

Background – The Water and Environment Management (WEM) Framework

The Environment Agency has established the Water and Environment Management (WEM) Framework to give access to the best suppliers in Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management. The WEM Framework is available to all Flood Risk Management Authorities.

Lower rates for consultancy and construction

The WEM Framework gives us the best deal yet with suppliers. Alongside maintaining quality, WEM Framework rates are more than 20% lower when compared to previous arrangements. We can expect further savings through competition, standardisation and streamlined arrangements as we deliver projects.

Update on the access to the WEM Framework

Following last month's announcement, successful suppliers have been finalising arrangements prior to signing and returning the WEM Framework Contract. We are pleased to advise that most suppliers have completed this process and those that haven't are on track to complete it soon. Each Framework Lot will be available for use as soon as 3 or more suppliers have been formally awarded a place.

Currently Lots 1, 3 and 4 are available and we expect Lot 2 to be available later in July. The current status is shown in the table below.

Lot managers will be updated as each remaining supplier becomes available and the final position will be confirmed in the next bulletin. Framework roll-out for users has been completed in all regions and roll-out for suppliers begin this week.

WATER and ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

Framework Manager Brian Francis

Lot	Modelling Mapping & Data	Environmental Services	Engineering & Related Services	Asset Delivery
Lot Manager	Ian Wright	Veronica Flint Williams	Veronica Flint Williams	Steven Williams
Status on 2 July	Awarded	Not yet awarded	Awarded	Awarded
Suppliers available on 2 July	Capita Symonds Ltd Halcrow Group Ltd JacksonHyder Ltd Jacobs U.K. Ltd Jeremy Benn Associates Ltd Mott MacDonald Ltd		Capita Symonds Ltd Halcrow Group Ltd JacksonHyder Ltd Jacobs U.K. Ltd Mott MacDonald Ltd	JacksonHyder Ltd JBA Bentley Ltd Team Van Oord Ltd

The following Frameworks have now expired

- Strategic Flood Risk Management Framework 2
- Environmental Services Framework
- National Engineering and Environmental Consultancy Agreement 2
- National Contractors Framework 2

Existing contracts under these Frameworks will continue until contract completion or early termination. Generally, commissions should terminate at the first suitable milestone with remaining work tendered under the WEM Framework.

Tendering new commissions under the WEM Framework

All staff using the WEM Framework should familiarise themselves with the User Guide and the Framework Contract and Schedules.

Contacts

Environment Agency staff should contact their One Commercial Lead in the first instance for advice on using the WEM Framework. If you are unsure who this is, contact your local Procurement team. Other Risk Management Authorities should contact their Partnership and Strategic Overview lead who will direct them to the Lot Manager.

Documents

New commissions to be let under WEM must be prepared using the WEM Contract templates. These can be found at either of the following locations:

Asite: 00 KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT\09 Commercial and contracts\02 WEM framework

<http://intranet.ea.gov/policies/55179.aspx>

Instructions and guidance

Between the 2 and 5 July, all requests to suppliers for expressions of interest or the issue of Tenders must be made through the Commercial Leads with Lot Managers copied in to ensure that any teething issues are quickly overcome.

From the 8 July, all requests to suppliers for expressions of interest or the issue of Tenders will be made through the Environment Agency or other Risk Management Authority Commercial Leads.

Tendering opportunities will only be available to suppliers who have completed the Framework Contract and up-to-date advice on this for Lots 2 and 4 must be sought via Commercial Leads or Lot Managers. At the discretion of the Commercial Lead or Lot Manager, suppliers who sign the Framework Contract after a tender has been issued to their Lot may enter the tendering process late. No extra time will be allowed.

Further information

The *Implementation Team* will provide a final update on progress in July. Following this, further information will be available from the Procurement or Commercial Services Teams.

Bulletins are published on our website:

<http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/aboutus/procurement/134976.aspx>

The Implementation Team can be contacted at: nqsa@environment-agency.gov.uk