

Tender Brief

June 2026

Project Title:	Buzzing Coastal Communities
Project Partners:	The Solway Firth Partnership and Bee Positive DG8

INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

The ‘Buzzing Coastal Communities’ project is a collaboration between Solway Firth Partnership (Scottish Charity Number SC034376) and Bee Positive DG8 to work with local communities and partners across the coastal areas of DG8/Ward 2 to highlight and demonstrate the importance, multiple benefits and action needed to support Galloway’s coastal pollinator species and the habitats they depend on. The full project includes local stakeholder engagement, practical workshops and trials and pollinator habitat mapping/opportunity mapping across the coastal regions of DG8, DG9 and DG6/7.

The project is seeking external support for two largely desk-based elements of the project, but with an element of site based and ground-truthing visits (TBC);

- 1) Baseline habitat and indicator species mapping and opportunity mapping for pollinators within the project area, as well areas of ‘community valued’ pollinator habitat importance in DG8. Boundaries to be confirmed at the start up meeting.
- 2) Site feasibility, assessment and delivery of a conservation seed trial on a farm in DG8 (site already secured by project team).

We are expecting the contract duration to be July-December 2026 with a final report due in January 2027. This work will align with other similar projects underway in the region, including DG Woodlands Woodland Connectivity initiative.

The Buzzing Coastal Communities project has been funded by D&G Coastal Benefit Fund and the Post Code Lottery, Green Trust.

Specification

This invitation to tender is for delivery of:

PART 1:

- To undertake a comprehensive desktop GIS baseline mapping of pollinator habitats and baseline soil types and capabilities (Scotland), as well as up to 3-4 indicator pollinator species (TBC in collaboration with project team).
- To trial NatureScot's Natural Capital Tool (Beta), to identify potential pollinator habitat network opportunities for action across the project area. We anticipate these to include road verges, hedgerows/field edges but there may be others.
- To set up and register the project on NatureScot's Natural Capital Tool with any supporting information required.
- Mapping of key pollinator habitats and indicator species that have been identified (inc. community projects/valued community spaces, grass verges etc).
- Undertake a review of other local relevant environmental habitat mapping activity and/or pollinator projects in the area to identify any potential duplication or opportunities.

PART 2

- To work with a local pastoralist (livestock farmer) and project partners to trial the seeding of a conservation grassland flower mix on selected areas to suit their grazing and feed requirements, which includes baseline soils mapping and sampling for key base elements, organic matter and carbon.

We are looking for an individual, team or organisation with:

- Experience of working on / delivering environmental consultation work – ideally working on habitat restoration programmes
- Familiarity with the Solway coast.
- Ability to travel to and around the project area/s.
- Strong track record of producing clear, well written, high-quality reports and data presentation.

Your Proposal should be a maximum of four sides of A4, and should include the following information:

- The methods you would propose implementing.
- Your understanding of this brief and the wider context within which the project sits.
- The reason you are interested in working with the team and your fit to our criteria.
- Your relevant experience.
- How you will manage the project, including your anticipated time commitment.
- Your ideas about how you will present the project findings to us and to others.
- A budget, broken down against each output and against stages or tasks outlined in your methodology, with a breakdown for delivery.

Milestones & Outputs

We would anticipate regular check-ins/progress updates as required between the contracted partner and the project leads, SFP and Bee Positive DG8.

Suggested Milestones

- Initial start-up meeting agreeing timeframe, project boundaries and outputs – Early August 2026
- Nature Network projects collaboration meeting – Friday 7th August. 10am, Balmaclellan.
- Register and set up project with Nature Scot – Natural Capital Tool (NCT)
- Pre-mapping/existing activity briefing & further define of outputs
- Baseline soils mapping and sampling for agreed project area
- Seed stitching/drilling of conservation mix (*can be by external labour, to be decided in collaboration with project team; cost of seed covered separately by project team*)
- Draft habitat/species map
- Draft opportunity report and progress of seed trial
- Final report including hand-over of data/GIS files, photos etc - January 2027

Outputs

- Project to be successfully set up and registered for agreed project area/s on the NCT.
- Mapping of relevant habitat within the agreed project area/s.
- Mapping of relevant habitat network opportunities within agreed project area/s
- Reporting and presentation of data in a simple clear format to our needs – TBC – that can be used by third parties and for future funding opportunities.

Insurance

The Consultants must confirm and evidence that they have the appropriate Employers Liability Insurance (£5 Million) and Public Liability Insurance (£5 Million).

Enquiries and submissions via email to: nic@solwayfirthpartnership.co.uk

Closing date for tender submissions: Monday 27th July, 9am.

Pricing Guide: Consultants are invited to submit a fixed fee tender as described in this briefing document and the submission will be assessed on a quality/price (70/30%) basis.

Budget

This contract has a fixed budget £10,000 max (inc. of VAT and travel/subsistence).

Payment schedule to be agreed upon appointment.



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