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Tender

## **HCC01/25- Provision of N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services**

Hertfordshire County Council

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-001238

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04d000

Published 14 January 2025, 4:04pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Hertfordshire County Council

Pegs Lane

Hertford

SG13 8DE

#### **Contact**

Simon Hastings

#### **Email**

[simon.hastings@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:simon.hastings@hertfordshire.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UKH23 - Hertfordshire

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.hertfordshire.gov.uk](http://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk)

Buyer's address

[www.supplyhertfordshire.uk](http://www.supplyhertfordshire.uk)

**I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<http://www.supplyhertfordshire.uk>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<http://www.supplyhertfordshire.uk>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local authority

**I.5) Main activity**

General public services

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**Section II: Object****II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

## HCC01/25- Provision of N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services

Reference number

HCC2416429

### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services

### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

### **II.1.4) Short description**

Hertfordshire County Council (the 'Council') wishes to establish a framework agreement for the provision of an N H S Talking Therapies Counselling. The aim of the Service is to deliver a countywide (Hertfordshire) talking therapies counselling for service users with common mental health problems, specifically depression, for those aged sixteen (16) and over. Further information in regards to this opportunity can be found in II.2.4 and VI.3 below. Organisations wishing to take part in this project are invited to 'express interest' which will give access to the full procurement documents in the e-tendering system. To be considered as a Bidder you must complete and submit a Bid by the deadline of 12:00 Noon on February 2025. Please allow sufficient time to make your return as late returns will not be permitted by the system. The estimated total value of all of the Contracts is stated in II.1.5 of this notice and is for initial term inclusive of the approximate value for extension.

### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £8,800,000

### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services
- 85312320 - Counselling services

### II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Hertfordshire

### II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Hertfordshire County Council (the 'Council') acting as lead commissioner on behalf of District funding partners wishes to procure a countywide Framework Agreement for the provision of an N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services for Service Users living in Hertfordshire with common mental health problems, specifically depression, delivering Services for those aged sixteen (16) and over- to Improve the mental health and wellbeing of Service Users by providing them with an opportunity to explore, discover and clarify ways of living more resourcefully and with a greater sense of wellbeing using 'Talking Therapies'. This Framework will support Service Users who are registered with their G P practice based on Hertfordshire's two previous Clinical Commissioning Group footprints. The East and North Hertfordshire area and South and West Hertfordshire cover the registered G P populations of the two previous C C G areas. The N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services must be delivered by professional qualified Counsellors, who are trained to deliver N H S Talking Therapies in the modalities of Counselling for Depression (C F D) before commencing any interventions for Hertfordshire Service Users under the Framework Agreement. Please Note: This procurement will be conducted in line with the Health Care Services Provider Selection Regime (P S R) Regulation 2023 and the Council's intends to award a contract in line with those Regulations. The Contract Period is for four (4) years. The Contract commencement date is 1st May 2025. This procurement is an open process. Organisations wishing to take part in this project are invited to 'express an interest' and also 'opt in' which will give access to the full procurement documents in the e-tendering system. To be considered as a Tenderer you must complete and submit a Tender by the deadline of 12 noon on 19th February 2025- Please allow sufficient time to make your return, as Tender submissions cannot be uploaded and submitted after this return deadline. Please ensure that where possible documents are uploaded as a P D F and that file names are succinct. Any questions relating to this procurement must be made via correspondence on the website, in accordance with the procurement documents, and can be addressed to the main contact as shown in the details above. Tenderers should be aware that due to the nature of the Services provided, any Contract formed as a result of this procurement process shall be executed as a deed. Tenderers should seek independent legal advice on the implications of this prior to submitting their Tender, where appropriate. Please note that the contract requirements will be subject to available financial resources, supplier performance and flexibility to meet changing demands. To access this opportunity please visit <https://in->

[tendhost.co.uk/supplyhertfordshire/asp/Home](http://tendhost.co.uk/supplyhertfordshire/asp/Home)

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 100%

Price - Weighting: 0%

#### **II.2.6) Estimated value**

Value excluding VAT: £8,800,000

#### **II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system**

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

This Framework Agreement will be reviewed at the end of the 4 year period.

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

#### **II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds**

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

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## **Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information**

### **III.1) Conditions for participation**

#### **III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers**

List and brief description of conditions

As per the procurement documents

#### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

#### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

### **III.2) Conditions related to the contract**

#### **III.2.1) Information about a particular profession**

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

In the case of framework agreements, provide justification for any duration exceeding 4 years:

Will not exceed 4 years

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

#### **IV.2) Administrative information**

##### **IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

19 February 2025

Local time

12:00pm

##### **IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

##### **IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

19 February 2025

Local time

12:00pm

Place

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/supplyhertfordshire.aspx/Home>

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.2) Information about electronic workflows**

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

### **VI.3) Additional information**

This is a Provider Selection Regime (P S R) Contract Notice. The awarding of this Contract is subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the Provisions of the Public Contract Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award. Please note Hertfordshire County Council has worked closely with its districts and partners to create a joint procurement portal called supply Hertfordshire. This portal provides an e-Tendering system which is run by In-Tend. To access this procurement opportunity please visit <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/supplyhertfordshire.aspx/Home> and follow the on-screen guidance. The Council's procurement documents are available within the e-Tendering system. This is a one stage procurement process. Therefore, if you wish to be considered as a tenderer you must complete and submit a tender by the specified closing date and time. Tender submissions cannot be uploaded after this return deadline. Any clarifications regarding this opportunity must be raised through Correspondence area in the eTendering system. If you are experiencing problems In-Tend offer a help section which includes a dedicated UK support desk which can be contacted via email: [support@in-tend.co.uk](mailto:support@in-tend.co.uk) or Telephone: +44 1144070065 for any website/technical questions, Monday to Friday, 8:30-17:00. The Council reserves the right at any time to cease the procurement process and not award a Contract or to award only part of the opportunity described in this notice. If the Council takes up this right, then they will not be responsible for or pay the expenses or losses, which may be incurred by any organisation or tenderer as a result. The Council undertakes to hold confidential any information provided in the proposal submitted, subject to the Council's obligations under the law including the Freedom of Information Act 2000. If the organisation considers that any of the information submitted in the proposal should not be disclosed because of its sensitivity then this should be stated with the reason for considering it sensitive. The Council will then endeavour to consult with the applicant about such sensitive information when considering any request received under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 before replying to such a request. The Council reserves the right to carry out additional financial checks on all organisations bidding for this opportunity at any time during the procurement process. This is to ensure that they continue to meet the Council's requirements and remain financially viable to fulfil the requirements under the Contract. Organisations should be aware that due to the nature of the Services provided, any Contract formed as a result of this procurement process shall be executed as a deed. Organisations should seek independent legal advice on the implications of this prior to submitting their bid, where appropriate. The procurement process that will apply to the services is specified in the procurement documents accordingly. Please note that the Contract requirements will be subject to available financial resources, supplier performance and flexibility to meet changing demands.



## **VI.4) Procedures for review**

### **VI.4.1) Review body**

Independent Choice and Procurement Panel

Wellington House

London

SE1 8UG

Country

United Kingdom

### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

Independent Choice and Procurement Panel

Wellington House

London

SE1 8UG

Country

United Kingdom

### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The Council will incorporate a minimum 8 working day (when using electronic means) standstill period at the point information on the award of the Contract is communicated to tenderers.