



Tech Innovation Lot 2 Call Off Agreement

Schedule 1

Specification and Services Description

1. SPECIFICATION

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. Introduction & background

This engagement forms a key part of NHS Digital's GP IT Futures programme. The New Market Entrants (NME) team within GP IT Futures is supporting suppliers to successfully introduce new to market core clinical GP systems all built to modern tech standards and designed to meet user needs. The team's objective is to enrich the market by stimulating innovation and providing better solutions to Primary Care challenges in the future.

The objectives of this programme are to:

- provide clinically safe and useful digital services and data services for patients and general practice, ensuring minimal disruption to care for citizens as new tech standards or suppliers are introduced.
- move to open, modern, cloud native architectures, with consistent technical and data standards.
- reform the commercial landscape of GP and primary care IT to provide an open, dynamic, and competitive market.
- put NHS and patient users at the centre of the design, underpinned by user research and with regular iterations.

These are supported by four minimum strategic objectives for the programme to:

- achieve real-time and secure access to data for patients and NHS users.
- allow interoperability between systems, enabling seamless, digitised workflows in and between care settings, in real time, underpinned by common standards and supporting new models of care and primary care networks.
- enable relevant, resilient, and plural ecosystem of GP and primary care IT systems, which evolve with advances in technology and the NHS.
- allow data to be easily and consistently captured to enable comparison of activity and clinical outcomes.

1.2. Overview of Requirement

Suppliers developing new core clinical GP systems must integrate with many national services. The cost and difficulty involved in the considerable number of (>16) national integrations that are required, represent a significant barrier to market entry for new digital

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healthcare solutions. Many of these integrations presently have little documentation and/or do not align with modern development approaches.

Consequently, the NME team, in partnership with the delivery partner (Hippo Digital), have been developing National Integration Adaptors to provide a simpler and faster method for prospective GP IT Foundation System Suppliers to integrate with NHS National Services and present new market offerings.

The GP IT Futures Programme is investing to improve the future technical integration experience associated with accredited GP systems, to address some of the technical blockers to the introduction of new technical solutions into the market. Pre – assured National Integration Adapter and APIs (NIA) products are one of the outputs of the GPIT NME Enablement programme initiative.

There are 6 NIA adaptors and 2 APIs developed and available in various stages of progression to live.

The two APIs are in production beta status:

- Summary Care Record FHIR API
- Spine Directory Services FHIR API

Four adaptors are now approved for Technical Go live, and ready for use in a First of Type implementation in live. They are:

- MHS (Message Handling Service)
- NHAIS (National Health Applications and Infrastructure Services) – GP link
- NHS 111 PEM
- Pathology & Screening

The two remaining adaptors are in test and assurance phase post Beta development, needing an Integration partner for assurance:

- GP2GP [Send] adapter
- GP2GP [Receive] adapter (previously named Patient Switching adapter)

1.3. National Integration Adaptor - GP2GP [Send]

The existing GP2GP solution uses a legacy messaging standard and infrastructure (HL7v3 and Spine TMS). Reliance on these standards going forward presents a significant barrier to successful GP2GP implementation by new suppliers, and perpetuation of these standards in the long term presents a risk to the continued operation of GP2GP across all suppliers.

A hybrid solution approach has been selected as the best option for GP2GP adoption by new to market suppliers and transition by existing incumbent suppliers.

The National Integration Adaptor - GP2GP has been developed to allow new market entrant suppliers who are using FHIR to transfer and receive electronic health records for a patient with incumbent suppliers that are using HL7.

The adaptor implements a GP2GP 2.2b producer using the supplier's existing GP Connect Provider implementation to extract the Electronic Health Record. Suppliers that have not already implemented a GP2GP 2.2b producer, or those wishing to decommission their existing producer, may deploy the GP2GP adaptor in its place.

For more information: <https://github.com/nhsconnect/integration-adaptor-gp2gp>

1.4. Objectives of the Requirement

National Integration Adaptors and APIs development (NIA Development) team, in conjunction with development partner Hippo Digital have developed the GP2GP adaptor - an adaptor to help transfer patient data from a New Market Entrant supplier (NME) to an incumbent GPIT supplier. The adapter is a software asset for future use by any connecting GPIT supplier and as such needs to be fully tested to ensure they are working successfully.

In building this adaptor asset, the NIA Development team were required to:

- a. deliver the design, development, and delivery of new adaptor integrations and/or any in-scope improvements associated with existing National Services Integrations.
- b. Undertake integration deployment and end-to-end integration testing for acceptance of the national service integration products with the new market entrant supplier as integration test partner to enable measurement and demonstration of effectiveness and validation of the

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solution, including any necessary change/ enhancements in delivery of the fully tested solutions in the given timelines.

- c. achieve 'Integrated' status for the deployed technical Software Solution delivered as part of GP2GP adaptor solution, in respect of the integration partners and/ or test partner solutions,

While the adaptor development is now complete (as described at a above), for measuring the effectiveness and value of the adaptors in terms of reduction in production cost and time to market for a new Foundation System Supplier, NHS Digital is inviting a Technical Innovation Framework supplier to collaborate as test integration partner.

This activity is for new market entrant GP Foundation System supplier with a cloud native solution offering and ready with the GP Connect API/ Primary Care solution interface to enable integration with the GP2GP adaptor components along with other relevant national integrator products, that remove the need for building towards legacy standards.

The nature of dependencies and complexity of the National Integration GP2GP Adaptor product delivery means significant testing efforts are required from an NME supplier to ensure that there are no delays in completing the testing.

The objective of this requirement is to recruit a Tech Innovation Framework supplier to work with the adaptor delivery partner (Hippo Digital) and the NME team to assure and drive the quality of the GP2GP adaptor and shorten dev/test iteration timescales.

Successful testing completion will lead to delivery of a pre-assured National Integration product for GP2GP and reduced technical barriers for future connecting suppliers.

2. SCOPE OF SERVICES

2.1 Service Requirements

NHS Digital is seeking **one** Tech Innovation Framework supplier with clear ambitions to become a GP IT Foundation System Integration Testing Supplier to work collaboratively with the NME team and its delivery partner (Hippo Digital) to achieve pre-assured status for the National Integration Adaptor – GP2GP FHIR [Send]. The Integration deployment and end to end integration testing of the GP2GP Adaptor with the new market entrant test integration partner against the incumbent systems (test demonstrators) for acceptance of the national service integration products in test cycles.

Test Integration scope

1. Performance and execution of end-to-end testing of GP2GP adaptor (<https://github.com/nhsconnect/integration-adaptor-gp2gp>) and associated components for patient transfer scenarios from the NME test practice to incumbents (EMIS and TPP) test practices i.e., two full testing runs of all scenarios as agreed between the integration test partner and NHS Digital).
- Compilation of testing evidence from end-to-end testing and submission thereof to NHS Digital (through development partner Hippo Digital) to enable pre-assured status for the GP2GP adapter product.
2. As test partner, iterate on testing and support defect analysis and test rework / any new versions of adaptors published by NIA Development team (and development partner Hippo) post identification of any major defects in the adapters which would prevent compilation of testing scenarios.

Below are the requirements from an NME test integration Partner:

- Providing an integration environment of GP2GP FHIR implementation and Connect APIs / Primary Care Solution in cloud, for the GP2GP/GP Connect adaptor to be integrate, with realistic and useful test data for various scenarios.
- Development and execution of relevant functional and non-functional test-cases for the deployed and integrated adaptors and delivering the test reports.
- Raising bugs and issues encountered through early integration so that they can be prioritised, and patches deployed by NIA Development team.
- Supporting NIA Dev team/Hippo Digital in the testing of the integrated adaptor against the Integration Test partner primary care solution, including providing documentation and access for the use of their primary care solution.
- Making use of documentation provided by NIA Dev/ Hippo Digital to guide the Integration Test partner through this process and providing feedback that can be used to help improve the quality of this documentation.
- Recording any technical issues with the adaptor in the tool provided by NHSD with enough information to enable them to be addressed.
- Ensuring the clinical safety of the implemented adaptor within the context of the Integration test partner product use.
- Keeping detailed, accurate records of the time and effort required to achieve successful integration of each adaptor and making this available / accessible to relevant NHSD and NIA Dev team daily, or as otherwise agreed.

2.1 Service Pre-requisites

Due to the nature of the National Integration Adaptor – GP2GP FHIR Implementation, the test integration requirements have the following pre-requisites for the Tech Innovation Framework supplier:

- a) Existing build of GPConnect Provider solution (Access Record Structured, 'Core', Access Document).
- b) Technical assurance of GPConnect Provider solution (Access Record Structured, 'Core', Access Document).

Further, the selected supplier must have successfully completed technical implementation for GP Connect 1.6.0 that enables GP2GP functionality through Access Structured Record along with the GP Connect Get structured Record capability as this is the data model the National Integration Adaptor - GP2GP adapter has been built to support.

The supplier must be able to prioritise this work for completion by 31 March 2023.

The selected supplier must have successfully initiated and completed the integration deployment and test integration for GP2GP request in INT and GP2GP send adapter deployment and pipe cleaning in local environment already, which will allow them to proceed at pace.

