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Award

## **Newborn Bloodspot Cards**

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-046165

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05819e

Published 5 August 2025, 2:22pm

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

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

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Procurement Department, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, 84 Castle Street

Glasgow

G4 0SF

#### **Email**

[emma.mccarthy3@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:emma.mccarthy3@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 1412015388

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **NUTS code**

UKM82 - Glasgow City

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.nhsggc.scot/about-us/procurement/>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA1072](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA1072)  
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**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

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## **Section II: Object**

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

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Newborn Bloodspot Cards

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 33140000 - Medical consumables

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde require Scottish new born screening blood spot cards with envelopes.

#### **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: £158,772

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKM82 - Glasgow City

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

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde (NHSGGC) hosts the nationally commissioned Scottish New born Screening Laboratory (herein 'SNSL') which provides the new born blood spot screening for all babies born in Scotland. The SNSL provides all fourteen regional health boards in Scotland with the dried blood spot card, this is a CE, IVD marked sample collection device (herein 'the bloodspot card'). The local midwifery services use the bloodspot cards to take a heel prick sample from all new born babies, these samples are then returned to the SNSL where sample processing takes place.

The bloodspot programmes bespoke screening cards are specifically designed by the National Services Division for the purpose of screening new born babies in Scotland for a number of diseases. The design of the cards includes a card portion which can be completed by the midwife to include all required demographical information for the baby, and a filter paper portion where the blood is applied. The filter paper must adhere to the standards detailed by the CLSI. The specifications for the screening card are extremely complex and well-regulated to ensure the screening programme can be sensitive, specific and safe for patients. Alternative blood collection devices, including different types of filter paper cannot be used as they will not meet the specifications for the Scottish screening programme.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde require supply of an annual order of the Scottish new born screening blood spot cards and glassine envelopes. The bloodspot cards are a specific type that is mandated by legislation from the UK National Screening Committee.

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde will purchase 80,000 cards with envelopes printed using Ahlstrom 226 filter paper in one batch.

#### **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:

Newborn bloodspot screening in the UK is a public health initiative which requires equity across all devolved nations. As such screening in Scotland is overseen by the National Screening Committee, which is part of UK government. Alignment of the screening

programme is essential to allow consistent and transferable screening of all newborn babies in the UK.

With this in mind, although many of the processes used for UK newborn screening are not mandated, they are governed by the UK Newborn Screening Laboratory Network, to ensure that accurate screening is taking place. One of the essential elements to this is to ensure that all screening algorithms, including the analytical cut of values are the same across all four nations. To allow this to happen it is essential that the techniques used for screening are the same. This includes ensuring that all nations employ the same sample requirements. This means that the device with which we use to take newborn blood spot samples must be the same across all nations and must be the same as the one used to validate the screening processes. In the UK, all nations must use the same type of filter paper in the sample collection device. Since the collection of newborn blood spot samples began in the 1960s, this has been the specific brand of filter paper Ahlstrom 226. The only licence to use the Ahlstrom 226 filter paper is held by Revvity, therefore the purchase of newborn bloodspot cards in the UK can only come from Revvity. Revvity purchase the filter paper as a roll from Ahlstrom and use it to create the bespoke bloodspot card design that we use in Scotland. The filter paper comes with a Certificate of Analysis and a report from the Centre for Disease Control, and both of these ensure the paper is consistent with the newborn screening requirements CLSI NBS-01 Ed7. There are no other commercial companies that can purchase and use Ahlstrom 226 filter paper to make newborn screening samples.

It is important to note that whilst other brands of filter paper are available for purchase, this would mean that all screening algorithms in use would have to be re-validated and would mean that Scotland deviates from the UK wide national protocols. This would be extremely costly, time consuming and is not recommended by the Scottish Screening Committee.

For this reason, the only supplier of bloodspot screening cards in Scotland is Revvity.

#### **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**

### **Contract No**

GGC0924

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

1 August 2025

### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Revvity (UK) Ltd.

Llantrisant Business Park, Llantrisant

Pontyclun

CF72 8YW

Telephone

+44 7714280426

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £158,772

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search\\_Switch.aspx?ID=806214.](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=806214)

(SC Ref:806214)

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

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

Glasgow Sheriff Court

1 Carlton Place

Glasgow

G5 9DA

Country

United Kingdom