



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Building 14
MOD Stafford
Beaconside
Stafford
ST18 0AQ

T: 03459 335577
helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.uk/defra

British Trust for Ornithology
The Nunnery
Thetford
Norfolk
IP24 2PU

Your ref: ITT_6200
Our ref: Proj_27533
Date: 25/10/2019

Dear Sirs

Award of contract for the supply of Practical application: Counterfactuals in agri-environment monitoring/evaluation

Following your tender for the supply of a practical application: Counterfactuals in agri-environment monitoring/evaluation to Natural England, we are pleased to award this contract to you.

This letter (Award Letter) and its Annexes set out the terms of the contract between Natural England as the Customer and British Trust for Ornithology as the Contractor for the provision of the Services. Unless the context otherwise requires, capitalised expressions used in this Award Letter have the same meanings as in the terms and conditions of contract set out in Annex 1 to this Award Letter (the “**Conditions**”). In the event of any conflict between this Award Letter and the Conditions, this Award Letter shall prevail. Please do not attach any Contractor terms and conditions to this Award Letter as they will not be accepted by the Customer and may delay the conclusion of the Agreement.

For the purposes of the Agreement, the Customer and the Contractor agree as follows:

- 1) The Services shall be performed at British Trust for Ornithology’s premises, The Nunnery, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 2PU.
- 2) The charges for the Services shall be as set out in Annex 2.
- 3) The specification of the Services to be supplied is as set out in Annex 3 (Specification) and Annex 4 (Notes of Inception Meeting 25 October 2019).
- 4) The Term shall commence on 21 October 2019 and the Expiry Date shall be 31 March 2020.

5) The address for notices of the Parties are:

Customer

Natural England
Electra Way
Crewe Business Park
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

Attention: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

Contractor

British Trust for Ornithology
The Nunnery
Thetford
Norfolk
IP24 2PU

Attention: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]

6) The following persons are Key Personnel for the purposes of the Agreement:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

7) The Customer may require the Contractor to ensure that any person employed in the provision of the Services has undertaken a Disclosure and Barring Service check. The Contractor shall ensure that no person who discloses that he/she has a conviction that is relevant to the nature of the Services, relevant to the work of the Customer, or is of a type otherwise advised by the Customer (each such conviction a **"Relevant Conviction"**), or is found by the Contractor to have a Relevant Conviction (whether as a result of a police check, a Disclosure and Barring Service check or otherwise) is employed or engaged in the provision of any part of the Services.

Payment

All invoices should be sent, quoting a valid purchase order number (PO Number), to: Accounts-Payable.neg@sscl.gov.uk or Shared Services Connected Limited, PO Box 790, Phoenix House, Celtic Springs Business Park, Newport, Gwent, NP10 8FZ. Within 10 Working Days of receipt of your acceptance of this letter via Bravo, we will send you a unique PO Number. You must be in receipt of a valid PO Number before submitting an invoice.

To avoid delay in payment it is important that the invoice is compliant and that it includes a valid PO Number, PO Number item number (if applicable) and the details (name and telephone number) of your Customer contact (i.e. Contract Manager). Non-compliant invoices will be sent back to you, which may lead to a delay in payment. If you have a

query regarding an outstanding payment please contact our Accounts Payable section either by email to Accounts-Payable.neg@sscl.gov.uk or by telephone 0845 603 7262 between 09:00-17:00 Monday to Friday.

Liaison

For general liaison your contact will continue to be [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] We thank you for your co-operation to date, and look forward to forging a successful working relationship resulting in a smooth and successful supply of the Goods. Acceptance of the award of this contract will be made by electronic signature carried out in accordance with the 1999 EU Directive 99/93 (Community framework for electronic signatures) and the UK Electronic Communications Act 2000. Acceptance of the offer comprised in this Agreement must be made within 7 days from the date of this Award Letter and the Agreement is formed on the date on which the Contractor communicates acceptance on the Customer's electronic contract management system ("Bravo"). No other form of acknowledgement will be accepted. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications relating to this contract.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Category Manager
Technical Services

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

Short Form Contract

Contract for Practical application: Counterfactuals in agri- environment monitoring/evaluation

Contract Reference ecm_56609

October 2019

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1. Interpretation

1.1 In these terms and conditions:

Term	Description
“Agreement”	means the contract between (i) the Customer acting as part of the Crown and (ii) the Contractor constituted by the Contractor’s acceptance of the Award Letter via Bravo;
“Award Letter”	means the letter from the Customer to the Contractor printed above these terms and conditions;
“Bravo”	means the Customer’s electronic contract management system
“Central Government Body”	<p>means a body listed in one of the following sub-categories of the Central Government classification of the Public Sector Classification Guide, as published and amended from time to time by the Office for National Statistics:</p> <p>Government Department;</p> <p>Non-Departmental Public Body or Assembly Sponsored Public Body (advisory, executive, or tribunal);</p> <p>Non-Ministerial Department; or</p> <p>Executive Agency;</p>
“Charges”	means the charges for the Services as specified in the Award Letter;
“Confidential Information”	means all information, whether written or oral (however recorded), provided by the disclosing Party to the receiving Party and which (i) is known by the receiving Party to be confidential; (ii) is marked as or stated to be confidential; or (iii) ought reasonably to be considered by the receiving Party to be confidential;
“Contractor”	means the person named as Contractor in the Award Letter;
“Controller”	has the meaning given in the GDPR;

“Customer”	means the person identified in the letterhead of the Award Letter;
“Data Loss Event”	means any event that results, or may result, in unauthorised access to Personal Data held by the Contractor under this Agreement, and/or actual or potential loss and/or destruction of Personal Data in breach of this Agreement, including any Personal Data Breach;
“Data Protection Impact Assessment”	means an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data;
“Data Protection Legislation”	means (i) the GDPR, the LED and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time (ii) the DPA 2018 to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy; and (iii) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy;
“Data Protection Officer”	has the meaning given in the GDPR;
“Data Subject”	has the meaning given in the GDPR;
“Data Subject Request”	means a request made by, or on behalf of, a Data Subject in accordance with rights granted pursuant to the Data Protection Legislation to access their Personal Data;
“DPA 2018”	means the Data Protection Act 2018;
“Expiry Date”	means the date for expiry of the Agreement as set out in the Award Letter;
“FOIA”	means the Freedom of Information Act 2000;
“GDPR”	means the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679);
“Information”	has the meaning given under section 84 of the FOIA;
“Key Personnel”	means any persons specified as such in the Award Letter or otherwise notified as such by the Customer to the Contractor in writing;

“Law”	means any law, statute, subordinate legislation within the meaning of section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, enforceable right within the meaning of section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements of any regulatory body with which the relevant Party is bound to comply;
“LED”	means Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680);
“Party”	the Contractor or the Customer (as appropriate) and “Parties” shall mean both of them;
“Personal Data”	has the meaning given in the GDPR;
“Personal Data Breach”	has the meaning given in the GDPR;
“Processor”	has the meaning given in the GDPR;
“Protective Measures”	means appropriate technical and organisational measures which may include: pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of the such measures adopted by it;
“Purchase Order Number”	means the Customer’s unique number relating to the order for Goods to be supplied by the Contractor to the Customer in accordance with the terms of the Agreement;
“Request for Information”	has the meaning set out in the FOIA or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 as relevant (where the meaning set out for the term “request” shall apply);
“Services”	means the services to be supplied by the Contractor to the Customer under the Agreement;
“Specification”	means the specification for the Services (including as to quantity, description and quality) as specified in the Award Letter;

“Staff”	means all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Contractor and/or of any sub-contractor of the Contractor engaged in the performance of the Contractor’s obligations under the Agreement;
“Staff Vetting Procedures”	means vetting procedures that accord with good industry practice or, where applicable, the Customer’s procedures for the vetting of personnel as provided to the Contractor from time to time;
“Sub-processor”	means any third party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of the Contractor related to this Agreement;
“Term”	means the period from the start date of the Agreement set out in the Award Letter to the Expiry Date as such period may be extended in accordance with Clause 4.2 or terminated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement;
“VAT”	means value added tax in accordance with the provisions of the Value Added Tax Act 1994; and
“Working Day”	means a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which banks are open for business in the City of London.

1.2 In these terms and conditions, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 1.2.1 references to numbered clauses are references to the relevant clause in these terms and conditions;
- 1.2.2 any obligation on any Party not to do or omit to do anything shall include an obligation not to allow that thing to be done or omitted to be done;
- 1.2.3 the headings to the clauses of these terms and conditions are for information only and do not affect the interpretation of the Agreement;
- 1.2.4 any reference to an enactment includes reference to that enactment as amended or replaced from time to time and to any subordinate legislation or byelaw made under that enactment; and
- 1.2.5 the word ‘including’ shall be understood as meaning ‘including without limitation’.

2. Basis of Agreement

- 2.1 The Award Letter constitutes an offer by the Customer to purchase the Services subject to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement.
- 2.2 The offer comprised in the Award Letter shall be deemed to be accepted by the Contractor on receipt by the Customer of the Contractor's notification of acceptance via Bravo within [7] days of the date of the Award Letter.

3. Supply of Services

- 3.1 In consideration of the Customer's agreement to pay the Charges, the Contractor shall supply the Services to the Customer for the Term subject to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement.
- 3.2 In supplying the Services, the Contractor shall:
 - 3.2.1 co-operate with the Customer in all matters relating to the Services and comply with all the Customer's instructions;
 - 3.2.2 perform the Services with all reasonable care, skill and diligence in accordance with good industry practice in the Contractor's industry, profession or trade;
 - 3.2.3 use Staff who are suitably skilled and experienced to perform tasks assigned to them, and in sufficient number to ensure that the Contractor's obligations are fulfilled in accordance with the Agreement;
 - 3.2.4 ensure that the Services shall conform with all descriptions and specifications set out in the Specification;
 - 3.2.5 comply with all applicable laws; and
 - 3.2.6 provide all equipment, tools and vehicles and other items as are required to provide the Services.
- 3.3 The Customer may by written notice to the Contractor at any time request a variation to the scope of the Services. In the event that the Contractor agrees to any variation to the scope of the Services, the Charges shall be subject to fair and reasonable adjustment to be agreed in writing between the Customer and the Contractor.

4. Term

- 4.1 The Agreement shall take effect on the date specified in Award Letter and shall expire on the Expiry Date, unless it is otherwise extended in accordance with

clause 4.2 or terminated in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Agreement.

- 4.2 The Customer may extend the Agreement for a period of up to 6 months by giving not less than 10 Working Days' notice in writing to the Contractor prior to the Expiry Date. The terms and conditions of the Agreement shall apply throughout any such extended period.

5. Charges, Payment and Recovery of Sums Due

- 5.1 The Charges for the Services shall be as set out in the Award Letter and shall be the full and exclusive remuneration of the Contractor in respect of the supply of the Services. Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Customer, the Charges shall include every cost and expense of the Contractor directly or indirectly incurred in connection with the performance of the Services.
- 5.2 All amounts stated are exclusive of VAT which shall be charged at the prevailing rate. The Customer shall, following the receipt of a valid VAT invoice, pay to the Contractor a sum equal to the VAT chargeable in respect of the Services.
- 5.3 The Contractor shall invoice the Customer as specified in the Agreement. Each invoice shall include such supporting information required by the Customer to verify the accuracy of the invoice, including the relevant Purchase Order Number and a breakdown of the Services supplied in the invoice period.
- 5.4 In consideration of the supply of the Services by the Contractor, the Customer shall pay the Contractor the invoiced amounts no later than 30 days after verifying that the invoice is valid and undisputed and includes a valid Purchase Order Number. The Customer may, without prejudice to any other rights and remedies under the Agreement, withhold or reduce payments in the event of unsatisfactory performance.
- 5.5 If there is a dispute between the Parties as to the amount invoiced, the Customer shall pay the undisputed amount. The Contractor shall not suspend the supply of the Services unless the Contractor is entitled to terminate the Agreement for a failure to pay undisputed sums in accordance with clause 16.4. Any disputed amounts shall be resolved through the dispute resolution procedure detailed in clause 19.
- 5.6 If a payment of an undisputed amount is not made by the Customer by the due date, then the Customer shall pay the Contractor interest at the interest rate specified in the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.

- 5.7 Where the Contractor enters into a sub-contract, the Contractor shall include in that sub-contract:
- 5.7.1 provisions having the same effects as clauses 5.3 to 5.6 of this Agreement; and
 - 5.7.2 a provision requiring the counterparty to that sub-contract to include in any sub-contract which it awards provisions having the same effect as 5.3 to 5.7 of this Agreement.
- 5.8 In this clause 5.8, “sub-contract” means a contract between two or more Contractors, at any stage of remoteness from the Authority in a subcontracting chain, made wholly or substantially for the purpose of performing (or contributing to the performance of) the whole or any part of this Agreement.
- 5.9 If any sum of money is recoverable from or payable by the Contractor under the Agreement (including any sum which the Contractor is liable to pay to the Customer in respect of any breach of the Agreement), that sum may be deducted unilaterally by the Customer from any sum then due, or which may come due, to the Contractor under the Agreement or under any other agreement or contract with the Customer. The Contractor shall not be entitled to assert any credit, set-off or counterclaim against the Customer in order to justify withholding payment of any such amount in whole or in part.

6. Premises and equipment

- 6.1 If necessary, the Customer shall provide the Contractor with reasonable access at reasonable times to its premises for the purpose of supplying the Services. All equipment, tools and vehicles brought onto the Customer’s premises by the Contractor or the Staff shall be at the Contractor’s risk.
- 6.2 If the Contractor supplies all or any of the Services at or from the Customer’s premises, on completion of the Services or termination or expiry of the Agreement (whichever is the earlier) the Contractor shall vacate the Customer’s premises, remove the Contractor’s plant, equipment and unused materials and all rubbish arising out of the provision of the Services and leave the Customer’s premises in a clean, safe and tidy condition. The Contractor shall be solely responsible for making good any damage to the Customer’s premises or any objects contained on the Customer’s premises which is caused by the Contractor or any Staff, other than fair wear and tear.
- 6.3 If the Contractor supplies all or any of the Services at or from its premises or the premises of a third party, the Customer may, during normal business hours and on reasonable notice, inspect and examine the manner in which the relevant Services are supplied at or from the relevant premises.

- 6.4 The Customer shall be responsible for maintaining the security of its premises in accordance with its standard security requirements. While on the Customer's premises the Contractor shall, and shall procure that all Staff shall, comply with all the Customer's security requirements.
- 6.5 Where all or any of the Services are supplied from the Contractor's premises, the Contractor shall, at its own cost, comply with all security requirements specified by the Customer in writing.
- 6.6 Without prejudice to clause 3.2.6, any equipment provided by the Customer for the purposes of the Agreement shall remain the property of the Customer and shall be used by the Contractor and the Staff only for the purpose of carrying out the Agreement. Such equipment shall be returned promptly to the Customer on expiry or termination of the Agreement.
- 6.7 The Contractor shall reimburse the Customer for any loss or damage to the equipment (other than deterioration resulting from normal and proper use) caused by the Contractor or any Staff. Equipment supplied by the Customer shall be deemed to be in a good condition when received by the Contractor or relevant Staff unless the Customer is notified otherwise in writing within 5 Working Days.

7. Staff and Key Personnel

- 7.1 If the Customer reasonably believes that any of the Staff are unsuitable to undertake work in respect of the Agreement, it may, by giving written notice to the Contractor:
- 7.1.1 refuse admission to the relevant person(s) to the Customer's premises;
 - 7.1.2 direct the Contractor to end the involvement in the provision of the Services of the relevant person(s); and/or
 - 7.1.3 require that the Contractor replace any person removed under this clause with another suitably qualified person and procure that any security pass issued by the Customer to the person removed is surrendered,
- and the Contractor shall comply with any such notice.
- 7.2 The Contractor shall:
- 7.2.1 ensure that all Staff are vetted in accordance with the Staff Vetting Procedures;
 - 7.2.2 if requested, provide the Customer with a list of the names and addresses (and any other relevant information) of all persons who may require admission to the Customer's premises in connection with the Agreement; and

- 7.2.3 procure that all Staff comply with any rules, regulations and requirements reasonably specified by the Customer.
- 7.3 Any Key Personnel shall not be released from supplying the Services without the agreement of the Customer, except by reason of long-term sickness, maternity leave, paternity leave, termination of employment or other extenuating circumstances.
- 7.4 Any replacements to the Key Personnel shall be subject to the prior written agreement of the Customer (not to be unreasonably withheld). Such replacements shall be of at least equal status or of equivalent experience and skills to the Key Personnel being replaced and be suitable for the responsibilities of that person in relation to the Services.

8. Assignment and sub-contracting

- 8.1 The Contractor shall not without the written consent of the Customer assign, sub-contract, novate or in any way dispose of the benefit and/ or the burden of the Agreement or any part of the Agreement. The Customer may, in the granting of such consent, provide for additional terms and conditions relating to such assignment, sub-contract, novation or disposal. The Contractor shall be responsible for the acts and omissions of its sub-contractors as though those acts and omissions were its own.
- 8.2 Where the Customer has consented to the placing of sub-contracts, the Contractor shall, at the request of the Customer, send copies of each sub-contract, to the Customer as soon as is reasonably practicable.
- 8.3 The Customer may assign, novate, or otherwise dispose of its rights and obligations under the Agreement without the consent of the Contractor provided that such assignment, novation or disposal shall not increase the burden of the Contractor's obligations under the Agreement.

9. Intellectual Property Rights

- 9.1 All intellectual property rights in any materials provided by the Customer to the Contractor for the purposes of this Agreement shall remain the property of the Customer but the Customer hereby grants the Contractor a royalty-free, non-exclusive and non-transferable licence to use such materials as required until termination or expiry of the Agreement for the sole purpose of enabling the Contractor to perform its obligations under the Agreement.
- 9.2 All intellectual property rights in any materials created or developed by the Contractor pursuant to the Agreement or arising as a result of the provision of the

Services shall vest in the Contractor. If, and to the extent, that any intellectual property rights in such materials vest in the Customer by operation of law, the Customer hereby assigns to the Contractor by way of a present assignment of future rights that shall take place immediately on the coming into existence of any such intellectual property rights all its intellectual property rights in such materials (with full title guarantee and free from all third party rights).

9.3 The Contractor hereby grants the Customer:

9.3.1 a perpetual, royalty-free, irrevocable, non-exclusive licence (with a right to sub-license) to use all intellectual property rights in the materials created or developed pursuant to the Agreement and any intellectual property rights arising as a result of the provision of the Services; and

9.3.2 a royalty-free, irrevocable and non-exclusive licence (with a right to sub-licence) to use any of the Contractor's pre-existing intellectual property rights which the Customer reasonably requires in order to exercise its rights and take the benefit of this Contract including the Services provided.

9.4 For the avoidance of doubt all material and IPR existing prior to or in spite of the work carried out under this contract (including, but not limited to, any pre-existing data) shall remain the property of the originator.

9.5 The Contractor shall indemnify, and keep indemnified, the Customer in full against all costs, expenses, damages and losses (whether direct or indirect), including any interest, penalties, and reasonable legal and other professional fees awarded against or incurred or paid by the Customer as a result of or in connection with any claim made against the Customer for actual or alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property arising out of, or in connection with, the supply or use of the Services, to the extent that the claim is attributable to the acts or omission of the Contractor or any Staff.

10. Governance and Records

10.1. The Contractor shall:

10.1.1. attend progress meetings with the Customer at the frequency and times specified by the Customer and shall ensure that its representatives are suitably qualified to attend such meetings; and

10.1.2. submit progress reports to the Customer at the times and in the format specified by the Customer.

10.2. The Contractor shall keep and maintain until 6 years after the end of the Agreement, or as long a period as may be agreed between the Parties, full and accurate records of the Agreement including the Services supplied under it and all

payments made by the Customer. The Contractor shall on request afford the Customer or the Customer's representatives such access to those records as may be reasonably requested by the Customer in connection with the Agreement.

11. Confidentiality, Transparency and Publicity

11.1. Subject to clause 11.2, each Party shall:

11.1.1. treat all Confidential Information it receives as confidential, safeguard it accordingly and not disclose it to any other person without the prior written permission of the disclosing Party; and

11.1.2. not use or exploit the disclosing Party's Confidential Information in any way except for the purposes anticipated under the Agreement.

11.2. Notwithstanding clause 11.1, a Party may disclose Confidential Information which it receives from the other Party:

11.2.1. where disclosure is required by applicable law or by a court of competent jurisdiction;

11.2.2. to its auditors or for the purposes of regulatory requirements;

11.2.3. on a confidential basis, to its professional advisers;

11.2.4. to the Serious Fraud Office where the Party has reasonable grounds to believe that the other Party is involved in activity that may constitute a criminal offence under the Bribery Act 2010;

11.2.5. where the receiving Party is the Contractor, to the Staff on a need to know basis to enable performance of the Contractor's obligations under the Agreement provided that the Contractor shall procure that any Staff to whom it discloses Confidential Information pursuant to this clause 11.2.5 shall observe the Contractor's confidentiality obligations under the Agreement; and

11.2.6. where the receiving Party is the Customer:

- a) on a confidential basis to the employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Customer;
- b) on a confidential basis to any other Central Government Body, any successor body to a Central Government Body or any company to which the Customer transfers or proposes to transfer all or any part of its business;

- c) to the extent that the Customer (acting reasonably) deems disclosure necessary or appropriate in the course of carrying out its public functions; or
- d) in accordance with clause 12.

and for the purposes of the foregoing, references to disclosure on a confidential basis shall mean disclosure subject to a confidentiality agreement or arrangement containing terms no less stringent than those placed on the Customer under this clause 11.

- 11.3. The Parties acknowledge that, except for any information which is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA, the content of the Agreement is not Confidential Information and the Contractor hereby gives its consent for the Customer to publish this Agreement in its entirety to the general public (but with any information that is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the FOIA redacted) including any changes to the Agreement agreed from time to time. The Customer may consult with the Contractor to inform its decision regarding any redactions but shall have the final decision in its absolute discretion whether any of the content of the Agreement is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA.
- 11.4. The Contractor shall not, and shall take reasonable steps to ensure that the Staff shall not, make any press announcement or publicise the Agreement or any part of the Agreement in any way, except with the prior written consent of the Customer.

12. Freedom of Information

- 12.1 The Contractor acknowledges that the Customer is subject to the requirements of the FOIA and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and shall:
 - 12.1.1 provide all necessary assistance and cooperation as reasonably requested by the Customer to enable the Customer to comply with its obligations under the FOIA and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004;
 - 12.1.2 transfer to the Customer all Requests for Information relating to this Agreement that it receives as soon as practicable and in any event within 2 Working Days of receipt;
 - 12.1.3 provide the Customer with a copy of all Information belonging to the Customer requested in the Request for Information which is in its possession or control in the form that the Customer requires within 5 Working Days (or such other period as the Customer may reasonably specify) of the Customer's request for such Information; and
 - 12.1.4 not respond directly to a Request for Information unless authorised in writing to do so by the Customer.

- 12.2 The Contractor acknowledges that the Customer may be required under the FOIA and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 to disclose Information concerning the Contractor or the Services (including commercially sensitive information) without consulting or obtaining consent from the Contractor. In these circumstances the Customer shall, in accordance with any relevant guidance issued under the FOIA, take reasonable steps, where appropriate, to give the Contractor advance notice, or failing that, to draw the disclosure to the Contractor's attention after any such disclosure.
- 12.3 Notwithstanding any other provision in the Agreement, the Customer shall be responsible for determining in its absolute discretion whether any Information relating to the Contractor or the Services is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the FOIA and/or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

13. Protection of Personal Data and Security of Data

- 13.1. The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Customer is the Controller and the Contractor is the Processor unless otherwise specified in Schedule 1. The only processing that the Contractor is authorised to do is listed in Schedule 1 by the Customer and may not be determined by the Contractor.
- 13.2. The Contractor shall notify the Customer immediately if it considers that any of the Customer's instructions infringe the Data Protection Legislation.
- 13.3. The Contractor shall provide all reasonable assistance to the Customer in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to commencing any processing. Such assistance may, at the discretion of the Customer, include:
- a. a systematic description of the envisaged processing operations and the purpose of the processing;
 - b. an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the Services;
 - c. an assessment of the risks to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects; and
 - d. the measures envisaged to address the risks, including safeguards, security measures and mechanisms to ensure the protection of Personal Data.
- 13.4. The Contractor shall, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Agreement:

- a. process that Personal Data only in accordance with Schedule 1 unless the Contractor is required to do otherwise by Law. If it is so required the Contractor shall promptly notify the Customer before processing the Personal Data unless prohibited by Law;
- b. ensure that it has in place Protective Measures which are appropriate to protect against a Data Loss Event, which the Customer may reasonably reject (but failure to reject shall not amount to approval by the Customer of the adequacy of the Protective Measures), having taken account of the:
 - i. nature of the data to be protected;
 - ii. harm that might result from a Data Loss Event;
 - iii. state of technological development; and
 - iv. cost of implementing any measures;
- c. ensure that :
 - i. the Staff do not process Personal Data except in accordance with this Agreement (and in particular Schedule 1);
 - ii. it takes all reasonable steps to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Staff who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:
 - 1. are aware of and comply with the Contractor's duties under this clause;
 - 2. are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Contractor or any Sub-processor;
 - 3. are informed of the confidential nature of the Personal Data and do not publish, disclose or divulge any of the Personal Data to any third party unless directed in writing to do so by the Customer or as otherwise permitted by this Agreement; and
 - 4. have undergone adequate training in the use, care, protection and handling of Personal Data; and
- d. not transfer Personal Data outside of the European Union unless the prior written consent of the Customer has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:
 - i. the Customer or the Contractor has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer (whether in accordance with the GDPR Article 46 or LED Article 37) as determined by the Customer;

- ii. the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
 - iii. the Contractor complies with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred (or, if it is not so bound, uses its best endeavours to assist the Customer in meeting its obligations); and
 - iv. the Contractor complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Customer with respect to the processing of the Personal Data;
 - e. at the written direction of the Customer, delete or return Personal Data (and any copies of it) to the Customer on termination of the Agreement unless the Contractor is required by Law to retain the Personal Data.
- 13.5. Subject to clause 13.6 the Contractor shall notify the Customer immediately if, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Agreement, it:
- a. receives a Data Subject Request (or purported Data Subject Request);
 - b. receives a request to rectify, block or erase any Personal Data;
 - c. receives any other request, complaint or communication relating to either Party's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;
 - d. receives any communication from the Information Commissioner or any other regulatory authority;
 - e. receives a request from any third party for disclosure of Personal Data where compliance with such request is required or purported to be required by Law; or
 - f. becomes aware of a Data Loss Event.
- 13.6. The Contractor's obligation to notify under clause 13.5 shall include the provision of further information to the Customer in phases, as details become available.
- 13.7. Taking into account the nature of the processing, the Contractor shall provide the Customer with full assistance in relation to either Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Agreement and any complaint, communication or request made under Clause 13.5 (and insofar as possible within the timescales reasonably required by the Customer) including by promptly providing:
- a. the Customer with full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;

- b. such assistance as is reasonably requested by the Customer to enable the Customer to comply with a Data Subject Request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation;
 - c. the Customer, at its request, with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject;
 - d. assistance as requested by the Customer following any Data Loss Event;
 - e. assistance as requested by the Customer with respect to any request from the Information Commissioner's Office, or any consultation by the Customer with the Information Commissioner's Office.
- 13.8. The Contractor shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this clause 13. This requirement does not apply where the Contractor employs fewer than 250 staff, unless:
- a. the Customer determines that the processing is not occasional;
 - b. the Customer determines the processing includes special categories of data as referred to in Article 9(1) of the GDPR or Personal Data relating to criminal convictions and offences referred to in Article 10 of the GDPR; or
 - c. the Customer determines that the processing is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.
- 13.9. The Contractor shall allow for audits of its Personal Data processing activity by the Customer or the Customer's designated auditor.
- 13.10. Each Party shall designate its own Data Protection Officer if required by the Data Protection Legislation.
- 13.11. Before allowing any Sub-processor to process any Personal Data related to this Agreement, the Contractor must:
- a. notify the Customer in writing of the intended Sub-processor and processing;
 - b. obtain the written consent of the Customer;
 - c. enter into a written agreement with the Sub-processor which give effect to the terms set out in this clause 13 such that they apply to the Sub-processor; and
 - d. provide the Customer with such information regarding the Sub-processor as the Customer may reasonably require.
- 13.12. The Contractor shall remain fully liable for all acts or omissions of any of its Sub-processors.

- 13.13. The Customer may, at any time on not less than 30 Working Days' notice, revise this clause by replacing it with any applicable controller to processor standard clauses or similar terms forming part of an applicable certification scheme (which shall apply when incorporated by attachment to this Agreement).
- 13.14. The Parties agree to take account of any non-mandatory guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office. The Customer may on not less than 30 Working Days' notice to the Contractor amend this Agreement to ensure that it complies with any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Officer.
- 13.15. When handling Customer data (whether or not Personal Data), the Contractor shall ensure the security of the data is maintained in line with the security requirements of the Customer as notified to the Contractor from time to time.
- 13.16. This clause 13 shall apply during the Term and indefinitely after its expiry.

14. Liability

- 14.1 The Contractor shall not be responsible for any injury, loss, damage, cost or expense suffered by the Customer if and to the extent that it is caused by the negligence or wilful misconduct of the Customer or by breach by the Customer of its obligations under the Agreement.
- 14.2 Subject always to clauses 14.3 and 14.4:
- 14.2.1 the aggregate liability of the Contractor in respect of all defaults, claims, losses or damages howsoever caused, whether arising from breach of the Agreement, the supply or failure to supply of the Services, misrepresentation (whether tortious or statutory), tort (including negligence), breach of statutory duty or otherwise shall in no event exceed a sum equal to 125% of the Charges paid or payable to the Contractor; and
- 14.2.2 except in the case of claims arising under clauses 9.3.2 and 18.3, in no event shall the Contractor be liable to the Customer for any:
- a) loss of profits;
 - b) loss of business;
 - c) loss of revenue;
 - d) loss of or damage to goodwill;
 - e) loss of savings (whether anticipated or otherwise); and/or
 - f) any indirect, special or consequential loss or damage.

- 14.3 Nothing in the Agreement shall be construed to limit or exclude either Party's liability for:
- 14.3.1 death or personal injury caused by its negligence or that of its Staff;
 - 14.3.2 fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation by it or that of its Staff; or
 - 14.3.3 any other matter which, by law, may not be excluded or limited.
- 14.4 The Contractor's liability under the indemnity in clause 9.3.2 and 18.3 shall be unlimited.

15. Force Majeure

- 15.1 Neither Party shall have any liability under or be deemed to be in breach of the Agreement for any delays or failures in performance of the Agreement which result from circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Party affected. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party in writing when such circumstances cause a delay or failure in performance and when they cease to do so. If such circumstances continue for a continuous period of more than two months, either Party may terminate the Agreement by written notice to the other Party.

16. Termination

- 16.1 The Customer may terminate the Agreement at any time by notice in writing to the Contractor to take effect on any date falling at least 1 month (or, if the Agreement is less than 3 months in duration, at least 10 Working Days) later than the date of service of the relevant notice.
- 16.2 Without prejudice to any other right or remedy it might have, the Customer may terminate the Agreement by written notice to the Contractor with immediate effect if the Contractor:
- 16.2.1 (without prejudice to clause 16.2.5), is in material breach of any obligation under the Agreement which is not capable of remedy;
 - 16.2.2 repeatedly breaches any of the terms and conditions of the Agreement in such a manner as to reasonably justify the opinion that its conduct is inconsistent with it having the intention or ability to give effect to the terms and conditions of the Agreement;
 - 16.2.3 is in material breach of any obligation which is capable of remedy, and that breach is not remedied within 30 days of the Contractor receiving notice specifying the breach and requiring it to be remedied;

- 16.2.4 undergoes a change of control within the meaning of section 416 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988;
- 16.2.5 breaches any of the provisions of clauses 7.2, 11, 12, 13 and 17;
- 16.2.6 becomes insolvent, or if an order is made or a resolution is passed for the winding up of the Contractor (other than voluntarily for the purpose of solvent amalgamation or reconstruction), or if an administrator or administrative receiver is appointed in respect of the whole or any part of the Contractor's assets or business, or if the Contractor makes any composition with its creditors or takes or suffers any similar or analogous action (to any of the actions detailed in this clause 16.2.6) in consequence of debt in any jurisdiction; or
- 16.2.7 fails to comply with legal obligations in the fields of environmental, social or labour law.
- 16.3 The Contractor shall notify the Customer as soon as practicable of any change of control as referred to in clause 16.2.4 or any potential such change of control.
- 16.4 The Contractor may terminate the Agreement by written notice to the Customer if the Customer has not paid any undisputed amounts within 90 days of them falling due.
- 16.5 Termination or expiry of the Agreement shall be without prejudice to the rights of either Party accrued prior to termination or expiry and shall not affect the continuing rights of the Parties under this clause and clauses 2, 3.2, 6.1, 6.2, 6.6, 6.7, 7, 9, 10.2, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16.6, 17.4, 18.3, 19 and 20.7 or any other provision of the Agreement that either expressly or by implication has effect after termination.
- 16.6 Upon termination or expiry of the Agreement, the Contractor shall:
 - 16.6.1 give all reasonable assistance to the Customer and any incoming Contractor of the Services; and
 - 16.6.2 return all requested documents, information and data to the Customer as soon as reasonably practicable.

17. Compliance

- 17.1 The Contractor shall promptly notify the Customer of any health and safety hazards which may arise in connection with the performance of its obligations under the Agreement. The Customer shall promptly notify the Contractor of any health and safety hazards which may exist or arise at the Customer's premises and which may affect the Contractor in the performance of its obligations under the Agreement.

17.2 The Contractor shall:

17.2.1 comply with all the Customer's health and safety measures while on the Customer's premises; and

17.2.2 notify the Customer immediately in the event of any incident occurring in the performance of its obligations under the Agreement on the Customer's premises where that incident causes any personal injury or damage to property which could give rise to personal injury.

17.3 The Contractor shall:

17.3.1 perform its obligations under the Agreement in accordance with all applicable equality Law and the Customer's equality and diversity policy as provided to the Contractor from time to time; and

17.3.2 take all reasonable steps to secure the observance of clause 17.3.1 by all Staff.

17.4 The Contractor shall supply the Services in accordance with the Customer's environmental policy as provided to the Contractor from time to time.

17.5 The Contractor shall comply with, and shall ensure that its Staff shall comply with, the provisions of:

17.5.1 the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989; and

17.5.2 section 182 of the Finance Act 1989.

18. Prevention of Fraud and Corruption

18.1 The Contractor shall not offer, give, or agree to give anything, to any person an inducement or reward for doing, refraining from doing, or for having done or refrained from doing, any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of the Agreement or for showing or refraining from showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to the Agreement.

18.2 The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps, in accordance with good industry practice, to prevent fraud by the Staff and the Contractor (including its shareholders, members and directors) in connection with the Agreement and shall notify the Customer immediately if it has reason to suspect that any fraud has occurred or is occurring or is likely to occur.

18.3 If the Contractor or the Staff engages in conduct prohibited by clause 18.1 or commits fraud in relation to the Agreement or any other contract with the Crown (including the Customer) the Customer may:

- 18.3.1 terminate the Agreement and recover from the Contractor the amount of any loss suffered by the Customer resulting from the termination, including the cost reasonably incurred by the Customer of making other arrangements for the supply of the Services and any additional expenditure incurred by the Customer throughout the remainder of the Agreement; or
- 18.3.2 recover in full from the Contractor any other loss sustained by the Customer in consequence of any breach of this clause.

19. Dispute Resolution

- 19.1 The Parties shall attempt in good faith to negotiate a settlement to any dispute between them arising out of or in connection with the Agreement and such efforts shall involve the escalation of the dispute to an appropriately senior representative of each Party.
- 19.2 If the dispute cannot be resolved by the Parties within one month of being escalated as referred to in clause 19.1, the dispute may by agreement between the Parties be referred to a neutral adviser or mediator (the “Mediator”) chosen by agreement between the Parties. All negotiations connected with the dispute shall be conducted in confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the Parties in any further proceedings.
- 19.3 If the Parties fail to appoint a Mediator within one month, or fail to enter into a written agreement resolving the dispute within one month of the Mediator being appointed, either Party may exercise any remedy it has under applicable law.

20. General

- 20.1 Each of the Parties represents and warrants to the other that it has full capacity and authority, and all necessary consents, licences and permissions to enter into and perform its obligations under the Agreement, and that the Agreement is executed by its duly authorised representative.
- 20.2 A person who is not a party to the Agreement shall have no right to enforce any of its provisions which, expressly or by implication, confer a benefit on him, without the prior written agreement of the Parties.
- 20.3 The Agreement cannot be varied except in writing signed by a duly authorised representative of both the Parties.
- 20.4 The Agreement contains the whole agreement between the Parties and supersedes and replaces any prior written or oral agreements, representations or understandings between them. The Parties confirm that they have not entered into

the Agreement on the basis of any representation that is not expressly incorporated into the Agreement. Nothing in this clause shall exclude liability for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.

- 20.5 Any waiver or relaxation either partly, or wholly of any of the terms and conditions of the Agreement shall be valid only if it is communicated to the other Party in writing and expressly stated to be a waiver. A waiver of any right or remedy arising from a breach of contract shall not constitute a waiver of any right or remedy arising from any other breach of the Agreement.
- 20.6 The Agreement shall not constitute or imply any partnership, joint venture, agency, fiduciary relationship or other relationship between the Parties other than the contractual relationship expressly provided for in the Agreement. Neither Party shall have, nor represent that it has, any authority to make any commitments on the other Party's behalf.
- 20.7 Except as otherwise expressly provided by the Agreement, all remedies available to either Party for breach of the Agreement (whether under the Agreement, statute or common law) are cumulative and may be exercised concurrently or separately, and the exercise of one remedy shall not be deemed an election of such remedy to the exclusion of other remedies.
- 20.8 If any provision of the Agreement is prohibited by law or judged by a court to be unlawful, void or unenforceable, the provision shall, to the extent required, be severed from the Agreement and rendered ineffective as far as possible without modifying the remaining provisions of the Agreement, and shall not in any way affect any other circumstances of or the validity or enforcement of the Agreement.

21. Notices

- 21.1 Any notice to be given under the Agreement shall be in writing and may be served by personal delivery, first class recorded or, subject to clause 21.3, e-mail to the address of the relevant Party set out in the Award Letter, or such other address as that Party may from time to time notify to the other Party in accordance with this clause:
- 21.2 Notices served as above shall be deemed served on the Working Day of delivery provided delivery is before 5.00pm on a Working Day. Otherwise delivery shall be deemed to occur on the next Working Day. An email shall be deemed delivered when sent unless an error message is received.
- 21.3 Notices under clauses 15 (Force Majeure) and 16 (Termination) may be served by email only if the original notice is then sent to the recipient by personal delivery or recorded delivery in the manner set out in clause 21.1.

22. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

- 22.1 The validity, construction and performance of the Agreement, and all contractual and non contractual matters arising out of it, shall be governed by English law and shall be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts to which the Parties submit.

SCHEDULE 1 - PROCESSING, PERSONAL DATA AND DATA SUBJECTS

1. This Schedule shall be completed by the Customer, who may take account of the view of the Contractor, however the final decision as to the content of this Schedule shall be with the Customer at its absolute discretion.

2. The contact details of the Customer Data Protection Officer are:

DGC.GDPR@defra.gsi.gov.uk

3. The contact details of the Contractor Data Protection Officer are:

[REDACTED]

4. The Contractor shall comply with any further written instructions with respect to processing by the Customer.

5. Any such further instructions shall be incorporated into this Schedule.

Data Processing descriptor	Narrative
Identity of the Controller and Processor	The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Customer is the Controller and the Contractor is the Processor in accordance with Clause 13.1.
Subject matter of the processing	For the purposes of this Contract this is any personal data controlled by the Authority or, as the case may be, the relevant Customer, for the purposes of carrying out its duties and enforcing its rights under this Contract.
Duration of the processing	For the duration of the Contract.
Nature and purposes of the processing	The nature of the processing means any operation such as collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation or alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination or otherwise making available, alignment or combination, restriction, erasure or destruction of data (whether or not by automated means) etc. Storage and use of Personal details of Contacts of the Provider, and third parties working to the specification for purposes of providing

	services in accordance with the Contract.
Type of Personal Data	Examples here include: name, address, date of birth, NI number, telephone number, pay, images, biometric data etc.
Categories of Data Subject	Examples include: Staff (including volunteers, agents, and temporary workers), customers/clients, suppliers, members of the public, users of a particular website, etc.
Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete	The Provider will store relevant personal data in an electronic file, specific to the programme, in its central document management system which is stored, backed up and supported within the UK. Some hard copy documentation may also be stored in a physical matter file in the UK. Relevant personal data will be retained in accordance with the Provider's <i>Physical Records Retention Policy</i> , which specifies a standard retention period for 6 years after termination or expiry of the Contract.

Annex 2: Pricing

No.	Task	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Total price (ex. VAT) £
1	Task 1 – Literature review of current approaches to counterfactuals in agri-environment monitoring and evaluation	5	████	█	████
		4	████	█	████
		3	████	█	████
		6	████	█	████
2	Task 2 - Evaluate the feasibility of alternative counterfactual approaches to agri-environment M&E in England	5	████	█	████
		4	████	█	████
3	Task 3 - Recommendations for counterfactual approaches within M&E	5	████	█	████
		4	████	█	████
4	Travel & Subsistence				█
5	Any other costs (peer-review)				████
6	Total exc VAT				£34,633

Annex 3: Specification

Background

Agri-environment schemes (AES) are widely considered to be delivering environmental benefits, however the majority of projects previously commissioned by the Natural England Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Programme have focussed on agreement implementation and few have been able to explicitly attribute environmental changes observed to AES intervention. Robust evaluation of scheme implementation therefore needs to consider the extent to which environmental improvements are additional to those which would have been observed in the absence of the scheme implementation. In terms of agri-environment M&E, a counterfactual should:

1. Detect the **effects of AES intervention** with **sufficient statistical power**, i.e. at replicate intervention sites and controls
 2. Isolate AES effects from **confounding factors** or **background variability** in time and/or space
 3. Ascribe observed effects to **intervention rather than chance**
 4. Allow data collection over **sufficient time scales** before and after intervention to identify background variability and allow AES effects to become visible.
- (Ormerod)

Evaluation approaches are described in the government's evaluation guidance 'The Magenta Book', which ranks evaluation methodologies in terms of their robustness of use, with random allocation/experimental design providing the most robust evaluation approach, followed by an intervention group versus a well matched counterfactual. Identifying a well matched counterfactual in the agri-environment context differs from traditional counterfactuals partly due to the time element of scheme implementation; traditionally a counterfactual would take the start of the agreement as the baseline, however where land has been under continuous agreements for a longer period of time, it might be appropriate to consider a site with equivalent starting condition. Further to this, the spatial scale is an important consideration as outcomes may be observed at the option, agreement or landscape scale depending on the policy aspect being investigated and therefore the counterfactual needs to be at the equivalent scale. Sufficient replication considering both of these aspects is also required to ensure effects can be isolated from confounding variables.

The application of counterfactuals in AES M&E was considered in a previous project (Ormerod, unpub. – Annex 1) which evaluated the methods and analysis of M&E projects in terms of their ability to provide robust evidence that demonstrated the impact of agri-environment intervention. The project identified a number of challenges to identifying suitable counterfactuals and recommended the use of a Before-After-Control-Intervention approach as the best method for statistical robustness, however this method has challenges in finding suitable non-AES land and monitoring which precedes AES implementation. The second recommendation by Ormerod was the use of modelling and remote sensing to provide counterfactuals, an approach which is so far little explored within M&E and could hold potential. Therefore, this project will build on the findings of Ormerod, to recommend specific counterfactual methods for use within AES monitoring and evaluation.

Further work on the design of counterfactuals in agri-environment M&E has been undertaken by Envieval ([Envieval Report D3.1 \(2013\)](#)), where a logic model was produced to aid decision making for counterfactual construction. Three approaches were identified; advanced environmental-economic modelling approaches where comparison groups are not available; qualitative and naïve quantitative evaluation for ad-hoc sampling; and statistics based evaluation where sample selection is explicit. These approaches are described in detail, with case study examples [here](#).

Project aim & objectives

The purpose of agri-environment schemes is to maintain and enhance the natural environment, and schemes principally focus on biodiversity and water quality under priorities 4 and 5 of the EU CAP. Other outcomes supported by AES include resource protection, the historic environment, landscape character, and climate change adaptation & mitigation. Appropriate counterfactuals are required to robustly attribute environmental changes to AES implementation, within the context of the scheme objectives. The integration of counterfactual approaches is also an important consideration given the cross-cutting nature of scheme objectives (e.g. landscape character, climate change) and agreements are often designed around multiple benefits.

The aim of this project therefore, is to identify counterfactual approaches/methods which enable observed environmental changes to be robustly attributed to the implementation of agri-environment schemes, and to consider the practical application of these approaches for future monitoring and evaluation e.g. in Environment Land Management (ELM).

The objectives of this project are to:

1. Review approaches to counterfactuals within agri-environment monitoring & evaluation, building on the findings of existing studies.
2. Define what constitutes a 'counterfactual' in the context of agri-environment.
3. Assess the feasibility of different counterfactual approaches to agri-environment monitoring & evaluation at the feature/parcel-scale, including the implications of a high uptake of ELM, resulting in few areas not falling under a scheme.
4. Identify the main research gaps and/or where further testing is required to enable robust conclusions to be drawn.
5. Recommend counterfactual approaches for future application in agri-environment monitoring & evaluation at the feature/parcel-scale, with a particular focus on implications for ELM.

The first objective of this project should be considered within the context the five agri-environment scheme objectives, taking into account long term impacts and different spatial scales, to identify appropriate counterfactual approaches. For example, when assessing the impact of AES on habitat condition, a counterfactual would be required for SSSI priority habitat and non-SSSI priority habitat due to the statutory regulatory protection of the former. The AES objectives are described below for context.

The remaining project objectives (2 to 5) should be focused on feature/parcel level counterfactuals (e.g. habitat condition, historic feature condition), as these ultimately underpin the landscape scale analysis.

Further to this, all of the project objectives should be considered within the context of ELM outcomes, the policy context of which can be found within Annex 2. The successful contractor will be briefed by the ELM M&E team on specific aspects of the ELM scheme following the signature of an NDA.

Counterfactuals to be considered within AES objectives:

1. Biodiversity
 - a. Key species populations (Section 41 species, though these should be grouped as appropriate)
 - b. Habitat condition, including non-priority, priority habitats and SSSIs.
2. Resource Protection
 - a. Diffuse water pollution
 - b. Ammonia emissions
 - c. Soil erosion
 - d. Natural flood management
3. Climate change
 - a. Climate change adaptation (e.g. fragmentation)
 - b. Climate change mitigation (e.g. greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture)
4. Landscape character
5. Historic Environment
 - a. Condition of Scheduled monuments
 - b. Condition of Registered parks and gardens
 - c. Condition of Listed buildings.

Tasks

This project will be entirely desk based. The approach set out here is not prescriptive and alternative methods or approaches that meet the project objectives would be considered by the Project Steering Group (PSG), providing they are clearly stated and the rationale is sound.

Task 1 – Literature review of current approaches to counterfactuals in agri-environment monitoring and evaluation

This task should review potential counterfactual approaches which could be used to assess the success of agri-environment implementation in delivering the five scheme objectives listed above. This will include alternative approaches for features/landscapes where establishing a traditional counterfactual is particularly problematic, as well as the associated costs of different methods.

The counterfactual approaches considered in the literature review should be from locations with comparable agricultural practices to those in England, to ensure that approaches have the potential to be applied within the M&E programme. Examples of approaches may include, Catchment Sensitive Farming M&E by Environment Agency, whole country monitoring programmes e.g. Glastir Monitoring & Evaluation Programme; the use of data from established national monitoring programmes (e.g. Breeding Bird Survey, UK Pollinator Monitoring Scheme (PoMS), Countryside Survey); use of modelling (e.g. Lankoski and Ollikainen, 2013), earth observation and new technologies e.g. eDNA which have recently been developed and could replace traditional techniques. Both the academic and grey literature should be considered.

This task should build on the study undertaken by Ormerod and examples of counterfactual approaches may be taken from previous Natural England M&E projects completed after the Ormerod report, which used counterfactuals e.g. LM0467, LM0472 (Baker et al. (2012); Walker et al. (2018)), LM0465 (landscape scale species monitoring) and LM0458 (Countryside Stewardship Baseline project).

The review should also include assessment of the extent to which the counterfactual approaches can address multiple scheme objectives, for example the restoration of wetland priority habitats (e.g. bogs, fens) would contribute to biodiversity objectives as well as climate change and water quality improvements.

The review should focus on the counterfactual design/approach to evaluating agri-environment implementation rather than the specific statistical techniques used for analysis.

From the literature review, the counterfactual approaches for each scheme objective should be ranked according to most suitable approach, considering both the practical application and methodological robustness. Features or landscapes where it is especially problematic to develop reliable counterfactuals should be identified. From this prioritisation, the approaches for feature/parcel-scale counterfactuals which are to be evaluated in task 2 will be chosen in discussion with the Project Steering Group.

Task 2 - Evaluate the feasibility of alternative counterfactual approaches to agri-environment M&E in England

This task should evaluate the feasibility of the chosen feature/parcel-scale counterfactual approaches identified in task 1 and will inform the design of a counterfactual data collection programme in task 3. Feature/parcel-scale counterfactuals include:

1. Biodiversity: Habitat condition
 - a. SSSI priority habitat
 - b. Non-SSSI priority habitat
 - c. Other (non-priority) habitat
2. Historic environment: Feature condition
 - a. Scheduled monuments
 - b. Registered parks and gardens
 - c. Listed buildings
 - d. Undesignated historic features

The feasibility analysis of the counterfactual approaches should consider, but is not limited to:

1. Given the limitations of 'true' counterfactuals in an agri-environment context, define
 - a) what is considered an appropriate counterfactual for the features listed above, and
 - b) the potential problems associated with formulating these counterfactuals.
2. Practical application of the counterfactual approach
 - a. What is the best approach to engage farmers and land managers, and gain permission to access/survey land?
 - b. Does the evidence suggest that it might be possible for farmers and land managers to be involved in surveying to establish the counterfactuals?
3. Resources required

- a. Are specialist skills required for surveying/data collections?
 - b. Are the methods efficient and represent value for time?
 - c. Are the methods cost effective?
 - d. What degree of replication will be required and what will future resource requirements be, particularly is there is a high uptake of ELM?
4. Statistical robustness & reliability of findings
 - a. Can confounding factors be accounted for in statistical analysis?
 - b. How robust are the quantitative or qualitative methods to be used?
 - c. Can the issue of selection bias/targeting of schemes in different geographic areas be accounted for? Can a sufficient number of replicates be included to avoid selection bias?
5. Temporal scale
 - a. Can data collection be carried out over a meaningful time period during which environmental impacts from intervention would be realised?
 - b. Does analysis depend on a consistent temporal scale of sampling?
6. Data availability & suitability
 - a. Is the required data available? (including relevant metadata) e.g. confounding factors
 - b. Is baseline data available from the start of the agreement or must equivalent references sites be used as an alternative?
 - c. Can the low, medium, high uptake of options be accounted for? And are there sufficient replicates for accurate analysis?
 - d. How reliable are existing datasets and what are the potential data gaps?
 - e. Is the data valid? e.g. when does environmental data become out of date?
 - f. Are there any data sensitivity/protection issues to be considered? e.g. farm specific environmental data being made public.
7. Can methods be integrated with wider environmental monitoring, both by NE, EA and by external organisations?
8. Spatial scale
 - a. Can the approaches used be reliably upscaled to draw conclusions at the landscape or national level?
 - b. What spatial scale of data is required to relate to policy measures and indicators (option, farm or landscape scale, new indicators relating to ELM)?
9. Identify the main research gaps and/or where further testing is required on the ground e.g. regarding feature, landscapes, farm types etc. that are insufficiently covered to be able to draw conclusions about reliability/robustness.

Task 3 - Recommendations for counterfactual approaches within M&E

The literature review and feasibility study should be used to propose a programme of counterfactual data collection at the feature/parcel-scale (i.e. habitats and historic features), addressing the current scheme objectives and future ELM outcomes/objectives.

The proposed programme will be used to inform the design of future M&E programmes, particularly with reference to Environmental Land Management schemes. Details should be included regarding:

- Counterfactual approach which is most appropriate, including specifying the comparison groups which should be used.

- Ability of counterfactual approach to address other scheme objectives.
- Resources, specialist survey skills, cost and accessibility (e.g. modelling approaches). Data collection (e.g. baseline or equivalent reference sites), including details on data management and database design requirements.
- Analysis, including statistical techniques and links to national data/surveys.
- Limitations and assumptions which underpin the approaches recommended.

Outputs

The specific outputs for this project are listed below, to be delivered within the 2019/2020 financial year.

- Monthly updates reviewing project progress.
- Interim project update/slide pack reporting the findings the literature review (task 1) and proposed approaches to be taken forward to task 2 (Mid November 2019) to the PSG.
- A comprehensive final written report, externally peer-reviewed, covering all objectives and tasks of the project (Final draft due for comments: 15th January 2020, final version due 2nd March 2020).
- 2 steering group meetings to discuss the project and guide project development (scheduled for autumn 2019 and early 2020).
- A '2-page summary' report, the format of which will be agreed with the PSG, summarising the aims, outcomes and implications of the project, for use by policy colleagues, and other non-specialist.
- The contractor will present a webinar to NE staff and interested parties reporting the results and findings of the project.

The format of the final report will be agreed between the project manager and project leader. Natural England requires the opportunity to comment on the draft final report. The successful contractor will be responsible for ensuring both the quality of the work as well as the presentation of the material (e.g. proof reading, ensuring clear English). The appointed contractor is also to be aware that Natural England requests acknowledgement in the publication of its funded research. All reports should be provided in MS Word and PDF format.

Bidders should be aware that Natural England and Defra intend to publish final reports. The contractor will be responsible for arranging peer-review of the final report by 2 appropriate reviewers, to be agreed with the Project Steering Group. Costs for the peer review should be itemised separately in the tender.

Natural England is happy to encourage widespread publication, and welcomes the use of appropriate trade press, peer-reviewed journals and sector-specific journals. The contractor is also to be aware that Natural England requests that all publication (including oral presentations) of its funded research is notified to the project manager at least two weeks before publication.

Reporting & Milestones

In order to assist the NE project manager to observe the progress we request that you include sufficient milestones within the project that will demonstrate the progress of the research. Compulsory milestones are as follows:

Milestone	Date	Description
	21 October 2019	Contract start
1	25 October 2019	Project inception meeting
2a	02 December 2019	Task 1 interim report submitted
2b	13 December 2019	Interim report discussed with the Steering Group (interim payment)
3	29 January 2020	Draft final report and 2 page summary provided to Natural England
4	16 March 2020	Revised final report and 2 page summary provided to Natural England
5	31 March 2020	Webinar conducted

Tenders should include a detailed project plan setting out the project timetable with tasks, dependencies, and milestones, linking these as far as possible to deliverables. Any interim payments (it is suggested for this project 1 interim payment may be appropriate) should be linked to project milestones and the related outputs and will be used as evidence that a milestone has been met. The milestones should be linked to delivery e.g. steering group meetings, tasks completed, submission of an interim or draft report. Where any payment-related milestones are not associated with a formal report, the Contractor will submit a short note providing evidence of delivery to support the claim (see below).

Invoices against project milestones should be submitted to the NE project officer by email. Invoices will need to include supporting evidence relating to spend incurred (e.g. brief summary of time input, travel and subsistence incurred etc.).

Milestone payments need to take into account of any associated costs to ensure that the successful contractor has sufficient funds to pay for any workshops costs in advance of the workshop. Defra will not be able to pay any venue hire or refreshments costs on behalf of the contractor.

Project management & Timetable

Duration: 21 October 2019 – 31 March 2020

The successful contractor should appoint a project leader. The project leader will be responsible for the management and delivery of the project and will act as the liaison point with the Natural England project manager.

Natural England will establish a project steering group to oversee the contract including representatives from NE and Defra and other relevant partners. A project initiation call between the contractor and the NE project manager will be required within one week of the

start of the contract, and a face-to-face project inception meeting between the contractor and the PSG will be required within two weeks of the start of the contract. It is anticipated the PSG will meet to discuss the interim results and the draft final report.

The project leader will be responsible for convening face to face (or teleconference) steering group meetings. Face to face meetings will be held at a Defra/NE office that is most convenient to the PSG.

Secretariat and production of minutes from meetings is the responsibility of the successful contractor, who will share meeting minutes with the project team, NE and the steering group, where applicable.

The project leader will send a short note (no more than 1 page A4) written progress update to the NE project manager once a month. The form of these update will be agreed in the inception meeting. The contractor must produce and update a risk assessment analysis of each stage of the works.

Annex 4: Notes of Inception Meeting 25 October 2019

Natural England Office, Peterborough

Attending: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Agenda items were sent by [REDACTED] in advance as points for discussion.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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<i>Milestone</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Description</i>
21st Oct 2019	Contract start	
1	25th Oct 2019	Project inception meeting held
2a	2nd Dec 2019	Task 1 Interim Report submitted
2b	13th Dec 2019	Interim report discussed with the Steering Group (Interim payment)
3	29th Jan 2020	Draft final report and 2-page summary provided to Natural England
4	16th Mar 2020	Revised final report and 2-page summary provided to Natural England
5	31st Mar 2020	Webinar conducted

[REDACTED]

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