**Clarifications for Bidders Questions:**

Phase 1 scoping and evidence gathering for Nature South-West; a cross regional partnership for nature recovery

**Q: Is it possible to know which organisations are within the ‘small existing steering group’ for the project?**

A: The steering group is currently made up of the Somerset Wildlife Trust and Somerset LNP, National Trust, Woodland Trust, RSPB, Great SW (regional powerhouse initiative) and Heart of SW LEP, NAAONB, Blackdown Hills AONB (representing all SW AONBs) and Exeter University. We have also engaged with the two national parks, Exmoor and Dartmoor, but they are not involved as of yet.

**Q: The project indicates a time frame of 2 months but asks for a questionnaire to be used to collect data and information to inform the project. In our experience this is an ambitious time frame given the stages of agreeing the questionnaire, gathering contacts, giving respondents a sufficient window to respond, and then analysing and using the findings to inform our analysis.  Will you consider proposals that include a project delivery schedule extending beyond the 2 months but deliver what you are looking for?**

A: We would be happy to accommodate extending the deadline to complete phase 1 considering your previous experience with similar work. We will move the deadline to Friday 2nd September 2023. This will give the chosen consultant another month to complete. If you feel the work needs more time, then please do add this into your quote and we will take any changes into consideration when evaluating quotes.