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Contract

## **PICANet Level 2 April 2024 to September 2025**

NHS England

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-012759

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04fc90

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

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

NHS England

7-8 Wellington Place

Leeds

LS1 4AP

#### **Email**

[england.commercialqueries@nhs.net](mailto:england.commercialqueries@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

#### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.england.nhs.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**

PICANet Level 2 April 2024 to September 2025

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

- 85100000 - Health services

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

Services

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

Delivery of all services for the provision of PICANet Level 2 clinical database, including collection and analysis of data from Paediatric Critical Care Units across England.

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

##### **II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)**

Value excluding VAT: £585,700

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

Provision of the PICANet Level 2 clinical database , including the collection and analysis of data from PIC Level 2 Units in England, and training and support for staff in PCC Units and PCC ODN staff, to support high compliance with requirement to submit data. The PICANet L2 clinical database enables 'near real time' data feed of Level 2 data on Paediatric Critical Care.

The Paediatric Critical Care (PCC) and Surgery in Children (SIC) Review published a Summary Report in November 2019. A key outcome from the review was the development for the capability for PICANet to capture data from all Level 2 paediatric critical care units. In part this is to support another key outcome of the review, which was to establish a local networked model of care supported via ten operational delivery networks (ODNs) across the 7 NHS England regions, supporting critical care and surgical services for children.

Demand for PCC services have increased over the past 20 years, with the most significant growth in demand in recent years being for high dependency PCC. These services had not been consistently commissioned across the country, and clinical data from these services had not been collected universally and consistently to inform the development of PCC services.

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic the delivery of the Review recommendations had been delayed as regional resources were redeployed. However, it became clear that access to timely critical care data is paramount in being able to support the management of the capacity for all critical care services when demand surges, as it did during the COVID 19 pandemic. PCC ODNs play a central role in delivering an effective surge responses and recovery, therefore access to robust 'near time' data is vital in supporting the ODNs.

The requirement for regular data flow from Level 2 PCC services is, and will continue to be a high priority for paediatric critical care service development. During the winter months and at times of high childhood infections, PCC services consistently experience a surge in demand; efficient flow of PCC patients through the system is essential. This reinforces the importance of the current approach to the future commissioning of PCC Level 2 units.

In 2021, NHS England provided funding for PICANet to pilot the development the PICANet Level 2 clinical database to enable a regular 'near real time' data feed and reporting on Level 2 activity. Level 3 data is currently commissioned on NHSE's behalf via its contract with Health Quality Improvement Partnership (HQIP) and delivered by University of Leeds.

Following completion of the pilot development contract, expanding and maintaining the delivery of the PICANet Level 2 clinical database should now become 'business as usual.'

In the aftermath of the Lucy Letby incident, NHS England is assisting in an urgent review of neonatal services. PICANet data will increasingly be in focus and cessation of the service at this time would be ill-timed.

This proposal seeks to secure an additional 18 months of funding to give sufficient time to carry out pre-market engagement activities followed by a procurement exercise by September 2025. The business case for this (BC-25066) is underway.

Following the procurement exercise, we will commission the of delivery of PICANet Level 2 until March 2027 whereupon we will align the commissioning of both PICANet Level 2 and Level 3 clinical databases into a single contract.

This will be a retrospective STA under Regulation 32 (2) (b), and will be for a duration of 18 months.

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

Price

#### **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 IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
  - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

Maintenance of a clinical database and support services (including collection and analysis of data) for 'near real time' data feed, in order to secure 18 months of funding to allow sufficient time to carry out pre-market engagement activities followed by a procurement exercise by September 2025 (see BC-25066). We will secure a contract for delivery of PICANet Level 2 until March 2027 whereupon we will align the commissioning of both PICANet Level 2 and Level 3 data. This will enable Level 2 and Level 3 data be amalgamated into a single contract.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### V.2) Award of contract

#### V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

31 March 2025

#### V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Woodhouse Lane

Leeds

LS2 9JT

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

RC000658

Internet address

<http://www.leeds.ac.uk>

The contractor is an SME

No

**V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)**

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £585,700

Lowest offer: £585,700 / Highest offer: £585,700 taken into consideration

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>