

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/015625-2025>

Planning

## **AFBI Commercialisation of AFBI bred grass varieties - PRE MARKET ENGAGEMENT**

Agri-food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI)

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-015625

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050436

Published 16 April 2025, 3:30pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

ID 5870806

### **Description**

PRE-MARKET ENGAGEMENT EXERCISE - the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA), via its non-departmental public body, the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) in Northern Ireland, is preparing a procurement process for the commercialization rights to forage grass varieties bred at the AFBI site in Loughgall. AFBI wishes to assess the potential for implementation of a new funding model for the AFBI grass breeding programme in which funding is provided by the commercial partner for the entire grass breeding pipeline. Currently funding is provided by a commercial partner for near-market testing only. Funding for the entire pipeline would include all activities directly involved in variety production and development, but would not include associated research

projects, which AFBI would seek to be funded by other sources.. Before launching a procurement procedure, AFBI and Construction and Procurement Delivery (CPD) are conducting market consultations to raise awareness of a possible forthcoming procurement opportunity, and to engage with potential providers around the feasibility of this new funding model ahead of a possible release for a subsequent tender.

### **Total value (estimated)**

- £2,800,000 excluding VAT
- £3,360,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 June 2025 to 30 November 2025
- 6 months

### **Main procurement category**

Services

### **CPV classifications**

- 77100000 - Agricultural services
- 66151000 - Financial market operational services

## **Contract locations**

- UKN - Northern Ireland

---

## **Engagement**

### **Engagement deadline**

16 May 2025

### **Engagement process description**

If you wish to participate in the Contracting Authority's Preliminary Market Engagement for this requirement, a questionnaire for completion is available via eTendersNI under ID 5870806

The questionnaire must be completed and submitted via eTendersNI by the engagement deadline date detailed above, by no later than 1500 hours.

Details can be found within the questionnaire document.

---

## **Participation**

### **Particular suitability**

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

---

## Contracting authority

### Agri-food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBLN-5294-NVHZ

18a Newforge Lane

Belfast

BT9 5PX

United Kingdom

Email: [info@afbini.gov.uk](mailto:info@afbini.gov.uk)

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

---

## Other organisation

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

## CPD - Supplies & Services Division

Summary of their role in this procurement: Construction and Procurement Delivery - Supplies and Services Division, is a Centre of Procurement Expertise and provides a central procurement function for central government in Northern Ireland.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVWG-8426-YWXV

Clare House, 303 Airport Road West

Belfast

BT3 9ED

United Kingdom

Email: [justice.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:justice.cpd@finance-ni.gov.uk)

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

---

## Contact organisation

Contact [CPD - Supplies & Services Division](#) for any enquiries.