

Notification of Upcoming EOI for Perinatal Mental Health Services - Registration of Interest

Introduction

This notification has been issued to inform the market that WentWest, the Western Sydney Primary Health Network (WSPHN), will soon be commencing the procurement process for the above program.

Invitation to Respond: Note that this is not a tender, but an invitation for market response to information published on, or accessible through, this website, pertaining to this upcoming tender.

Background

We will commission specialist perinatal mental health services for women and their families. This will align with Objective 4 of the Western Sydney Mental Health and Suicide Prevention Regional Plan: "Improving the access to and quality of perinatal, infant and child mental health". These services are intended to provide wraparound treatment and care for individuals, couples and infants, including parent-infant psychotherapy, linkages to practical home support, medication management and liaison with midwifery, obstetric, paediatric and GP colleagues, as well as facilitation of hospital admissions if required.

The overarching objective of these services is to ensure the best possible start in life for the next generation, by improving the health and wellbeing of both the mother and her partner.

Program Objectives and Design

The therapeutic work focuses on:

- Managing the mental illness, including addressing predisposing, precipitating, perpetuating and protective factors
- Encouraging a secure attachment between infants and their parents
- Dealing with distress and emotional consequences for the mother and the family
- Exploring and enhancing the relationship between pregnant women, those who have given birth and their partners, during the transition into parenthood.

In designing and delivering the program, organisations should consider a multidisciplinary team care approach with an appropriate staffing mix of psychologists, counsellors, mental health nurses and other allied health professionals. Integration strategies to relevant LHD services and General Practice.

This program is not intended to duplicate existing funding or supports, other state government funded services and supports which are remunerable through Medicare.

Next Steps

A formal procurement process, for the Perinatal Mental Health Services for women and their families program, will commence in March 2025, after a period of consultation with the market.

If your organisation is already working in this field with specialist skills and experience in supporting the perinatal mental health needs of women and their families, or has capacity, expertise and desire to do so, you are encouraged to participate in this procurement process.

Following the initial Registration of Interest process (ROI), we will contact interested service providers to facilitate an interactive discussion with the primary focus on identification of current challenges, strategies to overcome them and ideas to enhance services in the Western Sydney region to enable this program to be implemented successfully.

Registration of Interest (ROI)

We are inviting service providers who are interested in participating in this procurement process to register their interest by providing their relevant contact details to the following email address commissioning@wentwest.com.au by **Monday 17 February, 2025**.

Further information on registering your interest will be available on Tenderlink, the Australian Tenders and WentWest websites.

We intend to commence consultation (one-on-one discussions or workshops) with registered providers in February 2025 before commencing the Expression of Interest (EOI) process in early 2025.

An EOI Process will be undertaken in March 2025 after a period of consultation with the market.

Proposed Timetable

RoI Open	20 January 2025
RoI Close	17 February 2025
Interactive Meetings	18 to 24 February 2025
EOI Open	3 March 2025
Q & A Close	24 March 2025
EOI Close	31 March 2025
Evaluation Period	1 April to 18 April 2025
Contract Negotiation	18 April to 30 April 2025
Contract Start Date and Implementation	1 May 2025
Service Commencement	1 May 2025

Question and Answers

If you have any questions, please contact the Commissioning team at commissioning@wentwest.com.au