



**Chilterns
National
Landscape**



**River Chess
Smarter Water
Catchment**

Invitation to Tender: Landscape Connections

Location: Flaunden Bottom

Works: Hedge planting, hedge coppicing and fencing

Issued: 21st August 2026

Site Plan



-  New hedge
-  Hedge coppicing
-  Stock fence

Schedule of works

Hedge planting

Total length required = 100m

- The hedge planting should be at a density of 6 plants per metre planted in a staggered double row 40cm apart, using 45-60 cm 2 year-old whips of UK provenance.
- A herbicide should be applied on a 1.5m strip before the end of the growing season.
- The centre of the new hedge should be no closer than 1.2m from any fence.
- All whips should be staked and protected with a spiral guard.
- Every 50m a whip should be put into a tree guard with a stake with a view to becoming a standard tree.
- Up to failures should be replaced in the following planting season (up to 20%).
- Species should not be planted in single-species blocks.
- The planting mix should be at least 60% Hawthorn with a max of 5% of the following additional species: Field maple (max. 10% as is a tree!), Hazel (doesn't establish well in dry conditions), Dog rose, (don't plant more than 1 together), Hornbeam, Wayfaring tree, Purging Buckthorn, Guelder rose, Spindle, Crab apple, Wild plum (great for early season flowers and pollen).

Fencing

Total length required = 441m

The stock fence should be stakes (min 4" diameter) dug to at least 55cm at max 4m intervals with sheep net stapled at the top, 3rd, 5th and bottom strands and two strands of wire above. Strainers will be installed at each end of the run and dug-in to a minimum depth of 90cm. Stock net and/or wire will be tensioned. The fence should be no closer than 1.2m, on average, from the centre of the hedge.

Hedge coppicing

Total length required = 341m

- Hedges should be cut down to 2/3ft, although no lower than the bowl of the stump, whilst leaving some trees as standards (these are to be marked before work starts).
- The hedges should be cut using the most suitable machinery available to the contractor. We expect that if contractors use tree shears the cut should be cleaned off with a chainsaw.
- Brash should be chipped and left in piles on-site, but not in the hedge base.
- Firewood (anything with diameter over 15cm) can either be taken away or left in an uncut pile for the landowner (this should be reflected in the price and two options could be offered in the budget).
- All staff must be suitably qualified and experienced for the work undertaken and wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Appropriate signs should be installed by the contractor to warn of work in progress.

Objectives and restrictions

- Vehicle movements will be kept to a minimum. Access routes will be agreed with the project manager before work.
- All staff will be suitably qualified and experienced for the work undertaken and will wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Appropriate signs will be installed by the contractor to warn of work in progress.
- Work must be carried out in suitable weather conditions to minimise ground disturbance, and before the end of December 2024.

Proposal

Tenders for each task will be evaluated on the basis of the following details:

- An understanding of the project brief.
- A detailed breakdown of costs for delivering the project (including materials and daily rates/costing model and any other specific costs) according to the schedule of works.
- How the work will be carried out (a range of options are encouraged to be included).
- Machinery that will be used to carry out the work.
- How ground conditions will be protected.
- An estimation of when the work will take place and how long it will take to complete.
- Arrangements for the length and nature of warranties on works.
- Details of your insurance.
- Organisational and individual skills, knowledge and experience.

Please provide full contact details of the lead contact.

Submission

For a site visit or questions please contact: **Harriet Bennett**, Landowner and Farming Engagement Adviser (Chilterns Conservation Board).

hbennett@chilterns.org.uk

07946 629708

Tenders should be submitted by 10.00 on Monday 21st September 2026 to Harriet Bennett (details above).

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