SBRI Healthcare: NHS England competition for development contracts

INVITATION TO TENDER

This Invitation to Tender should be read in conjunction with other documents associated with this competition. These and all associated documents can be downloaded from the SBRI Healthcare website.

Summary

Applicants are invited to tender for projects under the SBRI Healthcare programme, **Competition 24: Delivering a Net Zero NHS for a Healthier Future** to develop innovation-enabled solutions addressing the challenges outlined in the following categories:

- Clinical community engagement
- Novel business models to enable circularity in perioperative care and critical care
- Net zero clinical transformation

Further details can be accessed by viewing the Challenge Brief.

Application Process

Bids must be submitted via the online Research Management System (RMS), which can also be accessed by following the application link in the open competitions landing page on the SBRI Healthcare website.

Details of the background, challenges and expected outcomes of the projects can be found in the Challenge Brief. We strongly advise applicants to read the Applicant and Portal Guidance before applying.

Competition 24: Delivering a Net Zero NHS for a Healthier Future is intended to accelerate the development of greener innovations towards a more sustainable healthcare system. The contracts awarded will be for a maximum of 12 months and between £50,000 and £100,000 (NET cost, excluding VAT) per project.

The competition is open to all organisations that can demonstrate a significant contribution to the NHS carbon emission reduction through the proposed solution. Developments are 100% funded and focused on specific identified needs, increasing the chance of exploitation. Suppliers for each project will be selected by an open tender process and retain the intellectual property generated from the project, with certain rights of use retained by the NHS. This is an excellent opportunity to establish an early customer for a new technology and to fund its development.

A briefing event for organisations interested in finding out more about the competition will be held on **22 September 2023**. Two Q&A drop-in sessions will be held after that. Please check the [website](#) for further details.

The competition opens on 31 October 2023. Applications must be submitted via the online [Research Management System (RMS),](#) which can also be accessed by following the application link via the open competitions landing page on the [SBRI Healthcare website](#). Only applications received **by 13:00 (BST) on 22nd November 2023** will be accepted.

Please note, we will not be able to accept applications after this deadline and/or submitted by post or by any other means than through the online portal as described above.

Key dates

Competition launch	31st October 2023
Deadline for applications	22nd November 2023
Assessment	December 2023- January 2024
Contracts start	February 2024

Assessment process

A diagram of the process for application and assessment is shown below (Figure 1):
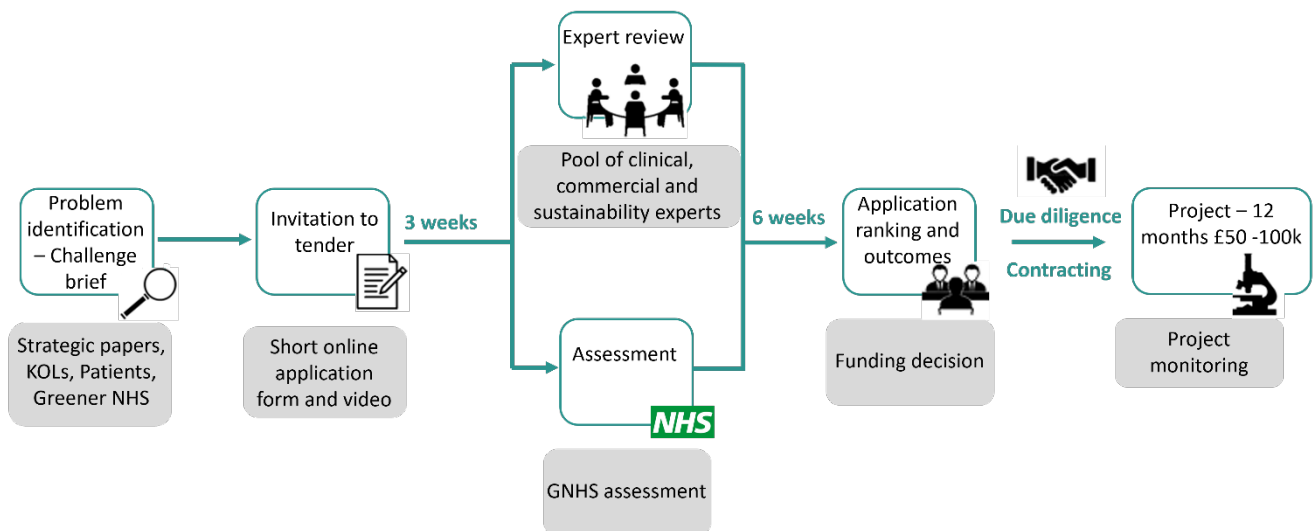

Figure 1: Diagram of the SBRI Healthcare Process Flow and Assessment

Applications will be reviewed by a selected pool of experts according to the following weighted assessment criteria:

- How well does the application address the challenge brief and does the proposed solution benefit patients, the NHS and/or the Social Care sector, and support the NHS to

reach its net zero ambition by contributing to a significant reduction of carbon emissions? **30%**

- Are the project plan, deliverables and risk mitigation strategy appropriate? **15%**
- Is the product innovative, will it have a competitive advantage over existing and alternative solutions and are the arrangements surrounding the use and development of Intellectual Property appropriate? **10%**
- Does the proposed project have appropriate implementation plans and a credible model for potential regional and national scale up? **15%**
- Does the proposed innovation have potential to enhance equity of access and does the project include consideration towards patient and public involvement? **10%**
- Do the host organisation and project team appear to have the right skills and experience to deliver the project? **15%**
- Are the costs justified and appropriate? **5%**

Bids will be concurrently reviewed by the Greener NHS Team to assess whether proposals fully align with the priorities described on the Challenge brief and wider Net Zero priorities as set in the 'Delivering a 'Net Zero' NHS' report,

Proposals under each category will be awarded based on quality; those proposals that will receive highest score and will be favourably assessed by the Greener NHS Team will be awarded funding.

The SBRI Healthcare programme is expecting that applicants actively engage in tackling healthcare inequality, and in supporting diversity and inclusion, while drafting their proposal, by including communities where the proposed innovation will make the biggest impact.

NHS England are committed to give patients and the public a voice. The SBRI Healthcare programme has embraced this vision and has incorporated patient and public involvement and engagement (PPIE) in the scheme to ensure the proposed innovation addresses the needs of patients and carers, as well as clinicians and health system leaders and users.

PPIE is an accepted and recommended working practice within healthcare research ensuring that solutions are co-produced with patients, meet patient needs and to ensure there is an acceptability among end-users. Whereas appropriate, awarded applicants will receive feedback on how to strengthen their engagement with patients and the public.

The outcome of awards will be communicated to applicants in January 2024 and contracts for successful applicants will be awarded shortly thereafter.

Successful applicants will be advised according to the published key dates, and organisations will be expected to mobilise rapidly to start the project. It is important that projects start soon after the contract has been issued.

Conditions

By applying, organisations are automatically consenting to the terms and conditions contained in the Development Agreement.

The SBRI Healthcare programme is committed to actively and openly supporting and promoting equality, diversity and inclusion both in terms of the people who administer the programme and the innovators involved in the project, leading, delivering and supporting the project.

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In accordance with the Data Protection Act 2018, the personal information that you provide within the outline proposal will specifically be used for the purpose of administering the call. The information will be viewed by the SBRI Healthcare Programme Management Office and the SBRI Healthcare programme assessors and will not be used for any other purpose without your specific consent. For further information on how your information is used, how we maintain the security of your information, and your rights to access information we hold on you, please contact the team by email: sbri@lgcgroup.com.

Documents associated with this competition

- Challenge Brief

- Applicant and Portal Guidance

- Sample Application Form

- Sample Contract

- FAQs

Contact Points

Questions and comments are very welcome while the competition is open. Questions **on the challenge and scope of this SBRI Healthcare competition** should be addressed to LGC Ltd via email sbri@lgcgroup.com. Please note that questions will only be accepted when received through this route.

For further information on this SBRI Healthcare competition, visit:

https://sbrihealthcare.co.uk/competitions/overview?cat=open-competitions

SBRI Healthcare is part of the SBRI Programme. For more information about the SBRI programme, visit: https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/our-main-funds-and-areas-of-support/browse-our-areas-of-investment-and-support/small-business-research-initiative-sbri/

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