**Yorkshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Designation Project**

Published date: November 2021

**Contract summary**

**CPV Code:**

* Landscape protection services – 90721100-8

**Location of contract**

Contract will take place in the Yorkshire Wolds

Postcode: YO25 3XJ.

This is the postcode for Sledmere, as that village is in the centre of the Yorkshire Wolds area.

**Value of contract**

£120,000-£150,000 NB inclusive of VAT

**Procurement reference**

**ITT 9532. (Project 33869)**

**Published date**

9th November 2021

**Contract start date**

January 2022

**Contract end date**

30 June 2022 with current budget to be extended until November 2023, if additional budget approved next year

**Contract is suitable for SMEs?**

Yes

**Contract is suitable for VCSEs?**

No

### Description

Natural England has powers under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CRoW) to consider which areas meet the statutory criterion for designation as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), and then to designate such areas.  
In July 2020 Natural England's Board committed to testing and trialling a new approach through the next designation project. This decision follows recognition by Defra Minister, Lord Gardiner, and in the 'Glover' Landscapes Review (commissioned by Michael Gove, when Secretary of State at Defra) that the current National Park and AONB designation processes are complex, prescriptive, time consuming and expensive. Natural England recognises these issues and has already begun to identify opportunities to enable the process to be more collaborative, engaging and streamlined.  
At its meeting in May 2021, Natural England approved a landscape designation project to consider whether to designate a new Yorkshire Wolds AONB. A suitable contractor/consortium is now required to assist in determining the case for an extension to this AONB.  
Suitably qualified and experienced landscape consultants are required to assist Natural England in this task by undertaking the required technical assessments of natural beauty and desirability of designation and to define a proposed boundary. These will be delivered with significant engagement with stakeholders and the public and exploring participatory evidence gathering using new technologies, for example participatory GIS web apps. An important aspect of the Yorkshire Wolds Designation Project therefore will be to test the new process, including opportunities for further improvement and time efficiencies, and trial new and innovative approaches under the existing legislation. In this project particular emphasis is being placed on:  
- a co-designed collaborative engagement process; and  
- the use of the latest available technologies in the gathering of evidence and mapping.

### More information:

### Please see below for link to our esourcing system

### https://defra.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html

**Additional text**

Please be advised that dates are indicative.

### How to apply

Follow the instructions given in the description or the more information section.

### About the buyer

#### ****Contact name****

Susan Stokes