Soft Market Test

For

A quantified analysis of the risk climate change poses on Cambridgeshire County Council’s essential services.

Cambridgeshire County Council

Ref: CCC01

Section 1: Introduction

# General Requirements

## The purpose of this document is to briefly explain to suppliers the business and technical requirements and the expected scope of a quantified analysis of the risk climate change poses on Cambridgeshire County Council’s essential services in order that suppliers can explain the relevance of products, services and their experience to the requirements.

## **Please note:** this market testing exercise is **not** an invitation to tender or a request for formal expressions of interest. This document does not form any part of an invitation to tender. CCC is issuing this request for **information only**. Any supplier invited to present to CCC is doing so to support market research only and to help make any potential procurement process more focused and efficient. No supplier selection or supplier preference is implied.

# Confidentiality and Freedom of Information (FOI)

## **Please note:** all information included in this Soft Market Testing is confidential and only for the recipients’ knowledge. No information included in this document or in discussions connected to it may be disclosed to any other party without prior written authorisation.

## All responses will be treated confidentially. However, please be aware that we are subject to the disclosure requirements of the FOI Act and that potentially any information we hold is liable to disclosure under that Act. For this reason, we strongly advise that any information you consider to be confidential is labelled as such. In the event that a request is subsequently made for disclosure under FOI the request will be dealt with in accordance with the legislation.

# Background

## Cambridgeshire County Council’s [Climate Change and Environment Strategy](https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/climate-change-energy-and-environment/climate-change-action/low-carbon-energy/community-heating/swaffham-prior-heat-network) sets out the councils approach to tackling the climate crisis. Its overarching ambition is “to deliver net zero carbon emissions for Cambridgeshire by 2045, and support communities and our natural environment to adapt and thrive as the climate changes”.

## Significant progress is being made to reduce carbon and improve the natural environment, however, do date managing climate risk and climate adaptation has lagged behind. This is, in part, due to a lack of data and evidence around what the scale and nature of the risks are.

## The Council has a target for “all the Council’s services to be resilient to climate impacts by 2045”. The work outlined here will underpin delivery of this target, enabling the Council to appropriately plan and deploy climate adaptation activities in an effective manner.

## Soft Market Test Timetable

### Please read this document and if you feel that your organisation is able to contribute to this exercise please complete the questionnaire at the end of this document and return, via email to [climate@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:climate@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) by 26th April 2024.

### Following receipt of the questionnaires, a maximum of 5 respondents will be invited to attend separate workshop sessions to present and discuss their responses. A decision will then be made internally on the best procurement approach. The timetable is provided below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Stage** | **Date** |
| Deadline for receipt of responses to Soft Market Test. | 26th April 2024 |

## Following receipt and analysis of the responses a decision on how to progress to procurement will be taken.

## Potential responders will not be prejudiced in any future procurement processes by either responding or not responding to this soft market test exercise.

Section 2: Identification of Requirements

# Current Situation

## The ability for local authorities to deliver essential services has come under increased national scrutiny in recent years, with financial pressures and growing demands on services putting pressure on the system.

## Against this backdrop, the climate crisis and its impacts are anticipated to have a potentially significant effect on the ability for local authorities to deliver their services, exacerbating these existing pressures.

## Across Cambridgeshire, various national and local climate studies provide an indication of the climatic issues we will be facing, including drought, flooding and excess heat. However, we lack the detailed translation of these widespread impacts into meaningful information on how they will likely affect our services.

## We know that some services are already very exposed to climate impacts– for example our Highways Maintenance service saw a significant increase in damage to roads following the extraordinary heat wave in July 2022 which was followed in short succession by a significant cold spell in the December. This affected many local authorities, lead to multi-million-pound investment in roads and national press coverage.

## Currently we know we are exposed to climate impacts and that many business models underpinning investment into adaptation actions are variants of an “invest to save” model – however this requires us to understand the “do nothing” financial impact to know what the quantum of savings may be following action. This gap is currently making financing climate adaptation actions – across prevention/avoidance of impacts and improving our preparedness for and response to an event – problematic.

## We now need to firmly understand t the long-term impact of these extreme events on the council’s ability to deliver its essential services and, in particular, what new pressures these may pose on already stretched council budgets.

# Our Requirements

## The council requires a quantified risk assessment on its services to understand the risk climate poses our ability to deliver statutory functions.

## We are looking for a solution that will:

* Identify the key risks climate change poses the Council’s key services. These services include:
  + education services;
  + children’s and adults’ social care;
  + waste collection;
  + public health services;
  + planning and housing services;
  + road maintenance; and
  + library services;
* Quantify these in terms of financial risk, across 3-time horizons and 3-temperature increase scenarios;
* Provide the information required to enable the council to incorporate climate risk into its corporate risk management processes, business continuity planning and long-term financial budgeting; and
* Provide the evidence required to support the later development of a Corporate Climate Adaptation Plan for the authority, including an accompanying Financing Plan.

## The Council broadly envisage 3 key elements to this work.

1. Identification of the key climate risks to Council services and how that risk changes in terms of severity and likelihood under the different warming scenarios;
2. Quantification of the potential financial cost to those services, assuming no climate adaptation actions are implemented (i.e. the “do nothing” cost); and
3. Identification of the climate adaptation actions – across those that prevent/avoid impacts and those to improve our preparedness for and response to a climatic event – with an indication of prioritisation or ranking in effectiveness and/or an indication of how much they will each mitgate the risks.

## Potential outputs include:

1. A report presented as a quantified risk assessment summarising the key risks, likelihood/severity factors and how these change over the warming scenarios
2. A summary of the key adaptation actions that could be taken to mitigate the above key risks

Section 3: Supporting information

# Organisation and Contact Details

Please note: you do not need to resize the table; it will automatically adjust to fit your response.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Response** |
| Name of your organisation |  |
| Registered office (if applicable) |  |
| Trading address (if different from office) |  |
| What if any local connections do you have with the authority? |  |
| Name of person whom any queries relating to this questionnaire should be addressed |  |
| Telephone Number(s) |  |
| Email |  |
| Address if different to above |  |

# Questions

Please note: you do not need to resize the table; it will automatically adjust to fit your response.

| **Question** | **Response** |
| --- | --- |
| **Requirement** |  |
| Do you feel there is the knowledge and expertise within the market to deliver this work? Do you foresee any particular challenges with any aspects? |  |
| What would you require from the Council in order to undertake this sort of project? e.g. data sets, information on services etc |  |
| As set out under Section 2 in paragraph 2.3, the council envisages there being 3 key elements to this work.  Is this a suitable and effective way to break-up the work? Is there a more suitable alternative? |  |
| As set out in Section 2 in paragraph 2.2, the council wishes to explore climate risk under different warming scenarios, projected over different time horizons.   1. Are 1.5˚C, 3˚C and 4˚C meaningful temperature scenarios? Do these sufficiently align to the available data? 2. Are 5-, 10- and 20-year time horizons suitable to demonstrate a pathway of change? 3. Would you suggest a different approach? |  |
| As set out under Section 2 in paragraph 2.3, the council envisages there being 3 key elements to this work.  While acknowledging the ability to develop parts of these elements in parallel, how long would you anticipate requiring to complete each section? |  |
| There are two potential outputs identified at Section 2 paragraph 2.4.  Do you feel these are appropriate for the type of work envisaged? Do you have any suggestions for any alternative output approaches? |  |
| **Pricing** |  |
| As set out under Section 2 in paragraph 2.3, the council envisages there being 3 key elements to this work.  Please could you provide an indicative costing for each element (a, b and c), and any assumptions made. |  |
| **Procurement Approach** |  |
| Do you have any preference for route to market for this work? Are there any particular procurement frameworks you feature on? |  |
| **Other** |  |
| Do you have any further relevant comments to make on this document not captured within the above questions? |  |