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Tender

## **Microbiology Testing Managed Service**

The Common Services Agency (more commonly known as NHS National Services Scotland) ("NSS")

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-012261

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-045275

Published 16 April 2024, 8:53am

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

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

The Common Services Agency (more commonly known as NHS National Services Scotland) ("NSS")

Gyle Square (NSS Head Office), 1 South Gyle Crescent

Edinburgh

EH12 9EB

#### **Contact**

Gordon Dickson

#### **Email**

[gordon.dickson@nhs.scot](mailto:gordon.dickson@nhs.scot)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1313145522

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM - Scotland

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.nss.nhs.scot/browse/procurement-and-logistics>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11883](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11883)

**I.3) Communication**

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

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk>

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

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## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Microbiology Testing Managed Service

Reference number

NSS000523

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

- 50421000 - Repair and maintenance services of medical equipment

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

Services

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

SNBTS requires a fully integrated microbiology testing system including all the mandatory and discretionary microbiology testing within a managed service. This includes the test kits, instrumentation and data management software to deliver a final result to the SNBTS information management system(s).

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 50421000 - Repair and maintenance services of medical equipment

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

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

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

SNBTS collects approximately 160,000 blood and tissue donations each year, these are

tested at the Jack Copland Centre in Edinburgh within the Manufacturing Department of SNBTS. The Manufacturing Department performs a wide range of testing services; these include the large-scale serological screening of blood and tissue donations for microbiological markers such as HBsAg, HCV, HIV and Syphilis. Discretionary testing of HTLV, HBc and CMV. There is also a requirement for smaller scale screening for malaria antibodies on selected donations.

SNBTS also requires a solution to allow archiving of samples.

After testing, the whole of the remaining PPT tube is archived. Hard copy of the result data is also retained for thirty (30) years. The electronic copy of the raw test data is maintained in archive databases and retained indefinitely. SNBTS is currently using "Item Tracker" (archiving database). The Supplier MUST provide a solution for creating appropriate plate maps for integration into "Item Tracker" in such a way that the sample is later retrievable.

During the course of the contract SNBTS may look to introduce additional testing/protocols into the contract. This would be in relation to the introduction of any new mandatory/discretionary markers. This would be fully discussed with the successful Supplier and SNBTS would expect the Supplier to provide options for inclusion in the contract.

#### Future Potential Impacts

SNBTS in line with other Blood Authorities will be starting to collect plasma for medicines (PFM) since the option to fractionate UK plasma has opened again.

PFM is expected to be 5 year phased implementation with minimal impact in the early years of the contract. (Up to 10% increase). SNBTS will update and work with the successful supplier or bidders where information is available throughout the process where known. Beyond 5 years there is likely to be a larger increase that will increase the contract.

Additional QC testing may be required as an impact of implementation of plasma for medicines. Dependant on the volume of testing SNBTS may wish to cease outsourcing of Total protein testing and source a suitable platform for use within SNBTS. Figures for this have yet to be defined however SNBTS would like to enter discussions to see if operationally it is viable to bring this in house. It is expected that this would be able to be accommodated with a modification of any contract put in place due to the estimated value of this testing.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Technical / Weighting: 20

Price - Weighting: 80

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

Duration in months

84

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The Authority shall be entitled, at its option, to continue this Agreement beyond the Initial Term for three (3) twelve (12) Contract Month periods subject to giving not less than nine (9) Contract Months' notice to the Contractor.

**II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

**II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

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

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

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

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

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

List and brief description of selection criteria

As per Section 4B of the SPD Bidders must provide information on Economic and Financial Standing in the section of the SPD relating to this.

4B (1.71.3) – Last 3 years' general/average turnover

Insurance Requirements:

4B (1.71.13)

Employer's (Compulsory) Liability: Five Million Pounds Sterling (GBP 5,000,000)

Public Liability: Five Million Pounds Sterling (GBP 5,000,000)

Product Liability: Five Million Pounds Sterling (GBP 5,000,000)

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

List and brief description of selection criteria

As per Section 4C (question 1.74.3 - 4C.1.2) of the SPD Bidders must provide information on Services in the section of the SPD relating to this.

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Open procedure

#### **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

20 May 2024

Local time

2:00pm

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

English

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

Date

27 May 2024

Local time

12:00pm

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## **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

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 25803.  
For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

(SC Ref:758734)

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

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

Court of Session

Parliament House, Parliament Square

Edinburgh

EH1 1RQ

Country

United Kingdom