As we are heading for the festive season, the National Treasury is concerned about the potential escalation of fraudulent RFQ and tenders. Defrauded suppliers have been coming to National Treasury to submit invoices for payment, only to realise that they were scammed.

Suppliers believe that the Central Supplier Database (CSD) is the source of their challenges, which is not the case. The CSD is operated in line with the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 that prescribes that the collected information can only be used for the government business only unless the custodian of the information has indicated differently.
WHAT SUPPLIERS NEED TO KNOW AND MAKE AN EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND?

1. What services or goods have you registered for on the CSD?
2. Are you familiar with the commodities you are requested to quote on?
3. Are you familiar with the mandate and services required by the department requesting you to quote? E.g. National Treasury does not require medicine.
4. Is the email domain correct where you need to send the quote?
5. Are you familiar with how government procures their services?

HOW DO YOU VERIFY THE RFQ WHEN YOU RECEIVE IT?

1. Access the website of the institution directly to verify the contact details (telephone numbers)
2. Ask to speak to the Supply Chain Management office to verify the authenticity of the RFQ (do not call National Treasury for an RFQ issued under the Department of Education).
3. Quotations are procurement below R500 000. Anything requested above R500 000 should be advertised for a period of 21 days for all suppliers to compete.
4. If the amount of an RFQ is excessive and concerning, (please verify as per point 1 and 2).
5. Government does not prescribe the brand of commodities that should be supplied or attach pictures of the equipment required.
6. Government does not publish the budget made available for RFQ or Competitive Tenders.

EXAMPLE OF A FAKE TENDER DOCUMENT

RT64-2019 SUPPLY AND DELIVER MR-200 DENTAL AUTOCLAVE

a. An RT or Transversal Contract is a contract negotiated through the National Treasury together with departments in need of the said commodities.
c. The RT64-2019 that has making rounds is a contract for clothing valid from 1 July 2019 to 31 March 2022.