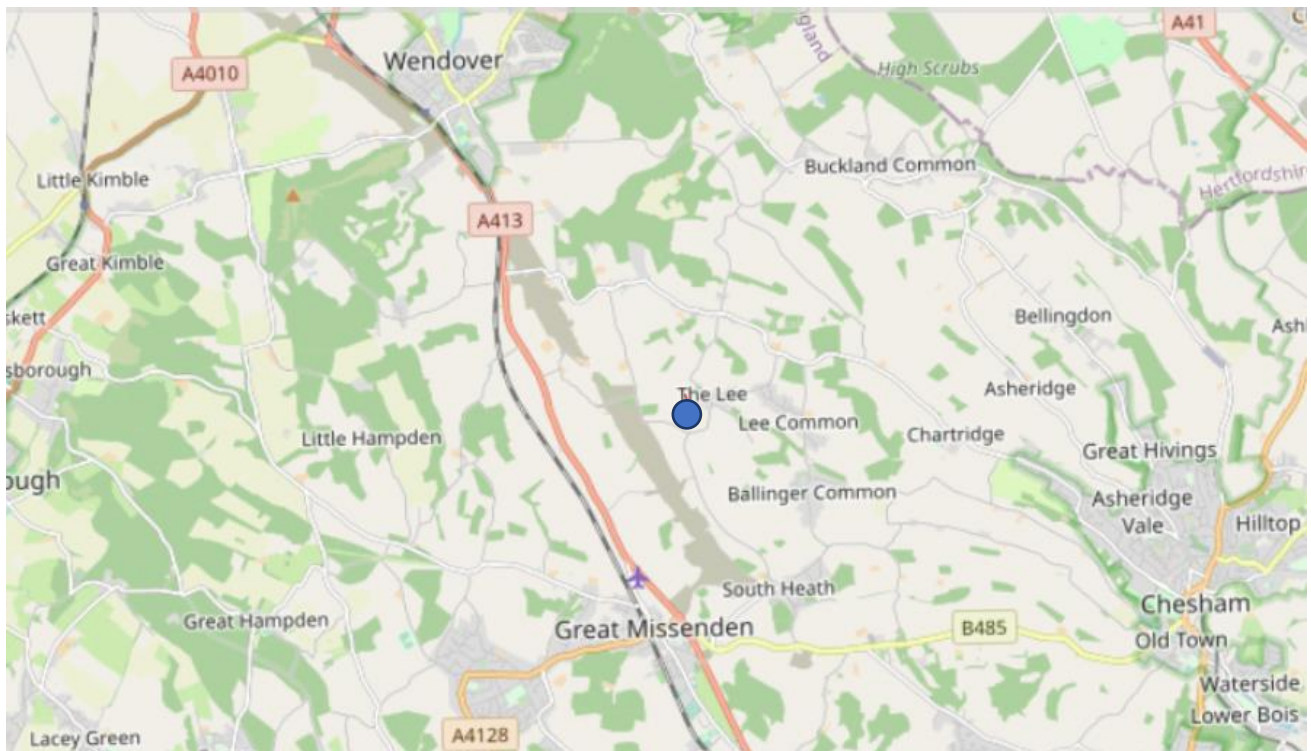




Invitation to Tender

Location: Home Farm, The Lee

Works: Hedge-planting and gapping-up



Issued: 10th June 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 undertake hedge-planting and gapping up (a total of 921m) before the end of December 2022.



Summary of quantities

Hedge number	Total length (m)	% gap	Length of planting required (m)
1	310	10	31
2	450	100	450
3	135	100	135
4	190	10	19
5	279	9	25
6	266	10	27
7	116	10	12
8	292	5	15
9	171	10	17
10	367	7	26
11	239	10	24
12	176	10	18
13	350	30	105
14	168	10	17
Total			921

Specifications

Prior to planting the sites should be prepared to minimise competition from other vegetation and provide good soil conditions, including an application of herbicide. The area prepared should be 1.5m wide. After planting another application of herbicide should be done (please separate out this cost).

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. Failures should be replaced in the following planting season (up to 20%).

The possible mix of hedging whips is as follows, to be finalised at a later date. They should be planted well mixed, not in blocks of the same species.

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

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.
- 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 15 July 2022 to Harriet Bennett (details above).

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