

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/022941-2023>

Planning

## **Blood Sample Analysis - Soft Market Testing 2023**

University of Essex

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-022941

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03ed9a

Published 7 August 2023, 2:42pm

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

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

University of Essex

Wivenhoe Park

Colchester

CO4 3SQ

#### **Contact**

Aston Baker

#### **Email**

[ab17001@essex.ac.uk](mailto:ab17001@essex.ac.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKH3 - Essex

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.essex.ac.uk](http://www.essex.ac.uk)

**I.3) Communication**

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

<https://supplierlive.proactisp2p.com/Account/Login>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

---

## Section II: Object

### II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

Blood Sample Analysis - Soft Market Testing 2023

Reference number

DN1535

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85111810 - Blood analysis services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

#### II.1.4) Short description

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FOR SOFT MARKET TESTING PURPOSES ONLY\*\***

University of Essex is seeking to engage with a supplier to support our plans to analyse blood from members of a general population sample of the UK. The basic requirements are that the supplier:

1. Receives a weekly secure data-flow from Kantar Public, containing the name, address, and a unique identifier of a participant of Understanding Society, who has agreed to have this information passed on.
2. Posts out a kit to eligible participants, with a unique barcode, to enable them to take a capillary blood sample, and to return it to the laboratory through the post. The recipients will be based across the UK. The outer packaging will have a clearly identifiable UN Hazard Logo (UN3373). The kit should contain everything needed to collect the capillary blood samples. It should also include instructions, a covering letter from the study, and the necessary packaging to return the sample through the post. The number of participants will vary each week, depending on uptake rates, but we estimate around 10,000 kits will be sent out across the 30 months of the project. Interviews numbers are higher in the first year of the project with a mop up period in the 3rd year. Given this, we estimate 950 kits may be required per month at the start of the project and only 60 in the last few months.
3. Analyses the blood to provide a range of analytes. Provides to industry standards, and provides information on the quality of the samples and results.

4. Uploads to a secure portal the results of the blood analysis connected to the unique identifier of the participant. Turnaround time between receiving the sample and uploading the results should be no longer than 2 weeks.

5. Aliquots and freezes blood for transfer to long term storage.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £900,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

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

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE THIS IS FOR SOFT MARKET TESTING PURPOSES ONLY\*\***

University of Essex is seeking to engage with a supplier to support our plans to analyse blood from members of a general population sample of the UK. The basic requirements are that the supplier:

1. Receives a weekly secure data-flow from Kantar Public, containing the name, address, and a unique identifier of a participant of Understanding Society, who has agreed to have this information passed on.
2. Posts out a kit to eligible participants, with a unique barcode, to enable them to take a capillary blood sample, and to return it to the laboratory through the post. The recipients will be based across the UK. The outer packaging will have a clearly identifiable UN Hazard Logo (UN3373). The kit should contain everything needed to collect the capillary blood samples. It should also include instructions, a covering letter from the study, and the necessary packaging to return the sample through the post. The number of participants will vary each week, depending on uptake rates, but we estimate around 10,000 kits will be sent out across the 30 months of the project. Interviews numbers are higher in the first year of the project with a mop up period in the 3rd year. Given this, we estimate 950 kits may be required per month at the start of the project and only 60 in the last few months.

3. Analyses the blood to provide a range of analytes. Provides to industry standards, and provides information on the quality of the samples and results.

4. Uploads to a secure portal the results of the blood analysis connected to the unique identifier of the participant. Turnaround time between receiving the sample and uploading the results should be no longer than 2 weeks.

5. Aliquots and freezes blood for transfer to long term storage.

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

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Potentially a 24 month contract with the option to extend for a further year due to project potentially taking 30 months.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

4 September 2023

---

## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes