



Invitation to Tender – Catch My Drift Project

Construction of wildlife watching structures at
East Chevington Nature Reserve



1) Introduction

Northumberland Wildlife Trust is inviting tenders for construction of 2 new hides, 2 new micro-shelters, 3 new mini-screens, refurbishment of 3 existing hides and removal of 1 existing hide within our East Chevington Nature Reserve, in Druridge Bay, Northumberland.

The Catch My Drift project has secured funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to improve East Chevington Nature Reserve for biodiversity and people. As part of this we will be improving the existing hide structures and creating new ones to enable more people to enjoy the wildlife on the site whilst not causing disturbance to it.

2) Project background

The Catch My Drift Project will deliver biodiversity and access improvements at our East Chevington Nature Reserve in Druridge Bay. Our wider vision is to make Druridge Bay the best year round wildlife-watching destination in the North East. The project will contribute to the creation of a landscape that comprises a mosaic of connected and healthy habitats, rich in biodiversity and able to adapt to future natural and manmade changes; and one that is well used by and delivering benefits to local people and visitors.

Our East Chevington Nature Reserve is 185 hectares in size. Its natural heritage is, like many other sites across the Bay, the result of past industrial land use. The site was the location of the East Chevington Drift Mine from 1882 -1962 and then the East Chevington Opencast Coal Site from 1982-1994. The nature reserve was established from the restoration works to the opencast and was passed to NWT in 2003.

There are currently 4 hides on the site that consist of metal structures with shutters. The architectural firm Biotope was commissioned to design improvements to these structures. Additionally, they have also created designs for 2 new hides and a series of small shelters from which people can observe wildlife.



3) Description of work required

A contractor is required to work with Biotope and the Catch My Drift project team to deliver improvements to wildlife watching hides on the site. The work has been divided into 3 tranches based on the current level of funding secured for the various structures. The following table identifies all of the design plans that are relevant to each hide.

Tranche 1 – Funding secured

Structure	Relevant Plans
Hide 1	CMD P103 Site Location Plan Existing Hides 1 500 a3-min CMD P003 Renovation Site Plan A2 1 5000-compressed CMD P006 Hide 01 As Existing Plan 1 200 a3-min CMD P010 Hide 01 02 04 As Existing Elevations-min CMD P012 Hide 01 As Proposed Plans Elevs 1 100 a3-min CMD P013 Hide 01 As Proposed Plan 1 200 a3-min
Hide 3	CMD P103 Site Location Plan Existing Hides 1 500 a3-min CMD P003 Renovation Site Plan A2 1 5000-compressed CMD P008 Hide 03 As Existing Plan 1 200 a3-min CMD P011 Hide 03 As Existing Elevations-min CMD P016 Hide 03 As Proposed Plans Elevs 1 100 a3-min CMD P017 Hide 03 As Proposed Plan 1 200 a3-min
Hide 4	CMD P103 Site Location Plan Existing Hides 1 500 a3-min CMD P003 Renovation Site Plan A2 1 5000-compressed CMD P008 Hide 03 As Existing Plan 1 200 a3-min CMD P011 Hide 03 As Existing Elevations-min CMD P016 Hide 03 As Proposed Plans Elevs 1 100 a3-min CMD P017 Hide 03 As Proposed Plan 1 200 a3-min

Tranche 2 – Partial funding secured

Structure	Plans
Hide 2	CMD P103 Site Location Plan Existing Hides 1 500 a3-min CMD P003 Renovation Site Plan A2 1 5000-compressed CMD P007 Hide 02 As Existing Plan 1 200 a3-min CMD P010 Hide 01 02 04 As Existing Elevations-min CMD P014 Hide 02 As Proposed Plans Elevs 1 100 a3-min CMD P015 Hide 02 As Proposed Plan 1 200 a3-compressed



Tranche 3 – Funding still to be secured

Structure	Plans
Marsh Harrier Hide	CMD P104 Site Location Plan Existing Sites for New Hides 1 500 a3-min CMD P004 New Hide Plan A2 1 5000 revA-min CMD P019 MH Hide Proposed Plan 1 200 Elevs 1 100 a3-min CMD P020 MH Hide Proposed Plans 1 100 a3-min CMD P021 Marsh Harrier Hide Proposed Elevs 1 100 a3-min
Photography Hide	CMD P104 Site Location Plan Existing Sites for New Hides 1 500 a3-min CMD P004 New Hide Plan A2 1 5000 revA-min CMD P022 Photo Hide Proposed Plan 1 200 a3-min CMD P023 Photography Hide Proposed Plan Elevs 1 100 a3-min
2 Micro shelters	CMD P102 Site Location Plan Shelter 1 and 2 1 500 a3-min CMD P004 New Hide Plan A2 1 5000 revA-min CMD P024 Micro Shelters Proposed 1 100 1 500 a3-min
3 Mini screens	CMD P102 Site Location Plan Shelter 1 and 2 1 500 a3-min CMD P004 New Hide Plan A2 1 5000 revA-min CMD P025 Micro Screens Proposed 1 100 1 500 a3-min

We are currently in the process of submitting a round two application to the RDPE Growth Programme Tourism Fund where we hope to secure the remaining funds to deliver all of the construction works listed. Companies are free to tender for individual tranches, but in order to deliver a consistent design standard and effectively mitigate potential impacts to wildlife on site it would be beneficial to have one contractor complete all of the works over the life of the project.

Planning permission has been approved by Northumberland County Council for all works.

All plans and other supporting documents can be downloaded from:

www.nwt.org.uk/sites/default/files/2020-07/Tender%20-%20hides.zip

4) Consultation & Research

We would expect the following organisations to be consulted when carrying out the work:

- Northumberland County Council

East Chevington is an important site for a variety of wildlife including a great number of birds. This will impact when building works can take place to ensure that there is limited disturbance. Great Crested Newts are present on the site.



5) Tender format and content

Tender submissions must include the following:

Methodology and timescale	Proposed method and programme of work including measures to reduce disturbance to wildlife on site and commitment to responsible practices.
Key sources	Key sources and contacts to be used in undertaking the work.
Presentation	How findings and recommendations will be presented and proposed format of outputs.
Proposed team	Details and relevant experience of the team who will be involved in delivering the contract including the number of days and daily rates of staff.
Budget	A breakdown of costs to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Total number of days required to undertake the work and each section of the work - total number of days input and relevant day/hourly rate for each team member - estimated costs allowed for travel and, separately, accommodation and other subsistence, if relevant - total cost for all work and expenses, excluding VAT
Milestones	Based on the overall timescale listed below a timetable of key milestones in delivery of the contract.
Relevant Experience	Links to/details of past work within this sector and within the scope of this work.

The Contractor must:

- Have a demonstrable experience of carrying out construction works
- Be able to draw together a delivery team for this project to ensure all the skills required are available
- Provide a minimum of £1 million public liability insurance cover for their activities

The contractor should comply with the Health and Safety at Work Act and subsequent additions and amendments. All fieldwork must be carried out under an agreed Health and Safety Policy. A risk assessment should be carried out prior to the commencement of work and the project should have a nominated Safety Officer.



6) Budget and Timetable

Your total budget for carrying out these works should be provided with VAT costs listed separately. Tenders will be evaluated based on understanding of the brief, technical expertise and value for money. The cheapest tender will not necessarily be awarded the contract.

The tender will be open until **7th August 2020**. An announcement of the successful contractor will be made by **30th September 2020**. An initial meeting with the successful contractor will be called by **9th October 2020**. Due to the nature conservation importance of the site and the species that it supports **care will need to be taken to avoid any disturbance or harm and certain conditions have been applied to planning consent that will need to be followed**. Tranche 1 elements of the works must be delivered by Dec 2022. The timescale for delivery of tranches 2 and 3 will depend on the requirements of the funding secured. If the RDPE Growth Programme Tourism Fund application is successful, this will be September 2021.

A programme of works and payment schedule will be agreed with the successful contractor at the initial meeting.

The nominated officer for the project is Sophie Webster, Catch My Drift Project Officer. All enquiries about this brief should be sent to Sophie at sophie.webster@northwt.org.uk or 0191 2846884 (Gosforth)/01665 568324 (Hauxley). As staff are largely based from home at the moment, email is likely to be the most effective form of communication.

