



# Frameworks: A Guide for Healthcare Organisations

Frameworks are an important way for healthcare organisations to ensure they maintain quality and achieve value for money in the products and services they procure. But how do they work and which frameworks are relevant to your requirements? In this guide, we answer some of the most frequently asked questions.

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## 1. What is a framework?

**Frameworks are often used in the public sector to ascertain consistent terms, service levels and, leverage volume to unlock discounts.**

Frameworks can be compiled by an individual organisation, however, more frequently, they are compiled by overarching bodies such as the HSE, NHS or HSC and can be used by organisations that are part of those bodies.

### Frameworks set out:

- the requirements for specific products or services required by the organisation(s) covered by the framework
- the terms and conditions under which the products or services are to be delivered
- the service levels and corresponding Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) that suppliers need to adhere to.

Importantly, they also provide an approved and vetted list of suppliers with the expertise and depth to deliver those products or services to the required standards.

Your organisation may then work with these approved suppliers to deliver the specific products or services under the pre-approved terms of the framework. Therefore, no negotiation(s) or lengthy contractual reviews are required.

Frameworks run for a set period of time and are regularly reviewed by the overarching body to ensure they continue to deliver value for money.

## 2.0 How do frameworks help healthcare organisations?

Frameworks help healthcare organisations in several ways, including:

### 2.1 Frameworks give buyers confidence in their appointed supplier

When evaluating and appointing potential suppliers to a framework, all relevant criteria (such as quality, price, governance, sustainability and ability to deliver) are considered. The rigorous framework evaluation process gives you the confidence that all suppliers who have been awarded on the framework meet the stipulated standards.

### 2.2 Frameworks simplify the process of awarding contracts to suppliers

Because you don't have to carry out a formal procurement process, e.g. Publish a contract via OJEU, Contracts Finder etc., you can save time and be rest assured that you'll have access to pre-vetted supplier(s), mutually protective terms and competitive pricing.

### 2.3 Frameworks help organisations to benefit from economies of scale

Frameworks set out prices for the products or service to be delivered. Prices relate to the overall framework volume rather than an individual buyer's requirements, which mean prices for a product or service can be lower than if they were procured on the open market.



### 3. Tier 1, Tier 2, Multi-Supplier Panels – what do they all mean?

Often, a framework will feature several suppliers. This is referred to as a multi-supplier panel. Suppliers on a framework may also be listed in tiers. Suppliers who have been awarded Tier 1 status, have been determined by the awarding body as the supplier who have the strength and scale to best meet your needs.



### 4. What Healthcare Recruitment Frameworks can I access?

In Ireland, the UK and Northern Ireland there are several leading frameworks that are trusted across the public and voluntary sectors. These cater for a wide range of healthcare workforce needs from temporary requirements through to the filling of permanent vacancies. These include:

#### Ireland:

- HSE Multi-Supplier Panel for the provision of **short-term temporary and locum placements for Health & Social Care Professionals and Health Care Assistants** to the Health Sector in Ireland (HSE 19404)
  - » TTM have been awarded Tier 1 supplier status on this framework.
- HSE Multi-Supplier Panel for the provision of **short-term temporary and locum placements for Consultant Doctors, NCHDs and other required grades within the Medical/Dental Category** to the Health sector in Ireland (HSE 19403)
  - » TTM have been awarded Tier 1 supplier status on this framework.
- HSE Multi-Supplier Panel for the Provision of **short-term temporary and locum Health Services Agency placements for Nurses & Midwives** (HSE 17466)
  - » TTM have been awarded Tier 1 supplier status on this framework.
- Multi-Supplier Panel for the **International Recruitment of Registered Nurses / Midwives including Specialist Nurses / Midwives on behalf of the HSE and HSE Funded Agencies** Section 38 & 39 (HSE 22065)
  - » TTM have been awarded supplier status on this framework.

- HSE authorisation scheme for **executive search resource to support and facilitate access to global candidate markets for medical and health care staff** (HSE 12084)
  - » TTM have been awarded supplier status on this framework.

#### UK mainland:

- NHS Workforce Alliance for the Provision of **Clinical and Healthcare Staffing** (reference RM6281)
- NHS Workforce Alliance for the Provision of **International Healthcare Professionals Recruitment & Associated Services** (reference RM6333)
  - We are an approved supplier for all five Lots:*
    - » International Nursing and Midwifery (Lot 1)
    - » International Doctors and Dentists (Lot 2)
    - » International AHPs including social workers (Lot 3)
    - » International Candidate Pastoral Support (Lot 5)
- National and International Permanent Recruitment Solutions (NIPR)
  - » We are an approved supplier for Lot 1a, which covers Nurses, Midwives, Doctors and Allied Health Professionals (Lot 1a).
- **HealthTrust Europe Total Workforce Solutions II (TWSII)** for the provision of National & International Permanent Recruitment (NIPR) of Nurses, Midwives and Allied Health Professionals.

#### Northern Ireland:

- HSC Framework for Agency **Nursing & Healthcare Support Workers**
  - » TTM is a Tier 1 supplier for both lots of the framework:
  - » Registered Nurses, Midwives and Health Visitors (Lot 1)
  - » Healthcare Support Workers (Lot 2)
- HSC Framework for **Agency Workers - Medical and Dental Lots 1 & 2** (500694)
  - » TTM have been awarded supplier status on this framework.
- HSC Framework for **Agency Workers - Non-Medical Lots 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6** (556151) - for Support workers, Social Workers, Social Care Workers, Allied Health Professionals, Clerical staff, Maintenance staff - executive of all types.
  - » - TTM have been awarded supplier status on this framework.
- HSC Framework for **International Recruitment**. EEA and Non- EEA
  - We are an approved supplier for:*
    - » Medical (Lots 1 & 2)
    - » Nursing (Lots 3 & 4) and
    - » Healthcare Professionals (Lots 5 & 6)

## 5. How do I select and engage with a framework supplier?

This both depends on 'The Framework Management Authority' and the type of healthcare recruitment you are looking for.

For the HSE (in **Ireland**) there is a mandate for the use of frameworks across temporary and permanent needs, and therefore all related requirements should go via your procurements department (if applicable) as the process is managed centrally.

There are similar arrangements for **Northern Ireland**, where temporary requirements are broadcasted centrally to the relevant Tiers for temporary needs, and for permanent vacancies to be filled internationally a central approach is taken.

For the **UK** mainland frameworks there is a higher degree of choice and flexibility, and requirements can be issued to all approved suppliers, directly awarded or a mini competition can be initiated.

## 6. What frameworks are TTM Healthcare Solutions on?

Fortunately, TTM Healthcare Solutions have been awarded a place on all of the above listed frameworks following a stringent tendering process, where we have demonstrated our capability and compliance to the highest standards. For ease, the below table will help guide you to the relevant framework for your requirements.

Country	Framework Authority	Recruitment Type	Discipline			
			Nursing	Doctors	Health & Social Care Professionals	HCA's
UK	HTE	Permanent	✓		✓	
		International	✓		✓	
	NHS WFA	Temporary	✓			
		International	✓	✓	✓	
IRE	HSE	Temporary	✓	✓	✓	✓
		International	✓			
	HSC	Temporary	✓	✓	✓	✓
		International	✓	✓		✓



## 6.1 Where can I go for more information?

TTM Healthcare Solutions, are specialists in healthcare workforce solutions, something that is reflected in our status as a supplier on so many workforce frameworks.

- If you have any questions about frameworks that haven't been answered here, please get in touch. We'll be happy to help.
- Firstly, check that your organisation is eligible to use the framework.
- Then, simply contact the relevant supplier.

At TTM our teams are on standby and ready to assist with your workforce requirements. To begin please connect with:

### Ireland

**Nursing** - [nursingbookings@ttmhealthcare.com](mailto:nursingbookings@ttmhealthcare.com)

**Healthcare Assistants** - [hcabookings@ttmhealthcare.com](mailto:hcabookings@ttmhealthcare.com)

**AHP** - [AHP@ttmhealthcare.com](mailto:AHP@ttmhealthcare.com)

**Social Care** - [scbookings@ttmhealthcare.com](mailto:scbookings@ttmhealthcare.com)

**Medical** - [Medical@ttmhealthcare.com](mailto:Medical@ttmhealthcare.com)

### UK

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### Northern Ireland

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**ttm**  
Healthcare Solutions

*We Power Potential*

☎ Call us at **065 68 69300** for a complimentary consultation

🌐 Or send an enquiry via the form at

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UK & NI **[www.ttmhealthcare.co.uk/client-enquiries](http://www.ttmhealthcare.co.uk/client-enquiries)**

**[www.ttmhealthcare.ie](http://www.ttmhealthcare.ie)**

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