

# Welsh firm Flamgard protects world's largest moving structure with UKEF support

## About the transaction: Flamgard

Region	Pontypool
Sector	Manufacturer: Fire dampers
Export destination	Ukraine
UKEF support	Bond support scheme

Welsh manufacturer Flamgard Calidair was contracted to provide fire and shut off dampers for the Chernobyl New Safe Confinement site. To do this, they required additional financial support for an advance payment bond they had to issue as part of their involvement in the project. Flamgard was able to secure this through their bank, Lloyds, while our guarantee meant there was no requirement for a deposit.

Steve Edwards, Managing Director, Flamgard, said:

This is a major international contract for Flamgard, which we were able to undertake with the support of UKEF, the Welsh Government and Lloyds Banking Group. The support we received from government and the private sector has helped us to win big in a global marketplace.

Putting the right finance and insurance in place can give you the exporting edge, helping you to win contracts, fulfil orders and get paid.

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## How to define a public service mutual: public consultation launched

- Civil Society Minister Mims Davies has launched a consultation on the definition of public service mutuals in order to provide clarity and increase understanding amongst the sector.
- The call for evidence aims to help public sector commissioners in particular who award contracts, and grow the role of mutual organisations.

Public service mutuals are currently defined as organisations that have left the public sector but continue to deliver public services, and have a significant degree of employee ownership, influence or control. However evidence suggests this current definition is misunderstood and unclear, and needs updating to reflect the changing public service delivery landscape. The public consultation will aim to:

- Strengthen the understanding of ‘public service mutuals’. Doing this will give public service commissioners and broader stakeholders increased confidence that mutuals represent the values government wants to see in public service delivery.
- Provide greater clarity for social sector organisations on what requirements are needed to be considered a public service mutual.
- Raise awareness and understanding of the benefits of the mutuals model, informing decisions about who delivers public services.

Mims Davies, Minister for Sport and Civil Society, said:

We know that mutuals have more engaged staff, increased productivity and deliver more innovative services and this is why we’ve been supporting the growth of mutuals over the last ten years.

We need to make sure we have a clear understandable and updated definition to increase confidence in the sector which can inspire further growth over the coming years.

The consultation will be open for 12 weeks following which the government will publish a revised definition that reflects current priorities for public services.

#### **Further Information**

More detail including the consultation document can be found [here](#)

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## **[Invasive Species Order 2019: consultation opens](#)**

A [consultation into how best to manage invasive non-native species](#) which threaten our native wildlife has been launched by the government.

Under EU law, management measures must be put in place for widespread invasive alien species. The eight-week consultation will ask for views on ways to manage populations of species of concern (listed below).

It comes as the government confirmed that the [Invasive Alien Species \(Enforcement and Permitting\) Order 2019](#) – which brings EU legislation into UK law – will come into force on 1 December 2019.

Biosecurity Minister Lord Gardiner said:

Invasive non-native species not only challenge the survival of some of our rarest species but damage our natural ecosystems as well as costing the economy more than £1.7 billion per year.

The law requires management measures to be put in place and this consultation will ensure we consider the evidence on how best to manage these species of concern.

The UK will continue to uphold international obligations and also as a responsible partner nation working closely with other countries to protect our native wildlife and forestry landscapes for future generations to enjoy.

## **Invasive species**

The 14 species identified as being widely spread in England and Wales and requiring management are:

### **Plants**

- Nuttall's waterweed (*Elodea nuttallii*)
- Chilean rhubarb (*Gunnera tinctoria*)
- Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*)
- Floating pennywort (*Hydrocotyle ranunculoides*)
- Himalayan balsam (*Impatiens glandulifera*)
- Curly waterweed (*Lagarosiphon major*)
- American skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton americanus*)
- Parrot's feather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*)

### **Animals**

- Egyptian goose (*Alopochen aegyptiacus*)
  - Chinese mitten crab (*Eriocheir sinensis*)
  - Muntjac deer (*Muntiacus reevesi*)
  - Signal crayfish (*Pacifastacus leniusculus*)
  - Grey squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)
  - all subspecies of (*Trachemys scripta*) otherwise known as "slider terrapins"
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## **News story: Invasive Species Order 2019: consultation opens**

The Government has confirmed the implementation date of the Invasive Alien Species (Enforcement and Permitting) Order 2019.

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## **New Traffic Commissioners to be appointed**

This follows the decision by Simon Evans to step down from the role of North West traffic commissioner and the retirement of Nick Jones from the Welsh role on reaching the statutory retirement age.

Simon Evans says:

“After 27 most illuminating and fulfilling months in the position of TC for the North West, I have decided to step down from my full time responsibilities. I am though most grateful to be afforded the opportunity to revert to being a DTC, and to maintain an active regulatory role, whilst achieving the work/life balance that I now desire.”

Nick Jones will also continue to fulfil the role as a Deputy Traffic Commissioner.

The Traffic Commissioners for Great Britain wish to thank both for their services and look forward to working with them in their new roles.