**Clarifications to Bidder’s Questions:**

**Intertidal blue carbon stocks and accumulation rates: investigating carbon storage potential of intertidal sediments for mitigating against climate change.**

**Q: The scope of works is extremely ambitious for the budget available. Is there any scope to increase this budget or reduce the amount of cores required?**

A: We are unable to increase the budget above £50,000. The ambiguity of the contract allows the contractors adapt the bid they submit within the scope of the RFQ.

**Q: How strict is the closing date for the contract?**

A: We require all deliverables by the 4th of March to ensure work can be fully paid for before the end of the financial year.

**Q: Are laboratories that are sub contracted to undertake analysis allowed to use the data to undertake additional analyses for their own research purposes, or is the data commercially confidential?**

A: Under the Open government licence the data will ultimately become publicly available for the sub contracted laboratory to use as the data is not commercially sensitive. If they wish to use the data they have no rights to the data and therefore need to reference the original work commissioned when using it. In summary the data will be made fully available to copy, publish, distribute and transmit, as long as the user follows the regulations specified within the Open Government License linked below.

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