

## **Provisional Tender Timetable**

- Draft Specification for consultation - November 2009
- Specification and Tender Documentation - January 2010
- Advert/OJEU<sup>1</sup> Notice - January 2010
- Pre Qualification (PQQ) issued - January 2010
- PQQ Evaluation - Feb/March 2010
- Tender issued - March 2010
- Tender Deadline - Mid April 2010
- Tender Evaluation - April /May 2010
- Internal Approvals - May / June 2010
- Pre-contract Negotiations - June 2010
- Contract Award (following Alcatel<sup>2</sup>) period - July 2010
- Service Commencement - October 2010

***These dates are provisional and subject to change***

\* Definitions:

<sup>1</sup> OJEU - Official Journal of the European Union - In terms of the timeline it means that we publish an electronic contract notice in the journal in accordance with Public Contracts Regulations . This ensures visibility of the contract opportunity for suppliers.

<sup>2</sup>Alcatel - Is a mandatory standstill period (named after a legal case) in accordance with the EU Directives whereby the contracting authority shall allow a period of at least 10 days to elapse between the date of the despatch of notice of intention to award contract and the date which the contracting authority proposes to enter into the contract or framework agreement. During this period, economic operators (e.g. suppliers, providers) can request a debriefing. At the end of the 10 day period the contract may be concluded if there is no legal challenge.