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Contract

## **ID 5489705 - DAERA Marine and Fisheries - Letting of Benthic Infaunal Analysis contract**

DAERA:Marine and Fisheries Division

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-008978

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04d3fa

Published 12 March 2025, 1:26pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

DAERA:Marine and Fisheries Division

Rathkeltair House, Market Street

Downpatrick

BT30 6AJ

#### **Contact**

ssdadmin.cpdfinance-ni.gov.uk

#### **Email**

[ssdadmin@cpdfinance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:ssdadmin@cpdfinance-ni.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

**I.2) Information about joint procurement**

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Environment

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

ID 5489705 - DAERA Marine and Fisheries - Letting of Benthic Infaunal Analysis contract

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 77000000 - Agricultural, forestry, horticultural, aquacultural and apicultural services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

The Marine Monitoring and Assessment team (MMAT) within the Marine and Fisheries

Division of DAERA has responsibility for protection of the marine environment. The analysis of benthic infaunal samples is a statutory requirement under The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 as one of the primary biological quality elements used to classify the ecological quality status of a given waterbody. Additionally benthic infaunal analysis may be required under related statutory instruments and agreements including, amongst others, the Marine Strategy Framework, The Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 and Licensing deposits in the sea under Part 4 of The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. DAERA – MMAT requires a supplier to provide analysis of benthic infaunal samples. Data generated from the analysis of these samples on behalf of the Marine Monitoring and Assessment team will support delivery of the relevant statutory monitoring and classification requirements and is submitted to the UK National database. The contract is for an initial period of 3 years from date of award, (envisaged to be 1 April 2025) to 31 March 2028. There are two (2) options to extend for a period of up to twelve (12) months each. Please refer to Tender Documents for full details.

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

#### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Value excluding VAT: £875,000

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 77700000 - Services incidental to fishing
- 77800000 - Aquaculture services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Marine Monitoring and Assessment team (MMAT) within the Marine and Fisheries Division of DAERA has responsibility for protection of the marine environment. The analysis of benthic infaunal samples is a statutory requirement under The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 as one of the primary biological quality elements used to classify the ecological quality status of a given waterbody. Additionally benthic infaunal analysis may be required under related

statutory instruments and agreements including, amongst others, the Marine Strategy Framework, The Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999 and Licensing deposits in the sea under Part 4 of The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009. DAERA – MMAT requires a supplier to provide analysis of benthic infaunal samples. Data generated from the analysis of these samples on behalf of the Marine Monitoring and Assessment team will support delivery of the relevant statutory monitoring and classification requirements and is submitted to the UK National database. The contract is for an initial period of 3 years from date of award, (envisaged to be 1 April 2025) to 31 March 2028. There are two (2) options to extend for a period of up to twelve (12) months each. Please refer to Tender Documents for full details.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Service Delivery Methodology / Weighting: 25.2

Quality criterion - Name: Team Experience / Weighting: 15.4

Quality criterion - Name: Standing Operating Procedures SOP / Weighting: 18.9

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10.5

Cost criterion - Name: Total Contract Price / Weighting: 30

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract is for an initial period of 3 years from date of award, envisaged to be 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2028. There are two 2 options to extend for a period of up to twelve 12 months each.

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2025/S 000-001619](#)

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Contract No**

1

### **Title**

Contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

7 March 2025

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

APEM LTD

Riverview

STOCKPORT

SK4 3GN

Email

[tenders@apemltd.co.uk](mailto:tenders@apemltd.co.uk)

Telephone

+44 1614428938

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

The contractor is an SME

Yes

**V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)**

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £875,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £194,098

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The UK does not have any such bodies with responsibility for appeal/mediation procedures. Instead; any challenges are dealt with by the High Court, Commercial Division, to which proceedings may be issued regarding alleged breaches of the PCR 2015 as amended.

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

CPD complied with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and incorporated a standstill period (i.e. a minimum of 10 calendar days) at the point information on the award of contract was communicated to tenderers. That notification provided full information on the award decision. This provided time for the unsuccessful tenderers to challenge the award decision before the contract was entered into.