

Better Security Better Care
‘ASC Cyber Incident National Exercise’
Invitation To Tender BSBC-23-SP7



1. About the programme

Better Security Better Care (BSBC) is a national programme to improve data and cyber security in the Adult Social Care provider sector. It is led by a programme board whose members include NHS Transformation Directorate, NHS Digital, NHS England and Improvement, the Local Government Association, the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) and, on behalf of the care provider sector, Digital Social Care. You can find out more about the programme [here](#).

The BSBC programme supports the adult social care sector with resources and assistance to help care providers complete the Data Security & Protection Toolkit (DSPT). The DSPT is a free, online self-assessment for health and care providers to evaluate and improve their data and cyber security. It is an ambitious programme with the aim that all CQC registered Adult Social Care services will have completed the DSPT to ‘standards met.’ There are 26,000 care providers registered with the CQC and over 1.5 million staff working in care. The programme is delivered by a diverse group of care sector organisations, including many local care associations, with colleagues from the NHS, ADASS and local councils also involved.

2. Programme vision

To help Adult Social Care services manage data and cyber security risks better, enabling the benefits of digital technology to be enjoyed without putting people’s confidential information or the operation of services at risk.

To provide the assurance needed to allow health and social care providers to share information securely and effectively, leading to joined up care and consequently to better quality of care for the people our services support.

To develop and promote the Data Security and Protection Toolkit (DSPT) as the best way for social care providers to achieve these aims.

3. Purpose of this project

In 2022 a software supplier to Health and Social Care was the victim of a ransomware attack, this resulted in a loss of service on several infrastructure hosting products used across the NHS and Adult Social Care. The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC), BSBC and NHS England committed to review and improve incident response policy and procedure in the event of a cyber incident. Extensive research has been conducted to

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consolidate lessons learned from the incident, and to review and build on procedures by identifying gaps, opportunities, and best practice.

The Cyber Incident National Exercise is the next step and will build on the outcomes of the work to date, providing the opportunity to develop and refine the recommendations for enhanced cyber incident response procedures across central departments, systems and Adult Social Care providers. The main deliverable of this project is to establish an improved incident response framework across a range of stakeholders and partners of Adult Social Care, by delivering a national cyber incident exercise specific to the sector, working with the sector.

4. Project governance

This project will be overseen by the BSBC Programme team in collaboration with the Joint Cyber Unit within NHS Transformation Directorate.

5. Project objectives

Project aim: plan, create, deliver and run a bespoke national cyber incident exercise for the adult social care sector.

Key output 1: national exercise scenario, development, and event delivery

Design, deliver and facilitate a cyber incident national exercise, to test incident response in a realistic, catastrophic cyber scenario for adult social care, together, with key stakeholders and partners. This will successfully engage and facilitate a broad range of stakeholders, including Government Departments, NHS, NCSC, Local Government, Trade Associations and Adult Social Care provider(s), to test response. The scenario developed should reflect the complexity and diversity of the Adult Social Care sector, its inter-relationships and context.

Key output 2: report and insights

Produce a tailored report from the event, capturing issues and next steps. This will build on the lessons learned from previous cyber incidents and research conducted to date, using the recommendations and best practice identified to help further define the cyber

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incident response framework for Adult Social Care.

The successful bidder will be expected to support on event delivery to be run with BSBC. We will provide the location, contact lists and 0.5FTE from across the teams, including from within NHSTD to help ensure success, as well as associated reading material. The reason for the extended timescale below is due to the need to find a suitable time for all key, senior participants, rather than the complexity of the task.

6. Procurement timescales

EOI deadline	Midnight 26 April 2023
Submission review and clarifications	27 April – 10 May 2023
Interview panels (as required)	10 – 17 May 2023
Contract award by	19 May 2023
Project go live from	23 May 2023
Project complete by	July-Aug 2023 (dependent on when event is scheduled)

Budget

The maximum available budget for this work is £35,000 (inclusive of VAT).

Invitation to Tender

For an informal discussion about the project, please contact:

bettersecurity.bettercare@digitalsocialcare.co.uk

Expressions of interest are invited to be submitted in writing to bettersecurity.bettercare@digitalsocialcare.co.uk by the closing date.

Please use attached EOI application form and rename the file before returning to: EOI BSBC-23-SP7 [Organisation Name].

Expressions of interest must include the following information:

- Company details
- A summary of relevant experience
- A summary of how you would approach this work and the process you

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would propose to follow

- Outline project plan with timescales
- Breakdown of proposed project budget including resource costings

This will be a two-stage tendering process with expressions of interest being evaluated by a panel which may include representatives from any of the programme partners listed in the background above. Shortlisted bids may be invited to provide further information or discuss parameters around the final contract award decision. The submissions scoring will be weighted as follows:

Experience	30%
Project Delivery and Concept	40%
Budget	30%