

Copywriting and Proofreading–2025 Communications specialists

Deadline for Tender Submissions: 4pm, Friday 22nd November

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1. About us

Everyone has the right to a good life as they get older and our whole society benefits when they do. But stark and widening inequalities mean more and more people are going to live in poor health and face poverty and discrimination as they get older. This is unacceptable and has huge consequences for these millions of individuals and for all of us.

We have identified three main areas where we think we can make real progress.

1. Challenging ageism and building an Age-friendly movement

We are confronting the pernicious ageism that exists across society. Ageism affects people of all ages, but it can limit people's lives profoundly as they get older, whether through discrimination in the workplace or being denied access to potentially life-saving healthcare. Ageism means we don't value older people or invest in ways to help people age well. Everyone, everywhere has a stake in changing this and we are building an age-friendly movement across the country, inspired by a new campaign to stamp out ageism.

2. Creating age-friendly homes

Most people want to live in their own home, in the communities they belong to, for as long as possible. But far too many older people are currently living in homes, that are endangering their lives. Much of the housing in England is dangerous or unsuitable for older people. Homes are not safe or warm. They have hazards and are inaccessible for anyone with a disability. This needlessly costs society millions each year in NHS and social care costs. We want to make homes more age-friendly so that more people can remain living independently, healthily and happily as they grow older.

3. Fostering an age-friendly work culture

There is no expiry date for workers, but as people get older many face discrimination on the basis of their age - or challenges accessing the work that works for them. Our country wastes a huge amount of talent, skills and experience by denying older workers the chance to stay in jobs or find new ones. This comes with a huge price tag for society, with hundreds of thousands of people in their 50s and 60s who want to work shut out of the labour market for good. With employers facing labour shortages and productivity challenges, they cannot afford to lose or ignore this part of the workforce. We are working with employers to create an Age-friendly Employment culture and workplace practices so that everyone can remain in good jobs for as long as they want and are able to.

2. Contract Overview

2.1 Introduction

In January 2022, the Centre for Ageing Better established a framework of communications specialists to work on ad hoc projects over a three-year period. As this framework is due to expire in January 2025, we are creating new frameworks. The framework consists of companies and self-employed professionals who are called upon to support Ageing Better in producing outputs. Ageing Better created frameworks that are each focused on a specific service. These consist of: creative and design; filmmaking and photography; copywriting and proofreading; events. This tender solely relates to copywriting and proofreading; you can access the others via the Ageing Better website. These frameworks allow for greater specialism from service providers and for Ageing Better to be more specific with its requirements, as shown below in the scope of contract. We hope to attract a wider pool of specialists by publishing and promoting each framework separately.

These new frameworks will be valid for three years; this includes a break clause that's active after two years. The four frameworks will be treated independently, meaning we welcome bidders who are part of the 2022 framework as well as those who aren't. It also means that suppliers are welcome to bid on a single or multiple frameworks.

2.2 Scope of the contract

This framework is focused on the delivery of copywriting and proofreading services. It is an opportunity for communications professionals (both self-employed/freelancers and agencies) to work with Ageing Better on ad hoc projects over a three-year period. It's unlikely that suppliers will be expected to pitch or bid for individual jobs once they've been included in the framework. Ageing Better will commission jobs based on who they deem most appropriate for individual jobs – we will take both the daily rate and the quality of the service proposal into consideration, as per the ITT evaluation criteria (see below).

For pieces of work that are deemed more substantial (i.e. if the value exceeds £10,000 excluding VAT) we will likely also seek 3 RFQs.

With regards to copywriting and proofreading, we typically require support with editing reports, editing copy on our web pages and producing personal stories or case studies. Proofreading usually encompasses checking spelling, grammar and consistency with our house style for reports that are around 100 pages in length – though shorter reports also sporadically require proofreading. Bidders are welcome to join the framework solely as copywriters or proof-readers or to offer both services, but please be specific in your bid. Suppliers will be working with various members of the Communications team, dependent on the project. The Communications team is made up of approximately 11 staff, though does not include an in-house creative team.

While Ageing Better will endeavour that the framework is used to evenly distribute work, there is no guarantee of work as a result of being in this framework – however, it does mean that we may call on you to provide services over the next three years for Ageing Better.

Bidders are welcome to bid for more than one framework via different submissions. In this scenario, please submit each form as if it's a completely unique tender submission.

We would look to have up to 10 freelancers approved under each ITT, that we can then use for work as and when required

2.3 Aims and objectives

These frameworks allow for greater specialism from service providers and for Ageing Better to be more specific with its requirements, and to contact members of the framework quickly for jobs.

2.4 Outcomes/Deliverables

Bidders should:

- Be comfortable to work within our brand guidelines and house style (including our <u>Age Without Limits</u> campaign (we'll share this with those who are eventually part of the framework but not publicly at this stage). An indication of our brand can be seen in our latest reports and other outputs.
- Quickly understand the subject matter we work with, providing content in an appropriate style and tone
- Be flexible, and sometimes do work at short notice
- Have experience of working on relevant projects

2.5 Contract term

The framework will be valid for three years; this includes a break clause that's active after two years, which can be activated by either party.

2.6 Budget

Individual projects' value will vary depending on the specific job, and so they may range from £100 to £15,000. Please note, these aren't minimum or maximum values, but just indicators.

Costs in the Pricing Document should be presented exclusive of VAT. Bidders should state whether or not they will apply VAT to the total Contract value. Ageing Better recommends that Bidders should seek independent advice if they do not intend to apply VAT. Ageing Better will not make any additional provision to the agreed Contract value in order to cover VAT liabilities, if these costs are not included in the original Pricing Document.

2.7 Insurances

The Contractor shall take out and maintain in full force and effect with a reputable insurance company the following minimum insurances for the duration of the Contract:

- Public Liability insurance £1 million
- · Employer's Liability insurance £5 million
- · Professional Indemnity insurance £1 million

2.8 Timescales

The indicative timetable for the procurement is as follows:

| Stage | Date |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Invitation to Tender issued to Bidders | Tuesday 8 th October |
| Deadline for clarification questions | Friday 18th October |
| Publication of clarification questions | Friday 25th October |
| Deadline for bid submission | 4pm, Friday 22 nd November |
| Notification of result | Friday 13 th December |
| Contract commencement | Wednesday 8 th January |

Ageing Better reserve the right to amend these dates.

2.9 Terms and Conditions

Below are the terms and conditions, to be signed at contract award. Suggested amendments or queries should be submitted in Section 14 of the Supplier Questionnaire. Ageing Better cannot guarantee adhering to proposed changes.

3. Invitation to Tender evaluation criteria

| Criteria | Sub Criteria | Weighting |
|---------------|---|-----------|
| | Pricing 30% | |
| Price (30%) | | |
| | Service delivery proposals (including the experience and skills) 70% | ne team's |
| Quality (70%) | Total | 100% |

3.1 Scoring

Scoring

Criteria 1 to 5 shall be scored on a scale of 0 to 5 by reference to the following scoring guide:

| Score | Description |
|-------|---|
| 5 | Exceptional. Demonstrates strengths, no errors, weaknesses or omissions and exceeds expectations in some or all respects. |
| 4 | Good. The standard of response fully meets expectations. |
| 3 | Satisfactory. The response is acceptable but with some minor reservations. |
| 2 | Poor. The response is deficient in certain areas where the details of relevant response require the reviewer to make certain assumptions. |
| 1 | Very Poor. The response is deficient in the majority of areas where the details of relevant response require the reviewer to make frequent assumptions. |
| 0 | Rejected. Response is unacceptable or non-existent, or there is a failure to properly address any issue. |

Price is weighted at 30%. The Bidder that submits the Lowest Bid Total shall receive the maximum score of 30%. All other Bidders' Bid Totals shall be evaluated using the following formula:

| Lowest Bid Total | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----|--|--|
| | x | 30 | | |
| Other Bidder's Bid Total | | | | |

If a Bidder is successful in its bid for the Contract, then the Pricing Document is submitted as part of its bid will be referenced in the Contract it enters into with Ageing Better and will be used in calculating the amount payable to the successful Bidder under the Contract.

4. Bid return and Tender evaluation process

4.1 Amendments to the Invitation to Tender

Ageing Better reserves the right to issue amendments or modifications to this Invitation to Tender during the Invitation to Tender stage. These will be listed on the opportunities section of our website and bids will be assumed to take account of any such modifications and amendments.

4.2 Procedure for the submission of bids

Bidders shall submit one electronic copy Invitation to Tender by no later than **4pm**, **Friday 22**nd **November** via e-mail to: digital@ageing-better.org.uk

The Invitation to Tender return shall state the following title: 'Professional services – Copywriting and Proofreading'

We will acknowledge receipt of all bids.

Please provide your response to this Invitation to Tender by completing the required documents. Please do not provide separate or different types or formats of documents unless specifically requested to do so.

Please note that any stated limits on length of responses set out in the Invitation to Tender must be strictly adhered to. Any question response exceeding the stated limit will be disregarded beyond that limit. Unless specifically requested to do so, please do not include or upload any standard marketing or promotional material within your answer as this will be disregarded.

Supporting information (appendices, attachments etc.) should be presented in the same order as, and should be referenced to, the relevant question.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Bidders are strongly recommended not to leave their Invitation to Tender submission to the last minute. Ageing Better will not be held liable for failures to submit an Invitation to Tender on time due to technical issues reported less than 24 hours before the submission deadline.

4.3 Content of bids

All bids must consist of the following items/documents:

- Confirmation of acceptance of the Conditions of Purchase as set out at Appendix 1;
- A completed Pricing Document as set out at Appendix 2;
- A completed Written Return, specifying how the Bidder will carry out the Services to be provided under the Contract, as set out at Appendix 3
- A copy of the Form of Tender as set out as Appendix 4 signed by the authorised signatory submitting the bid on behalf of the Bidder;
- A completed Anti-Collusion Certificate as set out at Appendix 5, signed by the authorised signatory submitting the bid on behalf of the Bidder;
- A completed Non-Canvassing Certificate as set out as Appendix 6, signed by the authorised signatory submitting the bid on behalf of the Bidder.
- A signed Supply Chain of Conduct as set out at Appendix 7, signed by the authorised signatory submitting the bid on behalf of the Bidder.

4.4 Evaluation of bids

- Bids will be checked initially for compliance with this Invitation to Tender and for completeness. Bids that are not substantially complete and/or compliant with this Invitation to Tender may be rejected;
- During the evaluation period, Ageing Better reserve the right to call for further information/clarifications from Bidders to assist it in its consideration of their bids. Note that Ageing Better reserve the right to adjust the scoring of a Bidder's bid if information is established during clarifications that fundamentally changes any tendered proposal.
- The purpose of the Bidder interview is to allow Ageing Better to achieve a more rounded appreciation of Bidders' proposals. Note that Ageing Better reserve the right to adjust the scoring of a Bidder's bid if information is established during the interview that fundamentally changes any tendered proposal.

5. Important notices for bidders

5.2 Accuracy of information and liability of Ageing Better and its advisers

The information contained in this Invitation to Tender has been prepared by Ageing Better in good faith but does not purport to be comprehensive or to have been independently verified. Ageing Better does not accept any liability or responsibility for the adequacy, accuracy or completeness of, or makes any representation or warranty (express or implied) with respect to the information contained in the Invitation to Tender or with respect to any written or oral information made or to be made available to any Bidder or its professional advisors and any liability therefore is hereby expressly disclaimed.

Bidders considering entering into a contractual relationship with Ageing Better should make their own enquiries and investigations of Ageing Better's requirements. The subject matter of this Invitation to Tender shall only have contractual effect when it is contained in the express terms of an executed agreement.

Nothing in this Invitation to Tender is, or should be, relied upon as a promise or representation as to the future and Ageing Better does not undertake to provide Bidders with access to any additional information or to update the information in this Invitation to Tender or to correct any inaccuracies that may become apparent. Ageing Better reserve the right, without prior notice, to change the procedures outlined in this Invitation to Tender or to terminate discussions and the delivery of information at any time before entering into the Contract.

5.3 Anti-collusion

Any Bidder who, in connection with the competition for the selection of Bidders for the Contract:

- Fixes or adjusts its bid by or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other Bidder;
- Enters into any agreement or arrangement with any other Bidder to refrain from making a bid or to alter, in any way, the content of any bid to be submitted;
- Causes or induces any person to enter into any such agreement as referred to above or to inform any other Bidder of the content of any other bid for the Contract;
- Offers or agrees to pay or give or does pay or give any sum of money, inducement or
 valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any persons for doing or having done
 or causing or having caused to be done any act or omission in relation to any other
 bid or proposed bid for the Contract; or
- Communicates to any person (outside its consortium, its professional and financial advisers other than Ageing Better or any person duly appointed by Ageing Better) the

content of its proposed bid, will be disqualified (without prejudice to any other civil remedies available to Ageing Better and without prejudice to any criminal liability that such conduct by a Bidder may attract) from further participation in the competition for the Contract. Bidders are required to return with their bid the Anti-Collusion Certificate set out at Appendix 6.

5.4 Non-canvassing

Any Bidder who, in connection with its bid for the Contract:

- offers an inducement, fee or award to any representative of Ageing Better or any person acting as an adviser to Ageing Better in connection with the selection of Bidders for the Contract: or
- does anything which would constitute a breach of the Bribery Act 2010, will be
 disqualified (without prejudice to any other civil remedies available to Ageing Better
 and without prejudice to any criminal liability that such conduct by a Bidder may
 attract) from further participation in the competition for the Contract. Bidders are
 required to return with their bid the Non-Canvassing Certificate set out at Appendix 7.

5.5 Copyright

The copyright in this Invitation to Tender is vested in Ageing Better and may not be reproduced, copied or stored in any medium without the prior written consent of Ageing Better. This Invitation to Tender and any document issued to Bidders supplemental to it shall remain the property of Ageing Better and shall be returned upon demand.

5.6 Tax Liability

Ageing Better and its subsidiaries, conducts their activities with integrity, transparency and fairness. Ageing Better are committed to the prevention of the facilitation of tax evasion as they recognise the importance of fostering a positive culture of tax compliance and maintaining the confidence of students, staff, partner organisations, other customers and the tax authorities.

Ageing Better and its subsidiaries do not and will not work with others who do not share their commitment to preventing the facilitation of tax evasion.

5.7 Modern Slavery Act 2015

The Bidder recognises that Ageing Better has a legal and moral commitment to ensuring that Ageing Better, through its staff, associates, agents, service providers and suppliers, conducts its business in accordance with the highest standards of ethical behaviours, transparency and probity. The Bidder shall, upon the request of Ageing Better, provide

evidence of the steps the Bidder is taking to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any part of the Bidder's own business or supply chain in accordance with the provisions of the Modern Slavery Act 2015.

5.8 Confidentiality

Bidders shall not undertake (or permit to be undertaken) at any time, whether at this stage or after conclusion of the Contract, any publicity activity with any section of the media in relation to the Contract other than with the prior written consent of Ageing Better (in relation to the form and content of the proposed publicity).

5.9 Ageing Better's right to reject bids

Notwithstanding anything else stated in this Invitation to Tender, the issue of this Invitation to Tender in no way commits Ageing Better to enter into the Contract or any other agreement whatsoever. Ageing Better is not bound to accept any bid and reserve the right to accept any bid either in whole or in part.

Ageing Better reserve the right to reject any or all of the responses received and discontinue the bidding process and/or reject any incomplete or incorrectly completed responses.

Bids will be checked initially for compliance with the requirements of this Invitation to Tender and for completeness. Clarification may be sought from Bidders in order to determine if a bid is complete and compliant. Bids that are not substantially complete and/or compliant with the requirements of this Invitation to Tender may be rejected.

5.10 Time

Ageing Better reserves the right, in its absolute discretion to amend the timetable or extend any time period in this Invitation to Tender.

5.11 Tender withdrawal

Ageing Better reserves the right to withdraw the tender for any reason, at any time.

5.12 Bid costs and loss of profits

Bidders shall bear their own costs and in no circumstances whatsoever shall Ageing Better become liable for any bidding costs, nor shall Ageing Better be liable for any loss of profits, loss of Contracts or other costs or losses suffered or incurred by a Bidder as a result of that Bidder not being awarded one or more Contracts pursuant to this procurement process. Ageing Better shall similarly not be liable in the event that the procurement process is cancelled, whatever the reason.

Appendix 1: Conditions of Contract

Whilst Ageing Better cannot guarantee agreeing to amendments in its Terms and Conditions, all queries and suggested changes must be noted in the Bidder's submission documents.

Appendix 2 - - Pricing Document

Pricing Preambles

- 1. The Pricing Document contains the Bidder's rates (excluding VAT).
- 2. The descriptions in the Pricing Document shall not be regarded as an exhaustive statement of everything included in the Contract; refer to the Specification for the full Contract requirements. The rates in the Pricing Document shall include for all work shown or described in the Contract as a whole and for all work not described but apparent as being necessary for the provision of the Services.
- 3. Where quantities are stated in the Pricing Document the Bidder should note that they may vary and there is no guarantee of quantity. The rates quoted in the Pricing Document shall apply regardless of the actual quantity of Services subsequently ordered.
- 4. No quantity or continuity of work is guaranteed to the Bidder and this should be taken into account when completing the Pricing Document. Unless expressly stated to the contrary, any quantities given in the Pricing Document are indicative only.
- 5. Payment shall be made in accordance with the Pricing Document and the procedures described in the Conditions of Contract attached at Appendix 1.
- 6. The Bidder shall include all mileage, subsistence and expenses costs within the submitted rates.
- 7. The Bidder shall include all costs for the production of any documentation and the attendance of any meetings required by Ageing Better under the Contract within the submitted rates.

Schedule of Rates

| Team member | Role | Price per day (excl. VAT) |
|-------------|------|---------------------------|
| | | |
| | | |

| Total (excl. VAT) | | £ |
|-------------------|--|---|

The above rates shall include for all work shown or described in the Contract as a whole and for all work not described but apparent as being necessary for the provision of the Services.

Appendix 3 - Written Return

Each Section is linked to the Evaluation Criteria detailed in Section 4 of this ITT document. The Section weightings are shown in each Section heading.

Each element of each question shall be scored on a scale of 0 to 5 by reference to the scoring guide detailed in Section 4 of this ITT document:

Bidders shall note that there is a 1,000 word limit for the entire written return.

Section 0 – General Information

| 1 | Bidder name | Insert details |
|----|--|--|
| 2 | Registered address | Insert details |
| 3 | Name of person completing the Invitation to Tender | Insert details |
| 4 | Telephone number | Insert details |
| 5 | E-mail address | Insert details |
| 6 | Company status (e.g. Ltd, Plc, sole trader, Charity, Community Benefit Society, etc.) | Insert details |
| 7 | VAT registration number | Insert details |
| 8 | Company registration number and/or charity number | Insert details |
| 10 | description of 2 contract Bidder's experience in r | nisation name, contact details and a brief ets of a similar nature which demonstrate the relation to Ageing Better's requirements. Any subject to a satisfactory reference being provided by ed companies. |

NOTE TO BIDDERS

Upon identifying the successful Bidder, Ageing Better may seek further evidence to determine the Bidder's ability to perform the Contract prior to awarding the Contract. If the Bidder is unable to provide the further evidence required, Ageing Better reserves the right to withdraw the Bidder's successful Bidder status.

| Section 1: Service Delivery Proposal | Weighting |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| | 70% |

Bidders should submit:

- A CV, with a proposal, detailing their experience, including case studies, and their suitability for the framework. The proposal should not be more than one side of A4 in length (11pt size).
- A link to their portfolio and examples of previous work. This can be attached separately but please ensure it is easily accessible
- Contact details of two recent references that attest to the attributes and values we have outlined above Ageing Better is not looking for any creative input to be included in the bid at this stage (i.e. there is no requirement for any mock-ups), just indications and examples of previous work completed by suppliers.

The Bidder shall demonstrate how their proposed solution addresses the requirement above. The Bidder's response shall take each requirement and explain the understanding of the requirement and the Bidder's proposed solution to addressing that requirement. Bidders shall provide evidence to support the response.

| Bidder's Response |
|-------------------|
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Appendix 4 – Form of Tender

To: Centre for Ageing Better

Re: Insert Contract Name (the "Contract")

Dear Sirs

- 1. Having examined the Invitation to Tender and having satisfied ourselves as to all other matters relevant thereto, we confirm our tender for the Contract.
- 2. We enclose our tender, and confirm that these comprise all of the documents required to be submitted in accordance with the matters set out in the Invitation to Tender. We acknowledge that we are bound by our proposals submitted pursuant to the Invitation to Tender.
- 3. We hereby unconditionally and irrevocably offer to provide the Services requested to be provided and performed under the Invitation to Tender in accordance with the Contract and at no greater rates or prices than the rates or prices stated in the Pricing Document.
- 4. We confirm that we are fully conversant with all the Invitation to Tender documentation and that this tender is submitted strictly in accordance with the Invitation to Tender.
- 5. We agree that this tender shall remain open to be accepted or not by Ageing Better and shall not be withdrawn for a period of twelve (12) months from the deadline for receipt of tenders as set out in the Invitation to Tender, or such longer period as may be agreed with Ageing Better.
- 6. We undertake to execute the Contract for the proper and complete fulfilment of the Services required or any part or parts thereof, as you may in your absolute discretion award to us.
- 7. We agree that we shall commence and undertake the Services required when instructed to do so pursuant to the terms of the Contract.
- 8. We certify that the details of this tender and the Invitation to Tender documentation have not been communicated to any other person or adjusted in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person or organisation.

- 9. We acknowledge that Ageing Better is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender it may receive, and reserve the right at its absolute discretion to accept or not to accept any tender submitted.
- 10. We certify that we have full power and authority to enter into the Contract and to carry out the Services, and that this is a bona fide tender.
- 11. We confirm that in submitting our tender, we have satisfied ourselves as to the accuracy and completeness of the information we require in order to do so (including that contained in the Invitation to Tender).

| Signed for on behalf of the Bidder: | Bidder by a duly authorised signatory of the |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Signed: | |
| Name: | |
| Position/Status: | |
| On behalf of: (name of Bidder) | |
| Date: | |

Appendix 5 – Anti-Collusion Certificate

To: Centre for Ageing Better

Re: Insert Contract Name (the "Contract")

The essence of the public procurement process is that Ageing Better shall receive bona fide competitive tenders from all Bidders. In recognition of this principle we hereby certify that this is a bona fide bid, intended to be competitive, and that we have not fixed or adjusted the bid by or under or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other Bidder (other than a member of our own consortium). We have not and insofar as we are aware neither have any of our employees, contractors, advisers, agents, officers or subcontractors:

- 1. Entered into any agreement with any other person with the aim of preventing bids being made or as to the fixing or adjusting of any bid or the conditions on which any bid is made; or
- 2. Informed any other person, other than the person calling for this bid, of the content of the bid, except where the disclosure was necessary for the preparation of the bid for insurance, for performance bonds and/or Contract guarantee bonds or for professional advice required for the preparation of the bid; or
- 3. Caused or induced any person to enter into such an agreement as is mentioned in paragraph (1) and (2) above; or
- 4. Committed any offence under the Bribery Act 2010; or
- 5. Offered or agreed to pay or give any sum of money, inducement or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any person for doing or having done or causing or having caused to be done in relation to any other bid or proposed bid any act or omission; or
- 6. Canvassed any other persons referred to in paragraph (1) above in connection with the Contract; or
- 7. Contacted any officer of Ageing Better about any aspect of the Contract except in a manner permitted by the Invitation to Tender.

We also undertake that we shall not procure the doing of any of the acts mentioned in paragraphs (1) to (7) above before the hour and date specified for the return of the

bid nor (in the event of the bid being accepted) shall we do so while the resulting Contract continues in force between us (or our successors in title) and Ageing Better.

In this certificate

The word "person" includes any person, body or association, corporate or incorporate and "agreement" includes any arrangement whether formal or informal and whether legally binding or not.

| Signed for on behalf of the l | Bidder by a duly authorised signatory of the E | Bidder: |
|-----------------------------------|--|---------|
| Signed: | | |
| Name: | | |
| Position/Status: | | |
| On behalf of: (name of Bidder) | | |
| Date: | | |

Appendix 6 – Non-Canvassing Certificate

To: Centre for Ageing Better

Re: Insert Contract Name (the "Contract")

Non-Canvassing Certificate

I/we hereby certify that I/we have not canvassed or solicited any officer or employee of Ageing Better in connection with the award of the Contract and that no person employed by me/us or acting on my/our behalf has done any such act.

I/we hereby further undertake that I/we will not in the future canvass or solicit any officer or employee of Ageing Better in connection with the award of the Contract and that no person employed by me/us or acting on my/our behalf will do any such act.

| Signed for on behalf of the | Bidder by a duly authorised signatory of the B | idder: |
|-----------------------------------|--|--------|
| Signed: | | |
| Name: | | |
| Position/Status: | | |
| On behalf of: (name of Bidder) | | |
| Date: | | |

Appendix 7 – Supply Chain of Conduct

Ageing Better is committed to carrying out procurement activities in an environmentally, socially, ethically and economically responsible manner and to entering into agreements and contacts with suppliers that share and adhere to its vision

To demonstrate this commitment, Bidders are asked to acknowledge their compliance with the principles of the Supply Chain Code of Conduct for this Contract, below, with respect to their organisation and their supply chain:

With respect to Social Compliance Tenderers shall:

(i) Not use forced, involuntary or underage labour

- Employees should be free to choose their employment and leave that employment without hold by financial deposit of personal items
- Forced, bonded or involuntary prison labour shall not be used
- Support the effective abolition of child labour
- Comply with the national minimum age for employment, or minimum age 15, whichever is the higher unless a lower minimum age is permitted under International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention 138
- Where any child is found to be engaged in performing child labour, to provide support
 for that child to enable them to complete, as a minimum, their compulsory education
 (even if they shall cease to be involved in child labour) or an equivalent education
 level, as provided for under the UNI Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural
 Rights. Such support by the Tenderer should recognise and not prove detrimental to
 the conditions of the child or those that their work supports

(ii) Provide suitable working conditions and terms

- At least statutory minimum wages (or if none, a realistic living wage) must be paid without discrimination to all employees and all non-statutory deductions must be with the consent of the employee.
- Working hours must be excessive (not over 48 hours per week, excluding overtime) and must allow for at least 1 day off for each 7 day period on average. Working beyond this should be non-regular and of employees own will
- A safe and hygienic working environment must be provided, including any catering or accommodation areas. Any hazardous working, as defined by ILO, should only be carried by persons age 18 years or over
- All equipment must be safe for use and processes must allow a safe working environment
- Policies and processes must be in place for recording and eliminating occurrence / reoccurrence of health and safety related incidents.

(iii) Treat employees fairly

- Allow employees the freedom of association to join (but not be forced to join), or be represented by, a trade union or similar organisation of their choice, and be free to leave organisations
- Not discriminate or unfairly treat any employee for any reason including education, social class/ caste, nationality, trade union membership or any of the 9 Protected Characteristics of the UK Equality Act 2010
- Provide a workplace free from discrimination, harassment or victimisation
- Treat all employees with respect and dignity, and not accept inequality as justifiable on a basis of culture
- Remunerate all employees equally at the same employment grade, regardless of any characteristics listed above, unless statutory conditions require otherwise.

With respect to Ethical Compliance & Economic Development Tenderers shall:

- As a minimum, comply with all laws and regulations of the countries they are working in, manufacturing in or trading with, as applicable
- Not be involved in any way with acts of corruption or bribery, or support acts of violence or terrorism or abuse of individual people or communities
- Not force unsustainable or unfair contract terms on their suppliers, or throughout their supply chain, nor allow unfair exploitation of a dominant market or customer position
- Support fair trade conditions for producers, where applicable
- As a minimum, comply with all financial regulations and taxations of the countries they are working in, manufacturing or trading with, as applicable
- Include community benefit delivery in the locality of where the contract is performed (including publishing and delivering levels of local training and employment opportunities)
- Appoint sub-contractors through an open and fair process, such as public advertising of such opportunities wherever possible
- Act at all times with respect and integrity, including open and transparent accounting
- Allow staff protection if reporting misconduct or raising concerns with respect to their own, or another organisation, and ensure all affected staff are treated in a fair and transparent manner

With respect to Environmental Compliance Bidders shall:

- As a minimum, comply with all local and national environmental laws, regulations and directives of the countries they are working in, manufacturing in or trading with, as applicable
- Actively avoid causing environmental damage and / or negative environmental impact through manufacture and supply of the goods or services and disposal of supply chain waste
- Have a business plan in place, and be acting on it, to minimise their environmental impact year on year and adopting or working towards internationally recognised environmental standard and/ or behaviours
- Encourage the development and use of environmentally friendly technologies
- Promote positive environmental impacts (such as reduced carbon emissions, better carbon management, waste management and water management, reduced pollution levels and technological improvements) through their activities wherever possible.

I confirm that I am authorised and have all requisite corporate authority to make this declaration on behalf of the entity referred to below

I hereby confirm that the entity referred to below adheres to this Supply Chain Code of Conduct and , if successful in this procurement exercise , shall ensure its supply chain adheres to the Code of Conduct also in order to enforce and promote sound social, ethical , environmental and economic practices

| Entity | (Enter text here) |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Name | (Enter text here) |
| Title | (Enter text here) |
| Position in Entity | (Enter text here) |

| Date | (Enter text here) |
|------|-------------------|
| | |