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Planning

Mental Health Core Services for NHS Mid and South Essex ICB

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004631

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04dde8

Published 11 February 2025, 5:23pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board

Phoenix House, Christopher Martin Rd,

Basildon

SS14 3HG

Email

cariad.burgess@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH3 - Essex

National registration number

99E

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.midandsouthessex.ics.nhs.uk>

Buyer's address

<https://attain.bravosolution.co.uk/>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://attain.bravosolution.co.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Mental Health Core Services for NHS Mid and South Essex ICB

Reference number

ACE-0796-2025-MSE

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is intended to notify the market of the Market Engagement event only. This PIN is NOT a call for competition.

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board (hereafter referred to as “the Authority”) invites suitably qualified providers to attend a virtual Market Engagement event which will inform the market of the Authority’s intention to undertake a competitive procurement process for the provision of Mental Health Core Services (NHS Talking Therapies Service (formally known as IAPT) and Psychological Therapies for Severe Mental Health Problems Service) on Monday 24th February 2025 12:00 noon – 13:00hrs.

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board, established in July 2022, provides health and care to 1.2 million residents across the region and supersedes the previous Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs). The Authority’s geographical footprint covers Mid Essex, Basildon and Brentwood, South East Essex, and Thurrock.

Historical commissioning has resulted in the ICB holding separate contractual arrangements for NHS Talking Therapies Service (formally known as IAPT) and Psychological Therapies for Severe Mental Health Problems Service. The Services are currently delivered by four different providers through a multifaceted approach with differing offers across the system which is reflective of the previous CCG individual commissioning pathways, resulting in inequitable offers across the population of MSE.

The intended objectives of the new Mental Health Core Services are:

- In line with the Long-Term Plan and Joint Forward Plan (2023), with a commitment to increase access to psychological therapies with a focus on maintaining treatment times and recovery standards.
- For a single system-wide offer, to amalgamate all the contracts for these services into one contract to support integration, reduce fragmentation of services and reduce the number of contracts that MSE ICB will need to manage going forward.
- Enhance and improve outcomes to elicit patient safety and quality.

The Authority intends to procure a new 'Mental Health Core Service' provision and award a single contract to a suitably, technically capable provider. To award a contract, the most suitable provider must have demonstrably satisfied the minimum Basic Selection Criteria, including financial and economical standing, and satisfy the Key Criteria assessment and the commercial envelope.

The market engagement event will offer an opportunity to engage with stakeholders and for prospective service providers to learn more about the service. The procurement process and timetable will also be shared.

The Market Engagement event will take place virtually via MS Teams Webinar on Monday 24th February 2025 from 12:00noon – 13:00hrs. To register interest in attending the engagement event please go to <https://attain.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html> . Click on 'Register here' and follow the onscreen instructions. The relevant documentation will be available within the 'SQ_116 - Mental Health Core Services (TT & PT SMHP) for NHS MSE ICB Market Engagement' project.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £86,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85323000 - Community health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

Main site or place of performance

Mid and South Essex Health Economy

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Service: NHS Talking Therapies

NHS Talking Therapies services provide support for adults with depression and anxiety disorders that can be managed effectively in a uni-professional context. NICE-recommended therapies are delivered by a single competent clinician, with or without concurrent pharmacological treatment, which is typically managed by the GP.

Core IAPT services provide treatment for people with the following common mental health problems: Agoraphobia, Body dysmorphic disorder, Depression, Generalised anxiety disorder, Health anxiety (hypochondriasis), obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD), Panic disorder, PTSD, Social anxiety disorder, Specific phobias (such as heights or small animals, Psychosexual, and others as per local and identified need.

NHS Talking Therapies will also offer the provision of psychological interventions and support for:

- Adults living with Long Term Conditions (LTC). Young people over 18 newly diagnosed with an LTC. The service will also deliver health coaching for NHS resources involved in the care of people living with LTCs.

The service will target service users with the following LTCs:

- COPD and Respiratory Services, Diabetes, Stroke, Chronic Muscular Skeletal, Cancer, Cardiovascular disease, Chronic pain, and others as per local and identified need.

The Service: Psychological Therapies for SMHP (PT- SMHP)

There has been a gap for psychological therapies for people with more complex needs who present in Primary Care, particularly those presenting with Personality Disorders and those with persistent psychological symptoms for whom NHS Talking Therapies are not able to best meet their needs.

Severe Mental Health Problems (SMHP) include psychosis, bipolar disorder, 'personality disorder' and eating disorders. An integrated offer is required as part of the wider psychological model to support these individuals.

The PT-SMHP will be commissioned to support the Integrated Primary Care Community Services MH (please refer to MHPs in PCN Service Spec) transformation plan by providing psychological therapies to treat the 'missing middle', including those on psychiatry wait lists/outpatient caseloads who have personality disorder traits or diagnosis and exceed Talking Therapies thresholds; do not require specialised secondary care MDT provision; require psychiatric medical care.

This notice has outlined an indicative contract value of approximately £17m per year for 5 years, with an indicative aggregate value of £86m. This is an indication only and all details will be published in the appropriate platforms, including Find a Tender Service, and within the procurement documentation once finalised.

The closing date for registering attendance is Monday 24th February 2025 at 10:30hrs.

Please Note: Any expenditure, work or effort undertaken by you prior to any subsequent procurement is a matter solely for your own commercial judgment. The Authority reserves the right to withdraw from the process at any time or to not tender the service(s) or to tender on a different basis. In such circumstances, and in any event, the Authority and/or its advisors shall not be liable for any costs or loss of expenses whatsoever incurred by any organisation, agent or subsidiary that may have contributed to any proposals submitted to this notice. Any and all information/documents are draft and subject to change. Under no circumstances should providers approach the Authority directly in relation to the service.

The service that this market engagement relates is within scope of the Provider Selection Regime (PSR). The Authority is bound only by 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.

II.2.14) Additional information

To register interest in attending the engagement event please go to <https://attain.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html> . Click on 'Register here' and follow the onscreen instructions. The relevant documentation will be available within the 'SQ_116 - Mental Health Core Services (TT & PT SMHP) for NHS MSE ICB Market Engagement' project

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

3 March 2025

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

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