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Award

## **VEAT - Pulse Development, Support & Maintenance**

NHS Blood and Transplant

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-029308

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-049a82

Published 12 September 2024, 9:14pm

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

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

NHS Blood and Transplant

203 Longmead Rd, Avon

Bristol

BS16 7FG

#### **Contact**

Paul Lewis

#### **Email**

[paul.lewis2@nhsbt.nhs.uk](mailto:paul.lewis2@nhsbt.nhs.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

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

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

**I.6) Main activity**

Other activity

Blood, Tissue, and Eye Donation Process Management Software

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

VEAT - Pulse Development, Support & Maintenance

Reference number

C306352

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

PULSE is the Critical National Infrastructure at the heart of NHSBT. This bespoke software supports the blood, tissue, and eye donation process across the organisation.

**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: £36,938,535

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 72260000 - Software-related services
- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

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

Reg32: Negotiated Procedure Without the Need for Prior Publication

Procurement of services for the support, maintenance, and development of Critical National Infrastructure: PULSE

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Support, Maintenance & Development of PULSE / Weighting: 70

Cost criterion - Name: Commercial / Weighting: 30

### **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

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## **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:

NHS Blood & Transplant (“NHSBT”) intends to award a contract to Savant Ltd., Dalton Hall Business Centre., Dalton Lane, Burton-in-Kendal, Cumbria, LA6 1BL (“Savant”) for the support and maintenance of PULSE (“Software”) for 84 months with a value of £36,938,535.00. This follows the purchase of the Software from Savant.

It is considered that the award of this contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the UK e-notification service (as required by the relevant legislation) is lawful in accordance with Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 because competition is absent for technical reasons.

NHSBT are completely dependent on Savant’s technical knowledge of the system, architecture and business processes. NHSBT do not control or own the end-to-end delivery platform and are dependent on tooling which is under the control of Savant. To assure safe delivery to donors and patients, NHSBT must address all of these technical requirements. This constitutes a near technical impossibility for another economic operator to achieve the required performance, or the necessity to use specific know-how, tools or means which only Savant has at its disposal.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

11 September 2024

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £36,938,535

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £36,938,535

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

Initial Term: 60 months

Additional Extension Option: 24 months

Expected Contract Commencement Date: 30/04/2025

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

10 day standstill, 30 days to raise a challenge

#### **VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>