

Q1- What is the weight of HMS Martin and HMS Seaflower

Dimensions are provided in the condition reports. Historic condition reports have suggested the timber is Western Red Cedar but this has not been confirmed. Estimated weights could be predicted from this information.

Q2- Where will the figureheads be displayed. Will they be in an external location?

Final location has not been decided, but they will be displayed internally.

Q3- Is there a concern regarding pests?

They have been displayed externally for many years so may well have pest activity. Treatment will need to cover this, with agreement in advance with the NMRN. The NMRN would prefer all treatment to be of non-toxic methods.

Q4- What is their value for insurance purposes?

HMS Charlotte - £20,000

HMS Martin - £20,000

HMS Seaflower - £20,000

Q5- Does the NMRN specify the stage payments or is it for the conservator to state?

The NMRN pay on completed work basis, either staged or upon full completion of conservation works, as agreed in treatment proposal. The NMRN are unable to pay up front or deposit for works. This can be discussed with winning bidder(s) post-award.

Q6- How long have they been off display (referring to Seaflower and Martin)

The figureheads were removed from HMS Nelson Wardroom in March 2023.

Q7- Does the NMRN have an existing paint scheme for the figureheads

The NMRN expects paint analysis to form part of the conservation work, and may hold archival sources which may inform the paint scheme. This should be discussed with the winning bidder prior to repainting.

Q8- Does the NMRN have a desired paint scheme?

See Question 7 response.

Q9- Do we know how they need to be mounted?

This has not been decided. Information will be provided by the NMRN Conservation team when confirmed. The winning bidder should inform NMRN of the mounting considerations, as the conservation work will look at stabilising the figurehead and understanding the pressure points for mounting.

Q10- Is there a date they need to be returned by?

All conservation works will need to be completed and the figureheads returned by May 2025.

Q11- Where will they need to be stored after finishing?

TBA

Q12- Can NMRN's lifting gear (gantry, forklift) be used for aiding transport?

The NMRN's Conservation team are able to assist with lifting equipment, there would need to be sufficient notice given by the winning bidder(s) to organise.

Q13- How did the HMS Charlotte figurehead get moved in to drill hall?

It was moved through double doors for access on a HIAB

Q14- Does HMS Excellent have a forklift that can be used?

This would need to be arranged in advance and confirmed with them.

Q15- If a structure needs to be built to move Charlotte, can this be done on site?

Yes, this can be done, would need to be arranged in advance due to secure location of the figurehead.

Final date for clarifications is Monday 11th December 2023 at 5pm (1700),

these are to be sent to tenders@nmrn.org.uk