Clarifications to Bidder’s Questions:

Update to the Maritime Cliff and Slope Priority Habitat Inventory Layer

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| 1 | 3D data requirement – is the expectation that bidders deliver new 3D surface models and fly-throughs? | Yes, while we hope to let this contract as a single piece of work (with one bidder completing both steps 1 and 2), we recognise there are two main steps to the project. Step 1 as you note is focused on updating the Maritime Cliff and Slope PHI layer using the data sources we have suggested in the RfQ - this is a desk-based exercise requiring GI analysis skills and an understanding of coastal environments. While Step 2 (following site prioritisation) should include an element of fieldwork carrying out a site visit and producing 3D surface models and fly-throughs for a small number of mutually agreed cliff sites (likely to be soft cliff locations which are subject to cliff recession). This element of the work will build on and develop our understanding of remote sensing and data capture technologies (following GeoData 2022). We are particularly interested in how they can be used to map complex coastal cliff habitats and geomorphological features. In addition, the use of 3D models/ fly-throughs can provide an opportunity to engage and explain coastal cliff environments to a wider audience, which are generally poorly understood. |
| 2 | Scope of coverage – is the project intended to update the entire Maritime Cliff and Slope PHI layer nationally (i.e. all qualifying coastline), or is the focus on a subset of priority areas like soft cliffs? Understanding the geographic scale will help us shape the right technical approach? | In terms of your second question round the *Scope of coverage* - we see this as a being undertaken at two scales.  Step 1 is to update the national (England) Maritime Cliff and Slope PHI - so should include all qualifying areas of the English coast using the data sources we have suggested in the RfQ.  In contrast, step 2 (following site prioritisation) will focus on a few localities (we have suggested a minimum of 3 locations depending on budget).   |
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