auDA 2023 RFT Q&A - 23 May 2023

Tender Section #	Content from the RFT	Question	auDA response
n/a	generic	When will the instructions for submission to the system be provided? How can we test our submission in advance to ensure we do not run into last minute issues with uploads etc?	The SharePoint folder for submitting your tender is the same Sharepoint folder auDA has used to provide you with access to the Registry Services Agreement. You can test uploading a test file to the same SharePoint folder to confirm you can submit.
n/a	generic	We understand that Tenderers may submit questions to the Contact Officer up until 9 June 2023 at 23:59:59 UTC (10 June 2023 at 09:59:59 AEST). When should we expect the responses back from auDA?	auDA will endeavour to respond to questions within one week of receiving them.
RSD 17.8 (b)	The Key Signing Key (KSK) and Zone Signing Key (ZSK) minimum key size must be RSA 2048-bit keys.	Are the bit length requirements only as they pertain to RSA/SHA-256? From RFC 6605: "Current estimates are that ECDSA with curve P-256 has an approximate equivalent strength to RSA with 3072-bit keys. [...] ECDSA keys are much shorter than RSA keys; at this size, the difference is 256 versus 3072 bits."	Yes, this bit length is specific to the RSA algorithm. auDA will accept proposals that utilise alternative algorithms (such as ECDSA) and will evaluate them based off the suitable bit length for such alternatives.
RSD 17.14 (b)	The KSR and SKR must be transmitted out of band and over encrypted channels.	Will it suffice for the KSR and the SKR to be encrypted within transmission files, without encryption of the channel itself?	Yes, as long as the files containing the KSR and SKR data are encrypted. As an example, email could be used to transmit the communication, but the files containing the KSR and SKR data must be encrypted. Another example would be to use a file share repository such as SharePoint or Google Drive, but again the files themselves would need to be encrypted both in transit and at rest.
RSD 18.2	The Registry Operator must provide auDA logging data of all queries and responses that their authoritative DNS service processes.	For clarity, will just the response fields mentioned in 18.7 suffice? Specifically, the response itself will not be required? We agree that responses (such as DNSKEYs) are quite large, and do not provide additional value to the logging data.	Yes. Response data is specifically noted in clause 18.7(h) and (i), being the response code and size of response. auDA mainly monitor and review the data for *NoError, NXDomain, ServFail,* and *Refused.* However we seek to be able to monitor for the DNS RCODEs as defined in https://www.iana.org/assignments/dns-parameters/dns-parameters.xhtml#dns-parameters-6. We do not require data like DNSKEYS.
RSD 19.1 (f) and (m)	(f) [...] auDA acknowledges the network limitations in some regions of Australia and will work with the Registry Operator to address concerns over network performance in those regions. (m) Each location must have access to a minimum of 100Mbps of bandwidth.	Given the bandwidth limitations auDA recognizes in RSD 19.1 (f), if any of the locations listed under RSD 19.1 (f) otherwise meet auDA's criteria for inclusion as a name server, will it be permissible to have a lower bandwidth than 100Mbps (as required under RSD 19.1 (m)) if mutally agreed upon?	It would need to be mutually agreed upon, based on the the viability of the site in the larger system. Noting 100Mbps would meet current load but would be unlikely to maintain service in even a small attack event.
RSD 30.11 (a)	auDA will provide a Log Ingestion Specification as an annexure to the RSD. The Log Ingestion Specification will define the format and elements of log data auDA requires the Registry Operator to provide.	We are unable to locate the annexure that provides Log Ingestion Specification, can you please point to the section or provide it separately.	This will be provided to the shortlisted Tenderers.
RFT Sched 4.2	Tenderers must respond to this RFT by completing the templates listed below. Please note that some templates will require the Tenderer to upload additional supporting material.	Could the supporting material we need to include with our response be separate attachments or should they be integrated into the Annexes? Our preference is to include them as separate attachments, while also referencing the attachments in the relevant Annex.	Separate attachments for additional material is acceptable. They must be clearly labelled and referenced in the relevant section of the Annexures.
RSD 21.7	The Registry Operator must provide auDA with a dedicated user account for use during the BCPE build and test processes.	Can you clarify what BCPE refers to? Is it the Business Continuity Planning Environment?	Yes, BCPE refers to the Business Continuity Planning Environment. auDA will use this environment to test all the registry components provided by the Registry Operator, as part of regular DR and Business Continuity assurance.