Request for Quotation – Tender Clarification questions

PSS.SW.C18.25 - Landscape Drone Survey

1. **There is only 3 working days listed from the completion of site works to the expected submission of data for review. Please could you clarify the expectations around the 'submission of data for review' as this is listed in the documents as a Microsoft Teams meeting – is this just a post-site debrief?**

This deadline is down to NE having to evidence completion of work by end of financial year – we appreciate this is a tight timeline with the surveys taking place in March. A post-site debrief will be sufficient to confirm that all surveying has been completed and data processing can follow on from this (to be submitted by Friday April 10th unless further extension agreed due to specific circumstances – for example weather pushing surveys back to end of month).

2. **'Individual Deer Record for all of the 3 species identified' – these contain a lot of specific information pertaining to a single specific animal, which will be difficult to ascertain from a night-time thermal survey (body condition, age etc). We note that it does say "where possible" on this request, but could you please elaborate on the expectations here?**

We do not require any information on body condition or age – only location, species and sex (where recorded). We expect surveyors to be able to accurately identify the target species (fallow) with a high degree of accuracy as well as roe. In previous surveys the majority of the fallow deer have been observed in larger herds and typically outside of woodland areas. The 'where possible' reference refers to Muntjac which are present in the project area but only found in very low numbers. These deer are much more likely to be in woodland areas and denser cover, and in smaller groups, so harder to identify.

3. **Is it possible to use a manned fixed wing option (as opposed to a drone)?**

This is not possible for this tender since we are looking to replicate previous survey effort and methodology which utilised a thermal drone. This application has demonstrated it can deliver a high degree of accuracy for detecting individual deer (both in & outside woods), as well as confidence in identifying deer to a species level. Often ID has required closer inspection where livestock are present since there are many fields where sheep are grazing next to fallow deer.