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Tender

Ecological sampling at Scottish Offshore Wind Farms

Scottish Government

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-064086

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059c49

Published 10 October 2025, 11:15am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Scottish Government

5 Atlantic Quay, 150 Broomielaw

Glasgow

G2 8LU

Contact

Sophie Stark

Email

sophie.stark@gov.scot

Telephone

+44 412425466

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA10482

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

Access to the procurement documents is restricted. Further information can be obtained at

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/esop/pts-host/public/pts/web/login.html>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Ecological sampling at Scottish Offshore Wind Farms

Reference number

CASE/796997

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73112000 - Marine research services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Marine Directorate (MD) has a requirement for an external provider to undertake marine sampling for a selection of target species across a range of functional groups (e.g. fish, benthic and plankton) at four offshore wind farm sites and adjacent control areas, on the east coast of Scotland. Sampling will be carried out across 3 phases: winter 2025-spring 2026 , summer 2026 and autumn 2026.

This sampling work will contribute to the ECOCHANGE Project (Consequences of Changes to Habitats and implications for a Net Gain Energy approach), led by the Scottish Government's Marine Directorate, alongside the University of Liverpool the University of Glasgow SUERC and funded by The Crown Estate's Offshore Wind Evidence and Change programme. The samples collected through this work will be analysed through a subsequent workstream (not included in the scope of this contract) and the data will ultimately provide insight into the food web structure within the North Sea marine ecosystem and how food webs may be impacted by OWF infrastructure. Understanding this relationship is crucial with the increase in development of OWFs to

reach Net Zero targets. This work will shed light on the effect of OWF infrastructure on marine biodiversity which will inform Marine Enhancement and Nature Positive policies.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 90700000 - Environmental services
- 73112000 - Marine research services
- 03000000 - Agricultural, farming, fishing, forestry and related products
- 71354500 - Marine survey services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The procurement will follow an Open Procedure.

4C.4 Bidders must confirm that they will include the standard clause in all contracts used in the delivery of the requirements, ensuring payment of subcontractors at all stages of the supply chain within 30 days and include a point of contact for subcontractors to refer to in the case of payment difficulties. This will require active monitoring of payment performance and provision of evidence and reporting to the Scottish Government on a regular basis. Bidders who fail to answer “Yes” to this question will not have their tender considered further.

4C.7 Light Touch: Bidders will be required to confirm that they will employ environmental management measures that meet the following requirements: Evidence that their organisation has taken steps to build their awareness of the climate change emergency and consideration of how they will respond. This should include details of planned projects and actions to reduce the bidder’s carbon emissions.

4C.10 Bidders will be required to confirm whether they intend to sub-contract and if so, for what proportion of the contract.

Bidders must confirm that they will pay staff that are involved in the delivery of services under the contract, at least the real Living Wage. Any tenderer who answers "No" to this question will not be subject to further evaluation.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 70

Price - Weighting: 30

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Start date

5 January 2026

End date

31 March 2027

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

There is a maximum of 3 months optional extensions.

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

List and brief description of selection criteria

Current Ratio of 1.2

The acceptable range for each financial ratio is:

1 April 2022: 31 March 2025

The ratio will be calculated as follows:

total current assets divided by total current liabilities.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Employer's (Compulsory) Liability Insurance = as required by law

Public Liability Insurance = 1,000,000 (one million) GBP

Professional Risk Indemnity Insurance = 1,000,000 (one million) GBP

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2025/S 000-057353](#)

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

10 November 2025

Local time

12:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

10 November 2025

Local time

12:30pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

Question Scoring Methodology for Award Criteria outlined in invitation to tender:

0 — Unacceptable. Nil or inadequate response. Fails to demonstrate an ability to meet the requirement.

1 — Poor. Response is partially relevant but generally poor. The response addresses some elements of the

requirement but contains insufficient/limited detail or explanation to demonstrate how the requirement will be

fulfilled.

2 — Acceptable. Response is relevant and acceptable. The response addresses a broad understanding of the

requirement but may lack details on how the requirement will be fulfilled in certain areas.

3 — Good. Response is relevant and good. The response is sufficiently detailed to demonstrate a good

understanding and provides details on how the requirements will be fulfilled.

4 — Excellent. Response is completely relevant and excellent overall.

Bidders must complete the SPD (Scotland) to demonstrate adherence to the Exclusion

and Selection Criteria for this procurement.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 30342. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

A sub-contract clause has been included in this contract. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2363>

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see:

<https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in-procurement/>

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

Please describe how your organisation will deliver proportionate community benefits and contribute to addressing the climate emergency through the delivery of this contract. In your response you may include but are not limited to:

- Environmental impact mitigation measures, including how you will manage and reduce waste (e.g. single-use plastics, chemical preservatives, broken equipment) and minimise risks to marine habitats, animal welfare, and biosecurity.
- Approach to equipment use, including any steps to reduce reliance on single-use items, extend the life of sampling gear, or adopt more sustainable alternatives.
- Community benefit activities, such as using local vessels and personnel, offering training or outreach opportunities, or supporting community-led environmental initiatives near sampling sites.
- Innovations or improvements that enhance sustainability and promote inclusive growth, particularly in disadvantaged coastal or island communities.

(SC Ref:812759)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Sherrif Court House

27 Chamber Street

Edinburgh

Country

United Kingdom