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Contract

Respiratory Metagenomics Expansion Programme to Oxford Nanopore Technologies PLC

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-079107

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05ed66

Published 2 December 2025, 5:05pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust

Great Maze Pond

London

SE1 9RT

Contact

Simone Gelinias

Email

s.gelinias@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI44 - Lewisham and Southwark

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.lpp.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.lpp.nhs.uk/>

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

Respiratory Metagenomics Expansion Programme to Oxford Nanopore Technologies PLC

Reference number

C395947 (Ref # 5940-26)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 33190000 - Miscellaneous medical devices and products

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

The delivery of a National NHS Respiratory Metagenomics Expansion Programme to a network of 30 NHS sites across the UK.

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: £7,010,966

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 33140000 - Medical consumables

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI44 - Lewisham and Southwark

Main site or place of performance

Guys and St. Thomas Hospital

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Direct Award. The Trust has been granted funding from the Department of Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT), with oversight delegated to the Office of Life Sciences (OLS), for the delivery of the NHS Respiratory Metagenomics Expansion Programme, in which GSTT will lead the development of a national clinical metagenomics pilot service by deploying NHS developed laboratory, bioinformatic and clinical protocols along with ONT developed sequencing technology to a network of 30 NHS sites across the UK for the dual benefit of patient care and bio-surveillance.

The contract period is for Three Years and will expire on 20th November 2028. The approximate lifetime value of the contract is

The contract will be grant funded from the DSIT award to GSTT for the NHS Respiratory Metagenomics Expansion Programme.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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 services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

Direct award justification

Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights

In accordance with Section 41 and Schedule 5 of the PA23, this direct award is to be made on the grounds of absence of competition for technical reasons as the products and services are subject to patented technology by Oxford Nanopore Technologies PLC. It is unique in that it is the only sequencing technology available on the market that enables

direct, real-time analysis of short to ultra-long fragments of DNA/RNA, in fully scalable formats. No other provider is able to supply equivalent goods or services.

- Additional Information - The contracting authority has concluded that the conditions for a direct award are satisfied due to their being no alternatives and an absence of competition due to patent status of the required products and services. A Contract Award Notice (UK6) will be published following the expiry of the standstill period.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

21 November 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 0

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Oxford Nanopore Technologies Limited

Gosling Building Edmund Halley Road, Oxford Science Park

Oxfordshire

OX4 4DQ

Telephone

+44 7879896025

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

National registration number

05386273

Internet address

<http://nanoporetech.com>

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £7,010,966

Lowest offer: £7,010,966 / Highest offer: £7,010,966 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Trust has been in contract with Oxford Nanopore for a period of 1 year as part of the pilot programme for delivery of an initial pilot metagenomics service at 9 NHS sites in 2024/25.

A number of collaboration agreements have existed between GSTT and ONT prior to this, under which the two institutions developed the joint elements of our respective components of the end to end workflow.

Given the requirement to continue the pilot arrangements and the continuation of the grant funding from DSIT and OLS, it was necessary to engage in direct negotiations with Oxford Nanopore. In addition, the technology under development is patented and GSTT are working in collaboration with Oxford Nanopore to continue to develop the protocols and undertake the research activity.

Under PA23 there are 2 relevant provisions for a direct award for patented technology covered under section 41, Schedule 5. (1) “a supplier is in possession of IP and there are no reasonable alternatives...”and (2) “the absence of competition for technical reasons”, both sectioned under “Single Suppliers” where a particular supplier owns the intellectual rights and is the only supplier able to provide that product / service.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

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