

RM6161 Clinical and Healthcare Staffing: Customer Guidance Document



Crown
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Service



Procurement in Partnership
The Collaboration of NHS Procurement Hubs

Delivered by

NHS Commercial Solutions
NHS East of England Collaborative Procurement Hub
NHS London Procurement Partnership
NHS North of England Commercial Procurement Collaborative

Contents

	2
About the NHS Workforce Alliance	3
Introduction to the framework	3
NHS England NHS Improvement maximum wage and price caps	4
Job Profiles	4
Methods of sourcing supply	5
Framework pricing	5
Accessing the framework	6



About the NHS Workforce Alliance

NHS Procurement in Partnership (PiP) and Crown Commercial Service (CCS) 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 NHS Workforce Alliance (WA).

NHS Workforce Alliance is pleased to announce the new Framework for Clinical and Healthcare Staffing to support the NHS and the public sector in their future recruitment strategies.

Customers and suppliers 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.

We have worked closely together on the procurement, delivery and management of this service.

Introduction to the framework

The Framework for Clinical and Healthcare Staffing gives you access to a wide range of capable suppliers who have been through a rigorous tender process, and who are able to offer differing ranges of temporary clinical grades across all staff groups.

The new Framework replaces NHSCPP2015/011 NHS CPP National Clinical Staffing Framework and RM3711 Multidisciplinary Temporary Healthcare Personnel which both expire on the 7th February 2021.

The agreement is split into 6 lots, including a multidisciplinary matrix allowing customers to source a range of job roles across more than one lot without the need for multiple Call-off Contracts e.g. one Call-off Contract per supplier, per Trust.

The framework expires on 12th October 2023, with an opportunity to extend for 12 months.

Why use the framework?

- NHS England and NHS Improvement (NHSI) require NHS Trusts to source temporary staff through an NHSI approved Framework; using RM6161 provides the NHS with this compliant route to sourcing temporary staff.
- The agreement is free to access by all NHS Contracting Authorities and any public sector contracting body in the UK.

- The specification offers flexibility to incorporate service elements that meet your individual local and regional requirements.
- Suppliers are actively managed and audited on a regular basis to ensure full compliance with NHS Employment Check Standards. Ad-hoc audits can also be requested should supplier processes raise concerns.
- Clear and fair transfer fee terms.
- Offers customers the option to access Master Vendor and/or Neutral Vendor Services.

NHS England NHS Improvement maximum wage and price caps

Framework pricing adheres to NHSI capped rates, including a “Break Glass” mechanism that allows Trusts to remain “on framework” and reduce reliance on “off framework” usage. The WA also provide a range of reporting options to help you monitor your agency suppliers’ performance against the caps and compares your compliance to other regions.

Job Profiles

The framework is split into 6 lots:

Lot 1 - Nursing & Midwifery

Lot 2 - Medical & Dental

Lot 3 - Allied Health Professionals and Health Science Services

Lot 4 - Emergency Services Staffing

Lot 5 - Social Care Staffing

Lot 6 - Neutral Vendor Services

Each of the 6 Lots includes a category of roles which fall under the NHS National Job Profiles, which can be found here;

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/pay-pensions-and-reward/job-evaluation/national-job-profiles>

<https://www.nhsemployers.org/pay-pensions-and-reward/medical-staff>

Who can access the framework?

The framework can be used by any UK public and third sector body (central government, local authorities, education, police forces, not-for-profit organisations etc.).

Access can be managed via an individual organisation, a consortium of public sector bodies or a collaborative procurement organisation such as a procurement hub, and will be supported by the NHS Workforce Alliance partnership.

Methods of sourcing supply

Sourcing individually

Source your own requirements to meet your particular trust's needs.

Collaboration

In order to help control supply and spend, you may want to think about collaboration with neighbouring trusts. This ensures no single trust in a geographical area is offering rates higher than its neighbours, and thus eliminates internal NHS competition for staff. This is of particular relevance to the local delivery of the customers' sustainability and transformation plan.

The WA have experience in working with STP/ICS' to implement such collaborative programmes and can provide your region with bespoke support. Please contact a member of the WA to discuss further.

Framework pricing

Rate cards

Maximum framework rates can be obtained by contacting your NHS Workforce Alliance framework manager; alternatively, customers can use the Ratecard Tool to calculate costs, which includes guidance on how to do this.

Framework suppliers

A list of the awarded suppliers on the framework can be found on any of the NHS Workforce Alliance websites and within the User Pack. Links to the website can be found in the contact details section of this guidance document.

Accessing the framework

Any Authority wishing to access the framework agreement must complete a Framework Access Agreement. Any Authority wishing to access the framework agreement must complete a Framework Access Agreement either manually or electronically. Please contact your local Framework manager on how to complete this form. Alternatively details of how to complete this can be found on the relevant WA members website

The framework can be accessed by both further competition, and Direct Award.

The WA recommend that, to achieve best value, and a tailored service, “Further Competition” should be the preferred route to market.

Further Competition

To award a call-off contract under the framework through a further competition you should:

- Develop a statement of requirements identifying the framework suppliers capable of providing the services through a process of shortlisting
- Amend or refine the template Order Form and Call Off and Joint Schedules to reflect the services required. Include these in the invitation to tender pack, along with the award criteria and further competition process
- Invite tenders by conducting a further competition in accordance with the regulations and your own process.

For more detailed information on running a further competition, please refer to the Further Competition Template.

All customers may run a further competition using our e-tendering systems, we can provide you with support in this. Alternatively, you may use any other suitable tendering system

Direct award

To direct award under the framework without holding a further competition you should:

- Develop a statement of requirements and determine whether this can be met by the supplier(s)

- Determine that all of the terms of the framework and the call-off terms do not require amendment or any supplementary terms and conditions
- Award using the call-off contract with the successful framework supplier



Get started

For more information, and for support in accessing the agreement, please contact either:

Crown Commercial Service
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www.crowncommercial.gov.uk

NHS Commercial Solutions (NHSCS)
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