Tender Clarification No. 3

Clifden Railway Pedestrian and Cycle Bridge – Consultancy Services (Stage A Preliminary Design and Stage B Statutory Consent Preparation)

Galway City Council – 20 November 2026

The following clarifications are issued to all tenderers. Queries are reproduced as received, anonymised. Where a clarification conflicts with the tender documents, the clarification prevails. This Clarification should be read with Addendum No. 1 and Clarification Nos. 1 and 2.

No.	Query received	Council response
1	The tender documentation states that Lead Consultant, Structural, Geotechnical and Civil Engineering personnel shall be registered as Chartered Engineers with Engineers Ireland, or an equivalent professional body of an EU/EEA Member State. Please confirm whether engineers holding Chartered Engineer (CEng) status through UK professional institutions, including the ICE and IStructE, will be considered equivalent and therefore satisfy this requirement.	Yes. Chartered Engineer status held through the Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) or the Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE) will be accepted as equivalent to Chartered Engineer registration with Engineers Ireland, provided the individual's membership is current at the date of tender and evidence is included in the submission.
2	The tender documentation requires a Lead Environmental Consultant / EIAR Coordinator with a minimum of 15 years' experience and relevant EIAR delivery experience. Please confirm whether experience gained on UK projects may be used to demonstrate compliance with the requirements for this role. Specifically, can environmental assessment and consenting experience obtained through UK planning and environmental assessment regimes be considered acceptable where the project scope, complexity, multidisciplinary nature and environmental sensitivities are comparable to those required for this commission?	Yes. Experience on UK environmental assessment and consenting projects may be counted towards the minimum experience for this role where the tenderer demonstrates that the projects are comparable in scope, complexity, multidisciplinary co-ordination and environmental sensitivity. The tender submission SAQ response shall also demonstrate that the individual, or the proposed team, has working knowledge of the Irish and EU requirements applicable to this commission, including the EIA Directive, the Habitats Directive and Appropriate Assessment (NIS), and the Irish statutory consent process.
3	The tender documentation states that the Conservation Architect shall hold RIAI Grade I Conservation Accreditation (or equivalent). Please confirm whether individuals with extensive conservation and heritage project experience obtained in the UK may be considered equivalent where they do not hold RIAI Grade I accreditation. In particular, please confirm whether professionals registered with UK architectural bodies, including ARB, RIBA and/or RIAS, together with demonstrable experience in the delivery of heritage and conservation projects in the UK, would satisfy this requirement.	The requirement is for a conservation accreditation, not only architectural registration and experience. The following will be accepted as equivalent to RIAI Grade I Conservation Accreditation: RIBA Specialist Conservation Architect, or an equivalent conservation accreditation from a UK body such as the RIAS, in each case current at the date of tender. Registration with the ARB, RIBA or RIAS without a conservation accreditation, together with experience alone, is not equivalent. The individual must also meet the minimum experience stated for the grade and be entitled to practise as an architect in Ireland, as set out in Clarification No. 1.
4	Section 3.1 of the Tender Brief states that a topographical survey is required. Section 3.1.1 of the AECOM SOR refers to a topographical survey. Clarify if a full topographical survey is required or if topographical survey information will be made available.	Additional topographic survey may be required. As set out in Addendum No. 1, GCC will procure the survey separately on the basis of the Consultant's specification; the Consultant shall prepare the specification and tender documentation, supervise the survey and report. The 2021 topographic survey will be uploaded to eTenders for all tenderers with this Clarification for information.

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5	Section 4.4 of the AECOM SOR mentions an “Arup Condition Assessment Report”. Can this report be made available.	The report will be uploaded to eTenders for all tenderers with this Clarification for information.
6	Confirm if any Geotechnical reporting in accordance with TII publication DN-ERW-03083 “Managing Geotechnical Risk” Table 2.1(a) is required or if any of these documents are available from previous stages of the project. Noting that these documents are not listed under Section 8 Geotechnical Engineer “Key Deliverables”.	The Key Deliverables in Section 8 are not exhaustive. The Consultant shall provide the geotechnical reporting appropriate to Preliminary Design and statutory consent, comprising: a geotechnical desk study; the specification for the additional ground investigation; the factual and interpretive ground investigation reports; a Geotechnical Report with foundation design recommendations for the preferred option; and a geotechnical risk register. TII DN-ERW-03083 is not mandatory for this commission. The Consultant shall manage geotechnical risk in accordance with its principles and to a level proportionate to Preliminary Design and statutory consent, delivering the geotechnical deliverables listed above. The 2000 Site Investigations report will be uploaded to eTenders for all tenderers with this Clarification, but does not include reporting in accordance with TII publication DN-ERW-03083 “Managing Geotechnical Risk”
7	Section 3.1 of the Tender Brief states “Additional geotechnical site investigation” is in the scope and Section 16 states the price should include “site investigation provisional sums”. Section 8 Geotechnical Engineer “Key Deliverables” states only “SI specification and supervision” is required. Please clarify who will be responsible for procuring, engaging with and managing the SI Contractor.	The Council will procure and contract with the ground investigation contractor, on the basis of the Consultant’s specification. The Consultant shall prepare the specification and tender documents, advise on the evaluation of tenders, supervise the works on the Council’s behalf, interpret the results and report. As set out in Addendum No. 1, the cost of the investigation is excluded from the Consultant’s lump sum. **The reference in Section 16 to “site investigation provisional sums” shall be disregarded by Tenderers: no provisional sum is included in the Pricing Document.**