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Tender

## **SNBTS Nucleic Acid Extraction System**

The Common Services Agency (more commonly known as NHS National Services Scotland) (NSS)

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-054645

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047c57

Published 8 September 2025, 1:37pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

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

The Common Services Agency (more commonly known as NHS National Services Scotland) (NSS)

1 South Gyle Crescent

Edinburgh

EH12 9EB

#### **Contact**

Mike Blackmore

#### **Email**

[mike.blackmore@nhs.scot](mailto:mike.blackmore@nhs.scot)

#### **Telephone**

+44 07966967650

**Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKM - Scotland

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<http://www.nss.nhs.scot/browse/procurement-and-logistics>

Buyer's address

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search\\_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11883](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11883)

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/>

**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**

SNBTS Nucleic Acid Extraction System

Reference number

NPNSS03125

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

- 38434520 - Blood analysers

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

Supplies

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

The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service ("SNBTS") have the requirement for one (1) Nucleic Acid Extraction System to replace the existing machine at SNBTS Jack Copland Centre, Heriot Watt University Campus, Edinburgh.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £80,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

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

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

- 33100000 - Medical equipments

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

NUTS codes

- UKM75 - Edinburgh, City of

Main site or place of performance

SNBTS

Jack Copland Centre

52 Research Avenue North

Edinburgh

EH14 4BE

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

The Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS), part of NHS National Services Scotland (NHS NSS) ("Health Board") are commencing a Procurement Exercise for a new nucleic acid extraction system, based at the Jack Copland Centre, Edinburgh.

This would be used to perform confirmatory Nucleic Acid Testing (NAT) testing on all blood, tissue and cell donations that are reactive in the initial screening assays. The National Microbiology Reference Unit (NMRU) also performs NAT screening on any blood, tissue and cell donations that fail, or are not suitable for NAT testing, on the automated Donor Testing platforms.

This Tender covers the purchase and installation of one (1) Nucleic Acid Extraction System. This includes the software, training, and equipment and associated maintenance required for their operation.

The supplier shall act as the Principal Contractor and shall be responsible for the supply, installation and commissioning of the replacement system and associated equipment.

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

Quality criterion - Name: NHS Requirement / Weighting: 70

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 30

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £80,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

This contract is subject to renewal

No

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **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 III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

#### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

##### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

4B.1.1 Bidders will be required to have a minimum “general” yearly turnover of GBP 160,000 for the last 3 years.

4B.2.1 Bidders will be required to have a minimum yearly turnover of GBP 160,000 for the last 3 years in the business area covered by the contract.

4B.5 It is a requirement of this contract that bidders hold, or can commit to obtain prior to the commence of any subsequently awarded contract, the types and levels of insurance indicated below:

Employer’s (Compulsory) Liability Insurance = GBP5m

Public Liability Insurance = GBP5m

Product Liability Insurance = GBP5m

##### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

- All tendered products must fully comply with the NHS Requirement included within the tender documents;
- 4.C.1.2 Bidders will be required to provide examples that demonstrate that they have the relevant experience to deliver the services/supplies as described in part II.2.4 of the FTS/OJEU Contract Notice.

— 4C.12 If awarded to the Contract Potential Contractors must provide evidence that tendered products are CE/ UKCA marked. Evidence should be in the form of certification issued by a notified body.

#### - 4D.1 Quality Management Procedures

1. The bidder must hold a UKAS (or equivalent) accredited independent third party certificate of compliance in accordance with BS EN ISO 9001 (or equivalent),

OR

2. The bidder must have the following:

a. A documented policy regarding quality management. The policy must set out responsibilities for quality management demonstrating that the bidder has and continues to implement a quality management policy that is authorised by their Chief Executive, or equivalent, and is periodically reviewed at a senior management level. The policy must be relevant to the nature and scale of the work to be undertaken and set out responsibilities for quality management throughout the organisation.

b. Documented procedures for periodically reviewing, correcting and improving quality performance including processes for ensuring that the bidder's quality management is effective in reducing/preventing incidents of sub-standard delivery, this must include the quality of output and general performance.

c. A documented process for ensuring that quality management is effective in reducing/preventing incidents of sub-standard delivery, this must include the quality of output and general performance. The bidder must be able to provide copies of their organisation's documentation procedures, that meet current agreed good practice. These must include the arrangements for quality management throughout the bidder's organisation. They must set out how the bidder's organisation will carry out its policy, with a clear indication of

how the arrangements are communicated to the workforce.

d. Documented arrangements for providing the bidder's workforce with quality related

training and information appropriate to the type of work for which this organisation is likely to bid. This will demonstrate that the organisation has in place and implements training arrangements to ensure that its workforce has sufficient skills and understanding to discharge their various responsibilities. These must include a programme of training that will keep the workforce up to date with required knowledge about quality related issues, including copies of job profiles; training manuals and records.

e. Documented arrangements that your organisation has a system for monitoring quality management procedures on an on-going basis. The bidder's organisation must be able to provide evidence of systematic, periodic review and improvement of quality in respect of output and general performance.

f. Documented arrangements for ensuring that the bidders apply quality management measures that are appropriate to the work for which they are being engaged.

g. A documented process demonstrating how the bidder deals with complaints. The bidder must be able to provide details of how their organisation maintains records of any complaints received and how corrective measures are carried out to prevent reoccurrence.

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2024/S 000-030143](#)

#### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

9 October 2025

Local time

11:00am

**IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

**IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

**IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

9 October 2025

Local time

11:00am



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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

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

The estimated values referred to in Section II.1.5 and 11.2.6 covers the 24 months contract duration of the contract agreement.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 29973. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

(SC Ref:807888)

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

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

Sherriff Court House

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Email

[edinburgh@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto:edinburgh@scotcourts.gov.uk)

Telephone

+44 1312252525

Country

United Kingdom

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

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The Authority will notify economic operators who submitted a tender or (where no deselection notification has previously been made) applied to be selected to tender, of its decision to award the contract agreement which notification will contain among other information, a summary of the reasons why the economic operators was unsuccessful. The notification will incorporate a 'standstill period' of a minimum of 10 clear calendar days (or a minimum of 15 if the communication method used is not electronic) between the date on which the Authority dispatches the notice(s) and the date on which the Authority proposes to conclude the relevant contract agreement. The bringing of court proceedings against the Authority during the standstill period will automatically continue the prohibition on entering into the contract agreement until the court proceedings are determined, discontinued or disposed of, or the court, by interim order, brings to an end the prohibition. The remedies that may be awarded by the courts before the contract agreement has been entered into include the setting aside of the decision to award the contract agreement to the winning tenderer(s). The bringing of court proceedings against the Authority after the contract agreement has been entered into will not affect the contract agreement unless grounds for the imposition of special penalties under the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 can be established. Otherwise, the remedies that may be awarded by the courts where the contract agreement has been entered into are limited to the award of damages.