

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT SCHEDULE 4

ORDER FORM/ WORK PACKAGE ORDER

FROM

Authority	Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
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Contact Ref:	Phone: 020 [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED]@Defra.Gov.uk
Order Number	Ref: ecm_62932
Order Date	11 th November 2021

TO

Contractor	British Trust for Ornithology
For attention of:	Name: [REDACTED] Phone: [REDACTED] 750050 E-mail: applications@bto.org
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1. SERVICES REQUIREMENTS

Services [and deliverables] required:

Background

Countryside Stewardship (CS) provides financial incentives for farmers and other land managers (including foresters and woodland owners) for delivering priority outcomes for the natural environment such as recovering biodiversity, conserving and enhancing historic and landscape features, improving air and water quality, and reducing impacts on climate change through a competitive application process.

Within CS the following arable options are available to deliver a range of benefits for the farmed environment:

- AB1 Nectar flower mix
- AB2 Basic overwinter stubble
- AB3 Beetle banks
- AB4 Skylark plots
- AB5 Nesting Plots for Lapwing or Curlew
- AB6 Enhanced overwinter stubble
- AB7 Whole crop cereals
- AB8 Flower-rich margins and plots
- AB9 Winter bird food
- AB10 Unharvested cereal headlands
- AB11 Cultivated areas for arable plants
- AB12 Supplementary winter feeding for farmland birds
- AB13 Brassica fodder crop
- AB14 Harvested low input cereal
- AB15 Two-year sown legume fallow
- AB16 Autumn sown bumblebird mix

Natural England co-ordinates research and provides specialist information on the development and delivery of agri-environment options to be deployed within the farmed environment. Over the years there has been considerable research into the requirements of declining farmland birds. This has suggested

that areas of sympathetically managed land, both within cropped and uncropped areas adjacent to crops, may play a key role in the ecology of several of these species, either as areas which support invertebrates (i.e. important as chick food) or through direct provision of seed, as well as potential nesting sites. Such areas have also been shown to deliver key resources for pollinators.

The effectiveness of AB14 harvested low input cereal (and similar reduced input options) in helping conserve scarce and declining annual plants and farmland birds is relatively well understood with past research (Sotherton, 1991; Vickery *et al.*, 2002; Dover, 1996; Hawthorne *et al.*, 1999; Marshall *et al.*, 2003; Wagner *et al.*, 2017) demonstrating how managing cereal crops with less fertiliser and pesticide can create open crop canopies containing a diversity of arable non-crop plants that provide food and shelter for invertebrates and farmland birds.

Key benefits of AB14 harvested low input cereal crop management include:

provision of areas of open crop growth suitable for crop nesting birds (such as corn bunting and skylark) during the spring and summer;
 provision of areas of open crop growth that provides space for desirable arable plants (such as cornflower, pheasant's eye and shepherd's needle) to grow, flower and set seed;
 provision of insect and seed-rich foraging habitat for farmland birds such as corn bunting, grey partridge, skylark and yellowhammer during the summer;
 provision of flower-rich foraging habitat that provides food (such as pollen and nectar) for key pollinators (i.e. bumblebees, butterflies, hoverflies, solitary bees and wasps and moths) during spring and summer;
 reduced risk of diffuse pollution as a result of spray or fertiliser drift into sensitive habitats adjacent to cropped land (such as watercourses) or leaching via field drains.

Whilst AB14 harvested low input cereal crop is not a priority option within the Mid-Tier arable, mixed and pastoral packages in Countryside Stewardship, it is a priority option within the Higher Tier Wild Pollinator and Farm Wildlife Package (WPFWP) and is available as part of the Arable Standard in the Sustainable Farming Incentive (SFI) pilot.

The Eligibility Requirements, Prescriptions and Indicators of Success for AB14 in Mid-Tier Countryside Stewardship are included in Annex 1, below.

Looking towards Defra's 25 Year Environment Plan (25YEP), effectively managed AB14 harvested low input cereal crops (and other reduced input arable options such as AB7 whole crop cereal and AB10 Unharvested cereal headland) have the potential to contribute to the following 25YEP goals:

Clean air
 Clean and plentiful water
 Thriving plants and wildlife
 Enhanced beauty, heritage and engagement with the natural environment
 Mitigating and adapting to climate change
 Managing exposure to chemicals

However, the total area of land managed as AB14 harvested low input cereal is relatively low compared to other more popular options such as AB1 Nectar flower mix and AB9 Winter bird food.

In addition, the total area of AB14 and equivalent options in the Environmental Stewardship Scheme (i.e. EF15, HF9, HF9NR, EF15, HF15, HF15NR, HG7 and HG7NR) has fallen from 13,014 ha in 2015 to 12,486 ha in 2020 (see Table 1 below) with fluctuations in uptake between years.

Table 1 – area of harvested low input cereal options being delivered within ES and CS agreements, 2015-2020

ES	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20
EF15 - Reduced herbicide cereal crop preceding over-wintered stubble	562 ha	348 ha	258 ha	222 ha	210 ha	173 ha

EF9 - Cereal headlands for birds	218 ha	107 ha	103 ha	83 ha	72 ha	81 ha
HF15 - Reduced herbicide cereal crops followed by overwintered stubble	2867 ha	2248 ha	1916 ha	1760 ha	1,521 ha	1,396 ha
HF15NR - Reduced herbicide cereal crops following overwintered stubble	53 ha	44 ha	41 ha	37 ha	35 ha	20 ha
HF9 - Cereal headlands for birds	258	185 ha	169 ha	129 ha	116 ha	113 ha
HF9NR - Cereal headlands for birds	4 ha	4 ha	3 ha	3 ha	3 ha	3 ha
HG7 - Low input spring cereal to retain or re-create an arable mosaic	8240 ha	7001 ha	6403 ha	5928 ha	5,038 ha	4,608 ha
HG7NR - Low input spring cereal to retain or re-create an arable mosaic	285 ha	282 ha	286 ha	255 ha	196 ha	209 ha
CS	Dec-15	Dec-16	Dec-17	Dec-18	Dec-19	Dec-20
AB14 Harvested low input cereal	527 ha	1732 ha	3670 ha	4574 ha	4,575 ha	5,881 ha
Total ES area (ha)	12487 ha	10220 ha	9179 ha	8417 ha	7191 ha	6605 ha
Total CS area (ha)	527 ha	1732 ha	3670 ha	4574 ha	4575 ha	5881 ha
Total ES and CS (ha)	13014 ha	11952 ha	12850 ha	12991 ha	11766 ha	12486 ha
Change since 2015		-1062 ha	-164 ha	-23 ha	-1248 ha	-528 ha

Understanding the reasons behind these fluctuations in AB14 uptake is key to boosting the area of reduced input options such as AB14 harvested low input cereal in future schemes. A key element of this project will therefore be understanding farmer attitudes towards this option.

Reasons for poor uptake are not fully understood but could include for a variety of reasons including:

land manager's dislike of their untidy appearance;
 agronomic concerns such as the perceived risk that AB14 harvested low input cereal crops incur a yield penalty, are lower quality and require higher harvesting, drying, dressing and storage costs (i.e. are slower to combine, require additional seed dressing and drying etc);
 hassle factor of having to manage different fertiliser and spray regimes within AB14 low input cereal crops and non-AB14 cereal crops within fields/across the farm;
 payment rate deemed too low to justify risk, hassle etc;
 the range of herbicides permitted under the 'limited herbicide' option prescription is too limited;
 problems with herbicide resistant weeds and the 'limited herbicides' permitted not effective in controlling resistant weeds.

Moreover, no research has to date been commissioned to determine:

the environmental performance of AB14 plots (i.e. are they meeting the option aims and objectives such as delivering weedy, insect and seed-rich foraging habitat for farmland birds such as grey partridge); option prescription compliance (i.e. are farmers using prohibited herbicides or applying insecticides after 15 March).

In addition, the environmental performance of AB14 harvested low input cereal crops can also fluctuate significantly from one year to the next though the reasons for this are not fully understood. As a result, understanding what AB14 plots are typically delivering in terms of outcomes for the natural environment (i.e. what bird, insect and plant species are present within plots), and how agreement holders/land managers are managing their AB14 harvested low input cereal crops, will help determine:

how valuable AB14 plots are to the conservation scarce arable plants, invertebrates and farmland birds; AB14 agronomy best practice (i.e. how best to deliver successful AB14 plots).

References

- Dover, J.W., 1996. Conservation headlands: effects on butterfly distribution and behaviour. *Agric. Ecosyst. Environ.* 63, 31–49.
- Hawthorne, A., Hassall, M., Sotherton, N.W., 1999. Effects of cereal headland treatments on the abundance and movements of three species of carabid beetles. *Appl. Soil Ecol.* 9, 417–422.
- Marshall, E.J.P., Brown, V.K., Boatman, N.D., Lutman, P.J.W., Squire, G.R. & Ward, L.K. (2003) Role of weeds in supporting diversity within crop fields. *Weed Res.* 43: 77-89.
- Sotherton, N.W. (1991) Conservation headlands: a practical combination of intensive cereal farming and conservation. In: Firbank, L.G., Carter, N., Darbyshire, J.F., Potts, G.R. (Eds.), *The Ecology of Temperate Cereal Fields*. BES Symposium No. 32. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford.
- Vickery, J.A., Carter, N. & Fuller, R.J. (2002) The potential value of managed cereal field margins as foraging habitats for farmland birds in the UK. *Agriculture, Ecosystems and Environment*, 89, 41-52.
- Wagner, M., Bullock, J.M., Hulmes, L., Hulmes, S. & Pywell, R.F. (2017) Cereal density and N-fertiliser effects on the flora and biodiversity value of arable headlands. *Biodivers Conserv* (2017) 26:85–102

Project aims

The overall aims of this project are to:

- identify where AB14 harvested low input cereal is deployed in terms of geographical extent, soil type and farming system (i.e. organic, non-organic, mixed, arable stockless);
- understand farmer motivations for delivering AB14 harvested low input cereal and potential barriers to uptake;
- evaluate the overall effectiveness of AB14 harvested low input cereal plots in delivering the best outcomes for farm wildlife (i.e. arable flora, beneficial invertebrates and farmland birds);
- evaluate the relative environmental performance of AB14 and non-AB14 cereal crops;
- evaluate the relative environmental performance of organic and non-organic AB14 harvested low input cereal;
- understand how agreement holders manage AB14 harvested low input cereal crops (i.e. how much fertiliser and pesticide are they applying) and how these agronomy decisions impact on AB14 plot performance (i.e. deliver the best outcomes for farm wildlife such as arable flora, beneficial invertebrates, farmland birds and mammals);
- understand which crops deliver the best outcomes for farm wildlife (i.e. arable flora, beneficial invertebrates, farmland birds and mammals);
- evaluate agreement holder compliance with prescriptions.

Key tasks

This project is split into two parts as follows:

Phase 1 - desktop study to be completed during the 2021/22 financial year

Phase 2 - fieldwork and agronomy survey to be completed during the 2022/23 financial year. Please note that Phase 2 is subject to additional funding being secured

To meet these aims the successful bidder will be required to complete the following tasks:

Phase 1 (2021/22 financial year)

Task 1 - collect and analyse AB14 harvested low input cereal uptake data

Understanding where AB14 harvested low input cereal is currently deployed as well as absent, and why, will help inform how best to improve more widespread uptake in future schemes such as E.L.M.

Use Agri-environment scheme uptake data and spatial analysis to:

Identify the distribution of agreements containing AB14 harvested low input cereal according to:

County

Soil type

Land status (organic versus non-organic)

Farming system (arable stockless, arable/mixed, mixed etc)

Geographical gaps in option uptake

Quantify the average area of AB14 harvested low input cereal delivered per agreement on both non-organic and organic land

Quantity the average AB14 harvested low input cereal plot size on both non-organic and organic land

Quantify what proportion of AB14 harvested low input cereal are deployed as whole field / part-field plots

Task 2 - identify sample sites for Tasks 3, 7 & 8

Identify a minimum of 60 holdings to be surveyed as part of Tasks 3, 7 and 8.

Where practicable the survey sites should be split equally between organic and non-organic land.

Natural England will supply the following data for each survey site:

Agreement holder contact details

AB14 plot field locations

Task 3 - design and complete agreement holder attitudinal survey to better understand motivations for delivering/not delivering AB14 harvested low input cereal

A number of projects have researched the uptake of CS options and more broadly the uptake of agri-environment schemes in the UK and wider Europe. Studies of uptake show that a mixture of personal, agricultural business and external contextual factors alter farmer 'willingness' and 'ability' to engage with agri-environmental schemes (Moss, 1994). The need to create more 'active adopters' was highlighted as key to agri-environmental scheme success in this study and a subsequent study in Wales (Wilson, 1996). Suggested actions to promote these changes included targeted information campaigns, and the use of 'active adopters' as demonstrators of good practice.

Another study of SE England revealed that adopters of the original Countryside Stewardship Scheme (CSS) were primarily motivated by conservation, whereas those who adopted the ESA scheme were motivated largely by financial gain (Lobley and Potter, 1998). This highlights the need to find a balance in the benefits offered and advertised by agri-environmental schemes to not isolate farmers strongly motivated by either finance or conservation.

More recently, a FERA report commissioned by Defra (Mills *et al.*, 2013) further evaluated the motivations and barriers to both farmer participation and option uptake within agri-environment schemes. However, there has been no recent research investigating the reasons why farmers may opt to deliver/not deliver reduced input options such as AB14 harvested low input cereal in Countryside Stewardship.

Task 3 is therefore to complete a semi-structured survey of agreement holder attitudes towards AB14 harvested low input cereal.

Tenderers should aim to complete a minimum of 60 farmer attitudinal surveys.

The survey will engage with existing Countryside Stewardship agreement holders to better understand:

the reasons why AB14 was originally included in an agreement (e.g. option is regarded as low risk as weedy AB14 crops are harvested as whole crop silage rather than grain, the farm is organic and so losing access to key herbicides has no impact on crop agronomy etc);

how easy or difficult it has been to integrate into their farming system/crop rotation;

how easy or difficult it has been to manage (agronomic issues);

any barriers to future uptake/continuation of the option (e.g. hassle factor, agronomy risks, payment rate, advisers/contractors not keen on it, cleaning costs, crop marketing etc);

likelihood of agreement holders continuing the option in their next agreement. To include:

identifying any plans to change area and why

whether agreement holders will modify which crops they deliver the option in

whether agreement holders will modify the crop agronomy decisions in future reduced input cereal options (i.e. weed control, fertiliser, row width etc).

As the key requirement of the survey is to understand land managers' motivations and reasons for removing or retaining AB14 harvested low input cereal when transitioning from expiring to new agreements, the survey should seek to draw conclusions on ways to make the option more attractive to potential agreement holders. Researchers / surveyors must therefore be familiar with the literature on farmer behaviours and rural sociology research (which addresses motivation to engage, retention of pro-environmental management etc).

Tenderers are invited to propose the method by which surveys and data analysis will be undertaken based on their understanding of the desired outcomes of the project, in order to deliver robust results.

We anticipate face to face interviews are unlikely to be cost effective or appropriate given the recent Covid 19 pandemic.

References

Lobley, M., Potter, C., 1998. Environmental stewardship in UK agriculture: A comparison of the Environmentally Sensitive Area programme and the Countryside Stewardship Scheme in South East England. *Geoforum* 29, 413-432.

Mills, J., Gaskell, P., Reed, M., Short, C.J., Ingram, J., Boatman, N., Jones, N., Conyers, S., Carey, P., Winter, M. & Lobley, M. (2013) Farmer attitudes and evaluation of outcomes to on-farm environmental management. Report to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). CCRI, Gloucester.

Moss, J. (1994) A baseline assessment for a new ESA: The case of the Mourne Mountains and Slieve Croob. in *Incentives for Countryside Management: The Case of Environmentally Sensitive Areas* (Ed.) Whitby, M. CAB International.

Wilson, G.A., 1996. Farmer environmental attitudes and ESA participation. *Geoforum* 27, 115-131.

Task 4 - synthesis of Task 1 (option uptake data collection and analysis) and Task 3 (agreement holder attitudinal survey) results, reporting and recommendations

The evaluation will synthesise findings from Tasks 1 and 3 to develop an overall assessment of the impact of AB14 uptake and likelihood of retention under future AES.

This evaluation should build on the data collected in Tasks 1 and 3, and we do not anticipate it will require further data collection. Instead it should draw on previous research and reports where appropriate.

The evaluation should address the following:

in which situations is AB14 harvested low input cereal most commonly deployed? This should consider: farm type (e.g. dairy, mixed, arable stockless), land status (organic versus non-organic), soil type, geographical location;

in what situations is AB14 harvested low input cereal most likely to be retained in future AES agreements?
This should take account of findings from the agreement holder attitudinal survey (Task 3);
in what situations is AB14 harvested low input cereal most likely to be lost from future AES agreements?
This should take account of findings from the agreement holder attitudinal survey (Task 3);
what are the key drivers between agreement holder adoption of AB14 (including retention in future AES)?;
what are the key barriers to AB14 uptake?

Task 5 - design a plot assessment methodology to measure the environmental performance of AB14 and non-AB14 (CONTROL) cereal plots to be used in Phase 2 (2022/23 financial year).

In Phase 2 (Task 7) a minimum of 60 AB14 plots (1 plot to be surveyed per sample agreement holding) will be evaluated in terms of their environmental performance specifically their relative value to arable flora, insects and farmland birds.

This assessment methodology will also be completed on 60 equivalent, conventionally-managed non-AB14 (CONTROL) cereal plots per holding.

In Task 5 the tenderer will therefore design a novel plot assessment methodology that will:

evaluate the environmental performance of AB14 harvested low input cereal plots;
indicate the likelihood of AB14 plots meeting their objectives;
compare the relative environmental performance of AB14 plots harvested low input cereal plots and equivalent non-AB14 (CONTROL) cereal plots on each survey site.

Natural England is particularly interested to see if proxy Chick Food Index scores can be produced for each plot using only botanical survey data.

The AB14 plot assessment methodology (including survey equipment) will need to be agreed with NE.

The methodology and survey sites (including sample size) must be designed in a way that the results are statistically valid.

Task 6 - design AB14 harvested low input cereal crop establishment and management practices survey to be used in Phase 2 (2022/23 financial year).

To understand how best to manage AB14 harvested low input cereal crops - so they deliver greater benefits for biodiversity - it is important to better understand how agreement holders manage their AB14 harvested low input cereal crops (i.e. what seed rates do they use, how much nitrogen fertiliser and pesticide is typically applied, do organic farmers mechanically weeds their plots, are crops harvested for silage or grain etc).

In addition, data gathered within this survey will be used to evaluate the likelihood of AB14 plots meeting their objectives.

Completion of AB14 harvested low input cereal crop establishment and management surveys will help us:

better understand AB14 plot performance (including factors contributing to it such as soil type, aspect, proximity to field headland/complementary habitats etc) in terms of target outcomes delivered by this option;

better understand AB14 herbicide use (i.e. which of the 5 permitted herbicide actives are most commonly used and why);

better understand how organic farmers delivering AB14 manage weeds;

better understand AB14 prescription compliance in terms of insecticide use (i.e. are agreement holders complying with the prescription which prohibits the use of insecticides after the 15 March cut-off date?);

better understand how conventional and organic AB14 harvested low input cereal crops are managed agronomically (i.e. typical sowing dates, average seed rates for main crops sown, average row width used when drilling and typical nitrogen fertilizer application rates);

better understand impact of different cereal crop growth habits on desirable arable non-crop plant diversity (i.e. determine which cereal crops are best/worst for arable plant diversity and associated benefits that these species provide such as pollen and nectar for insects and seeds which are readily taken by farmland birds);

better understand impact of different nitrogen fertilizer application rates desirable arable non-crop plant diversity;
better understand impact of different cereal crop seed rates on desirable arable non-crop plant diversity (i.e. presence and absence of desirable arable plant species);
better understand how existing AB14 option advisory guidance is utilised by agreement holders. Is best practice applied on the ground and if so does it deliver (i.e. produce open, weedy cereal crops used by insects and farmland birds for breeding and foraging).

The crop establishment and management practices survey should seek to collect key agronomic data including amongst others:

cereal crop (e.g. barley) used;
crop variety;
plot size (ha);
plot is part or whole field;
preceding crop;
following crop;
soil type;
sowing date;
seed rate;
drilling row width;
cultural (non-chemical) weed control;
chemical weed control;
fertiliser programme;
harvest date;
crop end use (i.e. crop was harvested for silage or grain).

Phase 2 (2022/23 financial year)

Task 7 - complete plot assessments to determine environmental performance of AB14 and non-AB14 (CONTROL) plots

To allow for a comparison of the relative performance of AB14 and non-AB14 (CONTROL) cereal crops the tenderer will complete:

1 plot assessment per AB14 harvested low input cereal crop per holding;
1 plot assessment on an equivalent conventionally-managed non-AB14 cereal crop per holding;
A total of 60 AB14 plot assessments across 60 holdings
A total of 60 non-AB14 (CONTROL) plot assessments across 60 holdings

Where practicable the plot assessments should also be split equally between cereals crops grown on non-organic and organic land parcels.

Task 8 - complete AB14 crop establishment and management practices survey to compare with prescriptions and current AB14 crop agronomy practices

To gather data on how agreement holders manage their AB14 harvested low input cereal crops the tenderer will complete a crop establishment and management practices survey for each AB14 plot assessed as part of Task 7, having designed the survey in Task 6.

A crop establishment and management practices survey shall also be completed for an equivalent non-AB14 cereal crop grown on each holding surveyed to allow a comparison of the respective management of AB14 and non AB14 (CONTROL) plots (i.e. identify what agronomic changes are implemented when managing cereal crops as per the AB14 option prescriptions in Annex 1 compared to non-AB14 cereal crops).

Task 9 - Synthesis of Task 7 and Task 8 results, reporting and recommendations

The evaluation will synthesise findings from Tasks 7 and 8 to develop:

An overall assessment of the comparative performance of AB14 plots with a view to understanding which factors contribute most to the delivery of option objectives;
An overall assessment of the comparative environmental performance of AB14 versus non-AB14 plots;
A better understanding of the agronomic changes that agreement holders implement when switching from growing cereal crops conventionally (with no management restrictions) to managing them as per the AB14 option prescriptions.

This evaluation should build on the data collected in Tasks 1 and 2 and should draw on previous research and reports where appropriate.

Project management

The contract will be let for two years with completion of work in the second year (2022/2023) subject to confirmation of additional funding from Defra.

The first phase of the project (completion of Tasks 1-6), is to be completed by 31 March 2022.

The second phase of work is subject to additional funds being available and will be authorised once funding is confirmed and following a review by the Project Steering Group of the first year's work. The review is to be carried out by the 21 April 2022. The second phase shall involve completing Tasks 7-9. Confirmation of the second phase will be communicated to the Contractor before 15 May 2022 and confirmed by both parties via a Change Control Note (CCN). The Contractor should be aware that any work undertaken before an electronically approved CCN is approved by both the Customer and the Contractor is undertaken at the Contractor's own risk. Outputs should be provided as part of each phase of the project.

Contractors should tender for both years of the project (FYs 2021-2022). Phase 2 must be completed by 15 March 2023.

The successful Contractor should appoint a project leader. The project leader will be responsible for the management and delivery of the project and will act as the liaison point with the Natural England project manager [REDACTED]

The Contractor's project leader will be responsible for:

- maintaining a project plan, communications plan and risk register, to conform with an established project management framework, and agreeing and reporting on these to the Project Steering Group;
- reporting on progress to the Natural England project manager via a monthly progress report and telecall;
- convening Project Steering Group meetings (format to be agreed at inception meeting) at appropriate points during the project, including the project inception meeting. Face to face meetings will occur in NE/Defra offices (location to be agreed);
- the organisation of Project Steering Group meetings, secretariat, production of a record of the meetings and its circulation to the group;
- sending a short (no more than 1 pg A4) written progress update to the NE project manager once a month. The form of these updates will be agreed at the inception meeting. The contractor must produce and update a risk assessment analysis of each stage of the works;
- liaison with the owner/agreement holder to arrange a suitable time to complete telephone surveys and fieldwork and discuss any access or biosecurity requirements. No site will be surveyed without access permission;
- Ensuring all surveyors understand and apply the method consistently.

Natural England will:

- establish a steering group to oversee the contract including representatives from NE and Defra and other relevant partners;
- provide contact details for the site owners/agreement holders and draft an initial letter for the contractor notifying owners/agreement holders of the intention to survey;
- supply all relevant agreement data required for interpretation and analysis.

A project initiation meeting between NE and the successful contractor will be required within 2 weeks of the Contract Start Date to agree the following:

Provision of data
Access arrangements
Deliverables
Milestones
Interim payments
Claims for payment
Report production and publication
Project sign-off
Dissemination of information

The Contractor will be expected to agree any variations to the project specification with the project panel.

This project will be overseen by a project steering group made up of NE, Defra (and others if applicable) and will meet at least 6 times throughout the course of the project as follows:

Phase 1

once at the project inception stage within 2 weeks of the Contract Start Date; and then twice thereafter following completion of Tasks 1-6.

Phase 2

once at the Phase 2 pre-fieldwork planning phase (May 2022); and then twice thereafter as agreed following completion of Tasks 7-8.

A final meeting will be held once the draft report has been delivered, where the results can be discussed and the dissemination webinar outline agreed.

Resources

The project is expected to start by w/k commencing 15 November 2021 and finish **no later** than 31 March 2023.

Research contracts are let on a firm price basis (excluding VAT). This is an all-inclusive price for the contract and, so long as the scope of the contract remains the same, it is not subject to any review, amendment or alteration.

Milestones

The successful contractor will be required to deliver against the following milestones

Phase 1 (2021/22 financial year)

Phase 1 project inception meeting to be completed by within 2 weeks of the Contract Start Date.

A minimum of two steering group meetings thereafter to be held during Phase 1.

Interim Phase 1 report presenting the results and associated data analysis from Tasks 1 & 3 to be submitted to the Project Steering Group for review by 15 February 2022.

Design and share draft AB14 plot performance field assessment methodology (Task 4) with Project Steering Group by 28 February 2022. Final version to be approved by Project Steering Group by 31 March 2022.

Design and share draft AB14 crop establishment and management practices survey (Task 5) with Project Steering Group for feedback by 15 March 2022. Final version to be approved by Project Steering Group by 31 March 2022.

Phase 2 (2022/23 financial year)

Phase 2 pre-fieldwork planning meeting to be completed by 30 May 2022.

A minimum of two steering group meetings thereafter to be held during Phase 2

Draft interim report (with an accompanying draft 2-page summary) presenting the results and associated data analysis from Tasks 7 & 8 to be submitted to Project Steering Group for review by 30 November 2022.

A draft final report (with an accompanying draft 2-page summary) covering Phase 1 and Phase 2 will be submitted to Project Steering Group for review by 31st January 2023 and a meeting to present/discuss

the results will be arranged soon afterwards. This should include full analysis, conclusions and discussion on the data collected against the requirements.

The finalised, peer-reviewed report and accompanying final 2-page summary will be provided to Natural England by 15th March 2023.

Produce and present a webinar outlining the main results of this project to NE, Defra Policy and other interested bodies by 31st March 2023. The webinar will also be recorded for NE's skills port to deliver wider dissemination within Natural England and Defra.

Natural England requires the opportunity to comment on draft final reports. The appointed contractor will be responsible for ensuring both the quality of the work as well as the presentation of the material (e.g. proof reading, ensuring clear English). The appointed Contractor is also to be aware that Natural England requests acknowledgement in the publication (including oral presentations) of its funded research, and that the project manager is notified at least two weeks prior to publication.

Surveys

As two surveys (Task 3 and Task 8) are to be undertaken as part of this study, approval will need to be gained from the Survey Control Liaison Unit (SCLU) in Defra. Any structured approach made by or on behalf of the Government in order to obtain aggregated data is classed as a statistical survey and should be referred to Defra's Survey Control Liaison Unit (SCLU). This also applies to customer satisfaction surveys.

NE and Defra are strongly committed to minimising the burden they place upon businesses and local authorities. As a result, proposals for new surveys must be assessed by the Survey Control Liaison Unit (SCLU). In order to undertake the survey of agreement holders, proposed as part of this project, approval will need to be gained from the SCLU. NE will make the initial application, but, following outline approval the successful contractor(s) will be required to provide a draft questionnaire to be agreed and approved. A period of at least 6 weeks should be built into the project plan to accommodate this survey approval process.

It is the responsibility of the successful bidder to ensure that the survey is provided in accordance with the time requirements of this project for SLCU approval

Outputs

The successful bidder will be required to deliver a number of outputs.

All reports should be provided in MS Word and PDF format. Databases and spatial data should be supplied in a form to be agreed with the Project Steering Group.

The following outputs must be delivered:

Output 1 - provide the NE project manager with updates of progress on a monthly basis (format of updates to be agreed in the project inception meeting).

Output 2 - A summary report of the results of Tasks 1 and 3 will be submitted to the Steering Group meeting (format to be agreed at the Project Inception meeting) by the end of Phase 1.

Output 3 - A summary report of the results of Tasks 7 and 8 will be submitted to the Steering Group meeting (format to be agreed at the Project Inception meeting) by the end of Phase 2.

Output 4 - A final report to present the results obtained from Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project. The format of the presentation of this report will be agreed between the project manager and project leader. Natural England requires the opportunity to comment on draft Final Reports. Bidders should be aware that Natural England and Defra intend to publish final reports.

Output 5 - A 2-page summary document detailing key aims, outcomes and conclusions of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the project (to be produced using the template attached at Annex 2).

Output 6 - A presentation of final results (by webinar) to key Natural England and Defra staff.

Peer review

A comprehensive, externally peer-reviewed final written report suitable for publication as a Defra science report, covering all objectives and tasks of the project. The contractor will be responsible for arranging peer-review of the final report by 2 appropriate reviewers, to be agreed with the Project Steering Group.

For carrying out the peer review Natural England will provide:

A form for peer reviewers to complete to guide them through key questions

A declaration for reviewers to sign regarding the use of confidential information and any conflicts of interest

There should be a minimum of two peer reviewers and they must be independent of organisations working on the project. A cost for peer review should be itemised in the tender. This should take into account staff time to organise the peer review, staff time to edit reports in light of the reviews (subject to steering group agreement) and cover costs for reviewers if required.

Natural England and Defra require the opportunity to comment on draft final reports (allow 4 weeks). The following deadlines for the submission of final reports for Phase 1 and Phase 2 apply:

Project phase	Financial year	Date draft final report to be submitted for review	Date final report to be finalised
Phase 1	2021/22	15/02/2022	31/03/2022
Phase 2	2022/23	31/01/2023	15/03/2023

Data management

To facilitate the project aims, NE's Data Services team will liaise with the successful contractor to generate a contractor data licence. The contractor will be responsible for applying to and liaising with the Data Services team in requisite time in order to obtain the necessary data. The project officer will assist in this and make a preliminary enquiry on behalf of the project but, following outline approval the successful contractor(s) will be required to provide a full data request as required to meet the detail of their tender.

Data will be supplied to the successful contractor via secure data sharing in a format to be agreed with the contractor and NE's data services / GIS team.

Natural England will provide a preliminary list of agreements containing AB14 harvested low input cereal. The contractor will identify the survey sample and contact information will be supplied by NE via a secure sharing format.

All agreement information provided to the contractor for the purposes of this project, shall be kept securely, confidentially and disposed of in a secure manner at the end of the project. It must not be used elsewhere without prior consent.

Any personal data collected is covered by the current data protection legislation. For additional information regarding the use of any personal data which is collected, including your rights of access to your data, please refer to the following Privacy Notice: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rpa-privacy-notice>

Commencement Date:
15th November 2021

(1.4) Completion Date:
Phase One: 31st March 2022.

Subject to availability of funds this contract will be extended to **31st March 2023** for completion of Phase Two.

Extension for Phase Two shall be confirmed via Contract Change Note (CCN) issued via Bravo. The CCN will clarify which option from the commercial submission received 31 October 2021 will be undertaken (see Appendix A, below). Contractor to note the Authority will use best endeavours to facilitate any extension before this Work Package Order expires, the Contractor should be aware that any work undertaken before an electronically approved CCN is approved by both the Authority and the Contractor is undertaken at the Contractor's own risk.

2. PERFORMANCE OF THE SERVICES [AND DELIVERABLES]

(2.1) Key Personnel of the Contractor to be involved in the Supply of the Services

[REDACTED] – Senior Project Manager and main contact with Natural England
[REDACTED] – Project Manager
[REDACTED] – Project Manager
[REDACTED] – Technical/Specialist
[REDACTED] – Technical/Specialist
[REDACTED] Senior Project Manager
[REDACTED] – Project Manager
[REDACTED] – Technical/Specialist
[REDACTED] – Technical/Project Support

(2.2) Performance Standards

See above Milestone section under Services Requirements

(2.3) Location(s) at which Services are to be provided:

To be agreed with Natural England project officer.

(2.4) Standards:

-

(2.5) Contract Monitoring Arrangements

For the avoidance of doubt the services required are being provided under Framework Agreement 22707 but with the following amendment agreed for this Work Package Order:

For the avoidance of doubt, all material and intellectual property rights existing prior to or in spite of the work carried out under this contract (including, but not limited to, any pre-existing data) shall remain the property of the originator.

The intellectual property rights of all the results/outputs, field and other data produced as part of the services supplied under this project are to be jointly owned.

3. PRICE AND PAYMENTS

(3.1) Contract Price payable by the Authority excluding VAT, payment profile and method of payment (e.g. Government Procurement Card (GPC) or BACS))

Phase One - £66,857.85

Phase Two – Dependent on option selected, see below **Appendix A** for details. Option selected will be confirmed by Contract Change Note extending this contract to 31 March 2023. Maximum cost option is £242,107.58

All payable via BACS

(3.2) Invoicing and Payment

The supplier shall issue electronic invoice(s) in arrears following completion of appropriate milestones. Milestones to be agreed following project initiation meeting (see section Project Management).
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4. Invoicing Requirements

All invoices must be addressed to Defra and sent via email to your Project Officer.

BY APPROVING THIS ORDER FORM THE CONTRACTOR AGREES to enter a legally binding contract with the Authority to provide to the Authority and natural England the Services specified in this Order Form, incorporating the rights and obligations in the Call-Off Contract that are set out in the Framework Agreement entered into by the Contractor and Defra on [insert commencement date].

Electronic Signature

Acceptance of the award of this Contract will be made by electronic signature carried out in accordance with the 1999 EU Directive 99/93 (Community framework for electronic signatures) and the UK Electronic Communications Act 2000. Acceptance of the offer comprised in this Contract must be made within 7 days and the Agreement is formed on the date on which the Contractor communicates acceptance on the Customer's electronic contract management system ("Bravo"). No other form of acknowledgement will be accepted.

Annex 1 AB14 Eligibility requirements, prescriptions and Indicators of Success

Mid Tier prescription set applying to agreements starting before 1 January 2022

Option Code	AB14	Harvested low input cereal		
Parcel Information	Name:	Parcel No.	Parcel Area (ha)	Option Area (ha)
	xxxx	xxxx	xxxx ha	xxxx ha
Aim (not binding)	To deliver an open-structured cereal crop to provide summer foraging sites for declining and localised farmland birds and habitat for brown hare, rare arable plants and pollinator species, such as bees and beneficial insects.			
Eligibility Rules				
	E53	Arable land and temporary grassland. This option must not be used after the following break crops: oilseed rape, potatoes, beans, peas.		
Prescriptions				
	P229	Establish a cereal crop (not maize) every year between 1 October and 30 April. Manage as strips or plots at least 6m wide on a part or whole field basis.		Mandatory
	P231	Do not harvest the crop before 15 July.		Mandatory
	P233	Do not apply any insecticides after 15 March.		Mandatory
	P234	Do not apply any herbicides except those on the list of permitted active ingredients within the Advice and suggestions for how to carry out this option section available on GOV.UK for this option.		Mandatory
	P684	Create an open crop structure by managing the crop to deliver between 450 and 700 fertile tillers per square metre.		Mandatory
Indicators of Success (not binding)	There are no Indicators of Success for this option (note – this text does not appear in the agreement document)			

Mid Tier prescription set applying to agreements starting from 1 January 2022 onwards

Where to use this option

It's available for Countryside Stewardship Mid Tier and Higher Tier, on whole or part parcels in rotation, on:

arable land
temporary grassland

Where this option cannot be used

After the following break crops:

oilseed rape
potatoes
beans
peas

How this option will benefit the environment

An open-structured cereal crop provides summer foraging sites for declining and localised farmland birds, such as yellowhammer and reed bunting, and habitat for skylarks, brown hare, rare arable plants and pollinator species, such as bumblebees, solitary bees, butterflies, hoverflies and beneficial insects.

Aims

If you're selected for a site visit, we will check that delivery of the aims is being met and the prohibited activities have not been carried out. This will ensure the environmental benefits are being delivered.

During the spring and summer, a low input cereal crop (not maize) will be growing, in strips and plots at least 6m wide. An open crop structure will enable wildflower species to grow amongst the crop.

Prohibited activities

To achieve the aims and deliver the environmental benefits, **do not** carry out any of the following activities:

harvest the crop before 15 July
apply any herbicides except those on the list of permitted active ingredients - see the [Additional guidance and advice](https://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/harvested-low-input-cereal-ab14#advice) (<https://www.gov.uk/countryside-stewardship-grants/harvested-low-input-cereal-ab14#advice>) section below
apply insecticides after 15 March

On your annual claim you will be asked to declare that you **have not** carried out any prohibited activities.

Recommended management

To assist you in achieving the aims and deliver the environmental benefits for this option, we recommend that you use best practice.

We recommend that you:

establish a cereal crop (not maize) each year between 1 October and 30 April. Manage as strips or plots at least 6m wide on a part or whole field basis
create an open crop structure by managing the crop to deliver between 450 and 700 fertile tillers per square metre

Keeping records

Where there is uncertainty about whether the aims of the options have been delivered, we will take into account any records or evidence you may have kept demonstrating delivery of the aims of the option. This will include any steps you've taken to follow the recommended management set out above. It's your responsibility to keep such records if you want to rely on these to support your claim. Records at parcel level of field operations, including any associated invoices

Additional guidance and advice

The following advice is helpful but they are not requirements for this item.

Pick the right location

Sites with low levels of pernicious weeds such as couch, blackgrass, brome, ryegrass and wild oats are best, although you may need to use this option on sites with higher weed burdens if important populations of target plants or birds are present.

Managing the crop

Using lower seed rates between 50kg per ha and 100kg per ha will help make sure that the crop is not too dense. It will allow broadleaved plants to establish and provide foraging options for fledged farmland bird chicks.

There are a range of cereals that you can use for this option, including wheat, barley, triticale, oats and rye. Do not use maize, sorghum of any kind or millet as the cereal in this option – the herbicide and fertiliser management and dense ground-covering traits are not suitable to deliver the outcomes of this option.

Permitted active ingredients

The following herbicide active ingredients can be used:

Amidosulfuron
Clodinafop-propargyl
Fenoxaprop-P-ethyl
Pinoxaden
Tri-alleate

The permitted active ingredients cannot necessarily be used on all eligible crops within options AB7, AB10 and AB14. It's your responsibility to confirm whether herbicides are approved for use on the affected crop. Always use pesticides in full accordance with the product label conditions of use.

Defra Ref: ITT 9269 ESME Framework Lot No. 5 Mini-Tender Evidence Programme ref: LM04135: Management and Performance of AB14 Harvested Low Input Cereal Plots

Mini-tender by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO) and Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

Costing tables

We present a summary of all costing options, plus tables showing detailed breakdowns of each option below.

Summary table:

Total costs by FY and overall		Telephone interviews - 20, 40 or 60					
		Nos. of field survey sites - 30 or 60					
Field survey options		20		40		60	
		60 sites	30 sites	60 sites	30 sites	60 sites	30 sites
1a	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£199,837.48	£123,266.85	£199,837.48	£123,266.85	£199,837.48	£123,266.85
	A+B	£256,074.33	£179,503.70	£260,245.33	£183,674.70	£266,695.33	£190,124.70
1b	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£143,137.48	£94,916.85	£143,137.48	£94,916.85	£143,137.48	£94,916.85
	A+B	£199,374.33	£151,153.70	£203,545.33	£155,324.70	£209,995.33	£161,774.70
2a	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£225,387.48	£136,461.85	£225,387.48	£136,461.85	£225,387.48	£136,461.85
	A+B	£281,624.33	£192,698.70	£285,795.33	£196,869.70	£292,245.33	£203,319.70
2b	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£168,687.48	£108,111.85	£168,687.48	£108,111.85	£168,687.48	£108,111.85
	A+B	£224,924.33	£164,348.70	£229,095.33	£168,519.70	£235,545.33	£174,969.70
3a	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£242,107.48	£145,101.85	£242,107.48	£145,101.85	£242,107.48	£145,101.85
	A+B	£298,344.33	£201,338.70	£302,515.33	£205,509.70	£308,965.33	£211,959.70
3b	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£185,407.48	£116,751.85	£185,407.48	£116,751.85	£185,407.48	£116,751.85
	A+B	£241,644.33	£172,988.70	£245,815.33	£177,159.70	£252,265.33	£183,609.70
4	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£173,607.48	£110,851.85	£173,607.48	£110,851.85	£173,607.48	£110,851.85
	A+B	£229,844.33	£167,088.70	£234,015.33	£171,259.70	£240,465.33	£177,709.70
5	A 21-22	£56,236.85		£60,407.85		£66,857.85	
	B 22-23	£131,337.48	£89,196.85	£131,337.48	£89,196.85	£131,337.48	£89,196.85
	A+B	£187,574.33	£145,433.70	£191,745.33	£149,604.70	£198,195.33	£156,054.70

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Options for Phase 1, FY21-22:

60 surveys

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
1	Task 1						
	GIS analyses L4	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Management L5	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
2	Task 2						
	GIS site selection + landowner letters L3	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Recruitment L4	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Management L5	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
3	Task 3						
	Attitudinal survey design	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Attitudinal survey contacting - 60	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Attitudinal survey contacting - 60 support	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Attitudinal survey analysis and reporting	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Non-AB14 additional - 60	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Non-AB14 additional - 60 support	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Non-AB14 additional - reporting	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	BTO liaison	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	RSPB management	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
4	Task 4						
	Synthesis L3	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Synthesis L4	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Management L5	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
5	Task 5						
	Survey design and protocols L3	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Survey design and protocols L4	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	Management L5	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
6	Task 6						
	Design agronomy survey L4	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Management L5	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	RSPB agronomy advice GB	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■■■■	■	21/22	■■■■■	
15	Other costs						
	Vortis sampler + 100 pots				21/22	■■■■■	■■■■■
	Pan trap equipment				21/22	■■■■■	
	Contract management fee					■■■■■	
A	21/22 total exc VAT (taking into account Task 3 variables):				21/22		£66,857.85

* additional surveys of non-AB14 farms (optional, delete from Task total if not of interest)

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £13,371.57) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

40 surveys

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
1	Task 1						
	GIS analyses L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
2	Task 2						
	GIS site selection + landowner letters L3	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Recruitment L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
3	Task 3						
	Attitudinal survey design	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Attitudinal survey contacting - 40	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Attitudinal survey contacting - 40 support	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Attitudinal survey analysis and reporting	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Non-AB14 additional - 40	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Non-AB14 additional - 40 support	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Non-AB14 additional - reporting	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	BTO liaison	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB management	■	■	■	21/22	■	
4	Task 4						
	Synthesis L3	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Synthesis L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	21/22	■	
5	Task 5						
	Survey design and protocols L3	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Survey design and protocols L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
6	Task 6						
	Design agronomy survey L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice GB	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	21/22	■	
15	Other costs						
	Vortis sampler + 100 pots				21/22	■	■
	Pan trap equipment				21/22	■	
	Contract management fee					■	
A	21/22 total exc VAT (taking into account Task 3 variables):				■		£60,407.85

* additional surveys of non-AB14 farms (optional, delete from Task total if not of interest)

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £12,081.57) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

20 surveys

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
1	Task 1						
	GIS analyses L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
2	Task 2						
	GIS site selection + landowner letters L3	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Recruitment L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
3	Task 3						
	Attitudinal survey design	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Attitudinal survey contacting - 20	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Attitudinal survey contacting - 20 support	■	■	■	■	■	
	Attitudinal survey analysis and reporting	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Non-AB14 additional - 20	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Non-AB14 additional - 20 support	■	■	■	21/22		
	Non-AB14 additional - reporting	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	BTO liaison	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB management	■	■	■	21/22	■	
4	Task 4						
	Synthesis L3	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Synthesis L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	21/22	■	
5	Task 5						
	Survey design and protocols L3	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Survey design and protocols L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
6	Task 6						
	Design agronomy survey L4	■	■	■	21/22	■	■
	Management L5	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice GB	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	21/22	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	21/22	■	
15	Other costs						
	Vortis sampler + 100 pots				21/22	£ ■	■
	Pan trap equipment				21/22	■	
	Contract management fee					■	
A	21/22 total exc VAT (taking into account Task 3 variables):				21/22		£56,236.85

* additional surveys of non-AB14 farms (optional, delete from Task total if not of interest)

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £11,247.37) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Options for Phase 2, FY22-23:

Option 1a

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Insect abundance	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	insect abundance detailed ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice GB	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£199,837.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£123,266.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £39,967.50 for 60 sites / £24,653.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 1b

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Insect abundance	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	insect abundance basic ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£143,137.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£94,916.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £28,627.50 for 60 sites / £18,983.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 2a

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Insect abundance	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	insect abundance detailed ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Visual pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice GB	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£225,387.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£136,461.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £45,077.50 for 60 sites / £27,292.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 2b

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Insect abundance	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	insect abundance basic ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Visual pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£168,687.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£108,111.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £33,737.50 for 60 sites / £21,622.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 3a

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Insect abundance	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	insect abundance detailed ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Trap pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	trap pollinators ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice GB	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£242,107.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£145,101.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £48,421.50 for 60 sites / £29,020.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 3b

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Insect abundance	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	insect abundance basic ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Trap pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	trap pollinators ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£185,407.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£116,751.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £37,081.50 for 60 sites / £23,350.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 4

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Visual pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Trap pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	trap pollinators ID	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites				22/23		■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£173,607.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£110,851.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £34,721.50 for 60 sites / £22,170.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.

Option 5

No.	Item	Staff Grade	Day £ rate	No. of days	Financial year	Total price (ex. VAT) £	Task Total Price (ex. VAT) £
7	Task 7						
	Survey coordination L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Bird Surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Plant/structure surveys	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Visual pollinators	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Pre-season survey training	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Data inputting L2	■	■	■	22/23	■	
8	Task 8						
	Data processing L3	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	Survey coordination L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB agronomy advice	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
9	Task 9						
	Analysis and reporting L4	■	■	■	22/23	■	■
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	Management L5	■	■	■	22/23	■	
	RSPB consultation	■	■	■	22/23	■	
14	Travel & subsistence						
	Fieldwork mileage – 60 sites				22/23	■	■
	Fieldwork mileage - 30 sites						■
12	Peer reviews				22/23	■	■
16	Other costs						
	Contract management fee				22/23	■	■
B	22/23 total exc VAT – 60 sites				22/23		£131,337.48
B	22/23 total exc VAT - 30 sites				22/23		£89,196.85

Please note the above costs will be subject to VAT (totalling £26,267.50 for 60 sites / £17,839.37 for 30 sites) at the current standard rates. VAT number: GB 196 6210 46.