

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/035125-2022>

Planning

HEALTHTECH INNOVATION GATEWAY (10233)

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-035125

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-038cc5

Published 12 December 2022, 5:43pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

Three Cherry Trees Lane

Hemel Hempstead

HP2 7AH

Contact

Alex Hernandez

Email

nsbs.digital@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Companies House

05280446

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/article/16960/Digital--IT-Framework-Agreements>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Other type

Public Sector Framework Provider <https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/nhs-sbs-about-us>

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

HEALTHTECH INNOVATION GATEWAY (10233)

Reference number

NHS SBS 10233

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

NHS Shared Business Services Limited (NHS SBS) act in an Agency capacity for and on behalf of its customers (Approved Organisations) - existing and new. These comprise of NHS and Social Care organisations (whether acting individually, or on behalf of, or together as members of any consortia) along with any other public or private sector bodies which NHS SBS authorises to use the resulting Framework/Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS).

NHS Shared Business Services intends to go to tender to put in place a HealthTech Innovation Gateway for the provision of Digital and Health Technology related Goods and Services supporting innovation in healthcare to be used by NHS SBS Approved Organisations.

The HealthTech Innovation Gateway is a commercial solution underpinned by a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) and a procurement and commercial support 'service wrap' that aims to support suppliers (including innovators, start-ups and new entrants) navigate the NHS buying landscape and also streamline NHS buyers' adoption of emerging digital and health technology.

Initially, the HealthTech Innovation Gateway will focus on technologies involving healthcare related Artificial Intelligence and Extended Reality (XR), also known as Immersive Technologies (immersive computer-generated environments):

- Artificial Intelligence for Healthcare is an opportunity to increase efficiency in decision making of Health and Care professional staff in varied ways. These sets of technologies support and automate problem solving carried out by medical professionals and allow them to make quicker and better decisions which humans alone would not be able to make. A broad range of techniques can be used to create artificially intelligent systems that carry out or augment health and care tasks, which have until now been completed by humans, or have not been possible previously; the possible techniques include but are not limited to inductive logic programming, machine learning, robotic process automation, natural language processing, computer vision, neural networks and distributed artificial intelligence.
- Extended Reality or Immersive Technologies (XR) is an umbrella term that encompasses virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR) and mixed reality (MR).

XR enables a digital layer on top of the real world. This can range from small changes to the physical environment, such as visual overlays, to large changes, such as entire simulated worlds.

The NICE Evidence Standards Framework for Digital Health Technologies (DHT) shows how the technologies (AI and XR) can expand through all the spectrum of risk related to intended use. This means that they can be used for treating and diagnosing medical conditions, or guiding care choices (Tier C), for helping people and patients to manage their own health and wellness (Tier B), or they can intend to save costs or release staff time, with no direct patient, health or care outcomes (Tier A). We will align to NICE Classification of technologies.

NHS SBS intends to add additional categories over time and all DPS suppliers and those who wish to join the DPS, will be invited to express an interest in any additional category.

It is envisaged filters of healthcare technology areas may be used to support the call off competition process.

Our Approved Organisation list of clients who access our frameworks can be found at:
<https://sbs.nhs.uk/proc-framework-agreements-support>

We are committed to working with suppliers who are dedicated to Sustainability and Social Value and there will be a significant weighting on these elements in the tender.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £150,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

The Lot structure is indicative at this stage and will be confirmed in any resultant Contract Notice.

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

HealthTech Innovation Gateway DPS for Healthcare Providers

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 30000000 - Office and computing machinery, equipment and supplies except furniture and software packages
- 32000000 - Radio, television, communication, telecommunication and related equipment
- 33000000 - Medical equipments, pharmaceuticals and personal care products
- 48000000 - Software package and information systems
- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support
- 80000000 - Education and training services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Prior Information Notice (PIN) aimed at providers of Digital and Health Technology, including healthcare related Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Extended Reality (XR), also known as Immersive Technologies (immersive computer-generated environments); and other associated areas, to be utilised by NHS SBS Approved Organisations.

Following further engagement from suppliers in these areas, NHS SBS intends to put a Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) in place to offer Digital and Health Technology Providers a compliant route to market and further support the innovation ecosystem.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 April 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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The HealthTech Innovation Gateway is underpinned by a dynamic purchasing system with initial categories as described within this PIN. Further categories may be to suppliers throughout the life of term of this Innovation Gateway.

The procurement involves the setting up of a dynamic purchasing system with unlimited operators who pass the minimum criteria for award.

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to signal an intention to commence market engagement with those within Health Tech Innovation Gateway which initially will start within the Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare and Immersive Technologies in Healthcare market.

NHS Shared Business Services Limited (NHS SBS) reserves the right to withdraw this notice at any time. NHS SBS is not bound to accept any proposals submitted by Bidders and is not liable for any costs incurred as a result of Bidders engaging with this process. This early market engagement exercise does not guarantee that a Procurement will take place and NHS SBS reserves the right to defer from any Procurement entirely.

If interested in this opportunity, Providers should complete the Request for Information (RFI) form and return to nsbs.digital@nhs.net by 12 noon Monday 16th January 2023.

NHS SBS intends to hold market engagement sessions during January 2023 with industry experts and suppliers interested in potentially bidding for the categories specified in the Health Tech Innovation Gateway and the DPS Agreement.

Please note that, to register, you must have a valid DUNS number (as provided by Dun and Bradstreet) for the organisation which you are registering, who will be entering into a Dynamic Purchasing System if invited to do so.

The value in II.1.5 is an indicative value over 4 years from August 2023.

The date in II.3) is the estimated date of publication, please monitor Find a Tender Service <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Search> for the publication of the relevant high value contract notice.