

Tender Brief for wetland scrape creation and river bank re-profiling at Blyth Mill (Project Ref: WEG Project wetland scrapes)

1. Introduction

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) is seeking to appoint a contractor on behalf of the Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership (TVWLP) to carry out large-scale landscaping works along the River Blythe at Blyth Mill near Coleshill, Birmingham B46 2AE (Grid Reference: SP20871 90735).

The primary project aim is to enhance the floodplain via the creation of a series of scrapes designed to store flood water and to improve habitat for biodiversity. The secondary project aim is to restore the connection of the River Blythe to the floodplain via the re-profiling of 120 metres of river bank. This will enhance riparian habitat and reduce the impacts of flooding both up and downstream of the works.

The work must be completed before the end of 2021. See Flood Risk Activity Permit EPR/KB3756SC for full list of time limits and conditions.

You are invited to submit a detailed proposal and cost breakdown through a formal tendering process in order to deliver this project as part of the Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership Scheme (TVWLPS). Due to the size and complexity of the works, a site visit is recommended, please arrange this with the project officer (contact details available at the bottom of this document).

2. Description of the Blythe Alive (WEG) project

The Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership (TVWLP) secured funding via a Water and Environment (WEG) grant in 2019 to improve the ecological status of the River Blythe SSSI. This is to be carried out through a range of smaller restoration projects encompassing invasive species management, floodplain meadow creation, river channel enhancements, tree planting and pond and wetland scrape creation, at pre-selected locations along the length of the river. Over the past year and a half, the TVWLP has worked to deliver a range of these projects, in collaboration with landowners and project partners. Although the COVID-19 outbreak has seen a setback in the timing of the project, the partnership is now looking to move forward with one of the bigger schemes under the WEG grant delivery.

One of the key projects is to restore floodplain connectivity and create a series of wetland scrapes along the River Blythe at Blyth Mill. This location is directly upstream of the confluence of the River Blythe and River Cole, and immediately downstream of the Blyth Mill weir. TVWLP envisages multiple benefits from the project including substantially improved habitat quality and diversity, enhanced habitat for aquatic and avian biodiversity, as well as natural flood management benefits including reduced local flooding and increased storage potential for excess water. AECOM were commissioned by TVW in 2019 to produce a construction ready detailed design plan for the work and the successful contractor would be expected to deliver the work in accordance with this design. See section 4 for list of supporting documents, designs and method statement.



3. Project Definition and Requirements

In summary, the successful contractor will be required to carry out the following as part of the contract (**please review the construction phase design plan and supporting documents for the detailed project information, as listed in Section 4**):

- ✓ Meet all Health and Safety requirements as outlined in the Design and Access Statement – i.e. supply the appropriate Risk Assessments, Policies, method statements (all updated to reflect awareness of the risks associated with COVID-19) and evidence of valid Public Liability Insurance of at least £2,000,000.
- ✓ Follow the specifications and procedures as set out in the Design and Access Statement and Environmental Statement. The contractor must be aware of all environmental issues highlighted and carry out their work with due regard to the river ecosystem and habitats, including all protected species.
- ✓ Set up a secure compound (as outlined in the Design and Access Statement).
- ✓ Using qualified and experienced drivers and tracked excavators and dumpers, excavate 900m³ of riverbank and re-profile to specified angle and dimensions (as set out in the design drawings). The riverbank will be re-profiled to 1:5 slope angle along a 120 metre length of the left bank (west bank / lake and compound side of the river), removing the spoil mounds that are currently present along this section. Machinery will need to track across a designated haul route, across a ford in the river channel to carry out the works on the right bank.
- ✓ Excavate 3960m³ of earth and create 10 floodplain scrapes in the designated areas and of the specified dimensions and depth (as set out in the design drawings) on the floodplain between the Cole and Blythe rivers.
- ✓ The works will result in the total excavation of approximately 5,000m³ of spoil. All excavated spoil will be deposited at a nearby CEMEX quarry site. See the Design and Access Statement and Environment Statement for more information.
- ✓ Bank re-profiling works are to be completed between 01 September 2021 and 30 September 2021.
- ✓ Wetland Scrape works to be completed between 01 September 2021 and 31 December 2021.

The Tame Valley Wetlands have the necessary Flood Risk Activity Permits and Consent to carry out works in a SSSI from the Environment Agency and Natural England respectively.

What the contractor will **not** be required to do (the responsible organisation is written in brackets):

- ✗ Apply for Flood Risk Activity Permit (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Tame Valley Wetlands).
- ✗ Carry out the required habitat works prior to the landscaping works taking place (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Tame Valley Wetlands).
- ✗ Supply the Ecological Clerk of Works (a suitably qualified member of staff from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust will carry out this work in close collaboration with the contractor).
- ✗ Apply for SSSI consent from Natural England (Warwickshire Wildlife Trust and Tame Valley Wetlands).
- ✗ Plant reeds and/or plug plants and install coir matting (Tame Valley Wetlands and project volunteers)
- ✗ Seek landowner consent (Landowner has already given permission for the works).



4. Supporting Documents

The documents listed below are available from the TVW project officer. Please request these via email if you wish to submit a tender proposal bid. The documents should be used in conjunction with this Brief in order to inform the tender submitted.

- AECOM Design and Access Plan
- AECOM Environmental Statement
- Machinery Access Map and Compound location
- CEMEX location for spoil deposit
- Project A3 Cross sections 002a-Model
- Project A3 Plan 003a-Model
- TVWLPS Project WEG Blyth Mill - Site Location Plan
- Utilities map
- Flood Risk Activity Permit EPR/KB3756SC.

****Please note that these documents also make reference to a bypass channel. Bypass channel works are not currently going ahead.**

5. Procurement Process

This contract is being tendered via Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

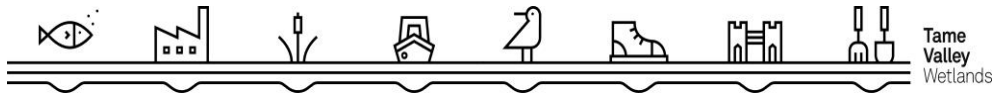
All contractors seeking to tender may contact the Project Officer to seek clarification on any points within this Brief prior to submitting their tender. One site visit per contractor may be arranged upon request, although this is subject to COVID protocols and risk, as well as government advice at the time. Contractors must not directly discuss this project with any other member of staff from Warwickshire Wildlife Trust.

The successful contractor will be selected on the basis of their written response to the brief. Submissions will be assessed on the basis set out in the following sections.

Below is an indicative timetable for the appointment of the contractor and the completion of the works (please note that this may be subject to change due to the ongoing COVID pandemic):

Milestone	Date
Brief issued	28 January 2021
Deadline for submission of quotes / tenders	26 February 2021
Appointment of contractor	11 March 2021
Submission of documents including signed contracts	31 March 2020
Commencement of works	01 September 2021
Completion of works	31 December 2021

6. Submission Requirements



Contractors wishing to quote for this work are asked to provide the following as two separate documents:

- **Document A (quality assessment).** The format of this document is left to the discretion of the contractor but it should be no longer than 20 A4 pages and should include the following:
 - A description of the suggested approach to the works, highlighting key issues, proposed methodology and risks.
 - The roles and responsibilities of the contractor and the contractor team.
 - Health and Safety Policies – to cover all aspects of large-scale landscaping works, as set out in the Design and Access Statement and Environmental Statement.
 - The contractor's head or regional office location.
 - Logistics – what heavy plant machinery will be used (including specifications), will the work be subcontracted, will machines / drivers be hired in or are they owned / employed by the contractor?
 - Mitigation measures to (i) reduce the risk of delays, and (ii) reduce damage to the environment.
 - A specific mitigation measure and risk assessment focusing on COVID-19
 - A breakdown of the programme of works – its key stages and an indicative timetable for completing the work (including the length of time the work is expected to take) and the earliest point at which this work could begin.
 - A statement on the relevance and skills of their organisation to the delivery of this work. To include evidence of previous experience of similar projects and CVs (if appropriate) of the key members of the contractor team.

Please note that the contract, including all works must be completed by the end of December 2021 at the latest.

- **Document B (price assessment).** The contractor must include a breakdown of all fees and costs, indicating the following in their response to the brief (and whether costs are including or excluding VAT):
 - Rate (£) per cubic metre (m³) of spoil excavated
 - Mobilisation of machinery (£).
 - Transportation and deposition of spoil (£).
 - Sundry costs
 - Total cost (£ excluding VAT).
 - Total cost (£ including VAT) – final fixed fee to carry out all of the works outlined in this brief.

The submitted documents should be clearly identified as being either Document A or Document B. Document A should not contain any reference to fees or costs as the two elements Document A (quality) and Document B (price) will be assessed independently of each other. See Section 7 for the weightings of these two documents.

The tender documents should be submitted by noon on 26 February 2021 (via email). No late submissions will be accepted.



Please submit your documents to:
Tame Valley Wetlands Landscape Partnership Scheme

Mobile: 07587550077

Email: andrew.apanasionok@wkwat.org.uk

7. Assessment

This contract will be awarded based on the price and the quality criteria indicated below.

The contractor's quality and price submissions will be scored and those scores weighted in the ratio 30:70 (quality: price). The contractor with the highest aggregate score will be considered for the work.

The price assessment (B) will be marked out of 100 points. The lowest price quote will be awarded 100 marks. The other submissions will have one mark deducted for each percentage point by which the cost is above that of the lowest (e.g. a contractor tendering at a total of 20% above the lowest price will receive 80 marks).

The quality assessment (A) will be marked out of 100 points allocated against weighted criteria as described below. The assessment will judge submissions based wholly on the contents of the information provided using a common evaluation method. The highest quality score calculated will be awarded 100 marks. Other quality scores will have one mark deducted for each percentage point by which the total is below that of the highest (e.g. a total of 20% below the best quality score will receive 80 marks). The assessors will keep in mind three key questions when reviewing submissions:

- Confidence: Does the proposed contractor give reassurance that they are likely to achieve the needs and objectives of the Brief?
 Value: Do the proposals provide best value?
 Risk: Has the submission identified all the risks presented by the proposal?

The Assessment Criteria (quality):

	Item	Marks (out of 5) (a)	Weighting (b)	Total (a x b)
1.	Proposed methodology for undertaking the work identified within the brief.		5	
2.	Understanding of the key issues identified within the brief, including Health & Safety.		5	
3.	Evidence of previous experience of similar projects (individual or contractor team).		3	
4.	The makeup of the proposed team to undertake the work.		2	
5.	The indicated breakdown of the key stages, areas of work and the indicative timetable.		5	

Below is an indication of how submissions will be scored (quality):

<p>1.</p>	<p><u>Proposed methodology for undertaking the work identified within the brief</u></p> <p>Is there a clear and structured approach to the work required?</p>	<p>5. Have demonstrated a comprehensive approach to the work that goes beyond all the key work identified in the brief.</p> <p>4. Have demonstrated a comprehensive approach to the work that includes all the key work identified in the brief.</p> <p>3. Have demonstrated a good approach to the work that includes all the key work identified in the brief.</p> <p>2. Have demonstrated a good approach that includes some of the key work identified in the brief.</p> <p>1. Have demonstrated an adequate approach to some or all of the key work identified in the brief.</p> <p>0. Have not provided a satisfactory methodology.</p>
<p>2.</p>	<p><u>Understanding of the key issues identified within the brief, including Health & Safety</u></p> <p>Is there a clear understanding of the key issues set out in the brief?</p>	<p>5. Have demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the issues that goes beyond all those identified in the brief.</p> <p>4. Have demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the issues that includes all those identified in the brief.</p> <p>3. Have demonstrated a good understanding of the issues that includes all those identified in the brief.</p> <p>2. Have demonstrated an understanding of the issues that includes all those identified in the brief.</p> <p>1. Have demonstrated an adequate understanding of some or all of those identified in the brief.</p> <p>0. Have not provided a satisfactory methodology.</p>
<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Evidence of previous experience of similar projects (individual or contractor team)</u></p>	<p>5. Are able to provide three directly relevant and comparable examples of previous pieces of work.</p> <p>4. Are able to provide two directly relevant and comparable examples of previous pieces of work.</p> <p>3. Are able to provide one directly relevant and comparable examples of previous pieces of work.</p> <p>0. Are not able to provide any relevant and comparable examples of previous projects.</p>



4.	<u>The makeup of the proposed team to undertake the work</u>	<p>5. The proposed team have skills and expertise that exceed those identified in the brief.</p> <p>4. The proposed team have skills and expertise that meet all those identified within the brief.</p> <p>3. The proposed team have skills and expertise that meet some of those identified within the brief.</p> <p>0. The proposed team do not have any of the skills and expertise identified within the brief.</p>
5.	<u>The indicated breakdown of the key stages, areas of work and the indicative timetable</u>	<p>5. Have demonstrated a comprehensive approach to the work that goes beyond that identified in the brief.</p> <p>4. Have demonstrated a comprehensive approach to the work that includes everything identified in the brief.</p> <p>3. Have demonstrated a good approach to the work that includes everything identified in the brief.</p> <p>2. Have demonstrated a good approach that includes everything identified in the brief.</p> <p>1. Have demonstrated an adequate approach to some or all identified in the brief.</p> <p>0. Have not provided a satisfactory approach.</p>
<p>Any applicant scoring less than “acceptable – 3 marks” in two or more categories or any scores of “not acceptable” will be disqualified. Contractors will also be disqualified from the tendering process if the works cannot be delivered by the end of 2021.</p>		