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# Disclaimer

All information provided within this document, or supplementary to it, is provided for information only as part of a market engagement exercise.

The Authority is under no commitment to fulfil any element of the requirements outlined.

By partaking in this market engagement, the Supplier is under no obligation to fulfil any element of the requirement.

# Drug Testing in Prisons

# Background and Introduction

* 1. As of September 2022, there are 124 prisons and young offender institutions in England and Wales; 109 public sector prisons and 15 privately managed prisons, with a total prison population of around 80,000. The Authority intends to deliver 18,000 additional prison places by 2026.
  2. Substance misuse in prisons threatens their stability and results in greater incidences of violence, abuse and debt. The types of substances that are being misused within the offender population are changing rapidly. Drug testing is a key tool for enabling the Authority to understand and react to the changing nature of substance use within prisons.
  3. For all forms of drug Testing in prisons, the Authority requires a service in place which delivers:
     1. the ability to carry out testing, to a high degree of sensitivity (as demonstrated by Cut-Off Levels), for a wide range of drug types;
     2. the ability to demonstrate innovative methods and practices to enhance the efficiency of drug testing and future-proof services;
     3. the ability to, where feasible, amend the products available and/or the panel of drugs identified by testing, to include but not limited to:
        1. any drug classified under the [Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 (legislation.gov.uk)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1971/38/contents);
        2. pharmacy and prescription medications; and
        3. psychoactive substances,
     4. the ability to provide a service that is highly flexible to both the operational needs of the Authority and changes in drug use trends and legislative requirements; and
     5. the ability to test for new and emerging substances, determined by substance misuse within prisons.
  4. The key scenario for drug testing in prisons which are required by this contract is **Voluntary Drug Testing (VDT).**
  5. VDT is used to manage operational risks within prison regimes, and as part of Incentivised Substance Free Living (ISFL) units and Drug Recovery Wings (DRW), which aim to provide support and positive reinforcement to prisoners to support them becoming and/or remaining drug free.
  6. Engaging in VDT programmes involves prisoners agreeing to a set of rules, including submitting to drug testing on a regular basis. The prior consent of prisoners is obtained before VDT is carried out, and results are not used for evidential purposes.
  7. The speed in which test results can be produced is key to the effectiveness of VDT programmes. **Results must be obtained within 20 minutes or less of the test being administered.**

# General Product (Goods) and Service Requirements

# Summary of Requirements

* 1. Table 1 summarises the goods required under this contract for POCT oral fluid testing.
  2. The goods supplied as part of this contract must identify all essential drugs annotated in Annex A.
  3. The goods supplied as part of this contract must satisfy all requirements with a single POCT Device.
  4. **All volume data provided is for illustrative purposes only and should be treated as best estimates at the time of publication. The volumes provided are not binding and the Authority is not obligated to purchase the stated volumes.**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Table 1** | | |
| **Test Type** | **Location** | **Public Sector Prisons** |
| **Oral Fluid** | Collection Type | The POCT kit must allow the user to collect a sufficient volume of oral fluid for an effective and accurate screen to take place. |
| Test Results | Results must be in a format that is simple to interpret by users and test recipients.  Accurate results must be obtained within 20 minutes or less of the test being administrated.  It must be possible for the Authority staff to record the results of the test in a simple manner. |
| Invoicing | The supplier will invoice the Authority on a monthly in arrears basis for goods and services provided and submit the required data to verify the invoiced amount. |
| Delivery | Direct to NDC Branston |
| Estimated volumes. | In line with forecasts provided by the Authority.  **Annual volume estimates vary from c147,000 to c199,000 over the proposed contract term.** |

# Constitution and Quality of Products

* 1. The goods must be safe for the test recipient (individual taking the test) and operator (the Authority member of staff administering the test).
  2. All goods must consist of material(s) sensitive to cultural and religious needs.
  3. The goods must be able to collect a sufficient measured volume of a permitted sample in line with the requirements of Table 1.
  4. All goods used must not change or influence the test result.
  5. Any goods maintenance must be made clear to the Authority and must be at no additional cost to the Authority.
  6. Where faults with goods are identified, the supplier must replace the faulty goods within a maximum of five (5) working days
  7. All POCT its must be CE marked or equivalent. The supplier must provide evidence of this upon request.

# Technical Requirements

# Drugs Range

* 1. The Goods supplied by the Supplier must test for the full range of essential drugs detailed in Annex A.
  2. The supplier must have the ability to amend the drugs range identified by the POCT kit used as part of this contract, throughout the term, using the desirable drugs listed in Annex A as a guide.
  3. In addition to 4.1 and 4.2, the Supplier must strive to ensure that any changes to the range of drugs identifiable by the POCT device are achieved by the use of a single POCT methodology. Any additions to approved POCT devices and types to identify additional drugs throughout the lifetime of the contract, must be agreed by the Authority through the Change Control Procedure.
  4. On a six-monthly basis the supplier and the Authority may want to review the range of drugs in Annex A.

# Standard and Accreditation Requirements

* 1. The relevant Supplier personnel must hold a Home Office Controlled Drug Licence unless exempt under the Misuse of Drugs Act 1971 or Misuse of Drugs Regulations 2001.
  2. All Goods must be manufactured to CE standards, evidence of which must be provided to the Authority upon request.

# ANNEX A: Drugs of Detection – POCT

# Table A

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Essential** | **Desirable** |
| Cocaine or its metabolite benzoylecgonine | Psychoactive Substances (PS) |
| Δ9-Tetrahydrocannabinol (cannabis) | Synthetic cannabinoid receptor agonists (SCRA) |
| Amphetamines | Benzodiazepines |
| Heroin / Diacetylmorphine | Barbiturates |
|  | Buprenorphine |
|  | LSD |
|  | Tramadol |
|  | Pregabalin |
|  | Gabapentin |
|  | Ketamine |
|  | Steroids (controlled) |
|  | Methadone |
|  | Morphine |