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Tender

## **NHS England- Provision of Tiger Teams to Support EPR Delivery**

NHS England

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-034431

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042e86

Published 24 October 2024, 11:15am

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

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

NHS England

7-8 Wellington Place

Leeds

LS1 4AP

#### **Contact**

Aarron Chapman

#### **Email**

[aarron.chapman@lpp.nhs.uk](mailto:aarron.chapman@lpp.nhs.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.england.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

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

NHS England- Provision of Tiger Teams to Support EPR Delivery

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 75122000 - Administrative healthcare services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The Frontline Digitisation (FD) programme is working with provider organisations to support them in reaching a minimum level of digital capability (as defined by the Digital Capabilities Framework) and to have an electronic patient record (EPR) in place by the end of March 2026. For the purposes of this service, provider organisations are defined as NHS secondary care Trusts providing acute, specialist, community, mental health, and ambulance services.

To fulfil this ambition, the FD Programme are seeking a partner to create an experienced, multi-skilled, rapid response intervention service also known as a Tiger Teams service, capable of supporting EPR Delivery across England.

This service will be an expansion to an existing comprehensive support offer available to providers, designed to support the national demand for resource, expertise, and information necessary to successfully rollout EPRs.

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

Value excluding VAT: £13,333,333.33

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

This contract is divided into lots: No

### **II.2) Description**

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

- 75122000 - Administrative healthcare services

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

NUTS codes

- UKI31 - Camden and City of London

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

The current expectation is that the service will be a single operator framework (i.e. a framework agreement awarded to a single supplier or a single consortium), which will be statement of work-based, with set deliverables defined for each work package which will be individual to the discovery / intervention required for each Trust. Any call off contracts awarded under the framework will only be initiated by NHS England (not directly by NHS providers). Please note that the Contract Authority may elect to use a different sourcing route to the single-supplier framework approach described above.

The budget available to spend on this framework will be approximately £16,000,000 (inclusive of VAT) for the delivery of work packages (Statements of Work) to providers. Please note that this is a call off contract only and the full value of the contract may not actually be realised if the demand is not required.

The procurement will be conducted via an open tender and advertised through Find a Tender Service.

The service will need to provide the following to achieve its aim of increasing the quality of EPR delivery and reduce the risk of poor EPR deployment, which, in turn, will reduce the potential loss of benefit of EPR deployments in England:

- Sourcing of NHS experienced, highly skilled resources, who can be deployed to support a work package at a provider organisation at any point of its EPR Programme Lifecycle.
- Sourcing and deployment of resources to support any provider on site across England in a timely manner.
- Flexibility to increase and decrease resources quickly to meet the demands of the service.
- Organisational working knowledge of best practice of EPR design, delivery, optimisation and usability and its management.
- Knowledge transfer and retention within the NHS, including working with and alongside staff using a buddying-style approach, thus building skills and expertise which creates a more sustainable resourcing model going forward.
- Ability to build up a cohort of operators with specialist knowledge (cells) that can be deployed across the system on similar tasks, thereby enabling and accelerating the setting up of a virtual centre of expertise.

EPRs are notoriously complex to implement, and the maturity of the digital, data and

technology (DDaT) workforce across England is varied, with providers having varying degrees of experience, and skills to implement successfully.

Often during EPR delivery, there is a requirement for either a planned, or unplanned, specific, time-bound skill set, capable of providing a set of deliverables, problem rectification or other specialist intervention for an element of the EPR Programme. Trusts are finding it increasingly challenging to obtain good quality, skilled short-term resources, both from the recruitment and contingent labour market.

To support Trusts to alleviate this issue, this service will provide Tiger Teams, defined as a group of highly skilled, experienced resources, commissioned to deliver a time-boxed service on behalf of the Trust where other attempts to fulfil the requirement have been unsuccessful.

The level of support provided to a Trust is set out in the FD Programme's operating model. Universally, FD provides various assurance reviews for all Trusts throughout their EPR programme lifecycles to support them with their programmes. The assurance process highlights areas of good practice and strength, in addition to areas of concern, which require addressing to improve the quality of the programme.

The second tier of support the FD programme provides is via an FD Support Offer function, supported by a delivery partner, to provide knowledge, advice, guidance and training to Trusts. The Support Offer consists of the following:

- Collaboration - Connecting with Each Other
  - o Communities of Practice Forum
  - o Supplier-based Peer Networks
  - o Procurement Peer Networks
  - o Peer-to-peer Partnerships
- Knowledge - Sharing Best Practice
  - o Webinars, Events and Drop-in Sessions
  - o Guidance and Documents
  - o Lessons Learnt
  - o Blueprints
- Expertise - Upskilling and Actionable Learning
  - o Subject Matter Expert Support
  - o Self-learning Toolkits
  - o Targeted Intervention Support
  - o Learning Labs

There was also access to partially funded resource through the DDaT graduate recruitment programme, with ongoing recruitment to the end of March 2024.

Despite the wealth of support available, there is a requirement to further support Trusts with hands-on, 'boots-on-ground' interventions to ensure that certain critical activities to

resolve challenges, including the associated upskilling and knowledge transfer, are undertaken in a timely and robust manner, increasing the likelihood of a timely and successful implementation. It will also avoid the costs, risks and reputational damage associated with a delayed and / or sub-optimal go-live in addition to the impact required for the Trust to course-correct.

The FD programme is not resourced to provide hands-on targeted support into Trusts at the scale required, therefore an additional service is required to ensure the success of the overall programme and individual Trust EPR deployments.

#### **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: £13,333,333.33

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

Start date

1 April 2025

End date

31 March 2026

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

NHS England proposes to enter into Contract(s) until 31st March 2026 with the successful Tenderer(s).

The initial contract term shall expire on 31st March 2026 with the potential for twelve (12) months in extension periods.

The anticipated service commencement date is 1st April 2025.

#### **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

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## **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 a single operator

#### **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.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2024/S 000-001929](#)

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

Date

20 November 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**

Tender must be valid until: 19 May 2025

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

Date

20 November 2024

Local time

12:00pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.1) Information about recurrence**

This is a recurrent procurement: No

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The framework agreement shall include the following organisations in the United Kingdom and their respective statutory successors and organisations created as a result of structural re-organisations or organisational changes:

- Central government departments and their executive agencies
- Non-departmental public bodies
- National Health Service (NHS) bodies, including Clinical Commissioning Groups, NHS trusts, NHS foundation trusts, their subsidiaries, NHS GP's, a special health authority and a local health board in England and Wales and other constituent bodies in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland
- All Local Authorities
- All Combined Authorities
- Police forces and other emergency services, fire and rescue services, the maritime and Coast guard agency
- Educational establishments
- Registered social landlords
- Registered charities
- Devolved and other administrations within the British Isles
- Healthcare providers in the Channel Islands
- NI Public Bodies



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

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

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/courts-and-tribunals/high-court/>

### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

NHS England

Skipton House, 80 London Road

London

SE1 6LH

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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