

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/000954-2024>

Tender

## **QUB/2503/24 Contract for Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of a TMA Arrayer**

Queen' University Belfast

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-000954

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042c57

Published 11 January 2024, 1:43pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Queen' University Belfast

University Road, Belfast, BT7 1NN

Belfast

#### **Email**

[Shauna.Ryan@qub.ac.uk](mailto:Shauna.Ryan@qub.ac.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKN06 - Belfast

## **Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.qub.ac.uk](http://www.qub.ac.uk)

## **I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/queensuniversitybelfast.aspx/Home>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/queensuniversitybelfast.aspx/Home>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

## **I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

## **I.5) Main activity**

Education

---

## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

QUB/2503/24 Contract for Supply, Delivery, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of a TMA Arrayer

Reference number

QUB/2503/24

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 33100000 - Medical equipments

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Queen's University Genomics Core Technology Unit (GCTU) processes tissue samples for spatial transcriptomic analysis. This is a cutting-edge technique whereby researchers can determine the precise location of gene expression within the tissue context. To allow us to process archival tissue samples e.g. biobanked samples, or precious samples in a cost-effective way, we require instrumentation that will allow us to create tumour microarrays (TMAs). A TMA contains many small representative tissue samples from tens to hundreds of different patient/animal samples assembled on a single histological slide, and therefore allows high throughput analysis of multiple specimens at the same time. This also enables cost-effective analysis as multiple samples can be processed on a single slide, which is important for us to offer as a core service. By purchasing such instrumentation, this would enable the GCTU to support large scale studies, increase our throughput and decrease costs for users.

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKN06 - Belfast

## **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The GCTU processes tissue samples for spatial transcriptomic analysis. This is a cutting-edge technique whereby researchers can determine the precise location of gene expression within the tissue context. To allow us to process archival tissue samples e.g. biobanked samples, or precious samples in a cost-effective way, we require instrumentation that will allow us to create tumour microarrays (TMAs). A TMA contains many small representative tissue samples from tens to hundreds of different patient/animal samples assembled on a single histological slide, and therefore allows high throughput analysis of multiple specimens at the same time. This also enables cost-effective analysis as multiple samples can be processed on a single slide, which is important for us to offer as a core service. By purchasing such instrumentation, this would enable the GCTU to support large scale studies, increase our throughput and decrease costs for service users. To do this we require an instrument that: 1) Has changeable drills/tools that will allow us to work with both Human and Animal tissues in line with HTA requirements. 2) Being able to process a large number of blocks ( ~ 70) per run to ensure maximal number of sample cores can be included per TMA and offer access to our service for high throughput projects such as those involving biobanked samples. 3) Minimal consumable requirements to keep costs low for operation. 4) Minimal service requirements to reduce system down time. 5) Ability to capture cores in PCR tubes, rather than recipient block, for additional downstream usage flexibility such as next-generation sequencing and/or qPCR studies.

## **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

## **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

120

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

One off purchase with an option to extend maintenance and the purchase of consumables beyond this period for a further period of up to 10 years or the end of useful life of the equipment.

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

One off purchase with an option to extend maintenance and the purchase of consumables beyond this period for a further period of up to 10 years or the end of useful life of the equipment.

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

---

### **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

#### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

##### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

##### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

---

## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

Accelerated procedure

Justification:

Queen's will be availing of Article 27 (3), Public Contracts Regulations 2015; where a state of urgency duly substantiated by the contracting authority renders impracticable the time limit laid down in the second subparagraph of paragraph 1, it may fix a time limit which shall be not less than 15 days from the date on which the contract notice was sent

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

26 January 2024

Local time

4:00pm

#### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

#### **IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 4 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

#### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

26 January 2024

Local time

4:10pm

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Queen's University Belfast

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom