## **Nature Net Zero – Clarification Questions**

**Clarification Questions**

I just wanted to check the dates for expression of interest as the request for quotation document states the 27th September 2023 in the text but the deadline for receipt of quotation is the 23rd October 2023.

**Answer**

Yes the Opportunity is still very much open.

Deadline for Clarification questions: Mon 16th Oct 2023 at 18.00

Deadline for Receipt of Quotation: Mon 23rd Oct 2023 at 18.00

An email that you will be making a quote some point in the week pria to submission will be fine

Sorry for any confusion

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**Clarification Questions**

Hi Ian sort to bother you but just wanted to ask a question do you have any page limits for the responses for :

* Staff/Key Personnel
* Experience
* Management of sustainability and social value
* Health & Safety

Methodology I have noted from the specification should not exceed four sides of A4, and use Arial font, size 11.

Many Thanks

**Answer**

These other sections do not have page number restrictions as more staff or experience might have greater number of pages required.

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**Clarification Questions**

Good Morning Ian,

I hope you are well. I am reaching out to request a clarification within the ‘Request for Quotation’ document for the Nature Net Zero project. Specifically, the sentence:

“Separate submissions for each technical question should be provided and will be evaluated in isolation." on page 19 under section 4 - Quotation Submission and Evaluation Methodology.

Please could I have clarification on what is meant by ‘technical question’. Do Natural England require a separate document discussing each project task, or does ‘technical question’ refer to the quality criteria, with responses to each task encompassed within the methodology response?

We thank you for your time and attention on this matter.

**Answer**

The technical questions are those in section 2.2 – Project Tasks (p11) listed A to F. For the completion of the Methodology section.

The technical criteria are the ‘marking scheme’ the approach used to evaluate the technical questions (i.e. the project tasks).

No we don’t require a separate document for each project task. Within the methodology and approaches being proposed to deliver the requirements of this project.

We were looking for a short paragraph explaining how you would approach and deliver each Task.

This methodology response needs to be within the four sides of A4 limit, and use Arial font, size 11

In relation to

Separate submissions for each technical question should be provided and will be evaluated in isolation.

This refers to these sections

* Staff/Key Personnel
* Methodology (covered above)
* Experience
* Management of sustainability and social value
* Health & Safety

These other sections do not have any length limit as they are more dependent on other factors, such as how many staff will work on the project.

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**Clarification Questions**

Our bid team would appreciate it if you could also address the questions below.

1. Are non-priority habitats, specifically non-priority woodland to be included in the project?   In most tasks they are not included, but for some like the protected landscapes or sssi’s we may decide to add them in. Non- priority woodland may well be part of restoration options.
2. Is Task B for top 10 carbon habitats only?      Yes just the high Carbon Habitats – looking to understand climate risk to are high carbon store’s.
3. Is the whole of Task C for top 10 carbon habitats only?  Mostly yes – there is a little nuance in this in that we may find that some lower carbon habitat on a per ha basis are still in scope as they are very large in extent and so outperform other much smaller extent habitats. It is slightly dependent on what we discover in Task A and decisions the working group makes at the end of that section. The 10ish is we are hoping for a clear dividing line between high and low carbon ecosystems.
4. Do you want us to consider habitat restoration as well as creation?  Yes – we are interested in all major delivery actions that enhance nature and climate.
5. Can you elaborate on your expectations for the outputs of Tasks D & E? Stepping up a level going from habitat scale (with better data) to ecosystem and landscape scale. At the end of this section were looking for a list of real places to recommend that a Landscape Recovery scheme could be delivered on.

**Clarification Questions**

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|  | **Clarification Questions** | **Answers** |
| 1 | Does the upper limit of the contract (£40,000) include VAT? | No – exec VAT (so £49,999 inc VAT) |
| 2 | Task 2.2 A 2) Does the calculation of the existing carbon for nature require the calculation to include non Priority Habitat ie arable/improved grassland? | Probably not – although can confirm during project decision making |
| 3 | Task 2.2 A 2)b Does the calculation for carbon  in these protected areas require and assessment of geological SSSIs or all land within biological SSSI even if it consists of improved grassland designated for its breeding bird interest? | Yes – all land within SSSI’s although we don’t think geological ones will add much carbon. |
| 4 | Presume the assessment of carbon stored in National Parks and AONB relates to currently designated National Parks and AONB and not new designated landscapes or extension currently being considered? | Yes – current designations/ NP & AONB’s boundaries as are at time of project. |
| 5 | Task 2.2 A 3)a Can Natural England provide soil data in a GIS format or is there a requirement for the contractor to procure this? Please provide details of soil datasets that Natural England can provide. | Yes – soilscapes.  Peat Map  & NSRI/ Natmap data layers |
| 6 | Task 2.2 B iii & iv – are there questions missing in these sections? | No questions – just leave these blank |
| 7 | Task Ci  - Please confirm that Natural England will provide the FCS figures, habitat network maps and habitat potential layers? | FCS figures – yes spreadsheet, of progress and published to date.  Habitat network maps are open data off NE data portal.  We have a number of habitat potential layers. |
| 8 | Task Di e  - Presume Tree Expansion for Ancient Woodland refers to new woodland creation around ancient woodland sites? | Yes – we have some data on this. |
| 9 | Methodology/approach – please confirm that the maximum response length for the methodology is for 4 sides of A4 for all task elements (ie A-F), rather than per task. | Yes the methodology needs to be 4 sides for the tasks A-F – the other sections do not have a limit on them. |

**Answer**

**Clarification Questions**

**Answer**