



**England**

NHS England  
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15 May 2024

Dear Potential Supplier or Interested Party

## **Introductory Letter**

Firstly, thank you for expressing interest in this market engagement exercise in relation to Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR). To submit your details to register to the two proposed events, please follow the instructions at the end of this letter. We recommend that you, or representatives from your organisation, attend both sessions as they provide different key information on the process and the technical evaluation. Also, could we ask that on receipt of this invite you disseminate it to any of your peers/colleagues, within your organisation that you think needs to attend the events.


Following on from the AMR 'pilot project' and the previous consultation exercise, NHS England, with support from NICE, is planning a procurement process that will seek to award a number of subscription style contracts. To enable us to complete the process we are undertaking this pre-procurement market engagement, to request feedback from the market on the about the draft procurement documents.

In registering for this engagement exercise suppliers will be able to access and download the draft documentation, which outlines the proposed process and requirements for the routine commissioning of antimicrobial products, via a subscription style contract. Whilst these are not the full set of the documents, they do provide the key elements to which NHS England would like your feedback. These documents also set out the proposed process and requirements for the routine commissioning of antimicrobial products via a subscription style contract.

Any feedback will help NHS England in finalising the documentation ahead of any future procurement process for antimicrobial products, and for your convenience, we have included a feedback form. In order to allow us time to consider and take action on the feedback, could we please request that this is completed and returned no later than 17:00 on the 20th June 2024.

By way of summary the proposed documentation sets out the process that will seek to both qualify suitable candidates' products for a subscription style contract and to assess the evidence provided associated to each product; and enable the award of a subscription style





contract in order to determine the annual value to be offered to a supplier for access to their antimicrobial via a subscription style contract.

As part of this list of documents shared as part of this market engagement exercise the list of documents shared include: -

1. Qualification Questions

This document sets out the qualification criteria that a supplier must pass in order to be taken forward to be considered for a subscription style contract and to be invited to the evaluation stage of the process. The questions / criteria included in the Excel document will be incorporated into the “Qualification Envelope” within our the Atamis e-procurement portal (Atamis). Suppliers will be asked to complete an online question set; however, for ease of presentation we have included an excel spreadsheet for the supplier to complete, and within this column C contains the relevant questions / information required.

Suppliers are encouraged to pay particular attention to the Evergreen, Carbon Reduction Plan and Licensing & Registration requirements.

2. Scoping Information Pro-forma

The Scoping Information pro-forma details the information that Suppliers must submit together with their response to the qualification questionnaire. The scoping information will be used by NICE, on behalf of the Authority, to develop the draft scope which will then be shared with the supplier should they be invited to the evaluation stage. Completion of the scoping pro-forma is required in order for a supplier to pass the qualification stage, however the information provided will not form part of the qualification assessment.

3. Invitation to Tender

The Invitation to Tender (ITT) provides an overview about the procurement process, together with instructions to suppliers and details of the of the procurement timeline, procurement rules, and other pertinent information for suppliers.

4. Evaluation Criteria

Provides full details about the evaluation criteria, the points available per criteria and guidance on the evidence to be submitted as part of the for evaluation stage.

5. Contract

The draft contract that the Authority proposes to enter into with successful suppliers.

6. Subscription Model Guidance

Provides an overview of the subscription model and payment arrangements.

## 7. Feedback Form

The form, [here](#), that suppliers / interested parties are requested to use when providing feedback. Additionally, Suppliers may ask clarification questions following the engagement; however, this can only be done via the e-procurement portal (Atamis), all other forms or request will not be considered.

For clarity the times associated to the engagement feedback and clarification questions are as follows:

- Engagement Events:
  - a. One – 23-05-2024 commencing @ 10:00 estimated to last 90 minutes
  - b. Two – 29-05-2024 commencing @ 11:00 estimated to last 120 minutes
- Clarification Question deadline 17:00 on the 12-06-2024.
- Feedback – Organisations are required to submit their feedback by [17:00 on the 20-06-2024 for it to be considered.

## 8. Clarification Questions

Organisations may submit clarification questions about the content of the market engagement documents to the Authority via the Atamis portal prior to the clarification deadline.

### To register for the events

By no later than 12pm Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024, you need to send your organisation(s), name(s), email address(es), job title(s) for the links to be sent to you to

[agem.procurementconsultancy@nhs.net](mailto:agem.procurementconsultancy@nhs.net).

If you have any queries about the events or the feedback form, please do not hesitate to get in touch via this email address.

I trust the above summary is helpful and thank you once again for expressing interest in this market engagement exercise.

Yours sincerely,

**Mark Perkins**

Associate Director of Strategic Category  
Management

NHS England