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Tender

NENC057 LGBTQ+ Mental Health Support Service Sunderland and South Tyneside Invitation to Tender NHS North East North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

NHS NORTH EAST AND NORTH CUMBRIA INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-063992

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059062 ([view related notices](#))

Published 10 October 2025, 9:17am

Scope

Reference

NENC057

Description

NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the Contracting Authority), are undertaking a procurement to commission LGBTQ+ Mental Health Support Service

Sunderland and South Tyneside under NHS Standard Contract 25/26 within the Sunderland and South Tyneside areas.

The contract term is for an initial period of 3 years commencing on 01 April 2026, with an option to extend for a further 2 years at the discretion of the Contracting Authority and subject to satisfactory contractual and financial performance.

The closing date for submission of tenders is by 12 noon 31 October 2025.

Additional information

Firstly, the "Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006" as amended by the "Collective Redundancies and Transfer of Undertaking (Protection of Employment) (Amendment) Regulation 2014" (TUPE) [may/does not] apply to this contract. However, Bidders are advised to obtain their own legal advice and carry out due diligence including the New Fair Deal non-statutory policy setting out how pensions issues are to be dealt with when staff are compulsorily transferred from the public sector to independent providers delivering public services.]

The ICB is utilising an electronic tendering tool to manage this procurement and communicate with potential bidders. Accordingly, there will be no hard copy documents issued to potential bidders and all communications with the ICB, including bid submissions, will be conducted via the Atamis portal at: <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>. It is free to register on the portal and it can be accessed at any time of day providing you have a working internet connection. Should bidders have any queries, or are having problems registering on the portal; they should contact the Atamis helpdesk via:

Support-health@Atamis.co.uk or phone number 02922 809277

The helpdesk is open Monday - Friday between 08.00 am - 06.00 pm

Tender documentation will be available on the e-tendering site from 10 October 2025

Legal, economic, financial, and technical information

Conditions for participation

Objective rules and criteria for participation

Under the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012, Contracting Authorities must consider:

- (a) How what is proposed to be procured might improve the economic, social, and environmental well-being of the area where they exercise their functions; and
- (b) How, in conducting the process of procurement, they might act with a view to securing that improvement. Accordingly, the subject matter of the contract has been scoped to take into account the priorities of the Contracting Authority relating to "economic, social, and environmental well-being".

The central digital platform is an online resource, Find a Tender Service (FTS) which will make it easier for suppliers to find and bid for contract opportunities. It is the place where all the regulated public procurement notices are published and supplier information is

stored and updated for inclusion within bid opportunities. To take part in this bid opportunity you will need to register on FTS. It is the supplier's responsibility to ensure that the data they are sharing is accurate. This will include the need to complete basic information on the supplier information, declare it is correct and generate a share code or download a file of their information. The supplier will need to submit this share code or file in the way that was determined by the buyer in the tender notice or tender documents. If you have previously registered on Find a Tender Service you will need to re-register and enter your organisation information at <https://www.gov.uk/find-tender>.

Suppliers will always need to complete their bids in the form and manner required by the contracting authority.

The basic principles of a single stage competitive tendering procedure in line with Section 84 and 85 of the Procurement Act 2023 will be followed for this under threshold Light Touch Service procurement.

Total value (estimated)

- £600,000 excluding VAT
- £600,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2029
- Possible extension to 31 March 2031
- 5 years

Description of possible extension:

with an option to extend for a further 2 years at the discretion of the Contracting Authority and subject to satisfactory contractual and financial performance.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 85312300 - Guidance and counselling services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Tender submission deadline

31 October 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

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Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Award criteria

The bidder who has passed each stage of the process and has submitted the Most Advantageous Tender (MAT) by scoring the highest combined score for quality and finance and passed Stage 1, evaluated against the published evaluation criteria, will be reported to the Contracting Authority as the Highest Scoring Bidder.

In the event that two or more bidders achieve the same combined score, the bidder with the highest overall score in the highest weighted macro section within the quality criteria will be as the most advantageous tender. In the event that two or more bidders still achieve the same score the rule will be applied to the next highest weighted macro section and so forth.

Macro Sections and Weightings:

- Quality and Safety (30%)
- Service Aims and Objectives (25%)

- Improving Access, Reducing Health Inequalities and

Facilitating Choice (15%)

- Service Specific (10%)

- Social Value (10%)

- Finance (10%)

8.2.2 Stage 2 - Economic and Financial Standing of the Highest Scoring Bidder - Scoring of Capability and Capacity Financial Assessment - Due Diligence for Highest Scoring Bidder(s) only

This stage validates the evidence provided by the Highest Scoring Bidder.

The bidder who achieves the highest score and passes all of the criteria for stages 1 and 2 will be put forward as the Recommended Bidder

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Special regime

Light touch

Contracting authority

NHS NORTH EAST AND NORTH CUMBRIA INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

- NHS Organisation Data Service: QHM
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMYZ-6944-BYLH

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Sunderland

SR5 3XB

United Kingdom

Email: nencicb.procurement@nhs.net

Website: <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>

Region: UKC23 - Sunderland

Organisation type: Public authority - central government