

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/029898-2023>

Tender

22_11_04 NHS Pensions Medical Services

NHS Business Services Authority

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-029898

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-040adf

Published 10 October 2023, 6:12pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Business Services Authority

Stella House, Goldcrest Way, Newburn Riverside

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE15 8NY

Contact

NHS Business Services Authority

Email

nhsbsa.commercialserviceteam@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKC22 - Tyneside

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.3) Communication

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

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to 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

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

22_11_04 NHS Pensions Medical Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 66520000 - Pension services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The NHSBSA is seeking to procure a contract for NHS Pensions Medical Services on behalf of NHS Pensions which will require a supplier to medically certify applications from pension members for ill health retirement with an independent medical advisor. The NHS Pension Scheme provides two levels of Ill Health Retirement benefits, which are dependent on the severity of the condition of a member.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £7,649,708

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85121200 - Medical specialist services
- 66520000 - Pension services
- 85100000 - Health services

- 85120000 - Medical practice and related services
- 85140000 - Miscellaneous health services
- 85121200 - Medical specialist services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The NHSBSA is seeking to procure a contract for NHS Pensions Medical Services on behalf of NHS Pensions which will require a supplier to medically certify applications from pension members for ill health retirement with an independent medical advisor.

The NHS Pension Scheme provides two levels of Ill Health Retirement benefits, which are dependent on the severity of the condition of a member.

The successful supplier of the medical services contract will be required to:

- Understand the NHS Pension Scheme regulations and the potential differences between each Section/Scheme on each application.
- Make and convey the decisions on initial applications for ill health retirement benefits and permanent injury benefits in line with the provisions of the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations and NHS Injury Benefit Regulations.
- Provide medical advice and recommendations in relation to claims for temporary injury allowance.
- Provide medical advice and recommendations for disputes under the Internal Dispute Resolution (IDR) procedures and in response to investigations by the Pensions Ombudsman within the Statutory Target dates.
- Provide advice and recommendations in other cases where reasonably requested by the NHS Pensions of NHSBSA, e.g. incapacitated child.
- Provide advice and recommendations for Severe Ill Health retirement application in line with the HMRC Guidance.
- Ensure UK GDPR Regulations and Quality Control is in place in accordance with NHS

Pension Scheme Regulations.

- Ensure, if required, that Further Medical Evidence is requested to support the decision outcome of a members ill health application.
- To provide a digital solution for customers to be able to track their application and comply with verification and security checks prior to disclosing sensitive information.
- In the first year of the contract, there is potential to be a requirement to re-assess c6,000McCloud cases following the McCloud judgement.

The initial contract period will be 4 years with the option to extend for a further 3 years. This does not include the implementation period which is anticipated to commence in February 2024.

Interested parties must register an interest and access the procurement documents via <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome> (search opportunities using system reference C213520). Follow the instructions to register an interest and once registered, Suppliers will be able to view and access the full Tender documentation.

Please note that all dates and figures in this notice are approximate and subject to change.

Any resulting contract will be considered as a contract made in England according to English Law and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts;

Grouping of bidders may be required to form a separate limited liability company or other legal form and/or one that takes full responsibility and/or liability and/or confirm that each takes joint and several liability.

The Contracting Authority conducted pre-tender market engagement following the publication of a Prior Information Notice (PIN) : 2023/S 000-010807. The report outlining the findings of this exercise can be found at <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome> (search opportunities using system reference C213520 - Supplier Documents/PTME Report.

II.2.5) Award criteria

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

II.2.6) Estimated value

Value excluding VAT: £7,649,708

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

Start date

23 July 2024

End date

22 July 2031

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

This contract will be awarded for an initial 4 year term with an option to extend for a further 3 years. The initial start date of 23/07/2024 does not include the implementation period which is anticipated to commence in February 2024.

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: No

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

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

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

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

Date

17 November 2023

Local time

11:00am

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

Tender must be valid until: 22 July 2031

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

4 October 2023

Local time

4:00pm

Place

Tenders will be opened using the Authority's e-tendering system.

Information about authorised persons and opening procedure

Tenders will be opened using the Authority's e-tendering system.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: Once the contract has expired, it is estimated that further notices will be published in 2028 depending on whether options to extend are exercised.

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 NHSBSA is seeking to procure a contract for NHS Pensions Medical Services on behalf of NHS Pensions which will require a supplier to medically certify applications from pension members for ill health retirement with an independent medical advisor.

The NHS Pension Scheme provides two levels of Ill Health Retirement benefits, which are dependent on the severity of the condition of a member.

The successful supplier of the medical services contract will be required to:

- Understand the NHS Pension Scheme regulations and the potential differences between each Section/Scheme on each application.
- Make and convey the decisions on initial applications for ill health retirement benefits and permanent injury benefits in line with the provisions of the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations and NHS Injury Benefit Regulations.
- Provide medical advice and recommendations in relation to claims for temporary injury allowance.
- Provide medical advice and recommendations for disputes under the Internal Dispute Resolution (IDR) procedures and in response to investigations by the Pensions Ombudsman

within the Statutory Target dates.

- Provide advice and recommendations in other cases where reasonably requested by the NHS Pensions of NHSBSA, e.g. incapacitated child.
- Provide advice and recommendations for Severe Ill Health retirement application in line with the HMRC Guidance.
- Ensure UK GDPR Regulations and Quality Control is in place in accordance with NHS Pension Scheme Regulations.
- Ensure, if required, that Further Medical Evidence is requested to support the decision outcome of a members ill health application.
- To provide a digital solution for customers to be able to track their application and comply with verification and security checks prior to disclosing sensitive information.
- In the first year of the contract, there is potential to be a requirement to re-assess c6,000McCloud cases following the McCloud judgement.

The initial contract period will be 4 years with the option to extend for a further 3 years. This does not include the implementation period which is anticipated to commence in February 2024.

Interested parties must register an interest and access the procurement documents via <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome> (search opportunities using system reference C213520). Follow the instructions to register an interest and once registered, Suppliers will be able to view and access the full Tender documentation.

Please note that all dates and figures in this notice are approximate and subject to change.

Any resulting contract will be considered as a contract made in England according to English Law and will be subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts;

Grouping of bidders may be required to form a separate limited liability company or other legal form and/or one that takes full responsibility and/or liability and/or confirm that each takes joint and several liability.

The Contracting Authority conducted pre-tender market engagement following the publication of a Prior Information Notice (PIN) : 2023/S 000-010807. The report outlining the findings of this exercise can be found at <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome> (search opportunities using system reference C213520 - Supplier Documents/PTME Report.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NHS Business Services Authority

Stella House, Goldcrest Way

Newcastle Upon Tyne

NE15 8NY

Email

nhsbsa.commercialserviceteam@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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