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Planning

Surge Laboratory Capacity in Response to Future Health Emergencies

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency

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

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-001779

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050d89 ([view related notices](#))

Published 9 January 2026, 11:41am

Scope

Description

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) is inviting suppliers to participate in this pre-market engagement exercise to explore options for surge laboratory capacity in response to future health emergencies. This engagement aims to share UKHSA's current thinking, gather feedback from the market regarding the proposed specification, contract and tender evaluation methodology to inform the final approvals for the procurement strategy.

UKHSA is considering options for Surge Laboratory Capacity to ensure rapid response during public health emergencies, focusing on rapidly scaling up PCR testing capabilities for Pathogen X. Please note, the indicative contract value below is for a cold state running of the contract and a hot state contract value will be many multiples of this.

This engagement is exploratory and does not represent a commitment to procure at this stage.

Total value (estimated)

- £10,000,000 excluding VAT
- £12,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 30 April 2026 to 30 April 2029
- 3 years, 1 day

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 71900000 - Laboratory services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

6 February 2026

Engagement process description

A virtual engagement session will be held on 30th January 2026 at 10am. The purpose of this session is to present UKHSA's objectives, gather feedback from suppliers and outline the procurement approach.

Suppliers should register their interest by emailing hamza.hussain2@ukhsa.gov.uk with company details.

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

16 March 2026

Procedure

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

Secretary of State for Health and Social Care acting as part of the Crown through UK Health Security Agency

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBMQ-7576-DVGW

10 South Colonnade

London

E14 4PU

United Kingdom

Contact name: Hamza Hussain

Email: hamza.hussain2@ukhsa.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/uk-health-security-agency>

Region: UKI42 - Tower Hamlets

Organisation type: Public authority - central government