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Planning

NSS04724 Workforce Specialist Services

The Common Services Agency (more commonly known as NHS National Services Scotland) (NSS)

F01: Prior information notice

Reducing time limits for receipt of tenders

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-028140

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0497b5

Published 3 September 2024, 2:18pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

The Common Services Agency (more commonly known as NHS National Services Scotland) (NSS)

Gyle Square, 1 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh

Edinburgh

EH12 9EB

Contact

Shona MacKenzie

Email

nss.procurementteam@nhs.scot

Telephone

+44 1312756000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://www.nss.nhs.scot/browse/procurement-and-logistics>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA11883

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

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk

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

NSS04724 Workforce Specialist Services

Reference number

NSS04724

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85312320 - Counselling services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Workforce Specialist Services

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £8,360,000

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

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The contract will commence on 1st April 2025 and will be in place for a period of 3 years. There will be an option to extend by a period of 1 x 2 years. The Provider will deliver on behalf of the Authority a Workforce Specialist Service (WSS), a confidential mental health, including addiction, assessment and treatment service. Access to the WSS will be for those working members of the health and social care workforce, or those who may be out of work but retain a licence to practice, and who, due to the nature of their professional role, are unable to access confidential care through usual routes, who's illness or care is complicated by the conditions of being a regulated practitioner or who are at risk of or undergoing regulatory proceedings and their mental health is relevant or affected.

The workforce specialist service will offer specialism in treating and supporting regulated practitioners who:

- experience increased risks of suffering mental illness including difficulties with addiction and suicidality.
- suffer stigmatisation and difficulty accessing confidential assessment and treatment for mental health;
- and who are reluctant to seek help due to concerns about professional implications (e.g. regulator involvement, detriment to career progression, impact of having time off sick).

The service provided is expected to be led by a multi-professional team with experience in treating regulated professionals.

The service should offer specialism in treating addictions including capability to provide or arrange in-patient detoxification and/or rehabilitation therapy.

The provider will also support mobilisation, advisory and consultancy support for the Workforce Specialist Service

The Scottish health and social care workforce is 400,000. It has been estimated that approximately 700 individuals will require the provider's support for case management over a twelve-month period, based on approximately 60 new registrations per month. It is expected that the service will be able to safely triage and offer both case management and therapy pathways as standard.

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £8,360,000

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

Duration in months

36

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

30 October 2024

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.1) Suitability to pursue the professional activity, including requirements relating to enrolment on professional or trade registers

List and brief description of conditions

The Provider will ensure appropriate triage, clinical pathways, risk management, therapeutic capacity and administrative staffing levels to meet the indicative demand (approximately 700 patients over 12 months). Ability to offer confidential care for mental illness but appropriate escalation procedures and means to engage with down stream agencies including registered GP, employers and regulators as appropriate.

All staff will have appropriate clinical registration and accreditation.

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

3 years financial records

Provider shall insure:

in respect of professional negligence in the amount of not less than FIVE MILLION POUNDS (5,000,000) STERLING for each claim;

in respect of public liability insurance in the amount of not less than FIVE MILLION POUNDS (5,000,000) STERLING for each claim;

in respect of employer's liability in the amount as may be legally required from time to time

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

List and brief description of selection criteria

Offer specialism in the treatment of regulated health and social care practitioners who, due to their role, experience barriers to care for their mental ill health. Can demonstrate competence and experience in managing addiction in regulated practitioners in both in and out patient settings.

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Able to deliver clinical care to the demand of approximately 60 per month (700 per year)

and appropriate manage or triage fluctuations and additional demand safely.

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.1) Information about a particular profession

Execution of the service is reserved to a particular profession

Reference to the relevant law, regulation or administrative provision

The Provider will ensure appropriate clinical, therapeutic and administrative staffing levels to meet the indicative demand (700 patients over 12 months). They will offer reasonable support for public communications and engagement events to raise awareness and encourage appropriate uptake of the service.

All staff will have appropriate clinical registration and accreditation.

III.2.2) Contract performance conditions

The contractor needs to provide monthly activity reports, including clinical outcomes and sickness/absence data, significant events including death by suicide and recovery/abstinence data at agreed intervals and an annual report summarising impact of the service and value for money invested.

III.2.3) Information about staff responsible for the performance of the contract

Obligation to indicate the names and professional qualifications of the staff assigned to performing the contract

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

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.5) Scheduled date for start of award procedures

31 October 2024

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

The estimated values referred to in Section II.1.5 and 11.2.6 covers the 36 months contract duration and the 24 month extension period of the framework agreement.

Notes of interest should be provided by 2nd October 2024 at Midday.

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Public Contracts Scotland Web Site at

[https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=776190.](https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=776190)

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(SC Ref:776190)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Sheriff Court House

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Email

edinburgh@scotcourts.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1312252525

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

Economic operators should approach the contracting authority in the first instance. However, the only formal remedy is to apply to the

courts:

An economic operator that suffers, or is at risk of suffering, loss or damage attributable to a breach of duty under the Public Contracts

(Scotland) Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014, may bring proceedings in the Sheriff Court or the Court of

Session.

VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained

Sheriff Court House

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Email

edinburgh@scotcourts.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1312252525

Country

United Kingdom