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Planning

High-Risk Foods for Listeria

Food Standards Scotland (FSS)

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-065694

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05cd86

Published 15 October 2025, 4:20pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Food Standards Scotland (FSS)

4th Floor, Pilgrim House, Old Ford Road

Aberdeen

AB11 5RL

Email

Bethany.Gold@gov.scot

Telephone

+44 1224285172

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.foodstandards.gov.scot

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA24524

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

National or federal Agency/Office

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

High-Risk Foods for Listeria

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 73110000 - Research services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Food Standards Scotland require a Contractor to carry out an evidence review to identify the foods considered high-risk for Listeria monocytogenes, based on the latest evidence and surveillance data available from worldwide sources. The Contractor would then be required to develop a prioritised list of these foods, ranking them based on their risk to vulnerable consumers.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Food Standards Scotland (FSS) is seeking a Contractor to deliver:

- 1) an up-to-date, in-depth evidence review of the foods with a known association with L. monocytogenes to reflect the current evidence base, and
- 2) the development of a prioritised list of these high-risk foods, ranking them based on their risk to vulnerable consumers, based on the most appropriate evidence and legitimate factors identified in the evidence review.

The Contractor must have an ability to review incidents, surveillance and outbreak data in the literature to analyse available evidence on the risk of *L. monocytogenes* in food products. FSS can provide food sampling data from Scotland from 2015 - 2025, but it is expected that the Contractor will source alternative, relevant published international datasets and literature to supplement this evidence review.

Currently, named food groups of potential risk from *L. monocytogenes*, developed from previous evidence and reviews from several years ago, are wide-ranging (e.g. pre-cut fruits and vegetables), comprising of several different food products with potentially varying levels of risk. Therefore, a key outcome of this research would be to produce a list of foods that vulnerable consumers should be aware of that are specific food commodities where possible, rather than wide-ranging food groups, based on the evidence provided.

It is expected that the outputs of this work will enable FSS to tailor its consumer messaging on *L. monocytogenes* to protect those consumers most at risk of food borne illness, as well identify areas which require further work or surveillance. This will ensure that these vulnerable groups have accurate information and are not avoiding foods of lower risk unnecessarily.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

27 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: No

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=813224.

(SC Ref:813224)