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Tender

Provision of Legal Advice for Restoring Exmoor's Heartlands Landscape Recovery Project

Exmoor National Park Authority

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-047554

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0584f0

Published 11 August 2025, 10:51am

Scope

Reference

ENPA0020-25

Description

Reviving Exmoor's Heartlands is part of Defra's Landscape Recovery scheme, aiming to support long-term, large-scale restoration of England's most precious habitats. The Reviving Exmoor's Heartlands (REH) project is a round 2 Landscape Recovery project that has been approved for a two year development phase, which started in April 2024. The project aims to restore Exmoor's central moorlands to a thriving ecological state with good habitat connectivity to the wider landscape, supported by viable farming. The project area spans approximately 12,000 hectares made up of a cluster of over 20 upland farms and moorland landholdings including large areas of common land, supporting mainly extensive beef and sheep enterprises. ENPA are inviting bids from suitably qualified legal professionals or firms with experience in business law and contracts, governance, blended finance structures, and public sector project delivery to assist in the legal structuring and governance planning of our SLE, and negotiation of critical legal documentation to enable effective, long-term delivery. Experience of working with

Commoners Associations would be an advantage.

The appointed legal supplier will: Advise on Legal Structure and Governance

- Evaluate and compare options for suitable legal entity structures aligned with the project goals (e.g. CIC, CIO, LLP, BenCom).
- Present clear and actionable advice to the project steering group and participants via an evening workshop to make a final decision on the legal form and governance arrangements.
- Draft a fit-for-purpose governance structure and plan for the selected SLE model compliant with HM Treasury's Managing Public Money principles.

Draft and Review Legal Agreements

- Draft and advise on: - Agreements between the SLE and land managers/commoners associations.
- Implementation agreement with Natural England.
- Contracts with private investors and partners. - Identify and evaluate legal tools to safeguard environmental outcomes (e.g. conservation covenants, land trusts).

Ensure agreements:

- Provide long-term environmental and legal security.
- Address enforcement, flexibility, and succession planning for land ownership.

Conduct Land & Title Due Diligence

- Review land ownership titles for risks, rights, or restrictions.
- Complete due diligence letters to be submitted to Natural England before contract signing.
- Identify and propose resolutions for any legal impediments to delivery.

Statutory Consents and Risk Management

- Identify required statutory consents, permits, or licenses.
- Highlight legal risks and develop mitigation strategies.

Total value (estimated)

- £80,000 excluding VAT
- £96,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 29 September 2025 to 31 March 2026
- Possible extension to 30 September 2026
- 1 year, 2 days

Description of possible extension:

ENPA have applied for an extension from Defra on this project but no confirmation has been received so this extension cannot be guaranteed at this stage.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79100000 - Legal services

Contract locations

- UKK4 - Devon

- UKK23 - Somerset

Participation

Conditions of participation

As set out in the RFQ document

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

18 August 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

25 August 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

Suppliers can access the business opportunity via Supplying the South West Procurement portal at <https://www.supplyingthesouthwest.org.uk>.

Register your expression of interest to the advert and then automatic access will be provided to the competition documentation, terms and conditions and any supporting information. This information can be downloaded for completion. Your submission can be started on the same system/page where you downloaded the documentation.

The authority does not accept submission from any other method.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
Quality	Quality	70.00%
Price	Price	30.00%

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Contracting authority

Exmoor National Park Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNTL-8332-CCCH

Exmoor National Park Authority

Dulverton

TA22 9HL

United Kingdom

Contact name: Mrs Charlotte Thomas

Email: cthomas@exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk/>

Region: UKK23 - Somerset

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government