**Clarification to Bidders Questions**

1. **Do you anticipate the new reviewed policy on wild take licensing going to public consultation after the workshops?**  We ask because it slightly changes the flavour of the workshops if they precede a consultation (or not).

**A =**We do NOT anticipate going to a public consultation after the workshops

1. **How wide is the geographical spread of your main 25-40 stakeholders?** We are trying to balance the pros and cons of online vs in-person workshops in your context. Put another way, are most of your stakeholders London-based, or are many spread across the country?

**A** = There is a fairly wide geographical spread to the main stakeholder groups, so they are not just London based. But all would be able and we believe willing to travel to a venue if face to face was the preferred/ or deemed most suitable approach to the workshops by the successful contractor.

1. **Is it OK to submit a bid that offers a slightly different process in order to achieve the objectives?**

**A=** Yes, we are looking for the successful contractor to propose the approach/methodology that they believe will best achieve our goals and provide the outputs noted in the tender documents. If that means alternative to the approach we described in the specification if the contractor can provide clear rationale of why it would be beneficial then we are open to that

1. **Who would do the ‘convening’ coordination for the workshops?**

A= NE can lead on the convening and coordination work required for the workshops. We have all stakeholder details and can manage this. But if this is something you can offer then this is something you could include in a tender. For example maybe costs with and without this service, as we can then make a decision on what is best for costs, quality and time

1. **Do you anticipate the workshops being face-to-face or online,** or do you not have a preference?

**A=** We don’t have a preference for face to face, virtual or hybrid and see benefit in all three. A clear rationale for your preference (or for each if you propose all three as options) is something that we would be interested in within the tender (as well as costs for each option). Given this we don’t have a location in mind if it was face to face we would look to the contractor to secure suitable venue (costed) or work with us to do so.

1. **Why do you anticipate 3-4 workshops being needed in each round?**  Is it to demonstrate that you have engaged across the country, by visiting dispersed locations? Or a sense that smaller workshops are easier to manage?  Or something else?

**A=** The three to four workshops we anticipate needing for each round comes down to numbers of participants. There is a list of nearly 40 stakeholders we want to engage (or have) in this process. Some may not want to or be able to participate in workshops while others may want to send more than one representative. We were working on idea of about 20 people per workshop hence the anticipation of needing to hold 3 or 4 at each stage. However, we are by no means beholden to this. If you think greater numbers (or less) better/possible then it could be increased/decreased. We would seek to hold the workshops in the same location so it is not to enable us to move around to dispersed locations to assist engagement nationally.