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**United Kingdom-Normanton: Lubricants  
2017/S 106-211845**

**Prior information notice**

**This notice is for prior information only**

**Supplies**

Directive 2014/24/EU

**Section I: Contracting authority**

**I.1) Name and addresses**

NHS Supply Chain acting as agent for NHS Business Services Authority  
NHS Supply Chain, Foxbridge Way  
Normanton  
WF6 1TL  
United Kingdom  
Contact person: Ruth Jones  
Telephone: +44 1244582835  
E-mail: [ruth.jones@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:ruth.jones@supplychain.nhs.uk)  
Fax: +44 1924328744  
NUTS code: UKE4

**Internet address(es):**

Main address: [www.supplychain.nhs.uk](http://www.supplychain.nhs.uk)

**I.2) Joint procurement**

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the abovementioned address  
Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available.  
Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at: <http://procurement.supplychain.nhs.uk/ISS/>

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

National or federal agency/office

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title:**

Ultrasound Gels.

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

24951100

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Supplies

II.1.4) **Short description:**

The NHS has a procurement strategy, which aims to increase transparency, remove price variations between trusts and to streamline product ranges to avoid proliferation and fragmentation. It is anticipated that such an approach may enable the NHS to meet its efficiency and savings targets. That broad strategy was discussed by Lord Carter in his report of 2016 entitled 'Operational productivity and performance in English NHS acute hospitals: Unwarranted variations' (the 'Report') in which he challenged the NHS to save £700m through better procurement. The NCPP has been developed by NHS Improvement with important input being provided by stakeholders such as the Clinical Evaluation Team and NHS Supply Chain in part to deliver the relevant recommendations in the report and to generate savings. One of the aims of the NCPP is to standardise the procurement of certain suitable products (and/or categories of products) and to aggregate the demand for such goods.

II.1.5) **Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: 2 000 000.00 GBP

II.1.6) **Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: no

II.2) **Description**

II.2.1) **Title:**

II.2.2) **Additional CPV code(s)**

33112000

33112300

33124120

II.2.3) **Place of performance**

NUTS code: UK

II.2.4) **Description of the procurement:**

As part of this strategy NHS Supply Chain are undertaking a procurement exercise to establish a contract for Ultrasound Gels, this will include but not limited to; 20ml Sachets; 250ml Bottle and 5L container.

II.2.14) **Additional information**

II.3) **Estimated date of publication of contract notice:**

28/08/2017

**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: yes

**Section VI: Complementary information**

VI.3) **Additional information:**

The purpose of this notice is to draw attention to a procurement that NHS Supply Chain intends to commence during the subsequent 12 months. The invitation to tender will be the subject of a separate notice and it is that notice to which potential suppliers will need to respond at the appropriate time (anticipated to be around August 2017).

The contract between NHS Supply Chain and successful suppliers will reserve the right to purchase the same or similar supplies and/or services from suppliers not appointed to the Contract at its sole discretion.

As part of this strategy NHS Supply Chain are undertaking a procurement exercise to establish a contract for Ultrasound Gels, this will include but not limited to;

20ml Sachets;  
250ml Bottle;  
5L container.

It is anticipated that the expenditure in the initial 12 month period will be 850 000 GBP to 1 000 000 GBP however this is an indicative value and may vary depending on the requirements of the bodies purchasing under this contract.

It is anticipated that this contract will be for 12 months with an option to extend for 12 months in incremental periods.

NHS Supply Chain intends to enter into arrangements under which it will be entitled to purchase supplies and/or services which it will make available for purchase by 1) any NHS Trust; 2) any other NHS entity; 3) any government department, agency or other statutory body and/or 4) any private sector entity active in the UK healthcare sector. Only NHS Supply Chain can order and enter into contracts under it.

As part of its pre-tender strategy, NHS Supply Chain would also like to engage with suppliers of these products via a Request for Information (RFI). If you would like to complete the Request for Information document in respect of the products which are the subject of this procurement then please follow the below instructions; Candidates wishing to complete the Request for Information must register their expression of interest. The Request for Information document will then be sent via the Intenda Messaging Centre.

Registration.

1. Use URL <http://procurement.supplychain.nhs.uk/ISS/> to access the NHS Supply Chain Procurement portal.

2. If not yet registered:

— Click on the 'Not Registered Yet' link to access the registration page.

— Complete the registration pages as guided by the mini guide found on the landing page.

Portal access.

If registration has been completed:

— Login with URL <http://procurement.supplychain.nhs.uk/ISS/> .

— Click on the 'Applicant Dashboard' icon to open the list of new procurement events.

Expression of interest.

— View PIN content by clicking on the 'VIEW NOTICE' button for the procurement event. This opens a PDF document.

— Express an interest by clicking on the 'EXPRESS INTEREST' button.

Request for information document.

— The Request for Information Document will then be sent to you via the Intenda Messaging Centre.

— Applicants will then have 4 weeks from the dispatch of this notice to complete and return the Request for Information document.

VI.5) **Date of dispatch of this notice:**  
01/06/2017