**Clarifications for Bidders Questions:**

Noise Disturbance - Baseline Level Monitoring in the Solent

**Q: We would need to see the previous survey methodology so that we can demonstrate our surveys would be able to be compared against them. Can we request the previous reports, I think we need this as early as possible to help with scope?**

A: Appendix C – Technical Questions has a misprint in E01 where it states, ‘Your response should include a summary of how you would use the previous survey design methodology to ensure comparability with historic datasets and ensure cost savings both in the field and during reporting.’ There are no previous surveys for this work, so this should not be included.

**Q: Is one week noise monitoring needed during each month of October, November, December, January or at least one week required across the entire 4-month period?**

A: One week noise monitoring is required during each month of the period. Natural England envisage this to be done using a sound level meter so should not require on site work for the full period.

**Q: What is the expectation should no anthropogenic features be visible or audible during attended surveys?**

A: If no anthropogenic activity is visible or audible during the survey, this can be recorded as a null result. Natural England notes the key sites have been chosen as they typically high levels of anthropogenic activity.

**Q: What is the expectation should there be no nearby bird populations during the days where a surveyor is attending site?**

A: If no bird populations are on site whilst the survey is being carried out, this can be recorded as a null result.

**Q: The invitation to tender suggests that the bird response and anthropogenic surveys can be completed in 12 days on site. We presume that this is the aggregate time anticipated for all 9 sites combined. Please confirm.**

A: Yes, the 12 days on site is a preliminary estimate for the total time on site, if additional site time would be required please include this in your tender and the pricing schedule.

**Q: Can you please confirm that only one round of observational surveys is required, or are you expecting a round of observational surveys for each of the months that the noise surveys are required for?**

A: It is expected for there to be observational surveys during each of the months that the noise surveys are required for.

**Q: Please confirm that the observational surveys should cover all 9 sites during the following conditions: weekday high tide; weekday low tide; weekend high tide; weekend low tide.**

A: Yes, the observational surveys should cover all 9 sites at the varying conditions at least once over the 4 month period.

**Q: Please confirm that you require 3 no. versions of the pricing schedule (one for areas 1,2,3,4,7,8, & 9; one for areas 5 & 6; and one for all survey areas combined).**

A: Yes, please price for the Hampshire areas (1,2,3,4,7,8 & 9) and Isle of Wight areas (5 &6) separately and one for all survey areas combined to indicate where cost savings could be made if both elements were awarded to a single tenderer.

**Q: Can you confirm whether bidders are to respond to the questions from this document in a template of their own, or if there is a specific template for Annex 1 & 2 answers to be provided on?**

A: The document ‘LIT 63303 – Guided Buying Request for Quote’ contains Annex 1 & 2 to be completed and returned. These annexes can be copied and used as a template in your quotation response.