

# NHS England and NHS Improvement



## Contract Variation:

**Contract Title:** Needs Assessment Service for the NHS Innovation Service

**Contract to be varied:** Wessex AHSN Master Licence Agreement



Wessex MSA.pdf

**The Authority:** The National Health Service Commissioning Board (NHS England)  
and

**The Supplier:** Wessex Academic Health Science Network

**Change order number:** 01

**Date:** The changes shall take effect from 1 September 2021

### 1. Description of change:

The NHS Innovation Service will launch in September 2021. This future licence is to set up a new Needs Assessment Service (NAS) that will assess the adoption readiness and specific support requirements of an individual innovation and its innovator. The team will then signpost to the most appropriate support organisation(s). This includes providing a brief summary of the needs assessment for use by support organisations. The assessment may include a process to help the innovator complete gaps in their initial submission.

### 2. Reason for change:

The Needs Assessment Service will add value by giving a first review of all submitted innovations to normalise data quality and suggest which organisations are best placed to support. A rapid, expert-led needs assessment is done once, centrally, as opposed to every organisation separately reviewing submission of variable quality and relevance to them. Innovators receive prompt feedback and can

course-correct, improving the quality of the innovation pipeline for patients and the wider health system. Once the initial needs assessment of an innovation is complete, support organisations can continue to self-organise, working transparently and passing innovations between themselves, with the Needs Assessment Service acting as a safety net for innovations with no engaging support organisations. This creates efficiencies for all users and allows innovators to take the right steps faster, to accelerate quality products into the hands of patients and NHS staff. It will also provide efficiencies for support organisations who will be able to organise their workflow and minimise duplicated work with other organisations

**3. Effect on contract price:** Contract price will increase by £240,000.



BC-10537 Innovation AHSN Future Licence Needs Assessment  
Service- Needs Assessment Request Form 2021-2 Service summary for c

**Remarks:**

Words and expressions in this Variation shall have the meanings given to them in the Contract.

The Contract, including any previous Variations, shall remain effective and unaltered except as amended by this Variation.

Signed for and on behalf of

**NHS England**

Signature:

Name:

Position: Director of Financial Control  
:

DocuSigned by:

*Adrian Snarr*

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Full Name: adrian snarr

Job Title/Role: director of financial control

Date: 14/1/22

Signed for and on behalf of

**Wessex AHSN**

Signature:

Name:

Position: Director of Industry

DocuSigned by:

*Dr Frank Ratcliff*

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Full Name: Dr Frank Ratcliff

Job Title/Role: Director of Industry

Date: 14/1/2022