

Prudence, Non-disclosure and Conflict of Interest

1. Purpose

Throughout all stages of the acquisition process, the Ministry of Defence and the Defence sector¹ shall act in accordance with good business practice and pursue the highest ethical standards.

Likewise, the Ministry of Defence and the Defence sector expect all suppliers to adhere to good business practices and pursue the highest ethical standards. All suppliers are expected to be transparent with regards to their connection to any project which, directly or indirectly, may affect their cooperation with the Defence sector. The name of any lobbyist acting on behalf of the supplier must be reported to the Defence sector. If a supplier fails to act with openness and strict adherence to good business practices and high ethical standards, this may undermine trust in the relationship between the supplier and the Defence sector, and potentially also the rating of the supplier's bid in the final decision process.

2. Prudence (Post Employment Restrictions)

Throughout the acquisition process the supplier/contractor shall ensure that former Ministry of Defence or Defence sector personnel do not encounter situations that place the (former Ministry of Defence or Defence sector) personnel at risk of violating non-disclosure agreements (with their former employer) or situations where conflicts of interest can arise.

For a period of two years after their separation from the government service, all former Ministry of Defence or Defence sector personnel employed by a supplier are restricted from participating in the supplier's contact with the Defence sector. The Ministry of Defence may grant a waiver from this rule in cases where these restrictions are deemed unreasonable.

The supplier/contractor is requested to inform the Defence sector with regards to whether such conflicts may arise. The Ministry of Defence has the prerogative to request changes regarding which supplier/contractor personnel may interact with the employer.

¹ The Defence sector denotes the Ministry of Defence and all its subordinate organisations (the Armed Forces, the Norwegian Defence Logistics Organisation, the Norwegian National Security Authority, the Norwegian Defence Research Institute, the Norwegian Intelligence Service and the Norwegian Defence Estates Agency).