Clarification Questions

1. **Will watching briefs be limited to the CIRIA C681 definition of the activity? Or will these UXO engineers be routinely required to conduct a handheld Detector Search & Target Investigation over specified portions of monads?**

Yes, handheld Detector Search & Target Investigation in up to 6 soil plots of 16m x 16m within a monad is required. This process ensures a thorough examination and clearance of unexploded ordnance (UXO) within the designated areas, adhering to safety protocols and project specifications.

1. **Noting that only PDSAs are required, which are only used to recommend if a UXO Detailed Desktop Study (DDS) Detailed Risk Assessment is required or not, and not on-site mitigations. Will the UXO Engineers forming part of this requirement be commission based on DDSs that have been commissioned separately to this RFQ?**

Yes, the UXO engineer resource requirement will be commissioned based on the recommendations from existing Detailed Desktop Studies that are currently in use during the autumn survey season. Whist the UXO engineer watching brief requirement relates to the current survey season, the requirement for pre-desk studies relates to the 2025 survey season.

**To enable quantification of mobilisation and demobilisation cost for UXO engineers:**

* 1. **Please confirm the minimum number of days that a UXO Engineer maybe assigned to a specified monad?**

1 day minimum.

Natural England has already received requests for UXO support on-site for early January 2025. To ensure the ongoing surveys are adequately supported at the start of the new year, availability must be confirmed for the following weeks:

Week commencing 06/01/2025: Up to 4 days of UXO support required for two monads (exact dates and location to be confirmed).

Week commencing 13/01/2025: Up to 3 days of UXO support required for one monad (exact dates and location to be confirmed).

Week commencing 20/01/2025: Up to 8 days of UXO support required for four monads (exact dates and location to be confirmed).

* 1. **Does this requirement only cover mainland England? Or does the requirement include offshore islands, such as the Isle of White?**

Mainland England only.

* 1. **What will be the minimum time between notification of a watching brief being required and the engineer being required at site?**

We ask field surveys to give us at least two weeks’ notice of a requirement for a UXO watching brief. Upon contract award Natural England will be able to provide a list of requests received to date.

1. **Could you clarify if each area would need an individual report, how far apart they are i.e. are some next to each other or spread across the country**

We require one search per monad so 500 unique searches in total. The location of monads is randomly distributed across England.

1. **Would you be open to us suggesting a timeframe that the reports can be completed in**

Yes, we will still accept bids that propose alterative timescales.

1. **Are you awarding to one supplier or multiple**

One contract will be awarded to a single supplier however we are happy to accept bids with consortium or sub-contracting arrangements.

1. **A requirement in Question 3: Project Management is Clarification of how many searches will be delivered per week or per month as part of this contract. Please confirm what is meant by the term ‘searches’**

This requirement asks suppliers to clarify how many detailed desk studies they anticipate they can deliver per week or per month – the supplier can choose which time period to use.