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Award

Automatic Meal Container Sealing Machines

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-073459

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05e03a

Published 13 November 2025, 11:21am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde

Procurement Department, Glasgow Royal Infirmary, 84 Castle Street

Glasgow

G4 0SF

Email

grant.ewing@nhs.scot

Telephone

+44 1412015388

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM82 - Glasgow City

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.nhsggc.scot/about-us/procurement/>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA1072
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I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Automatic Meal Container Sealing Machines

Reference number

GGC1047

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 39222000 - Catering supplies

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

There are two Cook Freeze Units within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, located at

Inverclyde Royal Hospital and Royal Alexandra Hospital. Each site operates two automatic sealing machines. This VEAT notice is being published to enable both sites to continue purchasing bespoke containers and lidding film specifically designed for use with their current sealing machines, for a period of 12 months. This arrangement will ensure operational continuity until a competitive tender for sealing machines and consumables is undertaken, which is anticipated to be published around May 2026.

The current containers are bespoke to the sealing machines. The container sizes are:

GN 1/2 - 48mm x 325mm x 265mm (Height x Width x Diameter) - Colour White

GN 1/3 - 48mm x 325mm x 176mm (Height x Width x Diameter) - Colour White

GN 1/4 - 55mm x 265mm x 162mm (Height x Width x Diameter) - Colour White

GN 1/8 - 36mm x 161mm x 131mm (Height x Width x Diameter) - Colour White

GN 1/8 - 50mm x 161mm x 131mm (Height x Width x Diameter) - Colour White

The Film sizes are:

335mm x 300mm (Width x Diameter)

400mm x 300mm (Width x Diameter)

The width of the container, particularly the edges, are designed to ensure a uniform tight film sealing lid for produced food that requires reheating with the lid intact. The container size specified is to ensure automatic de-nesting through the machines during the sealing process where heat is automatically applied to the film lid at a temperature between +150?c to +170?c. This ensures no leaking of produce during the chill/freeze, and reheating cycle in the ovens at ward level. The containers, film and product labels must be able to withstand freezer storage temperatures at -22?c for up to periods of 6 months and be able to withstand regeneration temperatures of up to +150?c without compromising the food or label information attached.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £273,118

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 39222000 - Catering supplies
- 39310000 - Catering equipment

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM82 - Glasgow City

Main site or place of performance

Inverclyde Royal Hospital and Royal Alexandra Hospital

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

There are two Cook Freeze Units within NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, located at Inverclyde Royal Hospital and Royal Alexandra Hospital. Each site operates two automatic sealing machines. This VEAT notice is being published to enable both sites to continue purchasing bespoke containers and lidding film specifically designed for use with their current sealing machines, for a period of 12 months. This arrangement will ensure operational continuity until a competitive tender for sealing machines and consumables is undertaken, which is anticipated to be published around May 2026.

The container sizes are:

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The Film sizes are:

335mm x 300mm (Width x Diameter)

400mm x 300mm (Width x Diameter)

The containers must provide

- a uniform tight film sealing lid for produced food that requires reheating with the lid intact
- automatic de-nesting through the machines during the sealing process where heat is automatically applied to the film lid at a temperature between +150?c to+170?c
- no leaking of produce during the chill/freeze and reheating cycle in the ovens at ward level
- the container film and product labels must be able to withstand freezer storage temperatures at -22?c for up to periods of 6 months - the container must be able to withstand regeneration temperatures of up to +150?c without compromising the food or label information attached.

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

In 2011 the Cook Chill Production Units in Inverclyde Royal Hospital and Royal Alexandra Hospital were refurbished to operate as Cook Freeze Production Units. During this time the opportunity was taken to ensure that the food production process, as well as catering services equipment and working practice at ward level, was standardised to ensure ease of staff training, both at the food production units and at ward level for patient meal service.

The current containers and lidding film is used are bespoke to the current sealing

machines. The freezer holding trolleys have been designed and manufactured bespoke to the specification of the containers which ensures maximum freezing packs at each cycle. The regeneration trolleys used for patient meal service, accommodate the maximum numbers of meals required for an average patient meal service. This is achieved through the current size, thickness and short edges of the containers which allows the required number of packs of food to be placed on each shelf.

NHSGG&C intend to award this contract for 12 months. During this period, NHSGG&C will be carrying out a local tendering exercise that will be published circa May 2026, providing a future opportunity for suppliers to bid for a longer term contract under a competitive process. This tender will be for Automatic Sealing Machines and Consumables.

To ensure compliance within procurement regulations and ensure stock continuity, is to publish a voluntary ex ante transparency (VEAT) notice.

NHSGG&C will follow regulation 33 of Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations: (4) (b).

(4)(b) A contracting authority may award a public supply contract following negotiated procedure without prior publication if additional deliveries by the original supplier which are intended either as a partial replacement of supplies or installations or as the extension of existing supplies or installations where a change of supplier would oblige the contracting authority to acquire supplies having different technical characteristics which would result in incompatibility or disproportionate technical difficulties in operation and maintenance;

A VEAT Notice is the most appropriate legal procurement route to take at this time as the installation of new bespoke containers and lidding film would cause major disruption among the Cook Freeze Production Units and potentially cause significant consequences impacting patient care.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

GGC1047

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 November 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Burlodge Ltd

C60 Barwell Business Park, Leatherhead Road

Chessington

KT9 2NY

Telephone

+44 2088795700

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £273,118

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=815403.

(SC Ref:815403)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Glasgow Sheriff Court

1 Carlton Place

Glasgow

G5 9DA

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.scotcourts.gov.uk/>