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Planning

Preliminary Market Engagement Blood Bags, Ancillary Packs, Additive Solutions and Automated/Semi-Automated Blood Processing Technology Request for Information (RFI)

NHS Blood and Transplant

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

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Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05a2e4

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Scope

Reference

C390121

Description

This Preliminary Market Engagement Notice is to initiate market engagement activities, participation in this engagement does not imply any commitment from the Participating Authorities regarding future procurement decisions.

The information contained in this Preliminary Market Engagement Notice may be subject to further amendment and revision. Accordingly, no representation or warranty, expressed

or implied is, or will be made; and no liability is, or will be, accepted by the Participating Authorities as to the adequacy, accuracy or completeness of any information shared during this engagement. Any liability however arising is expressly disclaimed and no expense in responding to this engagement will be reimbursed by the Authorities.

Collaborating Blood Establishment / Participating Authorities "the Authorities":

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT),

Welsh Blood Service (WBS),

Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS), Northern Ireland Blood Transfusion Service (NIBTS),

Irish Blood Transfusion Service (IBTS),

Australian Red Cross Lifeblood (ARCL);

New Zealand Blood Service (NZBS);

In addition, and subject to confirmation other member blood establishments of the European Blood Alliance (EBA) will be entitled to call-off from the Framework (if established).

NHS Blood and Transplant (NHSBT) is looking to establish a Framework Agreement for primary blood packs, ancillary blood processing packs, sample pouches, additive solutions and automated/semi-automated blood processing technology to commence mid-2027.

Precise quantities are unknown at this time, however anticipated expenditure will be in the region of up to £40M in the first year of the Framework, however this is approximate only and the value will depend on the requirements of the Authorities purchasing under the Framework.

Estimated Value over an 8-year Framework Agreement term is approximately 500M to £800M (dependent on the requirement of the Authorities and participation by additional EBA members).

The Framework will be between NHS Blood and Transplant and the awarded Suppliers. Call-off Contracts will be between the individual blood establishments and the Supplier.

The anticipated Lot Structure for this procurement is set out as follows:

Lot 1: Blood Packs

*Primary Whole Blood Collection

Lot 2: Ancillary Blood Processing Systems

*Ancillary Blood Processing Systems for component development

*Sample Pouch for Quality Monitoring of components

Lot 3: Additive Solutions

*For the suspension of pooled and apheresis platelets (Platelet Additive Solution)

*For the washing and re-suspension of 'washed' platelets

*For the washing and storage of red blood cells

Lot 4: Automated or Semi-Automatic Blood Processing

Main Objectives of this Market Engagement:

- To understand the current market landscape
- To understand supplier capabilities and capacity.
- To understand new and innovative ideas and better understand what is possible.
- To gather information on available and emerging technologies.
- To inform the development of technical specifications and the procurement strategy.

Who Should Respond:

This notice is open to any potential supplier i.e. manufacturer, distributor, product supplier with experience in supplying blood collection and processing equipment to healthcare or blood service organisations.

To respond to this opportunity, please visit:

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

register or login and search C390121 Preliminary Market Engagement Blood Bags, Ancillary Packs, Additive Solutions and Automated/Semi-Automated Blood Processing Technology Request for Information (RFI)

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £800,000,000 excluding VAT
- £960,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 November 2027 to 31 October 2035
- 8 years

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 33141613 - Blood bags
- 33194220 - Blood-transfusion supplies
- 33194210 - Blood-transfusion devices
- 33692000 - Medical solutions
- 33141614 - Plasma bags
- 33141610 - Collection bag

- 33141570 - Human blood
- 33141510 - Blood products
- 33141630 - Blood plasma filters

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom
- UKL - Wales
- IE - Ireland
- IE0 - Ireland
- UKN - Northern Ireland
- UKN0 - Northern Ireland
- UKM - Scotland
- NZ - New Zealand

Engagement

Engagement deadline

10 November 2025

Engagement process description

*Initial Supplier Clarification Questions to be sent to Authority by 10 Oct 2025 @12:00

*Webinar for Suppliers (TBC) via Microsoft Teams - 23 Oct 2025 @ 08:00 British Summer Time (BST)

*Publication of non-confidential supplier questions and answers - 3 Nov 2025

*Submission of Supplier completed RFIs deadline - 10 Nov 2025 @ 12:00 BST

*Detailed / Supplementary questions issued to Suppliers (to prepare for individual supplier meetings) - 17 Nov 2025

*Individual Supplier Meetings held via Microsoft TEAMS (attended by all collaborator blood establishments) - 1 to 4 December 2025 8:00 am to 10:00 am Greenwich Mean Time (GMT)

*Supplementary Supplier Meetings (if required) - 8 Dec to 19 December 25

*Outcome/Summary of Preliminary Market Engagement issued to Suppliers w/c 12 January 2026

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

1 July 2026

Contracting authority

NHS Blood and Transplant

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PDBY-6395-VWBP

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Bristol

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Contact name: Samantha Rix

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

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government