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Contract

DHSC:NIHR Support Services: Public Partnerships and Maximising Research Impact

Department of Health and Social Care

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-003287

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03ddaf

Published 31 January 2025, 1:49pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Health and Social Care

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Contact

Daryl Mahabir

Email

daryl.mahabir@dhsc.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI32 - Westminster

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

DHSC:NIHR Support Services: Public Partnerships and Maximising Research Impact

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 79990000 - Miscellaneous business-related services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care and its mission is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research.

This opportunity is for the re-procurement of NIHR support services to:

- Improve the way partnerships with people and communities in health and care research work ("public partnerships"),

- Improve how NIHR research is disseminated, and knowledge is mobilised to facilitate uptake and adoption of insights from research (“maximising impact”), and
- Act with other NIHR coordinating centres as an integral part of ‘One NIHR’; a co-ordinated, joined-up organisation.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £18,998,512

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKI32 - Westminster

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) supports Ministers in leading the nation's health and social care to enable everyone to live more independent, healthier lives, for longer. DHSC invests significantly in research and development (R&D) to support the delivery of its objectives, primarily through the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR). Through NIHR, DHSC provides evidence to improve the health of the public and outcomes for patients and inform decisions on the effectiveness, efficiency and safety of the health and care system.

The DHSC:NIHR Support Services: Public Partnerships and Maximising Research Impact contract was awarded for the provision of services from 1st April 2025 for a period of 7 years (with a five year break clause) to meet the following strategic objectives:

- improve the way partnerships with people and communities in health and care research work (this includes research involvement, participation, and engagement - referred to as ‘public partnerships’)
- improve how NIHR research is disseminated, and knowledge is mobilised to facilitate uptake and adoption of insights from research (referred to as ‘maximising impact’)
- act as an integral part of National Institute for Health Research Coordinating Centre - working collaboratively within NIHRCC and across NIHRCC & Clinical Research Network Coordinating Centre a co-ordinated, joined-up organisation.

The total awarded contract value is £18,998,512.00 (ex-vat) which was sub-divided as follows:

- services that form the bulk of the deliverables (including any transition costs).
- Authority Emergent Services (unforeseeable services that may emerge throughout the life of the contract).

A market engagement event was held on 1st August 2023, followed by a Competitive Procedure with Negotiation.

Stage 1 - potential suppliers were invited to complete the Standard Selection Questionnaire and successful suppliers were then invited to participate in Stage 2.

Stage 2 - three suppliers were successful at Stage 1 and were invited to submit an initial tender. Following evaluation of the initial tender, the Authority selected two (2) suppliers who met the requisite criteria to participate in negotiations. Following negotiations, suppliers were invited to submit a final tender for evaluation.

No challenges were received during the standstill period and one successful supplier was awarded the contract to deliver the services following the standstill period.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 65

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10

Price - Weighting: 25

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Competitive procedure with negotiation

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2024/S 000-001938](#)

IV.2.9) Information about termination of call for competition in the form of a prior information notice

The contracting authority will not award any further contracts based on the above prior information notice

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

15 January 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 3

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 3

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

BMJ Publishing Group Limited

BMA House Tavistock Square, London

London

WC1H 9JP

Email

ashley.mckimm@bmj.com

Telephone

+44 7943875555

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

03102371

Internet address

<http://www.bmj.com/>

The contractor is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £19,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £18,998,512

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>