

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/072762-2025>

Planning

Provision of a 24/7 Section 12 Doctor Rota for Mental Health Act Assessments in Surrey - Market Engagement Opportunity

NHS Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-072762

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05de9c

Published 11 November 2025, 12:21pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board

Dukes Court, Duke Street

Woking

GU21 5BH

Contact

Stuart Meredith

Email

stuart.meredith1@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

NHS Organisation Data Service

QXU

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.surreyheartlands.org

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

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

Provision of a 24/7 Section 12 Doctor Rota for Mental Health Act Assessments in Surrey - Market Engagement Opportunity

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board (ICB), in partnership with Surrey County Council, is exploring options to commission a sustainable, high-quality solution for the provision of Section 12 approved doctors to support the delivery of Mental Health Act assessments across Surrey.

We are seeking a provider (or group of providers) who can deliver a reliable, year-round rota of Section 12 approved doctors to attend Mental Health Act assessments when requested by local Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHPs). This will include:

- 24/7/365 coverage with one Section 12 doctor on-call at all times
- A back-up doctor for surge or dual-assessment requirements
- A single point of contact/booking system accessible to AMHP teams
- Full compliance with clinical governance, performance and response expectations

In 2024/25, there were 1,773 Section 12 assessments conducted in Surrey. The estimated contract value is £500,000 - £600,000 per annum, and we are seeking a provider with the capability to support this statutory function across a geographically large and diverse county. The contract duration is proposed as potentially 3 years with up to a 2 year extension option.

Attached is a draft service specification setting out our proposed requirements. At this stage, we are inviting expressions of interest, alongside any comments or questions providers may have regarding the scope, delivery model, or commercial approach.

We welcome responses from:

- NHS or independent sector providers with experience in urgent mental health delivery
- Clinical staffing agencies with a track record in rota management and mental health settings
- New market entrants with a strong track record of high standard delivery who can mobilise the required capabilities
- Partnerships or consortia (including clinical chambers or equivalent) who can jointly meet the full -service requirements

To register for a conversation with ICB colleagues please respond by Noon (12pm) on Friday 12th December 2025 via email to Stuart Meredith (stuart.meredith1@nhs.net).

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £3,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85100000 - Health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

1. Introduction and Background

Surrey Heartlands Integrated Care Board (ICB) is seeking to commission a provider to deliver a consistent, reliable, and high-quality Section 12 doctor rota to support the delivery of Mental Health Act (MHA) assessments across the Surrey geography.

In 2024/25, there were 1,773 Mental Health Act assessments conducted across the Surrey system requiring a Section 12 approved doctor. The ICB is seeking a single commissioned solution to deliver sustainable, year-round coverage, coordinated via a central point of contact.

This service specification sets out the requirements for delivery of this essential statutory function.

2. Service Objectives

The provider will:

- Ensure continuous 24/7, 365-day cover of at least one Section 12 approved doctor on-call for MHA assessments across Surrey.
- Maintain a back-up doctor to provide resilience for surges in demand or unplanned unavailability.

- Operate a centralised point of contact to enable timely booking and deployment of doctors by the Surrey AMHP service.
- Ensure response times and availability support legal and clinical requirements under the Mental Health Act.

3. Scope of Service

3.1 Core Requirements

- Provision of one Section 12 approved doctor on-call at all times.
- Provision of a second back-up doctor to:
 - o Attend where two doctors are required.
 - o Provide resilience in cases of multiple simultaneous assessments or unavailability.
- Doctors must be Section 12 approved under the Mental Health Act, and appropriately indemnified and revalidated.
- Doctors must have recent experience in Mental Health Act assessments, ideally within community or urgent care settings.

II.2.14) Additional information

Service Specification will be forwarded to providers responding to this market engagement opportunity. This is not dependent on booking a discussion with ICB colleagues.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

31 March 2026

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 procurement falls under the Provider Selection Regime 2023.

This notice is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) 2023 Prior Information Notice. The procurement 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 and Procurement Act 2023 do not apply to this contract.