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Tender

## **ID 6210936 - DAERA - CAFRE - Farming for Sustainability Scheme Training and Themed Groups Requirements**

College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-066886

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05d031 ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 October 2025, 5:58pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

ID 6210936

### **Description**

This contract will be broken down into 2 Lots: • Lot 1 - Face-to-face training for groups of farmers • Lot 2 - Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators Each Lot will be evaluated and awarded independently. Lot 1- CAFRE require a Supplier to administer, secure access to appropriate venues and deliver training to participants who cannot use e-learning courses without support. The supplier will be required to administer, hire appropriate venues, and deliver training sessions to groups of participating farmers. Each course will have its own specific Learning Outcomes, underpinning knowledge, assessment process (if required) and delivery schedule. Lot 2 - CAFRE requires a Supplier to administer and deliver specialist technical facilitation and mentoring to Themed Groups. These groups will be delivered alongside Business Sustainability Groups (BSGs) and are a development from the previous Business Development Group (BDG) scheme which operated under the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme. BSGs are enterprise specific but with a focus on the sustainability of the entire farm. Themed Groups will provide more focused

support and advice relating to specific enterprises and topics. Groups will also have a shorter duration of 18-24 months with an estimated 3-6 meetings per group per year dependent on topic.

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

- £3,500,000 excluding VAT
- £4,200,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

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

- 5 January 2026 to 4 January 2029
- Possible extension to 4 January 2031
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

One optional extension period of 2 years for each Lot. The extension will be utilised at the Buyers discretion.

### **Main procurement category**

Services

### **CPV classifications**

- 80000000 - Education and training services
- 80500000 - Training services

- 80522000 - Training seminars
  - 80521000 - Training programme services
  - 80531200 - Technical training services
  - 80510000 - Specialist training services
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## **Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers**

### **Description**

CAFRE require a Supplier to administer, secure access to appropriate venues and deliver training to participants who cannot use e-learning courses without support.

The supplier will be required to administer, hire appropriate venues, and deliver training sessions to groups of participating farmers.

The training courses will be prioritised by DAERA as part of the Sustainable Agriculture Programme or wider policy programme, with CAFRE responsible for overall planning and development of learning materials for each training course. Each course will have its own specific Learning Outcomes, underpinning knowledge, assessment process (if required) and delivery schedule.

### **Lot value (estimated)**

- £500,000 excluding VAT
- £600,000 including VAT

**Same for all lots**

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

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## **Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators**

### **Description**

CAFRE requires a Supplier to administer and deliver specialist technical facilitation and mentoring to Themed Groups. These groups will be delivered alongside Business Sustainability Groups (BSGs) and are a development from the previous Business Development Group (BDG) scheme which operated under the Northern Ireland Rural Development Programme. BSGs are enterprise specific but with a focus on the sustainability of the entire farm. Themed Groups will provide more focused support and advice relating to specific enterprises and topics. Groups will also have a shorter duration of 18-24 months with an estimated 3-6 meetings per group per year dependent on topic.

### **Lot value (estimated)**

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

### **Same for all lots**

CPV classifications and contract dates are shown in the Scope section, because they are the same for all lots.

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## **Participation**

### **Technical ability conditions of participation**

**Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers**

TA1 - Event Management Experience

**Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators**

TA1 - Company Experience

**Particular suitability**

**Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers**

**Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators**

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

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**Submission**

**Enquiry deadline**

10 November 2025, 2:00pm

**Tender submission deadline**

20 November 2025, 2:00pm

**Submission address and any special instructions**

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

**Tenders may be submitted electronically**

Yes

**Languages that may be used for submission**

English

**Award decision date (estimated)**

5 January 2026

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**Award criteria****Lot 1. Face-to-face training for groups of farmers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Type</b>
Qualitative Criterion	5 Criteria as detailed within the Quality Instruction to Tender - Lot 1 Document. the criteria are Key Delivery Personnel Experience, Recruitment, Promotion and Marketing Plan, Programme Delivery and Implementation, Contract Management and Business Continuity, and Social Value.	Quality
Quantitative Criterion	Total Contract Price as detailed within the Instructions to Tender - Lot 1 document.	Price

**Weighting description**

Qualitative Criterion: 70%

Quantitative Criterion: 30%

## Lot 2. Themed peer-to-peer group facilitators

Name	Description	Type
Qualitative Criterion	5 Criteria as detailed within the Quality Instruction to Tender - Lot 2 Document. the criteria are Key Delivery Personnel Experience, Program Delivery and Implementation, Marketing and Promotion Plan, Contract Management and Communication, Social Value.	Quality
Quantitative Criterion	Total Contract Price as detailed within the Instructions to Tender - Lot 2 document.	Price

### Weighting description

Qualitative Criterion: 70%

Quantitative Criterion: 30%

### Other information

#### Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

#### Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

## Procedure

### Procedure type

Open procedure

### Special regime

Light touch

### Justification for not publishing a preliminary market engagement notice

The PME was published under the previous procurement regulations and therefore a notice was not necessary.

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## Contracting authority

### College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYCL-3331-QQMP

45 Tirgracey Road

Antrim

BT41 4PS

United Kingdom

Email: [SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

Region: UKN0D - Antrim and Newtownabbey

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

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## Other organisation

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

### CPD - Supplies and 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: [SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk](mailto:SSDAdmin.CPD@finance-ni.gov.uk)

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

## **Contact organisation**

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