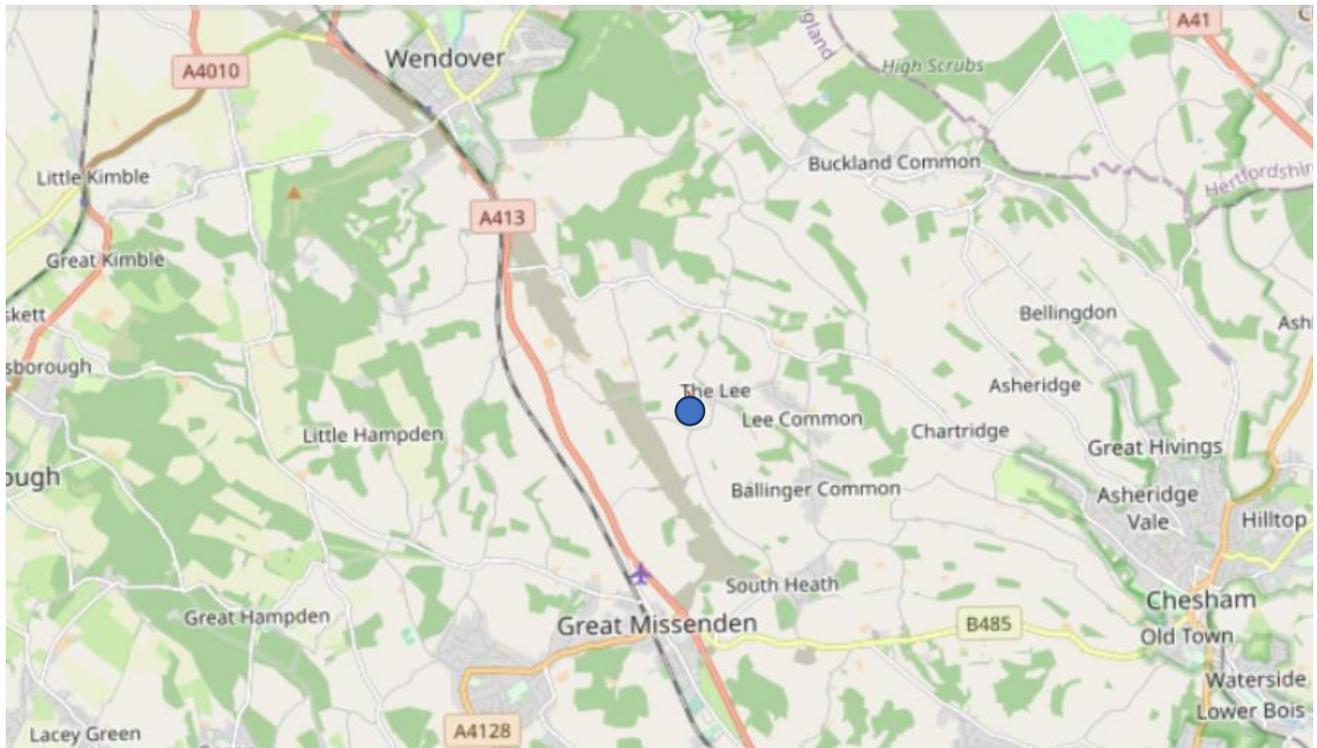




Invitation to Tender

Location: Home Farm, The Lee

Works: Hedge-planting



Issued: 7 January 2022

The Chalk, Cherries and Chairs Project

Chalk, Cherries and Chairs is a 5-year National Lottery Heritage Funded Landscape Partnership Scheme being delivered in the Central Chilterns aiming to create, restore, manage and connect habitats across the Central Chilterns project area.

Focus is on priority habitats consistent with the Central Chilterns Landscape (grassland, woodland, hedgerows and chalk aquifer fed headwaters). The project supports landowners to both deliver high quality habitat on their land and to work more closely with neighbours to agree collaborative approaches.

The project team are seeking contractors to complete the work before the end of March 2022. The work includes planting three new hedges totalling 500m.



Summary of quantities

Three hedges of 174m + 134m + 192m = 500m. Whips should be planted at 6 per metre = 3,000 whips. Standard trees should be planted every 30m = 4 + 6 + 6 = 16 trees.

Specifications

Prior to planting the sites should be prepared to minimise competition from other vegetation and provide good soil conditions. The area prepared should be 1.5m wide. Herbicide should be applied to the site, but if the weather is not suitable before planting this could be done afterwards.

The hedge planting and gapping up should be at a density of 6 per metre planted in a staggered double row 40cm apart, using 45-60 cm 2 year-old whips of local provenance. All whips should be staked and protected with a tree guard. All failures should be replaced in the following planting season.

The possible mix of hedging whips is as follows, to be finalised at a later date:

Hawthorn - 25%	Buckthorn - 5%
Field Maple - 15%	Guelder Rose - 5%
Hazel - 15%	Spindle - 5%
Hornbeam - 5%	Dog Rose - 5%
Mountain Ash - 5%	Wild Cherry - 5%
Wayfaring Tree - 10%	

Every 30m a 60-90cm sapling should be planted that will be allowed to grow into standard tree. This should be placed in a larger tree guard to allow visibility during hedge cutting operations.

Objectives and restrictions

- Vehicle movements will be kept to a minimum. Access routes will be agreed with the project manager before work.
- The proposed method for planting and gapping up will be agreed before work.
- All staff will be suitably qualified and experienced for the work undertaken and will wear appropriate personal protective equipment.

Proposal

Tenders will be evaluated on the basis of the following details:

- An understanding of the brief.
- A detailed breakdown of costs (including cost per metre of fencing, cost of straining posts and cost of removing elder stools).
- A description of how the work will be carried out.
- How ground conditions will be protected.
- Details of warranty.
- Summary of health and safety procedures.
- Details of insurance.
- Organisational and individual skills, knowledge and experience.
- Earliest potential start date.

Submission

For a site visit or questions please contact: **Harriet Bennett**, Land Management Officer (Chilterns Conservation Board).

hbennett@chilternsaonb.org

07946 629708

Tenders should be submitted by 17:00 on 21 January 2022 to Harriet Bennett (details above).

References from previous clients may be requested during the assessment process.