**Questions and Answers from Prospective Tenders**

21/10 – multiple prospective tenders got in touch to alert the contact that the Request for Quotation document was inaccessible via the opportunity on Contracts Finder. This was swiftly rectified.

21/10 –

Q: Can you provide the grid references for the anticipated start and end sections of each river that are within the survey remit?

A: The area provided in the request for quotation is a guide based focused around where beavers have been recorded and their signs reported.

* River Exe from Exbridge to confluence of Burn River near Butterleigh (including River Batherm & River Dart and the River Culm from Cullompton to Uffculme)
* Little Dart River to the headwaters (Including Huntacott Water, Adworthy Brook & Sturcombe River)
* River Taw from Bondleigh to Umberleigh (Including River Mole to Satterleigh & Bartridge Brook)

Q: Can you provide the number of landowners within the proposed survey areas that will need to be contacted?

A: Natural England is just in the process of contacting landowners for permissions for the survey – so I cannot give any numbers at the moment.

The contacting of landowners will need to be done by whoever takes up the tender. This will only be for landowners who have given permission for the survey and want to be notified of access or have specific arrangements if this makes.

Q: Query on pricing model 1: Under the ‘conditions applying to the RFQ’ section of the document it states ‘You should ensure that you have prepared your quotation fully and accurately and that prices quoted are arithmetically correct for the units stated’. We cannot find any stated number of units within the document and therefore would like to ask if you require a price per distance of river to be surveyed? Or if you require an overall fixed price for the entire project, including the full extent of the rivers stated in the document (unless specific locations are given) as well as additional risk?)

A: No, we do not require a price per distance of river to be surveyed. The units we refer to are undertaking the survey, arranging landowner access and report writing

Q: Query on pricing model 2: There is uncertainty on NE’s requested pricing structure as increased as under Task 3 in the contract requirements it states that ‘Natural England will provide information to the supplier (including a map) of identified landowners/occupiers who have given access permission for the survey’, have NE had any landowners deny access at this moment in time so the land can be scoped out of the survey area and a more reliable quote can be provided. Alternatively if we are providing a fixed cost for the whole project do NE have any estimate of the extent of landholding along the river that we should assume is inaccessible?

A: We expect that a large proportion of the river can be surveyed by kayak, however this will be weather dependant and at the discretion of the supplier as to which areas are surveyed by kayak and which areas are surveyed on foot. We advise that a fixed cost for the whole project is provided as we are unable to quantify the number of landowners that will need to be contacted to arrange access to undertaken the survey on foot or to arrange vehicular access. Its for the supplier to identify the area to be surveyed as a guide of where the beavers are has been given in the request for quotation and the means for undertaking the survey ie, by kayak or on foot.