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Tender

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

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-047778

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-056573

Published 11 August 2025, 5:07pm

### **Changes to notice**

This notice has been edited. The [previous version](#) is still available.

The Submission Deadline has been extended to 20/08/2025 at 12:00 midday UK time.

### **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

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## **Participation**

### **Conditions of participation**

As per Bidder Pack

### **Particular suitability**

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

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## Submission

### Enquiry deadline

13 August 2025, 5:00pm

### Tender submission deadline

20 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

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## Award criteria

| Name      | Type    | Weighting |
|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Technical | Quality | 60.00%    |
| Price     | Price   | 30.00%    |

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| Name         | Type    | Weighting |
|--------------|---------|-----------|
| Social Value | Quality | 10.00%    |

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## Procedure

### Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

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## Contracting authority

### CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPGW-5299-JGTN

Pakefield Road

Lowestoft

NR33 0HT

United Kingdom

Contact name: Holly Power

Email: [procure@cefas.gov.uk](mailto:procure@cefas.gov.uk)

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

Region: UKH14 - Suffolk

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government