



# SBRI Healthcare: NHS England and NHS Improvement 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 a new SBRI Healthcare programme to **implement** medical devices, *in vitro* diagnostics, digital health, behaviour intervention, and new models of care to the following challenges:

- Mental Health Inequality in Children and Young People
- NHS Reset and Recovery and New Ways of Working

Further details are outlined in the Challenge Briefs for [Mental Health Inequalities](#) and [NHS Reset and Recovery](#).

## Application Process

Details of the background, challenges and expected outcomes of the projects can be found in the Challenge Briefs. We strongly advise applicants to read the Applicant and Portal Guidance for the challenges before submitting an application.

This SBRI Healthcare Programme competition is open to organisations with innovations that respond to the details outlined in the Briefs and that meeting the following requirements:

- CE mark or equivalent regulatory approval obtained for the proposed application (or evidence demonstrating the technology is close to obtaining approval) and/or Product in use in at least 1 Trust,
- Clear partnership established with relevant service(s) / site(s) and relevant clinical team(s).
- Clinical efficacy and safety demonstrated through clinical trial(s)

The competition is open to single companies or organisations from the private, public and third sectors, including charities, based anywhere in Europe. Organisations must demonstrate a route to market for their solution. The SBRI Healthcare scheme is particularly suited to small and medium-sized enterprises.

Due to the nature of the projects that will be supported and the intended outcomes, involvement of appropriate UK clinical partners is expected.

The Phase 3 competition runs in one phase only and is intended to facilitate the implementation of developed innovations. The implementation projects will be 100% funded inclusive of VAT (contract value) and the contracts will be placed for a maximum of 9 months and for funding of up to £500,000 (**incl. VAT**) per project. Please ensure the proposed project deliverables could be reasonably achieved within the suggested contract duration, and all requested costs be justified.

Suppliers for each innovation will be selected by an open competition process and retain the intellectual property rights generated from the project, with certain rights of use retained by the NHS.

Applicants should state their goals and outline plans, as an explicit part of the path to full implementation, in their proposal.

A briefing event for organisations interested in finding out more about the competition will be held on **24 August 2021** through a virtual event. Please check the website for confirmation and further details.

The competition opens on **24 August 2021**. All applications must be made using the application portal, which can be accessed through the [Research Management System](#). The form must be completed and submitted electronically through the online application portal. Only applications received **by 1:00pm on 13 October 2021** will be accepted.

Applicants are invited to consult this Invitation to Tender alongside the Applicant and Portal Guidance and the Challenge Brief; a template Application Form is also accessible on the website. Frequently Asked Questions will also be published in due course. All documents are available on the [SBRI Healthcare website](#) to help prepare your proposal.

**PLEASE DO NOT SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS BY POST OR BY ANY OTHER MEANS THAN THROUGH THE PORTAL, AS DESCRIBED ABOVE.**

## Key dates

Competition launch	24 August 2021
Briefing event	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> August 2021, virtual event
Deadline for applications	13 October 2021 (1:00pm)
Assessment	November 2021
Interview Panel	January 2022
Contracts awarded	February 2022

## Assessment process

A diagram of the process for application and assessment is shown below (Figure 1): all applications will be reviewed by a selected Panel of experts who will provide feedback on the applications according to the following criteria, which are weighted differently:

### The assessment criteria will include:

- How well does the proposal address the challenge outlined in the brief? How convincing is the evidence accumulated to date? 20%
- Are the project plan, deliverables and risk mitigation strategy appropriate? 15%
- Does the project include patient and public involvement? 5%
- Does the project address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion, and Net Zero Policy? 5%
- Will the solution have a competitive advantage over standard of care and existing alternative solutions? How innovative is the proposal and are the arrangements surrounding the use and development of Intellectual Property appropriate? 15%
- Does the proposed project have appropriate NHS/social care implementation, spread and adoption strategy and commercialisation plans? 20%
- Does the company and project team appear to have the right skills and experience to deliver the project? 15%
- Are the costs justified and appropriate? 5%



Figure 1: Diagram of the SBRI Healthcare Phase 3 Competition

Applications will be shortlisted based on discussions and feedback from a Panel of experts. Shortlisted applicants will be notified shortly after the shortlisting meeting and invited to an interview meeting to present their proposal to the Interview Panel. The interview takes the form of a short presentation (typically 15 minutes) followed by a question-and-answer session with the Panel members.

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 so that all projects can be assessed fairly and move on concurrently and smoothly.

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 and NHS Improvement 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. Applicants are expected to discuss a PPIE strategy as part of their projects.

## Conditions

By applying, companies are automatically consenting to the terms and conditions contained in the Contract.

The SBRI Healthcare Programme is committed to support and promote 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 actively and openly. 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](mailto:sbri@lgcgroup.com).

## Documents associated with this competition

- Challenge Brief
- Invitation to Tender
- Applicant and Portal Guidance
- Sample Application Form
- Finance Form

## Contact Points

Questions and comments are very welcome while the competition is open. Questions **on the challenges and scope of this SBRI Healthcare Programme competition** should be addressed to LGC Ltd via email [sbri@gcggroup.com](mailto:sbri@gcggroup.com); questions on the overall SBRI programme should be addressed to [support@innovateuk.gov.uk](mailto:support@innovateuk.gov.uk). Questions will only be accepted when received through this route. **After 12 October 2021, no new questions will be answered.**

For further information on this SBRI Healthcare Programme competition, visit:

- Mental Health Inequalities in Children and Young People
- NHS Reset and Recovery and New Ways of Working

For more information on other initiatives of the SBRI Healthcare programme, visit:

<https://sbrihealthcare.co.uk/>

For more information about the SBRI programme, visit: [www.innovateuk.org/SBRI](http://www.innovateuk.org/SBRI)