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Tender

250262 - Contract for Supply, Delivery, Installation & Commissioning of a Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) System.

Queen's University Belfast

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-066106

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05cdd5 ([view related notices](#))

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Scope

Reference

250262

Description

The Future Medicines Institute (FMI) requires a Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) system with advanced capabilities for real-time, label-free analysis of biomolecular interactions.

(Maximum budget available for Equipment inclusive of 3 years extended warranty & annual preventative maintenance is £330,000).

The primary objective of procuring an SPR device is to enhance FMI's capacity to

characterise binding kinetics, affinity, and specificity of biomolecular interactions, thereby strengthening its protein science and drug discovery workflows.

The proposed system must:

- Provide precise kinetic and affinity measurements for a wide range of biomolecular interactions, including protein–protein, protein–antibody, and protein–small molecule binding.
- Deliver high sensitivity and reproducibility to ensure reliable and quantitative data across experiments.
- Support automation and high-throughput analysis, enabling efficient screening of large sample sets.
- Include robust data analysis software for comprehensive kinetic modelling and data interpretation.
- Offer versatile assay configurations, supporting various experimental formats and immobilisation chemistries.
- Integrate seamlessly with upstream and downstream workflows, including protein purification and structural analysis.

The procurement of a high-performance SPR system directly supports FMI's broader goals of:

- Accelerating drug discovery through rapid identification and characterisation of therapeutic candidates.
- Enhancing biopharmaceutical research by enabling detailed analysis of binding mechanisms critical to biologics development.
- Facilitating translational research by bridging fundamental molecular interaction studies with clinical and therapeutic applications.

This procurement will provide direct benefit to research scientists by:

- Reducing manual intervention and experimental variability through automation and streamlined workflows.
- Enhancing data quality with high-resolution detection and advanced signal processing for accurate kinetic profiling.

- Please note: - The execution of this tender & contract will be solely dependent on grant funding being received, which is estimated to be confirmed in November 2025.
- No award will be made, or orders issued until the grant funding has been confirmed. If grant funding is not secured, the market will be notified, and this procurement exercise will be stood down.

Total value (estimated)

- £700,000 excluding VAT
- £700,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 22 December 2025 to 21 December 2035
- Possible extension to 21 December 2045
- 20 years

Description of possible extension:

Option to extend maintenance, software updates/development, the supply of consumables and ancillary items, beyond this period for a further period of up to 10 years or the end of useful life of the equipment.

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 38430000 - Detection and analysis apparatus
- 38432000 - Analysis apparatus

Contract locations

- UKN06 - Belfast

Submission

Enquiry deadline

7 November 2025, 4:00pm

Tender submission deadline

14 November 2025, 4:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/queensuniversitybelfast.aspx/Home>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

22 December 2025

Award criteria

| Name | Description | Type |
|--------------------|--|-------------|
| Simple description | Technical - 50%: Made up of- Desirable Technical Requirements - 30% Qualitative requirements - 15% Sustainable Procurement - 5% Price - 50% | Price |

Weighting description

Technical - 50%: Made up of-

Desirable Technical Requirements - 30%

Qualitative requirements - 15%

Sustainable Procurement - 5%

Price - 50%

Other information**Payment terms**

after delivery - 30 days upon receipt of a valid and undisputed invoice

Description of risks to contract performance

QUB recognises that certain risks associated with the procurement and operation of an SPR System are not fully quantifiable at the time of tender. These 'known unknowns' include, but are not limited to, supplier failure and switching costs, technology evolution, integration challenges, data security, regulatory changes, user training & turnover, warranty & service coverage, supply chain disruptions, and software lifecycle changes, increased value or scope due to demand requirements. Suppliers are expected to identify any foreseeable risks, propose mitigation strategies, and demonstrate flexibility in addressing emerging issues throughout the contract lifecycle.

Whilst it is not possible at this stage to fully anticipate the nature or extent of future developments or integration requirements, nor to determine their potential impact on contract performance, QUB recognises that such changes may arise over the course of the contract. Accordingly, it is acknowledged that these circumstances may necessitate a modification of the contract to appropriately address and accommodate any emerging risks or requirements.

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Documents

Associated tender documents

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/queensuniversitybelfast.aspx/Home>

Intend tender portal

Contracting authority

Queen's University Belfast

- Charity Commission for Northern Ireland: 101788

University Rd

Belfast

BT7 1NN

United Kingdom

Contact name: Shauna Ryan

Email: procurement@qub.ac.uk

Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland