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Contract

Aquatic Water Quality Award Scheme

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH AGENCY

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-010606

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-06493c

Published 5 February 2026, 3:41pm

Scope

Reference

C32988

Description

This Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) has been developed to define how the APHA and Bristol Zoological Society shall work together for the continuation and expansion of the Aquatic Quality Award (AQUA) biosecurity accreditation and certification scheme across England and into Wales.

The AQUA scheme - as a biosecurity accreditation/certification scheme to reduce the impact and spread of Invasive Alien Species in freshwater aquatic, riparian and coastal environments – was originally a regional pilot in the South-West of England, run by the Partner, in conjunction with the Authority, Southwest Water, and the Southwest Lakes Trust. This was through the RAPID (Reducing and Preventing Invasive Alien Species Dispersal) LIFE Project. The continuation and expansion of the AQUA Scheme across England and into Wales and Scotland shall maintain and develop the benefits from the regional pilot and support the legacy of the RAPID LIFE Project.

This MoA shall commence on 01 April 2025 and (subject to earlier termination on the terms of this MoA) shall continue until 31 March 2027 which period may be extended by the written agreement of the Parties. The MoA was signed on 05 February 2026.

Contract 1. Aquatic Water Quality Award Scheme

Supplier

- [Bristol Zoological Society](#)

Contract value

- £20,000 excluding VAT
- £24,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Date signed

5 February 2026

Contract dates

- 6 February 2026 to 31 March 2027
- Possible extension to 31 March 2028
- 2 years, 1 month, 23 days

Description of possible extension:

12.1. This MoA shall commence on 01 April 2025 and (subject to earlier termination on the terms of this MoA) shall continue until 31 March 2027 which period may be extended by the written agreement of the Parties.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79132000 - Certification services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - without competition

Supplier

Bristol Zoological Society

Wild Place Project Blackhorse Hill

Bristol

BS10 7TP

United Kingdom

Email: info@bzsociety.org.uk

Website: <https://bristolzoo.org.uk/bristol-zoological-society>

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): Yes

Contract 1. Aquatic Water Quality Award Scheme

Contracting authority

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH AGENCY

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBHC-6261-BLLQ

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@defra.gov.uk

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

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government