InnOvaTe Project - SPARK webinar
Questions and Answers

Question	Response
Is the project looking at IOT to assist with Housing operations and keeping residents safe?	Yes, that is something we will potentially be looking at next year. Our partner SHP has already voiced interest in those aspects.
Will the slides be shared at the end?	Yes - Everything will be shared.
is the programme limited to the 3 Use Cases already endorsed or will the other Use Cases considered such as Dynamic Parking come into scope ? If so, what are the timescales?	Only received endorsement for the first 3 user cases. This will be expanded to up to 10 across 5 Boroughs. Considered that as time allows there will be 3-5 per year over the 3 year programme. One of the boroughs has specifically voiced interest in a car parking use case.
If Spark is not chosen will you consider using G-Cloud 12?	For this programme we will primarily be using Spark DPS. At this stage, we are not considering using G-Cloud 12 but that may change in future. For other council contracts we do look at G-Cloud. This particular programme is expected to use Spark as it is specific to innovative services. Most of the procurements will go through the Spark system and we cannot guarantee that we will only use Spark. Later on we may have to use a different route but at the minute our intention is to use Spark for the innovate project.
Registering for the Spark DPS is not an immediate thing, and they may come back requesting further info. In essence, there is a turnaround that may not fit that time frame, even if you start the process today. Are there any other provisions to allow companies to participate?	Normally this is not always immediate but as Sutton had given early notice of shared timelines, all key internal Crown Commercial Service (CCS) teams involved have been briefed and are preparing for the swift turnaround. If any Suppliers are experiencing a delay during the process they can contact Lucy Mccormack who will assist them in gettimg their application processed.
If a supplier is interested in the future procurement (data platform & IOT architects) should we still join the DPS immediately?	Yes, given the process and what is required it is advisable to sign up so that you are already registered for future opportunities.
How are you going to select shortlisted suppliers	Using the Spark DPS filtering system. LBS are not obliged to advise the filtering system we will use. We will consider if we will publish the filtering we will use.
Does Spark and the process being followed allow joint / partnership / consortium 'bids' for the use cases...and do all suppliers included on such a bid have to be on Spark?	Yes, you can apply as a Group of Economic Operators. If you do, we ask the Group of Economic Operators to choose a lead member who will submit the bid on behalf of the Group of Economic Operators and you will have to identify what each of the parties is contributing. Further instrictions are provided within the DPS Needs document within the Spark DPS Bid Pack.
Hi, is registering for updates on your website the same as registering for your newsletter?	Yes that is right. Mailchimp newsletter subscription via the website - https://www.innovateproject.org
Do examples of innovation have to be demonstrated within UK, or is outside of the UK acceptable?	Outside of the UK is acceptable as long as it is from a GPA Country.
At the start of the call you mentioned that initially this was open to 5 use cases including environmental monitoring which was a high priority. Is the scope now just the 3 use cases mentioned?	We are expecting to run up to around 10 use cases over the 3.5 years. Now looking to progress procurement of the first 3 use cases as only those have been endorsed. Environmental monitoring is something we will be looking to do but no specific IOT use cases endorsed for this as yet.
From Lucy's presentation it seems Spark is only for "innovation competition" does that mean you will procure future services through other frameworks.	Spark is being used for the Innovate project. If we find we have requirements that are not suitable for Spark, then we will use another route, e.g. mini competition, G-Cloud or full tender. We use other Frameworks for lots of other procurements. Suppliers are advised to register on London Tenders Portal (www.londontenders.org) to see any LBS tenders. IOT is very suited to Spark which is why we are primarily using that. Other tenders may go through other routes, yet to be determined.
Can you be on Spark and G-Cloud 12?	Yes you can. The G-Cloud 12 window for applying has now closed and G-Cloud 12 is in the launch stage. If you are not already on there you will now have to wait for G-Cloud 13. If you feel you are suitable for Spark you are free to apply any time.
Does the contract example have to be completed at the time of the application ? We have ongoing 'pilot projects' that are due to be completed early 2021. With Spark, secondary exploitation of innovation is key.	Selection criteria dictates that you must be able to provide a proven contract example within your application. If you do not have that you will not be able to meet the selection criteria or be appointed to the Spark DPS until you provide one.
Do we have to obtain wet signatures from the customer for our letter of confirmation of works when applying to the Spark DPS?	No, due to Covid 19 restrictions, a digital signature will suffice or failing that an email of confirmation from the customer.
Is there any time constraints on when the innovation contract example should be from? i.e how many years ago	Innovation which has taken place in the last 18 months.
Will these IOT opportunities also be available through London's new Thirty3 procurement portal?	The 3 cases will be routed through Spark. One may potentially need to be launched earlier so that may change but the intention is to use Spark. Spark will be the first choice for all of these Innovate projects but if it is not suitable, other routes will be considered. Thirty3 has not been considered at this stage.