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Contract

Contract for the provision of pathology diagnostic testing (S4 network)

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-026222

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-052231

Published 23 May 2025, 12:37pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Great Western Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Marlborough Road

Swindon

SN3 6BB

Contact

BSW Procurement helpdesk

Email

support@salisburyfoundationtrust-support.freshdesk.com

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK14 - Swindon

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Contract for the provision of pathology diagnostic testing (S4 network)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85111800 - Pathology services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is direct award to Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (referred to as OUH), for the provision of pathology diagnostic testing under the Provider Selection Regime (PSR) "Most Suitable Provider". This is an inter-NHS contract award.

As shown in the disclosed criteria, the main weighted criteria, Integration, collaboration and service is weighted at 50% as the key objective to centralise testing within the S4 pathology network, connected via LIMs. The other elements of quality-led criteria total a further 40% of the weighting. Value in terms of cost has been weighted at 10%, because integration, and maintaining the quality of the service is the main objective.

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: £2,040,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

Main site or place of performance

Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Headley Way,
Oxford
OX3 9DU

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This is a direct award to Oxford University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (OUH) under the Provider Selection Regime (PSR) using the "Most Suitable Provider" process. The contract is for the provision of pathology diagnostic testing currently outsourced within the NHS.

As per the NHSE strategy to deliver cost effective pathology services and build resilience, improve internal delivery and deliver social value, GWH will be repatriating some of its existing outsourced testing within its NHS partners for Immunology/Haematology /Blood sciences into the S4 Pathology network hub.

English Trusts are divided into various pathology networks with a central hub arrangement. GWH is part of S4. The network participants are connected via Lims which went Live for GWH in May 2025.

The contract term is for one year, from 06/06/2025 to 05/06/2026.

The estimated contract value for one year is £2,400,000. This contract value is a forecast only. The value of the contract is determined by the test type, actual test volume and driven by patient need. Contract value for 25025/2026 will be subject to benchmark prior to contract expiry.

As shown in the disclosed criteria, the main weighted criteria, Integration, Collaboration and Service is weighted at 50%, as the key objective to centralise testing within the S4 pathology network, connected via LIMs. The other elements of quality-led criteria total a further 40% of the weighting. Value in terms of cost has been weighted at 10% because integration, and maintaining the quality of the service is the main objective.

GWH will be awarding this contract under PSR "Most suitable provider" as OUH are the only organisation that is a) part of the S4 pathology network and therefore fulfils NHSE strategic requirements for a future pathology service b) as the hub lead, can deliver the testing required c) from May 2025, will be connected to OUH via LIMs.

OUH already deliver part of the testing requirement under existing arrangements.

University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust (referred to as UHS) also provide pathology testing services to GWH under long term contractual arrangements. GWH are awarding this under the PSR regime as the “Most Suitable provider” as OUH is a) the hub lead and b) connected to GWH via LIMs. GWH will no longer be able to transfer those tests via any other route. UHS are supporting GWH as part of the transfer of the work into OUH. This process will therefore centralise the inter NHS testing under one contract.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Integration, collaboration and service sustainability / Weighting: 50%

Quality criterion - Name: Improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice / Weighting: 20%

Quality criterion - Name: Quality and Innovation / Weighting: 10%

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10%

Cost criterion - Name: Value / Weighting: 10%

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

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 procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice (F03) . The awarding of this contract is subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award. GWH intends to observe a standstill period of eight working days. The standstill period begins on the day after the publication of this notice. Representations by providers must be made to decision makers by 4pm 5th June 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR'.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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

23 May 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

OXFORD UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

John Radcliffe Hospital Headley Way Headington Oxford

Oxford

OX3 9DU

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKK - South West (England)

National registration number

00000N/A

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £2,040,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £2,040,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice (FO3). The awarding of this contract is subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award. The standstill period begins on the day after the publication of this notice. Representations by providers must be made to the relevant authority by 4pm 5th June 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.'

Any representations should be forwarded in the first instance to the BSW Procurement

Helpdesk, support@salisburyfoundationtrust-support.freshdesk.com

The award decision makers are Noman Manzoor - Director of Pathology at Great Western Hospitals (GWH) and Rob Webb - Director of Procurement for BSW Alliance, on behalf of Great Western Hospitals (GWH). Both decision makers have confirmed they are not subject

to any conflict of interest and can demonstrate a clear and transparent application of the service criteria during their decision process.

The decision process was based on a review of the requirement and the strategy involving OUH as described above against a set of 5 criteria with a total weighting of 100% as published.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Salisbury Managed Procurement Services

Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust, Odstock Road

Salisbury

SP2 8BJ

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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