Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington (ECW)

INVITATION TO TENDER

FOR

Regional Clean Energy Skills Coordination and Action Planning 22/10/2025

ECW REF: Incubator_25

Return Date of ITT: 05/11/2025

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SECTION 1 – The ECW Profile

Cheshire and Warrington is one of the UK's economic success stories and the most productive economy in the North of England.

Enterprise Cheshire and Warrington (ECW), a council-owned organisation, works alongside elected leaders to make the region the healthiest, most sustainable, inclusive, and growing place in the country.

We collaborate with the three local councils, industry leaders, and community partners to shape economic and transport strategies, deliver skills training and business support, and ensure that the voice of business is heard in local decision-making.

Through its Marketing Cheshire division, ECW also champions the region as an outstanding place to live, work, invest, study, and visit.

Working in collaboration with local government, businesses, educational institutes and other public, private and community sector organisations, we keep Cheshire and Warrington firmly on the map.

SECTION 2 – Scope of Procurement

This procurement exercise is being conducted as a below threshold open tender.

ECW, working with the North West Net Zero Hub, Net Zero North West, and a range of other organisations, is seeking to appoint an individual consultant or small group of consultants to build a regional approach to meeting the clean energy skills and labour gap across the North West, and in partnership with relevant neighbouring regions. The work is funded by DESNZ and the Office for Clean Energy Jobs. The consultants will need to identify one to two people who will be available to act as the regional Lead for an agreed number of days per week, for the length of the project.

The Clean Energy Sector definition includes: Offshore Wind; Onshore Wind; Solar; Nuclear fusion; Nuclear fission; Smart Systems and Flexibility; Electricity Networks; Hydrogen; Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage; Greenhouse Gas Removals; Domestic & Non-Domestic Heat Pumps; Heat Networks; Biomethane; Energy Efficiency and Retrofit.

Through our previous research we have identified the scale of the challenge in filling workforce requirements in the Clean Energy sector, including:

- Demand for an estimated 39,000 workers in clean energy jobs by 2028/9 in the North West and North Wales (predicated on current understanding of the investment pipeline and modelled demand)
- At least 16,000 new workers are needed in the next 4-5 years
- Short, targeted, upskilling is also needed for the c.23,000 people in the current workforce to enable them to work in clean energy roles

The consultant will engage senior and other stakeholders to develop an action plan which enables us to collectively meet this challenge, and to ensure that local people and the local supply chain benefit

Warrington from the energy transition. The plan will identify funding partners and scope out mutually beneficial projects, enabling the consortia to secure new private and public sector investment into skills provision.

Background

The recent North West Clean Power Paper makes clear the North West's ambitions to deliver on the Government's Clean Power Mission. The major energy and infrastructure projects in the North West are key to unlocking Clean Power 2030 and Industrial Decarbonisation. They are key to economic growth across our region – attracting major private and public (via Great British Energy) investment to nationally significant infrastructure projects.

The recent 'Regional Skills Pilot – Cheshire West and Chester (CW&C)' identified substantial new skills and workforce demands in the near term for delivery of our clean energy ambitions. This demand spike starts in Cheshire West and Chester, and in neighbouring local authority areas, with major industrial projects like HyNet requiring substantial construction, engineering, and management workforce. However, over the next 5 years, modelling (based on the currently understood pipeline of projects, including HyNet, and other similar major infrastructure projects) indicates a need for a near doubling of the clean energy workforce from the 2024 baseline across the entire North West and North Wales regions.

This demand comes at the same time as increasing work in housing retrofit, increased house building, and major national infrastructure projects that attract large numbers of the existing mobile workforce. With an ageing and retiring construction and energy-sector workforce, this level of new work demands a coordinated response at the North West scale. This procurement should result in a clear action plan to support wider regional delivery and ensure the skills and workforce gap is successfully addressed. The plan will make detailed recommendations for:

- Common pathways for upskilling and reskilling existing workers
- New entrant programmes
- Shared micro-credentials and skills passporting
- Coordination mechanisms to ensure joined-up delivery across the region and alongside neighbouring areas (e.g. Staffordshire, North Wales, etc)

This will be supported by the production of an agreed framework and way-of-working for regional coordination of identified skills interventions, and a shared comms approach to drive uptake of any resulting new skills provision.

Scope

Working with the steering group, the consultant(s) will foster a collaborative partnership at North West level; achieving consensus around the key actions required to overcome workforce challenges and reach our regional clean power and industrial decarbonisation goals. The consultant(s) will be expected to act as the regional Lead, being available for an agreed number of days per week throughout the project, to consult and engage widely with key senior and other stakeholders, tailoring their approach to secure buy-in and help develop the narrative for interventions at scale and pace across the region. Stakeholders would be expected to include subregional public sector authorities (senior politicians and officers), regional industrial and clean energy companies and organisations, supply chain companies, industry trade bodies, and trade unions etc. A variety of background and supporting materials are available for the consultants' use, including access to the NZNW Project Intelligence Platform via ECW.

The appointed consultant(s) will:

Warrington - Create an action plan to drive transformational workforce development for Clean Power 2030 and Industrial Decarbonisation and as part of this work:

- Develop a targeted comms approach and plan to get buy-in from a wide range of stakeholders, and help market the opportunities of a Clean Energy Career to the public and drive uptake of new skills provision by both residents and businesses
- Work with the steering group to identify existing and incoming funding, and to identify and help develop the projects and programmes that can be stacked to achieve our shared goals.
 This should include a mapping of potential funding stacks, integrating investment from e.g.; government, industry training bodies, trade unions, public sector organisations, and private sector partners.
- Work with stakeholders from neighbouring areas to identify opportunities for further collaboration to meet these identified skills and workforce needs for Clean Power 2030 and industrial decarbonisation plans.
- Develop an agreed framework and way-of-working for regional coordination of identified skills interventions

This work will be undertaken in two phases. Please refer to the specification (section 3) for further details.

Outline stage

In an initial outline stage, the Consultant would undertake identify, map, and meet key stakeholders, collaboratively develop outline proposals for collaboration, and identify the draft list of funding stacks across the public and private sector that could contribute to delivery. In this Phase, the Consultant(s) will facilitate a series of workshops, leading to the development of a transformational programme of skills interventions in support of the clean energy transition that will specifically meet the needs of industry in the short to medium term, within the context of the longer term transition, so that the skills gaps can be significantly reduced as early as possible and in line with the known delivery programme.

These workshops should include at minimum:

- A supply chain workshop
- Skills sector workshop
- Industry workshop
- Trade bodies and unions workshop

The Consultant(s) will also facilitate a workshop and deep-dive with Local and Regional political leaders to secure senior buy-in to proposals. Outputs of this phase will take the form of an initial report with recommendations to be developed further over the next phase of work, and an initial comms plan for communication of these programmes to the public and a range of stakeholders.

Development stage

In the following Development stage (subject to funding and final agreement with funders), the Consultant(s) will collaborate with the identified regional stakeholders to develop detailed proposals for future collaboration, identifying the mechanisms for delivery of programmes identified in the Outline stage, and building a framework for onward collaboration.

Outputs from this phase will take the form of a detailed report, integrating evidence base work conducted by consultants in a related tender (to be published in coming weeks subject to funding and final agreement with funders), and containing a detailed action plan for how recommendations could be taken forward at regional level.

Warrington Given the timescales for deployment of these technologies at pace across the North West, this coordination, convening, and action planning is needed in the very near term. The consultant(s) undertaking this work **will be appointed 13**th **November** for a period of **circa 6 months.**

Further specification details for each stage are provided in Section 3 – Specification. Please refer to this in your tender response.

Tender details

This ITT sets out the information which is required in order to assess the suitability of bidders in terms of their stakeholder engagement, track record, project plan, and pricing to meet the requirements of ECW for Regional Clean Energy Skills Coordination and Action Planning.

The successful bidder will be required to deliver services in accordance with all tender documents and the contract to be placed with the successful bidder. Tenderers are requested to study the specification in detail and ensure that the specified requirements can be met and thus your understanding of our requirements is reflected in your Pricing Schedule return.

The contract is expected to commence 13th November, with the exact dates to be agreed depending on the agreement between the successful provider and ECW.

ECW wish to secure efficiencies and economies of scale by means of a procurement exercise for meeting the requirements detailed within this documentation. The principal benefits anticipated by ECW in this procurement include;

- Ability to maximise opportunities for best value and efficient services
- To allow bidders to explore efficiencies, which may be possible by suggesting innovative and cost-effective solutions
- Presentation of cost savings to ECW in order to maximise economical operational efficiency and value for money
- A resultant contract that meets the tender requirements and supports ECW with their ambition

Project management

Day to day project management will be provided by Mike Wolffe, Net Zero Programme Manager, and other colleagues as required. A range of public and private partner organisations and industry experts will act as the steering group for this piece of work.

The appointed consultant(s) should make allowance for regular check-ins with the lead officer, and for chairing of regular working group, steering group, and senior stakeholder updates.

<u>Budget</u>

A budget of up to £50,000 excl. VAT is available. This is to be split as £30,000 for Outline Stage activity and £20,000 for the Development Stage.

Suppliers should quote against each activity in the pricing form provided, which must also show the daily rates for key members of staff / key delivery roles.

SECTION 3 – Specification

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington Outputs

Outline Stage, £30k ~November – February:

- KPI and Outputs

- Identify, map, and meet key stakeholders from both the demand and supply side, to
 ensure that we can effectively join together the needs of industry and the potential /
 existing provision to meet the identified skills challenges
- Collaboratively develop realistic outline proposals to achieve shared goals, ensuring these are tested with key stakeholders (towards an agreed framework and way of working for appropriate regional coordination)
- Identify and assemble potential sources of funds, and propose key funding stacks across the public and private sector that could contribute to delivery work
- Facilitation of workshops with stakeholders, including facilitating a Regional Leaders
 Forum deep dive, with agreed next steps
- Deliver an outline action plan
- Develop an outline comms plan

- Activities

- Stakeholder Mapping and Engagement
 - Mapping industry supply chain at detailed contact level for live and imminent projects, on labour and skills shortages and their mitigation plans, followed by early conversations on the role that the public sector and skills and training providers can play in helping to respond to the challenge.
 - Detailed discussions and coordination of key stakeholders across NW and North Wales on both the demand and supply side to map and collaborate on solutions to pressing skills and workforce shortages. This should include:
 - Skills leads from across North West England and North Wales
 - Industry primes, especially those involved in delivery
 - Supply chain companies and organisations, especially those involved in key projects and programmes
 - Industry trade and employer representative bodies
 - Trade Unions
 - Plan, facilitate, and deliver a series of stakeholder workshops to develop a programme of skills interventions at North West level that can facilitate the clean energy transition. These workshops should include at minimum:
 - A supply chain workshop
 - Skills sector workshop
 - Industry workshop
 - Trade bodies and unions workshop
 - Plan for and deliver a further workshop (to be chaired by a CW senior political leader) which will agree quick wins and recommendations for the Regional Net Zero Leaders Forum

Warrington • Facilitate a deep dive at the Regional Leaders Forum, securing buy-in from senior stakeholders around the outline programme of skills interventions that are required.

- Developing outline recommendations
 - Work collaboratively with stakeholders to develop a high level programme of work across the North West region to address Clean Energy skills gaps e.g:
 - Common pathways for upskilling and reskilling existing workers
 - New entrant programmes
 - Shared micro-credentials and skills passporting
 - Collaborative use of devolved funding
 - Coordination mechanisms to ensure joined-up delivery across the region and alongside neighbouring areas (e.g. Staffordshire, North Wales, etc
 - Identify more strategic interventions that need to be in place at a north-west level – e.g. new facilities, emerging regional specialisms, regional new entrant programmes.
 - Create an outline action plan for deployment of agreed programme of interventions
 - Building on the Industrial Decarbonisation Communications work completed earlier this year by ECW and NZNW (available to successful consultant) to develop an outline communication plan for communication of these programmes to the public and a range of targeted stakeholders
- Development Stage, £20k, ~February April, <u>subject to funding and final agreement with</u> funders:
- KPIs and Outputs
 - Collaboratively develop **detailed** proposals for the programme of skills interventions required in the Clean Energy sector. This should include detailed plans for projects and programmes, with established funding stacks where viable, and a framework for future collaboration
 - Delivery of an action plan, with agreement of key stakeholders, that synthesises the above recommendations and integrates evidence base work conducted by consultants in a related tender (to be published in coming weeks subject to funding and final agreement with funders)
 - Communications plan

- Activities

- Collaborative development of programmes
 - Continue the outline work in phase 1 including:
 - Collaborative development of detail around a programme of work which provides the local workforce to deliver Clean Power 2030 and industrial decarbonisation.
 - This should include new programmes e.g. NZ scholarships across NW region, or new facilities e.g. Clean Energy Technical College capital funding integrated with other known / related regional developments.

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington o Continued Collaboration Function

- Establish a framework for onward collaboration at a North West level and with neighbouring regions to ensure successful workforce development and delivery on our shared goals.
- Clear timelines and milestones within the action plan ensuring continued regional collaboration and ability to address emerging challenges or opportunities.
- Draft MoU for collaborators across the region to agree framework for further in depth collaboration as a region.
- Development of a shared communication plan, which gives residents and local businesses interested in the supply chain clear lines of sight for access to programmes, that form part of the Clean Energy transition, and generates a shared acceptance and agreement around our clean power goals.

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington SECTION 4 - Award Criteria

4.1 Award Criteria

The Contract will be awarded on the basis of the following weighted award criteria:

	Award Criteria	Weighting
4.1.1	Conformance to Specification	
	Submissions which do not, in the opinion of ECW,	PASS/FAIL
	adequately meet the Performance Specification will not be	
	marked for the Technical Merit and Price Criteria outlined	
	below and will not be taken forward to any subsequent	
	stages of the Tender evaluation.	
4.1.2	Value for Money	25%
4.1.3	Technical Merit (Quality)	75%
	TOTAL	100%

The **Technical Merit** criteria is made up of the following sub-criteria:

4.1.3.1	Approach and Methodology for the commission	25%
4.1.3.2	Track record and Experience in Clean Energy, Industrial, and Skills	20%
	Sectors	
4.1.3.3	Qualifications and Expertise	10%
4.1.3.4	Project Plan and Timeline	10%
4.1.3.5	Approach to Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination	10%

Technical scores from the Tender stage will then be added together to give a total **technical score out of 75%** which will then be added to the **Value for Money score** (**out of 25%**) to give an overall score of 100%.

4.2 Supplier Evaluation

The evaluation of submissions will be on the criteria listed below in **section 4.** The criteria will count for 100% of the overall evaluation with the relevant weightings listed next to each individual criterion stated below.

Evaluation criteria will be a combination of both financial and non-financial factors and will consider the following areas:

4.2.1 Value for Money (25%)

The Value for Money criteria carries a weighting of 25% of the overall achievable score. The supplier must provide an economically sound and commercially attractive proposal offering outstanding customer service and satisfaction.

As part of the VfM assessment, the consultant(s) will be assessed for any social value which would be generated by the additional outputs or outcomes as part of the project.

Please see Appendix 2 Pricing Schedule to be completed and returned by all suppliers.

Warrington 4.2.1.1 Prices submitted as part of this ITT must remain open for acceptance for a minimum of 120 days from the closing date for the receipt of offers.

- 4.2.1.2 Prices must be exclusive of VAT. Please see Appendix 2 for Pricing schedule that should be completed and returned as part of your tender response.
- 4.2.1.3 The contract price will be fixed for the duration of the contract.
- 4.2.1.4 Bidders must demonstrate how their proposals represent overall value for money and how they will assist ECW with cost initiatives.
- 4.2.2 Technical Merit (Quality) (75%)

Quality – **This carries a weighting of 75%** of the overall achievable score and is broken down into the following areas and respective weightings.

1. COMPANY DETAILS

WEIGHTING

i) – iv) Provide company details

Information only

- 2. Approach and Methodology for the commission
- i) Describe your approach to the commission highlighting the range of organisations and individuals you may expect to consult, approach to harmonising expectations and outputs, and methodology for developing forward programmes. 25%
- 3. Track record and Experience in Clean Energy, Industrial, and Skills Sectors
- i) Describe your track record and experience in the clean energy and industrial sectors, your experience in the skills sector, and explain how this will influence and inform your approach to this commission. 20%
- 4. Qualifications and Expertise
- i) Please evidence your relevant qualifications and skills for this commission.

10%

- ii) Please provide CVs/resumes for the consultant(s) who will take forward this work.
- 5. Project Plan and Timetable
- i) Please provide your project plan as a Gantt chart here 10%
- 6. Approach to Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination
- i) Describe your approach to coordination of the varied stakeholders required for this work, the identification of match funding from varied partners, and the formation of ongoing task-and-finish groups to take forward further work post project-close 10%

Please see Appendix 3 Supplier Technical Questions & Answer sheet to be completed and returned by all suppliers.

The information supplied will be checked for completeness and compliance before Tenders are evaluated. Failure to comply with any of the requirements or any other specified requirements might render a tender liable to disqualification.

NOTE: If any criteria within the specification document are classed as non-compliant ECW will not be able to take your tender through to the next stage. If, however, you state that you are non-compliant and are able to provide an alternative solution, ECW reserve the right to consider the alternative solution. No guarantee will be given that the alternative solution will be accepted.

4.3 Scoring Principles

Submitted Tenders will be assessed against the above criteria and scored using the following points system principles:

Scoring criteria	Score
Failure to respond or irrelevant information which fails to meet the requirement	0
Response is inadequate, significantly failing to meet the requirements	1
Response is unsatisfactory partially meets the requirement	2
Response is acceptable and meets the minimum requirement	3
Response is good - better than merely acceptable	4
Response is excellent, exceeds the requirement and gives added value	5

Clarifications maybe sought in writing, or by interview/presentation from the suppliers and scores adjusted accordingly. Visits to reference sites may also allow for adjustments to scores.

Full or partial proposals that in the opinion of ECW are unrealistically low or not reasonable sustainable (in terms of Quality or Price) may be rejected.

Technical scores will be added together to give a total **technical score out of 75%** which will then be added to the **Value for Money score (out of 25%) to give an overall score of 100%.**

SECTION 5 – Submission requirements and timetable

5.1 Closing Date & Submission

The closing date and time for the receipt of submissions and all requested documentation relating to this stage is **16:00** hours **(4pm)** on **5**th **November 2025.** Late submissions will not be accepted.

Submissions will only be accepted if they are returned via email to <u>tenders@cheshireandwarrington.com</u>. Bidders should not send their completed submissions to any other email address.

Tenderers are advised that it is **compulsory** to complete and return <u>all</u> of the following documents in the format provided as per the instructions of this ITT. All questions must be answered, where a question does not apply please state "Not applicable". Failure to complete the documents in full and/or provide all documentation will result in a non-compliant tender submission and will mean that your tender is not considered.

- 1. Form of Tender Declaration (Appendix 1)
- 2. Pricing Schedule (Appendix 2)
- 3. Supplier Technical Questions & Answer Sheet (Appendix 3)

5.2 Tender Queries

If you have any specific questions concerning this document or the process for submission of your proposal, then please email through to: tenders@cheshireandwarrington.com no later than 28th October 2025. Only questions submitted to this email address will be answered. Queries received after this date will not be accepted and will not be responded to.

It would be most helpful if queries could be submitted in one email rather than piecemeal. If any question or request for clarification is considered to be of material significance, both the question and the response may be issued for review by all potential providers in a suitably anonymous form. All communication received from potential providers will be treated in strict confidence but are subject to this paragraph.

5.3 Proposed Schedule of Events

The proposed schedule for the procurement process is as follows. However, the dates indicated, except for the return date should be regarded as indicative at this stage as ECW reserves the right to extend and / or amend the timetable as necessary. Any major changes will be communicated to all potential tenderers.

Activity	Date
Invitation to Tender (ITT) Live	22 nd October 2025
Deadline for queries	28 th October 2025, 16:00
ECW response to queries via email to all tenderers	31 st October 2025
Tender submission deadline	5 th November 2025, 16:00
Interviews	10 th November 2025
Bidders notified of contract award	12 th November 2025
Contract signing	13 th November 2025
Contract to start	13 th November 2025

5.4 Instructions to tenderers

Bidders:

- Shall either destroy or return all documentation related to the tender process if ECW so directs
- Shall ensure that tenders are both technically and arithmetically correct. Should ECW discover
 any arithmetical errors in the bidder's tender prices then these shall be pointed out to the
 bidder who shall immediately correct the errors or they shall be asked to withdraw its tender
 or hold the prices submitted, at the discretion of ECW
- Shall not alter the ITT documents. Tender proposals will be deemed to comply entirely with the terms stated therein unless the bidder states otherwise in writing. If any alteration is made or if these instructions are not fully complied with, the tender proposal may be rejected
- Will be deemed to have satisfied themselves as to the sufficiency of their tender proposal and to have included in it all costs which may be incurred in the delivery of the services. They shall also be responsible for satisfying themselves as to the accuracy of all information associated with the contract and that all eventualities have been included

The contract will be entered into on the basis of the total tender package (inclusive of VAT) which will be included as part of the Contract Documents including any amounts or additions made and agreed during the tender proposal assessment period. ECW reserves the right not to contract or contract only in part with any bidder.

The information supplied within this ITT and accompanying documents reflects ECW's current view of the services required. Whilst the information in this ITT has been prepared in good faith, it does not purport to be comprehensive or to have been independently verified. This ITT is issued on the basis that:

- ECW does not accept any liability, responsibility or duty of care to any tenderer for the adequacy, accuracy or completeness of this ITT or for anything said or done in relation to the procurement to which this ITT relates;
- ECW does not make any (express or implied) representation or warranty either about the
 information contained in this ITT or on which it is based, or about any written or oral
 information that may be made available to any bidder;
- Nothing contained in this ITT constitutes an inducement or incentive in any way to persuade an interested person to pursue its interest, submit a tender proposal or enter into any contract;
- Neither this ITT nor any information supplied by ECW should be relied on as a promise or representation as to its future requirements;
- This ITT is neither an offer capable of acceptance nor is it intended to create a binding contract nor is it capable of creating such a contract by any subsequent actions

ECW reserves the right to suspend, cancel or withdraw the tender process at any time and will not be responsible for any costs incurred to potential suppliers.

<u>SECTION 6 – Terms and conditions of tender submissions</u>

Please see below for the terms and conditions of this tender. Through submitting a bid on this tender, you are committing to meet and abide by these terms and conditions:

6.1 Confidentiality and Disclaimer

This ITT is not an offer capable of acceptance, but represents a definition of specific legal service requirements and an invitation to submit a response addressing such requirements.

Neither the issue of the ITT to you, your preparation and submission of a tender, or the subsequent receipt and evaluation of your tender by ECW commits ECW to award a contract to you or any other bidder, even if all requirements stated in the ITT are met. ECW is not responsible directly or indirectly for any costs incurred by your firm in responding to this ITT and participating in ECW's procurement process.

All firms shall keep strictly confidential any and all information contained in this ITT, and other information or documents made available to it by or on behalf of ECW in connection with this ITT.

Warrington The firms shall not disclose, nor allow any such information to be disclosed. Submission of a formal response to this ITT will confirm your agreement to observe these confidentiality requirements.

Contact by the firms with ECW during the bidding process should only be via the contact stated within this ITT. Respondents shall not offer or give any consideration of any kind to any employee or representative of ECW as an inducement or reward for doing, or refraining from doing, any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of this or any other contract with ECW.

6.2 Material Misrepresentation

ECW shall rely on the information provided by the bidder in relation to its offer. In providing the services as specified in the Invitation to Tender documents the successful bidder/tenderer shall comply with the contents of its offer as failure in this respect may constitute a material breach of contract.

6.3 Collusive Bidding

Collusive bidding is unacceptable to ECW. Any tenderer that is caught by ECW to be circumventing rules or the law during this tender process will automatically be disqualified from the tender process.

This applies to any bidder who:

- **a).** Fixes or adjusts the amount of his bid by or in accordance with any agreement or arrangement with any other person, or
- **b).** Communicates to any person other than ECW the amount or approximate amount of his proposal (except where such disclosure is made in confidence in order to obtain quotations necessary for the preparation of the tender for instance) or,
- **c).** Enters into any agreement or arrangement with any other person* that he shall refrain from bidding or as to the amount of any bid to be submitted, or
- **d).** Offers or agrees to pay or give, or does pay or gives any sum of money, inducement or valuable consideration directly or indirectly to any person for doing or having done, or causing or having caused to be done in relation to any Offer or proposed Offer for the Services or any act or omission will be disqualified (without prejudice to any other civil remedies available to ECW and without prejudice to any criminal liability which such conduct by a bidder may attract)

*NB Sub-contracting is permissible where the bidder believes that this will enhance their proposal, however this must be clearly stated.

6.4 Bribery

Bribery means any offence under the Bribery Act 2010 or related Laws creating offences in relation to offering, promising or giving a bribe or requesting, agreeing to receive or receiving a bribe

The Contractor agrees with the Client that this Contract will operate on the basis of zero tolerance being shown towards any Fraud and/or Bribery. The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps, in accordance with Good Industry Practice, to prevent Fraud and Bribery by Staff and the Contractor (including its shareholders, members, directors) in connection with the receipt of monies from the Client and with the operation of this Contract.

6.5 TUPE

The following provisions regarding TUPE are extremely important. Please ensure that you read them carefully.

ECW expects that TUPE will not apply to this contract.

In cases of TUPE Tenderers are advised to seek independent professional advice on the effect of TUPE. Tenderers must be prepared to accept all liabilities which may arise as a consequence of the application of TUPE, should it apply. ECW takes no liability in regards to inaccuracy of TUPE information provided in this tender.

When submitting a Tender, Tenderers are required to include all costs relating to TUPE in their submission.

6.6 Data Protection Act Compliance

The successful bidder must comply with the UK General Data Protection Regulations (UK GDPR) and all applicable law concerning the processing of personal data and privacy. Full contract terms can be found within the terms and conditions (see Appendix 5).

ECW's privacy notice can be found at: https://cheshireandwarrington.com/privacy-policy/

6.7 Social Value

ECW's vision to be the healthiest, most sustainable, inclusive and growing economy in the UK, closely aligns to the Government's social value priorities.

Under the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 ECW must consider:

- a) how what is being procured might improve the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of the area where it exercises its functions, and
- b) how, in conducting the process of procurement, it might act with a view to securing that improvement.

In addition, the National Procurement Policy Statement (National Procurement Policy Statement.pdf (publishing.service.gov.uk) sets out the following national priorities that should be considered alongside individual local priorities:

- creating new businesses, new jobs and new skills;
- tackling climate change and reducing waste, and
- improving supplier diversity, innovation and resilience.

All successful suppliers must be willing to work closely with ECW throughout the contract duration to assist them in achieving both their vision and their social value obligations.

ECW reserve the right to incorporate social value commitments made by the supplier as part of their tender submission into the resultant final contract.

Warrington APPENDIX 1 - FORM OF TENDER - TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED

Declaration by Tenderer

ITT Title: Regional Clean Energy Skills Coordination and Forward Planning

- 1. I, [insert name], certify that I am the person duly authorised to sign tenders for and on behalf of [insert company name], the tenderer, and having read the documents, offer to supply the goods, services or works:
 - as set out in the specification and accompanying tender documents, samples and/or drawings
 - under the terms and conditions indicated
 - at the price (or prices) specified in the attached tender documentation
- 2. It is agreed that any or other terms and conditions of contract or any caveats, assumptions, reservations or exclusions that may be printed on correspondence emanating from the tender, or any Contract resulting from this tender, shall not be applicable to this tender or agreement.
- 3. I certify that this is a bona fide tender and that I have not fixed or adjusted the amount of the tender by, or under, or in accordance with any agreement with any other person. I have not done, and undertake that I will not do at any time before the hour and date specified for the return of the tender, any of the following acts:
 - Communicate to a person other than ECW, the amount or approximate amount of the proposed tender, except where the disclosure, in confidence, of the approximate amount of the tender was necessary to obtain insurance premium quotations required for the preparation of the tender
 - Enter into an agreement or arrangement with any other person that he/she will refrain from tendering or to the amount of any tender to be submitted
 - Offer, or pay, or give, or agree to pay any sum of money or valuable consideration, directly or indirectly to any person for doing, or having done, or causing to be done in relation to any tender or proposed tender, for the said work, any act or thing of the sort described above
- 4. I further certify that the principles described in paragraph 3 have been, or will be, brought to the attention of all subcontractors, suppliers and associated companies providing services or materials connected with the tender and any contract entered into with the subcontractors, suppliers or associated companies will be made on the basis of the compliance with the above principles by all parties.
- 5. I understand that ECW reserves the right, unless the tenderer stipulates to the contrary in the tender, to accept such portion thereof as ECW may decide. ECW is not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.
- 6. I have obeyed the rules regarding confidentiality of tenders and will continue to do so as long as they apply.
- 7. I can confirm that I accept that any breach of any of the conditions could lead to any tender being rejected or to the rescission of the Contract by ECW.

Authorised Signatory	
Date	
Name in BLOCK LETTERS	
Job Title	
Telephone Number	
E-mail address	

Please ensure that the form is completed and signed before being returned with any other supporting documentation requested, by the due date and time. Use the checklist to ensure that you have submitted the relevant documents.

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington APPENDIX 2 - PRICE SCHEDULE - TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED

<INSERT PRICE SCHEDULE HERE>

Enterprise Cheshire+ Warrington APPENDIX 3 - SUPPLIER TECHNICAL QUESTIONS & ANSWER SHEET TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED

1. COMPANY DETAILS

Please provide company details within the table below:

Question number	Question	Response
1(i)	Full name of the potential supplier submitting the information	
1(ii)	Registered office address (if applicable)	
1(iii)	Registered website address (if applicable)	
1(iv)	Trading status a) public limited company b) limited company c) limited liability partnership d) other partnership e) sole trader f) third sector g) other (please specify your trading status)	
1(v)	Date of registration in country of origin	
1(vi)	Company registration number (if applicable)	
1(vii)	Charity registration number (if applicable)	
1(viii)	Head office DUNS number (if applicable)	
1(ix)	Registered VAT number	

2. Approach and Methodology for the Commission

i).	Describe your approach to the commission – highlighting the range of organisations and
indiv	viduals you may expect to consult, approach to harmonising expectations and outputs, and
met	hodology for developing forward programmes (25%)

ANSWER FEEDBACK			

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington 3. Track record and Experience in Clean Energy, Industrial, and Skills Sectors

experience in the skills sector, and explain how this will influence and inform your approach to
this commission (20%)
ANSWER FEEDBACK
4. Qualifications and Expertise
i). Please evidence your relevant qualifications and skills for this commission. Attach CVs/resumes
for the consultant(s) who will take forward this work. (10%)
for the consultant(s) who will take forward this work. (10%)
for the consultant(s) who will take forward this work. (10%) ANSWER FEEDBACK

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington 5. Project Plan and Timetable

i). Please provide your project plan as a Gantt chart here (10%)
ANSWER FEEDBACK
6. Approach to Stakeholder Engagement and Coordination
i). Describe your approach to coordination of the varied stakeholders required for this work, the
identification of match funding from varied partners, and the formation of ongoing task-and-finish
groups to take forward further work post project-close (10%)
ANSWER FEEDBACK
AINSWER FEEDBACK

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington APPENDIX 4 - CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT

ECW contract for the Supply of Services shall form the basis of the main terms and conditions of the contract (see attached document). The successful bidder must thoroughly read, agree and comply with the Contract Terms & Conditions Agreement.

Contractors Induction Checklist provided in tender documentation will form part of the contract.

Enterprise Cheshire + Warrington APPENDIX 5 - Evidence to Consider

Bidders should familiarize themselves with the following (non-exhaustive) list of publicly available documents as part of their bid, and the evidence provided here should be considered when framing interventions.

- 1. North West Clean Power Plan
- 2. North West Retrofit Plan
- 3. North West Industrial Cluster Decarbonisation Plan
- 4. Cogent Nuclear Workforce Assessment
- 5. ECITB Labour Forecasts
- 6. OEUK Workforce Insights
- 7. NESO Clean Power 2030
- 8. Green Alliance Closing the UK's Green Skills Gap
- 9. <u>CITB Workforce Outlook</u>
- 10. <u>Cheshire and Warrington LSIP 2025 Note other region's LSIPs point to a similar opportunity/shortage</u>