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Award

## **Oliver McGowan Training (OMT) Hubs**

NHS North East London Integrated Care Board

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-006016

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04e47d

Published 19 February 2025, 6:27pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

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

NHS North East London Integrated Care Board

4th Floor - Unex Tower, 5 Station Street

LONDON

E15 1DA

#### **Email**

[hub.queries@nhs.net](mailto:hub.queries@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKI41 - Hackney and Newham

**NHS Organisation Data Service**

A3A8R

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://northeastlondon.icb.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://northeastlondon.icb.nhs.uk/>

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

Oliver McGowan Training (OMT) Hubs

Reference number

PRJ-1358

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 75200000 - Provision of services to the community

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

The OMT initiative is driven by the Health and Care Act 2022 (s181) and responds to long-standing advocacy for mandatory training to reduce avoidable deaths and enhance care

quality. The OMT programme seeks to rectify the current inconsistent and often ineffective training landscape, where knowledge gaps among staff contribute to misdiagnoses, inadequate care, and poorer health outcomes. Ultimately, the training is expected to improve health outcomes, reduce mortality rates, lower hospital admissions, and ensure better management of health conditions for this vulnerable population.

NCL ICB intends to award contracts to the Homerton Health NHS Foundation Trust and North East London Foundation Trusts via a direct award under the Public Contracts Regulations (PCR) for the establishment and operation of Oliver McGowan Training Hubs. These hubs will deliver the specialised Oliver McGowan training programme to all health care organisations in the System over an 18-month period.

The two-Hub Oliver McGowan Training contracts have been costed at £1,069,696 for both hubs over an 18-month period. These hubs will deliver 5200 tier 1 training spaces and 8200 tier 2 training spaces. The value of each contract is £534,848.

These hubs will establish a large pool of Expert by Experience trainers, providing a specialised recruitment pathway, trainer development and pastoral support for them. The hubs will also create a network with System employability services, and voluntary sector partners to ensure that our local LD&A communities are supported in the access of paid employment opportunities.

The programme aligns with NHS England's funding directives, builds sustainable local infrastructure delivery model, fosters community development, and ensures a legacy of equity and empowerment for LD&A communities.

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

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

Value excluding VAT: £1,069,696

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot No

1

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

- 75200000 - Provision of services to the community

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The procurement for the Oliver McGowan Training (OMT) delivery hubs will primarily provide access to tier 1 and tier 2 training and lead trainer services for health care partners in the NE London care system.

NHS England has allocated funding to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) to ensure the delivery of OMT, targeting all relevant healthcare staff across CQC-registered providers. The programme emphasizes standardized training delivery using the nationally developed OMT package and the development of a sustainable, scalable model for long-term compliance.

To meet these requirements, a two-hub OMT delivery model has been developed for North East London, with a total cost of £1,069,696 over 18 months (£534,848 per hub).

It is the intention of the contracting Authority to award one contract to be hosted by NELFT (North East London NHS Foundation Trust), and the other by Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. While each hub primarily serve a designated area, a reciprocal arrangement allows staff to attend training at either location, maximizing accessibility. The hubs will collaborate to ensure consistent training delivery and resource sharing. Together, they aim to train approximately 5200 tier 1 and 8200 tier 2 staff. Critically, the hubs will create 120-140 paid experts with lived experience trainer roles for individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism, promoting inclusivity and aligning with the ICS's employment priorities.

The expected impact of OMT includes improved clinical outcomes, such as reduced health disparities, fewer misdiagnoses, and a more person-centred approach to care. Social benefits include increased community inclusion, reduced stigma, and an enhanced quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities and autism. Furthermore, the programme aims to provide income streams for the VCSE sector.

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

Options: No

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

The rationale for a direct award of contracts to NELFT (North East London NHS Foundation Trust) and Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust for the delivery of the

Oliver McGowan Training (OMT) programme in North East London. Given the tight timelines, with the Procurement Act 2024 taking effect on 24/02, the decision to make a direct award is driven by the urgent need to implement the OMT programme effectively and efficiently, to commit funding against contracts, the scale and specialized nature of the training required, the high level of growth of pool of experts with lived experience that is needed, and the imperative to establish a sustainable training infrastructure and build market providers.

The ICB requires training at scale for the entire healthcare system, encompassing a large number of staff across diverse settings, delivering at or near sites of employment within the NE London geography.

A direct award to NELFT and Homerton is recommended under PCR no 32 - Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication due to their unique capabilities and expertise in LD&A education and learning, established relationships within the North East London LD&A communities, and proven ability to meet these demanding requirements to provide Mandatory and Statutory Training at this scale. Setting up a sustainable not for profit training service aligns with NHS England's funding directives, facilitates the development of sustainable local infrastructure, supports community development, and delivers a lasting legacy of equity and empowerment to improve the health inequalities for our Learning Disability and Autism LD&A communities.

The following key points detail the rationale for this direct award:

1. Alignment with NHSE Funding Requirements: The proposed model directly supports NHS England's requirements for the OMT programme, focusing on a sustainable, not-for-profit training service delivering impactful outcomes.
2. Capacity to Scale and Deliver: The training pool will be scaled to a capacity to provide training for 20,000 staff annually by Oct 2026, requiring significant investment in recruitment infrastructure, and pastoral support. The Trusts possess existing resources and a proven track record in delivering large-scale statutory training, making them uniquely positioned to meet these demands.
3. Specialised Nature of the Training: OMT is tailored to the specific needs of individuals with LD&A in clinical and non-clinical settings. The Trusts' extensive experience in LD&A training and support makes them the most qualified providers for this specialized service.
4. Expertise as CQC-Regulated Providers: As CQC-regulated organisations, the Trusts ensure compliance with the draft Code of Practice and are well-equipped to navigate future regulatory requirements, providing stability within the sector.
5. Development of Local Training Infrastructure: Collaboration with local voluntary and social enterprises will establish a sustainable OMT infrastructure, diversify the market,

and broaden access to high-quality training, fostering not-for-profit micro-training providers.

6. **Employment of Local Experts:** Employing LD&A experts with lived experience from local communities ensures high-quality training delivery and reduces travel burdens, promoting trainer wellbeing and aligning with NHS equity commitments. This is crucial given the limited pool of individuals with this lived experience and the demands on this group.

7. **Strong Local Connections for Recruitment:** The Trusts' established networks through the Integrated Care Partnership, patient groups, and internship programmes enable rapid and efficient recruitment of trainers, ensuring training targets are met.

8. **Legacy and Community Impact:** The programme aims to reduce health inequalities by linking training outcomes with paid employment opportunities, supporting employability initiatives across North East London and amplifying local benefits in line with the system's LD&A strategy.

9. **Pilot Model for Sustainability:** An 18-month, two-hub pilot (inner and outer NE London) will allow for testing and refinement while maintaining quality and expanding trainer capacity, addressing core NHSE funding uncertainties and that a sustainable model is created without the employment risks of redundancy and redeployment.

10. **Tight Timescales for Implementation:** The OMT programme must be implemented rapidly to meet urgent needs and comply with evolving legislative requirements, necessitating a streamlined procurement process. The direct award approach is the most efficient way to achieve timely implementation within the available timeframe.

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot No

2

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

- 75200000 - Provision of services to the community

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKI - London

## **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The procurement for the Oliver McGowan Training (OMT) delivery hubs will primarily provide access to tier 1 and tier 2 training and lead trainer services for health care partners in the NE London care system.

NHS England has allocated funding to Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) to ensure the delivery of OMT, targeting all relevant healthcare staff across CQC-registered providers. The programme emphasizes standardized training delivery using the nationally developed OMT package and the development of a sustainable, scalable model for long-term compliance.

To meet these requirements, a two-hub OMT delivery model has been developed for North East London, with a total cost of £1,069,696 over 18 months (£534,848 per hub).

It is the intention of the contracting Authority to award one contract to be hosted by NELFT (North East London NHS Foundation Trust), and the other by Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust. While each hub primarily serve a designated area, a reciprocal arrangement allows staff to attend training at either location, maximizing accessibility. The hubs will collaborate to ensure consistent training delivery and resource sharing. Together, they aim to train approximately 5200 tier 1 and 8200 tier 2 staff. Critically, the hubs will create 120-140 paid experts with lived experience trainer roles for individuals with learning disabilities and/or autism, promoting inclusivity and aligning with the ICS's employment priorities.

The expected impact of OMT includes improved clinical outcomes, such as reduced health disparities, fewer misdiagnoses, and a more person-centred approach to care. Social benefits include increased community inclusion, reduced stigma, and an enhanced quality of life for individuals with learning disabilities and autism. Furthermore, the programme aims to provide income streams for the VCSE sector.

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

Options: No

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

The rationale for a direct award of contracts to NELFT (North East London NHS Foundation Trust) and Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust for the delivery of the Oliver McGowan Training (OMT) programme in North East London. Given the tight timelines, with the Procurement Act 2024 taking effect on 24/02, the decision to make a direct award is driven by the urgent need to implement the OMT programme effectively and efficiently, to commit funding against contracts, the scale and specialized nature of the training required, the high level of growth of pool of experts with lived experience that

is needed, and the imperative to establish a sustainable training infrastructure and build market providers.

The ICB requires training at scale for the entire healthcare system, encompassing a large number of staff across diverse settings, delivering at or near sites of employment within the NE London geography.

A direct award to NELFT and Homerton is recommended under Public Contracts Regulation 32 - Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication due to their unique capabilities and expertise in LD&A education and learning, established relationships within the North East London LD&A communities, and proven ability to meet these demanding requirements to provide Mandatory and Statutory Training at this scale. Setting up a sustainable not for profit training service aligns with NHS England's funding directives, facilitates the development of sustainable local infrastructure, supports community development, and delivers a lasting legacy of equity and empowerment to improve the health inequalities for our Learning Disability and Autism LD&A communities.

The following key points detail the rationale for this direct award:

1. Alignment with NHSE Funding Requirements: The proposed model directly supports NHS England's requirements for the OMT programme, focusing on a sustainable, not-for-profit training service delivering impactful outcomes.
2. Capacity to Scale and Deliver: The training pool will be scaled to a capacity to provide training for 20,000 staff annually by Oct 2026, requiring significant investment in recruitment infrastructure, and pastoral support. The Trusts possess existing resources and a proven track record in delivering large-scale statutory training, making them uniquely positioned to meet these demands.
3. Specialised Nature of the Training: OMT is tailored to the specific needs of individuals with LD&A in clinical and non-clinical settings. The Trusts' extensive experience in LD&A training and support makes them the most qualified providers for this specialized service.
4. Expertise as CQC-Regulated Providers: As CQC-regulated organisations, the Trusts ensure compliance with the draft Code of Practice and are well-equipped to navigate future regulatory requirements, providing stability within the sector.
5. Development of Local Training Infrastructure: Collaboration with local voluntary and social enterprises will establish a sustainable OMT infrastructure, diversify the market, and broaden access to high-quality training, fostering not-for-profit micro-training providers.
6. Employment of Local Experts: Employing LD&A experts with lived experience from local communities ensures high-quality training delivery and reduces travel burdens,



promoting trainer wellbeing and aligning with NHS equity commitments. This is crucial given the limited pool of individuals with this lived experience and the demands on this group.

7. Strong Local Connections for Recruitment: The Trusts' established networks through the Integrated Care Partnership, patient groups, and internship programmes enable rapid and efficient recruitment of trainers, ensuring training targets are met.

8. Legacy and Community Impact: The programme aims to reduce health inequalities by linking training outcomes with paid employment opportunities, supporting employability initiatives across North East London and amplifying local benefits in line with the system's LD&A strategy.

9. Pilot Model for Sustainability: An 18-month, two-hub pilot (inner and outer NE London) will allow for testing and refinement while maintaining quality and expanding trainer capacity, addressing core NHSE funding uncertainties and that a sustainable model is created without the employment risks of redundancy and redeployment.

10. Tight Timescales for Implementation: The OMT programme must be implemented rapidly to meet urgent needs and comply with evolving legislative requirements, necessitating a streamlined procurement process. The direct award approach is the most efficient way to achieve timely implementation within the available timeframe.

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## Section IV. Procedure

### IV.1) Description

#### IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

The rationale is based on the following key factors:

#### Alignment with NHSE Funding Requirements

The proposed model directly supports NHS England's requirements for the OMT programme, focusing on establishing a sustainable, not-for-profit training service that delivers impactful outcomes for the health and care system.

## Capacity to Scale and Deliver

With a target of training 13,400 staff over the 18 months, the programme requires significant expertise, infrastructure, and recruitment. The Trusts are uniquely positioned to meet these demands through their existing resources and proven ability to deliver large-scale statutory training.

## Specialised Nature of the Training

The OMT programme is tailored to the needs of individuals with LD&A in clinical and non-clinical settings. The Trusts' extensive experience in LD&A training and support makes them the most qualified providers.

## Expertise as CQC-Regulated Providers

As CQC-regulated organisations, the Trusts ensure compliance with the draft Code of Practice and are well-positioned to prepare the workforce for future regulatory requirements, offering stability amidst sector uncertainties.

## Development of Local Training Infrastructure

By working with voluntary and social enterprises, the programme will build a sustainable OMT infrastructure, diversify the market, and expand access to high-quality training, fostering not-for-profit micro-training providers.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## Section V. Award of contract/concession

### Lot No

1

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### V.2) Award of contract/concession

#### V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

18 February 2025

### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

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

### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

North East London NHS Foundation Trust

1 Marsh Way

Dagenham

RM13 8GQ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

NHS Organisation Data Service

RAT

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £534,848

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £534,848

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

### **Lot No**

2

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

## **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

18 February 2025

### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

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

### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

Homerton Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Homerton Row

London

E9 6SR

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

NHS Organisation Data Service

RQX

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £534,848

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £534,848

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

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

NHS North East London ICB

4th Floor - Unex Tower, 5 Station Street

LONDON

E15 1DA

Country

United Kingdom