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Contract

## **NHS England South West - Specialist Counselling to Reduce Health Inequalities and a Befriending Service for Women Who Have Experienced Sexual Violence in Avon & Somerset**

NHS England

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-038364

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c094

Published 27 November 2024, 5:26pm

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

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

NHS England

Wellington House, 133-155 Waterloo Rd

London

SE1 8UG

#### **Email**

[Scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net](mailto:Scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKI - London

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<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 South West - Specialist Counselling to Reduce Health Inequalities and a Befriending Service for Women Who Have Experienced Sexual Violence in Avon & Somerset

Reference number

C303590

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

- 85312500 - Rehabilitation services

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

Services

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

NHS England South West is commissioning specialist counselling services to address health inequalities, specifically for refugees, asylum seekers and Deaf women, and the provision of a 'Befriending' service, for women who have experienced sexual violence.

This provision is for the area of Avon and Somerset, to continue the work of the 'Avon and Somerset Enhanced Mental Health Pathfinder' which has been running since 2022. The intention is to move from 'proof of concept' stage to an ongoing model of delivery based on proven outcomes.

The Commissioner intends to contract for the Services using the National NHS Standard Contract. The contract term will be for a duration of 4 years and 6 months and will commence from 1st April 2025. The total contract value is £440,775 over the 4 years and 6 months.

This notice is placed to set out NHS England South West's (the Commissioner's) intention to award a contract under the Most Suitable Provider Process of the Provider Selection Regime (PSR).

#### **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: £440,775

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKK - South West (England)

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

NHS England South West is commissioning specialist counselling services to address health inequalities, specifically for refugees, asylum seekers and Deaf women, and the provision of a 'Befriending' service, for women who have experienced sexual violence.

This provision is for the area of Avon and Somerset, to continue the work of the 'Avon and Somerset Enhanced Mental Health Pathfinder' which has been running since 2022. The intention is to move from 'proof of concept' stage to an ongoing model of delivery based on proven outcomes.

Scope: Specialist 'health inequalities' counselling service for women, specifically refugees, asylum-seekers, and Deaf women.

Scope: The Befriending service to provide isolated women with complex mental health needs with a befriender.

The services will be for people aged 18 and over.

A notice was published for 14 days informing the market of the intention to follow the Most Suitable Provider Process. The Commissioner sought a provider/s who were suitable and capable to continue the delivery of this work.

To express an interest, providers were required to complete and submit a short Most Suitable Provider Questionnaire through the Atamis portal.

Only 1 expression of interest was received, from Womankind.

A Request for Information (RfI) was sent to them seeking the return of further information to support the Commissioners assessment.

After conducting an assessment, taking into account the key criteria and applying the basic selection criteria, NHS South West is content that they will likely satisfy the

proposed contract to a sufficient standard.

The Commissioner intends to contract for the Services using the National NHS Standard Contract. The contract term will be for a duration of 4 years and 6 months and will commence from 1st April 2025. The total contract value is £440,775 over the 4 years and 6 months.

This notice is placed to set out NHS England South West's (the Commissioner's) intention to award a contract under the Most Suitable Provider Process of the Provider Selection Regime (PSR).

This is an existing service being awarded to an existing provider.

This exercise was carried out by NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW) on behalf of the Commissioner.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Most suitable provider process with regard to the key criteria /  
Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 5

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

Options: No

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## **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 procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice. The awarding of this contract 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 publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period. Representations by providers must be made to the relevant authority by midnight on Tuesday 10th December 2024. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

26 November 2024

#### **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**

Womankind

3rd Floor, Brunswick Court Brunswick Square

Bristol

BS2 8PE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKK11 - Bristol, City of

Charity Commission (England and Wales)

297258

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £440,775

Total value of the contract/lot: £440,775

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

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

The decision to award this contract in line with the Most Suitable Provider Process was based on evaluation against the basic selection criteria, which was assessed on a pass/fail basis, and the 5 key criteria, which were assessed on an assured/not assured basis, with the below weightings.

- Quality and innovation (25%)
- Value (5%)
- Integration, collaboration and service sustainability (30%)

- Improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice (30%)
- Social value (10%)

The percentages illustrate the relative importance of these criteria associated with the delivery of these services.

Assessment of the provider was based on the evidence available through their existing contract with NHS England South West, as well as further information that was requested as part of the MSP process.

Award decisions have been recommended by the NHS England Health & Justice Sexual Assault and Abuse Strategy Commissioner. Award decisions have been made by the NHS England South West System Oversight & Co-ordination Leadership Team, with key decision makers being

Managing Director - System Commissioning Development, Director of Commissioning Finance, Director of Collaborative Commissioning.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice. The awarding of this contract 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 publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period. Representations by providers must be made to the relevant authority by midnight on Tuesday 10th December 2024. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Written representations should be sent [scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net](mailto:scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net)

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

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

NHS England

London

Country

United Kingdom