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Tender

CEFAS25-81 RFQ for a geophysical and bathymetric survey at Sizewell C

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE

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Scope

Description

The Sizewell BEEMS (British EDF Estuarine and Marine Studies) programme is funded by Sizewell C Limited (SZC). Through this programme, Cefas provide authoritative scientific information on the marine and transitional waters in the vicinity of the consented SZC new build nuclear power station and require a competent supplier to deliver the element described below. The Ross Worm *Sabellaria spinulosa* is a sedentary, epifaunal polychaete worm which builds tubes by consolidating particles of sediment (Limpenny et al, 2010). *S. spinulosa* is abundant in UK waters, largely existing in solitary form or within small, low-lying aggregations (Hayward and Ryland, 1990). However, under the right environmental conditions they also can establish dense colonies and form biogenic reefs. These biogenic reefs are protected as an Annex I habitat under the EU Habitats Directive (EEC, 1992), and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are designated for their protection. With the aim of improving our understanding of the extent, distribution, and nature of *S. spinulosa* biogenic reef (i.e. reefiness) across the area of interest, Cefas has commissioned this Contract to deliver a geophysical and bathymetric survey of this area with co-located ground-truthing using an ARIS acoustic imaging system. We have proposed two options as to levels of provision. The primary acquisition will be for a full

multispectral Multi Beam Echo Sounder (MBES) bathymetry survey with con-current Side Scan Sonar (SSS) and ARIS ground-truthing. The key element of the requirement is the use of multispectral MBES system. Owing to the focus on multispectral MBES systems, we are providing the following two options for provision under this RFQ. a. PREFERRED Option One - Provision of a hydrographic survey vessel with A-Frame and winch (SWL 150Kg min) and hydrographic survey services b. Option Two - Provision of a hydrographic survey vessel with A-Frame and winch (SWL 150Kg min) and crew only. Option One is the preferred option and this will be the option that is awarded if any submitted bids are determined suitable via the evaluation process. Submitted bids for Option Two will only be evaluated if there are no suitable bids for the preferred Option One. Estimated Budget £25,000 - £40,000

Total value (estimated)

- £40,000 excluding VAT
- £48,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 1 December 2025
- Possible extension to 1 December 2026
- 1 year, 3 months, 1 day

Description of possible extension:

The work is expected to be undertaken in summer 2025 but if marine works schedule changes, then an extension may be agreed by both parties to allow the work to be completed, for a period up to 12 months after the Contract end date.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 63726800 - Research vessel services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Conditions of participation

As per Bidder Pack

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

11 August 2025, 5:00pm

Tender submission deadline

15 August 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://atamis-9529.my.site.com/s/Welcome> All bids to be submitted via the above eProcurement system.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Technical	Quality	60.00%
Price	Price	30.00%
Social Value	Quality	10.00%

Procedure**Procedure type**

Below threshold - open competition

Contracting authority

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPGW-5299-JGTN

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United Kingdom

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

Region: UKH14 - Suffolk

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government