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Award

Maintenance of Existing Controlled Rate Freezers

NHS Blood and Transplant

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-014167

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-0655af

Published 17 February 2026, 10:36am

Scope

Reference

C377418

Description

NHSBT have requirements to cryopreserve haemopoietic stem cells for transplantation and Tissue Services cryopreserve processed tissue allografts (such as skin, arteries and heart valves). To ensure cell viability, the cells / tissues have to be frozen at a controlled rate prior to storing in vapour phase nitrogen at a temperature below -150°C. Rapid freezing would cause cell/tissue damage and result in the loss of cell/tissue viability; as such the products must be slowed at a rate no quicker than -2°C /minute until they are below -40°C. A controlled rate freezer is the best way of achieving the slow rate of freeze required.

NHSBT currently have 28 controlled rate freezers across 6 sites that require a maintenance contract.

Contract 1. Maintenance of Existing Controlled Rate Freezers

Supplier

- Planer Limited

Contract value

- £425,155.60 excluding VAT
- £510,186.72 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

27 February 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 2 March 2026 to 29 February 2028
- Possible extension to 28 February 2030
- 3 years, 11 months, 30 days

Description of possible extension:

2x 12 months cumulative extensions available - Maximum extension date 28/02/2030

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

2x 12 months cumulative extensions available - Maximum extension date 28/02/2030

CPV classifications

- 50420000 - Repair and maintenance services of medical and surgical equipment

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

Planer are the only supplier able to maintain our current supplied controlled rate freezers.

Supplier

Planer Limited

- Companies House: 00651504
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWBH-3147-XXWX

110 Windmill Road, Sunbury-On-Thames

Middlesex

TW16 7HD

United Kingdom

Email: uk.customercare@nexpringhealth.com

Region: UKJ25 - West Surrey

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Maintenance of Existing Controlled Rate Freezers

Contracting authority

NHS Blood and Transplant

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDBY-6395-VWBP

500 North Bristol Park

Bristol

BS34 7QH

United Kingdom

Contact name: Carley Butcher

Email: carley.butcher@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Website: <https://www.nhsbt.nhs.uk/>

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government