

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/017371-2021>

Contract

## **Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools**

Education Authority NI

F20: Modification notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-017371

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02a0a5

Published 22 July 2021, 3:15pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

Education Authority NI

40 Academy Street

Belfast

BT1 2NQ

#### **Email**

[educationresource.procure@eani.org.uk](mailto:educationresource.procure@eani.org.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

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

Main address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

Buyer's address

<https://etendersni.gov.uk/epps>

---

## **Section II: Object**

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

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

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools

Reference number

EDR 21-004

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

- 85100000 - Health services

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

Services

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKN - Northern Ireland

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement at the time of conclusion of the contract:**

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools

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

Start date

23 July 2021

End date

31 August 2021

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

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

---

## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Contract award notice concerning this contract**

Notice number: [2021/S 000-006452](#)

---

## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

### **Contract No**

EDR 21-004

### **Title**

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Educational Needs Schools

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract/concession award decision:**

29 March 2021

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

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

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Queens University Belfast

Belfast

Email

[t.edgar@qub.ac.uk](mailto:t.edgar@qub.ac.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

Internet address

[www.etendersni.gov.uk](http://www.etendersni.gov.uk)

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

**V.2.4) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (at the time of conclusion of the contract;excluding VAT)**

Total value of the procurement: £1,430,000

## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

The weekly asymptomatic testing service of 10,000 special school staff (teaching, non-teaching and ancillary) and students with special educational needs is urgently required due to the emergency situation regarding Covid-19 within Special Educational Needs schools in Northern Ireland and will ensure that these schools can remain open during the current period of restrictions. The service will run in all 39 Special Educational Needs schools within Northern Ireland from March 2021 to the end of June 2021. The samples will be tested using the direct LAMP (loop-mediated isothermal amplification) method as this is a viable and readily available deliverable method and is less invasive for children in Special Educational Needs schools and therefore uptake is likely to be maximised and testing objectives met. Queen's University Belfast is part of the UK national plan for testing and is the only laboratory that is accredited within Northern Ireland to provide all elements of the testing service including the requirement for the testing to be turned around with results within several hours. The aim of this service is to find asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic cases so they can be isolated along with their contacts, therefore reducing the risk of transmission of COVID-19 in the school settings, and consequently the wider community. Special Educational Needs schools are remaining open during the current period of restrictions, and while children, even those with significant underlying medical conditions, do not generally become very unwell if they contract COVID-19, some children in Special Educational Needs schools have extremely complex medical needs and all possible steps must be taken to protect them from COVID-19. Any infection can be serious for them as their baseline condition is so fragile. The provision of this service will also contribute to reducing the rate of infections in Special Educational Needs Schools as regular testing will identify cases either before they are symptomatic, or asymptomatic cases, allowing immediate self-isolation, thereby reducing the potential for wider transmission, both within the school and in the contact groups of pupils and staff.

### VI.4) Procedures for review

#### VI.4.1) Review body

The UK does not currently have any such bodies with responsibilities for appeal/mediation procedures

Belfast

Country

United Kingdom

---

## **Section VII: Modifications to the contract/concession**

### **VII.1) Description of the procurement after the modifications**

#### **VII.1.1) Main CPV code**

- 85100000 - Health services

#### **VII.1.3) Place of performance**

NUTS code

- UKN - Northern Ireland

#### **VII.1.4) Description of the procurement:**

Regular Asymptomatic Testing in NI Special Education Needs Schools

#### **VII.1.5) Duration of the contract, framework agreement, dynamic purchasing system or concession**

Start date

23 July 2021

End date

31 August 2021

#### **VII.1.6) Information on value of the contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)**

Total value of the contract/lot/concession:

£1,430,000

#### **VII.1.7) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Queens University Belfast

Belfast

Email

[t.edgar@qub.ac.uk](mailto:t.edgar@qub.ac.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

Internet address

[www.etendersni.gov.uk](http://www.etendersni.gov.uk)

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

## **VII.2) Information about modifications**

### **VII.2.1) Description of the modifications**

Nature and extent of the modifications (with indication of possible earlier changes to the contract):

Contract to be Extended to cover the period 01 July 2021 to 31 August 2021

### **VII.2.2) Reasons for modification**

Need for modification brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority/entity could not foresee.

Description of the circumstances which rendered the modification necessary and explanation of the unforeseen nature of these circumstances:

The original contract covered asymptomatic Testing in SENS over the school term provided by Queens University Belfast up until 30 June 2021. There is now a requirement to extend the LAMP testing to ensure provision of testing for pupils attending summer schemes and additional services provided by the school over July and August.

The contract value was based on 100% uptake however to date the uptake has been considerably lower ensuring that this extension will not result in a breach of the original contract value.

This modification is in accordance with Regulation 72 (1) (c) and will comply with each of the following conditions pertaining to this regulation as outlined below:

(ii) the modification does not alter the overall nature of the contract (services provided will remain the same);

(iii) the value of the modification does not exceed 50% of the value of the original contract

### **VII.2.3) Increase in price**

Updated total contract value before the modifications (taking into account possible earlier contract modifications, price adaptations and average inflation)

Value excluding VAT: £1,430,000

Total contract value after the modifications

Value excluding VAT: £1,430,000