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15 September 2021

Dear Colleagues

### **Skills Enhancement Opportunity: Evaluators Sought for ProCure23 Framework**

In partnership with the Crown Commercial Service (CCS) we are embarking on the procurement for the ProCure23 (P23) framework, which is the successor to the ProCure22 (P22) agreement. P23 will be part of the UK's biggest construction works framework, called the Construction Works and Associated Services 2 (CWAS2) framework. It will therefore enable the healthcare sector to leverage central government buying power whilst retaining the benefits of an NHS-led route to market.

Compared to its predecessor, P23 will provide more flexibility for contractors and bring the latest best practice in construction methods, modern methods of construction and digital infrastructure to the NHS. It has a focus on delivering greener facilities, reducing carbon emissions throughout the process and promoting social value.

There will be 3 lots available as part of P23 covering different values ranging from under £20 million to over £70 million. For the first time as part of the ProCure structure, the lower value lot will be split by geographical regions to open the framework to suitable regional contractors.

The procurement will be a large and important task, for which **NHS England and NHS Improvement are requesting your help and support** to evaluate submissions to the tender. This is an exciting opportunity to contribute to a flagship commercial agreement that will provide significant benefits to the public sector.

We are currently working to the following programme:

- Publication of the invitation to tender on 29 September 2021;
- Start of evaluation on 15 November 2021 (this includes both selection and assessment stages);
- Completion of evaluation on 19 January 2021.

As an evaluator, your role will involve:

- evaluating written submissions from bidders to the questions set via tender documents;

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- scoring your evaluation against a pre-defined scoring matrix, with scoring based on evidence submitted by bidders;
- due regard to confidentiality (a diligence imposed by the Public Contract Regulations); and
- thereafter discussing your awarded score with fellow evaluators and, following facilitation by an independent moderator, agreeing a single consensus score.

Training on how to evaluate bids will be provided by CCS and will run from 22 October 2021 to 5 November 2021.

I am sure you will already be aware that this is an important and serious role with legal responsibilities. As an evaluator you could be called to give evidence in the rare case that a procurement decision were to be challenged in the courts.

In return, we promise that you will:

- always be treated in accordance with the NHS Core Values;
- be fully trained by CCS to conduct the evaluation; and
- be assigned to a dedicated team, which will support you throughout the process.

### **Evaluator Requirements**

We require evaluators to have:

- the seniority of an 8A role or above;
- experience of capital project delivery through the phases (e.g., inception, design, construction, occupancy) in an NHS setting, together with an understating of NHS capital policy direction;
- competency with critical analysis, thoroughness, technical expertise, communication, category knowledge, team working, e-evaluation software (training will be given); and
- assurance around conflicts of interest and non-disclosure agreements.

The evaluator training, which will be delivered remotely by CCS, will commence on 22 October 2021, and will continue to be available until 5 November 2021.

The procurement will require evaluators from across the NHS regions. We are unable to predict how many bids will be received from the market, but we expect that at least **9 evaluators** will be required for the selection stage and at least **12 evaluators** for the assessment stage. The evaluators may be required for **up to nine days** throughout the evaluation period. We expect that most bids will be evaluated during the first three weeks following submission of tender responses.

However, I must ask that you are flexible in offering additional time if the number of bids exceeds that which can be marked within the expected period.

This is a voluntary position which provides a fantastic CPD opportunity that will further develop your skills of fairness, transparency, consistency, and impartial assessment, in a high scrutiny environment and can form a key part of your ongoing personal and professional development.

To express an interest in this exciting opportunity then please e-mail [NHSEI.ProCure23@nhs.net](mailto:NHSEI.ProCure23@nhs.net) by **close on Tuesday 28 September** with the title, "Evaluators Sought for ProCure23 Framework: Expression of Interest".

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SC', on a light grey background.

Simon Corben  
Head of Profession  
Director of NHS Estates and Facilities and Head of Profession