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Future opportunity

Learning and Development Offer Phase 1 and Continuous Professional Development Budgets for Regulated Health Professionals

Department of Health and Social Care

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice reference: 2022/S 000-022845

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Department of Health and Social Care

39 Victoria Street

London

SW1H 0EU

Contact

Lara Dolamore

Email

lara.dolamore@dhsc.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI32 - Westminster

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

Buyer's address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-health-and-social-care>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

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

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Learning and Development Offer Phase 1 and Continuous Professional Development Budgets for Regulated Health Professionals

Reference number

C78912

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 75100000 - Administration services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

In December 2021 the Government released a White Paper: People at the Heart of Care outlining its vision for the adult social care workforce. Backed up by at least £500 million to transform the way Government supports and develops the workforce, the policies in the White Paper aim to create a workforce which is:

- Well trained and developed;
- Healthy and supported; and
- Sustainable and recognised.

This will contribute to wider strategic aims to ensure that those who receive care are provided with choice, control, and support to live independent lives; that they receive outstanding quality and tailored care; and that people find adult social care fair and accessible.

It is intended that part of this investment shall support and enhance access to good quality training for those working in social care through:

1. Learning and Development Offer for non-regulated care workforce
2. Continuous Professional Development for eligible Regulated Health Professionals

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £5,350,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85321000 - Administrative social services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

1. Learning and Development Offer Phase 1

Objective is to increase the funding of Learning and Development for the ASC workforce by reimbursing employers and/or training providers upon completion of training up to 31 May 2023. The offer will include training and development for the adult social care workforce (for example, staff working in care homes, supported living, domiciliary care services and similar, including registered managers) but does not include regulated professionals such as registered nurses, social workers, occupational therapists or other professionals working in the same setting).

The offer will run alongside the Workforce Development Fund (WDF) in 2022-23. The Workforce Development Fund is a reimbursement fund that provides reimbursement to employers towards the costs of learning and development for the adult social care workforce. The offer will need to work cohesively with the WDF.

The Authority requires a Delivery Partner who can reimburse employers and/or training providers on behalf of the Authority upon the completion of eligible training through an accessible online digital reimbursement system.

The Delivery Partner will need to:

1. Manage how adult social care (ASC) employers and/or training providers apply to access the funding, including developing guidance for employers and employees, and a GDS-compliant user interface
2. Process claims and distribute payments to eligible claimants (this could be up to 400,000 claims)
3. ensure fraud is managed, employers claim for funding are evidenced, and training providers and employers are not reimbursed for the same training.
4. engage with the sector to drive demand for the funding, including signpost training and development opportunities, available funding, access to opportunities; and

5. provide up to date reporting and estimates of the numbers of training that employers are putting staff through.

2. Continuous Professional Development – Regulated Health Professionals only

The Authority intends to provide funding until 2024/25 to the adult social care employers of eligible registered nurses, nursing associates and other allied health professionals to contribute towards the costs of their CPD. Regulated health professionals are required to be registered with their respective regulatory body and must undertake CPD that meet the standards set by their regulatory body. Evidence indicates that financial pressures mean employers find it challenging to meet the costs of funding good quality CPD. Consequently, regulated health professionals can struggle to access relevant CPD opportunities. Investment to support funding for CPD aims to improve retention, reduce turnover, and improve productivity within the regulated health workforce.

The 'Fund' shall refer to the money to support eligible regulated professionals with the cost of their CPD.

The Authority requires a Delivery Partner to design and administer a reimbursement scheme for employers, providing a set amount of funding per employee subject to successful completion of CPD.

1. Manage how adult social care (ASC) employers and apply to access the funding, including developing guidance for employers and employees, and a GDS- compliant user interface
2. Process claims and distribute payments to eligible claimants (this could be up to 40,000 claims per annum, although employers will be encouraged to group claims).
3. Manage the delivery of funding to ASC employers including setting up verification processes, managing the risk of fraud and meeting the fraud requirements as set out by the authority.
4. Maintain ongoing communications with the ASC workforce to promote the availability of the Fund.
5. Deal with complaints, feedback and related service delivery issues within agreed service level agreements; and
6. Provide the Authority with up-to-date reporting and data on the distribution of the Fund
7. Working alongside the 'Employers' to ensure access to the Fund

II.2.14) Additional information

Indicative timelines:

LDO Phase 1 -Timeline:

The anticipated start date for delivering this requirement is in the second half of the 2022/23 financial year

CPD Timeline:

1.1 The anticipated start date for delivering this requirement is in the second half of the

2022/23 financial year. The CPD fund is expected to have to process approximately 40,000 claims for reimbursement.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

16 August 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

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Authority intends to run the procurement for a delivery partner(s) via a call off from the CCS RM6172 Grants Administration Framework.

The purpose of this PIN is therefore to alert the market of our intention and give you a broad indication of the opportunities which the Authority intends to offer in order to give interested suppliers the opportunity to:

- Register on the CCS RM6172 Grants Administration
- Framework in time for the procurement exercise
- <https://supplierregistration.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/dps#financialservices>; and
- Provide feedback as to the Authority's proposed strategy to procure these services.

A Request for Information (RFI) including draft specifications, and CCS registration detail can be found by logging into Atamis the Departments eSourcing tool, To obtain further information , register your interest and respond to the market engagement activity (a request for information) please follow these steps:

1. Log in or Register through the supplier portal at <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>
2. Locate the opportunity using 'My Proposals and Quotes' or in 'Find Opportunities' 'C78912' Learning and Development Offer Phase 1 and Continuous Professional Development Budgets for Regulated Health Professionals
3. Click Register Interest. When expressing an interest, service providers should provide:

- (i) the contact details of the supplier's representative;
- (ii) the requested RFI responses.

To note: any draft documents shared through this market engagement process may have some cross references which are not accurate, sections which are not fully developed, some sections which may be repetitive, some omissions and all the drafts will require further work. However, the Authority is sharing these draft documents in good faith so genuine views on how this requirement can be delivered can be sought from the market.

Transparency: Potential suppliers should note that, in accordance with Government's policies on transparency, the Department intends to publish the Invitation to Tender (ITT) document, and the text of any Contract awarded, subject to possible redaction at the discretion of the Department. Further information on transparency can be found at: <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/content/transparencyoverview> . This notice is for information only, and the Department reserves the right to discontinue the proposed tendering process and not award the contract. The information contained in this notice, including information relating to the nature and scope of the Department's requirements, the service classification of this requirement or the list of CPV codes, is only indicative of the Department's current thinking and is neither exhaustive nor binding. The Department reserves the right at its absolute discretion to amend it at the time of issue of any further notices or at any other time. The publication of this notice in no way obliges the Department to commence with any competitive tender process. The Department is not and shall not be liable for any costs incurred by those expressing any interest in participating in the market consultation exercise advertised in this notice.