

# **Defence Medical Information Services Programme CORTISONE – Notice of Request for Information relating to Primary Medical and Intermediate Care products for global deployments and operations is now available**

This announcement invites interested suppliers to view the Request for Information (RFI) and draft Statement of Requirements (SoR) for Primary Medical and Intermediate Care (PM&IC) products for global deployments and operations. This is issued by Defence Medical Information Services' (MedIS) Programme CORTISONE within the UK Ministry of Defence (MOD), available through:

- The Medical Information Services' Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal (DHSP)
- The Contracts Finder Early Engagement Notice.

This RFI and accompanying SoR invite interested suppliers to read and provide feedback for MedIS Programme CORTISONE's planned procurement of Primary Medical and Intermediate Care products and services for use on global deployments. The CORTISONE team intends to provide further details of the procurement, including preferred procurement route, at a later date.

The objectives of this Request for Information are for the Authority to:

- a. better understand relevant products that may provide some or all of the capability required
- b. confirm that the market can provide the services required
- c. better understand the routes to market which could provide access to relevant products and services.

## **Overview of the Deployed Primary Medical and Intermediate Care Requirements**

Deployed Primary Medical and Intermediate Care (PM&IC) digital capability is seen as a key component in supporting Defence Primary Healthcare (DPHC) to maintain the health and fitness of the deployed workforce. This is principally an occupationally driven, General Practice led, Primary Healthcare service that includes rehabilitation,

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mental healthcare, occupational health, and sexual healthcare capabilities tailored to the size and composition of the deployed population at risk.

There are often multiple medical facilities within a single deployed theatre of operations, as well as lone, semi-autonomous medical practitioners geographically dispersed from the main medical facilities. The medical capabilities on deployments should be considered as a network providing care through fixed, mobile, and peripatetic service delivery methods. PM&IC products for use in deployed theatres of operations must be able to operate under conditions of extended periods of poorly connected or dis-connected network availability.

The CORTISONE programme is seeking to integrate a number of Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) products and services to provide an ecosystem of sub-systems including PM&IC to support healthcare across the firm-base and global deployments for the Defence Medical Services. PM&IC products will be required to have the ability to integrate with other applications within and outside of the MedIS ecosystem.

The focus of this RFI is on better understanding the relevant products which may provide the Deployed PM&IC capability required. The attached draft Statement of Requirements (SoR) highlights the main areas of functionality required by the Authority. However, the SoR does not represent the totality of CORTISONE's Deployed PM&IC specification of requirements therefore, the Authority would be interested in any further information which interested parties can provide on products or capabilities not covered by the RFI/SoR.

## How do I access the information?

The CORTISONE team will make the RFI and SoR available through the Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal (please see below for more information), an online workspace that enables the Medical Information Services (MedIS), of which CORTISONE is a component programme to share information with suppliers of relevant products and services in pre-procurement market engagement.

The RFI and SOR will also be available through a Contracts Finder Early Engagement Notice.

Please note that completed RFI questionnaires should be returned to the CORTISONE Team by email to [UKStratComDD-CIS-ASD-MISEngage@mod.gov.uk](mailto:UKStratComDD-CIS-ASD-MISEngage@mod.gov.uk) no later than 12:00 BST on 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023.

Responding to this announcement is voluntary and does not start the official procurement process for the CORTISONE requirement. Response to the RFI does not guarantee, or jeopardise, your inclusion in a future procurement exercise. It should be noted that all information released in relation to the RFI is released subject to contract

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(without commitment), is subject to change and may not form part of any future procurement process.

No down-selection will take place as a consequence of any responses or interactions relating to the RFI. Additionally, no information provided in response to this announcement or in relation to the RFI will be used in any way for the purpose of evaluating suppliers or their products in any future procurement process.

## What is Programme CORTISONE?

Programme CORTISONE is a suite of digital medical/healthcare services and products delivered to Defence Medical Services (DMS) by the MedIS delivery team.

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

Programme CORTISONE, a multi-million-pound programme, with global reach and operations equivalent in size to an Integrated Care System, is procuring a full suite of healthcare software from multiple healthcare product/service suppliers, together with development, delivery, and support services. Elements of the ecosystem are re-competed on a regular basis to ensure the best solutions are being delivered to users, providing an ongoing opportunity for market players to be involved with the ecosystem on a long-term basis.

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. With the modular nature of the procurement allowing innovation, all suppliers are encouraged to take a leading role in delivery of functionality.

CORTISONE is also looking to the future and will exploit innovation to align with NHS strategy, virtualise healthcare and integrate with services across the healthcare sector.

## 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 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

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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 first.

New suppliers are invited to request access to the Digital Healthcare Supplier Portal by nominating **up to two** representatives from their company to be granted membership.

The representatives should provide the following information to

UKStratComDD-CIS-ASD-MISEngage@mod.gov.uk:

- Full name of company
- Full name(s) of representative(s)
- Role(s) of the representative(s) within the company
- Company email address(es) of representative(s). This email will be associated with their membership of the portal.

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

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