



PRIOR INFORMATION NOTICE

Management of the Isle of Man's annual wool clip

The Isle of Man Government is exploring opportunities in the future management of the Isle of Man's annual wool clip. As part of this investigation it wishes to determine whether there are any providers who would be able to undertake the management and service provision of this function either as a standalone business or on behalf of the Department.

The Department currently utilises buildings at Knockaloe farm where it processes around 130 tonnes of wool annually from 200 producers. The wool is graded into 11 industry recognized quality grades, baled and shipped to the Bradford wool auctions where it is sold.

To be considered for participation in this process, individuals or organisations must:

- Enter into a five year rolling contract that would be renewable after 3 years
- Provide suitable premises for the collection and grading of wool.
- Grade the wool in accordance with normal industry standards.
- Keep accurate records that ensure each producers wool is identified by weight and grade.
- Bale the wool into packaging suitable for shipping.
- Arrange for loading and delivery of wool for sale at Bradford auctions (or another recognised sale route to be advised of at application.)
- Provide all the required administration and payments to producers.
- Accurately report grades and volumes of wool sold to the Department to enable the processes to be audited.

It is intended that the selected operator will become the primary contact for all Wool collection and marketing enquiries.

Responding to this Prior Information Notice

Interested parties will be requested to submit a brief response clearly stating how you or your organisation satisfy the requirements set out above that will allow the Department of Environment, Food and Agriculture selection team evaluate all options.

Should you feel that your organisation can fulfil these requirements and you wish to participate in this exercise please Express an Interest on the Isle of Man Government Procurement Portal at the following website <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/iomg.aspx/Home>. Please select 'Register' from the menu on the left side of the Home Page.

Once you have registered your organisation you should select this project from the list of 'Current Tenders' and 'View Details' then click 'Express an Interest' at the bottom of the page. Once you have expressed an interest, the 'Form of Acknowledgement' document will become available to complete. In order to progress to the next stage you will need to complete the 'Form of Acknowledgement' document before the Expression of Interest deadline detailed below.

Should you have any difficulty in using the website or registering your interest in this way, please e-mail procurement@gov.im.

By responding to this request it must be understood that, at this stage, we are only exploring options, no commitment is intended or implied and this request may or may not progress through to a competitive tender exercise. An invitation to tender may follow but we are not under any obligation to issue invitations to responders to this stage.

Expressions of interest, completed questionnaire and your response must be submitted through the above Portal by **12 noon on Monday, 18th January 2021.**