Clarifications to Bidder’s Questions:

CROW Mapping Positional Accuracy Improvement

**Q1) Can it be subcontracted to an UK registered company whose resources are working remotely from India?**

A1) I believe that the arrangement that you suggest would be fine and that you can subcontract to a UK registered company, who employ staff in other countries. Please be clear on your bid submission documents how the arrangement would work.

**Q2) Could you please confirm if there is a requirement for survey hardware and software to ground truth the changes in RCL’s due to PAI?**

A2) I think you’re asking about whether or not we are likely to need any field work equipment (i.e. GPS devices, software etc) for checking on RCL boundaries during the process?

The answer to that is that we very likely will, but only in the future, not as part of this specific tender – and it may be something we can do in house either by repurposing our existing Trimbles or by purchasing new devises.

**Q3) Is this project being priced at Fixed price or T&M basis?**

A3) Fixed price

**Q4) For the three structured meetings – where will they be taking place, if in-person meeting are required?**

A4) I suspect that these will be easiest on a Teams call, but if required we will discuss locations. The Natural England staff involved in this project are located in the SW – so our Bristol or Worcester offices might be suitable. If more suitable, NE staff can travel to the contractor’s office.

**Q5) Will Natural England be able to provide access to OS Master Map and the OS ortho layer under their own licencing agreement?**

A5) I’ve checked with our GI team and we can provide access to contractors to OS Master Map and the OS ortho layer under our own licencing agreement.

**Q6) Please can you confirm that an award for this tender would not preclude our organisation from participating in any subsequent tender exercise e.g. executing the realignment of the mapping boundaries.**

A6) I can also confirm that an award for this tender would not preclude your organisation from participating in any subsequent tender exercise.

**Q7) ArcGIS Data Interoperability: Given that the data mentioned in the tender is published using Esri services, we would like to inquire whether you have a license for ArcGIS Data Interoperability. Understanding this will help us tailor our proposal to ensure compatibility.**

A7) I’ve checked with our GI team – yes we do.

**Q8) Software Preferences and Licensing: Are there any specific software preferences for this project? Additionally, could you provide insight into whether you are open to the possibility of purchasing necessary licenses/extensions or if the project leans towards utilizing open-source solutions?**

A8) We do not have any software preferences. Whilst we could purchase licences etc to deliver this work, because we are government organisation and this project is funded by the public purse, if there were a choice of two similar solutions that could deliver to the same quality, we would need to choose the most cost-effective option. This may be because it is available to us through open-source, or because it better works with NE’s existing technology etc. But to be clear, licences etc will be considered if that is the best solution.

**Q9) Accuracy and Error Measurement: We are keen on delivering results that meet your expectations. To facilitate this, I would like to ask if there are any expected accuracy requirements and the method of error measurement you anticipate for the positional accuracy improvement?**

A9) The revised parcel boundaries will need to be coincident with the appropriate underlying Mastermap boundaries. Accuracy requirements can be discussed at the start up meeting.

**Q10) The scope of the project is the re-alignment of the CROW mapping layers to the current OS Master base Map. Are there any attributes in the supplying input crow mapping layers? Please clarify.**

A10) The task is to advise on how Natural England may undertake the PAI of its CROW mapping layer boundaries. I do not believe that there are any attributes attached to the CROW S4 mapping layer.

**Q11) In some cases, there is no OS Master base Map dataset, where the CROW mapping layer is present. In this case, how do we align the CROW mapping layers? Please clarify.**

A11) I’m not sure what you mean – the OS base map covers the whole of England?

**Q12) Will the client provide the current OS Master base map as part of the inputs for the project?**

A12) We can provide access to contractors to OS Master Map under our own licencing agreement.

**Q13) As per the document ”CROW Mapping Positional Accuracy Improvement”, pilot work has to be done on a sample of NE’s conclusive mapping layers. please confirm if the**

* **The pilot work has to be submitted along with the tender proposal?**
* **The client will provide the sample to carry out the pilot work?**

A13) The pilot work will be done by the contractor during the contract work and submitted to NE at the end of the contract alongside the report/recommendations. This pilot work is to test/demonstrate the viability of your recommended approach. Natural England will provide necessary access to the CROW mapping layers to enable such a pilot to take place.