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Tender

## **NSS04724 Workforce Specialist Services**

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

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-037564

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

Published 20 November 2024, 3:38pm

### **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](mailto: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](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**

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

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://www.publictendersscotland.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/>

**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**

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 750 individuals will require the provider's support for case management over a twelve-month period. It is expected that the service will be able to safely triage and offer both case management and therapy pathways as standard.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 80

Cost criterion - Name: Cost / Weighting: 20

### **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

60

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

It is anticipated that a contract notice will be issued in Autumn 2029

### **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 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 750 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. GPs must be registered members of the General Medical Council

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

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

3 years financial records, a minimum of one million pounds turnover per annum

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.

Bidders must provide 2 examples of delivering a similar service within the last 3 years

Minimum level(s) of standards possibly required

Able to deliver clinical care to the demand of approximately 750 per year and appropriate manage or triage fluctuations and additional demand safely.

Medics will need a medical degree, registered on the relevant speciality register (ie have completed GP or psychiatry training or occupational health) of the GMC and licence to practice.

### **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 (750 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

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

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

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

Open procedure

Accelerated procedure

Justification:

A prior information notice for reducing timescales has been issued in advance of this contract notice

#### **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 000-028140](#)

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

Date

5 December 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: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

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

Date



5 December 2024

Local time

12:00pm

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

This is a recurrent procurement: Yes

Estimated timing for further notices to be published: November 2029

### **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.

The buyer is using PCS-Tender to conduct this ITT exercise. The Project code is 27824. For more information see:

<http://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/info/InfoCentre.aspx?ID=2343>

The Contracting Authority does not intend to include a sub-contract clause as part of community benefits (as per Section 25 of the Procurement Reform (Scotland) Act 2014) in this contract for the following reason:

not required

Community benefits are included in this requirement. For more information see: <https://www.gov.scot/policies/public-sector-procurement/community-benefits-in-procurement/>

A summary of the expected community benefits has been provided as follows:

The Authority is keen to promote wider benefit from this exercise

please outline any community benefits you could offer as part of this requirement

these could include but not be limited to

vocational training

up-skilling the existing workforce

equality and diversity initiatives

build capacity in community organisations

educational support initiatives

work with schools, colleges and universities to offer work experience and

minimise negative environmental impacts, for example impacts associated with vehicle movements and/or associated emissions

(SC Ref:783518)

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

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

Sheriff Court House

27 Chambers Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LB

Email

[edinburgh@scotcourts.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto:edinburgh@scotcourts.gov.uk)

Telephone

+44 1312252525

Country

United Kingdom