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Planning

Antiviral Drug Supply for COVID-19

Department of Health and Social Care

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-028676

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02f773

Published 17 November 2021, 10:54am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Health and Social Care

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Email

ATF-PIN@dhsc.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI32 - Westminster

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

https://health-family-contract-search.secure.force.com/ProSpend__CS_ContractPage?SearchType=Projects&uid=a074J00000HQYEGQA5&searchStr=&sortStr=Recently+Published&page=1&filters=&County=

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Antiviral Drug Supply for COVID-19

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 33690000 - Various medicinal products

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The Department of Health and Social Care through the Antivirals Taskforce is seeking to commence market engagement to identify antiviral drugs effective at preventing the progression of COVID-19 in a home or community setting. The market engagement will be in the form of webinars held on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 and Tuesday 1st December 2021, small roundtable sessions and potential one-to-one meetings. Details for accessing these events can be found further down. Suppliers are invited to register their interest in this Prior Information Notice by completing a questionnaire downloaded from the Atamis platform. We ask that suppliers complete the questionnaire by 13:00 on Friday 22nd December 2021. Suppliers will not need to complete a questionnaire to attend the webinar sessions or roundtables. Those interested in a one-to-one meeting are requested to complete the questionnaire by 13:00 on 3rd December 2021 or sooner.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £1

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 33670000 - Medicinal products for the respiratory system

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

Department of Health and Social Care
39 Victoria Street
London, SW1H 0EU

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Antivirals Taskforce leads on identifying and deploying innovative COVID-19 antivirals to stop the infection spreading, speed up recovery time and reduce the likelihood of hospitalisation following infection. The Taskforce is seeking to build a diverse portfolio of antiviral candidates for future deployment in the UK healthcare system. The purpose of this Prior Information Notice is to assess and understand the COVID-19 antivirals market by gathering information through market engagement and to gain a more detailed understanding of the market. The Taskforce is seeking to gather information in respect of antivirals that can be deployed in a home or community setting, with the primary mechanism of action targeting the SARS-CoV-2 virus. Antiviral suppliers must provide evidence of their compound's pharmacological properties and mechanism of action. Compounds should be either self-administered, or through a single dose administration by a healthcare professional. The compound should also be given in either post-exposure prophylaxis or very early post infection (targeting acute virus not immune response). The market engagement will take the form of two webinars held on Tuesday 23rd November 2021 and Tuesday 1st December 2021. These webinars will take interested suppliers through the requirement outlined in this Prior Information Notice and will provide an opportunity for suppliers to ask questions. Both webinars will cover the same content. To sign up to join either webinar please visit:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/prior-information-notice-antiviral-drug-supply-for-covid-19-webinar-tickets-210977488347> We are inviting suppliers to register their interest in the PIN by downloading a questionnaire via the Atamis platform, and sending a completed version to ATF-PIN@dhsc.gov.uk by 13:00 on 22nd December 2021.

Responses to this questionnaire will be kept in confidence and will inform the Taskforce's market research. Suppliers are not required to fill out a questionnaire before attending the webinars above.

Informational Roundtables - We are also looking to host informational roundtables with smaller groups of industry experts as part of our objective to gain more insight into the market. Any suppliers interested in taking part in a roundtable are invited to get in touch by 13:00 Friday, 3rd December 2021 via ATF-PIN@dhsc.gov.uk Suppliers are not required to fill out a questionnaire before attending a roundtable.

One-to-One Meetings - We are also looking to offer one-to-one meetings with suppliers based on their responses to the questionnaire, should suppliers wish to discuss commercially sensitive information. If you would be interested in a one-to-one session, please download and complete the questionnaire by 13:00 on 3rd December 2021 and send to ATF-PIN@dhsc.gov.uk. We will get in touch directly with suppliers that complete the

questionnaire by this date to offer one-to-one meetings. Please note if there is very high demand for one-to-one sessions and we are unable to accommodate all requests, we may be required to choose not to offer one-to-one meetings at all. Any information shared in the webinars, roundtables and one-to-one sessions, except where commercially sensitive for suppliers, will be shared with all suppliers via the Atamis platform after the market engagement period associated with this PIN closes on Wednesday 22nd December 2021.

II.2.14) Additional information

If suppliers would be interested in a one-to-one meeting, they should complete the questionnaire by 13:00 GMT on Friday 3rd December 2021 and submit to ATF-PIN@dhsc.gov.uk

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 April 2022

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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Select this link to access the Atamis system: <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>
Select 'View Live Opportunities' and then select the 'PIN and Market Engagement - Antiviral Drug Supply to Treat COVID-19'. If you have not already done so, you need to register your organisation as a supplier from here: <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>. Once registered, you can view the PIN and the Questionnaire. The contract agreement would be for the benefit of the contracting authority, NHS bodies and other public bodies responsible for delivery of health-related services in the United Kingdom, the Crown Dependencies and British Overseas Territories. Although DHSC are issuing a PIN, this is in no way a commitment to proceed with a procurement, it is merely an indication that the Department would like to engage with the market with a view to running future open procurement exercises where possible. In addition to this not forming a commitment to proceed with a procurement, not engaging with DHSC in this exercise does not exclude any organisation from participating in any formal commercial process which may follow. Please note that by participating in this process, records of one-to-one conversations and Q&As will be kept to ensure a clearly auditable decision-making trail and for FOI requests. Any information shared by DHSC in the webinars, roundtables and one-to-one sessions, except where commercially sensitive for suppliers, will be shared with all suppliers via the Atamis platform after the market engagement period associated with this PIN closes on 22nd December 2021.