

Warwickshire Wildlife Trust (WWT) would like to invite expressions of interests from organisations in the preparation of the following:

**Feasibility study and detailed design of wetland area (s) at Charterhouse, Coventry**

**T**he following brief has been devised to inform interested parties about the purpose of the study, the location, the timings and other requirements.

**Background**

WWT, working with Historic Coventry Trust (HCT), the Environment Agency, Coventry City Council, Severn Trent and other partners, and with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, want to understand what additional wetland can be created at Charterhouse in Coventry. It will build on the outline feasibility study completed in 2018 by Middlemarch Environmental which highlighted the key constraints at the site and presented an options appraisal.

This study is being commissioned as part of the Sherbourne Valley Project, which is working with a wide range of partners to bring the city’s river back into people’s hearts and minds and working to improve it for both people and wildlife. The vision for this project can be found in appendix 1 (Sherbourne River Valley Living Landscape Vision) and we expect anyone tendering to have read this document, to understand how this study complements the wider scheme.

Charterhouse is a grade I listed 14th Century Carthusian Monastery, one of only nine ever built in England. It fell into disrepair and is currently undergoing a £10m renovation project thanks to Heritage Lottery Fund, Coventry City Council, Historic England, WMCA and a number of Trusts & Foundations. The building and immediate grounds are owned by HCT, who will be a key partner for this project.

**The Brief**

The appointed contractor will carry out a detailed feasibility study and design for wetland creation at Charterhouse Heritage Park which will include the following:

* Review of 2018 feasibility study and review of two preferred options
* Visit to site to check identified constraints
* Detailed feasibility study for the two preferred options including detailed ecological report and assessment of both options impact on flow
* Agree final wetland option based on detailed feasibility
* Producing detailed design for wetland creation for preferred option to include a full assessment of hydro morphology
* Final detailed design and costs for wetland creation

The final report will be presented to WWT and key stakeholders. The report will be prepared in plain English, with a clear explanation of the decisions reached. The report should be prepared in a format that is usable by project staff and partners.

**Considerations**

The contractor should consider the following key requirements (in addition to those listed above).

The site is currently owned by Coventry City Council and under lease to the Blue Coat School, permissions may be required for any works on site (bore holes) and allowance for these costs should be included. Any data costs required to complete the options appraisal and detailed design should be included.

The project is being delivered in partnership with HCT, and therefore the contractor will be required to prepare reports for both WWT and HCT.

**Key deliverable(s)**

* Feasibility study and detailed options appraisal for wetland creation
* Detailed design and costings for final, agreed design

**Expectations**

We expect all appointed contractors to attend an inception meeting online via Zoom. We expect regular updates on the study. We also expect the contractor to physically visit and walk over the valley and sites.

We expect all appointed contractors to meet with the relevant stakeholders (in this case HCT, Environment Agency and City Council) as appropriate.

We expect all contractors to have relevant and adequate insurance for all works undertaken, to indemnify them both during the contract and afterwards should their study, advice or design have any undue adverse impact.

**Schedule**

WWT will pay the appointed contractor 20% of the contract cost at the start to cover up front fees, the remaining will be paid on completion, receipt and sign off of the report.

**Background reading**

It is recommended that any interested parties read the following:

* Sherbourne River Valley Living Landscape Vision (2017)
* Coventry City Council Local Plan (2017)
* Charterhouse Website: <https://www.historiccoventrytrust.org.uk/projects/charterhouse/>

**Timescale**

We require the assessment to be completed by the 31st August 2021

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