

www.gov.uk/naturalengland

Request for Quotation

**Teesmouth National Nature Reserve Bird Hide 1**

## 

**Background on Natural England - What we do**

We are the government’s adviser for the natural environment in England, helping to protect England’s nature and landscapes for people to enjoy and for the services they provide.

Natural England is an executive non-departmental public body, sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs.

Further information can be found at [www.gov.uk/natural-england](http://www.gov.uk/natural-england)

We provide practical advice, grounded in science, on how best to safeguard England’s natural wealth for the benefit of everyone.

Our remit is to ensure sustainable stewardship of the land and sea so that people and nature can thrive. It is our responsibility to see that England’s rich natural environment can adapt and survive intact for future generations to enjoy.

## Request for Quotation

**Supply and erection of Bird Hide 1 (with removal of old hide)**

You are invited to submit a quotation for supply/installation of a new Bird Hide which shall for the purposes of this document be referred to as Bird Hide 1 and the removal of an the Bird Hide currently on site in Teesmouth referred to as the old Bird Hide

The site of the contract is on Teesmouth National Nature Reserve (the location of the old bird hide); the new bird hide will be sited on the same footprint as the old hide.

You are invited to quote for the following

Option 1 – Remove the old Bird Hide and deliver to Castle Eden Dene National Nature Reserve, Peterlee (on the basis the old Bird Hide is suitable to be moved)

Option 2 – Remove and dispose of the old Bird Hide (on the basis the old Bird Hide is not suitable for repurposing)

Design and build a replacement Bird Hide in the existing location at Teesmouth National Nature Reserve.

Please provide prices for option 1 and option 2 as the decision will not be made as to which option will be chosen until a review of viability of repurposing the old Bird Hide has been undertaken.

Please complete the “Pricing Schedule Bird Hide Teesmouth NNR” spreadsheet and return this along with your proposal and supporting documentation

Please confirm, by email, receipt of these documents and whether you intend to submit a quote.

Your response should be returned to the following email address by: 12:00 hrs on 27/02/23

Email: james.searle@naturalengland.org.uk

Please label your quotation **‘Response to Request for Quotation - Teesmouth National Nature Reserve Bird Hide 1. Final Submission’.**

**Key Contacts**

James Searle

TERN Project Officer

Lancaster House

Hampshire Court

Newcastle upon Tyne

Mob: 07442 881508 [James.searle@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:James.searle@naturalengland.org.uk)

James Searle will be your contact for any questions linked to the content of the quote pack or the process. Please submit any questions by email and note that, unless commercially sensitive, both the question and the response will be circulated to all tenderers.

Joe Davies

Senior Reserve Manager

Castle Eden Dene National Nature Reserve

Oakerside Dene Lodge

2 Stanhope Chase

Peterlee

Co Durham

SR8 1NJ

Tel: 0191 5860004 Mob: 07803 228414 [Joe.davies@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:Joe.davies@naturalengland.org.uk)

Joe Davies is the site manager for Teesmouth NNR and contactable regarding access.

**Timetable**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Action | Date |
| Date of issue of RFQ | ASAP by 10/02/2023 |
| Deadline for clarifications questions | 17/02/2023 |
| Deadline for receipt of Quotation | 27/02/23 – 12:00 hrs |
| Intended date of Contract Award | 01/03/2023 |
| Intended Contract Start Date | 06/03/23 |
| Intended Delivery Date / Contract Duration | By 31/03/2023 |

It is anticipated that this contract will be awarded to end no later than 31/03/2023. The timing of the work is critical; an early contract date is preferred, with work to take place as soon as possible. All work must be agreed in advance with Natural England due to the protected status of the nature reserve.

### Glossary

Unless the context otherwise requires the following words and expressions used within this Request for Quotation shall have the following meanings (to be interpreted in the singular or plural as the context requires):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| “Authority” | Means the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs acting as part of Natural England |
| “RFQ” | Means this Request for Quotation and all related documents published by the Authority and made available to suppliers |
| “Contract” | Means the contract to be entered into by the Authority and the successful supplier. |

### 

### Conditions applying to the RFQ

You should examine your response to the RFQ and related documents ensuring it is complete prior to submitting your completed quotation.

Your quotation must contain sufficient information to enable the Authority to evaluate it fairly and effectively. You should ensure that you have prepared your quotation fully and accurately and that prices quoted are arithmetically correct for the units stated.

The supplier by submitting a quotation is deemed to accept the terms and conditions in the RFQ. Failure to comply with the instructions set out in the RFQ may result in the supplier’s exclusion from this procurement.

### Acceptance of Quotations

By issuing this RFQ the Authority does not bind itself to accept any quotation and reserves the right not to award a contract to any supplier who submits a quotation.

#### Costs

The Authority will not reimburse you for any costs and expenses which you incur preparing and submitting your quotation, even if the Authority amends or terminates the procurement process.

#### Mandatory Requirements

The RFQ includes mandatory requirements and, if you do not comply with them, your quotation will not be evaluated. All mandatory requirements are set out in Bravo.

#### Clarifications

The Authority reserves the right to discuss, confidentially, any aspect of your quotation with you prior to any award of Contract to clarify matters.

#### Amendments

The Authority may amend the RFQ at any time prior to the deadline for receipt. If it amends the RFQ the Authority will notify you in writing and may extend the deadline for receipt in order to give you a reasonable time in which to take the amendment into account.

#### Conditions of Contract

The terms and conditions in the attached Condensed Terms and Conditions will be included in any contract awarded as a result of this RFQ process. The Authority will not accept any material changes to these terms and conditions proposed by a supplier.

#### Specification

The Authority is Natural England. The Authority’s priorities are to secure a healthy natural environment; a sustainable, low-carbon economy; a thriving farming sector and a sustainable, healthy and secure food supply. Further information about the Authority can be found at: [Defra](http://www.defra.gov.uk/). [Natural England](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/) [MMO](http://www.marinemanagement.org.uk/)

1. **Location and Site of Work**

Teesmouth National Nature Reserve (NNR)

North Gare

Hartlepool

TS25

Teesmouth NNR is located off the A178 Tees Road, between Hartlepool and Stockton. The

work-site overlooks Seal Sands mudflats (compartment 8) on the NNR. Seal Sands can be accessed on foot from the car park at Cowpen Marsh just south of the bridge over Greatham Creek

Work-site:

Grid Reference NZ 51683 25471 (OS Explorer 1:25,000, 306 Middlesbrough and Hartlepool).

Nearest Postcode: TS25 2DD

What3Words: ///boat.diary.bucks

1. **Access**

There are 2 vehicle access points which can be arranged with permission by the Senior Reserve Manager with either Sabic or PD Ports. The route is accessible by a flat-bed vehicle.

Access on foot is from the Seal Sands (Cowpen Marsh) car park off the A178, via an 800m flat surfaced path which leads right to the site of the hide, east of Seal Sands Road.

Choice of vehicle access route will be dependent on the timing of the contract and must be agreed in consultation with Natural England.

Access to be arranged with Senior Reserve Manager (SRM) Joe Davies. Tel: 07803 228414.

1. **Background to Project**

Teesmouth National Nature Reserve is situated on the north-western side of the mouth of the Tees Estuary. The Reserve may be approached from the A178 Tees Road via a number of access roads and tracks. The reserve supports a variety of ecologically important habitats including coastal vegetated shingle, mudflats, sand dunes and saltmarsh. These in turn support important assemblages of plant and animal communities. The reserve is nationally and internationally significant for breeding and wintering bird populations.

Natural England would like to install a Bird Hide 1 which will replace the existing Bird Hide which is suffering from rot and wear and tear. The new hide will enable visitors to continue to watch birds and seals and enjoy the natural beauty of the National Nature Reserve whilst overlooking the Seal Sands mudflats.

**Special points to note**

1. **The site is a National Nature Reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest and falls within the Teesmouth Special Protection Area; the area is therefore subject to statutory environmental legislation and protection. NE will need to apply to NE for permission to carry out the work in the form of a Habitats Regulations Assessment and SSSI Assessment.**
2. **The site is designated for the birdlife it supports therefore care must be taken to carry out the work with minimal disruption to waders and wildfowl using the site. This will be agreed through liaison with the Senior Reserve Manager. Installation of the hide should be carried out to minimise disturbance to overwintering waders and wildfowl, preferably before the end of March 2023. All works MUST be suspended in the event of freezing temperatures, as this is when the birdlife is most vulnerable to disturbance – the successful contactor must therefore be able to allow for this when planning the work. Timing will be arranged through liaison with the Senior Reserve Manager.**
3. **It is anticipated that the hide will be built off-site, then brought to site flat-packed and bolted together on site, thus causing minimal disruption and noise disturbance to wildlife and visitors.**
4. **The work-site is usually accessible to the general public, exposed to the weather, and in close proximity to steep unprotected slopes to tidal areas. All quotes MUST include detailed measures to address Health & Safety concerns identified in Natural England’s initial Risk Assessment and others that subsequently arise.**
5. **Contract details**

* Manufacture and install 1 no. standard hide 5.6 x 2.4m (approx.).
* Option 1 – Remove the old Bird Hide and delivery to Castle Eden Dene National Nature Reserve, Peterlee (on the basis the old Bird Hide is suitable to be moved)
* Assessment of old Bird Hide for viability for repurposing
* Option 2 – Remove and dispose of the old Bird Hide (on the basis the old Bird Hide is not suitable for repurposing).
* Provision of Welfare Facilities, contractors are required to assess the site to ensure the suitability of the proposed Welfare Facilities
* The new bird hide must be of similar size, shape and dimensions as the current hide which is to be removed as part of the contract before the new installation takes place. Photographs of current hide are supplied.
* The successful contractor will be required to measure up the existing hide/base before commencing with construction of the design brief to make sure the new hide sits well on the existing support base.
* Use of sustainable timber is a compulsory requirement for this contract. (See Annex 2, page 13).
* The hide should have tanalised cladding and openable, glazed shutters, (3 no across front, 1 no in each end). Windows to be glazed with clear Polycarbonate Perspex.
* Shutters should be fitted with friction hinges, bolts and handles as per existing spec.
* 2 sections must be adapted for disabled users with 2 alcoves, one at either end of the hide, plus windows and shelves at appropriate heights.
* 1 door with doorhandles at the rear of the hide, which is fully compliant with DDA regulations
* To be supplied with elbow rests and benches 3 no.
* Sloping roof to be standard brown ‘Plastisol steel’ sheets underdrawn with 12mm plywood or similar.
* Short (tanalised) access ramp approx. 6m long complete with handrails. Both must meet industry standards and be fully compliant with DDA regulations
* Guttering/drainpipe to be supplied and attached to the roof and front of the hide as per photo.
* The existing supporting base is to be re-used.
* All materials are to be delivered to site by the successful contractor who will supply all materials and bolt together/construct the hide on site.
* The quotation should also include extra provision to clad the hide with Plastisol steel sheets, budget permitting.
* Timber must be treated with a high quality, weatherproof 5-10year woodstain.
* Materials should be transported to site daily to avoid overnight storage of materials. The site must be left safe and tidy at the end of each working day.
* Signage must be in place for the duration of the work and at the end of each working day to warn the public of any hazards arising from the work.
* All site work/excavations are to be left safe at the end of each working day to minimise risk of injury should the public ignore signage.
* The timing of work will be arranged by consultation with Natural England. A Habitat Regulations Assessment and Site of Special Scientific Interest Assessment will be needed before the work can proceed. The Project Manager or Senior Reserve Manager (SRM) will apply for the assessments and will liaise with the appropriate Natural England personnel.
* The supplier shall be responsible for removing any waste arising from the job.
* Public toilets are available in Seaton Carew or in NE office at EDF Visitor Centre by arrangement with the SRM.

**While the quotation should be modelled on the specification of the existing/previous hide, a very similar specification and alternative materials may be acceptable, providing clear justification can be provided for doing so.**

**The successful contractor must pay particular attention to DDA compliance, the hide must be accessible and useable for wheelchairs and pushchairs. The hide must be as vandal-proof and low-maintenance as possible.**

**The removal of the old hide may also form part of this contract, except for the supporting base which is to be re-used. The quotation should, if possible, include costings for both removal of the old hide and construction and installation of the new hide.**

**5) Risks and Hazards**

Members of the public may approach the work site with the intent of using the hide - appropriate signage and control measures must be provided as needed, to prevent injury/slips, trips and falls. Natural England will supply a Site Hazard Plan and a generic risk assessment for Teesmouth NNR.

Equipment and materials are to be brought onto site each day and removed at the end of each day. Natural England will not accept liability for any damage or loss to third party equipment.

There are no significant archaeological constraints at the contract location. There are some ecological constraints relating to the birdlife on the reserve which have been described on page 6 above.

**In the event that the contractor needs to break the ground (eg., to install the new access ramp), it is their responsibility to check for electricity, gas, water or other underground services and cables within the work area and the contractor is responsible for such surveys/ checks prior to works commencing on site.**

**6) Health and Safety**

**All construction contractors engaged by NE should hold a valid Safety Schemes In Procurement (SSIP) certificate in the correct trade and scope.**

**All other contractors should be able to demonstrate a H&S system to the equivalent of SSIP certification.**

**If a SSIP is not held by the contractor then the contractor must complete a Natural England Contractor Competence Questionnaire which is then assessed by the representative of Natural England who is engaging the contractor.**

**The Health and Safety at Work Act is to be fully complied with at all times**. Before work commences Natural England will require completed:

1. Formal Appointments in Writing form
2. A construction phase plan
3. Designer Risk Analysis form

The Contractor will be appointed as the Principal Contractor and Principal Designer under the CDM Regulations 2015

Additionally Natural England will need to have seen all relevant documents including;

1. Task-specific risk assessment
2. Method statement
3. Company Health and Safety Policy if applicable (a legal requirement for all firms employing 5+ people)
4. Certificates of liability and insurance;
   1. Employers Liability Compulsory Insurance (if staff are employed)
   2. Public Liability Insurance
5. VAT registration number (if applicable)
6. Previous proven experience of similar work

As the appointed contractor you have been made aware of the hazards highlighted by Natural England. Work shall not commence without Natural England being in possession of the above appropriate documentation and an agreed safe method of working.

**7) Sustainable Operations**

As a delivery partner, the successful contractor is expected to pursue sustainability in their operations, thereby ensuring Natural England is not contracting with an organisation whose operational outputs run contrary to Natural England’s objectives.

All areas of work should be designed to minimise waste, reduce transport, maximise recycling etc.

The chosen delivery partner is reminded that we require -:

* **Waste** – minimise waste in design & manufacture.
* **Environmental impact** – avoid critical & irreversible environmental damage. Minimise general damage to ecology on site (such as disturbance to amphibians, damage to habitats, vegetation damage through trampling by people or vehicles; dust and high noise levels). Biosecurity. Plant and animal diseases, pests and invasive non- native species (INNS) can be spread between and within sites by visitors. Contractors must take adequate biosecurity precautions to ensure that the risk of spreading disease, pests and INNS is minimised i.e. vehicles, equipment and clothes (particularly boots) must be clean before entering a site, and cleaned again before leaving. Vehicles, equipment and clothes must be free of loose mud and plant debris
* **Transport** – minimise the transport distances of materials where possible. Promote green travel plans for site employees. Use of cleaner fuels for transport.
* **Vehicles** - vehicles must be checked on a daily basis for leaks, (ie., oil and fuel) and the successful contractor must carry a suitable spill kit to deal with accidental pollution incidents.
* **Energy** – be aware of energy required to obtain and process raw materials, transport the material (at all stages) and in construction

**N.B. Use of sustainable timber is a compulsory requirement for this contract**.

Please see more detail at Annex 2.

**Prices**

Prices must be submitted in £ sterling, inclusive of VAT.

**Quotation Evaluation**

We will award this contract in line with the most economically advantageous tender (MEAT) as set out in the following award criteria:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | Weighting (%) | **To include:** |
|  |  |  |
| Recent experience of carrying out similar contracts  & key personnel | 20% | Evidence that the contractor is competent to deliver the contract, by providing details of at least 1 previous similar contract including client, location, type of bird hide and approximate date |
| Cost  Completion of “Pricing Schedule Bird Hide Teesmouth NNR” spreadsheet | 25% | Must include VAT if applicable |
| Proposed methodology | 30% | Outline method statement of how you propose to deliver the services, this should include a project plan including resources. |
| Health and Safety | 25% | Details of how you will manage and mitigate any H&S risks detailed on page 8 of this document and the “Teesmouth Bird Hide Works Risk Assessment” document please provide details of any additional risks and mitigations. |
| Health and Safety | Pass/Fail | Provision of statutory documents and relevant documents on page 8 is a mandatory requirement failure to provide the required documents may result in your bid being deemed non compliant and excluded from the evaluation process |

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| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Justification** |
| For a score of hundred (100): | Excellent - Response is completely relevant and excellent overall.  The response is comprehensive, unambiguous and demonstrates a thorough understanding of the requirement and provides details of how the requirement will be met in full. |
| For a score of seventy (70): | Good - Response is relevant and good.  The response demonstrates a good understanding and provides details on how the requirements will be fulfilled. |
| For a score of fifty (50): | Acceptable - Response is relevant and acceptable.  The response provides sufficient evidence to fulfil basic requirements. |
| For a score of twenty (20): | Poor - Response is partially relevant and/or poor.  The response addresses some elements of the requirements but contains insufficient / limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the requirement will be fulfilled. |
| For a score of zero (0): | Unacceptable - Nil or inadequate response.  Fails to demonstrate an ability to meet the requirement. |

**Contract Management**

This contract shall be managed on behalf of the Authority by James Searle (TERN Project Officer) Email: [james.searle@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:james.searle@naturalengland.org.uk), Tel: 07442 881508

Access to site via Joe Davies (Senior Reserve Manager)

Email: [joe.davies@naturalengland.org.uk](mailto:joe.davies@naturalengland.org.uk), Tel: 07803 228414

1. To arrange a site visit before you submit your quote – please contact Joe Davies as above.
2. James Searle will arrange a pre-start meeting as soon as the contract has been approved.
3. Natural England staff will be on-site to monitor progress as the work is carried out.
4. James Searle and/or Joe Davies will undertake a final inspection after completion.

We will raise purchase orders to cover the cost of the services and will issue to the awarded supplier following contract award.

You should submit your invoice for payment after the work has been completed and inspected.

Payment will be made via bank transfer once we have received your supplier form giving us your account details. **We regret we cannot make payments by cheque or cash.**

### Disclosure

All Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and Non Departmental Public Bodies are subject to control and reporting within Government. In particular, they report to the Cabinet Office and HM Treasury for all expenditure. Further the Cabinet Office has a cross-Government role delivering overall Government policy on public procurement, including ensuring value for money and related aspects of good procurement practice.

For these purposes, the Authority may disclose within Government any details contained in your quotation. The information will not be disclosed outside Government during the procurement.

In addition, the Authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, which provide a public right of access to information held by public bodies. In accordance with these two statutes, the Authority may be required to disclose information contained in your quotation to any person who submits a request for information pursuant to those statutes.

By submitting a quotation you consent to these terms as part of the procurement.

### Disclaimers

Whilst the information in this RFQ and any supporting information referred to herein or provided to you by the Authority have been prepared in good faith the Authority does not warrant that this information is comprehensive or that it has been independently verified.

The Authority does not:

* make any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the RFQ;
* accept any liability for the information contained in the RFQ or for the fairness, accuracy or completeness of that information; or
* accept any liability for any loss or damage (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation or any other liability which cannot lawfully be excluded) arising as a result of reliance on such information or any subsequent communication.

Any supplier considering entering into contractual relationships with the Authority following receipt of the RFQ should make its own investigations and independent assessment of the Authority and its requirements for the goods and/or services and should seek its own professional financial and legal advice.

**Protection of Personal Data**

In order to comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2018 the contractor must agree to the following:

* You must only process any personal data in strict accordance with instructions from the Authority
* You must ensure that all the personal data that we disclose to you or you collect on our behalf under this agreement are kept confidential.
* You must take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of employees who have access to personal data.
* Only employees who may be required to assist in meeting the obligations under this agreement may have access to the personal data.
* Any disclosure of personal data must be made in confidence and extend only so far as that which is specifically necessary for the purposes of this agreement.
* You must ensure that there are appropriate security measures in place to safeguard against any unauthorised access or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage or disclosure of the personal data.
* On termination of this agreement, for whatever reason, the personal data must be returned to us promptly and safely, together with all copies in your possession or control.

**General Data Protection Regulations 2018**

For the purposes of the Regulations the Authority is the data processor.

The personal information that we have asked you provide on individuals (data subjects) that will be working for you on this contract will be used in compiling the tender list and in assessing your offer. If you are unsuccessful the information will be **held and destroyed within two years** of the award of contracts. If you are awarded a contract it will be retained for the duration of the contract and destroyed within **seven years** of the contract’s expiry.

We may monitor the performance of the individuals during the execution of the contract, and the results of our monitoring, together with the information that you have provided, will be used in determining what work is allocated under the contract, and in any renewal of the contract or in the award of future contracts of a similar nature. The information will not be disclosed to anyone outside the Authority without the consent of the data subject, unless the Authority is required by law to make such disclosures.

**Annex 2 Provision of legal and sustainable timber**

## 1 Requirements for timber

All timber and wood-derived products must be from independently verifiable legal and sustainable sources.

## 2 Requirements for proof of Timber Origin

2.1 Management of the forest or plantation shall be audited at intervals confirming ongoing good forest management and by organisations with appropriate forest management experience that are independent of the organisation that holds timber harvest and/or management rights for that forest.

2.2 Natural England will accept evidence of legal and sustainable timber products from either or both of the following two categories:

2.2.1 Category A evidence:

Certification under a scheme recognised by the UK Government as meeting the criteria set out in the document titled “UK Government Timber Procurement Policy: Criteria for Evaluating Category A Evidence” (available from the Authority on request and visible on the UK Government authorised Central Point of Expertise on Timber web site). The edition current on the day the Contract is awarded shall apply. A list of assessed certification schemes that currently meet the governments requirements can be found at www.proforest.net/cpet.

2.2.2 Category B evidence:

Documentary evidence other than Category A evidence that provides assurance that the source is sustainable. In this context “sustainable” is defined in the document titled “UK Government Timber Procurement Policy:

Evaluation of Category B Evidence:

Methodology” (available from Natural England on request and visible on the UK Government authorised Central Point of Expertise on Timber web site). The edition current on the day the Contract is awarded shall apply. Such Category B evidence may include, for example, independent audits and declarations by the Contractor or his contractors.

Where Category B evidence is to be relied on, the Contractor is required to notify Natural England of the source or sources of all virgin timber and wood derived products supplied. Source in this context means the forest or plantation where the trees were grown and all subsequent places of delivery through the supply chain prior to receipt by Natural England.

The Contractor shall separately identify virgin timber and wood-derived products supplied from forests and plantations that are claimed to be subject to sustainable timber production and shall submit to Natural England such documentation in respect of such wood to confirm that the criteria for sustainable timber production set out in this specification have been met.

**Additional terms and Conditions**

## Requirements for Timber

1.1. All timber and wood-derived products supplied or used by the Contractor in performance of the contract (including all timber and wood-derived products supplied or used by sub-contractors) shall comply with the Contract Specification.

## 2 Requirements for Proof of Timber Origin

2.1 If requested by Natural England, and not already provided at the tender evaluation stage, the Contractor shall provide to Natural England evidence that the timber supplied or used in the performance of the contract complies with the requirements of the Contract Specification.

2.2 Natural England reserves the right at any time during the execution of the Contract and for a period of 6 years from final delivery under the Contract to require the Contractor to produce the evidence required for Natural England’s inspection within 14 days of Natural England \_s written request.

2.3 The Contractor shall maintain records of all timber and wood derived products delivered to and accepted by the Authority. Such information shall be made available to the Authority if requested at any time.

## 3 Independent Verification

3.1. Natural England reserves the right to decide whether the evidence submitted to demonstrate legality and sustainability is adequate to satisfy Natural England that the timber or wood product complies with the Contract Specification. In the event that Natural England is not satisfied, the Contractor shall commission and meet the costs of an independent verification and report that will (a) verify the forest source of the timber or wood and (b) assess whether the source meets the criteria for legality and sustainability as defined in this Condition.

3.2 In this Contract independent verification means that an evaluation is undertaken and reported by an individual or body whose organisation, systems and procedures conform to ISO Guide 65:1996 (EN 45011:1998) General requirements for bodies operating product certification systems or equivalent: and who is accredited to audit against forest management standards by a body whose organisation, systems and procedures conform to ISO 17011: 2004 General Requirements for Providing Assessment and Accreditation of Conformity Assessment Bodies or equivalent.

Prices will remain fixed for the duration of the contract award period. We may at our sole discretion extend this contract to include related or further work. Any extension shall be agreed in advance of any work commencing and may be subject to further competition.