

MorrIDGE Hill Country Green Finance Consultant Tender

Response to queries:-

	Query	Clarification provided
1	Would it be possible to have an extension until 4th July please?	Yes. The submission deadline has been deferred to 4/7/24 at 17:00. Interviews will be 11/7/24. Applicants will be notified of interview by 8/7/24
2	Would you consider a derogation of the indemnity clause for a limited liability instead if that allowed us to tender for the work?	No. See No10
3	Would you consider tenders that delivered the work over a shorter period?	Yes. However, any change of timescale must be agreed in advance to ensure that it is compatible with other elements of the Landscape Recovery pilot project.
4	Please can you confirm the budget available. We note up £130,750 on the ITT, but £104,600 on Contracts Finder	£130,750 budget available. The figure on Contracts Finder is the lower value of contract acceptable to the Authority.
5	Is this inclusive or exclusive of VAT	All sums payable are exclusive of VAT
6	Is it lump sum?	No. However, it is expected that interim payments on completion of certain tasks will be agreed.
7	Regarding the high-resolution baseline habitat map produced by the PDNPA, what format is this in, how up to date is it, is it in UK Habs classification and include condition data	The ADAPT-ECO (Environmental Conservation and Opportunity Assessment through Automated Deep learning for Aerial Photography Toolkit) initiative is a ground-breaking project situated in the Peak District National Park aimed at tackling the challenge of precise monitoring and strategic planning for nature at a landscape scale. The project aims to generate highly detailed (12.5cm resolution) habitat maps through existing aerial survey data across the project area by utilising this granular data. It will assess the natural capital baseline to help pinpoint opportunities for habitat creation or restoration. It will not include a condition assessment. Existing condition data will be provided where available.
8	Do you have the habitat restoration/creation plans, as per the Vision and referred to in the ITT, mapped and is this available to us in a GIS data layer?	No. The habitat restoration/creation plans are to be developed at the start of the project using existing data and experienced project staff.
9	We note that liability is uncapped. Is this negotiable and can we bid on the basis of our own Standard T&Cs?	Liability can be limited to the extent of insurance as set out in No10 below. T&Cs have been provided as part of the Invitation to Tender. Any proposed derogation from these should be set out in the tender submission.
10	Clause 8 a. notes that the consultant shall 'maintain in force.... professional negligence insurance of at least	This may be reduced to £2m but if this is the case then it must be stated in the tender response submitted.

	£5,000,000'; Would cover up to £2,000,000 be sufficient for this project?	Alternatively, any additional cost of increasing the cover to £5m for this specific project only may be included as an itemised preliminary cost and added to the Price (in which event the liability cap will be increased accordingly to £5m).		
11	Clause 9 a. notes that the Intellectual Property (IP) rights of all work produced would vest solely with the PDNPA, however is it acceptable for the successful consultant to retain ownership and grant the PDNPA the license to use the IP?	The current IP rights are standard for all PDNPA consultant contracts. Sharing the learnings across Landscape Recovery Pilots projects, other partners and Defra is intended so the client being granted a conditional licence to use the resulting IP is not acceptable. It may be possible for PDNPA retain the IP and a licence is granted to the consultant to use the IP on the terms that would need to be agreed. If this option is required then it must be stated in the tender submission.		
12	Is it possible to cap the consultant's liability (in clause 7) from unlimited to 2x the fee instead?	Liability can be limited to the extent of insurance as set out above at No10.		
13	The type of information included in the datasets referenced, and building on this, whether any specialist ecological expertise is expected to be needed to establish habitat baselines as is outlined in the brief?	Existing ecological data held by the PDNPA and partners is being collated and will be provided to the successful consultants. Some ground- truthing and additional survey will be carried out by project staff in the initial months of the project. This will inform the baseline of habitats produced by AI which will be shared with the successful consultants. It is expected that some specialist ecological expertise will need to be provided to understand the baseline data and model the future restoration/creation including the potential economic benefits.		
14	Whether the project budget is expected to include professional legal advice? From our understanding, the expectations for this assignment extend only to liaising on landowner contracts and producing Heads of Terms rather than legally executing agreements, and so professional legal advice would not be required, but we wanted to check this aligns with the PDNPA's thinking.	Correct. The consultant is expected to produce heads of terms and not final legal agreements. However, this may include a number of different approaches with a recommendation of the preferred model. Some level of legal advice or support may be required in developing the heads of terms model. Details should be provided with the tender submission.		
15	Please confirm that the available budget is inclusive of VAT	Please see 4 and 5 above		
16	For Quality Criteria 7, does 'additionality' refer to anything additional to the brief offered by the bid applicant, or is it specifically in relation to additionality in ecosystem services	To both.		
17	In the Consultant Brief, the list of numbered work packages in Table 1 does not quite match up with the outputs listed in Table 2. Can you please confirm our assumption below? <table border="1" data-bbox="421 1426 987 1490"> <tr> <td>Work package (Table 1)</td> <td>Output (Table 2)</td> </tr> </table>	Work package (Table 1)	Output (Table 2)	Yes, the headings in table one are reflective of those in table two as outlined in the table as has been assumed.
Work package (Table 1)	Output (Table 2)			

		1. Quantify ecosystem services	Quantify ecosystem services	
		2. Research the viability of local markets for ecosystem services	Evaluate the feasibility of natural capital investment	
		3. Conduct holistic financial modelling of the restoration plans	Produce an economic model	
		4. Pitch any resulting proposal to interested investors and buyer	Site visits and workshops	
		5. Landowner and land manager engagement and aggregation	Legal support and negotiation with MHC landowners	
		6. Build a business model and business case for implementation	Write, consult and approve strategic investment business case for funding implementation	
		7. Implementation governance & finance (negotiations and approvals)	Implementation governance & finance	
18	What is the purpose of the site visits? For which work package do you see them feeding into, and how many do you require?			To engage with land owners, occupiers and potential financiers
19	Would the Authority consider requests for authorised modifications of 1. a. i. of Appendix 5 (Terms and conditions) included in a Tender response to address the requirement of professional indemnity for individual claims rather than in the aggregate?			The professional negligence insurance may be reduced to £2m but if this is the case then it must be stated in the tender details submitted. Alternatively, any additional cost of increasing the cover to £5m for this specific project only may be included as an itemised preliminary cost and added to the Price. Liability can be limited to the extent of the insurance. See No.10 above.
20	Are the quality criteria set out at para 12.2 of the Tender Submission requirements and Conditions (especially quality criteria 3, 4 and 5) going to be judged from the tender submission as a whole, as they seem heavily linked to only Work Packages 1 and 2?			Tender submission as a whole.
21	Are you expecting the involvement of lawyers at this stage, as some aspects of work packages 5 and 7 imply contractual arrangements may be required?			As No14 above.

22	Do landowners already have an idea of what they would like to be paid for undertaking landscape recovery work, or are you expecting the contractor to determine this through consulting with them?	We would require the consultant to establish this through their consultation and through their work with the property manager
23	What are the likely timescales for developing specific landscape enhancement proposals?	The habitat restoration/creation plans are to be developed at the start of the project using existing data and experienced project staff.
24	Will management plans be produced for the areas of peatland restoration, woodland planting, hay meadows etc. prior to or in tandem with this work? We note that there is a good level of spatial data as a baseline. Will you be expecting the successful contractor to produce spatial data illustrating the proposed changes? Will data be available to underpin this or is that expected as part of this contract?	Please see No13 above.
25	Will the following data be available, or are any of the following expected as part of this contract? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A detailed habitat baseline (and soil nutrient baseline where applicable) • the capital works needed to establish the habitat changes (peatland restoration, tree planting, equipment needed etc.) and the proposed costs • detail of the proposed management of habitats following any initial capital works and the management cost • expected outcomes and • monitoring and evaluation of outcomes and frequency and reporting of this monitoring. 	Bullet 1 – yes available as N013 above Bullet 2 – expected as part of the contract Bullet 3 – as No8 above Bullet 4 – expected as part of the contract Bullet 5 – expected as part of the contract
26	If the above data is being collected separately to this contract, is there capacity from the team carrying out that work to liaise with the successful contractor for this contract to establish the detail of the saleable ecosystem services?	There will be liaison available via the MHC Project Manager
27	Are options for private investors limited to local investors only or would national or international investors be considered? Would the contractor be responsible for vetting the credentials of any potential investor?	The is no geographic limit placed upon proposed private investors. Yes, however in addition the PDNPA will also undertake their own due diligence.