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Planning

Assessment and Recovery Centres (ARCs) - Pilot Locations

NHS Blood and Transplant

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-053711

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05939b

Published 3 September 2025, 6:08pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Blood and Transplant

500 North Bristol Park

Bristol

BS34 7QH

Contact

Rowena Thomas

Email

rowena.thomas@nhsbt.nhs.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK11 - Bristol, City of

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

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.force.com/s/Welcome>

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

Assessment and Recovery Centres (ARCs) - Pilot Locations

Reference number

C380675

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85121300 - Surgical specialist services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

An ARC is an Assessment and Recovery Centre facility that will bring together and implement ex situ machine perfusion techniques at the centre of a national network. Marginal organs will be retrieved and assessed for transplantation, extending their viability between donation and transplantation. In the future, organ function could be transformed and organs repaired.

An ARC is proposed as a dedicated facility for organ perfusion techniques, utilising ex situ Machine Perfusion to undertake expert assessment, to de-risk transplantation and to better understand organ viability.

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) are looking to establish contracts with suitably experienced NHS Transplant Centres who meet the mandatory requirements to become an ARC location during this pilot phase.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £1,560,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85146200 - Services provided by transplant organ banks
- 85146200 - Services provided by transplant organ banks
- 85111100 - Surgical hospital services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS Blood and Transplant are looking to establish contracts with suitably experienced NHS Transplant Centres who meet the mandatory requirements to become an ARC location during this pilot phase.

There will be awards made across three 'lots', relating to either lungs, livers or kidneys.

Pilot locations will need to show confirmation/commitment to the following:

- Confirmation that a trained, competent and experienced workforce is available for the pilot
- Confirmation that CE/UKCA marked proprietary perfusion technology is available in centre and will be used for ARC organs
- Confirmation that suitable space for the ARC pilot is available
- Commitment to data collection, as directed by ARC Programme
- Commitment to results reporting, data transfer, and statutory requirements
- Commitment to working in partnership with NHSBT to ensure pilots are devised and delivered in accordance with requirements of the NHSBT Quality Management System
- Future commitment to integration throughout pilot process to developing multi-organ approach
- Future commitment to environmental sustainability within ARCs pilots and programme
- Commitment to NHSBT-led debriefs

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

28 October 2025

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

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intended approach notice. 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 Procurement Act 2023 do not apply to this award.

The intention is to award contract using the most suitable provider process. This will be to multiple providers across lung, liver and kidney requirements to support the pilot phase of this initiative.

The award decision-makers will be the NHSBT ARC Project Board.