**HDC202412 – RFQ - Clarifications received up until 11th July 2024**

1. Were you looking for a single ecological enhancement plan encompassing all points detailed below (e.g. water quality, fish management etc) or hoping to have a separate document for each of these areas?

Our intention is that a single enhancement plan encompassing all points detailed be produced. The plan could separate these areas out within the document, or detail proposed projects and/or changes in management that take into account the points detailed (water quality, fish management etc) and try to achieve the multifunctionality across those areas where possible. However, we would not be opposed to individual plans addressing each point if that approach was proposed, as long as the plans were holistic in their overall approach to enhancement so as not to, for example, detail one project purely for fish management in an area of the pond, followed by another project in the same area that then doesn't take into account the first or the impact therein.

1. Aware of the overall contract value is £75,000 so just wanted to double check this was solely for the production of the plan(s), along with all the relevant site visits and meetings required, or does this total value also include the costs of actually conducting some of the pond management and restoration works? Just want to make sure we aren't missing anything in the expectations.

The RFQ is for only the production of the plan(s), no works or management would be undertaken by the winning bidder.

1. Regarding the tender requirement to "set out your definition of quality in relation to the services and how will this be managed" please could you clarify what sort of information you are looking for here? Is this in relation to ISOs for example, or are you wanting to see more broad information?

We would like to see broader information on the quality of work provided and how this is achieved and maintained; e.g. staff management structures, procedures to ensure staff retention, clear communication channels, model for successful on site delivery etc, that ensure the quality of the service offered is maintained at a high level.

1. What species record data do you hold and how current is this? (I think we covered this in part yesterday)

The most recent survey to contain species data is the Baseline Survey provided (appendix 3), we also have extensive historic records both formal and informal, through the local biodiversity information centre and many targeted surveys over time; fish, bird, botanical, and habitat surveys have all been undertaken at Fleet Pond in the last 10 - 20 years; there has not however been a formal monitoring strategy for these surveys so data is often a snapshot in time with no consistent timeseries data set. These can be shared with the winning bidder as necessary but we felt would be overwhelming to share as part of the tender process.

1. Do HDC have a preference as to whether the potential management group update/feedback sessions are held in person or is it acceptable for these to be run online?

Our preference would be for at least the first workshop with all major stakeholders to be run in person; we feel this would be more productive in order to get ideas down in the first instance - subsequent workshops and update/feedback sessions can be run online.