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Tender

An investigation into the degradation products obtained from the tertiary recycl

Veterinary Medicines Directorate

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-067083

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-056b0b ([view related notices](#))

Published 21 October 2025, 12:42pm

Scope

Description

An Investigation into the Effects of the Tertiary Recycling Process on the Quality and Safety of Plastics

The Plastic Packaging Tax (PPT), introduced in the UK in 2022, aims to reduce plastic waste by promoting the use of recycled materials in plastic packaging. However, pharmaceutical primary packaging remains comprised of solely virgin (newly produced) materials. This is because the use of recycled plastics in primary packaging is largely prohibitive, due to concerns that degradation products will be present in the recycled plastic.

While the industry is aware that degradation products exist, these have never been fully investigated. The VMD is launching this call for interest to undertake research to identify and quantify the degradation products that occur during the tertiary recycling procedure and evaluate the potential for the use of recycled materials in veterinary pharmaceutical primary packaging.

The aims of this research

Total value (estimated)

- £72,000 excluding VAT
- £86,400 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 12 December 2025 to 31 March 2026
- 3 months, 20 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73200000 - Research and development consultancy services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Conditions of participation

To select those Tenderers who are suitable to deliver the Authority's requirements and will be evaluated in accordance with the criteria set out in Sections 1 to 5 of the response form in Atamis and Part 1 of this Section (in respect of economic and financial standing and technical and professional ability). Failure to meet the stated selection criteria will result in a Response being rejected at this stage and no further assessment of the remainder of the Response (including the Tender) pursuant to the remaining stages below will be undertaken by the Authority.

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Enquiry deadline

14 November 2025, 2:00pm

Tender submission deadline

21 November 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

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

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Award criteria

| Name | Type | Weighting |
|---------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Technical | Quality | 60.00% |
| Commercial | Cost | 30.00% |
| Sustainability and Social Value | Quality | 10.00% |

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Documents

Associated tender documents

[C30694 - Bidder Pack- part two core requirements below threshold PA23.pdf](#)

Contracting authority

Veterinary Medicines Directorate

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMDP-3464-HTRN

Woodham Lane, New Haw

Addlestone

KT15 3LS

United Kingdom

Contact name: Emily Hayes

Email: emily.hayes@defra.gov.uk

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

Region: UKJ25 - West Surrey

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Other organisation

These organisations are carrying out the procurement, or part of it, on behalf of the contracting authorities.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS

Summary of their role in this procurement: Defra group Commercial will be leading the procurement on behalf of the VMD.

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNBD-3289-CDGX

Seacole Building, 2 Marsham Street

London

SW1P 4DF

United Kingdom

Contact name: Emily Hayes

Email: emily.hayes@defra.gov.uk

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

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Contact organisation

Contact [DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS](#) for any enquiries.