



Workforce Alliance

Collaborating for a Sustainable Workforce

RM6161 Clinical and Healthcare Staffing: Contract Information Overview



Crown
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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

Framework Overview (1/3)

The framework provides for the temporary recruitment of clinical and healthcare within the UK.

The framework is open to use by NHS Contracting Authorities and all other public sector bodies including central and local government, universities, charities, and blue light services.

Contracting Authorities may specify an appropriate preferred method of service delivery including, but not limited to:

- Traditional agency route i.e. having a Preferred Suppliers List “PSL” in place with a one or more suppliers
- Master Vendor Route
- Neutral Vendor Provider
- Managed Service

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



Framework Overview (2/3)



The framework is divided into 6 lots as listed below:

- Lot 1 – Nursing & Midwifery Staffing
- Lot 2 – Medical & Dentistry Staffing
- Lot 3 – Allied Health Professionals & Health Science Services Staffing
- Lot 4 – Emergency Services
- Lot 5 – Social Care Staffing
- Lot 6 – Neutral Vendor

A matrix call off solution supports access across all lots of the framework. This means that if you require categories of worker across multiple lots, it can be procured under one call off contract

Framework Overview 3/3

Direct Award

- You know exactly what you want
- You do not need to amend terms
- You can demonstrate that your chosen supplier represents the most economically advantageous offer
- Only one supplier is capable of meeting your requirement
- Documented evidence supporting the decision should be retained

Further Competition

- You invite all qualified suppliers to compete for your business
- Enables you to clearly specify your exact requirements
- Assure yourself of suppliers capability to meet your particular needs
- May result in a further reduction of fees
- Transparent decision-making process

Contracting authorities will need to assure themselves as to the risk/benefits of adopting either approach; Framework Managers can assist in the decision making process.

Supplier Audits



- Safeguarding patients is key to the WA Audit Strategy
- The audit criteria is designed to test a supplier's compliance to the framework terms and conditions, particularly, but not limited to safeguarding and NHS Employers Guidance
- Audits will be planned across the full year
- Additional Ad-hoc audits can be undertaken at any time where concerns are raised by customers
- Suppliers will be given 48hrs notice of their audit date
- 50% files identified at point of notice and remaining 50% provided on the day (on arrival)
- Where a supplier is awarded to multiple WA frameworks, the audits will be combined into one longer audit to prevent multiple audit visits within a year.
- Suppliers who receive a Fail audit result will be suspended from the frameworks they were audited against until they are re-audited and receive a Pass or Pass With Conditions
- New bookings cannot be made during a supplier's suspension period.
- Recruitment and Employment Confederation (REC) are advised where a supplier fails their audit.
- Customers are made aware of all audit results and have access to summary audit reports.

Benefits

- RM6161 provides the NHS with a compliant route to sourcing temporary staff which has been approved by NHS England and Improvement.
- 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.
- Expert category support from NHS Workforce Alliance via NOECPC, LPP, CCS, EOECPH and NHSCS
- 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.
- Greater clarity and fair transfer fee terms.
- Offers customers the option to access Master Vendor, Neutral Vendor Services and/or Managed Service
- Supports caps compliance whilst allowing Trusts flexibility to implement local break glass policy in line with NHSE&I Agency Rules
- Support and updates regarding regulatory changes and policy delivery

Contact the NHS Workforce Alliance

If you would like further information about the partnership, please contact your relevant regional Procurement hub or your contact at CCS. Information regarding new opportunities will be available through both CCS and NHS Procurement in Partnership websites.

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