

**Procurement Hub**

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| **Subject of Report:** | **Operational Equipment Category**  |
| **Procurement Project:** | **Long Term Capability Management (LTCM) Service Provision for radiation monitoring equipment on Front Line Appliances (FLAs)** |
| **Date of Report:** | **08 November 2022** |
| **Contact details:** | **Mandy BeasleyEmail:** Mandy.beasley@wmfs.net**Tel: 0121 380 6552** |

Dear all,

This post relates to the attached Information Note/Appendix from National Resilience regarding radiation monitoring equipment. For those of you who were not aware the Home Office have recently determined that the servicing and provision of Electronic Personal Dosimeters (EPD) and RADOS Survey Meters shall from the 1st September 2022 no longer be provided under the Long-Term Capability Management (LTCM) arrangements which are managed by Babcock Critical Services Limited.

The servicing and provision of Electronic Personal Dosimeters (EPD) and RADOS Survey Meters on frontline appliances was added to the LTCM contract in 2008. The equipment was purchased on a one-off basis by Home Office (DCLG at the time) and has subsequently been maintained by the LTCM Prime Contractor, Babcock Critical Services Ltd.

In light of the above changes, it has now been recommended that FRSs should consider their own arrangements to maintain this equipment, albeit calibration can still be done under separate agreement with Babcock.

FRSs who wish to consider a continuing a servicing/calibration arrangement with Babcock Critical Services Ltd are advised to contact Paul Williamson, Works Manager, Engineering and Training Services | Land Mob: +447595 236920 | Paul.S.Williamson@babcockinternational.com

A breakdown of inventory and current annual contract costs for each FRS is detailed in Appendix A





Since the Information Note was issued, I have been contacted by various colleagues in other Services to enquire whether this requirement could be something that we would look to address under the Operational Equipment Category. This is with a view to considering some other form of collaborative procurement or the establishment of a Framework Agreement on behalf of the Sector.

Colleagues from National Resilience did advise that West Midlands Ambulance Service (WMAS) have also recently let a framework for EPD’s, should FRSs wish to purchase replacement items directly. The contact email at WMAS is: contracts@wmas.nhs.uk should FRSs wish to request these Framework documents.

Having now discussed this issue internally within West Midlands FRS we have decided to take this opportunity to review our current provision of radiation monitoring equipment on FLA’s. This is to establish if the number and types of equipment we use is still fit for purpose and/or whether we could still meet the required radiation incident response capability with a reduced number of devices.

We have also arranged for the calibration of some existing equipment to be done by Babcocks in the meantime to provide sufficient time for this review to be completed and for future procurement options to be considered.

My recommendation to other FRSs at this time would be to also consider conducting a similar review as I understand that some of the existing monitoring equipment is no longer available in its current format and the cost of replacement could be significant.

Once we have completed our review at WMFS my intention will be to issue a further communication and questionnaire to establish the appetite and potential benefits for establishing a Sector led Framework for both the provision and servicing of radiation monitoring equipment.

Naturally we will also review the WMAS Framework offering to establish if this already meets our needs and hence would remove the need to establish yet another Framework.

If you have any questions relating to this post, then please contact me at Mandy.beasley@wmfs.net

Likewise, if you have any queries in relation to the attached National Resilience Information Note please contact Hywyn Pritchard (Head of Procurement) Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service.

Tel; 0151 296 4556,

Email: HywynPritchard@merseyfire.gov.uk