

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/008029-2023>

Planning

## **Provision of Autism Support Advice and Inclusion Service across North West London**

NHS North West London Integrated Care Board

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-008029

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-03b45d

Published 20 March 2023, 2:52pm

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

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

NHS North West London Integrated Care Board

15 Marylebone Rd,

London

NW1 5JD

#### **Contact**

NHS North West London Contracts Team

#### **Email**

[nhsnwl.contracting@nhs.net](mailto:nhsnwl.contracting@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKI32 - Westminster

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.nwlondonics.nhs.uk>

Buyer's address

<https://www.nwlondonics.nhs.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://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

**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**

Provision of Autism Support Advice and Inclusion Service across North West London

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

- 85323000 - Community health services

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

Services

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

NHS North West London requires the provision of an Autism Support Advice & Inclusion Service to deliver a peer-led support, advice & signposting service for autistic people without a learning disability aged 14 & over. One of the key features of this service is that it will be delivered by people with lived experience of autism, & shaped, tested, & evaluated by the autistic people & families who use it.

The contract term is for a three (3) year period, with an optional extension period of two (2) years, starting 1st July 2023 with an estimated contract value of £450,000 per annum, inclusive of VAT. A mobilisation period of 1 month will be applied prior to the commencement of the start date.

NHS NW London is looking to tender this opportunity via an Atamis portal in the coming weeks. This procurement process is subject to the so-called light touch regime as set out in regulations 74-76 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR") as the procurement concerns health services which are social & other specific services according to the PCR. This opportunity is likely to be of interest to an organisation from the voluntary, community & social enterprise (VCSE) sector.

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

Value excluding VAT: £2,250,000

#### **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
- 85323000 - Community health services
- 75200000 - Provision of services to the community

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

NUTS codes

- UKI74 - Harrow and Hillingdon

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

NHS North West London requires the provision of an Autism Support Advice & Inclusion Service to deliver a peer-led support, advice & signposting service for autistic people without a learning disability aged 14 & over. One of the key features of this service is that it will be delivered by people with lived experience of autism, & shaped, tested, & evaluated by the autistic people & families who use it.

The contract term is for a three (3) year period, with an optional extension period of two (2) years, starting 1st July 2023 with an estimated contract value of £450,000 per annum, inclusive of VAT. A mobilisation period of 1 month will be applied prior to the commencement of the start date.

NHS NW London is looking to tender this opportunity via an Atamis portal in the coming weeks. This procurement process is subject to the so-called light touch regime as set out in regulations 74-76 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("PCR") as the procurement concerns health services which are social & other specific services according to the PCR. This opportunity is likely to be of interest to an organisation from the voluntary, community & social enterprise (VCSE) sector.

The service will:

- Provide direct face-to-face & virtual pre & post diagnostic support to autistic adults delivered as 1:1 & group sessions. This will include support with communication, executive functioning tasks, budgeting & navigating services.
- Deliver group sessions to young people aged 14 to 17.
- Offer specialist training & advice to families, employers & professionals (including but not limited to those working across statutory, voluntary & community services within health, social care, education, criminal justice system & advisory settings) to improve autism awareness & acceptance within communities & the wider system.
- Develop mechanisms & facilitate sessions to provide opportunities for autistic people to

share their views & experiences & contribute to plans to improve specialist & mainstream services & pathways.

Key features of the service include:

- Delivery of a flexible & responsive service, which will develop according to the emerging needs, preferences & life experiences of the autistic people who use it.
- Needs-led drop-in & drop-out service which people can access & take time to explore at their own pace.
- A flexible referral route which includes self –referrals.
- At least one base in NW London to ensure the service is accessible for our residents & to support strong community connections & links with local providers. If needed, the provider will be expected to work with local partners to identify community venues in other boroughs across NW London which can be used for holding local drop-ins & meetings.
- Operation of flexible working hours including the delivery of some 1:1 & group sessions during evenings & weekends.
- A strong website presence to publish up to date information on autism & the support available.

The overarching aims for the service are to:

- Improve the quality of life for autistic people & their partners & families in NW London.
- Promote the right to independence, relationships, employment, & education.
- Improve awareness & acceptance of autism amongst our communities.
- Improve access to services through reasonable adjustments.
- Provide early intervention to avoid crisis.
- Promote the safety & wellbeing of autistic people.
- Reduce health & wellbeing inequalities faced by autistic people.
- Continue to test the service model based on the principles of co-production, user led service design & strength based approaches.
- Support the system to identify gaps & determine the level of demand for a similar NW London peer-led service for children & young people & their families.

Please refer to the 'Conditions for Participation' section below.

### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

1 July 2023

---

## **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**

#### **CONDITIONS FOR PARTICIPATION**

NHS NW London is committed to assessing the needs of the service users & to consider how (if relevant) it needs to secure the needs of the people who use the services & improve the quality & efficiency in the provision of the services including through the services being provided in an integrated way.

The service is currently being delivered by Centre for ADHD & Autism Support (CAAS). To ensure continuity of the current service delivery, an interim contract will be put into place with Centre for ADHD & Autism Support (CAAS) while the procurement process is finalised.

Providers capable of delivering this service may come forward by 17:00, Friday, 24th March 2023 to engage with NHS NW London ICB. In your response to this opportunity, please advise your interest via: [nhsnwl.contracting@nhs.net](mailto:nhsnwl.contracting@nhs.net)