

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/021017-2024>

Planning

PPME For Provision of NHS Talking Therapies Counselling Services

Hertfordshire County Council

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-021017

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047c29

Published 10 July 2024, 10:40am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Hertfordshire County Council

Pegs Lane

HERTFORD

SG13 8DE

Contact

Simon Hastings

Email

simon.hastings@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH23 - Hertfordshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

Buyer's address

www.supplyhertfordshire.uk

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object**II.1) Scope of the procurement****II.1.1) Title**

PPME For Provision of NHS Talking Therapies Counselling Services

Reference number

PPME - 07/24 – Adult Care Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Hertfordshire County Council (the 'Council') is carrying out Pre-Procurement Market Engagement ('P P M E') in relation to procuring a N H S talking therapies counselling service. The Council will consider the feedback received to help inform the Council's options and further decision making. For the avoidance of doubt, this stage of the project is not part of a formal procurement process and the Council is not committing, at this stage, to carrying out such a process. Participation or non-participation in the P P M E shall not prevent any supplier participating in a potential future procurement, nor is it intended that any information supplied as part of the P P M E shall place any supplier at an advantage in a potential procurement process. Participation in the P P M E will be at each organisation's own cost. No expense in responding to this P P M E will be reimbursed by the Council.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services
- 85312320 - Counselling services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire

Main site or place of performance

Hertfordshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Hertfordshire County Council ('the Council') wishes to invite interested Providers to return the P P M E Appendix A- Supplier Questionnaire by 12.00 (noon) Wednesday 24th July 2024. The Council will consider the input and responses received as part of its P P M E to help inform the Council's options and further decision making regarding the below intended project and to help inform its specification. N H S Talking Therapies counselling services provide N I C E recommended psychological interventions for adults and older

adults with anxiety disorders and or depression. The review of data received from N H S Talking Therapies counselling services indicates that a significant number of people who choose N H S Talking Therapies report feeling more able to cope and an improved health and wellbeing at the end of their intervention. Currently approximately one in two people who have a course of treatment in N H S Talking Therapies recover and two out of three people show worthwhile improvements in their mental health.

Project BackgroundThe nationally led evidence based N H S Talking Therapies programme has been offered in Hertfordshire since 2008, previously called Improving Access to Psychological Therapies and known as I A P T. In 2023 the I A P T programme was renamed N H S Talking Therapies for anxiety and depression to facilitate public recognition and clarify the clinical conditions that are treated in the services.

The Council currently commissions on behalf of the Herts and West Essex I C B for the delivery of N H S Talking Therapies counselling services with six (6) providers working across Hertfordshire. The Council is looking to commence a procurement as the current arrangements for N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services delivered under a Hertfordshire County Council framework expire in January 2025. This framework contributes to the I C B's N H S Talking Therapies programme. Expanding and developing the N H S Talking Therapies counselling services is a key element to meeting the aims set out in the N H S Long term plan for Mental Health.

Current Project BriefThis brief is being used as an outline to engage with the market so the Council can discuss the opportunity with potentially interested organisations. This Pre-Procurement Market Engagement (P P M E) process will inform the commissioning strategy and future delivery requirements for these services. It is anticipated that the provider will deliver a countywide, N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Service for the residents of Hertfordshire. The Service will be an integral part of the overall delivery of N H S Talking Therapy Counselling Services already established in Hertfordshire, offering N H S Talking Therapies Counselling Services to Service Users for whom other modalities may not be suitable. Service Users will be aged over 16 and reporting as suffering from a mild to moderate range of mental health problems, including:- Grief or Loss - Coping with injury or illness - Developmental or life crises - Emotional or physical abuse issues - Family relationship issues - Loss example relationship, employment, health. - Self-image and identity issues - Lack of direction, alienation, existential problems- Stress and trauma - pre and post event - Issues of sexuality- Early onset addictive behaviors; drug misuse, eating disorders, alcoholism

The Counselling Services must be delivered by accredited N H S practitioners /qualified Counsellors, who are trained to deliver N H S Talking Therapies.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

2 September 2024

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