

**RFI0040**

**REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

**Mental Fitness Application**

**RFI Title:** RFI0040

**Issue Date:** 22 May 2024

**Reference:** RFI0040

**Version:** 1.0

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# Introduction

This RFI is not a bidding opportunity but a means by which industry can provide information. Any resulting procurement activity will be conducted competitively.

**Please note:**

**This RFI is an information gathering exercise, no further discussions with industry are planned at this stage however any future procurement activity will be advertised in line with public procurement regulations on the Defence Sourcing Portal and Contracts Finder.**

1. Background

**The Royal Navy are seeking to explore Mental Fitness applications or platforms to enable personnel to self-manage their anxiety, mood, emotions, thinking distortions, behaviours and motivation.**

**It is recognised that there is a need for personnel to have more support in the areas of promoting and enhancing mental wellness, fitness, and resilience, reducing the impact of stress, anxiety and that of depression/mood and adjustment. And the prevention of developing mental health conditions that impact upon an individual’s performance at work, operationally and at home.**

**Potential Provider:**

**The application/platform MUST:**

* Be accessible, easily understood, and easy to navigate.
* Prove data is held securely in line with Defence IT security policies.
* Deliver a bespoke intervention to the individual, based upon their needs. To enable greater understanding of how mental health challenges affect their mental fitness and resilience and the skills to maintain and improve it.
* Have an Artificial Intelligence or hybrid system that sits behind the platform that drives the personalised interventions based on what is inputted into the system.
* Online hosted.
* Have the Promotion and Prevention of good mental fitness/wellness as integral aspects of the platform.
* Provide continuous adaptive support and interventions tailored to the individual which is refreshed over the course of the contract.
* Deliver interventions and exercises that are, engaging and aligned with the individual’s goals and challenges.
* Be able to provide through life/career support to all personnel and their family’s dependent need.
* Be focused upon Behavioural Change to embed the skills and understanding to better manage life’s ups and downs, to develop positive habits to manage challenges.
* Be able to identify when someone needs further support and can offer signposting information when indicated.
* Provide governance and assurance that content is appropriate and safe to use.
* Prove data is held securely e.g., GDPR, ISO 27001.

The application SHOULD:

* Be scalable and adaptable to need.
* Be able to provide feedback to the individual so that they can see their own progress and goals.
* Provide feedback directly to the individual regularly and unobtrusively.
* Provide a baseline in skills to include mindfulness, guided imagery, and psychoeducation.
* Give regular prompts/nudges to the individual to encourage engagement.
* Provide feedback to nominated RN POC on activity.
* Be able to tailor the content, feedback, and language to better integrate with established systems.
* Be able to evidence and ensure the confidentiality/anonymity of RN personnel and their data.
1. RFI intended outcomes

This RFI aims to achieve the following three (3) outcomes:

1.    Develop further the Authority’s understanding of the different technologies and capabilities available in the market, both current and emerging.

2.    Align Authority requirements with industry standards and processes.

3. Enable the Authority to develop a procurement strategy that will deliver best value for money for Defence.

1. RFI Procedure

Responses to this RFI will be reviewed by subject matter experts from different functional areas within Defence.

If upon review of your submission any clarifications or additional information is required, you will be contacted using the details provided in your RFI response.

Any details provided in response to this RFI will be used for information purposes only and will not be used to determine the potential providers who will be invited to bid, should the Authority proceed to tender.

The results and analysis of this RFI shall not constitute any form of pre-qualification exercise.

Any formal procurement process will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Procurement Law.

Nothing in this RFI, or any other engagements with Industry prior to a formal procurement process, shall be construed as commitment by the Authority in relation to any future requirement(s) or any future procurement(s).

1. How to submit responses to this RFI

Respondents should provide responses in accordance with the format provided in **Annex A** quoting the RFI reference on all documentation and emails**.**

Please do not submit additional documents such as company overviews, the purpose of the RFI is to collect information related to the technical solution, any additional documents will not be included in the review process.

Any responses received after the deadline will be passed to the subject matter experts for information, however they may not be included in the RFI review meetings which are to be held immediately following the deadline.

Once completed, please return electronically to the e-mail address(es) shown below in **section 9,** no later than **12:00, 14 June 2024.**

Responses will be acknowledged electronically by return e-mail.

1. Confidentiality & Proprietary Information

No information included in your response, or in discussions connected to it, will be disclosed to any other third party.

Proprietary information, where included, should be kept to a minimum and must be clearly marked.

**For this RFI, any documentation submitted should be of the classification OFFICIAL.**

1. Costs of preparing your RFI response

Any costs relating to the preparation and submission of a response to this RFI are the sole responsibility of the respondent.

1. Contact

Quoting the RFI reference, please submit

1. any requests for clarification
2. all responses to this RFI and
3. any questions regarding Classification of document(s) intended for submission, to:

NAVYCOMRCL-RFI@mod.gov.uk

1. Annex A

**RFI0040**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Question** | **Answer** |
| Company Name |   |
| Company Address |   |
| Is the company a Small - Medium Enterprise (less than 250 employees)? |  |
|    |
| Name of Company representative completing the RFI |   |
| Contact details (e-mail and telephone number) |   |
| Company web site address |   |
|    |
| Main products/services/line of business |   |
| Main market sector |   |
| Number of years in this market sector |   |
| **QUESTIONS**   |
| 1. Has the solution been used in support of military personnel before?

If **yes,** please include details of this including, dates and where it was used, what was the population size, what the outcomes were and what type of personnel was it used with (please provide evidence). |
|  |
|  **2.** What would be the charging schedule? \*For clarity assume a typical offer provision  a. How would the provider charge for the service? e.g. per license, bulk licenses or monthly, annually  b. Would it be a charge per year and/or per licence per person access? c. Would this be an annual cost, cost for a set period, or for a set number of  licences/tokens/numbers accessing? |
|  |
|  **3.** Would a bespoke service to individuals increase fees as opposed to a basic subscription? |
|  |
|  **4.** Does your platform/application have an evidence-based approach that sits at the core of  what is being delivered? If it does, please explain and provide evidence of effectiveness.   |
|  |
|  **5.** How often can Management Information reports be produced, e.g. reports on overall user  mental fitness? Can these reports be made specific to certain groups?  |
|  |
|  **6**. Where is the location of the servers that hold your data, in the UK or outside? Are you able to change the servers to the UK if required?  |
|  |
|  **7.** Are you able to link into organisations to advertise your platform/application to let people  know that it is available and to encourage engagement?  If so, please provide evidence. |
|  |

**Innovative solutions are most welcome, even if they do not meet all the requirements above, we would welcome the opportunity to consider the positives and negatives.**