



Dear Customer,

Crown Commercial Service (CCS) and NHS Procurement in Partnership¹ are two public sector organisations that have come together in collaboration with the intent to explore the whole portfolio of health workforce services as part of a new [Workforce Alliance](#). A full schedule of the future phases will be communicated in due course.

As a customer, you will benefit from a strong partnership that brings together CCS, as the biggest public procurement organisation in the UK, combined with the extensive expertise and experience that NHS Procurement in Partnership has in the NHS.

The Workforce Alliance is now delivering the Non Clinical Temporary and Fixed Term Staff Framework (RM6160); this is the replacement for the existing CCS framework agreement RM971 Non Medical and Non Clinical.

Designed to be used by the NHS and other public sector bodies, this framework's features include:

- Robust compliance process centred on NHS employment check standards.
- Framework rates are maximums which suppliers may not exceed but they can be negotiated down as part of further competition
- For NHS customers, the framework supports the NHSI initiative around adherence to pay cap with a dedicated rate card

The Workforce Alliance is pleased to announce the OJEU Notice and tender documentation for RM6160 Non Clinical Temporary and Fixed Term staff is now live, and current procurement timelines for RM6160 endeavour to award the new framework 29th July 2019.

RM971 Non Medical Non Clinical will expire 30/06/19, which will mean there is a one month gap between expiry of old, and award of the replacement framework. For clarity, there will be no further extensions to RM971 and the agreement will end 30th June 2019.

To mitigate the gap, we would suggest that customers place a short call off contract of 2-3 months with their required suppliers before 30th June 2019; this will ensure continuity of service during the transition period. You may use the short call off order form available on the NMNC (RM971) web page to complete this task, for your convenience it can also be accessed here: [RM971](#)

Post award, the Workforce Alliance will actively engage with our customers to ensure a successful transition to the replacement framework.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, the Workforce Alliance team will be more than happy to assist you.

Please contact our teams:

¹ NHS Procurement in Partnership is a four-Hub collaboration between NHS Commercial Solutions, East of England NHS Collaborative Procurement Hub, NHS North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative and NHS London Procurement Partnership, previously known as NHS Collaborative Procurement Partnership (CPP).



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email: info@crowncommercial.gov.uk.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Will the contracts still be released as one framework called HSR?

The Workforce Alliance is seeking to procure a portfolio of framework agreements focusing on healthcare that serve central government, NHS and other public sector organisations. Together these agreements will deliver the services proposed by CCS under the HSR framework. The tendering opportunities for international recruitment, flexible resource pools and non-clinical staff have ended.

2. How are you intending to manage suppliers under collaboration frameworks?

Suppliers will continue to be managed against framework requirements; this will be undertaken as part of a blended Workforce Alliance team.

3. Will future tender opportunities be published by both collaboration members?

Opportunity notifications will be available on Workforce Alliance member websites.

4. Who do customers and suppliers contact about existing and future frameworks?

Existing customers and suppliers should continue to contact their framework owner with enquiries on existing frameworks. Contact details will be provided for suppliers for each procurement.

5. Who do I contact if I require more information?

If you are not an existing customer or supplier (as stated above) and would like further information about the partnership, please contact info@crowncommercial.gov.uk.

6. What will the impact be on existing frameworks that do not fall within the collaboration?

There will be no change in the management of these frameworks.

7. When will the clinical agency agreement be released?

The schedule for upcoming procurements will be published in due course.

8. What are the timeframes for the new frameworks?

We are able to confirm that the replacement for RM1072 Workforce Management (Flexible Resource Pool - Staff Banks RM6158) will be released July 2019 and will be followed by the replacement for RM971 NMNC (Non Clinical Temporary and Fixed Term Staff, RM6160) also due to be released July 2019. We are in the process of finalising timeframes for the replacement clinical agreement, information will be released in the near future confirming the timelines.

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