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Planning

Appt. of a Contract Manufacturing Organisation for Production of DST-F to GMP Standards

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH AGENCY

UK3: Planned procurement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-054409

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-052ac4

Published 5 September 2025, 4:16pm

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Scope

Description

A Contract Manufacturing Organisation (CMO) certified to EU Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) standards is required to work in partnership with the Authority to achieve UK Marketing Authorisation (MA) and, thereafter, undertake the scaled up production of the DST-F reagent, a diagnostic skin test to Detect Infected among Vaccinated Animals (DIVA). This will involve the technical transfer of the research grade fusion protein-based reagent from the current ISO-accredited provider.

Total value (estimated)

- £9,786,429 excluding VAT
- £11,999,998.80 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 12 March 2026 to 11 March 2033
- Possible extension to 11 March 2035
- 9 years

Description of possible extension:

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to extend the Contract by up to twenty-four (24) months, in increments of twelve (12) months, subject to satisfactory performance and continued operational need.

Any extension shall be exercised by giving the Supplier no less than six (6) months' written notice prior to the expiry of the initial term.

All terms and conditions shall remain unchanged during the extension period unless otherwise agreed in writing.

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The Contracting Authority may, at its sole discretion, exercise one or more of the following options during the term of the Contract:

- Grant a commercial licensing agreement to the successful Supplier for the manufacture and

supply of DST-F to Rest of World (RoW) markets,

subject to separate agreement and regulatory approvals.

- Expand the scope of services to include support for additional Marketing Authorisation applications outside Great Britain.

- Increase the volume of DST-F doses required, subject to policy changes and budget availability.

These options are provided for in the original procurement and shall be exercised only where they do not substantially alter the nature of the Contract.

The Supplier shall be notified in writing of the Authority's intention to exercise any option, and the parties shall agree any contract variations

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 33651690 - Vaccines for veterinary medicine
- 33600000 - Pharmaceutical products

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

6 October 2025

Submission type

Requests to participate

Deadline for requests to participate

12 November 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

The procurement documents will be available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at <https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Any questions, requests to participate or tender submissions must be submitted electronically via this portal.

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

13 February 2026

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Technical	Technical / Quality Response	Quality	60.00%
Price	Commercial	Price	30.00%
Sustainability (including Social Value)	Sustainability (Including Social Value)	Quality	10.00%

Other information**Description of risks to contract performance**

1) Marketing Authorisation Refusal for the Cattle BCG Vaccine and/or Cancellation of the Vaccination Programme;

The Contracting Authority will shortly submit a Marketing Authorisation (MA) application to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate for the Cattle BCG Vaccine, which is complementary to the DST-F reagent.

If MA is not granted, or if the vaccination programme is cancelled, this may result in the deployment of DST-F being significantly delayed or no longer required.

Bidders should be aware that this is a known risk and the Authority reserves the right to vary or terminate the contract accordingly.

2) Marketing Authorisation Refusal for DST-F;

The Contracting Authority intends to submit a Marketing Authorisation (MA) application to the Veterinary Medicines Directorate for the DST-F reagent.

If the MA is refused—due to factors such as insufficient safety or efficacy data, inadequate quality documentation, or regulatory non-compliance—this may impact the viability of the contract and the deployment of DST-F.

Bidders should be aware that this is a known risk. The Authority reserves the right to vary or terminate the contract in response to such an outcome, and any such scenario will be managed in accordance with the contract terms.

Applicable trade agreements

- Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)
- Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP)

Procedure

Procedure type

Competitive flexible procedure

Competitive flexible procedure description

It is anticipated that this procurement will include the following stages:

Initial Tender Submission – Bidders will be invited to submit an Initial Tender in response to the published Invitation to Tender (ITT).

Conditions of Participation – Initial Tenders will be assessed to confirm that Bidders meet the minimum eligibility and capability requirements.

Evaluation – Compliant tenders will be evaluated against the published criteria to identify the Most Advantageous Tender.

Negotiation – The Authority reserves the right to hold negotiations with Bidders following

initial evaluation to clarify proposals and secure best value.

Final Tender Submission – Where negotiations are held, Bidders will be invited to submit a Final Tender incorporating any agreed changes.

Contracting authority

ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH AGENCY

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBHC-6261-BLLQ

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Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government