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Contract

Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-000446

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058c49 ([view related notices](#))

Published 5 January 2026, 4:21pm

Scope

Reference

C29870

Description

The Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis Framework (2025–2033) is an open framework agreement led by the Environment Agency on behalf of the Defra Group, with an estimated value of £4.9 million over eight years (excluding VAT).

The Framework will comprise of 5 Suppliers.

The contract starts on 12 December 2025 and expires on 11 December 2028. The Contract may run until 11 December 2033, subject to the extensions provision.

Commercial tool

Establishes an open framework

A series of frameworks with substantially the same terms. Awarded suppliers are carried over and new suppliers can bid.

Framework

Open framework scheme end date (estimated)

11 December 2033

Maximum percentage fee charged to suppliers

0%

Further information about fees

n/a

Framework operation description

Services will be procured by the Business Partners (Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW)), on an ad-hoc basis, based on the business need, under a Call-Off Agreement. The Bids for each assignment will be evaluated in competition, on a commercial basis.

Award method when using the framework

With competition

Contracting authorities that may use the framework

Services will be procured by the Business Partners (Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and Natural Resources Wales (NRW)), on an ad-hoc basis, based on the business need, under a Call-Off Agreement. The Bids for each assignment will be evaluated in competition, on a commercial basis.

Contract 2. C32162 - Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

Suppliers (5)

- [APEM Limited](#)
- [Hebog Environmental Limited](#)
- [Ocean Ecology Limited](#)
- [Thomson Environmental Consultants Limited](#)
- [University of Hull](#)

Contract value

- £4,900,000 excluding VAT
- £5,880,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

11 December 2025

Contract dates

- 12 December 2025 to 11 December 2028
- Possible extension to 11 December 2033
- 8 years

Description of possible extension:

Each Contract will be awarded for 3 years with the option to extend.

Up to 8 years (3+1+2+2), ending no later than 11 December 2033.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Each Contract will be awarded for 3 years with the option to extend.

Up to 8 years (3+1+2+2), ending no later than 11 December 2033.

CPV classifications

- 73110000 - Research services

Key performance indicators

Name	Description	Reporting frequency
Appendix 2 - Key Performance Indicators - KPIs	Appendix 2 - Key Performance Indicators - KPIs	1 months

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Suppliers

APEM Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHWL-6298-CTCP

Riverview A17 Embankment Business Park Heaton Mersey Stockport SK4 3GN United Kingdom

Stockport

SK4 3GN

United Kingdom

Email: tenders@apemltd.co.uk

Region: UKD35 - Greater Manchester South East

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. C32162 - Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

Hebog Environmental Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXPV-6275-NRDW

Hebog Environmental Limited Mentec Deiniol Road Bangor Gwynedd LL57 2UP United Kingdom

Gwynedd

LL57 2UP

United Kingdom

Email: info@hebog-environmental.co.uk

Region: UKL12 - Gwynedd

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. C32162 - Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

Ocean Ecology Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGWV-4561-PXYN

Ocean Ecology Limited River Office Severnside Park Epney GL2 7LN United Kingdom

Epney

GL2 7LN

United Kingdom

Email: at@osc.co.uk

Region: UKK13 - Gloucestershire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. C32162 - Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

Thomson Environmental Consultants Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNTZ-6879-JRHW

Compass House 60 Priestley Road Surrey Research Park Guildford United Kingdom

Guildford

GU2 7AG

United Kingdom

Email: tenders@thomsonec.com

Region: UKJ25 - West Surrey

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. C32162 - Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

University of Hull

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PGQV-8647-LZDM

Cottingham Road Kingston Upon Hull Hull HU6 7RX United Kingdom

Hull

HU6 7RX

United Kingdom

Email: w.a.musk@hull.ac.uk

Region: UKE11 - Kingston upon Hull, City of

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 2. C32162 - Marine Macrobenthic Invertebrate Sample Analysis (2025-2033)

Contracting authority

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNWW-1475-NYLN

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

United Kingdom

Contact name: Harry Dundas

Email: harry.dundas@environment-agency.gov.uk

Website: <https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Other organisation

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

Summary of their role in this procurement: Responsible for procuring the service on behalf of the Environment Agency.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNBD-3289-CDGX

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

United Kingdom

Contact name: Defra Group Commercial

Email: dgcenquiries@defra.gov.uk

Website: <https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Contact organisation

Contact [ENVIRONMENT AGENCY](#) for any enquiries.