

TENDER INFORMATION FOR RESTORATION OF THE RIVER QUIN, HERTFORDSHIRE

OVERVIEW

The Herts and Middlesex Wildlife Trust (HMWT) is coordinating a partnership project to improve approx. 265m of the [River Quin](#) from upstream (u/s) TL 39651 25573 to downstream (d/s) TL 39607 25318 – [overview map](#). Additionally, 0.56ha of adjacent floodplain is to be enhanced as part of the scheme – [overview map](#).

Working with Braughing Parish Council and 3 private landowners, HMWT progressed the project through detailed design in 2024/25 completed by RJ Bull. A Flood Risk Activity Permit was submitted in February 2025 and we await the final signed FRAP which is anticipated to be received in June/July 2025.

The project is funded by Braughing Parish Council and DEFRA's Species Survival Fund.

This invitation to tender is for the construction phase only and delivery must be completed in full by 31st October 2025. We anticipate a start date in September, subject to the FRAP.

SITE DESCRIPTION

Under the Water Framework Directive, the River Quin is scored as "poor ecological status", failing on fish, with physical modifications relating to urban/transport confirmed as a "Reason For Not Achieving Good."

Alongside WFD assessments, HMWT undertook MORPH River Condition Assessments in 2024 and the baseline condition is classified as "Fairly Poor" and "Moderate" across two MORPH sub-reaches that cover the total site.

This project therefore seeks to improve the hydro-morphological condition of the river to "reverse deterioration" of WFD biological elements (fish) by addressing urban/transport barriers to migration, as well as improve in-channel and adjacent floodplain habitats to increase MORPH RCA scores to at least "Fairly Good".

PROJECT AIMS

- Improve the hydro-morphological condition of the river to support increased populations of fish, macrophytes, mammals and invertebrates.
- Secure an improvement in MORPH RCA score from fairly poor to fairly good.
- Increase the river's resilience to low flows and flood flows by addressing in-channel habitat constraints e.g. bed gradient, bank gradient, in-channel habitat features.
- Increase lateral floodplain connectivity into Pentlows Meadow providing natural flood management benefits and new wetland habitats for the community of Braughing.

PROTECTED SPECIES

Water voles are not present in the project reach. Surveys were undertaken by HMWT in April 2023 and April 2025. The nearest known confirmed location of water voles is on the River Rib approx. 4km downstream.

Salmonids (wild brown trout) are present. All construction must be completed by 31st October and silt mitigation measures must be used during construction as appropriate.

Great Crested Newts have been recorded nearby in 2025. HMWT has employed a GCN licensed ecologist to produce a working mitigation method statement to inform construction.

This will be provided to the awarded contractor on appointment. An ECOW will be present during the construction phase. Please note, exact location of spoil on Plan may need to be adapted, according to the GCN working method statement.

A bat "Potential Roost Feature" survey was completed by HMWT in April 2025. Trees that contain PRFs will be marked up prior to construction and must be excluded from use.

MONITORING

HMWT are coordinating a suite of monitoring activities pre/post project. This is to confirm the baseline condition of river habitat and track its recovery and spread of the river's indicative flora and fauna. Alongside EA monitoring, HMWT have put in place:

- Riverfly monitoring – sampled monthly, 2 sites in reach.
- MORPH RCA Baseline – pre/post construction, 2 sites in reach.
- Riverine Plants – pre/post construction.
- Fish – trout redd counts, post construction.
- Water vole and otter – pre/post construction.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - CDM DOCUMENTS / H&S FILE

The documents listed below have been provided in a supporting pack. Please refer to these for additional details and specifications on which to base your quote:

Design Docs

- Master Plan, Existing Sections, Proposed Sections, Additional Technical Details, Boardwalk Platform Details, Planting Specifications, Landscaping Plan

H&S Docs

- Utility Search Results, Site Hazard Plan, Water Framework Directive Assessment, Flood Zone Extents, Environmental Risk Assessment, Designers Risk Assessment, Risk Assessed Method Statement, Buildability Statement

TENDER SPECIFICATION

We are seeking competitive proposals to complete the **BUILD PHASE AS PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR** (complying with CDM Regs 2015). All work to be completed between 01st September and 31st October 2025.

Tenders will be assessed based on the weighted criteria listed below:

- Assessment criteria 1 (cost) will be weighted at 60% - overall total price, value for money, breakdown of required elements within a Bill of Quantities, added value / additional elements, contingency / risk rates for Plant and/or Personnel.
- Assessment criteria 2 (quality) will be weighted at 40% - understanding of project brief and aims, comparable relevant experience, relevant staff competencies, delivery and quality track record, added value / additional elements.

PLEASE PROVIDE A PROPOSAL THAT INCLUDES:

1. **Bill of Quantities** showing items, quantities and units – to include (as applicable):
 - Itemised costs to deliver all elements of design drawings / method statement – *please refer to quantity table below alongside drawings / technical details*

- Mobilisation, demobilisation, travel & subsistence, project / site management (incl. RAMS / H&S), welfare & compound etc.
- Relevant costs to ensure compliant delivery under FRAP and CDM Regulations 2015 (e.g. silt mitigation, updated hazard search etc.)
- Relevant costs to reinstate site to pre-construction conditions (e.g. fence lines, tracking routes, compound locations)
- Any added value or optional elements
- Any cost for pre-construction site visit with Project Manager and Landowners
- VAT for applicable items
- Risk contingency budget. This should cover stand down rates at full mobilisation (e.g. for programme delays due to extreme weather)
- Table of stand down rates of Operators / Plant / Compound at full hire

2. Proposed construction start/end dates and programme delivery timeline

3. Additional evidence you would like to submit to meet Assessment Criteria 2 (quality)

BILL OF QUANTITIES (FOR PLANTING DENSITIES REFER TO LANDSCAPING / PLANTING PLANS)

ITEM	QTY
Large angular flint / cobble for bed raising base approx.	160 t
Gravel top dressing 20/40 for bed raising approx.	100 t
Bank regrading	200 m3
Berms – see technical details / cross sections for lengths	10 no.
Major tree coppicing (to supply brash for berms)	3 no.
Piped ditch crossing for wetland feed	1 no.
Wetland creation	436 m3
Wetland creation marginal planting	380 m2
Wet meadow plug planting	400 m2
Marginal riparian planting (qty dependent on final grades) approx.	250 m2 +
Wildflower regeneration	1500 m2
Trees 10/12 mixed assumed bare root	78 no.
Shrubs 80/100cm whips bare root	55 no.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE APPOINTED CONTRACTOR

If appointed, you should be aware that:

- The form of Contract due to sign as a Deed will be a **JCT Minor Works** contract with associated Schedule of Amendments prepared by our solicitor Boyes Turner.
- You must provide an updated Construction Phase Plan (CPP) that is legally compliant (under CDM Regs 2015), no later than 2 weeks prior to the construction start date.

- You must have in place valid Public Liability Insurance, Employers Liability Insurance and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the value of no less than £5,000,000 and that is applicable on/near water.
- You will be required to provide a “Contractors All Risk Policy” to insure the works for the term of the Contract Deed. This is to be co-signed by HMWT as Client.
- Complete a pre-construction meeting with the PM / Landowners to ensure all aspects of project delivery are accounted for and agreed by all parties.
- Reinstate / make good any access or project work areas (e.g. compound location, tracking routes, fence lines) on completion of the project and before leaving the site. These should be reinstated to the same condition they were found in, as agreed with the PM / Landowner, at the pre-construction meeting.
- Complete a final project sign-off meeting on site with the PM / Landowner, before Operators and Plant are removed off site.
- Comply with Check, Clean, Dry protocols to prevent the spread of INNS.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- For Site Access / Tracking Routes please refer to the Site Hazard Plan in the H&S Docs Supporting Pack. Map links to site entry points are shown below:
 - Access 1 to Pentlows Meadow / lower river – [map](#)
 - Access 2 to upper river right bank - [map](#)
 - Access 3 to upper river left bank - [map](#)
- HMWT will work closely with the appointed contractor during delivery to ensure all parties (PM, landowner, contractor) are satisfied with delivery and able to overcome any issues in a timely and pragmatic way. This will involve regular visits by the Project Manager to the site to liaise with the appointed contractor during construction.
- HMWT will employ an Ecological Clerk of Works to assist the appointed contractor with appropriate mitigation of protected species before/during construction.
- INNS may be present on site including Himalayan Balsam.
- There are no official Public Rights of Way within the project site area however Pentlows Meadow is open access and used by local residents regularly.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The closing date for proposals is 6pm on Sunday 06th July.

The tender period will run from 27th May for 6 weeks to 6th July.

Clarifications and site visits can be requested until 19th June.

Any information given as part of the clarification period will be shared with those others who have confirmed they are tendering.

For further information, or to arrange a quotation visit, or to submit your proposal contact:

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