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Contract

MFF162 Supply and Delivery of Sphagnum Moss Plugs

Peak District National Park Authority

UK7: Contract details notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-070561

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-055f22 ([view related notices](#))

Published 3 November 2025, 4:04pm

Scope

Reference

MFF162 Supply and Delivery of Sphagnum Moss Plugs

Description

Supply & Deliver Sphagnum Moss Plugs to Delivery Sites within the Peak District National Park and South Pennines SAC.

Lot 1 - A quantity of up to 18,000,000 plugs over 6 years (up to 3,000,000 per year)- over the Contract Period. It is anticipated that the requirement each year will be no less than 300,000 Plugs per annum.

Lot 1. Lot 1

Description

Supply and delivery of a quantity of up to 18,000,000 plugs over 6 years (up to 3,000,000 per year)- over the Contract Period. It is anticipated that the requirement each year will be no less than 300,000 Plugs per annum.

1. Specification

1. Sphagnum Plugs must be supplied in whole growing plant form as Plugs. The form and method for production of Plugs must be detailed in the Tender Return.

2. Sphagnum Plugs must be grown peat-free with the exception of paludiculture, in which case a detailed method statement should be included to demonstrate how peat is used sustainably and not extracted in the production of sphagnum plugs

3. A Sphagnum Plug may consist of a single species or a mix of species. The Authority prefer a mix of species suitable for growing on blanket bog in the Peak District and South Pennines with a dominance of peat forming species as set out in the table below. The species mixes can be seen in Table 1 contained in Section 1 of the ITT.

4. The Authority will permit a tolerance of up to 5% above or below the percentages set out in Table 1 contained in Section 1 of the ITT.

5. Bidders may recommend in the Itemised Costs at Appendix 1 of the ITT other species or species mixes that in their opinion fits the Authority's requirements specified in the Specification.

6. Important peat building hummock species are preferred. However, our requirements will vary and all species/combinations of bog surface and flush species will be considered.

7. Plugs of a single species may also be considered, please detail in your Tender return which species can be provided. E.g. *S. cuspidatum* must form Plugs of this species only.

8. The Material must only contain Sphagnum native to the United Kingdom.

9. Plugs containing a proportion of foreign materials (e.g. soil, grass or other plant materials other than Sphagnum) as deemed inappropriate by the Nominated Officer may be rejected. The decision of the Nominated Officer shall be final.

10. A Sphagnum Plug should consist of several Sphagnum plants and have a minimum diameter of 2.5cm, and a minimum height of 5cm, and a maximum height of 12cm.

11. Propagated Sphagnum must be free from disease or pest which may be associated with growing in glass house conditions. How the absence of disease and pest will be assured should be covered in the Tenderer's Method Statement.

The list of species requirements of the sphagnum plugs is set out in Table 1 of Section 1 of the Invitation to Tender

2. Sphagnum Plug packaging

1. Sphagnum Plugs should NOT be supplied in trays.

2. Packaged Plugs should be placed into bags of a suitable size to a total weight not exceeding 10 kg. The bags should be placed into crates suitable for stacking.

3. The Sphagnum must be produced and packaged to a suitable standard to withstand:

3.1. multiple handling during the delivery process to the Delivery Site and Lift Site;

3.2. stacking multiple crates at Delivery or Lift Site;

3.3. preparation for transport;

3.4. transport of the Material by helicopter, terrestrial vehicle or hand.

4. Tenderers should specify how Plugs will be packaged/bundled in their Method Statement.

Please see Invitation to Tender for more details.

Contract 1. Lot 1

Lots

Lot 1. Lot 1

Supplier

- MICROPROPAGATION SERVICES (E.M.) LIMITED

Contract value

- £8,430,000 excluding VAT
- £10,116,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Date signed

30 October 2025

Contract dates

- 30 October 2025 to 31 August 2031
- 5 years, 10 months, 2 days

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 03120000 - Horticultural and nursery products

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)

Key performance indicators

Name	Description	Reporting frequency
Product Quality Compliance Rates	Product quality compliance rate: 90% of Sphagnum Plugs meet the Specification requirements in the Invitation to Tender (ITT). This would be assessed by a "dip test" as set out below by Authority staff at the Delivery Site (planting contractor's address or on site delivery location as notified to the Authority by the Contractor) within 2 days of the date of delivery; -One 'dip test' will be made per site as per delivery schedule - Multiple sites may be checked at each Planting Contractor's address if multiple sites are within the same delivery date - 1 bag per 10,000 sphagnum plugs will be selected at random and dip tested in the following way • Count number of rolls in bag - 100% compliance = 20 rolls • Measure the diameter of the rolls - 100% compliance = minimum diameter 8.5cm •	8 months

Name	Description	Reporting frequency
	<p>Select one roll per bag and unroll completely to count the number of Sphagnum Plugs in the roll - 100% compliance = 20 plugs Visual assessment of the health, and length of the Sphagnum Plugs as per the Specification in Invitation to Tender. • Compliance % rate = No. of compliant items / Total no. tested • Photos will be taken of each sample - The Authority will provide the batch numbers dip tested to the Contractor who will then provide their own report of quality control for that batch by 20th December and 20th April each year.</p>	
Meeting Scheduled Delivery Dates	<p>Deliver 90% of scheduled orders on the date specified by the planting contractor. Any variation (by the Authority or the planting contractor) to the scheduled delivery date that the Contractor cannot meet within one week of the original scheduled delivery date will not be deemed as a fail, unless the Contractor has confirmed in writing that it can deliver the Sphagnum Plugs on the varied date. • Measured by planting contractor alerting Authority if delivery is not on scheduled delivery date. Otherwise deliveries are assumed on time. • Contractor records when changes to Delivery Schedule are requested within one week of original delivery date. Report in December and again in April</p>	8 months

Name	Description	Reporting frequency
Security of Long Term Supply	High Confidence (KPI rating 'Good') in Contractor ability to deliver up to 3,000,000 sphagnum plugs per year - this would be measured by an annual site visit to the growing facility by 2 Authority team members and through monthly meetings and Delivery Schedule updates with the Contractor from April to August prior to each delivery season. • Measured on the PA23 KPI scale	12 months

Signed contract documents

[2025-10-30 completed contract MFF162 2025-31 redacted.pdf](#)

Completed contract (redacted)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Supplier

MICROPROPAGATION SERVICES (E.M.) LIMITED

- Companies House: 01947193
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVQD-1395-RRJH

Ley Springs Loughborough Road

Loughborough

LE12 6NZ

United Kingdom

Email: sphagnum@beadamoss.co.uk

Website: <http://www.beadamoss.co.uk>

Region: UKF16 - South Nottinghamshire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1. Lot 1

Contracting authority

Peak District National Park Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRMG-9537-GCRD

Aldern House, Baslow Road

Bakewell

DE45 1AE

United Kingdom

Email: Legal.Instructions@peakdistrict.gov.uk

Region: UKF13 - South and West Derbyshire

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government