

Thursday, 25 June 2026

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Invitation to Tender for the Cable Burial Risk Assessment 2.0 project for the Carbon Trust's OWA Programme**

You are invited to submit a Tender for the Cable Burial Risk Assessment 2.0 project (the "CBRA project" or "Project") which is part of the Offshore Wind Accelerator (OWA) programme. The key objective of the Project is to strengthen system-level credibility, improve clarity and consistency in application, and consolidate the CBRA methodology as the industry-wide trusted reference for assessing burial requirements across developers, asset owners, contractors, certification agencies, and insurers.

The Invitation to Tender (ITT) consists of the following documents:

- Description of Tender (this document);
- OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions;
- Tender Certificate (Word template);
- Bid Price Calculation Sheet (Excel template);
- Clarification Document (if applicable<sup>1</sup>);
- Project Closeout Form (for information purposes only – no need to complete now); and
- OWA Cost Model Input Sheet (for information purposes only – no need to complete now).

Unless informed to the contrary, tenders and communications shall be sent by e-mail to the following e-mail address: [karolina.zieba@carbontrust.com](mailto:karolina.zieba@carbontrust.com)

Tenders must be submitted before Friday, 31 July 2026, 17:00 BST. Any tenders received after this date and time will be deemed non-compliant.

Your Tender must consist of the following, the contents of which are described further below:

- Main Bid Document (pdf) – template not provided;
- Signed Tender Certificate (pdf) – template provided; and
- Bid Price Calculation Sheet (xls) – template provided.

The timeline of this procurement process is as follows:

Deadline for clarification questions	17 July 2026
Clarification Document published <sup>1</sup>	22 July 2026
Submission of full Tender	Friday, 31 July 2026, 17:00 BST
Bidder interviews	Late August/Early September 2026
Successful Contractor announcement	September 2026
Envisaged Contract award date	September 2026

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<sup>1</sup> A Clarification Document will not be published if no clarification questions are received in relation to this ITT.



Please e-mail any clarification questions, including questions about the timing of this ITT, to [karolina.zieba@carbontrust.com](mailto:karolina.zieba@carbontrust.com) any time before 17 July 2026. The complete set of clarification questions and all answers to clarification questions will be published in the Clarification Document on our website by 22 July 2026 and will hence be visible to all potential Bidders: <https://www.carbontrust.com/news-and-events/tenders>

For information about the OWA programme, please see the Carbon Trust's website: <https://www.carbontrust.com/our-projects/offshore-wind-accelerator-owa>

We look forward to receiving your Tender.

Yours sincerely,

.....  
Karolina Zieba  
For and on behalf of **THE CARBON TRUST**

# THE CARBON TRUST OFFSHORE WIND ACCELERATOR

## Invitation to Tender for the “Cable Burial Risk Assessment 2.0” Project

### Description of Tender

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## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR BIDDERS

### **Publishing**

Neither this document, nor any part of it nor any other information supplied in connection with it may, except with the prior written consent of the Carbon Trust, be republished, reproduced, copied, distributed or disclosed to any person for any purpose other than consideration by the recipient of whether or not to submit a Tender.

### **Tender evaluation**

The received tenders will be evaluated by the Carbon Trust and the OWA Partners against the criteria provided in section 7 and the Bidder authorises the Carbon Trust to share its submitted Tender with the OWA Partners for this purpose. A shortlist of Bidders will be created and invited for interview. Carbon Trust will do a vetting of the shortlisted bidders. Carbon Trust may request shortlisted bidders to fill-in a Due Diligence Questionnaire to supply additional information prior to being invited for an interview.

### **Contracting**

Bidders should note that the Scope of Work contained in section 4 of this document does not constitute an offer to contract with the Carbon Trust. It only represents a definition of specific requirements and an invitation to submit a Tender addressing these requirements.

Issuance of this Invitation to Tender and the subsequent receipt and evaluation of the tenders by the Carbon Trust does not commit the Carbon Trust to enter into a Contract with any Bidder.

Should Your Tender be successful, a Final Scope of Work that builds upon the Scope of Work contained in section 4 of this document and Your Approach to Work will be mutually agreed between You and the Carbon Trust. Once the Final Scope of Work is agreed, Your offer will be formally accepted by the Carbon Trust issuing an Award Letter, the Final Scope of Work, the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions, and any clarifications agreed in writing. The Award Letter, the Final Scope of Work, the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions, and any clarifications agreed in writing will establish the Contract for the Cable Burial Risk Assessment 2.0 project (the "**Contract**") between You and the Carbon Trust. With the exception of any minor amendments to the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions which may be requested by the Bidder, the submission of a Tender shall constitute unqualified acceptance of the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions. In the event that minor amendments to the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions are requested, such amendments must be clearly stated and the exact alternative wording must be provided in Annex A of the Tender Certificate. Please note that it is at the sole discretion of the Carbon Trust to accept any of the proposed amendments and that the Carbon Trust reserves the right to require the provision of further information in relation to any such request. No minor changes other than those contained in Annex A of the Tender Certificate at the time of submitting the Tender will be considered. No material changes will be considered at any time.

### **Mechanics of the Tender process**

Bidders should note that:

- it is at the discretion of the Carbon Trust whether to accept any non-compliant Tender or whether to reject any non-compliant tenders without progressing such tenders through the evaluation phase;

- the Carbon Trust reserves the right not to accept the lowest priced Tender or any Tender whatsoever;
- the Carbon Trust reserves the right to accept more than one Tender;
- unless a Bidder makes a formal statement to the contrary, the Carbon Trust reserves the right to accept any part of a Bidder's Tender without accepting the remainder;
- formal notification that a tender has been successful will be communicated in writing by the Carbon Trust;
- the costs of tendering are the full responsibility of the Bidder; and
- the pricing set by Bidders shall be valid for a minimum of 90 days.

Bids may be submitted by individuals, companies, organisations or consortia.

Bidders should be aware that dates referred to in this Invitation to Tender may be subject to change where this is necessary in the interests of the Project (such changes will be notified in advance).

The Tender Certificate, Main Bid Document and any correspondence must be written in English. This Invitation to Tender, the Contract, its formation, interpretation and performance is subject to and in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

Bidders should be free of any commercial interests, partnership arrangements or contracts underway or other matters which may present a conflict or potential conflict of interest in respect of the provision of these services. As set out in section 3, if a Bidder thinks that it may have any conflict or potential conflict of interest, the Bidder shall describe the details of this conflict and provide details of whether and how it would propose to manage such a conflict in a satisfactory and robust manner in Annex B of the Tender Certificate. The Carbon Trust reserves the right to require the provision of further information in relation to any conflict or potential conflict of interest.

#### **Disclaimer**

The information contained in this Description of Tender document and in any documents or information it refers to or incorporates (the "**Disclosed Information**") has been prepared to assist interested parties in deciding whether to submit a Tender. The Disclosed Information is not a recommendation by the Carbon Trust. It does not purport to be all inclusive or include all the information that a Bidder may require.

Neither the Carbon Trust nor any of its directors, employees, agents or advisers makes any representation or warranty (express or implied) as to the accuracy, reasonableness or completeness of the Disclosed Information. All such persons or entities expressly disclaim any and all liability (other than in respect of fraudulent misrepresentation) based on or relating to the Disclosed Information or any subsequent communication. The Bidder should conduct its own due diligence and seek its own professional, legal, financial and other advice as appropriate. The only information which will have any legal effect and/or upon which any person may rely will be such information (if any) as has been specifically and expressly represented and/or warranted in writing to the successful Bidder in any written contract that may be entered into with the Carbon Trust.

# 1. Introduction to the Offshore Wind Accelerator

- 1.1 The Offshore Wind Accelerator (“**OWA**”) is an industry-driven collaborative research, development and demonstration programme which was initially launched by the Carbon Trust in 2008 in collaboration with five offshore wind developers. The programme has since expanded during OWA Stages I, II, III and IV to include currently nine offshore wind developers from various countries within the European Economic Area (the “**OWA Partners**”). At the time of issue of this Invitation to Tender the OWA Partners are: SSE Renewables Developments (UK) Limited, Ørsted Wind Power A/S, RWE Offshore Wind GmbH, ScottishPower Renewables (UK) Limited, Equinor ASA, Vattenfall Vindkraft A/S, EnBW Energie Baden-Württemberg AG, Shell Global Solutions International B.V., TotalEnergies OneTech and bp Low Carbon Development Company Limited.
- 1.2 OWA Stage IV aims to continue the cost reduction of offshore wind to make it cost competitive with other sources of energy generation, overcome market barriers, develop industry best practice, trigger the development of new industry standards and support the international expansion of offshore wind.
- 1.3 Research under the OWA currently falls into five research areas: Cables, Electricals, Foundations, Logistics and O&M, and Energy Yield & Performance. Research, development and demonstration projects are carried out in each of the five research areas to address technology challenges. This Invitation to Tender is related to the OWA research area Cables.
- 1.4 Each of the five research areas is managed by the Carbon Trust and governed by a Technical Working Group (“**TWG**”) consisting of technical experts appointed by the OWA Partners. The TWG Cables will supervise the Project, provide technical direction and guidance to the Contractor (where needed) and review the Project Deliverables, findings and other outcomes.
- 1.5 Please note, the term “Contractor”, where used within this document, refers only to the successful Bidder or, in the event that the Contract is awarded to a consortium, the successful Bidders.

## 2. Background and objective of the CBRA project

- 2.1 The OWA TWG Cables would like to commission a targeted, industry-led update of the Cable Burial Risk Assessment (CBRA), preserving its core probabilistic methodology while refreshing assumptions, clarifying applicability and limitations, and addressing known gaps.
- 2.2 The update aims to strengthen system-level credibility, improve clarity and consistency in application, and consolidate the CBRA methodology as the industry-wide trusted reference for assessing burial requirements across developers, asset owners, contractors, certification agencies, and insurers. The update should clarify the risk framework used in CBRA applications, including acceptable risk levels, return periods, and the extent to which the methodology is applied probabilistically in practice.

### 3. Tender documents for submission

3.1 In response to this Invitation to Tender, Bidders are required to submit

- i. A Main Bid Document (pdf) – no template provided;
- ii. The signed Tender Certificate (pdf) – template provided; and
- iii. The filled-in Bid Price Calculation Sheet (xls) – template provided.

3.2 The Main Bid Document should be no more than 20 pages excluding appendices and no more than 40 pages including appendices. Font should be clearly legible, and be at least font size 11. The Main Bid Document shall as a minimum include the following information:

- i. The Bidder's proposed detailed Approach to Work (see section 4 and criterion 1 for more details). The Approach to Work should:
  - include a Gantt chart which describes the timeline for the Project, showing when each Work Package will start and finish;
  - outline how the Bidder will deliver the Scope of Work and do so on budget and within the allocated time;
  - specify any input data, background IP, hardware or other inputs that the Bidder requires the Carbon Trust and/or the OWA Partners to provide;
  - specify any Alternative Work (i.e. substitute activities to take place instead of certain activities outlined in the Scope of Work in section 4). If Alternative Work forms part of the Approach to Work, the Bidder is expected to highlight, explain and justify the intended deviation from the Scope of Work. Alternative Work will be considered as non-optional when the Tender is evaluated; and
  - specify any Additional Work (i.e. activities to take place in addition to the activities outlined in the Scope of Work in section 4). If Additional Work forms part of the Approach to Work, the Bidder is expected to explain and justify why the Additional Work would be beneficial and to provide a separate quotation for these activities. It is at the discretion of the Carbon Trust to consider Additional Work in the evaluation of the Tender.
- ii. a pdf copy of the filled-in Bid Price Calculation Sheet;
- iii. the offered Bid Price, including any cost assumptions deemed relevant by the Bidder – see section 6 and criterion 4 for more details;
- iv. an explanation of experience and staff skills, and how these are relevant to the Approach to Work – see criteria 2 and 3 for more details; and
- v. supplementary information to provide experience evidence and skills evidence (e.g. CVs) – see criteria 2 and 3 for more details. This information should be provided as appendices to the Main Bid Document.

3.3 The Tender Certificate must be signed by an authorised signatory. Bidders must fill in the provided template.

3.4 The filled-in Bid Price Calculation Sheet must be provided in Excel format in addition to the information provided in the Main Bid Document. See Section 6 and Criterion 4 for more details.

3.5 The failure by a bidder to submit either the Main Bid Document, the signed Tender Certificate or the filled-in Bid Price Calculation Sheet shall mean that such Tender is a non-compliant Tender.

## 4. Scope of Work

- 4.1 The Scope of Work is provided in this section 4.
- 4.2 The Scope of Work comprises 4 Work Packages. The Scope of Work sets out the initial ideas on the key activities that the Contractor is expected to deliver for the Project.
- 4.3 It is expected that the Contractor will report on Project Deliverables to the TWG. The Carbon Trust and TWG shall review and provide feedback on each Project Deliverable. There will be at least one round of review comments to be accommodated by the Contractor for each Project Deliverable.
- 4.4 The Final Scope of Work will be agreed between the Carbon Trust and the Contractor when entering into the Contract. The Final Scope of Work may reflect any updates, changes or improvements to the Scope of Work as proposed by the Contractor in its Alternative Work or Additional Work and as agreed by the Carbon Trust.
- 4.5 Due to the breadth of skills and experience required for the Project bidders may decide to build a consortium to successfully meet the objectives of the Project. If a Tender is submitted by a consortium it is expected that, in the case that the consortium is selected as the preferred Bidder, Carbon Trust will only enter into a Contract with the Project Coordinator, and that the Project Coordinator will subcontract the other members of the consortium.
- 4.6 The Carbon Trust appreciates that it will take a team of mixed seniority approximately 12-14 months to complete the Project.
- 4.7 Bidders should use the Scope of Work as set out below to create the Approach to Work. Any Alternative Work or Additional Work shall be stated in the Approach to Work at the end of the relevant Work Package description.
- 4.8 It is expected that simplifying assumptions will be required to complete the work in the given timeframe. These assumptions should, to the extent possible at the time of Tender submission, be clearly stated in the Approach to Work. It is expected that during the execution of the CBRA Project, any assumptions will be discussed with the TWG prior to the start of each Work Package.

## WORK PACKAGES

Work Package	Description of work
<p><b>WP1: Consortium building, scope alignment and stakeholder sense-check</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose</b> This WP will establish the governance, funding structure, and scope alignment for CBRA 2.0, ensuring the project is delivered as a targeted refresh with appropriate system-level input while maintaining clear ownership and control within the OWA.</p> <p><b>Delivery responsibility</b> WP1 is proposed to be delivered in partnership by the Contractor and the Carbon Trust, with an appropriate proportion of the overall project budget allocated to the Carbon Trust to cover delivery of this work. The Carbon Trust will act as the neutral convenor, responsible for consortium development, stakeholder engagement, and scope governance. The Contra</p> <p><b>Key actions</b> <i>Core scope (to be carried out by the Contractor)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Scope alignment workshop <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Convene a dedicated workshop with OWA TWG-C developer members and external Advisory Panel (invited by the Carbon Trust) to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Review CBRA 1.0 usage and challenges in current projects</li> <li>○ Identify where assumptions, parameters, or guidance no longer reflect practice, including where updates are needed to improve clarity, reduce unnecessary conservatism where supported by evidence and stakeholder alignment, and incorporate relevant new evidence (e.g., more recent work on anchor penetration and implications for anchor strike assumptions).</li> <li>○ Clearly distinguish between elements that must change and those that should remain stable to preserve continuity.</li> <li>○ The focus of the Advisory Panel should be on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ System-level applicability (export cables, interconnectors, transmission assets).</li> <li>▪ Credibility with insurers, certifiers, and asset owners.</li> <li>▪ Guarding against scope creep or over-engineering.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Scope consolidation and guardrails <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consolidate inputs from developers and external stakeholders into a prioritised scope definition.</li> <li>• Produce a clear statement of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ In-scope updates for CBRA 2.0</li> <li>○ Clarifications to existing guidance.</li> <li>○ Explicit exclusions and boundaries.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>

	<p><i>Expanded scope (to be carried out by the Carbon Trust)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Consortium building and stakeholder onboarding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and engage potential non-OWA participants with system-level responsibility for, or exposure to, subsea cable risk.</li> <li>• Hold bilateral discussions to explain the CBRA 2.0 objectives, scope boundaries, and governance model.</li> <li>• Confirm level of participation, funding contribution, and potential NDA arrangements.</li> <li>• Establish the external Advisory Panel and define its role, access points, and review functions.</li> <li>• Manage and coordinate the Advisory Panel</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Targeted engagement with external stakeholders <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Invite Advisory Panel members to participate in a defined portion of the workshop or dedicated session</li> <li>• Ensure that external input is advisory and structured, feeding into scope refinement rather than redefining the methodology.</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Roles of consortium and Participants</b></p> <p><i>The OWA TWG-C will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input on scope guardrails and priorities</li> <li>• Review deliverables at defined checkpoints</li> <li>• Support alignment with developer needs</li> </ul> <p><i>The non-OWA Participants will:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as independent contributors</li> <li>• Provide system-level validation</li> <li>• Challenge assumptions and ensure applicability beyond develop use cases</li> </ul> <p>Support alignment with certification expectations and consistent interpretation of outputs across projects</p>
<p><b>Project Deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>D1.1: Workshop with OWA and external parties</b></li> <li>- <b>D1.2: Project kick off report covering:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Confirmed CBRA 2.0 consortium structure</li> <li>○ Agreed scope guardrails and priorities</li> <li>○ A stable foundation for subsequent technical work packages</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>D1.3: Presentation to of WP1 to Participants.</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>WP2: Methodology refresh</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>To deliver a targeted refresh of the CBRA methodology that preserves its core probabilistic structure while updating assumptions, parameters, and guidance where offshore wind practice, evidence, or stakeholder expectations have evolved, and improving clarity on applicability and limitations.</p> <p><b>Delivery responsibility</b></p>

This WP will be delivered by a selected technical contractor, appointed through the OWA process, with demonstrable expertise in subsea cable burial risk assessment and probabilistic methods.

**Key actions**

1. Review CBRA 1.0 assumptions, parameters, and probabilistic formulations in light of current offshore wind practice, evidence, and stakeholder expectations, and relevant industry standards and guidance (e.g., DNV, CIGRE).
2. Provide guidance on the risk assessment framework to be used including:
  - Definition of acceptable risk (e.g., annual probability, lifetime risk, section vs route level).
  - Consistent application of acceptable risk across projects.
  - Alignment on return periods.
  - The relationship between acceptable risk and design decisions, including burial depth, mitigation measures, and the application of different burial strategies.
3. Refresh and clearly document key assumptions and data inputs in alignment with relevant industry standards and guidance where appropriate, including:
  - Parameter ranges and underlying evidence (e.g. vessel characteristics, anchor penetration assumptions), including considerations for layered soil profiles where evidence supports this.
  - Update guidance on anchor penetration based upon geotechnical parameters, impact of multilayer soil profiles and effects of anchor trajectory based upon research since original CBRA was undertaken.
  - Guidance on the selection and tailoring of P\_incident inputs (including vessel speed, machinery failure assumptions, and regional or water-depth dependencies), making explicit where standard values are appropriate and where project-specific justification is expected.
  - Acceptable approaches to vessel traffic representation (e.g. aggregate vessel counts based upon route intersection versus spatial or cell-based approaches based upon estimated duration), including guidance on when different approaches are suitable and how these choices influence risk outcomes. In addition, provide guidance on suitability and limitations of different traffic and activity datasets (e.g. AIS, radar and satellite derived data sources).
  - Guidance on data quality, uncertainty, and sensitivity within CBRA application, including:
    - Sensitivity testing.
    - Application of conservatism where data is limited.
    - Documentation and transparency of key assumptions (e.g., AIS data, traffic interpretation, ground conditions).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishing gear penetration depth assumptions across a range of soil conditions, including how conservatism should be applied where empirical evidence is limited.</li> <li>• Key definitions (e.g., Depth of Lowering), risk interpretation, and design application aligned with established industry guidance (e.g., CIGRE TB 883) ensuring consistency in terminology and application. Seabed mobility should be considered as a factor influencing burial requirements and depth of lowering, including its role in minimising future cable exposure where full elimination of risk is not practical.</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Improve transparency and consistency in the application of probability modifiers and modelling judgement, to reduce variability in interpretation across projects while retaining appropriate engineering judgement.</li> <li>5. Produce updated explanatory text clarifying what CBRA represents, what it does not represent, and how results should be interpreted and used in decision-making. Discussion to potentially include interpretation of P_Strike per section vs full route.</li> <li>6. Prepare draft update methodology sections for review under WP4.</li> <li>7. Engage insurers, certifiers, and contractors who carry out CBRA assessments to validate assumptions and ensure key gaps are covered. <u>Stakeholder engagement should not be underestimated.</u> (Stakeholder engagement is consistently mentioned across WP2, WP3 and WP4 and should be planned on a project level rather than a WP level.)</li> </ol>
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**Project Deliverables:**

- **D2.1: Draft updated CBRA 2.0 methodology sections, including:**
  - o Revised assumptions and parameter descriptions
  - o Explicit statements on when cable characteristics should be considered (e.g., for parallel or closely spaced cables, and where differences in system configuration such as export vs array cables influence risk), and when they should not
  - o Updated applicability and limitations sections
- **D2.2: Presentation to Participants**

<p><b>WP3: Additional considerations to the methodology</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose</b></p> <p>To extend and clarify CBRA guidance where modern offshore wind developments introduce system-level considerations not fully addressed in CBRA 1.0, including multi-cable configurations and the trade-offs between burial depth, protection, and repairability.</p> <p><b>Delivery responsibility</b></p> <p>WP3 will be coordinated by the selected technical contractor, with input from the Carbon Trust to ensure alignment with the consortium.</p> <p><b>Key actions</b></p>
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop guidance on the application of CBRA to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parallel and clustered cables, including consideration of cable separation and its influence on risk interaction, and sensitivity to separation distance when assessing whether cables can be treated as independent within CBRA.</li> <li>• Dense cable corridors and crossings.</li> <li>• Design considerations for the shipping baseline, including potential vessel traffic growth and redistribution of traffic patterns due to offshore infrastructure development.</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. Clarify how probability and consequence should be considered at a system level, including how system-level consequence (e.g., outages and repairability) should inform the definition and application of acceptable risk, without redefining the CBRA framework as a system reliability model. This should include consideration of how acceptable risk levels and burial requirements may vary across different cable types and system configurations (e.g., export vs array cables), reflecting differing consequences of failure.</li> <li>3. Introduce explicit consideration of repairability and recovery, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trade-offs between increased burial depth and access for repair.</li> <li>• Implications for outage duration and intervention feasibility.</li> <li>• Trade-offs between installation risk, technical feasibility, installation cost, and long-term external aggression risk (e.g., anchor strike), including acknowledgement that increasing burial depth may increase installation risk and potential for cable damage while prolonging time to repair. The Contractor should provide a framework for balancing installation risk and technical feasibility, cost, and long-term external aggression risk (e.g., anchor strike), and for integrating these considerations into the overall risk assessment. While detailed cost modelling may be out of scope, the methodology should enable developers to demonstrate that burial decisions are ALARP and proportionate, rather than driven solely by reduction in P_Strike.</li> <li>• Consideration of different cable burial strategies (e.g., “bury and forget” and “bury and maintain”), including how these approaches influence risk acceptance, inspection and monitoring requirements, and lifecycle decision-making.</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Clarify application of CBRA across project stages, including early-stage screening using limited datasets, full CBRA during design, and reassessment post-installation where conditions or data availability change.</li> <li>5. Develop guidance on the maturation of cable burial requirements across the project lifecycle, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Definition of information and data requirements as each project stage (e.g., site investigation requirements to support anchor penetration modelling and soil characterisation).</li> </ul> </li> </ol>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clarification of the level of data required to support key CBRA inputs (e.g., anchor penetration and soil conditions), including what constitutes sufficient data at different project stages.</li> <li>• How data requirements evolve through the project lifecycle.</li> <li>• Expected scope of assessment (e.g., NTA and related analysis) at different stages.</li> <li>• Approaches for validating burial depths and associated risks following installation.</li> </ul> <p>6. Produce draft guidance sections for integration into the consolidated CBRA 2.0 document.</p> <p>7. Engage insurers, certifiers, and contractors who carry out CBRA assessments to validate assumptions and ensure key gaps are covered. <u>Stakeholder engagement should not be underestimated.</u> (Stakeholder engagement is consistently mentioned across WP2, WP3 and WP4 and should be planned on a project level rather than a WP level.)</p> <p><b>Note</b> CBRA 2.0 will remain technology- and supplier- agnostic and will not prescribe burial depth by cable “type” (e.g., array vs export), but will identify where specific cable characteristics materially affect burial risk and protection requirements</p>
<p><b>Project Deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>D3.1: Draft system-level and repairability guidance, including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Multi-cable and corridor guidance</li> <li>o Repairability considerations and decision logic</li> <li>o Clear explanation of the role of cable characteristics in burial-related risk</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>D3.2: Presentation to the Participants</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>WP4: Consolidation, publication, and industry uptake</b></p>	<p><b>Purpose</b> To consolidate all technical outputs into a coherent CBRA 2.0 guidance package and support effective communication, publication, and update across the offshore wind industry.</p> <p><b>Delivery responsibility</b> This work package will be delivered by the selected technical contractor, in close coordination with the Carbon Trust to ensure consistency with OWA publication standards and messaging.</p> <p><b>Key actions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consolidate outputs from WP2-3 into a single, coherent CBRA 2.0 guidance document with supporting annexes.</li> <li>2. Prepare a clear change log explaining what has changed from CBRA 1.0 and why.</li> <li>3. Develop summary and communication materials suitable for industry dissemination.</li> </ol>

	<p>4. Engage insurers, certifiers, and contractors who carry out CBRA assessments to validate assumptions and ensure key gaps are covered. <u>Stakeholder engagement should not be underestimated.</u> (Stakeholder engagement is consistently mentioned across WP2, WP3 and WP4 and should be planned on a project level rather than a WP level.)</p> <p>Support publication via OWA/Carbon Trust channels, including a public webinar or briefing session to aid uptake.</p>
<p><b>Project Deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>D4.1: Final CBRA 2.0 guidance documents and annexes (publishable version)</b></li> <li>- <b>D4.2: CBRA 1.0 change log</b></li> <li>- <b>D4.3: Industry summary webinar</b></li> <li>- <b>D4.4: Conference paper(s) and/or presentation(s) or workshop(s) to be agreed between the Contractor, Participants, and the Carbon Trust</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>WPA. Project Management</b></p>	<p>The Bidder should stipulate how it will manage the Project efficiently and effectively.</p> <p>In particular, the following activities should be included (and hence budgeted for)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• project management time (including sufficient time for review processes);</li> <li>• regular update calls with the Carbon Trust Project Manager and/or Technical Working Group as required;</li> <li>• the preparation of monthly flash reports (Carbon Trust template) containing key financial data and information of the delivery status of the Project; and</li> <li>• towards the end of the Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the preparation of a Project Closeout Form (Carbon Trust template) which includes a short summary of areas for future research;</li> <li>○ time dedicated to presenting the main results, findings and outcomes of the Project in the form of a 1-hour webinar to OWA Partners; and</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Bidders should be aware that the Carbon Trust and TWG usually require 2-3 weeks to review and provide feedback on each Project Deliverable, with at least one round of review comments to be accommodated. This should be considered when calculating Your Bid Price.</p>
<p><b>Project Deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>DA.1: Monthly flash reports</b></li> <li>- <b>DA.2: Final presentation</b></li> <li>- <b>DA.3: Project Closeout Form</b></li> </ul>	
<p><b>Expenses</b></p>	<p>The Bidder should detail the amount of expenses it expects to incur throughout the Project. Expenses will be paid as incurred up to the amount specified and any unused balance will not be paid.</p>

## 5. Intellectual Property, Knowledge and Input Data

- 5.1 Full details of the intellectual property requirements and conditions can be found in the attached OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions.
- 5.2 The Carbon Trust and/or the OWA Partners are able to make available the following input data, background IP or other resources to the successful Bidder for the purposes of the completing the Project, subject to the confidentiality conditions in the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions:
  - a. None.

## 6. Bid Pricing

- 6.1 To provide Bidders with greater clarity on the nature, level and type of work involved in the various Work Packages, the Total Budget for the delivery of this Project is expected to range between **£110k - £115k**.
- 6.2 The Bid Price submitted with the Tender must be derived from the cost breakdown in the Bid Price Calculation Sheet, and must include all expenses. The Bid Price is the price for the activities that will address the Scope of Work (and any Alternative Work proposed by the Bidder). The Bid Price Calculation Sheet and the Bid Price shall not include the price of any Additional Work suggested by the Bidder. Instead, the price for such Additional Work Packages shall be stated separately to the Bid Price in the Main Bid Document.
- 6.3 If the Bid Price exceeds the expected range of the Total Budget as stated under section 6.1, to avoid receiving a lower score for criterion 4, in the Main Bid Document the Bidder should provide a clear and justified reason why the Bid Price exceeds the expected budget.
- 6.4 All costs and rates quoted in the Main Bid Document and Bid Price Calculation Sheet must be in GBP (£) and all staff rates quoted in the Tender must represent the **Day Rate** for employment of staff members.
- 6.5 Any expenses must be separately included under Expenses.

# 7. Tender Evaluation Criteria

## 7.1. Technical & Financial Evaluation

Bidders should take the following evaluation criteria into account when preparing and submitting their tenders. In the event of equivalent scores of two or more received Tenders, suppliers and sub-contractors who have committed to decarbonisation targets (see end of this section) will be preferred.

### CRITERION 1: APPROACH TO WORK (WEIGHTING: 30%)

Description	Information required from Bidders
<b>Proposed Approach</b>	<p>In the Main Bid Document, Bidders are required to provide a clear and detailed description on how they plan to deliver the work for this Project.</p> <p>The description should include an initial overview on the approach followed by a description on how each Work Package and task will be delivered.</p> <p>Also, Bidders need to justify how their proposed approach meets the objectives of the Project.</p>
<b>Additional Work</b>	<p>If there is any Additional Work proposed by the Bidder, these aspects will be evaluated separately. The suggestion of Additional Work by the Bidder will not have a negative impact on the evaluation of the Tender.</p>
<b>Project management</b>	<p>Bidders are required to describe how they will manage the Project utilising appropriate resources and describe how they will work with the various stakeholders, such as the relevant OWA TWG, to get information and manage potentially conflicting relationships.</p>

### CRITERION 2: EXPERIENCE (WEIGHTING: 30%)

Description	Information required from Bidders
<b>Experience in CBRA or other probabilistic risk assessment methods</b>	<p>In the Main Bid Document, Bidders should elaborate on experience of the criteria described to the left and explain how these past experiences are relevant for this Tender.</p>
<b>Experience in GIS tools for data processing and analysis</b>	<p>In addition, Bidders should provide at least two examples (with reference to specific roles, responsibilities and activities the Bidder undertook) of previous work which illustrates the Bidder's skills, capabilities, and experience in all of these areas (Bidders may wish to make reference to submitted examples of previous work for other clients).</p>
<b>Subsea soil knowledge, including geotechnical and geophysical analysis</b>	<p>Bidders are advised that experience is considered a key important criterion and partnerships with other companies to support certain areas of experience are welcomed. All experience / case studies should be attached as an appendix to the Main Bid Document.</p>
<b>Experience in consolidating industry knowledge</b>	

**CRITERION 3: STAFF SKILLS (WEIGHTING: 15%)**

Description	Information required from Bidders
<b>CVs/Resumes</b>	Bidders are required to provide detailed CVs/Resumes for any key personnel who will be involved with this Contract together with proposed Project structure, intended position of the key personnel in the Project, and main responsibilities. CVs should include professional memberships of proposed staff working on this Project.
<b>Applicable skills</b>	Bidders should elaborate on the most relevant skills of the key personnel that will be involved in the Project.
<b>Prior experience form involved staff</b>	Please include examples of similar work performed by the proposed staff members, explaining how is relevant to the Approach to Work.
<b>Expert engagement</b>	A close working relationship with key stakeholders such as insurers, certifiers and constrictors who carry out these assessments are seen relevant to the success of this Project. Please supply ideas of how these groups can be engaged and leveraged.

**CRITERION 4: BID PRICE (WEIGHTING: 25%)**

Description	Information required from Bidders
<b>Day rates and man hours (man-h) for all staff grades</b>	In the Bid Price Calculation Sheet, Bidders are required to provide day rates for all staff grades and to input the man-h involved in each Work Package.
<b>Price for the delivery of the Project</b>	<p>In the Bid Price Calculation Sheet, Bidders are required to provide a cost breakdown by Work Package, including man hours and day rates of personnel completing the work as specified in section 5.</p> <p>Bidders are required to specify expected expenses separate from the estimated budget for each Work Package.</p> <p>The Bid Price will be assessed on the price for the Approach to Work (which includes the price of the Work Packages in the Scope of Work and any Alternative Work proposed by the Bidder).</p> <p>If there is any Additional Work proposed by the Bidder, this will be evaluated separately. The suggestion of Additional Work by the Bidder will not have a negative impact on the evaluation of the Tender.</p> <p>Carbon Trust will reimburse reasonable expenses at cost and receipts may be requested. Pre-approval will be required for travel costs over £150 per return journey and combined hotels &amp; subsistence cost exceeding £200 per day.</p> <p>Bidders will be required to confirm or comment on their ability to carry out the activities detailed in the Scope of Work within the initial term of the Contract and provide an outline plan of work.</p>

## 7.2. Contractual Evaluation

Bidders are required to state any requested amendments to the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions in their Tender Certificate. Any requests for amendments made after submission of the offer (i.e. not included in the Tender Certificate) shall not be considered by the Carbon Trust. On the basis of any changes requested in the Tender Certificate, the Carbon Trust may reject any bids where they consider there to be a high risk of not agreeing a contract in a timely manner.

The Carbon Trust has committed to reaching Net Zero by 2050. Our associated targets have been validated by the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi)<sup>2</sup>. To meet the initial targets that we have set for ourselves, we encourage all our suppliers and sub-contractors to have equivalent plans in place by 2026 at the latest. Measuring your emissions, setting targets, and encouraging others to do so will help push the needle on decarbonisation together.

Accordingly, we have included climate change commitment clauses in the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions. Bidders may submit Tenders even if they cannot meet the defined conditions now, but if this is the case this should be clearly flagged in the Tender Certificate as a requested change to the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions. Please reach out if you need more information on this.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://sciencebasedtargets.org/>

## 8. Glossary

Approach to Work	Has the meaning set out in section 3.1.
Additional Work	Any activities that are proposed by the Bidder in addition to those in the Scope of Work. It is at the discretion of the Carbon Trust to consider Additional Work in the evaluation of the Tender. The suggestion of Additional Work by the Bidder will not have a negative impact on the evaluation of the Tender.
Alternative Work	Deviations from the Scope of Work that are proposed by the Bidder, which replace work or tasks in the Scope of Work. Alternative Work will be treated as non-optional in the evaluation of the Tender.
Award Letter	A letter, issued by Carbon Trust, informing the Contractor about the award of the Contract. The Award Letter is issued together with the Final Scope of Work and the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions.
Bidder	An individual, a company, an organisation or a consortium submitting a bid for the Project.
Bid Price	The total price for the Bidder to complete the Project in line with the Approach to Work. The Bid Price shall include the price for the delivery of all Work Packages described in the Scope of Work and any Alternative work proposed by the Bidder. The Bid Price shall not include the price of any Additional Work suggested by the Bidder.
Bid Price Calculation Sheet	An Excel template provided by the Carbon Trust that is to be provided by the Bidder in addition to the Main Bid Document.
Carbon Trust Project Manager	The Carbon Trust employee who serves as first point of contact in relation to this ITT and the Project.
Clarification Document	A document containing all received clarification questions and Carbon Trust's responses to these questions.
Contract	A document consisting of the Award Letter, the Final Scope of Work, the OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions, and any clarifications agreed in writing.

Contractor	The Bidder (or in the case of a consortium, Bidders) selected for the delivery of the Project.
Description of Tender	This document.
Due Diligence Questionnaire	A questionnaire that is to be completed by shortlisted Bidders should Carbon Trust's bidders vetting process give reason to conduct a due diligence. In case of a consortium, the Due Diligence Questionnaire is to be filled-in by the designated Project Coordinator.
Executive Summary Report	A 3-10 pages report containing a high-level description of the Work Programme and a summary of the relevant results, findings and conclusions of the Project. Information can be taken from summaries written for previous Work Packages
Final Scope of Work	The agreed Work Programme for the Project, based on the Scope of Work and the Approach to Work, which is mutually agreed between the Carbon Trust and the Contractor.
Flash Report	A template provided by the Carbon Trust at Project start.
Invitation to Tender (ITT)	The following group of documents: Description of Tender (this document); OWA Stage IV Contractors' Conditions; Tender Certificate template; Bid Price Calculation Sheet template; and Clarification Document (if applicable <sup>3</sup> ).
Main Bid Document	Has the meaning given in section 3.1. No template is provided.
Project	The Cable Burial Risk Assessment 2.0 or CBRA project.
Project Closeout Form	A template provided by the Carbon Trust towards the end of the Project.
Project Deliverables	The individual deliverables including, but not limited to, any reports, technical notes, documents, drawings, models, data, webinars to be produced by the Contractor according to the Scope of Work (see section 4) or as otherwise agreed in the Final Scope of Work.
OWA	Offshore Wind Accelerator

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<sup>3</sup> A Clarification Document will not be published if no clarification questions are received in relation to this ITT.

OWA Partners	A group of leading offshore wind farm developers supporting the OWA.
OWA Cost Model	The Contractor is not expected to produce a cost model of its own, but rather provide an estimate, with appropriate explanation, for potential cost implications of the research undertaken within the frame of the delivered project. The Carbon Trust will provide a template to assist the Contractor in this process.
OWA Cost Model Input Sheet	A form (to be provided by Carbon Trust) which the Contractor should complete in WPA to provide input into the OWA Cost Model.
Scope of Work	The (preliminary) Work Programme for the Project as defined in section 4 of this document. At Contract award, the Scope of Work will be replaced by the Final Scope of Work.
Technical Working Group (TWG)	A group consisting of technical experts appointed by the OWA Partners. The TWG will supervise the Project.
Tender	Bidder's response to this ITT consisting of the following elements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Main Bid Document (proposal);</li> <li>- signed Tender Certificate; and</li> <li>- Bid Price Calculation Sheet</li> </ul>
Tender Certificate	A declaration that is to be provided by the Bidder (in case of a consortium: by the designated Project Coordinator) in addition to the Main Bid Document.
Total Budget	The expected amount of money available that will be made available from the OWA programme to the Contractor for the delivery the Project.
Work Package	A group of related tasks to be delivered under the Project.
Work Programme	The entirety of all Work Packages.