|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Defra group CommercialLateral House 8 City Walk Leeds LS11 9AT | T: 03459 335577helpline@defra.gsi.gov.ukwww.gov.uk/defra |
|  |
| All Interested PartiesPublished Online | Our ref: P-32071Date: 21st March 2025 |

To Whom It Will Concern

# Market Engagement: Provision of Agricultural Valuation Services to Government

We require a range of valuers to work on behalf of Government to value livestock, crops, agricultural plant, equipment and other similar assets. Valuations are required to enable Government to pay compensation to owners of animals, crops, equipment etc. when we order the destruction of their property. For example, we will order the culling of animals with diseases such as TB, avian influenza and foot and mouth.

We have existing agreements in place to provide agricultural valuation services, but these agreements will come to an end in spring 2025. Prior to seeking a new set of agreements, we want to understand if our specification is fit for purpose. The specification is the document which describes:

* How valuers work on our behalf
* What experience valuers must have
* \*New Requirement\* The code of conduct we expect valuers to follow

We are seeking feedback from valuers, experts and interested parties on our draft specification. This represents your opportunity to help shape, change and define Governments approach to agricultural valuation services.

If you would like to help shape the future of Governments approach to agricultural valuation services, please review the draft specification & our questions overleaf. Please return your questionnaire, along with any other comments you have to tom.redfearn@defra.gov.uk.

We are asking for your feedback by 6th April 2025, we would then look to take your feedback on board and launch the procurement exercise to set up new agreements later in the spring. I hope you are interested in this opportunity to help shape our thinking and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Tom Redfearn

Senior Category Officer, Defra group Commercial

# Questionnaire: Agricultural Valuation Services

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Question | Response |
| We have introduced a new code of conduct into this specification at *Section 3 Sub-Section 6: Code of Conduct* (page 15) with the code set out in full on page 38.Is this code of conduct workable? Would you propose something different?Do you use a different code of conduct in your work? If so, we’d be interested in seeing your code of conduct. |  |
| Would you propose any changes to the specification?Do you think some aspects are not deliverable or will cost a lot?  |  |
| What pricing do you use in your business?For example, a day rate, fixed price for each valuation etc. |  |
| Is the level of experience we have required realistic? 1. Two years’ experience for valuations in England and Scotland.
2. Eight years’ experience for valuations in Wales.
3. 10 years’ experience for Expert Valuations (a valuer who will review valuations done by another valuer that may have been challenged by the owner of the animal).
4. 15 years’ experience for Monitor Valuers (a valuer who will assess the work of valuers & expert valuers for audit purposes e.g., during large animal disease outbreaks)
 |  |
| In relation to TB Valuations in Wales only:We are exploring an option for electronic returns of the valuation form.This will mean that valuers will be required to update and submit an electronic version of the Valuation Form to APHA. The relevant software will be required along with a device that would enable completion of the Valuation Form on farm; or alternatively a laptop/computer so that the details can be uploaded to the electronic Valuation Form and submitted after the valuation visit (e.g. when back in your office).Can you envisage this causing any issues in returning the TB Valuation forms to APHA in Wales?Would you propose a different approach? |  |