfsa.gov.au by the RFT Closing Time.

10.2 Acceptance

10.2.1 Neither the highest offer, nor any Tender Response, will necessarily be accepted. Acceptance of one or more successful Tender Responses (if any) will be subject to negotiation and execution of a contract, materially in the form of *RFT Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract*.

- 10.2.2 Tenderers must not furnish any information, make any statement or issue any document or other written or printed material concerning the negotiation or execution of any contract resulting from this RFT for publication by an external party, including the media, without the prior written approval of the NFSA.

11. Acceptance of Tender Response and Offer Period

11.1 Acceptance of Tender Responses

- 11.1.1 The NFSA may accept a Tender Response, subject to negotiation of any non-compliance with the RFT Document Pack as set out in any Tender Response:

- (a) at any time during the Offer Period; and
- (b) by serving written notification to a Tenderer at the physical and/or electronic contact address(es) set out in their Tender Response.

11.2 Offer Validity

- 11.2.1 By submitting a Tender Response as part of this RFT process, the Tenderer agrees to remove the excess audio collection items (in whole or in part) on the terms and conditions set out in their Tender Response, and in accordance with the RFT Document Pack for a period not less than the Offer Period.
- 11.2.2 The NFSA is not required to negotiate, in good faith or at its absolute discretion, terms and conditions as part of any resultant contract where the Tenderer's non-compliance with RFT Documents 1-4 was not set out in their Tender Response, with specific regard for their response set out at *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules*.

12. Other Alternative Solutions

- 12.1 Tenderers may, at their discretion, include alternative solutions and proposals to those requested in *RFT Document 2 – Statement of Requirements* for consideration by the NFSA as part of any Tender Response.
- 12.2 Alternative solutions and proposals must be included in a formal Tender Response and should set out relevant delivery methodology, timing, pricing, and resource allocation.

13. Execution of Contract

- 13.1 The successful Tenderer will be required to enter into a contract with the NFSA substantially in the form of *RFT Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract*.
- 13.2 Tenderers must set out any non-compliance with the RFT Document Pack in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules*, with specific regard for *RFT Document 2 – Statement of Requirements* and *RFT Document 4 – Proposed Draft Contract*.
- 13.3 Unless and until a binding contract is entered into with the NFSA, the NFSA will have no legal duties or obligations to any person in respect of this RFT process. Any conduct or statement, whether prior to or subsequent to, the issuance of this RFT is not, and this RFT is not, and must not be deemed to be an offer to contract or a binding

undertaking of any kind by the NFSA (including, being or creating, without limitation, quasi-contractual rights, promissory estoppel, or rights with a similar legal basis).

- 13.4 The NFSA will not enter into a contract with Tenderers:
- (a) that have been named in Parliament as not complying with the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (Cth);
 - (b) who are subject to a judicial decision against them relating to employee entitlements, not including decisions under appeal, and have not paid the claim;
or
 - (c) who are listed as a designated entity by the Minister for Foreign Affairs by notice in the Gazette under s 15 of the Charter of the United Nations Act 1945 (Cth) or who intend to engage subcontractors who are listed as a designated entity by the Minister for Foreign Affairs by notice in the Gazette under s 15 of the Charter of the United Nations Act 1945 (Cth).

14. Request For Tender Evaluation Process

- 14.1 Following receipt of Tender Responses to the Tender Box by the RFT Closing Time, the NFSA will conduct a thorough assessment of all received Tender Responses.
- 14.2 The objective of the RFT Evaluation Process is to select one or more Tender Responses that best represent value for money to the Commonwealth. Value for money is defined as the comprehensive assessment of relevant financial and non-financial costs and benefits across the life of a procurement.
- 14.3 The RFT Evaluation Process is conducted by the NFSA on the basis of the Tenderer's response to the Evaluation Criteria set out in paragraph 14.7, as articulated in their submission of a completed *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details* of any Tender Response.
- 14.4 The NFSA may take into account information provided by a Tenderer in response to one criterion in its evaluation of another criterion, however Tenderers must not rely upon this occurring and are encouraged to ensure all relevant schedules within *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details* sufficiently address each criterion.
- 14.5 The Evaluation Criteria is unweighted, with an order of preference being:
- (a) monetary offers (i.e. acquisition and removal at Tenderer cost) first;
 - (b) cost neutral offers (i.e. removal at Tenderer cost) second; and
 - (c) cost incurred offers (i.e. NFSA to pay for removal) last.
- 14.6 If any additional criterion are intended to be applied in evaluating Tender Responses, Tenderers will be notified and provided an opportunity to respond.
- 14.7 Tenderers must address each of the evaluation criterion, collectively defined as the Evaluation Criteria, specified in the table below by completing *RFT Document 3A - Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details*.

Item	Evaluation Criterion	Required Information
1	Monetary offers for the acquisition and removal of targeted (or generic) pallet volumes	Tenderers should detail which pallets they are interested in acquiring, whether targeted or generic, and what monetary offer, if any, they will submit to the NFSA for acquisition and removal.
2	Quantity of pallet volumes (targeted or generic) being requested	Tenderers should detail the total volume of pallets they are interested in acquiring, with the NFSA preferring greater volumes and/or volumes that maximise acquisition and removal outcomes in conjunction with other offers.
3	Proposed timing and transport methodology for removal	Tenderers should detail which transport supplier they plan to engage for the removal of any acquired pallets, the anticipated timing of the removal between August and October 2021, and whether transport will involve domestic or international freight.
4	Proposed post-acquisition usage and utility	Tenderers should set out the nature of their interest in the pallets (i.e. commercial / collection / preservation / access), noting no order of preference exists.
5	Compliance with the RFT Document Pack	Tenderers should set out any non-compliance with the RFT Document Pack in <i>RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules</i> .

14.8 Tenderers may include additional information in their Tender Responses, however *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* and *RFT Document 3B – Pallet and Offer Details* will form the basis of the evaluation.

14.9 **Completeness of Tender Response**

14.10 The NFSA may exclude a Tender Response from consideration if the NFSA considers that the Tender Response is incomplete. The NFSA may consider such Tender Responses and seek clarification or additional information from a Tenderer for the purposes of the RFT Evaluation Process, however Tenderers are responsible for confirming completeness of their Tender Response prior to submission.

14.11 Not applicable.

15. **Sub-contracting**

15.1 Not applicable.

15.2 Not applicable.

15.3 Not applicable.

16. **Goods and Services Tax**

16.1 All Tenderers should be aware that under the New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999 (GST ACT), the NFSA is treated as a taxable enterprise. GST will be

applied to all excess audio collection items to be acquired and removed, with all monetary offers to be deemed GST inclusive for administrative purposes.

16.2 Not applicable.

17. Ethical Dealing

17.1 Tenderers must not:

- (a) engage in misleading or deceptive conduct in relation to their Tender Response, or the RFT process;
- (b) engage in any unlawful or unethical conduct with a Tenderer or any other person in connection with the preparation of their Tender Response or the RFT process;
- (c) attempt to solicit information from or influence improperly any current or former officer, employee, contractor or agent of the NFSA, or violate any applicable laws or Commonwealth policies regarding the offering of inducements in connection with the RFT process;
- (d) engage in, or procure or encourage others to engage in, activity that would result in a breach of the Lobbying Code of Conduct and the Australian Public Service Commission Circular 2008/4 Requirements relating to the Lobbying Code of Conduct and post separation contact with Government;
- (e) make false or misleading statements in their Tender Responses; or
- (f) otherwise act in an unethical or improper manner or contrary to any law.

17.2 The NFSA may, at its absolute discretion, immediately exclude from consideration any Tenderer that is found to have engaged in any of the behaviours, practices or conduct set out in paragraph 17.1.

18. Conflict of Interest

18.1 Tenderers must represent and declare in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* whether, at the time of lodging their Tender Response, a conflict of interest concerning itself, or a related entity, exists or might arise during the term of any resulting contract or in relation to the RFT process.

18.2 A conflict of interest means any matter, circumstance, interest or activity affecting the Tenderer (including the officers, employees, agents and sub-contractors of the Tenderer) which may or may be perceived to impair the ability of the Tenderer to treat with the NFSA diligently, ethically and independently.

18.3 A conflict of interest may exist if:

- (a) Tenderers or any of their personnel have a relationship (whether professional, commercial or personal) with the NFSA's personnel involved in, or likely to be involved in the RFT Evaluation Process; or
- (b) Tenderers have a relationship with, and obligations to, an organisation which would affect the removal of the excess audio collection items or would bring disrepute to or embarrass the NFSA.

- 18.4 If at any time prior to entering into a contract with the NFSA, an actual or perceived conflict of interest concerning the Tenderer or a related entity arises or may arise, that Tenderer should immediately notify the Contact Officer.
- 18.5 If a conflict of interest arises, the NFSA may, at its absolute discretion:
- (a) exclude the Tender Response from further consideration;
 - (b) enter into discussions to seek to resolve the conflict of interest; or
 - (c) take any other action it considers to be appropriate.

19. Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (Cth)

- 19.1 Commonwealth policy prevents the NFSA from entering into contracts with entities or individuals who are non-compliant under the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012 (Cth) (the WGE Act). In performing any contract, the successful Tenderer will be required to comply with its obligations, if any, under the WGE Act.
- 19.2 Tenderers should note that, if they are a successful Tenderer and during the term of any contract with the NFSA, they become non-compliant with the WGE Act, they must immediately notify the NFSA.
- 19.3 Tenderers must indicate in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* whether or not they are a ‘relevant employer’ under the WGE Act and, if applicable, provide a current letter of compliance as part of their Tender Response, or if selected as a preferred or successful Tenderer, upon request from the NFSA and prior to entering into any contract.

20. Work Health and Safety

- 20.1 It is a requirement for the Tenderer to express compliance with all relevant State/Territory laws and where applicable or desirable, Commonwealth WHS Acts or regulations.
- 20.2 Tenderers must take all reasonable steps to ensure that the excess audio collection items are not acquired or removed in such a manner that is unsafe or constitutes a risk to health, including those risks that may urgently arise in connection with a pandemic or natural disaster.

21. Payment of Wages and Allowances

- 21.1 Any successful Tenderer that exists as a business at the time of Tender Response submission must ensure that all its employees used to acquire and remove the excess audio collection items are paid wages and allowances of every kind required to be paid for under any relevant award, determination or order of the State or Territory in which the business operates and that all such persons are employed under the conditions contained in any such award, judgement, order or industrial contract.
- 21.2 Any successful Tenderer that exists as a business at the time of Tender Response submission must pay all employee ‘on costs’ such as, but not limited to, wages, salaries, holiday pay or allowances, superannuation, sick pay, workers compensation, PAYE tax,

payroll tax, fringe benefits tax or any other tax or levy voluntarily undertaken by or imposed (either by statute or otherwise) on the Tenderer, so far as is applicable.

- 21.3 Any successful Tenderer who exists as a business at the time of Tender Response submission must ensure that its sub-contractors also meet the above requirements.

22. Insurances

- 22.1 The successful Tenderer(s) must ensure that any individual or entity involved in the acquisition and removal of the excess audio collection items, entitled 'courier company' for the purposes of this RFT process, take out and maintain at all times during the Term of any contract with the NFSA adequate insurance.
- 22.2 The minimum level of insurance cover provided by any individual or entity involved in the removal of the excess audio collection items will comprise:
- (a) Workers Compensation cover for all employees in accordance with the requirements of the ACT Workers Compensation Act 1951.
 - (b) Public Liability cover to the value of at least \$10 million per claim.
 - (c) Contractor's All Risk or equivalent cover to the value of at least \$10 million per claim.
- 22.3 Tenderer non-compliance with the minimum insurance levels described in paragraph 22.2 must be set out in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules*.

23. Other Rights of the NFSA

- 23.1 Without limiting its rights at law or otherwise, the NFSA reserve the right at its absolute discretion and at any stage during the RFT process to exercise any of the rights set out in this paragraph 23 and the Tenderer will have no claim against the NFSA with respect to the exercise of, or failure to exercise, such a right.
- 23.2 Without limiting paragraphs 23.3 and 23.4 below, the rights referred to in paragraph 23.1 are the right to:
- (a) alter its approach during negotiations;
 - (b) add to, or remove parties from, any short list of Tenderers;
 - (c) require additional information or clarification from any Tenderer or provide additional information or clarification to all Tenderers;
 - (d) call for new Tender Responses;
 - (e) accept a Tender Response which is not the highest monetary offer;
 - (f) negotiate with one or more Tenderers without prior notice to any other Tenderers and allow any Tenderer to change its Tender Response;
 - (g) waive or vary any obligation of any Tenderer under the Contract;
 - (h) negotiate with any person who is not a Tenderer and enter into a Contract in relation to this exercise with that person on such terms as NFSA in its absolute discretion accepts without prior notice to any other Tenderer; or

- (i) publish or disclose the names of successful Tenderer(s) as a result of the evaluation of Tender Responses to this RFT process.

23.3 Any time or date in this RFT process is for the sole convenience of the NFSA. The establishment of a time or date in this RFT process does not create an obligation on the part of the NFSA to take any action or any right in any Tenderer that any action be taken on the date established. The NFSA may notify affected Tenderers if it does any of the above but shall not be obliged to provide any reasons for its actions.

23.4 In contract negotiations, the NFSA may seek variations to an offer or may seek supplementary offers in respect of any changes to the originally stated requirements. The NFSA reserves the right to enter into any such discussions and negotiations at its absolute discretion (which includes dealing with any Tenderer as it deems fit without the need to correspond with other Tenderers during this period).

24. Confidential Information

24.1 NFSA's Confidential Information

24.1.1 Tenderers must not, and must ensure that their employees, agents or subcontractors do not, either directly or indirectly record, divulge or communicate to any person any confidential information concerning the affairs of the NFSA, the Commonwealth or a third party acquired or obtained in the course of preparing a Tender Response, or any documents, data or information provided by the NFSA and which the NFSA indicates to Tenderers is confidential or which Tenderers know or ought reasonably to know is confidential.

24.1.2 The NFSA may require that all written information (whether confidential or otherwise and without regard to the type of media on which such information was provided to Tenderers) provided to Tenderers (and all copies of such information made by Tenderers) be:

- (a) returned to the NFSA, in which case Tenderers will be required to promptly return all such information to the address identified by the NFSA; or
- (b) destroyed by Tenderers, in which case Tenderers will be required to promptly destroy all such information and provide the NFSA with written certification that the information has been destroyed.

24.1.3 The NFSA may exclude from further consideration any Tender Response lodged by a Tenderer who has engaged in any behaviour contrary to paragraph 24.1.

24.2 Tenderer's Confidential Information

24.2.1 Subject to paragraphs 24.2.2 and 24.2.3, the NFSA undertakes to keep confidential any Confidential Information provided to the Commonwealth by Tenderers prior to the award of contract and, in respect of unsuccessful Tenderers, after contract award.

24.2.2 The obligation of confidentiality in paragraph 24.2.1 does not apply if the Confidential Information:

- (a) is disclosed by the NFSA to its Advisers or employees solely in order to consider the Tender Responses, to conduct the RFT process or to prepare and manage any resultant contract;
 - (b) is disclosed by the NFSA to the responsible Minister;
 - (c) is disclosed by the NFSA, in response to a request by a House or a Committee of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia;
 - (d) is authorised or required by law to be disclosed;
 - (e) is in the public domain otherwise than due to a breach of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth); or
 - (f) is disclosed to the NFSA's internal management personnel, solely to enable effective management or auditing of the RFT process.
- 24.2.3 The NFSA will only keep information contained in, or obtained or generated in performing, any contract entered into with a successful Tenderer, including any information sourced from a successful Tenderer's Tender Response, confidential in accordance with the terms of the contract.
- 24.2.4 To enable the NFSA to consider whether it agrees to keep specific information confidential, Tenderers must set out in *RFT Document 3A – Tender Form and Schedules* any request that information is to be treated as confidential following the award of a contract to it, specifying the information and giving reasons why it is necessary to keep the information confidential.
- 24.2.5 Further information about the Commonwealth's confidentiality policy is available at <https://www.finance.gov.au/government/procurement/buying-australian-government/confidentiality-throughout-procurement-cycle>.
- 24.2.6 The NFSA will consider any request made under paragraph 24.2.4 and will inform the Tenderer whether or not the NFSA, at its absolute discretion, agrees to the request and the terms under which it agrees.
- 24.2.7 The terms of any agreement will form part of a resultant contract to be awarded at the completion of the RFT process should the Tenderer be identified as successful.
- 24.2.8 The NFSA cannot provide an absolute guarantee of confidentiality because certain confidential information may be required to be disclosed by law or to the Parliament or the Auditor-General.

25. Governing Law

- 25.1 This RFT process is to be construed in accordance with, and any matter related to it is to be governed by, the law of the Australian Capital Territory. The courts of that Territory have non-exclusive jurisdiction to decide any matter related to this RFT process.

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