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Planning

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust - Mental Health Complex Care Rehabilitation and Learning Disabilities and Autism Transforming Care Programme

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-052136

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058fb0

Published 28 August 2025, 4:10pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust

Lawton House, Bellringer Road

Trentham

ST4 8HH

Contact

Hayley Smith

Email

h.smith27@nhs.net

Telephone

+44 7770493216

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG24 - Staffordshire CC

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://www.combined.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

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust - Mental Health Complex Care Rehabilitation and Learning Disabilities and Autism Transforming Care Programme

Reference number

WHISP-305

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is an advertisement for market testing to gauge market interest and communicate procurement direction. North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust (NSCHT) currently have a DPS for these services which is due to expire January 2026 and the commissioner is wishing to communicate future procurement strategy.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust (NSCHT) are looking to engage with existing and new potential providers regarding the procurement of their future solution for the following services within the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent locality:

- 1) Mental Health Complex Care Rehabilitation Placements Inpatient Services.
- 2) TCP Learning Disabilities and Autism Inpatient Services.
- 3) TCP Learning Disabilities and Autism Community Services.

NSCHT wish to seek Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from potential providers that are suitably qualified and experienced in delivering these services.

Any Provider wishing to express an interest in delivering these services within the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent locality should express interest via the Atamis Health Family eCommercial System at <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome> no later than 12:00 hours (midday) on Thursday 18th September 2025.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £42,351,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85111500 - Psychiatric hospital services
- 85323000 - Community health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG23 - Stoke-on-Trent

Main site or place of performance

UKG23 and UKG24

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This is an advertisement for market testing to gauge market interest and communicate future procurement direction.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust (NSCHT) currently have a DPS for these services which is due to expire January 2026 and the commissioner is wishing to communicate future procurement strategy.

North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare NHS Trust (NSCHT) are looking to engage with existing and new potential providers regarding the procurement of their future solution for the following services within the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent locality:

1) Mental Health Complex Care Rehabilitation Placements Inpatient Services.

Mental Health Complex Care Rehabilitation Placements are provided for people with severe and enduring mental health problems, traditionally for people with a diagnosis of Psychosis, i.e. schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder or bipolar disorder.

Commissioners have expanded this cohort to include people with other conditions such as Personality Disorder or Severe Depression and with co-morbidities such as Learning Disabilities and Substance Misuse. Rehab is intended to offer further support for people who have required hospital care but have additional complications that prevent their discharge home.

Providers will deliver expert Mental Health Rehabilitation through a Multi-Disciplinary Team with access to, as a minimum, Consultant Psychiatrist, Registered Mental Health Nurses, Psychology and Occupational Therapy.

2) TCP Learning Disabilities and Autism Inpatient Services.

The Transforming Care programme (TCP) aims to improve the lives of people with a learning disability and/or autism who display behaviours that challenge, including those with a mental health condition. The Programme aims to improve the quality of care for people with a learning disability and/or autism. To improve the quality of life for people with a learning disability and/or autism. To enhance the community capacity, thereby reducing inappropriate hospital admissions and length of stay.

The aims of acute learning disability inpatient services are to provide the following three core functions of support:

- Assessment (including for potential mental illness) of the causes of challenging behaviour, where it cannot be safely carried out in the community.
- Treatment of mental illness where this is the cause of challenging behaviour (complemented by other interventions as appropriate), where it cannot be safely carried out in the community.
- Reintegration of the individual back into the community after hospital treatment including provision of support/guidance to families and support providers.

3) TCP Learning Disabilities and Autism Community Services.

The Transforming Care programme (TCP) aims to improve the lives of children, young people, and adults with a learning disability and/or autism who display behaviours that challenge, including those with a mental health condition.

The Programme aims to improve the quality of care for people with a learning disability and/or autism. To enhance the community capacity, thereby reducing inappropriate hospital admissions and length of stay.

The aim of community placements for people with a learning disability and/or autism is reintegration of the individual back into the community after (or as an alternate to) hospital treatment including provision of support / guidance to families and support providers.

The operation of specialist community placements is inherently linked to primary care and other forms of universal and specialist community support from health and social care

agencies.

Providers are expected to build, develop, and maintain effective operational relationships with a range of organisations.

NSCHT wish to seek Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from potential providers that are suitably qualified and experienced in delivering these services.

NHS Standard Contract Terms and Conditions shall apply to any future contract(s) and a January 2026 go-live date is anticipated regarding the future solution. Please note the contract period has yet to be agreed and should any provider be appointed in the future for such services, there is no guarantee of business due to the very nature of the services in which patient needs are of the utmost importance. It is estimated annually that overall spend on these services is approximately £42,351,000.00, that is Mental Health Rehabilitation Complex Care £9,254,000.00 (per annum) and TCP Community and Inpatient £33,097,000.00 (per annum).

Any Provider wishing to express an interest in delivering these services within the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent locality should express interest via the Atamis Health Family eCommercial System at <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>, Atamis reference C380295, no later than 12:00 hours (midday) on Thursday 18th September 2025. A market engagement event shall be held the week commencing 22nd September 2025, dates and times are contained within the Atamis System. Microsoft Teams invites will be issued the week commencing 22nd September 2025.

NSCHT is only seeking expressions of interest from providers who are genuinely attracted to this potential opportunity and capable of providing the service(s). Please only express an interest if you have the relevant authority to do so on behalf of your organisation.

The Commissioner has not yet decided which PSR Procurement route to adopt and that information derived from the market engagement event will help inform this. Information gained from question-and-answer sessions (anonymised) held at the market engagements, together with slides will be shared with any future procurement process published.

Providers will be required to register separately for any future procurement process as yet to be decided, and that not attending the market engagement event will not prevent future registration for such procurement process.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

17 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

It should be noted that this is not a procurement exercise at this stage and participating organisations are responsible for their own costs. All details provided by NSCHT are in draft format, and NSCHT reserves the right to change/amend any aspect of its requirement prior to any potential future procurement exercise.

To register your Expression of Interest (EOI) please complete the questionnaire on the Atamis Health Family eCommercial System <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>, reference C380295.

The closing date for Expressions of Interest (EOI) is 12:00 hours (midday) on Thursday 18th September 2025. Engagement events to be commenced the week commencing 22nd September 2025 and shall be held virtually via Microsoft Teams, details are contained within the Atamis System.

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) market engagement notice. Should STW ICB award any contract subsequent to this request, it will be subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 or Procurement Act 2023 do not apply to this notice.

NSCHT is not bound to act on any information generated from this engagement exercise, and participation does not automatically guarantee any standing with regards to any future PSR process adopted by NSCHT.