

March 2024

NHS Arden & GEM's Procurement service accredited to be a Framework Host by NHS England

NHS Arden & GEM's Procurement service has recently been accredited to be a Framework Host by NHS England. This means that the procurement function has approval to run framework procurements, for customers to be able to call off and place contracts with suppliers. This should make it easier to buy correctly and more quickly.

Please ensure that when calling off frameworks relating to goods and services the following rules apply:

1. Guidance regarding award of contracts under framework agreements, as per the Public Contract Regulations 2015:
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2015/102/regulation/33/made>
2. When the terms of a framework agreement are not precise enough to directly award a contract under Regulation 33(7) or 33(8)(a), the Buyer must run a further competition, as per Regulation 33(8)(b) or 33(8)(c).
3. When the terms of a framework agreement are precise enough to directly award a contract, the Buyer must award the contract to the top ranked supplier in accordance with the assessment of award criteria when the framework agreement was established, or in accordance with any pre-prescribed rules (call-off protocol) regarding the use of catalogues, or reassessment of award criteria based on requirements configuration variations.

For further information about awarding contracts under our frameworks please contact - contact.ardengem@nhs.net.