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Planning

PIN Notice: Counselling Services in Bedfordshire

East London NHS Foundation Trust

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-005563

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-029d2c

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

East London NHS Foundation Trust

9 Alie Street

London

E1 8DE

Contact

Mr Zach Nguyen

Email

dangkhoa.nguyen@nhs.net

Telephone

+44 2076554000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH2 - Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.elft.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<http://www.elft.nhs.uk/>

I.3) Communication

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

<https://procontract.due-north.com/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

PIN Notice: Counselling Services in Bedfordshire

Reference number

DN533507

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85312320 - Counselling services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

ELFT delivers IAPT psychological therapies services in Bedfordshire (excluding Luton), and currently commissions Counselling provision to an external provider. The Trust is currently seeking expressions of interest to deliver the counselling service.

The counselling service must be delivered in line with the IAPT model and use the Trust's clinical record system to maintain accurate records of appointments attended, outcome measures, etc. in line with the national Minimum Data Set (MDS) for IAPT.

Due to Covid-19 both the overall IAPT service and the Counselling component are currently being delivered mainly by video and telephone but in future we expect to return to offering face-to-face delivery for those who prefer it. Therefore an existing local presence in Bedfordshire, or the ability to develop this quickly, would be an advantage.

The service consists of a time-limited course of counselling following the principles of the national IAPT programme. The provider will be expected to accept referrals following assessment by ELFT IAPT clinicians, managing the waiting list effectively to keep waiting times at an acceptable level, and delivering effective therapy to help service users to achieve a Recovery outcome, as defined in the IAPT manual. The service will provide brief counselling, recording the IAPT minimum data set at each appointment, with a target to deliver at least 200 attended appointments per month (likely to equate to around 40-45 people per month starting treatment). These activity targets may be increased (in agreement with the provider) to reflect increasing local access targets and/or demand for counselling.

The provider will operate as an integral part of the Bedfordshire Wellbeing Service and adhere to its performance, operational, and safeguarding standards.

Expression of Interest Questions

Please demonstrate with relevant examples (500 words each) -

- 1) Your experience of delivering an IAPT-compliant counselling service to a diverse population and delivering positive experiences and clinical outcomes for service users, with particular reference to the recovery rate.
- 2) Your ability to recruit, maintain and manage a workforce sufficient to achieve contractual activity targets, including ability to expand to meet contractual changes or short-term spikes in demand? Please highlight your strategies and track record.
- 3) How will you ensure that the counselling service is able to offer treatment appointments in a timely manner to ensure that the service achieves the national 90-day waiting time standard?

Please submit your responses via Proactis Due-North Project DN522507.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85312320 - Counselling services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH2 - Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire
- UKI - London

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

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

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Market Test. Contract will have options for extensions.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 April 2022

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: Yes