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Planning

External Finance Support

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership-Procurement Services (hosted by Velindre University NHS Trust)

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-001731

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-060280 ([view related notices](#))

Published 9 January 2026, 10:42am

Scope

Description

This contract commissions time-limited external support to assist Cardiff and Vale University Health Board in responding to a significant and worsening financial position while operating under Welsh Government oversight and escalation arrangements. The Health Board is forecasting a £56.2m deficit in 2025/26, compared to a £27.7m deficit outturn in 2024/25, and faces a material underlying financial gap in 2026/27 that cannot be addressed through business-as-usual savings alone. In the context of the 2026/27 planning round and the requirement to demonstrate a credible medium-term route to financial sustainability, the Board has agreed to commission independent support to identify the scale and nature of change required to alter the current financial trajectory. The purpose of the assignment is to develop a finite, decision-grade set of approximately five to seven high-impact options that explicitly set out what activity, services or sites would need to slow, stop, be consolidated, decommissioned or traded off in order to materially improve the financial position in 2026/27 and demonstrate a credible path to medium-term financial balance. The focus is on making the consequences of affordability explicit rather than developing narrative strategies, consensus or recommendations on preferred options. Each option must be articulated in granular operational terms, including affected services or sites, the nature of the change, workforce implications linked directly to service and activity change (including WTE impact), financial impact and phasing,

delivery dependencies and constraints, and key risks and trade-offs including impacts on access, quality, safety and workforce. Options must clearly distinguish between what could realistically contribute in 2026/27 and what would deliver benefit in later years. The work will complement existing internal savings programmes, bring independent challenge and judgement, avoid optimism bias and untested productivity assumptions, and be delivered at pace within a tight timeframe. Outputs must be suitable for Board consideration and engagement with Welsh Government. The external support will provide analysis and option appraisal only, with all substantive outputs completed by no later than 31 March 2026.

Total value (estimated)

- £1,500,000 excluding VAT
- £1,800,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 28 February 2026 to 28 February 2026
- 1 day

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79412000 - Financial management consultancy services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

8 January 2026

The engagement was carried out before this notice was published.

Engagement process description

Given the urgency of the tender, market research was undertaken directly by the end user.

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

12 January 2026

Contracting authority

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership-Procurement Services (hosted by Velindre University NHS Trust)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXWV-6492-CGMN

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Region: UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Wales