# Section 1 Specification

**Contract Ref: NLS161103**

**Title: Structural Supports for Exhaust Ducting at NLS Starcross Laboratory**

1. **Background**

The Environment Agency site at Starcross Devon, houses a modern well equipped analytical laboratory specialising in the chemical and microbiological analysis of environmental samples.

The laboratory includes dedicated extraction systems to allow all analysis to be performed safely protecting the health and wellbeing our scientists.

A recent structural survey has identified a safety requirement to replace some of the existing steel frameworks which are used to support local exhaust ventilation ductwork.

A typical support framework consists of a frame made from 150mm by 100mm Rectangular Hollow Section steel (RHS) and supported on four splayed legs bearing on support points on the main building structure. Each framework generally supports two vertical glass fibre ducts.

1. Scope of Works

Five of the laboratory’s existing duct support frameworks have been identified as requiring replacement. The Environment Agency is seeking a competent supplier to remove the existing frames and to fabricate and provide suitable replacements.

To minimise disruption to our operations the works will be completed in two phases with 4 frames being replaced before March 2017 and the remaining frame being completed during the summer of 2017. The contract will be awarded to a single supplier who will carry out both phases.

The supplier will be expected to provide and deploy any scaffolding and lifting equipment required to carry out the described works.

The supplier must provide structural drawings of the frameworks along with details of the material to be used prior to their fabrication.

1. Specification of Works

The works specified are to be performed at the Environment Agency, NLS Starcross Laboratory, Staplake Mount, Starcross, Devon, EX6 8FD

The existing frameworks must be safely removed and the resultant waste materials disposed of appropriately with due regard to waste disposal legislation.

Prior to removal of the existing frameworks, the ducts supported by the framework must disconnected and removed from operation until the new framework is in place. Systems must be put into place to ensure that the ductwork is safely supported during these operations.

The replacement framework should be identical in dimension and structure to the existing framework and must be designed and fabricated using appropriate materials, in a manner that resists the ingress of water and provides good resistance to corrosion in this coastal location.

Where a framework coating is used it should be coloured to match the existing frameworks, so far as possible.

The replacement frameworks should use the support points fitted to the main building structure.

To minimise disruption the supplier will be expected to carry out removal and replacement of the frameworks during weekends (Saturday and Sunday) although it is acceptable for any scaffolding and lifting equipment can be fitted during the working week (Monday to Friday).

Wherever possible the removal and replacement of each framework should be completed within a single weekend.

1. Health and Safety

The successful suppler must provide a full and comprehensive method statement and risk assessment for all aspects of the works, including any works carried out by any sub-contractor used by the supplier. These must be provided prior to the works commencement.

Compliance with CDM regulation and the responsibilities of Principal Contractor must be included in your proposal.

The successful supplier will be accredited to BS EN ISO 9001 2008 No A 12161 & BS EN 1090-1+A1

1. Phasing of Works

Phase 1 – four of the five supports are to be fabricated and installed before the end of February 2017. Details of which supports will be provided a sites visit.

Phase 2 – the final support is to be fabricated and installed between April 2017 and December 2017 at a date to be agreed upon completion of the Phase 1 works.