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Contract

Provision of NHS Practitioner Health Service

NHS Commissioning Board (T/A NHS England & NHS Improvement)

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-029046

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02f8e5

Published 22 November 2021, 2:26pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Commissioning Board (T/A NHS England & NHS Improvement)

Quarry House, Quarry Hill

LEEDS

LS2 7EU

Contact

Surinder Kahlon

Email

surinder.kahlon@nhs.net

Telephone

+44 7867140762

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.ardengemcsu.nhs.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

Provision of NHS Practitioner Health Service

Reference number

NHSPH_2022-24

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 Practitioner Health Service (NHSPH) provides free and confidential mental health assessment and treatment services for health professionals (as service users) with complex needs and circumstances. NHSPH operates in a unique space where there is a crossover between the professional and regulatory environment in which a clinician or health professional works, and their mental health treatment needs. NHSPH expertise lies in managing the confidentiality associated with accessing health care, taking responsibility for the safety of the service user accessing NHSPH but also the professional and patient responsibilities and risks associated with a health professional's role. NHSPH's understanding and experience are in the mental health presentation of health professionals, especially where this is a high risk of suicide, and the specialist support they may require returning to safe, effective practice. It is a commitment in the NHS Long Term Plan.

NHSPH operates alongside local staff Mental Health and Wellbeing Hubs which will support the majority of health and social care staff mental health needs. A small number of healthcare professionals may require more complex support which cannot be met by the local services; this is the purpose of NHSPH.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £44,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

UK wide

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHSPH operates in a unique space where there is a crossover between the professional and regulatory environment in which a clinician or health professional works, and their mental health treatment needs. NHSPH expertise lies in managing the confidentiality associated with accessing health care, taking responsibility for the safety of the service user accessing NHSPH but also the professional and patient responsibilities and risks associated with a health professional's role. NHSPH's understanding and experience are in the mental health presentation of health professionals, especially where this is a high risk of suicide, and the specialist support they may require to return to safe, effective practice. More information about NHSPH, its objectives and how it operates can be found in the attachments and NHSPH's website: <https://www.practitionerhealth.nhs.uk/>

NHSPH will operate alongside local staff Mental health and wellbeing Hubs which will support the majority of health and social care staff mental health needs. A small number of healthcare professionals may require more complex support which cannot be met by the hubs; this is the purpose of NHSPH. More information about the hubs can be found in the attachments and NHS England's website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/supporting-our-nhs-people/support-now/staff-mental-health-and-wellbeing-hubs/>

NHSPH will operate alongside local staff Mental health and wellbeing Hubs which will support the majority of health and social care staff mental health needs. A small number of healthcare professionals may require more complex support which cannot be met by the hubs; this is the purpose of NHSPH. More information about the hubs can be found in the attachments and NHS England's website: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/supporting-our-nhs-people/support-now/staff-mental-health-and-wellbeing-hubs/>

As the current NHSPH contract is due to expire at the end of March 2022, the

commissioners; NHS Primary Care Group, People (health and wellbeing) team and Mental Health team have been exploring next steps for NHSPH including the ongoing need of the service (due to the pandemic and other services that has emerged) and the likely current market conditions (due to perception of limited capability following original procurement in 2016).

Following legal and professional advice an early engagement notice via contracts finder (PIN) (2021 / S 000-014102) was published 21st June 2021 to notify the market of the future opportunity and to gain input for considering our options to appoint a new contract from April 2022 for 2 years until 2024, with the option to extend for further 2 years until 2026.

Through this PIN we attempted to engage the market inviting potential bidders to register an interest and partake in a questionnaire and market information event. Following this exercise, it was concluded that there is an absence of capability or interest in the market to warrant implementing a competitive procurement exercise.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Negotiated - Quality / Weighting: 100

Cost criterion - Name: Negotiated - Price / Weighting: 100

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.14) Additional information

The contract value detailed is for the full potential contract period of 4 years (2 years with the option to extend for a further 2 years).

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:

- absence of competition for technical reasons

Explanation:

The decision to award under negotiated procedure without prior publication of a call for competition was taken following comprehensive transparent open assessment on the market interest and capability the following steps were taken:

- Publish a Prior Information Notice (PIN) to notify the market of the opportunity - this was published 21st June 2021.
- Invite market to respond to a survey to explore current market conditions - this was live from 21st June 2021 until 7th July 2021.
- Host market event to present intentions and answer questions from market. This happened on 29th June 2021.
- Subject to the market engagement finding any information or evidence of changed market conditions following the last procurement exercise in 2016 i.e. are there any other Suppliers who could deliver NHSPH, NHSEI would consider the following options:
- Option 1: Appoint new contract to incumbent Supplier if outcome of market engagement results in no other available suppliers able to meet service spec.
- Option 2: Initiate competitive tender exercise if outcome of market engagement results in other viable Supplier options available able to meet spec.

The number of registered interest was very low (lower than it was in 2016), only 2 suppliers joined the event (one which was the incumbent provider) and only one response to the survey was received (from the incumbent provider). We attempted to find out from registered providers why they didn't respond to the questionnaire; only one responded confirming they could not meet the service specification.

With the results and evidence of this market engagement and following additional legal advice. We have decided to award the Hurley Group under this process

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

NHSPH_2022-24

Title

NHS Practitioner Health

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

8 November 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Hurley Clinic Partnership T/A The Hurley Group

Hurley Clinic, Ebenezer House, Kennington Lane

London

SE11 4HJ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot: £44,000,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

This award is based on the use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication PCR contract regulation 32(2)(b)(ii).

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NHS Commissioning Board (T/A NHS England & NHS Improvement)

Leeds

LS2 7UE

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Country

United Kingdom