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Planning

Legal Services (SBS10531)

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-000354

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05ff70

Published 5 January 2026, 2:28pm

Scope

Reference

SBS10531

Description

NHS Shared Business Services Limited (NHS SBS) intends to put in place a Framework Agreement for the provision of Legal Services to be used by Approved Organisations for the following proposed Lots, which are under consideration during this preliminary market engagement:

? Lot 1: Governance, structure, transformation & public law

?Lot 2: Healthcare & mental health

?Lot 3: Employment

?Lot 4: Procurement, commercial & contract

?Lot 5: Property & construction

?Lot 6: Technology & e-commerce, including IP & media law

?Lot 7: Corporate finance, audit & insurance

?Lot 8: Criminal

?Lot 9: Legal recovery & collection

?Lot 10: Counsel

?Lot 11: Multi-disciplinary support

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £200,000,000 excluding VAT
- £240,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 10 November 2027 to 9 November 2031
- 4 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79100000 - Legal services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom
- GG - Guernsey
- IM - Isle of Man
- JE - Jersey

Engagement

Engagement deadline

6 February 2026

Engagement process description

NHS Shared Business Services (NHS SBS) is developing a fit-for-the-future framework to support the delivery of Legal Services across the NHS and wider public sector.

To help define the scope and structure of the new framework, NHS SBS is conducting a Preliminary Market Engagement (PME) exercise with suppliers. The aim is to gather market insight, assess supplier capability, and test the relevance of proposed lots before finalising the Lot and commercial structure, Specification and launching a formal procurement process.

The existing Legal Services framework is due to expire on 31/07/2027. This PME represents an important opportunity to shape the future of Legal Services procurement and ensure the framework aligns with the market capabilities, national priorities, local

needs, and emerging innovation.

The proposed lot structure under consideration includes the following:

? Lot 1: Governance, structure, transformation & public law

?Lot 2: Healthcare & mental health

?Lot 3: Employment

?Lot 4: Procurement, commercial & contract

?Lot 5: Property & construction

?Lot 6: Technology & e-commerce, including IP & media law

?Lot 7: Corporate finance, audit & insurance

?Lot 8: Criminal

?Lot 9: Legal recovery & collection

?Lot 10: Counsel

?Lot 11: Multi-disciplinary support

PRELIMINARY MARKET ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

NHS SBS would like to obtain the markets views, suggestions, and proposals during this preliminary market engagement. All submissions will be treated confidentially. Please note, companies are not required to respond to all questions within the PMEQ.

Companies wishing to participate in the preliminary market engagement should complete the Preliminary Market Engagement Questionnaire (PMEQ) by 12pm on Friday 6th February 2026 via the following link:

<https://portal.us.bn.cloud.ariba.com/dashboard/public/appext/comsapsbncdiscoveryui#/RfxEvent/preview/1110001656?anId=ANONYMOUS>

POSSIBLE SUBSEQUENT ENGAGEMENT

NHS SBS may host open virtual forums (such as webinars) to engage further with the market following analysis of PMEQ responses. Within the PMEQ, companies need to confirm whether they would like to participate in such further engagement, and if so,

provide contact details for their nominated attendee.

We are committed to working with suppliers who are dedicated to Sustainability and Social Value and there will be a significant weighting on this within the procurement documents.

NHS Shared Business Services Limited (NHS SBS) act in an Agency capacity for and on behalf of its customers (Approved Organisations) - existing and new. These comprise of NHS and social care organisations (whether acting individually, or on behalf of, or together as members of any consortia) along with any other public or private sector bodies which NHS SBS authorises to use the resulting Framework.

Our Approved Organisation list can be found on:

<https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/services/framework-agreements-categories/>

The eSourcing system NHS SBS will use is SAP Ariba. Please note that to register, you must have a valid DUNS number (as provided by Dun and Bradstreet) for the organisation which you are registering, who will be entering into a Framework if invited.

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

- Companies House: 05280446
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDVT-6171-VHCX

Three Cherry Trees Lane

Hemel Hempstead

HP2 7AH

United Kingdom

Email: nsbs.categorymanagementsourcing@nhs.net

Website: <https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/>

Region: UKH23 - Hertfordshire

Organisation type: Public undertaking (commercial organisation subject to public authority oversight)