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Award

## **UKRI-4855 North Sea Late Cenozoic Environments**

UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-070507

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058255 ([view related notices](#))

Published 3 November 2025, 2:41pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

C0274

### **Description**

The British Geological Survey (BGS), acting on behalf of the European Consortium for Ocean Research Drilling (ECORD), requires a marine coring capability and suitable vessel to operate offshore southern North Sea, Netherlands or Denmark, for a scientific drilling and coring campaign for a period of 30 days (estimated) between June and September 2026

This scientific coring project seeks to extend our understanding of Earth's dynamics during the last 50 ice ages and the warmer periods between them. The North Sea Basin is an area that was heavily impacted by these ice age cycles as climate fluctuated between fully glacial to warmer-than-present conditions. The continuous sediment accumulation found in this marine environment should be thought of as a 'tape recorder' that contain an almost complete record of glacial-interglacial episodes, providing insight on Europe's past climate, ecology, and large river systems over the last ~3.3 million years. Relatively little is known about how Europe evolved during repeated ice age cycles. In this expedition, we

aim to collect geological samples to gain insight into the baseline dynamics and thresholds for depositional and ecosystem regime shifts, as well as biodiversity turnover driven by rapid climate changes. This research will help us better understand the environmental responses to modern-day warming.

The Contractor must be able to supply the full operational spread including a drill rig, the vessel, and all personnel required to operate the spread. The drilling platform must be capable of recovering core to at least 1200m below seafloor in shallow water depths (28m or 60m).

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice: 2025/S 000-014119

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## **Contract 1. UKRI-4855 North Sea Late Cenozoic Environments**

### **Supplier**

- Fugro UK Limited

### **Contract value**

- 14883062.50 EUR excluding VAT
- 14883062.50 EUR including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

### **Award decision date**

3 November 2025

## **Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers**

3 November 2025

## **Standstill period**

- End: 12 November 2025
- 8 working days

## **Earliest date the contract will be signed**

14 November 2025

## **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 1 December 2025 to 30 September 2026
- 10 months

## **Main procurement category**

Services

## **CPV classifications**

- 76340000 - Core drilling

## **Contract locations**

- DK0 - Denmark

- DK01 - Capital (region)
- NL - Netherlands

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## Information about tenders

- 1 tender received
- 1 tender assessed in the final stage:
  - 0 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
  - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 0 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

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## Procedure

### Procedure type

Open procedure

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## Supplier

### Fugro UK Limited

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRXQ-1136-DLQY

Fugro House

Wallingford

OX10 9RB

United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 8706008050

Email: [fgbml.opportunity@fugro.com](mailto:fgbml.opportunity@fugro.com)

Website: <https://www.fugro.com/>

Region: UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. UKRI-4855 North Sea Late Cenozoic Environments

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## **Contracting authority**

### **UK Research & Innovation (UKRI)**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDQJ-7126-JDHG

Polaris House

Swindon, Wiltshire

SN2 1FL

United Kingdom

Contact name: Kate Richardson

Telephone: +44 1793442000

Email: [nercprocurement@ukri.org](mailto:nercprocurement@ukri.org)

Website: <https://www.ukri.org/>

Region: UKK14 - Swindon

Organisation type: Public authority - central government