



SOUTH AFRICA

Electoral Commission

Auction # 0010566886

ACCESS POINT NAME (APN) SOLUTION

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Failure to comply with the completion of the auction conditions and the required information (i.e. technical specifications) or submission of the required stipulated documents indicated shall invalidate a bid.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Electoral Commission (IEC) seeks to procure an Access Point Name (APN) solution on a fluctuating consumption basis to cater for up to 100,000 connected devices. The Electoral Commission currently has around 41,500 devices that have SIM Cards and use the current APN solution. This is made up of 40,000 Voting Management Devices (VMDs), around 1,500 laptops and other mobile devices. The Electoral Commission is also in the process of procuring 16,000 tablet devices that will also be used on the APN.
- 1.2 The new solution should be flexible and be able to provide for between 2 500 (two thousand five hundred) and 100,000 (one-hundred thousand) connected devices (laptops and mobile devices) subject to the Electoral Commission's operational needs that are influenced by the highly cyclical nature of the election management business.
- 1.3 The solution required must provide mobile internet connectivity through the GSM network or any other available technology across the whole country. The Electoral Commission has a network of approximately 23,000 voting stations across the whole country, which are used for voter registration and other elections processes, in addition, the Electoral Commission runs targeted communication and registration campaigns anywhere anytime, it is important therefore for access and data coverage to be across the whole country and where required the solution must enable roaming on other available networks. The data coverage should be at least 3G, equivalent or better.
- 1.4 The Electoral Commission therefore invites Network Service Providers with ICASA's Individual Electronic Communication Network Services (I-ECNS) or Individual Electronic Communication Services (I-ECS) and having their own networks to bid on this tender. Whereas the specification is based on a GSM network, other supplementary communication technologies for example radio, satellite or a combination of technologies, will be considered especially in areas where the data coverage of GSM is below 3G or non-existent.
- 1.5 The contract is for a period of five (5) years.

2 Background Information

- 2.1 The Electoral Commission is a constitutional institution reporting directly to Parliament. In line with its mandate, the Electoral Commission manages the national, provincial and municipal elections, ensures that those elections are free and fair, and declares the results within a prescribed period. The Electoral Commission was established in terms of the Electoral Commission Act (51 of 1996), which sets out the composition, powers, functions and duties of the Electoral Commission. The Commission aims to continuously entrench the Electoral Commission as the focal point in the delivery of cost effective, free and fair elections. This is not only the core of its constitutional mandate, but also an important factor in its interaction with other Chapter 9 and associated institutions and other election management bodies.
- 2.2 The Electoral Commission derives its mandate from the Constitution of the Republic and the Electoral Commissions Act of 1996. The objects of the Commission, as defined in section 4 of the Electoral Commission Act, 1996, are to strengthen constitutional democracy and promote democratic electoral processes. In addition to the provisions in the Electoral Act, the Municipal Electoral Act 2000 (Act 24 of 2000) deals with the specific nature of local government elections.
- 2.3 The Electoral Commission has been using about 40,000 Voting Management Devices for Voter Registration and to support the elections processes since 2021. Employees of the Electoral Commission have also been equipped with around 1,500 laptops for use in and out of the office. There are also some mobile devices used by the organization for asset management and other activities. These devices are connected to the Electoral Commission's back-end systems via a private Access Point Name (APN) when they are in the field. The contract with the current service provider comes to an end at the end of June 2027 and this tender aims to replace the said contract.
- 2.4 The Electoral Commission requires a usage-based APN solution for a period of 5 years. The contract must also allow the addition of more SIM cards to accommodate more mobile devices when they arrive or the addition of more laptops to the network. At the same time, when it is a non-election year, the numbers of connected devices can be reduced accordingly. Therefore, the Electoral Commission must be able to adjust the number of

connected devices during the contractual period without incurring any financial penalties or functionality losses.

- 2.5 The Electoral Commission uses approximately 23,000 voting stations spread across the country, from metropolitan areas, townships, small towns, villages to farming areas. For the purposes of bid adjudication, a list of 28,495 past and present voting stations is attached in Appendix D. With targeted communication and registration campaigns, the Electoral Commission goes anywhere in the country to educate and register voters using laptops and mobile devices. The Electoral Commission is therefore looking for a solution that has a nationwide 3G-and-above data coverage and where there is no data coverage, the bidder must propose alternative temporary connectivity measures as and when the Electoral Commission visits such areas.
- 2.6 The Electoral Commission has invested extensively in ICT technologies, which provide a platform to effectively support and enable its business processes and to meet its goal of providing a free and fair election process in an open and transparent environment. The Electoral Commission's ICT Department intends to continue running a highly efficient, secure and stable ICT environment making full use of industry standards, best practices and disciplines based upon stable, secure and reliable technologies.

3 Technical Specifications

- 3.1 It must be noted that the technical specifications below are the minimum requirements; the only variation that may be accepted will be in case where the bidder's specification is better. Anything below specification will be disqualified.
- 3.2 The Electoral Commission seeks to acquire an Access Point Name (APN) solution to securely connect the Voting Management Devices (VMDs), laptops and other mobile devices to the Electoral Commission's network. The solution must cater for up to 100,000 connected devices.
- 3.3 The data coverage must be extensive allowing the Electoral Commission to provide services everywhere in the country. Where the data coverage is poor, it is expected that the service provider will provide alternative connectivity mechanisms.
- 3.4 The required APN services and solution should provide for the following:
 - 3.4.1** A private APN facility to provide the Electoral Commission with 3G-or-up

connectivity for between 2,500 (two thousand five hundred) – 100,000 (one hundred thousand) devices.

- 3.4.2** An online APN Management solution and platform to manage the SIM cards (provision new SIM cards, check or restrict data usage, suspend or un-suspend a SIM card etc.) and draw usage reports per SIM card or collective period reports. The APN management solution must be responsive and have up to date information in regard to SIM cards data usage. The solution must also allow for different levels of access from viewing to being able to update the information on the database.
- 3.4.3** An online call management solution to log calls, track their progress and draw reports. The solution together with the Electoral Commission's internal call logging facility will also be used to manage the SLA.
- 3.4.4** Internet Break-out at the service provider with a shared firewall to manage access to the internet. The Electoral Commission would like to control which Internet sites the users will have access to using this channel. However, the Electoral Commission reserves the right not to utilize this facility and break out at its own data centre during certain periods
- 3.4.5** The service provider to provide alternative connectivity mechanisms where their network is lower than 3G when needed ranging from roaming on other networks to providing signal boosters and/or other temporary connectivity solutions
- 3.4.6** Ability to configure different blocks of IP Addresses for different groups of equipment.
- 3.4.7** Ability for the Electoral Commission together with the service provider to access the APN environment and run security audits, vulnerability assessments and other assessments
- 3.4.8** Access to the shared firewall to jointly with the service provider to manage, generate and retrieve reports.
- 3.4.9** The APN must have a secondary failover capability in the event the primary connection is not available, a secondary one must be able to carry the services. The failover must be seamless and immediate so that the Electoral Commission experiences no downtime as a result of the APN.
- 3.4.10** The bidder is to provide services to swap the Sim Cards on the mobile devices

(approximately 40,000) from the existing service provider to their network as part of the on-boarding process.

3.4.11 The lines must be manageable with a Quality of Service (QoS)

- 3.5 The APN solution must include routers or end-point devices or any other equipment required to provide a complete solution and connectivity via dedicated connectivity of a minimum of 20 Mbps between the service provider and the Electoral Commission's National Office in Centurion and the Disaster Recovery (DR) site also in Centurion. The bandwidth should be upgradeable to about 2 Gbps as and when required. The bandwidth should also be able to burst beyond 2 Gbps. It is envisaged that the links to Production (National Office) and the DR will be used at all times in a Hot-Hot configuration. An SD-WAN solution is therefore required. The Electoral Commission reserves the right to use its own SD-WAN capable firewalls.
- 3.6 The Electoral Commission has a Disaster Recovery site hosted at an Internet Service Provider. The Electoral Commission will provide Cross Connect cable(s) to connect the bidder's termination point to the Electoral Commission's rack. The bidder must however quote for the connection to their own equipment and the management thereof over the contract period.
- 3.7 The solution must also include the virtual hosting of a Domain Name Service (DNS) at the bidder's facility to short-circuit the journey a transaction has to travel for service.
- 3.8 The solution must include support and maintenance (including software update assurance, hardware warranties, patching and upgrades) over the duration of the contract, which must cover all aspects of the solution including all hardware and software delivered and implemented. However, the Electoral Commission reserves the right to procure the routers outside of this contract. It will be required of the service provider to manage the routers on behalf of the Electoral Commission if it decides to procure the routers outside of this contract.
- 3.9 The applications on the mobile devices use web services (https) to access the back-end services. Users of laptops access the internet, email and SAP on the main. Users should also be able to use VoIP telephone system from their devices. There are also other utilities such as Operating System Patches, Virus Definitions and other security services

that will traverse the network. The mobile devices are also being managed via a Mobile Device Management (MDM) solution over the APN.

3.10 The Electoral Commission is also in the process of migrating some workloads to the cloud.

3.11 The solution must also provide for alerts / warnings whenever there are faults to the service provider's environment related to the provision of the service to the Electoral Commission via email, SMS etc.

3.12 The diagram below shows a high-level solution requirement:

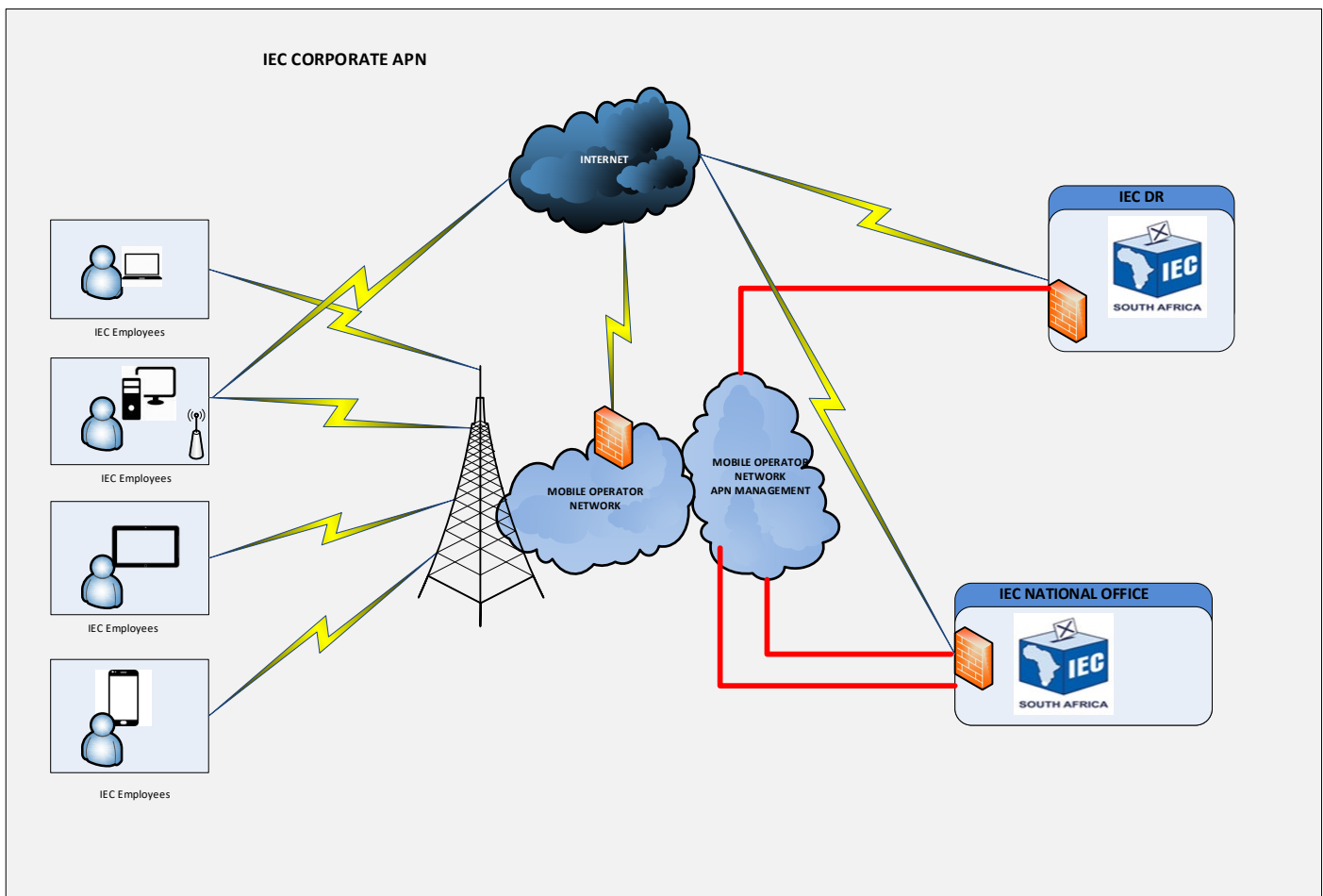


Figure 1 High Level Requirement

3.13 Figure 1 above shows the Electoral Commission's employees and electoral staff members being able to access its network via an Access Point Name (APN) solution

provided by the service provider. The service provider also provides an APN Management solution to manage the SIM cards on the APN.

- 3.14 There are also a primary and secondary redundant backhaul SD-WAN data lines between the service provider and the Electoral Commission's National Office and DR site. The Electoral Commission will provide SD-WAN capable end-point firewall devices.
- 3.15 The backhaul lines must be dual diverse links with automatic failover configuration (Hot Standby Router Protocol (HSRP) or Virtual Router Redundancy Protocol (VRRP)) to enable a high availability configuration between the Production (Primary) and DR sites.
- 3.16 The complete solution must ensure that the Electoral Commission's remote field workers can access its network securely from anywhere and anytime.
- 3.17 During the time that the solution is being implemented, the bidder must swap the existing SIM Cards to their network and provide associated APN data. The connection to the back-end servers may be achieved via IP-Security (IPsec) solution while the back-end infrastructure is being constructed.
- 3.18 The Electoral Commission seeks to partner with a fully licensed and reputable carrier with its own network, adequately skilled and knowledgeable, with the necessary experience to assist the Electoral Commission to execute on its mandate of running free and fair elections during the contract period.
- 3.19 The proposal must include implementation services, monitoring, support and maintenance.
- 3.20 The service provider is also expected to allocate a service manager / account manager to handle all service-related queries and escalations, with proper fault reporting procedures and escalation procedures especially during the heightened activity period of a major election (approximately 12 months before and up to and including election day and about 10 days after results announcement).
- 3.21 There will be monthly Service Level Agreement (SLA) meetings between the service provider and the Electoral Commission to monitor the provision of the service.

3.22 **Quantity Requirement**

3.22.1 The required quantities can be summarised as follows – the solution must cater for the required quantities, however for tender adjudication purposes the adjudication quantities will be used:

Summary Bill of Material		
	Requirements	Requirement Description
a)	SIM cards to be procured. A range of between 2,000 and 100,000 is required	41,500 for competitive assessment of bids
b)	SIM card Usage	Data usage billing must be on a consumption basis For purposes of competitive bidding and maximum contract value determination, bidders should quote a maximum of 10 GB per SIM card per month. If a bidder has the unlimited data option, the bidder must give both.
c)	Contract Period	5 years (60 months)
d)	APN Backhaul Data Line with redundancy. The bidder to include Routers, Support, Management and Monitoring	300 Mbps as baseline with redundancy 300 Mbps to DR with redundancy Upgradeable to 2 Gbps (soft upgrade) Burstable to beyond 2 Gbps It is required that all the lines be dual diverse fibre links with automatic failover configuration (HSRP or VRRP) Routers included on both sites (Production and DR)
e)	APN Management and Monitoring Solution	5 years (60 months)
f)	Breakout to the Internet at the Service Provider	300 Mbps on a shared firewall upgradable to 5 Gbps

Summary Bill of Material		
	Requirements	Requirement Description
g)	Radius Server	To be provided and configured by the Electoral Commission. The APN solution must be able to enable some devices to access the Radius server while other devices will not have such access.
h)	Ability to run vulnerability assessments in the private APN	Yes
i)	Number of sites to be used for adjudication	28495
j)	DNS Service	Provision for a hosted virtual DNS service at the bidder's premises
k)	Cross Connect	Connection of the bidder's termination point to the Electoral Commission's rack hosted at an ISP and the management of this connection over the contract period.
l)	Data Coverage	Target of 100% At least 95% - 3G coverage or equivalent and up. Plan to provide for the data coverage gaps using alternative connectivity mechanisms or network expansion
m)	Solution Availability of the baseline number	99.99% of the proposed solution's coverage available during heightened election period 99% of the proposed solution's coverage available outside of the heightened election period
<p>NB: The solution and its pricing model must be flexible and scalable to accommodate seasonal up and down fluctuations in utilisation, and quantities.</p>		

3.22.2 The Electoral Commission seeks a contract that is flexible enough to accommodate the seasonal nature of its business. The Electoral Commission should be able to adjust the numbers as the business dictates.

3.22.3 The Electoral Commission has a fleet of about 40,000 Voter Management Devices that are over 5 years old. The bidder must take note of these devices used by the Electoral Commission and must ensure that these devices can use their network and also take advantage of the throughput increases on their network. The technical specification of the devices is shown below:

Rugged Tablet X-100

Specifications

- System Architecture**

Processor	MT8788(Octa Core), 2.0GHz x4+2.0GHz x4, Separated GPU (Mali-G72)
Operating Platform	Android 9.0 OS
Dimensions	283.30mm x 191.84mm x21.86mm [11.15" x 7.55" x 0.86"]
Weight	1420g [3.12 lbs]
Memory/Storage	(UMCP) 2GB+32GB / 8GB+256GB (max.)
Security	MTK CryptoCore (TPM2.0 with FIPS 140-2)
- Media**

Display	10.1" WUXGA 1200x1920 IPS 550 nits 10-point multi-touch [Supports thin medical glove and wet-touch mode]
Speakers	2 integrated Speakers
Dual Microphones	Voice tracking, noise & echo cancellation
- Network Interface**

Wired LAN	100/1000 Mbps-(Conforms with IEEE802.3x)
Wireless LAN	Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/AC Bluetooth * 4.1
Wireless Bluetooth	GPS/Glonass/Beidou/Galileo/QZSS/SBAS
Wireless GPS	Tri-band reception concurrently
- 4G LTE Module Band Frequency**

(4G)LTE FDD	B1/B3/B5/B8
(4G)LTE TDD	B34/B38/B39/B40/B41
(3G)WCDMA	B1/B5/B8
(2G)GSM	B3/B8 (900&1800)
- Scan Module (optional)**

	1D/2D Barcode scanner
	2D Fingerprint scanner
	RFID(NFC) module
- Optional Accessories**

	Battery
	Maximum 1-to-8 Battery Charging
- Durability**

Storage Temperature	-20°C ~ 70°C
Operating Temperature	-10°C ~ 60°C
IP Protection	IP65, 500 times x 1 m tumble test
Drop Resistance	MIL-STD-810G method 516.6 procedure IV 48"/1.2m drop pass, 26 times including all corners, edges and faces. IEC60068-2-31 handling shocks with 50cm drop on six faces. Screen Protector Glass resists 64 gm steel ball drop from 120cm.
- Power Supply**

AC Adapter	57W (19V / 3A)
Battery Volume	Swappable battery, integrated 10800mAh battery pack
Battery Endurance	up to 12 hours
- I/O Ports**

	USB 3.0 x1 (TYPE C Port)
	USB 2.0 x1 (TYPE A Port)
	RJ45 Physical Ethernet Port
	DC jack
	3.5mm Audio jack
	SIM Card Slot
	Micro SDXC Card Slot(support up to 128G)
	Reset Hole
- Camera**

Camera Front	5MP
Camera Rear	8MP, with Auto Focus, Flash
- Regulatory**

	CE, NRCS, RoHS Certifications ICASA TA-2020/5354
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Figure 2 VMD fleet

3.23 **Solution Features and Capabilities**

The solution should include the following features and capabilities:

3.23.1 The data coverage of the APN must be extensive and nation-wide including outlying areas, preference will be given to solution that can provide wall-to-wall data coverage of at least 95% of the voting station population provided in

Appendix D.

3.23.2 For purposes of assessment a list of approximately 28495 voting stations, with their geographic positioning is provided in *Appendix D* for bidders to indicate if they will be able to provide connectivity to each of them. It is required of the bidder to overlay their data coverage over this list to see where the gaps are...

Bidder is to indicate

- a) None – if there is no data coverage at that voting station
- b) Partial – If the data coverage is below 3G or is not always available
- c) Under Investigation – Bidder is uncertain whether there is data coverage or no data coverage at the voting station
- d) Good – if the data coverage is 3G and above at the voting station

The bidder with the highest and broadest data coverage will score more adjudication points. In the same way, bidders are to complete and submit Appendix D1 – Summary Data Coverage to indicate the total number of sites with the respective data coverages (3G, 4G and 5G).

3.23.3 The service provider must provide a way of ensuring nation-wide data coverage whether via roaming or dual network SIM card or any other means including Radio, Satellite etc. Of the areas where there is below 3G or no connectivity, the bidder must include as part of the bid, mechanisms even if on a temporary basis (say a by-election, registration weekend or any other event) to connect devices in such a place to the APN. Bidder must complete and submit Appendix D2 to indicate how the no data coverage areas will be covered.

3.23.4 The bidder must include as part of the solution, access to the data coverage map (interactive map) which the Electoral Commission can use to determine the network feasibility when new voting stations or campaign areas are being planned. The map will also be used to check the bidder's response. The bidder is to provide the link in Appendix A.

3.23.5 The APN will be very critical to Electoral Commission's business especially during a heightened activity period of elections (approximately 12 months before and up to and including election day and about 10 days after results announcement day) and by-elections including registration weekends thereof. During this time a 99.99% availability of all connectivity infrastructure that the

APN depends on is required. Outside of these times, normal availability 8x5 service level to be negotiated during the contract period will apply. A baseline availability of 99% is required.

- 3.23.6 The bidder should describe the service structure and service levels available with the view of providing a 24/7 support service especially during the brief heightened activity period of elections and by-elections. The service level should include weekends and public holidays. The service structure must be submitted as part of the bid submission.
- 3.23.7 Awarding the bid to a successful bidder is subject to the bidder entering into a service level agreement (SLA) with the Electoral Commission that will formalize and regulate the final deliverables and associated processes and procedures. The successful bidder will be expected supply the Commission with monthly reports that include the following at a minimum: uptime, utilization and performance against Service Level Targets. The successful bidder is expected to hold monthly contract performance meetings with the Electoral Commission. The bidder must submit as part of the bid an example SLA document.
- 3.23.8 The solution must be a consumption-based solution, however for the sake of management of usage, the Electoral Commission must be able to set data usage limits per SIM card.
- 3.23.9 Each device will need to be provisioned on the APN and assigned a dynamic or static IP Address. The IP Address range for the VMDs should be different from the IP Address range of the laptops and other mobile devices as they will be subjected to different access rules. The laptops and other mobile devices may need to be authenticated on access to the network to ensure exclusive access to the provisioned SIM. The provision and activation of SIM cards must have a turnaround time of at most 48 hours.
- 3.23.10 The APN must provide Over the Air Security for network services (3G, 4G and 5G). The bidder must also indicate how their network(s) and solution will be protected against threats such as GSM Grabbers or IMSI-catcher (devices that mimic cell towers to intercept mobile communications), etc.
- 3.23.11 The solution must include a primary and secondary backhaul lines to the Electoral Commission's data centres. These lines should also have a backup or redundant lines. Backhaul lines must have the flexibility and scalability to allow

for speedy up and down bandwidth adjustment should the need arise. Including the ability to burst. For baseline pricing purposes, the bidder is to provide pricing for 300 Mbps bandwidth for both lines. Bidder must complete and submit Appendix C3 to show the pricing of these lines at different sizes. However, the Electoral Commission reserves the right to acquire the routers outside of this tender. The solution must be a Software Defined Wide Area Network (SD-WAN) solution. The Electoral Commission uses SD-WAN ready perimeter firewalls.

- 3.23.12 The backhaul lines must be dual diverse links for primary and DR site with automatic failover configuration (HSRP or VRRP) to enable a high availability configuration for the APN solution.
- 3.23.13 The Electoral Commission must be able to manage and control the usage and access requirements for all SIM cards on the APN, enabling and disabling access and usage as may be required from time to time, e.g. disable SMS, voice-bearer services, access to certain networks, online services, etc.
- 3.23.14 All access to the public internet for the deployed devices is to be restricted, where only connectivity to the APN shall be permitted. APN data must not traverse the public network unprotected. The Electoral Commission must be able to control access to the internet and other networks by providing rulesets to the shared firewall. The Electoral Commission is also able to access the shared firewall to retrieve reports.
- 3.23.15 The bidder must include an implementation project plan as part of the submission
- 3.23.16 The solution must also integrate to a Radius (Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service) and Active Directory at the Electoral Commission for approximately 1,500 users of laptops
- 3.23.17 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to use ICASA's QoS reports for a specific region and province as part of the evaluation process.
- 3.23.18 The bidder must provide an APN Management tool that allows for different levels of access from viewing to being able to update the information on the database
- 3.23.19 The solution must provide an APN management platform to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following services at a

minimum:

- 3.23.19.1 The provisioning of SIM cards to the APN
 - 3.23.19.2 De-provisioning of SIM cards on the APN
 - 3.23.19.3 Querying SIM card provisioning status
 - 3.23.19.4 Individual and Aggregated SIM card Usage Reporting
 - 3.23.19.5 Ability to view usage over time and to date
- 3.23.20 The solution must be protected against malicious intrusions.
- 3.23.21 The bidder must provide high level network improvement plans for the different provinces during the duration of the contract
- 3.23.22 Notwithstanding the Load Shedding / Reduction challenges, the bidders should indicate some power mitigation infrastructure available in the tower(s) covering the voting stations.

4 Planning Assumptions

The Electoral Commission has made the following assumptions:

- 4.1 The Electoral Commission will provide technical resources for all its designated work including setup and configuration of own systems and databases.
- 4.2 Wherever the need arises, the successful bidder shall do initial equipment configuration of operating systems and environmental specific requirements.
- 4.3 The implementation of the services required must be completed within the days stipulated in the Delivery and Implementation Schedule (Section 10) below.
- 4.4 The bidder's change control management process must be flexible enough to align to the Electoral Commission's change management processes.
- 4.5 The recommended service provider shall provide all relevant details needed to ensure successful operations capability within the organization.
- 4.6 The successful bidder will be required to enter into a service level agreement including a non-disclosure agreement.
- 4.7 The successful bidder and their personnel who will be supporting the service may be subjected to security clearance through authorised state security institutions.

5 General Tender Conditions

The following standard bid conditions must be adhered to and complied with, failing of which

the bid will be disqualified

- 5.1 Bidders must deposit bids in the Electoral Commission's Tender Box by not later than the stipulated closing date and time on the tender.
- 5.2 Bidders must submit a detailed APN solution proposal with solution architecture in accordance with the technical requirements. The solution architecture and description detail how the solution is going to work, integrate into the Electoral Commission's network and be managed.
- 5.3 To demonstrate compliance with the technical requirements of the tender, the bidder must complete and submit Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet. Failure to complete and submit Appendix A shall invalidate a bid.
- 5.4 The bidder must provide at least five (5) contactable references of past services of a similar nature and scope that the bidder provided or was involved in.
- 5.5 Bidders must have at least three-year's experience in providing APN services. The bidder must provide an indication in the form of a letter-headed document or a profile showing the numbers of years they have been providing APN Services.
- 5.6 Bidders must complete and submit Appendix D - a list of approximately 28495 voting stations, with their geographic positioning to indicate if they will be able to provide connectivity to each of them. Bidders must also complete and submit Appendix D1 – Summary Data Coverage Information.
- 5.7 Where there are data coverage gaps, bidders are to indicate how they are going to close the gaps by completing and submitting Appendix D2.
- 5.8 Bidders must complete and submit Appendix D3 – Other technical requirements
- 5.9 Bidders must adhere to the delivery schedule in Section 9. Bidders must provide an implementation project plan to set up the APN as per this bid specification for use by the Electoral Commission.
- 5.10 The bidder must comply with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements applicable in the telecommunications services industry.
- 5.11 The bidder is required to provide a copy of a valid the ICASA Individual-ECS (I-ECS), or Individual-ECNS (I-ECNS) certificate/license indicating clearly:

- a) The bidder's name; and
 - b) The level of partnership.
- 5.12 Bidders who own their network to be used for this tender will score more adjudication points than bidders who use other service provider's networks.
- 5.13 Bidders must provide a service plan / structure / Service Level Agreement example with call logging processes, service levels and escalation procedures. Bidders must also submit an example SLA.
- 5.14 Reference details in 5.4 must include the following: customer name, contact person, contact details (telephone, email, physical address) and service description, value of services offered and size (bandwidth and number of connected devices) of the APN solution, per annum. Appendix C is also provided as guideline. Some other guideline definitions include:
- 5.14.1 Service value defined in terms of indicative budget, personnel resources and duration.
 - 5.14.2 Similar services value are those services of comparative value.
 - 5.14.3 Similar services are those services, which includes supply of similar services as per the technical requirements and of comparative value.
 - 5.14.4 Similar scope of services refers to services where the number of connected devices including the bandwidth and redundancy
 - 5.14.5 Preference will be given to similar services that are based on APN solutions and services.
- 5.15 Awarding of the bid to any successful bidder will be subject to the Electoral Commission's due diligence audit requirements, where applicable.
- 5.16 The Electoral Commission may appoint an independent organization to evaluate the data coverage and signal strength in a specific area as part of the evaluation process or during the contract period.
- 5.17 The Electoral Commission intends entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with ICASA to help manage the contract in line with the successful bidder's licensing obligations.
- 5.18 The Electoral Commission reserves the right and discretion to cancel and not award this bid based on any reason including operational or financial, likewise the Electoral

Commission reserves the right to reduce the scope and size of the service.

5.19 By bidding on this tender, the bidder warrants and agrees to all the terms and conditions of this tender specification.

6 Quality Control

The following quality control conditions must be adhered to and complied with, failing of which the bid will be disqualified.

- 6.1 The successful bidder will have the primary responsibility of ensuring that the proposed solution and services comply with the required specifications in terms of functionality and technical specification including quantity and quality.
- 6.2 The proposed solution must be complete, fully functional and ready for deployment without dependencies on additional equipment, software or components that may be required to make it work if such additional requirements are not included in the bid.
- 6.3 It must be noted that the Electoral Commission seeks to gain the best solution technically, functionally and financially, and will select the solution that it deems to give the best investment.
- 6.4 Upon the successful bid being accepted, the Electoral Commission reserves the right to request an inspection of the successful bidder's facilities.
- 6.5 The successful bidder has the primary responsibility to ensure that quantity and quality are in accordance with the specifications.
- 6.6 The bidder must undertake and warrant that the proposed solution is in good condition and in-line with bid specifications.
- 6.7 In addition, the Electoral Commission may also call on bidders to make presentations and demonstration of the proposed solution in order for the Electoral Commission to ensure full compliance with all its requirements and as part of the auction evaluation process prior to the conclusion of the adjudication of the bid.

7 Pricing requirements

- 7.1 The bidder must populate and submit Appendix C including all sub-Appendices (B1, B2, B3, B4 and B5) The total tender bid price in Appendix B will be used for adjudication. The bidder is allowed any other additional line items for pricing completeness in accordance with their solution. Failure to complete and submit Appendix B and its sub-

Appendices will invalidate the bid.

- 7.2 The total bid price must be firm for 180 days from the closing date and time of this tender and must be in South African Rand inclusive of VAT. Once awarded the prices will remain firm for the period of the contract.
- 7.3 The bidder must complete and submit Appendix B1 to provide pricing flexibility for the core management and monitoring services with respect to capacity fluctuations linked to the number of connected devices from time to time.
- 7.4 The bidder must complete and submit Appendix B2 to provide pricing flexibility with respect to data usage-based fluctuations.
- 7.5 The bidder must complete and submit Appendix B3 to provide pricing flexibility with respect to fluctuations of bandwidth for the primary and secondary backhaul data lines for both National Office and the DR Site.
- 7.6 The bidder must complete and submit Appendix B4 to provide pricing flexibility with respect to fluctuations of bandwidth for the Internet Breakout data line.
- 7.7 The bidder must complete and submit Appendix B5 to provide pricing flexibility with respect to device on-boarding costs.
- 7.8 The successful bidder may be allowed to do an inflation related adjustment in the years subsequent to the first year. Such an adjustment must not exceed the rate of annual CPI as determined by Statistics South Africa in the anniversary month of the contract.
- 7.9 All costs associated with the supply of the services must be included in the total bid price.
- 7.10 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to adjust costs by adjusting the quantities and/or excluding some cost factors.
- 7.11 The Electoral Commission prefers an unlimited data usage, however for the purposes of the tender baseline quantities, bidders are to provide pricing for 10 GB per SIM card usage per month. If the bidder's unlimited data usage per SIM card is below the 10 GB usage in terms of costs, the bidder can use the unlimited pricing in the calculations. Bidder must however indicate as such.
- 7.12 The bid price placed on the submission must be the bidder's total bid price for delivering the solution as proposed. It must be inclusive of the once off implementation and APN solution costs over 60 months as per the aggregated bill for pricing

- 7.13 The monthly costs stipulated on Appendix B: Pricing Schedule below will be used for monthly payments to the successful bidder and must be completed and submitted. Failure to do so will invalidate the bid.
- 7.14 The Electoral Commission will pay the service provider on a monthly basis based on submitted invoices.
- 7.15 The tender bid price must include the following:
- 7.15.1 Hardware, Software and licensing cost;
 - 7.15.2 Solution delivery including implementation labour and professional services fees;
 - 7.15.3 Delivery costs to Electoral Commission's national office in Centurion;
 - 7.15.4 Minimum warranty costs – where applicable;
 - 7.15.5 Any Once off costs;
 - 7.15.6 Monthly Costs;
 - 7.15.7 Any maintenance cost – where applicable;
 - 7.15.8 Data costs;
 - 7.15.9 Sixty (60) months contract;
 - 7.15.10 All applicable costs above should be included in the total bid price;
 - 7.15.11 Total bid price must be inclusive of VAT;
 - 7.15.12 If volume discounts are available, the bidder should indicate the breakdowns.

8 Special Requirements

- 8.1 All physical appliances are to be fully assembled and loaded with the current recommended Operating Systems, all specified modules and patches installed before delivery.
- 8.2 The contract is a usage / consumption-based contracts with the Electoral Commission paying for services or data consumed on a month-to-month basis.

9 Delivery and Implementation Timeframe

- 9.1 The successful bidder will be required to implement the APN solution within six (6 months) of receipt of the Purchase Order (PO) including the commissioning of the data lines.

9.2 The swapping of sim cards on the devices to the bidder's network will be required within 1 month of receipt of the purchase order (PO).

10 Adjudication and Award of the bid

10.1 Bidders are advised to refer to the [Appendix E: Bid Evaluation Criteria](#) to ensure that they have addressed all critical bid requirements

10.2 The adjudication process may include short-listing, presentation and demonstration of the solution and services by the short-listed finalists.

10.3 The bid will be awarded to a bidder whose solution successfully conforms to specifications and is able to deliver the services, and in terms of the provisions of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2000 and specifically the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022.

10.4 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to run a proof of concept (POC) with the leading bidder as part of adjudicating the bid before a final award is made.

10.5 The successful bidder will be required to enter into a Service Level Agreement (SLA/Contract) with the Electoral Commission in order to formalize and confirm the exact solutions to be delivered.

10.6 The Electoral Commission will enter into a formal contract or issue a formal purchase order before any services or equipment can be delivered

11 Duration

11.1 The contract is for a period of Sixty (60) months and may be extended at the sole discretion of the Electoral Commission as may be deemed necessary

12 Enquiries

All enquiries regarding this bid must be submitted exclusively through the VotaQuotes platform. This requirement supports the principles of fairness, openness, and transparency in the procurement process.

12.1 All questions and the official responses will be published on the public VotaQuotes website (www.votaquotes.elections.org.za) where the bid is advertised.

12.2 Bidders are responsible for regularly monitoring the platform for any updates, clarifications, or additional information published during the bidding period.

12.3 No telephonic, email, or other forms of communication regarding bid enquiries will be accepted or responded to.

12.4 An enquiry cut-off date applies to all bids. The final date and time for submitting enquiries is published on the VotaQuotes platform under the specific bid listing.

13 Briefing Session

13.1 Details of the briefing will be published on the e-Procurement website.

14 Submissions of Tender Documentation

All tender documentation submissions must be received before the closing date and time for submissions as stipulated in the tender document. Submissions received after the closing date and time will lead to bids being disqualified and not considered.

All bids must be placed in the Electoral Commission's tender box situated in the foyer of the Electoral Commission's National Office in Centurion at the following address before the closing date and time of this tender at the following address:

Election House
Riverside Office Park,
1303 Heuwel Avenue,
Centurion,
0157

Note: Clearly mark your submission: For the attention of Procurement and Asset Management Department – Auction Number: **0010566886**

Failure to submit all of the required documentation before the closing date and time shall invalidate the bid. It remains the responsibility of the bidder to confirm receipt of the required documentation with the Electoral Commission's Procurement and Asset Management Department.

14.1 **Summary of Submission Requirements**

- 14.1.1 Provide a detailed design / architecture of the proposed solution with technical specification as per tender requirements as per 5.2
- 14.1.2 Detailed technical specifications in accordance with the technical requirements to demonstrate compliance. Bidder must complete and submit Appendix A (Technical Response Sheet) to demonstrate compliance as per 5.4
- 14.1.3 Appendix D – Network Data Coverage in respect to Voting Stations as per 3.23.1, 3.23.2 and 3.23.3; and its sub-Appendices (D1, D2 and D3)
- 14.1.4 Provide a detailed pricing breakdowns (breakdown of the bid price into equipment purchase price, delivery cost and any other element if any) as per 7.1 (Appendix B and its sub-Appendices (B1, B2, B3, B4 and B5))
- 14.1.5 The bidder shall provide at least 5 references of similar work as specified in 5.4 and 5.14 using Appendix C as a guideline.
- 14.1.6 Bidders to provide proof of experience in providing APN Services. Preference will be given to bidders with experience of 5 years or more as specified in 5.5.
- 14.1.7 Description of the service structure and service levels available as per 5.13
- 14.1.8 Copy of ICASA license as per 5.11
- 14.1.9 An example SLA document as per 5.13
- 14.1.10 Link to interactive data coverage map of the network being proposed as per 3.23.4
- 14.1.11 An Implementation Project Plan as per 3.23.15

15 **Closing Date**

The closing date and time of this request for quotation is as specified on the Tender and eProcurement (Votaquotes) website. The closing date and time is determined by the clock on the Electoral Commission's servers and is not negotiable. Bidders must also take note supporting documentation must be delivered **before closing date and time**.

16 APPENDIX A – Technical Bid Response Sheet

Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet					
Completion of this technical response sheet is compulsory. Bidder must comply each and every item of the requirements. Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.					
	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Bidder must substantiate their compliance indicator by referring to sections in their proposal of providing more information below
			Yes	No	
1.	The bidder has submitted a proposal with a solution architecture detailing how the solution will work	5.2			
2.	The solution is flexible enough to allow for the Electoral Commission to add up to 100,000 SIM cards.	3.2			
3.	The bidder has committed to providing a way of ensuring nation-wide data coverage. Of the areas where there is below 3G or no connectivity, the bidder must include as part of the bid, mechanisms even if on a temporary basis (say a by-election, registration weekend or any other event) to connect devices in such a place to the APN.	3.3 3.23.3			
4.	The solution is a consumption-based APN solution	3.2			
5.	The provision and activation of a SIM card must have a turnaround time of at most 48 hours	3.23.9			
6.	The bidder has included a link to an interactive data coverage map that can be used to verify the coverage data provided. This will also	3.24.4			Link to Interactive Data Coverage Map:

Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet

Completion of this technical response sheet is compulsory. Bidder must comply each and every item of the requirements. Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Bidder must substantiate their compliance indicator by referring to sections in their proposal of providing more information below
			Yes	No	
	be used in the future for planning. Please provide the link on the right hand side.				
7.	The APN will be very critical to the Electoral Commission’s business especially during a brief heightened activity period of elections and by-elections including registration weekends thereof. During this time a 99.99% % availability of all connectivity infrastructure that the APN depends on is required. Outside of these times, normal availability 8x5 service level to be negotiated during the contract period will apply. A baseline availability of 99% is required.	3.22 (m) & 3.23.5			
8.	The bidder must describe the service structure and service levels available with the view of providing a 24/7 support service especially during the brief heightened period of elections and by-elections. The service level should include weekends and public holidays	3.23.6.			
9.	The solution allows for different ranges of IP Addresses to be assigned to different sets of devices (laptops vs VMDs)	3.23.9			

Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet

Completion of this technical response sheet is compulsory. Bidder must comply each and every item of the requirements. Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Bidder must substantiate their compliance indicator by referring to sections in their proposal of providing more information below
			Yes	No	
10.	The backhaul data lines have dual diverse links with automatic failover configuration (HSRP or VRRP) to enable high availability configuration for both National Office (Primary site) and DR site.	3.23.12			
11.	The Electoral Commission can adjust the size of the primary and secondary backhaul data lines for both production and DR site on due notification without incurring penalties.	3.23.11			
12.	The Electoral Commission is able to manage and control the usage and access requirements for all SIM cards, enabling and disabling access and usage as may be required from time to time, e.g. set a soft limit, disable SMS, voice-bearer services, access to certain networks, online services	3.23.13			
13.	The APN management tool allows for different levels of access from viewing to being able to update the information on the database	3.23.18			
14.	Access to the internet via the internet breakout can be restricted and managed by the bidder.	3.23.14			
15.	The bidder has proposed an Internet Breakout with a firewall. The shared is accessible for joint management and reports	3.23.14			

Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet

Completion of this technical response sheet is compulsory. Bidder must comply each and every item of the requirements. Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Bidder must substantiate their compliance indicator by referring to sections in their proposal of providing more information below
			Yes	No	
16.	The bidder must submit an implementation project plan	3.23.15 & 5.9			
17.	The solution works with a Radius Server.	3.23.17			
18.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: set data usage limits per SIM card	3.23.19			
19.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: The provisioning of SIM cards to the APN	3.23.19			
20.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: De-provisioning of SIM cards on the APN	3.23.19			

Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet

Completion of this technical response sheet is compulsory. Bidder must comply each and every item of the requirements. Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Bidder must substantiate their compliance indicator by referring to sections in their proposal of providing more information below
			Yes	No	
21.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: Querying SIM card provisioning status	3.23.19			
22.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: Individual and Aggregated SIM card Usage Reporting	3.23.19			
23.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: Ability to view usage over time	3.23.19			
24.	The solution must be secure and be protected against malicious intrusions	3.23.19			
25.	The solution must also provide for alerts / warnings whenever there are faults to the service provider's environment related to the provision of the service to the Electoral Commission via email, SMS etc.	3.11			

Appendix A – Technical Bid Response Sheet

Completion of this technical response sheet is compulsory. Bidder must comply each and every item of the requirements. Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Bidder must substantiate their compliance indicator by referring to sections in their proposal of providing more information below
			Yes	No	
26.	The service provider is also expected to allocate a service manager / account manager to handle all service-related queries and escalations, with proper fault reporting procedures and escalation procedures especially during the heightened activity period of a major election (approximately 12 months before and up to and including election day and about 10 days after results announcement	3.20			
27.	The solution includes virtual hosting of the Domain Name Server (DNS) at the bidder’s premises	3.7			
28.	The lines proposed are manageable with QoS	3.4.11			
29.	40,000 Voter Management Devices that are over 5 years old will work on the bidder’s network	3.22.3			

17 APPENDIX B: PRICING SCHEDULE (Grand Total Tender Bid Price)

APPENDIX B: PRICING SCHEDULE					
The completion of all pricing schedules is compulsory. Failure to complete the below will result in the bid being disqualified. All costs must be inclusive of VAT					
No.	Description of Primary Services	Quantity	Implementation / Once Off Costs [A]	Monthly Costs or Unit Costs [B]	Total Monthly costs over 60 months [C]
1.	Corporate APN Solution – Usage Based – including all implementation costs	1	R.....	R.....	R.....
2.	SIM Card Costs (Cost per SIM Card)	41,500		R.....	R.....
3.	SIM Card Usage Cost @ 10GB per SIM Card per month	41,500		R.....	R.....
4.	APN Data Manager for 41,500 SIM Cards	1	R.....	R.....	R.....
5.	Internet Breakout <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. VPN DIA Breakout 300 Mbps b. Standard Reporting c. Network Management Office Hours d. At least 8 Static IP e. Shared Firewall f. 300 Mbps DIA Premium 	1	R.....	R.....	R.....

APPENDIX B: PRICING SCHEDULE

The completion of all pricing schedules is compulsory. Failure to complete the below will result in the bid being disqualified. All costs must be inclusive of VAT

No.	Description of Primary Services	Quantity	Implementation / Once Off Costs [A]	Monthly Costs or Unit Costs [B]	Total Monthly costs over 60 months [C]
6.	VPN Connection (2 x Lines to Production and 2 x lines to DR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) IP Connect <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. National Data Centre (Primary and Secondary 300 Mbps) ii. DR site (Primary and Secondary 300 Mbps) b) Standard Reporting c) Network Management Office Hours d) Standard Data QoS e) Premium SLA 	1	R.....	R.....	R.....
7.	Routers / End Point Devices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Router Rental x 3 ii. Router Maintenance x 3 	3	R.....	R.....	R..... ...
8.	DNS Virtual Server Hosting	2	R.....	R.....	R.....
9.	Cross Connection between service provider termination point and Electoral Commission's rack at the ISP.	2	R.....	R.....	R.....

APPENDIX B: PRICING SCHEDULE

The completion of all pricing schedules is compulsory. Failure to complete the below will result in the bid being disqualified. All costs must be inclusive of VAT

No.	Description of Primary Services	Quantity	Implementation / Once Off Costs [A]	Monthly Costs or Unit Costs [B]	Total Monthly costs over 60 months [C]
10	On-boarding exercise (swap Sim Cards)	40000			
11	Support and Maintenance	1		R.....	R.....
12	Sub-Totals:		R.....	** R.....	R.....
13	Grand Total Tender Bid Price:[SUB TOTALS: A + C]		R.....		

* The Grand Total Tender Bid Price must be in full and complete for the proposed solution, it also the price which will be used for adjudication.

** Monthly costs provide an indication of invoice amounts per month

18 APPENDIX B1: PRICING – APN MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

18.1 The Electoral Commission requires a solution that will enable adjustment of the number of connected devices from time to time as per its seasonal business cycle. The bidder is required to provide APN management and monitoring prices for various number of connected devices.

APPENDIX B1: PRICING - NUMBER OF CONNECTION COSTS OVER DIFFERENT PERIODS (including VAT) (SIM RETENTION)

	SIM Cards / Connected Devices	Cost per SIM Card	Total Monthly Costs	Comments / Descriptions
1	≤10,000	R.....	R.....	
2	>10,000 and ≤ 20,000	R.....	R.....	
3	>20,000 and ≤ 30,000	R.....	R.....	
4	>30,000 and ≤ 40,000	R.....	R.....	
5	>40,000 and ≤ 50,000	R.....	R.....	
6	>50,000	R.....	R.....	

19 APPENDIX B2: PRICING – USAGE BASED DATA RATES

19.1 The Electoral Commission wants to be able to be billed for the data used per month. Billing will be based on combined utilization across connected devices for the period. Bidder must fill in the table below:

Appendix B2: Pricing – Total Monthly Usage (including VAT)		
Total Monthly Usage	Price per MB	Comments
≤512GB	R.....	
>512 and ≤ 2048GB	R.....	
> 2048 and ≤ 4096GB	R.....	
>4096 and ≤ 8192GB	R.....	
>8192 and ≤ 10240GB	R.....	
>10240 and ≤ 12800GB	R.....	

Appendix B2: Pricing – Total Monthly Usage (including VAT)

Total Monthly Usage	Price per MB	Comments
>12800 and ≤ 15360GB	R.....	
>15360 and ≤ 20480GB	R.....	
>20480 and ≤ 30720GB	R.....	
>30720 and ≤ 40960GB	R.....	
>40960 and ≤ 51200GB	R.....	
>51200GB	R.....	
Unlimited (if available)	R.....	

20 APPENDIX B3: BACKHAUL DATA LINES PRICING

20.1 The Electoral Commission wants to be able to adjust the sizes of the data line as per Electoral Commission’s seasonal business cycle. The bidder is to indicate below the different pricing structures for the different data line sizes.

20.2 The costs must include the end-point device / router costs

20.3 The Electoral Commission reserves the right to use its firewalls which have in-built SD-WAN capabilities..

<u>Appendix B3: Backhaul Primary Data Line Pricing Options (all costs must be inclusive of VAT)</u>					
	Backhaul Bandwidth (Mbps)	Router / End-point Device Costs	Monthly Subscription Primary Link (National Office)	Monthly Subscription Secondary Link (National Office)	Monthly Subscription Primary Link (DR)
1	10	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
2	20	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
3	30	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
4	50	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....

Appendix B3: Backhaul Primary Data Line Pricing Options (all costs must be inclusive of VAT)

	Backhaul Bandwidth (Mbps)	Router / End-point Device Costs	Monthly Subscription Primary Link (National Office)	Monthly Subscription Secondary Link (National Office)	Monthly Subscription Primary Link (DR)
5	100	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
6	200	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
7	300	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
8	500	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
9	1000	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
10	1500	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
11					

Appendix B3: Backhaul Primary Data Line Pricing Options (all costs must be inclusive of VAT)					
	Backhaul Bandwidth (Mbps)	Router / End-point Device Costs	Monthly Subscription Primary Link (National Office)	Monthly Subscription Secondary Link (National Office)	Monthly Subscription Primary Link (DR)
	2000	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....
12	More than 2000 (burstable)	R.....	R.....	R.....	R.....

21 APPENDIX B4: INTERNET DATA LINE PRICING

21.1 The Electoral Commission wants to be able to adjust the sizes of the Internet breakout data line as per its seasonal business cycle. The bidder is to indicate below the different pricing structures for the different data line sizes. Bidder must indicate the router/endpoint device model proposed. The Electoral Commission reserves the right not to use the Internet Line.

APPENDIX B4: Internet Breakout Link Costs (All costs must be inclusive of VAT)				
	Internet Link Bandwidth (Mbps)	Endpoint Device / Router Costs	Firewall Costs	Total Monthly Subscription
1	10	R.....	R.....	R.....
2				

APPENDIX B4: Internet Breakout Link Costs (All costs must be inclusive of VAT)

	Internet Link Bandwidth (Mbps)	Endpoint Device / Router Costs	Firewall Costs	Total Monthly Subscription
	20	R.....	R..... ...	R.....
3	30	R.....	R.....	R.....
4	50	R.....	R.....	R.....
5	100	R.....	R.....	R.....
6	200	R.....	R.....	R.....
7	300	R.....	R.....	R.....
8	500	R.....	R.....	R.....

APPENDIX B4: Internet Breakout Link Costs (All costs must be inclusive of VAT)

	Internet Link Bandwidth (Mbps)	Endpoint Device / Router Costs	Firewall Costs	Total Monthly Subscription
9	1000	R.....	R.....	R.....
10	1500	R.....	R.....	R.....
11	2000	R.....	R.....	R.....
12	5000	R.....	R.....	R.....

22 APPENDIX B5: PRICING – APN MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING

22.1 The Electoral Commission requires a solution that will on-board the current devices onto the new solution. This will include the swapping of SIM cards to the new service provider.

<u>APPENDIX B5: PRICING – ON-BOARDING COSTS(including VAT)</u>			
	Number of Devices	Cost per Device	Comments / Descriptions
1	1	R.....	
2	>1 and ≤ 10,000	R.....	
3	>10,000 and ≤ 20,000	R.....	
4	>20,000 and ≤ 40,000	R.....	
5	>40,000 and ≤ 50,000	R.....	
6	>50,000	R.....	

23 APPENDIX C: GUIDELINE REFERENCE TABLE

23.1 As per 5.3 above, the bidder is to provide at least five (5) contactable references of past services of a similar nature that the bidder provided or was involved in. The table below serves as a guideline of what information the Electoral Commission requires from the references. **Reference #1**

EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:		
Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Project Size Based on estimated Budget	
	APN Project Size Based Number of Connected Devices:	
	Which year was the service provided?	

Reference #2

EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:		
Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Project Size Based on estimated Budget	
	APN Project Size Based Number of Connected Devices:	
	Which year was the service provided?	

Reference #3

EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:		
Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Project Size Based on estimated Budget	
	APN Project Size Based Number of Connected Devices:	
	Which year was the service provided?	

Reference #4

EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:		
Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Project Size Based on estimated Budget	
	APN Project Size Based Number of Connected Devices:	
	Which year was the service provided?	

Reference #5

EACH REFERENCE MUST CONTAIN THE FOLLOWING DETAILS:		
Customer name		
Contact Person		
Contact Details	Email	
	Telephone	
	Physical address	
Service Description	Product	
	Services Provided	
Service Value	Project Size Based on estimated Budget	
	APN Project Size Based Number of Connected Devices:	
	Which year was the service provided?	

24 APPENDIX D: NETWORK DATA COVERAGE WITH RESPECT TO VOTING STATIONS

Bidders are required to provide evidence of the extent to which their solution will provide data coverage of the current network of voting stations, by completing a similar list provided as an Excel Spreadsheet. Network data coverage is limited to 3G or better, i.e. point will only be allocated for network data coverage of 3G or better. Bidders are required to complete the spreadsheet and submit in softcopy both PDF and Excel formats on memory stick, the PDF will be the authoritative reference document for bid evaluation. Bidders are to select between 5G, 4G, 3G, below 3G and NONE coverage and between Yes/No for load shedding mitigation (Yes, that there is power outage mitigation).

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N
Province	District	Municipality	Ward	Voting District	Voting Station Name	Latitude	Longitude	Address	Venue Description	Suburb	Town	COVERAGE	LOAD SHEDDING MITIGATION
2	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200001	10590151 PEFFERVILLE CLINIC	-33,011922	27,880713	3819 ROTTERDAM ROAD PEFFERVILLE EAST LONDON	CLINIC	PEFFERVILLE	EAST LONDON		
3	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200001	10590588 EAST LONDON HIGH SCHOOL	-33,002384	27,866419	70 MAPLE LEAF AVENUE BRAELYN EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	BRAELYN	EAST LONDON		
4	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200001	10590858 CHURCH	-33,006483	27,877686	117 BASHE STREET DUNCAN VILLAGE EAST LONDON	CHURCH	DUNCAN VILLAGE	EAST LONDON		
5	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200001	10590869 MASAKHE PUBLIC SCHOOL	-33,007443	27,879645	35 MAZWI STREET DUNCAN VILLAGE EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	DUNCAN VILLAGE	EAST LONDON		
6	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200001	10591297 BRAELYN COMMUNITY HALL	-32,999944	27,879389	11 VESUVIUS ROAD BRAELYN EAST LONDON	HALL	BRAELYN	EAST LONDON		
7	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200002	10590847 ST PETERS CLOVER CATHOLIC CHURCH	-33,00597	27,87507	2 GODLO STREET DUNCAN VILLAGE EAST LONDON	CHURCH	DUNCAN VILLAGE	EAST LONDON		
8	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200002	10591017 GOMPO COMMUNITY HALL	-33,009737	27,87467	21 DOUGLAS SMITH HIGHWAY GOMPO EAST LONDON	HALL	GOMPO	EAST LONDON		
9	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200002	10591039 LITTLE KIDS DAY CARE	-33,00701	27,86819	1663 C SECTION DUNCAN VILLAGE EAST LONDON	CRÈCHE	DUNCAN VILLAGE	EAST LONDON		
10	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200002	10591354 NCEDANI DAY CARE CENTRE	-33,010183	27,868931	125 BEBELELE DUNCAN VILLAGE EAST LONDON	CRÈCHE	DUNCAN VILLAGE	EAST LONDON		
11	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200002	10591398 MASINCEDANE DAY CARE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE PRIMARY SCHOOL	-33,00729	27,86518	27 SPARROW MKHONTO DUNCAN VILLAGE EAST LONDON	PRE-SCHOOL	DUNCAN VILLAGE	EAST LONDON		
12	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200003	10590659 SCHOOL	-32,99994	27,89699	8 ST MARKS ROAD SOUTHERNWOOD EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	SOUTHERNWOOD	EAST LONDON		
13	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200003	10590657 BUFFALO CITY PUBLIC TVET COLLEGE	-32,996166	27,89446	626 LUKIN ROAD SOUTHERNWOOD EAST LONDON	COLLEGE	SOUTHERNWOOD	EAST LONDON		
14	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200003	10590678 HUDSON PARK HIGH SCHOOL	-32,985618	27,916111	DEVEREUX AVENUE VINCENT EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	VINCENT	EAST LONDON		
15	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200004	10590522 VOORPOS PRIMARY SCHOOL	-32,974325	27,867921	FRONTIER RD CAMBRIDGE WEST EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	CAMBRIDGE WEST	EAST LONDON		
16	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200004	10590768 GCOBANI COMMUNITY HALL	-32,96745	27,8841	CAMBRIDGE TOWNSHIP CAMBRIDGE EAST LONDON	HALL	CAMBRIDGE	EAST LONDON		
17	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200004	10590780 CAMBRIDGE TOWN HALL	-32,97377	27,88609	MAYFAIR AVE CAMBRIDGE EAST LONDON	TOWN HALL	CAMBRIDGE	EAST LONDON		
18	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200004	10591141 CAMBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL	-32,981695	27,883084	GARCIA STREET CAMBRIDGE BUFFALO CITY [EAST LONDON]	SCHOOL	CAMBRIDGE	BUFFALO CITY [EAST LONDON]		
19	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200005	10590498 MBULELO PUBLIC SCHOOL	-32,996153	27,819455	37187 PHASE 1 SCENERY PARK EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	SCENERY PARK	EAST LONDON		
20	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200005	10590892 ZWELEMFUNDO PUBLIC SCHOOL	-32,996737	27,829622	37650 SCENERY PARK ROAD SCENERY PARK EAST LONDON	SCHOOL	SCENERY PARK	EAST LONDON		
21	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200005	10590904 JOHN DUBE CLINIC	-32,99123	27,81609	35616 PHASE 1 SCENERY PARK EAST LONDON	CLINIC	SCENERY PARK	EAST LONDON		
22	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200005	10591208 UVIWE HIGH SCHOOL	-32,993449	27,824231	35811 PHASE 1 SCENERY PARK BUFFALO CITY	SCHOOL	SCENERY PARK	BUFFALO CITY		
23	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200005	10591365 CR QABA OUTSTATION CHURCH	-32,99088477	27,82097881	SCENERY PARK ROAD SCENERY PARK EAST LONDON	CHURCH HALL	SCENERY PARK	EAST LONDON		
24	Eastern Cape	BUF - Buffalo City	BUF - Buffalo City	29200005	10591387 KIMEC CHURCH SCENERY PARK	-32,994146	27,816409	PHASE 1 SCENERY PARK EAST LONDON	CHURCH	SCENERY PARK	EAST LONDON		

25 Appendix D1: Summary Data Coverage Information

25.1 Bidders are required to count the number of voting stations covered by each coverage level. For each voting station, the bidder is to take the highest data coverage level. For Example, if a voting station has both 3G, 4G and 5G, the bidder is to count it once as 5G coverage. The bidder must complete and submit Appendix D1.

Summary Coverage Information. Bidder should use the best coverage for a site. If a site has Good coverage for 3G, 4G and 5G; bidder should count it for 5G Bidder should not count a site more than once, if a site has 3G, 4G and 5G, bidder should count it under 5G The total number of sites should not exceed the maximum number of sites (28496)			
	Coverage Levels	Number of sites on each Level	Percentage
1	5G		
2	4G		
3	3G		
4	Below 3G		
5	No Coverage (None)		
Totals number of sites			0

10	Number of Sites with Load Shedding Mitigation		
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26 Appendix D2: Alternative Connectivity Mechanisms

The areas identified above as having below 3G and no coverage; the bidder must indicate how they will deal with such areas. Bidders are required to complete the spreadsheet and submit in hardcopy and softcopy both PDF and Excel format, the hardcopy

28 Appendix E - Bid Evaluation Criteria

28.1 *Stage 1: Assessment of Bidder's Disclosure*

All bids received will be evaluated and assessed in respect of the mandatory information provided in the Bidder's Disclosure (SBD4) as well as the register for restricted suppliers and tender defaulters.

Any potential issues that may arise or transgressions that may identified will be pursued in accordance with statutory obligations and requirements.

In this regard, the following must be noted:

The Electoral Commission must, as part of its supply chain management (SCM) processes, identify and manage all potential conflicts of interest and other disclosures made by a person participating in procurement process to enable the accounting officer or delegated authority to make informed decisions about the person participating in the SCM process.

As such, the Bidders Disclosure form, issued as Standard Bidding Document (SBD) 4, attached as Appendix A, was extended to all entities which were invited to participate in the RFQ process.

As part of the evaluation of the procurement process, the information provided by a person on the SBD4 form must be evaluated.

In so doing, it must be noted that if the bid evaluation establishes that:

- a) a person within the bidding entity is an employee of the State, the Electoral Commission's Accounting Officer/accounting authority must request the relevant accounting officer/accounting authority whether the person-
 - i. Is prohibited from conducting business with the State in terms of Section 8 of the Public Administration Management Act, 2014; or
 - ii. has permission to perform other remunerative work outside of their employment, where the PAMA does not apply to such employee;
- b) the conduct of a person constitutes a transgression of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act, 2004;
- c) the conduct of a person constitutes a transgression of the Competition Act, 1998, the conduct must be reported to the Competition Commission; and
- d) the conduct of a person must be dealt with in terms of the prescripts applicable to the Electoral Commission.

If it is established that a person has committed a transgression in terms of the above, or any other transgression of SCM prescripts, the bid may be rejected and the person may be restricted.

The Electoral Commission’s Accounting Officer/accounting authority must inform National Treasury of any action taken against a person within 30 days of implementing the action.

During the bid evaluation process, the Electoral Commission must in addition to other due diligence measures, establish if a person is not listed in-

- a) the Register of Tender Defaulters; and
- b) the list of restricted suppliers.

A bid related to a restricted bidder or tender defaulter shall be rejected.

The under-mentioned assessment criteria will be used to evaluate the elements relating to SBD4, CSD registration, tax compliance, restricted suppliers and tender defaulters

Stage 1 – Bidder’s Disclosure.				
Important Note: Detail on any transgression must be reported if issues are identified as mandatory steps must be taken as prescribed in <i>National Treasury PMFA SCM Instruction Note 3 of 2016/2022: Enhancing Compliance, Transparency and Accountability in Supply Chain Management.</i>				
Company Name (Bidder):				
No.	Description	Yes	No	Comments
1.	Bidder is registered on the National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD). *			
2.	Bidder is tax compliant. **			
3.	The bidder is not an employee of the state.			
4.	Having certified the SBD4, it is accepted that the bidder’s conduct does not constitute a transgression of the Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act.			
5.	Having certified to the SBD4, it is accepted that the bidder’s conduct does not constitute a transgression of the Competition Act.			
6.	The bidder is not a tender defaulter as per the register published on the National Treasury website.			
7.	The bidder is not a restricted supplier as per the register published on the National Treasury website.			
* No bid shall be accepted if a supplier is not registered on the National Treasury Central Supplier Database (CSD).				
** A bidder must be tax compliant before a contract is awarded. A bid will be disqualified if the bidder’s tax affairs remains non-compliant as per the provisions of National Treasury Instruction No 09 of 2017/2018 Tax Compliance Status Verification.				

28.2 Stage 2: Key Qualifying Criteria

Appendix E – Stage 2 - Tender Evaluation Criteria

Stage 2 – Key Qualifying Criteria - Failure to comply with any of the requirements below will result in the bid being disqualified

No.	Description	Yes	No	Comments
1.	Bidder completed and submitted technical specification as per Section 5.3 - Appendix A			
2.	The bidder has included ICASA's Individual Electronic Communication Network Services (I-ECNS) or Individual Electronic Communication Services (I-ECS) Certificate as per 5.11			
3.	The bidder has completed and submitted detailed pricing as per Appendix B – Pricing Schedule and its sub-Appendices (B1, B2, B3, B4 and B5) as per 7.1			
4.	Bidder submitted five (5) contactable references as per Section 5.4			
5.	The bidder has completed and submitted Appendix D – Network Data Coverage with respect to existing voting stations and its sub-appendices (D1, D2 & D3) as per 3.23.2 and 5.7, 5.8 and 5.9			
6.	The bidder has indicated level of experience in providing similar solutions as per Section 5.3			
7.	The bidder has indicated service levels that include 24/7 service support during heightened election periods (including Sundays and public holidays) as per Section 3.23.6			
8.	Bidder has committed to providing alternative connectivity mechanism in areas of low or no connectivity by populating Appendix D2 as per 3.23.3			
9.	Bidder has at least 95% network coverage as per 3.23.1			
Overall Stage 2 Outcomes:		<u>Assessment Comments:</u>		
		Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):		

28.3 Stage 3: Technical Disqualification Criteria

Stage 3 – Technical Disqualification Criteria Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification. Failure to comply with the requirement shall lead to disqualification					
	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Comments
			Yes	No	
1.	The bidder has submitted a proposal with a solution architecture detailing how the solution will work	5.2			
2.	The solution is flexible enough to allow for the Electoral Commission to add up to 100,000 SIM cards.	3.2			
3.	The bidder has committed to providing a way of ensuring nation-wide data coverage. Of the areas where there is below 3G or no connectivity, the bidder must include as part of the bid, mechanisms even if on a temporary basis (say a by-election, registration weekend or any other event) to connect devices in such a place to the APN.	3.3 3.23.3			
4.	The solution is a consumption-based APN solution	3.2			
5.	The provision and activation of a SIM card must have a turnaround time of at most 48 hours	3.23.9			
6.	The APN will be very critical to the Electoral Commission’s business especially during a brief heightened activity period of elections and by-elections including registration weekends thereof. During this time a 99.99% % availability of all connectivity infrastructure that the APN depends on is required. Outside of these times, normal availability 8x5	3.22 (m) & 3.23.5			

Stage 3 – Technical Disqualification Criteria

Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

Failure to comply with the requirement shall lead to disqualification

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Comments
			Yes	No	
	service level to be negotiated during the contract period will apply. A baseline availability of 99% is required.				
7.	The bidder must describe the service structure and service levels available with the view of providing a 24/7 support service especially during the brief heightened period of elections and by-elections. The service level should include weekends and public holidays	3.23.6.			
8.	The solution allows for different ranges of IP Addresses to be assigned to different sets of devices (laptops vs VMDs)	3.23.9			
9.	The backhaul data lines have dual diverse links with automatic failover configuration (HSRP or VRRP) to enable high availability configuration for both National Office (Primary site) and DR site.	3.23.12			
10.	The Electoral Commission can adjust the size of the primary and secondary backhaul data lines for both production and DR site on due notification without incurring penalties.	3.23.11			
11.	The Electoral Commission is able to manage and control the usage and access requirements for all SIM cards, enabling and disabling access and usage as may be required from time to time, e.g. set a soft limit, disable SMS, voice-bearer services, access to certain networks, online services	3.23.13			

Stage 3 – Technical Disqualification Criteria

Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

Failure to comply with the requirement shall lead to disqualification

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Comments
			Yes	No	
12.	The APN management tool allows for different levels of access from viewing to being able to update the information on the database	3.23.18			
13.	Access to the internet via the internet breakout can be restricted and managed by the bidder.	3.23.14			
14.	The bidder has proposed an Internet Breakout with a firewall. The shared is accessible for joint management and reports	3.23.14			
15.	The bidder must submit an implementation project plan	3.23.15 & 5.9			
16.	The solution works with a Radius Server.	3.23.17			
17.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: set data usage limits per SIM card	3.23.19			
18.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: The provisioning of SIM cards to the APN	3.23.19			

Stage 3 – Technical Disqualification Criteria

Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.

Failure to comply with the requirement shall lead to disqualification

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Comments
			Yes	No	
19.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: De-provisioning of SIM cards on the APN	3.23.19			
20.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: Querying SIM card provisioning status	3.23.19			
21.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: Individual and Aggregated SIM card Usage Reporting	3.23.19			
22.	The solution provides a management tool to manage and monitor mobile data and SIM cards which provides for the following service at a minimum: Ability to view usage over time	3.23.19			
23.	The solution must be secure and be protected against malicious intrusions	3.23.19			
24.	The solution must also provide for alerts / warnings whenever there are faults to the service provider’s environment related to the provision of the service to the Electoral Commission via email, SMS etc.	3.11			
25.	The service provider is also expected to allocate a service manager / account manager to handle all service-related queries and escalations,	3.20			

Stage 3 – Technical Disqualification Criteria

**Failure to complete and submit this technical bid response sheet as part of the bid submission shall lead to disqualification.
Failure to comply with the requirement shall lead to disqualification**

	Compliance Minimum Requirements	Reference Sections	Compliance Indicator		Comments
			Yes	No	
	with proper fault reporting procedures and escalation procedures especially during the heightened activity period of a major election (approximately 12 months before and up to and including election day and about 10 days after results announcement				
26.	The solution includes virtual hosting of the Domain Name Server (DNS) at the bidder’s premises	3.7			
27.	The lines proposed are manageable with QoS	3.4.11			
28.	40,000 Voter Management Devices that are over 5 years old will work on the bidder’s network	3.22.3			
Overall Stage 3 Outcomes:		<u>Assessment Comments:</u>			
		Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):			

28.4 **Stage 4: Voting Station Data Coverage Scoring**

Appendix E – Stage 4: Bid Evaluation Score-Card for Voting Station Data Coverage.

The target is 100% data coverage. A bidder must score at least 95% to qualify to the next stage of evaluation.

The score from the Appendix E will be used

	Bidder's score from Appendix D	Total Achievable score Total number of sites 28495:	% Achieved (Score/Total Achievable Score) To proceed to the next stage, bidder must score at least 95%	Assessment Comments
1.				
Overall Stage 4 Outcomes:		<u>Assessment Comments:</u>		
Bid qualifies for further consideration: (YES/NO):				

28.5 **Stage 5: Other Functionality**

Appendix E – Stage 5 – Technical Scoring

To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (75/100)

	Product Description	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
1.	Relevant Reference	30	<p>References as per 5.14</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Customer name, Contact Person, Email, Telephone) = 2 points b) Product/Solution = 1 points c) Description of Services Provided = 1 points d) APN Project Size Based on Connected Devices = 1 points e) Services Provided in the Last 36 Months = 1 points <p>Total for references = maximum 6 points per reference (minimum 5 references required).</p>		
2.	Relevant Experience	5	<p>Relevant Experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ≥ 10 years (5 points) b) ≥ 5 and < 10 years (3 points) c) < 5 years (0 points) 		
3.	Network Ownership	5	<p>The bidder owns the network they will use for this tender:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) ≥ 90% of the network (5 points) b) ≥ 80% and < 90% of the network (4 points) c) ≥ 70 and < 80% of the network (3 points) d) ≥ 60 and < 70% of the network (2 points) e) ≥ 50 and < 60% of the network (1 points) 		

Appendix E – Stage 5 – Technical Scoring

To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (75/100)

	Product Description	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
4.	Network Coverage (total)	10	Bidder has coverage (3G, 4G or 5G) of the following percentages: a) ≥ 95 and $< 98\%$ of the network (6 points) b) ≥ 98 and $< 99\%$ of the network (8 points) c) 100% of the network (10 points)		
5.	Network Coverage	7	For the purposes of the tender the bidder has: a) at least 40% of the voting stations on 4G (5 points) b) at least 50% of the voting stations on 5G (7 points)		
6.	Network Coverage	5	With alternative connectivity mechanisms, the bidder covers a) 100% of the voting stations (5 points) b) $\geq 99\%$ of the voting stations (4 points) c) $\geq 98\%$ and $< 99\%$ of the voting stations (3 points)		
7.	%of the sites with load shedding mitigation	5	Load Shedding Mitigation a) $\geq 90\%$ (5 points) b) $\geq 80\%$ and $< 90\%$ (4 points) c) $\geq 70\%$ and $< 80\%$ (3 points) d) $\geq 60\%$ and $< 70\%$ (2 points) e) $\geq 50\%$ and $< 60\%$ (1 point)		
8.	Project Plan	17	a) A project plan that is aligned to Section 9 of the tender has been supplied (5		

Appendix E – Stage 5 – Technical Scoring

To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (75/100)

	Product Description	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
			points) b) The project plan covers lines (National Office, DR and Internet Breakout) commissioning (3 points) c) The project plan covers APN Management Commissioning (3 points) d) The project plan covers sim swap onto the devices (3 points) e) The project plan covers the DNS installation at the service provider (3 points)		
9.	SLA	4	a) The bidder has included an example SLA (2 points) b) The SLA has penalty clauses (1 points) c) The SLA has service levels (1 points)		
10.	Link Coverage Map	2	Bidder has provided a Link Coverage Map that can used to check their coverage		
11.	Bands Support	10	The network supports the bands supported by the VMD a) 4G LTE FDD – B1/B3/B5/B8 (4 points) b) 4G LTE TDD – B34/B48/B39/B40/B41 (4 points) c) 3G WCDMA – B1/B5/B8 (2 points) – any two		
	TOTAL:	100			

Appendix E – Stage 5 – Technical Scoring

To qualify to the next phase of adjudication a bidder must score a minimum of 75% (75/100)

	Product Description	Available Score	Points Allocation	Actual Score	Comments
	Overall Stage 5 Outcomes:	<u>Assessment Comments:</u>			
Bid qualifies for further consideration (YES/NO):					

Appendix E - Stage 6 – Adjudication of Bids

Only bids that comply with the requirements and conditions of the bid and that meet the minimum criteria in the bid evaluation process as stipulated above will be considered for bid adjudication purposes.

Acceptable bids must be market related.

This bid is deemed to exceed R50 million including VAT.

Therefore, the 90/10 preference point system (PPPFA scoring) in terms of the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 2005 (PPPFA) and the Preferential Procurement Regulations, 2022 shall apply in the adjudication process of this auction where all acceptable bids received are above R50 million including VAT. Preference points will be allocated as follows:

B-BBEE Status Level of Contributor	Number of Points (90/10)
1	10
2	9
3	6
4	5
5	4
6	3
7	2
8	1
Non-compliant contributor	0

Bid Evaluation Committee

	Committee Member's Name	Signature
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

