

Defence Medical Information Services Programme CORTISONE – Prior Information Notice

Programme Cortisone addresses the need to record, manage and exploit all healthcare information generated by the Defence Medical Services (DMS) when delivering patient focussed healthcare. The programme seeks to inform the potential procurement of healthcare information services for use in deployed and disconnected environments.

This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to notify the supplier community of potential market engagement opportunities which may inform potential procurement activity.

The objectives of market engagement activities relating to this PIN are for the Authority to:

1. Better understand relevant products that may provide part or all of the capabilities required.
2. Better understand what the market can provide in relation to the services required.
3. Better understand the routes to market which could provide access to relevant products and services.
4. Inform a Programme delivery model assessment for the described capabilities.

If your products provide any of the capabilities discussed in this PIN and you are interested in being involved in future market engagement activities, please email UKStratComDD-CIS-ASD-MISEngage@mod.gov.uk with a completed copy of the form provided within Attachment A.

What is Programme CORTISONE?

Programme CORTISONE is delivering the digital medical / healthcare products and services required by Defence Medical Services (DMS). Delivery is being undertaken by an integrated team including DMS and UK Defence Medical Information Services (MedIS within Defence Digital) supported by Industry.

Programme CORTISONE is delivering an integrated ecosystem of medical information services with a vision to deliver 'a sustainable, integrated, cohesive and enduring information capability that will fully and effectively support the delivery of evidence-based medical and healthcare outputs, to achieve the aim of the Defence Medical Services.'

The primary role of DMS is to Promote, Protect and Restore the health of the UK armed forces to ensure that they are ready and medically fit to go wherever they are required in the UK and throughout the world. This will enable better patient outcomes and contribute to DMS resource optimisation, with the aim of maximising the number

of personnel fit for role for Defence. It will deliver access to, and exploitation of, clinical records across the Firmbase and Deployed operating environments.

The term Firmbase refers to all healthcare and associated Med IS undertaken across the UK and permanent (fixed) locations across the world. Deployed refers to the provision of healthcare on Operations, Exercises and Defence Tasks away from 'Firmbase' installations, both on land and at sea.

The Ministry of Defence (MOD) is looking for a range of companies to potentially engage with the Programme, delivering a full-suite of healthcare software to meet use-cases and patient-journey-defined functional requirements.

Market Engagement Activities

Programme CORTISONE has already undertaken market engagement activities for the Deployed sub-programme, including a Request For Information (RFI) released in July 2023 which requested responses on capabilities regarding Primary Medical and Intermediate Care (PM&IC) for deployments and operations.

The Programme is looking to expand on the previous market engagement to include the full breadth of required digital capabilities for use in a deployed environment, with a focus on Commercial-Off-The-Shelf (COTS) products and services. Market engagement activities may include product demonstrations and conversations with suppliers whom we believe can offer some of the capabilities required.

Market engagement activity will help to inform a Programme delivery model assessment for the requirements stated later in this document, guiding a decision to purchase COTS or develop a custom application for these specific capabilities.

Please Note: The Authority is conducting concurrent activity for the development of an alpha product to support a Make versus Buy analysis and inform the delivery model assessment. This development activity is being conducted in isolation and any sensitive or proprietary information shared by potential suppliers will not be used.

Overview of the Deployed Requirements

Programme CORTISONE is seeking to integrate a number of Commercial off the Shelf (COTS) products and services to provide an ecosystem of sub-systems that will constitute future UK Defence Med IS. The Programme is entering the Delivery Phase and intends to consider the procurement of products to deliver for Defence Medical Services military deployments and operations which can operate in both connected and disconnected environments for prolonged periods.

DMS incorporates members from the Royal Navy, Army, and Royal Air Force to generate medical capabilities to support global deployments involving UK forces. These deployments can either be standalone or in partnership with NATO and key allies. They cover the full spectrum of UK Defence standing and contingent commitments.

CORTISONE Deployed is responsible for providing and extending Healthcare Information Services to global deployments. Multiple concurrent deployments are in effect at any one time, and there are often multiple medical facilities present within an individual deployment. In addition, lone, semi-autonomous medical practitioners, often operating geographically dispersed (across the world) from the main medical facilities, are also required to maintain patient care records and access clinical supervision / reach back support, either within the deployed theatre of operations or with the UK.

This section highlights some of the key areas of functionality in the deployed space.

Patient Tracking Service (PTS)

A PTS system enables users to submit requests for evacuation and task assets to conduct these tasks. The system will be able to track on a map the location of evacuation assets (e.g. ambulances and aircraft) and the location of patients throughout the Patient Care Pathway.

Pre-Hospital Care (PHC)

This allows for clinical data capture (relating to acute injury and illness) outside of a hospital facility and includes the following:

- a. Pre-hospital emergency care (PHEC) allows for the capture of clinical data outside of deployed medical facility, i.e. at the point of injury.
- b. Primary Medical Care (PMC) in this case allows for the capture of clinical data (e.g. routine injury and illness) outside of a deployed facility, e.g. an individual clinician with limited support in a rural environment via a mobile device.
- c. Patient Movement allows for the capture of clinical data, during medical evacuation (acute) and patient transport (routine) for both single and multiple patients. This could occur within a deployment on ground-based ambulances,

trains, maritime (ships) and air platforms (helicopters), as well as strategic movement to return patients to the UK on air platforms (aeroplanes). This is a separate capability to the PTS described above and is concerned with clinical data capture only.

Each of these subsets of data must integrate with other applications within the ecosystem and within the patient's Electronic Healthcare Record (EHR).

Deployed Hospital Care (DHC)

A DHC system enables the provision of hospital care including activity in an emergency department, surgery, intensive care and wards. The data captured must then be integrated into the patient's EHR.

Medicines Management

The requirement for a networked digital stock management system to enable prescribing, dispensing and to track stock levels. The system should integrate with the supply and logistics system to enable an automatic reorder of stock as required to reduce manual logistics processes.

Telemedicine

Telemedicine allows an individual to request remote support through an exchange of text, video, image or audio messages as well as two-way voice and video calls. This should be a clinical safety assured system with the ability to link to an EHR system.

Data Capture, Visualisation, and Planning Tools.

Also referred to as Medical Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (C4ISR). This refers to a system which enables the capture of information relating to medical reconnaissance (e.g. hospital visits). The information will then be stored in an accessible repository and will enable applications to assist with the planning of medical support to military operations using pre-defined templates. The system should allow graphical map-based tracking of ongoing operations and real-time and historical medical information exploitation to support epidemiology and medical surveillance (e.g. capabilities that different facilities can offer).

Other Requirements

All systems are required to enable the business to utilise and exploit the data held within clinical and business systems. Therefore any data held within the application should be able to be extracted into a centralised data storage and analytics solution taking an open-standards based approach.

Registration

If you would like to express interest in participating in market engagement activities, please complete Section 1 of the form in [Attachment A](#) and email it to: UKStratComDD-CIS-ASD-MISEngage@mod.gov.uk. Please note that submitting this form does not guarantee an invitation to participate in product demonstrations or other market engagement activities. By completing Section 2 of this form, you may also be invited to register on the Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal if not already, as described in the following section.

Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal

The Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal is an online workspace that enables the MedIS programmes, including Programme CORTISONE, to share information with potential suppliers of relevant products and services in pre-procurement market engagement. This may include Requests for Information, draft Statements of Requirements for different products and services that CORTISONE intend to procure, as well as draft design artefacts that provide useful technical details for suppliers interested in the Programme. The portal also provides background information about the context and status of CORTISONE, in the Medical Information Services Overview pages.

Significant additions to the market engagement or procurement content published on the Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal will be announced on Contracts Finder and the Defence Sourcing Portal first.

Up to two representatives from each company may be granted membership.

Any queries about access to the Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal should be directed to UKStratComDD-CIS-ASD-MISEngage@mod.gov.uk.

Attachment A: Registration Form

Section 1: Company and Product Information

Company Name	
Company Registration Number	
Website	
Product Name(s)	
Brief Product Description(s)	

Section 2: Representative Name and Contact Information for registering on the DHSP (Maximum 2 representatives)

Representative 1	
Name	
Role	
Company Email Address	
Representative 2	
Name	
Role	
Company Email Address	