

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/028193-2024>

Tender

## **Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism: Assessment and Diagnosis, NHS Talking Therapies and Crisis Services**

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-028193

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

Published 3 September 2024, 4:58pm

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

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

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

Three Cherry Tree Lane, Hemel Hempstead

Hertfordshire

HP2 7AH

#### **Email**

[nsbs.categorymanagementsourcing@nhs.net](mailto:nsbs.categorymanagementsourcing@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKD34 - Greater Manchester South West

## **Companies House**

05280446

### **Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

## **I.3) Communication**

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://discovery.ariba.com/rfx/20838011>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://discovery.ariba.com/rfx/20838011>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

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

Other type

Public Sector Framework Provider <https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/nhs-sbs-about-us>

## **I.5) Main activity**

Health

---

## Section II: Object

### II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism: Assessment and Diagnosis, NHS Talking Therapies and Crisis Services

Reference number

SBS10239

#### II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

#### II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

#### II.1.4) Short description

NHS Shared Business Services act in an Agency capacity for and on behalf of its customers (Approved Organisations) - existing and new. These comprise of NHS and Social Care organisations (whether acting individually, or on behalf of, or together as members of any consortia) along with any other public or private sector bodies which NHS SBS authorises to use the resulting Framework.

NHS Shared Business Services Limited (NHS SBS) intends to put in place a Framework Agreement for the provision of Mental Health, Learning Disability and Autism: Assessment and Diagnosis, NHS Talking Therapies and Crisis Services to be used by NHS SBS Approved Organisations. Approved Organisations are NHS and Social Care organisations (whether acting individually, or on behalf of, or together as members of any consortia) or any combined authority, integrated care board, local authority, NHS England, NHS foundation trust, NHS trust or any other body listed as a "relevant authority" in the National Health Service Act 2006, which the Authority authorises to use the resulting Framework.

Our Approved Organisation list can be found on:

<https://www.sbs.nhs.uk/services/framework-agreements-categories/>

The Framework will be structured using the following Lots;

Lot 1 - Assessment and Diagnosis

Lot 2 - NHS Talking Therapies

Lot 3 - Crisis Services

We are committed to working with suppliers who are dedicated to Sustainability and Social Value and there will be a significant weighting on these elements in the tender.

The term of the framework agreement will be 48 months

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

Value excluding VAT: £70,000,000

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

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Tenders may be submitted for all lots

## **II.2) Description**

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

Assessment and Diagnosis

Lot No

1

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

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK - United Kingdom

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

The Assessment and Diagnosis lot will include a range of services and clinical

assessments used in the diagnosis of common mental health conditions, severe mental illness, and neurological conditions. The lot will also include provision for ongoing assessments.

Services will be available for Children and Young People, Adults and Older People and will include, but are not limited to:

- Neurodevelopmental conditions such as autism and ADHD
- Coexisting frailty
- Coexisting neurodevelopmental conditions
- Common mental health conditions such as anxiety or depression
- Children and Young People with multiple needs
- Co-occurring drug or alcohol-use disorders, and other addiction disorders, including gambling
- Eating disorders
- Health and Social care
- Learning disabilities
- Psychiatric severe mental health illnesses such as psychosis or bipolar disorder

Bidders must deliver all the mandatory requirements as detailed in the Specification section of the Framework Agreement.

There are additional Selection Qualification (SQ), Award Questionnaire (AQ) requirements, and Bidder Declarations applicable, and Bidders are asked to respond to these also.

Where the Bidder does not score a minimum of 55% in total (AQ and total Commercial score combined) the Authority shall exclude the submission from being appointed to the framework.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Framework due for renewal in April 2029

## **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

Under the Provider Selection Regime, the Authority reserves the right to reopen the competition to new bidders at any time throughout the lifecycle of this Framework. Reopening will be advertised as required under PSR legislation and conducted via our sourcing portal using the same evaluation criteria for all bidder submissions.

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

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) Contract Notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award.

## **II.2) Description**

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

NHS Talking Therapies

Lot No

2

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

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK - United Kingdom

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

The NHS Talking Therapies lot is for the provision of NHS Talking Therapies, Counselling, and Psychotherapy. This lot must be delivered by a clinical workforce who are fully and appropriately trained and supervised.

NHS Talking Therapies for anxiety and depression provide treatment for people with the following common mental health problems:

- Agoraphobia
- Body dysmorphic disorder (BDD)
- Depression
- Generalised anxiety disorder
- Health anxiety (hypochondriasis)
- Mixed depression and anxiety (the term for sub-syndromal depression and anxiety, rather than both depression and anxiety)
- Obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD)
- Panic disorder
- Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Social anxiety disorder
- Specific phobias (such as heights, flying, spiders etc.)

Bidders must deliver all the mandatory requirements as detailed in the Specification section of the Framework Agreement.

There are additional Selection Qualification (SQ), Award Questionnaire (AQ) requirements, and Bidder Declarations applicable, and Bidders are asked to respond to these also.

Where the Bidder does not score a minimum of 55% in total (AQ and Price combined) the Authority shall exclude the submission from being appointed to the framework.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Framework due for renewal in April 2029

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

Under the Provider Selection Regime, the Authority reserves the right to reopen the competition to new bidders at any time throughout the lifecycle of this Framework. Reopening will be advertised as required under PSR legislation and conducted via our sourcing portal using the same evaluation criteria for all bidder submissions.

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

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) Contract Notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award.

## **II.2) Description**

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

Crisis Services

Lot No

3

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

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

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

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK - United Kingdom

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

The Crisis Services lot is focussed on relapse prevention, assisting Approved Organisations respond to patients including Children and Young People, Adults and Older People at times when their mental health and/or social situation has deteriorated to the point they are at considerable risk and require additional support to remain in their current accommodation and/or prevent further harm.

Services provided under this lot are intended as an alternative to A&E or inpatient psychiatric admission and include, but are not limited to:

- 24/7 telephone helplines
- Crisis Home Treatment Teams (CRHTT)

In addition, for Children and Young People:

- 24/7 assessments and brief response
- Extended hours intervention and community provision
- Extended hours intensive community care

Bidders must deliver all the mandatory requirements as detailed in the Specification section of the Framework Agreement.

There are additional Selection Qualification (SQ), Award Questionnaire (AQ) requirements, and Bidder Declarations applicable, and Bidders are asked to respond to these also.

Where the Bidder does not score a minimum of 55% in total (AQ and Price combined) the Authority shall exclude the submission from being appointed to the framework.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

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

Duration in months

48

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

Framework due for renewal in April 2029

#### **II.2.10) Information about variants**

Variants will be accepted: No

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

Options: Yes

Description of options

Under the Provider Selection Regime, the Authority reserves the right to reopen the competition to new bidders at any time throughout the lifecycle of this Framework. Reopening will be advertised as required under PSR legislation and conducted via our sourcing portal using the same evaluation criteria for all bidder submissions.

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

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) Contract Notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award.

---

### **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

Counsellors and Psychotherapists delivering services under this framework agreement must be suitably accredited.

(Lot 1) Bidders delivering assessment and diagnosis services must confirm that clinical professionals delivering the service hold the appropriate qualifications:

- Nurses must be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.
- Doctors must be registered with the General Medical Council.
- All clinical professionals must hold specific Mental Health qualifications relevant to the services they are delivering.

(Lot 2 and 3) In accordance with the NHS Talking Therapies for Anxiety and Depression Manual bidders must confirm that high-intensity therapists (HITs) working in NHS Talking Therapies services have either:

- completed the Manual-recognised NHS Talking Therapies qualification to deliver the therapy or therapies that they deliver in NHS Talking Therapies, and gain and maintain the recognised individual accreditation to deliver these within 1 year of qualifying, OR
- have the Manual-recognised individual accreditation to deliver the therapy or therapies

that they deliver in NHS Talking Therapies.

(Lot 2 and 3) Bidders delivering psychological therapies must confirm that their counsellors and psychotherapists hold the appropriate BACP, BABCP or EMDR Europe Accreditation.

### **III.1.2) Economic and financial standing**

List and brief description of selection criteria

NHS SBS will independently verify bidders financial standing using external credit reporting agency Dun & Bradstreet and evaluate bidders reports based on the criteria shown below:

Where a Bidder has a Failure Score of 51 or above, a Risk Indicator of 1 or 2, and a Financial Strength Indicator (based on Tangible Net Worth) of between 5A and C or NB) (all three aspects - Failure Score, Risk Indicator and Financial Strength Indicator), they will pass this element of the SQ, subject to any anomalies within the Bidder's overall D&B report identified by the Authority being satisfactorily addressed.

Where a Bidder has Failure Score of less than 51, a Risk Indicator greater than 2, or a Financial Strength Indicator (based on Tangible Net Worth) of between D and H or any of N, O, or NQ (any one aspect Failure Score, Risk Indicator and Financial Strength Indicator), following a request from the Authority the Bidder must provide an audited set of accounts for the last three years (where possible, e.g. established more than three years) for your organisation and a fully completed Financial Assessment Template as per the template attached to this question (section). A financial assessment will then be conducted by NHS SBS to satisfy the Bidders ability to meet the financial requirements of this framework.

Bidders who do not have a registered DUNS number must submit an audited set of accounts for the last three years (where possible, e.g. established more than three years) for your organisation and a fully completed Financial Assessment Template as per the template attached to this question (section).

Where a parent company guarantee, or similar, is being relied upon by the Bidder, NHS SBS will request an audited set of accounts for the last three years from the guarantor, and confirmation that it will enter into the guarantee in a form acceptable to the Authority.

The Authority will monitor the financial stability of all successful Bidders (Suppliers) - and reserves the right to suspend or terminate a Supplier from the Framework at any time and with immediate effect in the event of financial instability in the Authority's sole opinion.

Bidders who fail to meet the financial standing requirements of this framework will not be

considered further and will be disqualified.

### **III.1.3) Technical and professional ability**

List and brief description of selection criteria

Counsellors and Psychotherapists delivering services under this framework agreement must be suitably accredited.

(Lot 1) Bidders delivering assessment and diagnosis services must confirm that clinical professionals delivering the service hold the appropriate qualifications:

- Nurses must be registered with the Nursing and Midwifery Council.
- Doctors must be registered with the General Medical Council.
- All clinical professionals must hold specific Mental Health qualifications relevant to the services they are delivering.

(Lot 2 and 3) In accordance with the NHS Talking Therapies for Anxiety and Depression Manual bidders must confirm that high-intensity therapists (HITs) working in NHS Talking Therapies services have either:

- completed the Manual-recognised NHS Talking Therapies qualification to deliver the therapy or therapies that they deliver in NHS Talking Therapies, and gain and maintain the recognised individual accreditation to deliver these within 1 year of qualifying, OR
- have the Manual-recognised individual accreditation to deliver the therapy or therapies that they deliver in NHS Talking Therapies.

(Lot 2 and 3) Bidders delivering psychological therapies must confirm that their counsellors and psychotherapists hold the appropriate BACP, BABCP or EMDR Europe Accreditation.

---

## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.1) Type of procedure**

Open procedure

#### **IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system**

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

**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.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate**

Date

18 October 2024

Local time

12:00pm

**IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted**

English

**IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender**

Duration in months: 6 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

**IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders**

Date

18 October 2024

Local time

1:00pm

---

**Section VI. Complementary information**

**VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

## **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**

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) Contract Notice. The awarding of this framework agreement is subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award.

The value provided in 2.6 is only an estimate based upon market value. NHS SBS cannot guarantee to successful Suppliers any business through this Framework Agreement. Spend and volumes may vary throughout the life of the Framework Agreement from the anticipated levels given in this notice.

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

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

NHS Shared Business Services Limited

Three Cherry Tree Lane Hemel Hempstead

Hertfordshire

HP2 7AH

Email

[nsbs.categorymanagementsourcing@nhs.net](mailto:nsbs.categorymanagementsourcing@nhs.net)

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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

