

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/044998-2025>

Planning

Sussex Staying Well Services

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-044998

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-056ad1

Published 31 July 2025, 8:47pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Portland House, 44 Richmond Road

Worthing

BN11 1hs

Contact

Tope Falola

Email

tope.falola@sabp.nhs.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from 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

Other type

Sussex partnership NHS Foundation Trust

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Sussex Staying Well Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85121270 - Psychiatrist or psychologist services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust, on behalf of NHS Sussex, is commissioning a community-based mental health crisis support service—Staying Well—to provide an alternative to Emergency Departments. The service will offer a safe, psychologically informed environment for individuals aged 18+ experiencing mental distress or self-defined crisis, including those not meeting secondary care thresholds. Delivered jointly with VCSE partners, the service focuses on prevention, peer support, and bridging gaps between primary and secondary care, in line with the NHS Long Term Plan and Mental Health Five Year Forward View.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £3,551,220

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85121270 - Psychiatrist or psychologist services
- 85141000 - Services provided by medical personnel
- 85121270 - Psychiatrist or psychologist services
- 85323000 - Community health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The NHS Long Term Plan and Mental Health Five Year Forward View requires 24/7 community-based crisis response services, redesigned across whole systems to ensure delivery of a seamless support services that lessen and/or avert a mental health crisis, reducing the need for acute support services. The Crisis Care Concordat includes the aim of easy access to support and a quick response from service providers and in particular reach marginalised or seldom heard groups, offering a service to people who would otherwise be disqualified, or would either avoid or choose not to engage with statutory health services.

Historically most people experiencing mental distress outside of GP working hours have found themselves struggling to find support and often end up accessing Emergency Departments (EDs) or contacting Police and Ambulance services.

The Staying Well service in Sussex is a joint service offer from both VCSE providers and Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust (SPFT).

The Staying Well service provides an alternative to EDs by offering support to people with mental health difficulties, and those experiencing self-defined crisis, a space for people to build upon their existing skills and identify their strengths to support their recovery offering the opportunity for people accessing the service to learn and support each other through peer support or staff-led groups.

Some people who experience mental health crisis do not have a formal diagnosis and have on-going difficulties that do not meet the secondary mental healthcare threshold. A Staying Well service can support them, alongside their GP in bridging the gap between primary and secondary care.

SPFT are Commissioning, on behalf of NHS Sussex, an alternative, but complimentary service, to the statutory services currently on offer for people who are in mental distress and self-defined crisis, with the aim of reducing the need of people to attend ED and to gain support and reduce the use of emergency and acute mental health services by preventing crises escalating.

The Service will offer a safe, supportive and psychologically informed environment that is conducive to reducing emotional and psychological distress, promoting independence, and assist in the recovery for everyone, aged 18 and over, who is in mental health distress or experiencing a crisis, including a self-defined crisis whose needs are not best

met by other available services.

Staying Well is a departure from traditional models of care and service delivery as it focuses on community engagement, and accessibility for all and a preventative approach, rather than diagnosis and treatment.

II.2.14) Additional information

The authority has identified Southdown as the most suitable provider based on their ability to deliver high-quality, integrated, and accessible services that meet the needs of the population.

This notice is published in accordance with the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 October 2025

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intended approach 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.'

Award decision makers: Deputy Director – Contracts, Head of Programme - MH Urgent & Emergency Care Transformation , Managing Director - West Sussex, Engagement and Co-production Lead, Senior Category Manager - Healthcare/ Clinical Procurement

Intention is to award a contract using the most suitable provider process.