

Commercial Services

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Ref: C235660 Data Modelling RFI

Website: www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk

Date: 15 January 2024

Dear Supplier,

Data Modelling Tools – Request For Information (RFI)

The NHS Business Services Authority (NHSBSA) invites you to participate in an RFI for Data Modelling Tools to enable consistent data standardisation of the entire enterprise. **To participate, a response is required by 16.00 on 16 February 2024.**

This is a pre-tender market engagement exercise. At this stage, we are seeking input to enable us to assess the market and to inform our future procurement strategy.

Background to the Project

As a very data-rich organisation, NHSBSA have a need to establish an architecture framework that introduces conformity of data assets and reduces the variance of such commonality across disparate systems. The architecture framework also defines the blueprint for managing data assets and aligning them with our business strategies, to establish strategic data requirements and designs.

This functionality is needed to provide best practices that will help us understand the current state of our systems, promote desirable change toward future state, enable regulatory compliance and improve effectiveness. We also support the need to manage data effectively, build staff knowledge and understanding about data and contribute overall as a forward-looking function.

To make data more useful for the NHS Business Services Authority, an **Enterprise Architect SaaS based tool** is needed, the essential features and functions required includes:

1. **Core Capabilities:** Must have Data Modelling, Forward/Reverse Engineering, Diagram Production, Integration/Export, and Model Publishing to establish a robust foundational architecture.
2. **Compliance and Control:** Ensuring adherence to the latest NCSC Cloud Security guidance and implementing Data Model Version Control for secure and regulated development.

3. **Collaboration Enhancements:** Should have features for Collaboration, Teamwork, and Repository Management to facilitate efficient team-based architecture planning and enterprise-wide access.
4. **Advanced Utilities:** Could have additional tools like a Data Dictionary, Centralised Datatypes, and Data Lineage Diagrams for in-depth analysis and detailed architectural oversight.

We are keen to get an early indication from the market as to the products available to the NHSBSA which meet our requirements (as set out in this document) to enable NHSBSA make data more useful.

Further details of what the NHSBSA are looking for from a Data Modelling Tool and our summary requirements are set out in the 'MosCoW section below:

Feature/Function	MoSCoW Category
Data Modelling	Must Have
Forward/Reverse Engineering [Data Definition Language Script creation]	Must Have
Producing diagrams and Visualisation	Must Have
Integration and Import/Export	Must Have
Publish Data Models	Must Have
Compliance with the latest version of the NCSC's Cloud Security guidance	Must Have
Software as a Service (SaaS) Enabled	Must Have
Data Model Version Control [Central Data Model Repository]	Should Have
Collaboration and Teamwork	Should Have
Data Model Repository and Management	Should Have
Enterprise to access the Data Models	Should Have
Data Dictionary	Could Have
Centralised domain specific datatypes	Could Have
Data Lineage Diagram	Could Have

How to participate in this RFI

If you wish to participate in the RFI, please register your interest on NHSBSA's procurement portal (Atamis). (A link to the Atamis portal is provided below.)

Once registered on the Atamis procurement portal, suppliers will be provided with access to the 'RFI Response Form' to complete and submit via the portal by the **submission deadline of 16.00 on 16 February 2024.**

Note, this RFI document and all appendices are covered by NHSBSA copyright and are provided for use in this RFI process only and not for any other purposes.

Please note, if you feel you can contribute to some but not all of the objectives of this RFI, please still provide a response to the relevant sections on the RFI Response Form and return it to us.

To obtain further information regarding this RFI, please ensure your organisation is registered on the Health Family Procurement portal, provided by Atamis (please see link below).

Timetable:

What	When	How
Suppliers to register on NHSBSA's e-Tendering portal	Available now	Register here: Welcome (force.com)
NHSBSA to provide RFI information to suppliers	15 January 2024	Via the Health Family procurement portal (Atamis)
Deadline for submitting response to the RFI	16.00 on 16 February 2024	Via the Health Family procurement portal (Atamis)

You should note that this is a market engagement exercise only and is not an invitation to tender or invitation to offer an agreement. The information submitted as a result of this exercise is for the NHSBSA's information purposes only and will not result in an award of a contract.

If you do not wish to take part in this exercise, it will not affect any current or future business with the NHSBSA.

Participation in this exercise will not qualify you to provide services to the NHSBSA and will not guarantee an invitation to submit an offer at a later date.

The NHSBSA will not accept any liability for costs incurred by you in responding to this exercise.

All responses to the exercise will be confidential and managed accordingly.

Next steps following the RFI

Whilst NHSBSA is under no obligation to run a procurement exercise following submission of RFI responses from participating suppliers, NHSBSA may make contact with selected suppliers to seek further clarification and/or to provide a demonstration of products mentioned in RFI responses.

If you have any questions regarding any matter relating to this market engagement exercise, you may submit them via Atamis.

The NHSBSA would greatly appreciate your participation in this RFI exercise and thank you in advance for your time and effort.

Yours sincerely,

Hiren Vora
Procurement Manager
NHS Business Services Authority