

Reference: FOI.ICB-2526/422

Subject: Public Procurement Challenges and Direct Awards (FY24/25, FY25/26)

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
<p>1. Can you advise how many competitive procurements your organisation has <i>commenced or advertised</i>:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Under the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR 2015) for the period 1 April 2024 to 25 October 2024 inclusive? ii. Under the Procurement Act 2023 / Public Sector Regulations 2024 (PA 2023/PSR 2024) for the period 26 October 2024 to 25 February 2026 inclusive? iii. <i>Planned or forecasted</i> under PA 2023/PSR 2024 for the full fiscal year 2025/2026 (1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Please refer to the ICB Contracts Register: ICB Contracts Register - BNSSG Healthier Together ii. As above. <p>PSR - Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB Provider Selection Regime (PSR) report 2024-2025 - BNSSG Healthier Together – this covers January 2024 to 31 March 2025</p> <p>PSR for this financial year (2025/26) will be publicly available from June 2026, therefore, the ICB has applied Section 22 (Information intended for future publication) to this question. Once published it will be available on the ICB website: Library - BNSSG Healthier Together</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii. The ICB will publish all its procurements through Find a Tender. To ensure openness, transparency and fairness the market will be told simultaneously when our ICB approves the release of a procurement.
<p>2. Of those procurements <i>commenced or advertised</i> between 1 April 2024 and 25 February 2026, how many were <i>formally challenged</i>?</p>	<p>National panel for PSR representations - NHS commissioning » Panel reports</p>

<p>3. Of those formally challenged procurements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. How many went into an extended standstill period (i.e., above the standard 10 calendar days under PCR 2015, or above the standard 8 working days under PA 2023/PSR 2024)? Please list the extended period in working days against each relevant tender. ii. How many were withdrawn as a result of the challenge? iii. How many were taken to a formal independent panel or court (e.g., the Independent Review Body under PA 2023, or judicial review under PCR 2015)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. This information is held by NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW CSU), who can be contacted directly via: SCW CSU: Contact Us ii. As above – this information is held by the CSU iii. National panel NHS commissioning » Panel reports
<p>4. For those taken to an independent panel or court (as per question 3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. What was the outcome? Please state whether: a) the decision to award was supported; b) the award was withdrawn and procurement reissued; or c) other (please specify). 	<p>National panel website NHS commissioning » Panel reports</p>
<p>5. Of those challenged procurements, how many did your organisation then abandon and proceed to a <i>direct award</i> for the same or substantially similar goods, services, or works?</p>	<p>None. Further information can be sourced via the CSU, contact details above.</p>
<p>6. How many <i>direct awards</i> (i.e., contracts awarded without a competitive process, using an exemption or derogation) has your organisation undertaken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. For the period 1 April 2024 to 25 October 2024 inclusive? ii. For the period 26 October 2024 to 25 February 2026 inclusive? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Contracts Register: Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB Provider Selection Regime (PSR) report 2024-2025 - BNSSG Healthier Together ii. As above iii. PSR financial year report will be published in June 2026.

iii. <i>Planned or forecasted</i> for the full fiscal year 2025/2026 (1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026)?	
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The information provided in this response is accurate as of 26 March 2026 and has been approved for release by Helena Fuller, Deputy Director of Business, Strategy and Planning for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.