

**Schedule A2 (B)**

**SERVICE SPECIFICATION**

**Medical Examination Gloves & Surgical Gloves**

On behalf of NHS Supply Chain, the Collaborative Procurement Partnership LLP (CPP) is seeking to establish a multi-supplier framework for the supply of **Medical Examination Gloves & Surgical Gloves** which will provide a comprehensive range of products suitable for use across the NHS in England.

The framework is to be available for use by NHS Trusts and other UK public sector bodies in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland including those operating in both an acute and community environment, clinical commissioning groups, GP Practices and other health and social care providers (including any future successor organisations). The framework will be available for use by Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and any future Integrated Care Systems (ICCs) or equivalent.

Schedule A7 shows a list of bodies eligible to use the framework.

It is recognised that primary use of the framework will be by participating authorities in England. These are referred to as “participating authorities”.

The framework will provide a route to market fully compliant with Public Contract Regulations enabling participating authorities to focus on their own specific requirements without the burden of cost and time in undertaking individual full procurement processes.

The framework is to be established based on a Lot structure as shown in Table 1 below which summaries the requirements of each. More detailed product requirements are contained within schedule A2 (A) Product Specification.

Table 1 Lot Structure:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Lot Number:** | **Lot Description:** |
| **Lot One** | **Medical Examination Gloves**  Scope includes-   * nitrile exam gloves * vinyl exam gloves * latex exam gloves * sterile exam gloves * accelerator free exam gloves * chemical/cytotoxic tested exam gloves * long/extended cuff exam gloves |
| **Lot Two** | **Surgical Gloves**  Scope includes:-   * surgical undergloves * surgical overgloves * extra sensitive surgical gloves * textured surgical gloves * tear/puncture indication surgical gloves * coated surgical gloves |
| **Lot Three** | **Nitrile Non-Sterile 6 Newton Medical Examination Gloves** |

The Framework Agreement will be for a maximum term of 48 months (24 months fixed period with the option to extend for a further period of up to 24 months).

Bidders may bid for one or more lots.

This Framework Agreement will replace the current Framework Agreement for Examination Gloves and Surgeons Gloves which was awarded March 2020.

**1 INTRODUCTION**

This procurement supports the aims of the Department of Health and Social Care’s - The Operating Model (OM) for NHS Procurement developed to transform the landscape of NHS Procurement.

The Operating Manual is a strategic response to enhancing procurement efficiency and effectiveness across the NHS, as laid out in the Carter Report, to:

* benefit the NHS as a whole;
* benefit all Participating Authorities/NHS Participating Authorities regardless of size;
* benefit the procurement profession; and
* benefit Patients.

Whilst we recognise that the introduction of the Operational Management represents a significant change in the way in which the NHS purchases goods, and this will have potential impacts on Suppliers’ ways of working, we believe that the OM creates opportunities for Suppliers, for example:

* a reduced burden of participating in procurement exercises, as the number of competing frameworks is reduced;
* the inclusion of clinical expertise embedded into the towers means that we will be buying those products that the NHS wants rather than simply the cheapest;
* commitment deals will make it easier for Suppliers to plan their business and outputs, and to reduce internal costs and this also means more certainty and predictable cash flow; and
* there is a much clearer route for innovation.

On 1 April 2018 the new operating model went live. The new supply chain service is designed to help the NHS deliver clinically assured, quality products at the best value through a range of specialist buying functions. The NHS has the potential, through greater collaboration, to improve the NHS’s purchasing power on a national scale and deliver better value for money for NHS Participating Authorities and the tax payer.

Oversight and operational management of the new model is delivered by a new management function, (SCCL) The Authority, a Limited company wholly owned by the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care and forms part of the NHS family.

The OM is organised into eleven Category Towers covering medical, capital and non-medical areas of procurement spend. This procurement relates to Tower 2 – Sterile Intervention Equipment and Associated Consumables.

The purpose of the **Medical Examination Gloves & Surgical Gloves** Framework is to assure the NHS that Framework Suppliers are compliant to clinical and industry standards and are therefore safe to contract with:

* build sustainable partnerships between the NHS and Suppliers which ensures the NHS benefit from ongoing cost effective, value added products and services whilst enabling Suppliers’ continued profitable growth within this market area;
* to provide the NHS with the best market price available - to set the commercial parameters in how pricing can be applied for the NHS which is consistent across Industry, in a fair and transparent way;
* transformation of the NHS landscape - championing rationalisation, standardisation,

co-operation and collaboration to affect patient pathways and clinical outcomes;

* lay the foundations for efficiency savings and process improvements beyond the price of products;
* to support facilitation of changes in clinical practice, new technologies and new treatment;
* to provide a sustainable and robust supply of products to the NHS;
* to enable the use of data to improve health outcomes; and
* ensure effective characterisation of Products and cataloguing for the NHS.

**Working with Participating Organisations and Industry under the Framework Agreement**

On behalf of the Authority, CPP LLP aims to work collaboratively and transparently with the NHS and Industry to enable an effective and compliant route to market for the NHS. CPP LLP has established a team which will focus on driving value across the NHS through effective category management and clinical engagement. This team includes the following functions which will engage at varying levels across the NHS and Industry:

* Data analysts – responsible for reviewing spend data and running any required analysis.
* Contracting – responsible for procurement processes, catalogue management and supporting the category management team.
* Category Managers – responsible for contributing to the ongoing development of the category strategy and working with Participating Authorities to establish their baseline, develop work plans and manage projects at individual Participating Authorities and across any collaborative working organisations.
* Clinical Engagement and Implementation Managers (CEIM) – responsible for contributing to the ongoing development of the category strategy and engaging with NHS clinicians regarding clinical procedures, informing them of products from the market and supporting the surgical teams to find an optimum solution for their patient care.
* CPP LLP also works with the customer engagement team whose local account managers support Participating Authorities at local level to assist with transition to the CTSP/NHS Supply Chain transacted model.

CPP LLP’s process of engaging with Participating Authorities is designed to ensure the timely delivery of projects across the NHS in collaboration with Industry. This involves, but is not limited to the following:

1. Identify and Profile the Participating Organisation(s);

2. Meet clinical, procurement & business leads to discuss and scope the project;

3. Obtain usage, analysis of 12 months activity data with all Suppliers;

4. Commercial analysis of the opportunities available for individual or groups of Trusts to show the potential benefits on different scenarios; And

5. Participating Authorities may request to access all or part of the Framework Agreement subject to outcomes, as described above in point 2. If further analysis is required and the Participating Authority wishes to further consolidate their expenditure:

a) CEIMs work closely with the clinical team to identify the correct choice of product for the specific requirement/procedure;

b) Industry are engaged to align and support the clinical department;

c) Supplier events may be facilitated; And

d) Expenditure reviewed and forecasted usage (and commitment if relevant) translates into subsequent and appropriate commercial offering.

Schedule B4 (A) Quality Questions sets out the generic questions applicable to all 3 Lots and also Lot specific questions.

1. Stage 3 Quality questions will be evaluated using the criteria and weightings below for all 3 Lots:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Quality/Technical Criteria** | **Weighting %** |
| Product Technical Requirements | 15% |
| Supply Chain Resilience | 10% |
| Service & Supply | 10% |
| Customer Service & Contract Management | 10% |
| Clinical Support, Education & Training | 5% |
| Environment & Sustainability | 10% |
| Social Value | 10% |
| **Total Quality Scores** | **70%** |

The Supplier **MUST** respond to all generic questions and the questions specific to each of the Lots they are bidding for on the Jaggaer e-Tendering Portal.

**Price Evaluation:**

The Supplier **MUST** complete each tab within **Schedule B5** ‘Price Schedule’ in relation to the Lots the Supplier is bidding.

**Historic Spend Data**

The below table shows the historical annual sales during period Apr 19 – Mar 20 through the Existing Examination Gloves & Surgeons Gloves Framework:-

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Lot Number** | **Lot Title** | **Annual Sales**  **Pre-Covid**  **19/20 data** |
| **Lot One** | Medical Examination Gloves | £10m |
| **Lot Two** | Surgical Gloves | £21m |
| **Lot Three** | Nitrile Non-Sterile 6 Newton Medical Examination Gloves | £36m |

1. **NHS**
   1. **NHS Mergers and Acquisitions**

NHS transformation has resulted in NHS organisations merging and, in some instances, one organisation has acquired all or part of another NHS entity.

Where a merger or acquisition affects the contracting position of an organisation using the Framework, the Supplier shall be advised that a re-calculation of the activity profile shall be undertaken.

* 1. **Collaborative Procurement**

Partnerships and collaboration are at the heart of NHS reforms in England.

Collaborative working within the NHS has been promoted to help meet a ‘triple challenge’ set out in the [NHS Five Year Forward View](https://www.england.nhs.uk/ourwork/futurenhs/) – better health, transformed quality of care delivery, and sustainable finances.

The Supplier shall be required to provide data in relation to these groups and future groups formed to support NHS collaborative working.

* 1. **Collaborative Working by Participating Authorities**

The Price Schedule indicated in B5 ‘Pricing Schedule’ identifies banded pricing for individual Participating Authorities and those working collaboratively who are prepared to commit a minimum of 12 months usage. Lot 2 Surgical Gloves allows Suppliers to submit additional discounts for an individual Participating Authority and/or Collaborative reaching their required threshold bands

The eligibility for multiple legal entities acting collaboratively shall be based on the following:

* Participating Authorities regarded as a single legal entity, prior to final merger.  (e.g. NHS Trusts which have merged or have formally satisfied the Supplier, through written commitment, of their intention to merge at a given date).
* Participating Authorities regarded as a single contracting authority.
* Participating Authorities operating under a shared service. (e.g. Trusts with one central purchasing department but not necessarily one delivery point)
* Participating Authorities who are part of a Sustainability and Transformation Partnership (STP)
* Any two or more Participating Authorities who wish to commit as a group and satisfy certain requirements as outlined below:

Two or more NHS Trusts qualify:

* Participating Authorities will look to access such commercial offerings as part of any product rationalisation processes across single / multiple Lots (unless already in a common rationalised supply relationship);
* Rationalisation may not result in outright majority supply, but a solution for a common product range across the Trusts in scope;
* Participating Authorities wishing to access the Framework as a group, must be geographically close to one another to allow the Supplier to optimally service those Participating Authorities;
* Participating Authorities may wish to contract together linked by speciality whereby niche or more specialist care is taken into consideration and requires joint activity;
* Commitment to volume / spend and to term must be offered, consistently across the group subject to Supplier offers;
* Commitment must be approved by the relevant Participating Authority boards, and each Participating Authority should sign the commitment access form at finance, procurement and clinical lead level;
* In offering commitment, each Participating Authority agrees to share full liability for the duration of the commitment.

Sustainability and Transformation Partnerships (STPs) and Integrated care systems (ICSs) are designed around the needs of whole areas, not just individual organisations.

There are currently 44 STP areas covering all of England, where local NHS organisations and councils have drawn up proposals to improve health and care in the areas, they serve by working together. An STP is not a legal entity – organisations within the STP “(The Authority)” will determine their own Memorandum of Understanding prior to entering into a contract with a Supplier.

Integrated care systems (ICSs) are new partnerships between the organisations that meet health and care needs across an area, to coordinate services and to plan in a way that improves population health and reduces inequalities between different groups.

The NHS Long Term Plan confirmed that all parts of England would be served by an integrated care system from April 2021, building on the lessons of the earliest systems and the achievements of earlier work through sustainability and transformation partnerships and vanguards.

1. **General Requirements – Applicable to all 3 Lots**

The following details the specification of requirements that are generic to all 3 Lots.

The Supplier must respond to the corresponding questions in **Schedule B4 (A) Quality Questions** confirming compliance with the generic specification of requirements, where applicable.

**All quality questions must be answered on the Jaggaer e-Tendering Portal and can be found within the ‘Technical Envelope’**.

If, during Award, or subsequent to Award a Supplier is found to have misrepresented their compliance with the Specification, the Supplier will be suspended from the Framework Agreement pending investigation, which may result in permanent removal from the Framework Agreement. Any Participating Authorities engaged with that Supplier will be notified accordingly as soon as issues concerning misrepresentation of compliance is identified.

Suppliers are subject to an on-going obligation to notify CPP LLP of any material changes in their identity, financial or other circumstances. This includes, but is not limited to, changes in the identity of partner organisations or sub-contractors or the ownership or financial or other circumstances thereof and solvency of the Supplier or their agents.

CPP LLP shall be notified of any material change as soon as it becomes apparent.

Failure to notify CPP LLP or to comply with these provisions may lead to a Supplier being liable for disqualification from the Framework Agreement.

* 1. **Compliance – Medical Devices**

Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC and the Medical Devices Regulation 2017/745.

Where applicable, it is a mandatory requirement that all Suppliers comply with and supply products in line with the Medical Devices Directive 93/42/EEC (and any other European Directives applicable to the products supplied under this Framework) as implemented in UK law by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, except when supplied under a clinical trial.

For reference, guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/medicines-and-healthcare-products-regulatory-agency>

Regulations relating to the safety and performance of medical devices in the EU were harmonised in the 1990’s following the New Approach on legislative principles. The regulation aims to ensure a high level of protection for human health and safety and good functioning of the Single Market.

During the transition period: -

* Conformance to Directive 2007/47/EC shall be deemed a minimum requirement.
* Suppliers shall advise CPP LLP on attainment of full compliance.

Where applicable, all equipment and products complying with the Medical Devices Directive 2007/47/EC shall bare valid CE markings or UK equivalent CE marking and compliant to MHRA and EUCOMED.

Suppliers shall; where applicable; comply with and provide evidence in support of the following Industry requirements

* Manufacturing and certificates of standards for quality assurance accreditation
* CE Marking; compliance with MDR
* Certification / MSAT
* Compliance with MHRA and EUCOMED
* Registration with relevant bodies; UK Medical Devices Agency
* Classification of products (and proof of)
* Compliance with the Department of Health and Social Care Master Indemnity Agreement
* Declaration of all MDA / FDA reports / alerts, relating to any products, in use or removed from the market
* Product documentation to include design rationale and surgical techniques
* All relevant academic papers and peer review journal submissions
* Product white papers
* Survivorship data including relevant registry information
* Clinical follow up papers monitoring products
* Sterilisation certification
* Audit records

Suppliers must abide by Beyond Compliance for all new entrants to the market (where relevant).

* 1. **Compliance – Personal Protective Equipment**

Personal Protective Equipment Directive (EU 2016/425) EU PPE 89/686/EEC UK PPE 2016.

Where applicable, it is a mandatory requirement that all Suppliers comply with and supply products in line with the Directive (and any other European Directives applicable to the products supplied under this Framework) as implemented in UK law by the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, except when supplied under a clinical trial.

For reference, guidance can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/medicines-and-healthcare-products-regulatory-agency>

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Where applicable, all equipment and products complying with the Personal Protective Equipment Directive (EU 2016/425) EU PPE 89/686/EEC UK PPE 2016 shall bare valid CE markings or UK equivalent CE marking and compliant to MHRA and EUCOMED.

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* Sterilisation certification
* Audit records

Suppliers must abide by Beyond Compliance for all new entrants to the market (where relevant).

* 1. **New Standards or legislation**

Where new or subsequent standards come into force during the period of the Framework, Suppliers shall ensure goods and services supplied under this Framework meet them, where appropriate / applicable. Evidence of compliance to the standards/legislation/directives must be made available on request at any time during the term of the Framework. In the event that sufficient evidence is not supplied CPP LLP reserves the right to suspend the relevant product(s) until such evidence is available.

Any product that contains phthalates must be indicated on the packaging in accordance with Directive 2007/47/EC (amending Directives 90/385/EEC and 93/42/EEC).

Evidence of compliance to the standards/legislation/directives listed in the table below must be provided as part of the Tender submission (unless otherwise specified), where they apply to the products tendered. Files uploaded as part of the Tender submission must be clearly named with the directive / standard to which they relate as well as clearly identifying which product / products they cover.

The awarded Supplier must make CPP LLP aware of any product awarded to the Framework Agreement that is classed by the MHRA as a Medicinal Product.

**Standards / Directives / Legislative requirements**

**Criteria applicable across all product lines where appropriate / applicable:**

**Where we have stated a Standard is to be achieved, for example, Medical Devices Directive 2007/47/EC or ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System, this means the Standard or an equivalent.**

|  |
| --- |
| **STANDARD / CERTIFICATION** |
| All products must have their CE/UKCA marking clearly evident on the product, and/or packaging and must conform to the relevant directive: All new products to market from 1st January 2021 MUST have UKCA marking, (UKCA marking is required from 1st July 2023 for all products being placed on the UK market under MHRA- Medical Devices and 1st January 2022 for PPE);  **Medical Devices Regulation 2017/745**  **EU MDD 93/42/EEC**  **UK MDR 2002**  Any product that contains phthalates must be indicated on the packaging in accordance with:  **Medical Devices Regulation 2017/745.**  **Personal Protective Equipment Directive (EU 2016/425)**  **EU PPE 89/686/EEC**  **UK PPE 2016** |

* 1. **Quality Management System relating to Medical Devices**

Manufacturers of equipment provided under this Framework ideally shall possess and maintain registration of ISO13485: 2016 Medical Devices – Quality Management Systems accreditation.

Suppliers shall evidence QMS compliance throughout the term of the Framework.

Distributors / agents etc, who are bidding on behalf of a manufacturer are required to ensure that the manufacturers they are supplying on behalf of, have the necessary quality management systems in place to ensure compliance (and evidence compliance) with this Specification.

Distributors / agents shall possess and maintain registration of ISO 9001:2015 – Quality Management System or an equivalent quality assurance standard.

* 1. **Quality Assurance**

**Suppliers shall evidence Quality Assurance compliance throughout the term of the Framework.**

* + 1. **Quality Assurance Products**

CPP LLP supports the requirements of the Participating Authorities’ Clinical and Product Assurance (CaPA) function which seeks to systematically and consistently apply assurance criteria to each part of the procurement process by providing relevant guidance and tools to measure compliance with the associated assurance requirements.

CaPA are responsible for providing oversight to the procurement process and to assure all associated strategies comply with the CTSP Assurance Guidance ensuring that all procurement decisions are safe, fit for purpose and value for money, and represent the needs of Allied Health and Care Professionals (AHCPs), patients, carers and citizens across the Health and Care System.

CaPA has developed an Assurance Framework which allows a consistent and effective approach to clinical and product assurance to be established.

A single definition of quality in the NHS was first set out in “High Quality Care for All” (2008), following the NHS Next Stage Review led by Lord Darzi. This definition sets out three dimensions to quality, all three of which must be present to provide a high-quality service:

• Outcomes/Clinical effectiveness: quality care is care which is delivered according to the best evidence as to what is clinically effective in improving an individual’s health outcomes;

• Safety: quality care is care which is delivered to avoid all avoidable harm and risks to the individual’s safety;

• Patient experience: quality care is care which looks to give the individual as positive an experience of receiving and recovering from the care as possible, including being treated according to what that individual wants or needs, and with compassion, dignity and respect”. (Quality in the new health system – National Quality Board January 2013)

The underlying principle of the Assurance Process is to continually support the Health and Care system to improve patient safety, service quality and associated health outcomes.

The Assurance Process is aligned with partner organisations (NHS England, NHS Improvement, HealthTech Connect, GIRFT, Accelerated Access Review, Office of Life Sciences), so providing consistent requirements for Suppliers to ensure:

* Products procured are safe, fit for purpose and value for money;
* Patient safety and Supplier compliance with medical device regulations is integral to the assurance process;
* All stakeholders across the health and care system inform product specifications;
* Product evaluations reflect clinical product complexity and dependencies; and
* Special requirements for product storage and/or maintenance are defined within the product specification to minimise additional costs to the Supplier and/or user, due to practices that are not aligned with the manufacturer’s recommendations.
  + 1. **Patient Safety**

Patient Safety concerns raised via the complaints process and/or existing regulatory standards will inform the procurement process working in collaboration with NHS Improvement, NHS England and other partners to implement an ‘early warning system’ proactively to address any issues raised by AHCPs and/or patient, carers and citizens as a priority.

* + 1. **Innovation / Health Tech Connect**

HealthTech Connect is a secure online system for identifying and supporting health technologies as they move from inception to adoption in the UK health and care system.

It is intended for devices, diagnostic and digital health technologies that either:

* offer measurable benefits to patients (or other health and care service users) compared to those already offered by current routine practice in the UK, or
* provide measurable benefits to the UK health and care system compared to those already offered by current routine practice in the UK

Suppliers should input information about new products with the potential to offer additional user benefits onto HealthTech Connect. This is a digital system hosted by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. The system is secure, recognising the confidential nature of the information held. This information will be viewed by an approved list of national bodies who have specified roles in supporting companies in the development of their products, in evaluating appropriate products and in relevant procurement and commissioning processes. It will also be used by the Accelerated Access Programme in its work to identify and support products with high potential which should be fast tracked to wide scale adoption. Further information can be found here: [www.HealthTechConnect.org.uk](http://www.HealthTechConnect.org.uk).

* + 1. **Product / Asset Management**
       1. Suppliers shall furnish NHS Supply Chain with relevant “Field Safety Notices” (FSN) “Safety Action Bulletins” (SAB) and “Medical Device Alerts” (MDA) relating to products provided under this Framework within 3 days of detection / identification of a concern to [CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk)
       2. Suppliers shall notify CPP LLP of any Medical Device / MHRA alerts relating to any products submitted and during the lifetime of the Framework Agreement.
    2. **Product Recall**
       1. The Supplier shall ensure that it has robust procedures to respond to any product recall. In the event of products being recalled or defective the Supplier shall, without delay and at its own expense, arrange for the collection and replacement for any product(s) delivered but unused, including part used packs.
       2. If the Participating Authority finds that there is no suitable alternative product available within the Supplier’s product range to replace the affected product, the Supplier is required to recompense the relevant Participating Authority to the value of the stock uplifted. In these circumstances, the Participating Authority also reserves the right to move its business to another Supplier on the Framework Agreement in order to maintain its service.
       3. Where a batch number of a product is identified as being defective, the Supplier shall replace the defective batch(s) with the same product but different batch numbers. The Supplier shall maintain communication with the Participating Authority to confirm dates and times of delivery of replacement products, to ensure no impact of patient care delivery.
  1. **Coding Requirements**

The Supplier shall ensure full compliance with any guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Care in relation to coding requirements.

* + 1. **GS1 Standards**
       1. GS1 standards are a fundamental part of the Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) strategy for building a safer and more efficient NHS. the Department of Health’s eProcurement strategy mandated that any service or product procured by an NHS Acute Trust in England must be compliant with GS1 standards. The deadline for compliance is 2019/20.
       2. All product shall comply with the GS1 coding standard by 2020.
       3. For products / packs too small to carry a linear barcode, a GS1 DataMatrix barcode is to be used.
       4. GS1 standards include:
* GTINs (Global Trade Item Number) to identify products
* GLNs (Global Location Number) to identify locations
* GDSN (Global Data Synchronisation Network) to manage product catalogues
* GS1 XML to standardise purchase to pay business messages such as electronic invoices and purchase orders
  + 1. **Other Unique Device Identification Systems (UDI)**

The Authority can accommodate other Unique Device Identification Systems – the preference is GS1

* + 1. **PEPPOL**

Pan-European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL) refers to a set of specifications and governance model that focuses on the critical eProcurement components to solve interoperability issues in Europe.

* + - 1. This technology facilitates the electronic exchange of purchase orders and invoices.
      2. Participating Authorities and Suppliers must select a PEPPOL access point provider.
      3. The Supplier shall have the ability to receive purchase orders electronically via the PEPPOL network that contain the GS1 identifiers (GTIN and GLN) and when a purchase order is received from an NHS customer, or party acting on behalf on an NHS customer, via the PEPPOL network, the ability to return an Order Response message via the PEPPOL network to NHS customers.
    1. **Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT Toolkit) - previously The Information governance Toolkit (IG Toolkit)** 
       1. All organisations that access NHS patient data and systems must demonstrate their compliance with the DHSC (Department of Health and Social Care)’s data security and information governance requirements. This is achieved by submitting a self-assessment using the DSP (Data Security and Protection) Toolkit, <https://www.dsptoolkit.nhs.uk/> an online tool that replaced the IG Toolkit in April 2018.
       2. The deadline for the 20-21 submission was 30 June 2021.
       3. Compliance with the DSPT Toolkit is mandatory for organisations that access the HSCN (Health and Social Care Network), which replaced N3 in 2017.
       4. The Data Security and Protection Toolkit is an online self-assessment tool that allows organisations to measure their performance against the National Data Guardian’s 10 data security standards. All organisations that have access to NHS patient data and systems must use this toolkit to provide assurance that they are practising good data security and that personal information is handled correctly.
  1. **Patient Confidentiality**
     1. The Supplier shall ensure that all patient information (personal and sensitive) is correctly handled in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) Regulation (EU) 2016/679

* + 1. Personal information is any piece of information that relates to a living, identifiable human being. People’s names, contact details, financial health, purchase records: anything that you can look at and say “this is about an identifiable person”
    2. Sensitive data encompasses a wide range of information and can include ethnic or racial origin; political opinion; religious or similar beliefs; memberships; physical or mental health details; personal life; or criminal or civil offences. These examples of information are protected by civil rights policies.
  1. **NHS Supply Chain’s Ethical Procurement and Code of Conduct**
     1. All suppliers successfully awarded a place on the Framework Agreement are required to complete the Labour Standards Assessment and Modern Slavery Assessment Tool every 12 months and achieve a minimum score of 70% (green band). The supplier will be suspended from the Framework until they achieve green band status.
     2. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Supplier self-assessment modules are incorporated into this tender and if successful, suppliers will be required to complete all six modules before go live of the Framework Agreement and demonstrate ‘completed’ status within the first 6 months from the Framework Agreement commencement date.
     3. Please refer to Schedule A5, Conditions and Guidance for further information and guidance on LSA/MSAT and CSR Assessments.
     4. Ethical sourcing is the process of ensuring the products being sourced are obtained in a responsible and sustainable way, that the workers involved in making them are safe and treated fairly and that environmental and social impacts are taken into consideration during the sourcing process.
     5. NHS Supply Chain delivers an end to end logistics and supply service to the English NHS. We are

fully aware of the responsibility we bear toward our customers, employees and the communities in which we work. Thus, we have given ourselves a strict set of ethical values to guide us in our business dealings. We expect all our suppliers, i.e., all companies who do business with NHS Supply Chain, to adhere to the same ethical principles. For this purpose, NHS Supply Chain has drawn up this Supplier Code of Conduct, (See Appendix 14) which sets the standards for doing business with us.

* + 1. The supplier shall comply with all laws applicable to its business. The supplier should support the

principles of the United Nations Global Compact, the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the 1998 International Labour Organisation Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, in accordance with national law and practice.

* 1. **Environmental Considerations**
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All NHS stakeholders are committed to promoting environmental and sustainability issues within all frameworks and contracts.

* + - 1. Corporate social responsibility (CSR), also called corporate sustainability, sustainable business, corporate conscience, corporate citizenship or responsible business is a type of international private business self-regulation. A copy of your CSR policy is required for supporting information.
      2. Suppliers shall demonstrate a commitment to incorporate environmental and sustainable considerations into all elements of the Framework including ‘Green’ transport initiatives, packaging, description of how environmental factors are “taken into account” in respect of manufacturing, material sourcing and ethical trading.
      3. Suppliers shall identify environmental management awards that have been received, and/or externally recognised programmes to which their company is involved.
      4. The Supplier shall comply with the requirements of the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2015 (as amended) which implements the EU Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) in the UK, and which requires packaging to be minimised, recoverable, and not to exceed by weight specified concentrations of heavy metals.

* + - 1. **ISO 14001 or Equivalent**

It is expected that Suppliers effectively manage their environmental performance and minimises negative impact where possible. Suppliers shall hold an Environmental / Sustainability Certificate – ISO 14001 or equivalent in support of their commitment to promoting environmental and sustainability issues. Suppliers shall provide a copy of their Environmental / Sustainability Certificate – ISO 14001 or equivalent.

* + - 1. **Packaging Regulations**

The Supplier shall comply with the requirements of the Packaging (Essential Requirements) Regulations 2015 (as amended) which implements the EU Directive on Packaging and Packaging Waste (94/62/EC) in the UK, and which requires packaging to be minimised, recoverable, and not to exceed by weight specified concentrations of heavy metals.

* + - 1. **Waste Carriers Licence**

Any business transporting waste, whether their own or someone else’s; for free or for profit; must now register as a waste carrier with the Environment Agency in England. The Supplier shall ensure that appropriate registration and a Waste Carriers Licence is available for inspection, should the transporting of waste be applicable at any time under this Framework.

* + - 1. **Sustainability**

The supplier is expected to take issues of Sustainability (which for purposes of clarity includes Labour Standards) seriously and have implemented measures to ensure that its suppliers and subcontractors do likewise.

The Supplier shall support the Authority and the Department of Health and Social Care with the implementation of the voluntary instrument entitled: “Green Public Procurement Criteria for Electrical and Electronic Equipment used in the Healthcare Sector (EU GPP for EEE)” and shall in particular provide upon request the following:

* User instructions for green performance management, including instructions on how to maximise the environmental performance of the Goods;
* Training with energy efficiency optimisation, including on the adjustment and finetuning of the Goods in relation to their consumption of electricity (using parameters (for example, standby mode) in order to optimise the electricity use);
* Installation with energy efficiency optimisation, and a ‘needs assessment’ for the Participating Authority so the Participating Authority understands how to optimise the Goods’ electricity consumption;
* Confirmation of the energy profiles of the Goods (where pre-determined use scenarios exist within EU GPP Guidance).

For Goods with no pre-determined use scenarios, the Authority may develop these during the term of the Framework Agreement.

* + - 1. **Management and disposal of healthcare waste (HTM 07-01)**

Upon request - The Supplier shall provide information on the management of the product at end-of-life, including (but not restricted to) opportunities for re-use and recycling.

Product literature shall identify information pertaining to the disposal; re-use; refurbishing or recycling of products.

* 1. **Product Specification**

3.8.3 The Supplier is to ensure that all goods supplied under this Framework meet all of the requirement set out within Schedule A2 (A) Product Specification.

* 1. **Product Trials/Evaluations**
     1. Participating Authorities reserve the right to undertake trials and evaluations of alternative Suppliers’ products. Any trials and evaluations conducted will follow the individual Participating Authority’s policies and protocols.
     2. Suppliers may provide the Participating Authorities with the option to participate in a trial. Written authorisation must be obtained from the Participating Authority prior to the commencement date of any trial. The Participating Authority shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Supplier in relation to the trial.
     3. The Supplier is expected to support any required product trials or clinical evaluations as requested by the Participating Authority and must provide samples to enable the Participating Authority to carry out required evaluations. To enable the Participating Authority to manage and complete a meaningful evaluation, product training and clinical guidance must also be provided.
     4. In exceptional cases where there is a significant cost associated with undertaking any trial a Supplier will be within their right to negotiate a reasonable charge in advance of the trial commencing. For the avoidance of doubt this is only in exceptional circumstances and once agreed the charge will not increase regardless of the trial length.
     5. Full and effective training must be given to each member of staff associated with the trial and at respective levels / requirements prior to any clinical trial being conducted.
     6. Trials will be time-bound, and this will be clearly agreed between the Supplier and affected parties within the Participating Authority(s). The Supplier must inform CPP LLP of the trial start date and duration.
     7. The Supplier is required to supply appropriate supporting documentation, including evaluation forms if requested to do so. As a minimum, it is expected that supporting documents establish the duration, content, cost, desired outcome and method for managing the trial to the Participating Authority.
     8. The Participating Authority will provide feedback to Suppliers on clinical trials of any samples evaluated.
  2. **Product Changes Throughout the Framework**
     1. **New Products / Range Extensions**
        1. Suppliers must inform Participating Authorities(s) and CPP LLP in writing of any new products which they wish to include on the Framework for consideration/evaluation and subsequent agreement by the Authority.
        2. The Supplier shall request additional products to be added to their commercial offer only for Framework Lots for which they were awarded.
        3. The Supplier must inform CPP LLP and individual Participating Authorities concerned in writing of any proposed changes to the specification of the goods being supplied under the Framework, including proposed changes to packaging quantity or format, for consideration by the Participating Authority. Notification of any such proposals shall be made at least three months prior to the proposed implementation date of any changes.
        4. The price of additional products shall be in line with the discount structure contained within the price agreement and will be reviewed and accepted by the CPP LLP Category Management Team.
        5. The Supplier shall inform CPP LLP in writing of any additional products which it wishes to include on the Framework.
        6. Notification of the request to add products shall be by e-mail to [CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk) in the format determined by CPP LLP.
        7. Where relevant, Suppliers must adhere to the protocol set out in Beyond Compliance.

<http://www.beyondcompliance.org.uk/>

* + - 1. CPP LLP shall notify the Supplier that products have been added to the Framework. Any products added are at the discretion of CPP/the Authority.
    1. **Product changes**
       1. The Supplier should have and maintain a policy that governs the managed specification changes of products within its portfolio. The Supplier is required to inform CPP LLP in writing of any proposed specification changes to products being supplied under the Framework, including proposed changes to packaging quantity or format, for consideration by CPP LLP. Notification of any such proposals shall be made at least three (3) months prior to the proposed implementation date of any changes.
       2. The Supplier shall confirm provision for future technological advances such as advances or alterations in materials of construct, sizing, anatomical improvements, imaging compatible products, etc. and associated disposable / non-disposable instrumentation that may be used for various procedures within elective and emergency surgery which relate to the product areas described in this Specification.
       3. All information regarding the changes including, but not limited to sizing, packaging, unit of measure etc. shall be notified via e-mail to [CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk)
       4. CPP LLP shall notify the Supplier that product changes have been applied to the Framework.
    2. **Product obsolescence – Delisting** 
       1. The Supplier shall notify CPP LLP in writing of any proposed product deletions at least three months prior to the proposed implementation date to [CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk](mailto:CPPSupport@supplychain.nhs.uk)
       2. The Supplier shall notify CPP LLP in writing if the product deletions will affect the purchase of associated products and provide a report of Participating Authority usage associated with those products in the rolling 12 months to the date of the notification.
       3. The Supplier must confirm that any affected customers have been notified of the intention to delist and advised of any required action that needs to be taken.
       4. The Supplier shall advise of the “reasons” for the request to delete/delist the products.
       5. The Supplier shall notify CPP LLP in writing of any alternative product to those being delisted. Alternative products may not be “like for like” but may facilitate the same clinical outcome.
       6. Once approved, the affected pricing schedule must be resubmitted to CPP LLP with all delisted product NPC highlighted in red and with all pricing in each cell replaced by the word “obsolete”.
       7. Once delisted, products may only be re-enlisted at the equivalent or reduced price, prior to delisting.
       8. CPP LLP shall notify the Supplier that products have been removed from the Framework.
  1. **Business Continuity, Risk Management and Supply Chain Resilience**
     1. All NHS stakeholders are committed to business continuity, identifying, eliminating and mitigating risk, and maintaining supply of goods to meet NHS and participating bodies requirements to ensure supply meets demands.
     2. Suppliers must demonstrate their commitment to providing goods of the right quality, the right quantity, to the right place, at the right time, and at the right price.
     3. Suppliers must demonstrate their commitment to work transparently and collaboratively with all NHS stakeholders to proactively drive value for money whilst meeting the business needs and requirements set out within the Framework Agreement.
     4. It is expected that Suppliers effectively manage business continuity to minimise negative impact wherever possible. Suppliers shall hold Business Continuity Accreditation – ISO 22301 or equivalent in support of their commitment to ensuring continuity of supply. Suppliers shall provide a copy of their Business Continuity Certification – ISO 22301 or equivalent.
     5. The Supplier must maintain a suitable Business Continuity plan to ensure continuity of supply in the event of a disruption to the Supplier’s manufacturing or distribution process:
* of supply in event of a disruption to Supplier’s manufacturing or distribution channels;
* of service in the event of a disruption to Supplier’s resource;
* of supply & services from 3rd parties;
* of supply & service in the event of adverse weather conditions; And
* of supply in the event of a pandemic.
  + 1. Contingency planning shall include, but not be limited to: -
    - Evacuation of Supplier premises;
    - IT and / or telecoms failure;
    - Industrial Action (internal or external influences);
    - Device / product recall;
    - Production failure; And
    - Working from home
    1. In the event of a Major Incident or local emergency involving an NHS body, the Supplier shall facilitate supply requests by telephone from the Authorised Person(s).
    2. The Supplier must provide copies of its Business Continuity Plans and/or Risk management Policy towards supply chain continuity as part of its Tender submission.
    3. Throughout the life of the framework agreement, the Supplier will ensure its Business Continuity Plan provides for continuity during a Business Continuity Event. The Supplier confirms and agrees such Business Continuity Plan details and will continue to detail robust arrangements that are reasonable and proportionate to:

1. the criticality of this Framework Agreement to the Participating Authorities; and
2. the size and scope of the Supplier’s business operations,

regarding continuity of the supply of Goods during and following a Business Continuity Event.

* + 1. The Supplier shall test its Business Continuity Plan at reasonable intervals, and in any event no less than once every twelve (12) months or such other period as may be agreed between the Parties taking into account the criticality of this Framework Agreement to Participating Authorities and the size and scope of the Supplier’s business operations. The Supplier shall promptly provide to the Authority, at the Authority’s written request, copies of its Business Continuity Plan, reasonable and proportionate documentary evidence that the Supplier tests its Business Continuity Plan in accordance with the requirements of the framework agreement and reasonable and proportionate information regarding the outcome of such tests. The Supplier shall provide to the Authority a copy of any updated or revised Business Continuity Plan within fourteen (14) Business Days of any material update or revision to the Business Continuity Plan.
    2. The Authority may suggest reasonable and proportionate amendments to the Supplier regarding the Business Continuity Plan at any time. Where the Supplier, acting reasonably, deems such suggestions made by the Authority to be relevant and appropriate, the Supplier will incorporate into the Business Continuity Plan all such suggestions made by the Authority in respect of such Business Continuity Plan. Should the Supplier not incorporate any suggestion made by the Authority into such Business Continuity Plan it will explain the reasons for not doing so to the Authority.
    3. Should a Business Continuity Event occur at any time, the Supplier shall implement and comply with its Business Continuity Plan and provide regular written reports to the Authority on such implementation.
    4. During and following a Business Continuity Event, the Supplier shall use reasonable endeavours to continue to fulfil its obligations in accordance with this Framework Agreement.
  1. **Account Management**
     + 1. There is a requirement for the Supplier to provide a range of activities in support of the Framework Agreement, including but not limited to:
* new accounts when new business is awarded
* implementation / exit plans
* clinical training and training of any affected member of staff, if required
* new product launches / phasing out of technology – swap outs
* on site customer engagement
* technical and professional support available as and when required
  + - 1. Suppliers are expected to maintain routine communication with each Participating Authority through a relevant account manager and clinical lead.
      2. Supplier Representatives shall be a named contact designated for Account Management support and be contactable during normal working hours. An out of hours contact should be available as may be required and alternative nominated persons should be identified and contact information supplied, should the main representative contact not be available.
    1. **Customer Services**
       1. The Supplier shall provide a responsive customer service function during normal working hours which enables a customer to resolve issues, over the telephone or by e-mail, within a maximum 24-hour timescale.
       2. Individual Participating Authority accounts shall have a named Supplier Specialist Support Staff / Sales Representative with customer facing responsibilities. Key roles and responsibilities and how they will interface with the Participating Authority shall be provided and maintained.
    2. **Compliments and Complaints**
       1. The Supplier must have a clear and comprehensive written complaints management procedure. This procedure will be followed in the event of any issue to the supply of goods or support provided as part of the Framework Agreement. Such procedure shall enable CPP LLP Customer Services or the Participating Authority to make complaints quickly and simply and shall require the Supplier to investigate and resolve a complaint in accordance with strict timescales. For the avoidance of doubt complaints can be written or verbal.
       2. The Supplier shall keep a full written record of the nature of each complaint and details of the action taken as a result of the complaint. Records shall be available for inspection at any time. This is to show:
* Reason for the complaint, from whom and date;
* Initial complaint, complainant, Participating Authority and date;
* Action taken;
* Corrective Action taken to prevent recurrence (complaint); And
* Date of resolution
  + - 1. The Supplier shall use reasonable endeavours to ensure that all complaints are resolved within 10 days of the complaint being notified to the Supplier, unless the nature of the complaint requires additional investigation or action, in which case the Supplier shall ensure that the complaint is resolved as soon as possible thereafter. Where the complaint relates to a faulty or spoiled device or product the Supplier shall provide a full written report, with supporting root cause analysis to the relevant Participating Authority within one month of the complaint.
      2. The details of how the complaint has been resolved should be notified to CPP LLP Customer Services in writing as soon as possible thereafter and the Supplier will on request at any time provide CPP LLP Customer Services with an update as to the progress of the resolution of the complaint. It is a requirement that Suppliers have corrective/preventative action plans in place to remove the causes of an existing or potential undesirable situation.
      3. The Supplier shall possess a complaints policy which details roles and responsibilities of key roles and details escalation routes. A copy of which should be provided as part of the Tender submission.
    1. **Company Representatives On-Site Conduct Visiting NHS Sites**
       1. Supplier Representatives must comply and ensure that its staff comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and other relevant legislation, including regulations and codes of practice issued there under and with the Participating Authority’s own policies and procedures.
       2. The Supplier shall ensure that all staff assigned to the call-off Contract shall possess, and exercise relevant care, appropriate qualifications, expertise and experience as are necessary for the proper provision of support. Supplier staff must at all times when on Participating Authority premises, wear an identification badge, complete with photograph.
       3. The Supplier’s representative shall meet with the Participating Authority staff only by prior appointment. Product presentations and samples should only be provided to wards or medical and / or nursing staff following discussion and agreement with the Participating Authority employed clinical lead or a member of their team to do so.
       4. When the attendance of an appointment cannot be met, the Supplier Representative shall withdraw the meeting request giving as much notice as possible.
       5. Supplier Representatives promoting the sale of their products and services shall not enter any clinical or non-clinical area without an appointment unless otherwise advised by the Participating Authority(s).
       6. A Representative who does not have a pre-arranged appointment may be asked to leave the premises.
       7. Representatives arriving for an appointment (pre-arranged time and place) shall be met by the person with whom they have an arrangement; or a person designated by them.

* + 1. **Supplier Product Specialist Support Staff** 
       1. The Supplier is required to have capacity within their clinical team to assist the Participating Authority with product advice and support any training where needed. This requirement will be specific to each individual Authorities support requirement and will be identified and agreed during implementation or anytime throughout the lifetime of the framework.
       2. Supplier product specialist support staff shall have the capabilities (training & experience) to undertake in depth discussions with clinical staff and CPP LLP / Authority staff, support clinical discussions and when requested conduct on-site training.
       3. Supplier Product Specialist Support Staff shall be required to evidence the effectiveness and customer satisfaction rating of their: -
* training sessions
* implementations (planning & deployment)
* product trials
* product / systems knowledge
* ongoing support
  + - 1. Training programmes must be fit for purpose, competency based wherever possible and appropriate to the products provided. Training shall be supplied free of charge, at Participating Authority sites or “as agreed” and repeated when staff changes necessitate.
      2. Product Training Programmes shall provide individuals with the knowledge and skills they need to identify:-
* Selection and appropriate use of the gloves; And
* Risk assessment for patients
  + 1. **Secure Areas**
       1. Supplier Representatives who require access to consignment stock to audit or for other purposes shall hold a current DBS check, carry photo identity and notify a nominated person in advance of their requirement for access.
  1. **Framework Contract Management / Monitoring**
     1. **Management Information**

The Supplier shall provide information to enable performance and ongoing monitoring of the Framework to CPP LLP as detailed below:

* + 1. **Future Opportunities**
       1. Suppliers will respond to benchmarking requests, approved by Participating Authorities, within 7 working days of the request. This will cover the previous 12 months’ activity data for specified Participating Authorities.
       2. The output from benchmarking is for CPP LLP to provide the Participating Authority procurement staff, operational teams and clinician(s) with an analysis of the opportunity detailing any cost efficiencies or cost pressures, this information facilitates decision making and determines “next steps” and the development of agreed work plans.
       3. It is the responsibility of the Supplier to ensure that the CPP LLP Category Manager is informed of any discussions with a Participating Authority that may directly or indirectly lead to a change in practice or price of the products under the call-off Contract and/or Framework Agreement.
    2. **KPI’s**
       1. The KPI’s (See Schedule 8 Service level Agreement of the Framework Agreement) shall inform the effectiveness of the Framework Agreement between the Supplier, end users and CPP LLP and form part of the contract review meeting discussions with the CPP LLP Tower 2 Category Team.
       2. CPP LLP reserve the right to include additional KPI measures during the term of the Framework Agreement as circumstances may dictate.
    3. **Contract Review Meetings** 
       1. Suppliers are expected to meet with the CPP LLP Tower 2 Category Team at least every quarter for the purpose of reviewing the Supplier’s performance. Such meetings must be attended by the relevant account manager from the Supplier. Meetings may increase to monthly as may be required depending on the nature of the call-off Contract/ access agreement in place.
       2. Representatives from the individual Participating Authorities may also require similar meetings on a quarterly basis as part of their own call-off Contract with the Supplier. The Participating Authority will agree these requirements with the Supplier on a case by case basis.
    4. **Contract Implementation for New Customers**
       1. On the award of any new business, if requested by the Participating Authority, the Supplier is expected to provide a detailed implementation plan to support the switch of product from the Participating Authority’s incumbent supplier. It is expected the implementation plan includes the following key points to ensure that there is minimal disruption to services during and after transition:
* Supplier resource provided to support any transition
* Define and agree delivery lead time expectations
* Identify key end users
* Initial training plan for appropriate product usage
* Supporting literature distribution
* Agree the support required
* Identification of any resource intensive tasks required during implementation
  + - 1. Contract implementation meetings shall be held with the Supplier to facilitate the resolution of any “teething problems” and establish an understanding of working relationships as part of call off Contracts under the Framework Agreement.
    1. **Orders for Participating Authority Requirements** 
       1. Transacted sales – edirect. Please see Appendix 13 which details the operating process for eDirect services with the Authority. The Supplier must comply with the operating process detailed in Appendix 13 to facilitate the e Direct ordering services.
       2. eDirect relates to goods and services ordered by the Authority on behalf of the Participating Authority which are delivered direct to the Participating Authority and invoiced to the Authority.

* + - 1. The Authority has an ordering system which is used by most Participating Authorities to issue purchase orders for direct delivery to their stores or clinical area. The Authority can create standing orders for customers who require a regular delivery of the same products and quantities – a unique purchase order number will be created for each order / delivery.
      2. A call-off order will be placed by each Participating Authority based on their anticipated individual annual usage/spend. They will use this order to purchase volumes as and when required. The Supplier is required to send only the quantity released from the call-off order.

Or: - Alternatively Participating Authorities will place ad-hoc orders as and when a requirement is identified for direct delivery.

Or: - Products will be ordered via third party vendors and retrospective quarterly discounts should be made payable direct to the individual Participating Authority within 14 days of the end of each quarter. Any such discount should be clearly identified within the returned Tender submission documents.

Or: - The Authority, CPP LLP with the Participating Authorities’ approval, reserves the right to use a 3rd party distribution service, where possible. CPP LLP will work together with the Supplier to make this happen.

* + - 1. All 3rd party carriers engaged to deliver goods shall be deemed to be an agent of the Supplier, and not the Customer of the Authority and/or CPP LLP, and the Supplier shall ensure that any agent or sub-contractor engaged by it in the performance of this contract shall comply with the Supplier’s obligations under the Framework Agreement.
      2. If a Supplier’s product is awarded onto the stock route, to ensure resilience in the supply chain there is a requirement to ensure adequate stock holding. The intention is for suppliers to provide a solution for stock holding levels that at least covers product lead times. As a minimum the requirement will be 50% of stock to be held in the country and 50% to be in transit, for example for a 16 week lead time 8 weeks stock to be held in the suppliers network and 8 weeks of stock in transit on the road/water.
* Please provide the lead times for each category, from order placement to delivery into the network.
* Please provide details of the stock holding solution to be put in place to meet this requirement.
  + - 1. The Supplier is to confirm how long it will take for your organisation to replenish stocks held to support this framework. Please advise your proposed stock holding (volume and expected number of weeks demand, minimum levels and re-order thresholds) by Product type within each lot for stocked lines, e-Direct Lines and Blue Diamond lines, please provide a breakdown by product type within Lot for the length of time from the bidder placing the order with the factory or manufacturer to the delivery to the supplier to a location which will enable delivery times into NHS SC as per the tender (48 hours for stock, or as per bidders offer for blue Diamond and e-Direct).

NHS Supply Chain will work with suppliers on annual demand signal for each product category.

* + 1. **Goods Received notes**

The process for goods receipting relating to the e-direct system is detailed within the Operational Guide included within **Schedule A11** Supply Chain Operational Requirements Guide.

* + 1. **Invoicing**

The Supplier shall submit invoices which must relate to specific order numbers, either direct to the Participating Authority or to a 3rd party (as advised by each Participating Authority). No personally identifiable data shall be included on invoices or credit notes – this includes any patients’ name, NHS number or address.

* + 1. **Invoice**

Invoices in relation to goods should include as a minimum:

* the order number;
* the name and address of the delivery location (including the requisition point, if appropriate);
* the description and quantity of the Goods as set out in the Order;
* details of any item forming part of the relevant delivery;
* whether any containers supplied are required to be returned or collected; and
* the GTIN (GS1 Code) for the Goods;

Invoices in relation to Services should include as a minimum:

* the name and address of the service recipient; and
* a description of the Services.
  + 1. **Shared Business Services (SBS)**

Shared Business Services provides some NHS organisations with purchase to pay services. When advised that the Authority or Participating Authority is using SBS, Suppliers shall ensure that they follow the good invoicing practice to reduce invoice rejection.

[**https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/Supplier-good-invoicing-practice**](https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/supplier-good-invoicing-practice)

SBS utilise ane-Invoicing platform through technology partners, Tradeshift

visit[**http://tradeshift.com/Supplier/nhs-sbs**](http://tradeshift.com/supplier/nhs-sbs)for more information

* + 1. **Order and Invoice Queries**

The Supplier shall contact the purchase order issuing organisation with queries relating to receipt of order and price queries.

* + 1. **Distributor changes within Lots**

CPP LLP is aware that during the lifetime of the Framework Agreement, a manufacturer of products may decide to change who it utilises to distribute its products.   This may be to a distributor who is not listed on the Framework Agreement.  Therefore, to ensure the continued availability of that specific manufacturer’s particular product, CPP LLP’s intention is that any new distributor of that manufacturer’s product will be permitted to join the Framework Agreement, provided that any new distributor firstly meets the Selection Questionnaire requirements set out in this ITT.

Any new distributor must abide by the Specification and commercial requirements agreed within the scope of the Framework Agreement and any existing call off Contracts in place with Participating Authorities at the time of change of distributor.

END.