

NMRNH Play Area Tender

Frequently Asked Questions

Background/Introduction

This document provides a summary of questions received by NMRN during the tender period. The last date for questions will be the 16th of November 2018 and the final version of this document will be made available on the 23rd November 2018. Any questions posed which are already answered in the tender document are not addressed here.

Questions

1. **Is the new play area expected to be made from the same material as existing i.e. natural wood finish?** *Not necessarily. We would like the finished design to be sensitive to its surroundings but we accept that this could be achieved in a number of ways.*
2. **Can/should the protective ground covering be themed?** *This isn't an essential requirement but if the proposed theme will add value and assist in meeting the overall brief, the museum would welcome proposals which include this option.*
3. **Does the protective ground surface have to be 'wet pour'?** *Not necessarily but we would expect a robust alternative which requires minimal maintenance.*
 - a. **Would sand be considered as an alternative?** *Sand would not be a preferred solution due to the often windy conditions on the site and the risk of it making its way on to HMS Trincomalee.*
4. **Does the play area need to be fenced in?** *No particular requirement for this as the existing area isn't fenced in at present. If the fencing is integral to the design e.g. provides other features or play opportunities or adds value, the museum would welcome proposals which include this option. This would certainly be true if it aids in meeting the requirement to be more accessible than the current provision e.g. some groups with special educational needs may find it beneficial to have a contained area to play in. The museum would not want the overall design to be compromised to allow for fencing however as long as accessibility is being address in other ways.*
5. **Are there any height restrictions?** *We are currently consulting the local council planning department regarding any conditions which must be satisfied. At present we do not anticipate any particular height restrictions being imposed but the final design may require to be approved by the local planning department and so tenderers should be mindful of the potential for design adjustments to be requested prior to manufacture.*
6. **Can the budgets for Lots 1 and 2 be combined?** *Yes, this is possible.*
7. **Are the budgets presented excluding vat?** *Yes.*
8. **What is the target age range?** *We would like the play areas to appeal to as wide an audience as possible. This does not necessarily mean that ALL features need to appeal to the whole age group.*
9. **Can the design include water features?** *Yes. We welcome any proposals which will assist in making the play area an exciting and unique place to play but would remind tenderers to include details of any required maintenance.*

- 10. Must the play area be one structure/unit, as it is at present?** *No.*
- 11. Will NMRN make arrangements for site set up during construction? E.g Heras fencing to prevent public access etc.** *No, we expect the appointed contractor to manage the construction from beginning to end and take responsibility for the site set up and associated health and safety.*
- 12. Can the new play area take up a larger footprint than at present?** *Yes. Access must be maintained through the site for vehicle access via the adjacent gates however.*
- 13. Has the wood from the existing playship to be disposed of or is it to be stored on site for re-use/uplift?** *The tender responses should allow for the cost of removal and disposal although the museum will investigate the possibility of it being re-used in some way. It would be helpful therefore if this cost is itemised in quotes provided.*
- 14. Will the construction team be provided with welfare facilities on site or are we required to provide this?** *The construction team will be permitted to use on site toilet facilities and will be provided with access to tea/coffee making facilities.*
- 15. The tender mentions ‘child friendly outdoor interpretation which introduces the story of HMS Trincomalee’. Is it sufficient to highlight where we could include this and in what format or does the museum expect us to suggest specific content or text?** *If part of the design proposal is formed of text panels or illustrations, the museum accepts that further discussion will be required following appointment of the contractor to design and agree the content of these to ensure they are relevant to the story being told on the ship. We have provided a copy of our new education trail on our website however if tenderers would like to illustrate how they would link to this story.*

Roslyn Adamson

General Manager

16th November 2018