



Built Environment Climate Change Innovations Project

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Built Environment Climate Change Innovations

Invitations to provide Specialist Support to the Built Environment Climate Change Innovations Project

University of Wolverhampton

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Deadline for Interest: NOON Friday 25 July 2014

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1. Introduction

The University of Wolverhampton, Built Environment Climate Change Innovations (BECCI) project is looking to appoint advisors to provide specialist support to the BECCI project.

Reporting to the BECCI Project Manager the successful advisors will:

Make use of their expertise and experience to provide high level research briefings and commercially useful insight into the Built Environment sector focussing on low carbon opportunities

Advisors will work flexibly with weekly touchdown points will be agreed at any of the University campuses (Walsall, Wolverhampton or Telford) to suit with a designated BECCI representative.

The University of Wolverhampton, Built Environment Climate Change Innovations project wishes to invite formal proposals from individuals and consultancies to meet the challenge (see below).

The information and instructions provided in this brief are designed to ensure that all proposals are given equal and fair consideration. If you have any queries, please do contact Glenn Barrowman (glennb@wlv.ac.uk; 01902 518502)

2. Background

The BECCI project is a regional project part funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and established to promote the development and adoption of products and services which would mitigate climate change by the reduction in the generation of CO₂ through reduced energy consumption.

The focus of the BECCI project is in the adoption of these products and services within the existing housing stock. The fundamental driver for the BECCI project is the regional, national and international necessity to achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions. This was underpinned on regional level by the strategy to make the West Midlands the UK's first low-carbon regional economy. Our region has some massive social housing programmes that need to adhere to the national target by retrofitting their existing housing stock. The BECCI project strives to develop our local SME base to help them compete in this market.

BECCI engages with SMEs linking with our academic sector on driving product and service innovation in areas like insulation, water reuse, occupier behaviour, ventilation, heating and cooling control and distributed energy generation.

BECCI links with other regional initiatives within the sustainability agenda including the Centre of Refurbishment Excellence (CoRE), Sustainable Building Futures, Sustainable Retrofit and Smart Grids, and networks such as NISP, Forum for the Built Environment, BESST and Metnet. At European level BECCI is supporting the Climate KIC as a host within the Pioneers into Practise programme.

3. Challenge

The challenge is to create awareness of the commercial opportunities that exist within the refurbishment of the existing housing stock. The BECCI focus is to promote and improve the thermal efficiency of these buildings and so reduce energy consumption. Over the last few years, there has been significant interest in decarbonising buildings. One of the main challenges to successful decarbonisation of buildings is the multiple perspectives of the problem. New technologies need to be integrated into existing buildings and infrastructure, and this may require changes to practices and behaviours as well as an understanding of the customer's perspective and the cost/business case implications.

A successful outcome at the end of this consultancy contract would be the increased number of SMEs focussing on the reduction of energy use in domestic buildings.

4. The Role

The role suits a consultancy or individual practitioners from the building research, environmental and green business sector capable of displaying expertise within sustainability, water usage, micro energy provision, waste minimisation, innovative building materials and zero carbon design.

The role will be to provide specialist support to the BECCI team.

Number of days / month: Typically 4 - 6 days per month

Duration of agreement: Ongoing however it is anticipated that the allocated days will have been utilised by 31 March 2015

Indicative budget: £10,000 (each specific LOT of consultancy work will be tendered - each of up to a maximum of £10k)

5. Specialist Advisors: Objectives

The advisors will be asked to fulfil the following:

- Bring knowledge of the local LEP structure and identify opportunities for BECCI engagement
- Bring knowledge of regional low-carbon activities and projects especially Climate KIC
- Provide project briefings to BECCI team based on the development of new business opportunities and novel models for engagement with BECCI SME clients
- Support the BECCI team members as required with technical briefings

6. Consultancy / Person Specifications

Candidates for the role of Specialist Advisors:

- Possess good knowledge and experience of the low carbon industry and the projects and programmes based on it
- Have experience of mentoring / coaching
- Have an open attitude, able to identify the potential of participants and be able to give clear feedback to the BECCI team
- Be confident and able to lead interactive sessions
- Have experience of supporting the development of ideas, new proposals and business cases.
- Possess good understanding of the regional context, and LEP framework

7. Application Process

If you are interested in the function of Specialist Support Advisors to BECCI, please send a CV and a covering letter to: glennb@wlv.ac.uk. The covering letter should describe, with relevant examples your experience, how you meet the job specifications, and provide some initial thoughts on how you can make a unique impact to the BECCI project.

The deadline for registering interest is NOON Friday 25 July 2014.

Shortlisted interested parties will be advised by close of play Monday 28 July 2014 and invited to provide a formal quotation outlining their remuneration for the completion of this activity based on typical number of days and a fixed (£) rate per day.

Receipt of the formal quotation by email addressed to glennb@wlv.ac.uk and titled "BECCI Specialist Services" quotation will be NOON Thursday 31 July 2014.

Both successful and unsuccessful applications will be advised week commencing Monday 4 August 2014 of any decision.