



Taking care of your employees with our new Occupational Health Services framework (985)

People are at the heart of every organisation so it is important to keep employees well at work - both mentally and physically.

It is estimated that every year over 170 million days are lost to sick absence, so it is vital that employers do their part to help reduce avoidable sickness and to properly support their staff when they are ready to get back to work.

The benefits to keeping people in work and healthy not only helps individual employees but maintains work productivity for organisations and reduces costs to the NHS, so it is no wonder the public sector is looking for compliant solutions for their occupational health services.

We understand that every organisation and every team within that organisation has different requirements, so we have provided customers with more supplier choice and additional services on our new Occupational Health Services framework (985).

General Occupational Health Services - Lot 1

This covers typical service requirements for you to pick and choose from, including attendance management, pre-employment screening and referrals to specialists.

NHS Services - Lot 2

This dedicated NHS Lot includes a comprehensive list of vaccines, blood tests and medicines as well as needle stick injury management.

Blue Light Services - Lot 3

On this Lot we have put particular focus on providing support, catching the early effects of trauma exposure and supporting individuals through difficult experiences.

Employee Assistance Programmes (EAP) - Lot 4

These services focus around providing workplace support for a variety of issues such as debt, financial, mediation and bullying.

We offer direct award across all Lots for quick and easy benchmarking as well as further competition for flexibility and further savings. As with all of our frameworks, it is free to access for ESPO customers and fully compliant with UK/EU legislation so there are no hidden surprises.

**More choice
with 50%
more suppliers
compared to
the previous
framework**



If you would like to find out more about the framework please contact the Managing People and Professional Services team on resources@espo.org or **0116 294 4072**.

HR360

RECRUIT • TRAIN • RETAIN

Join us at HR360 in March!

We will bring you face-to-face with our HR framework suppliers and ESPO procurement experts as well as give you access to professional seminars running throughout the day.

Register for free at espohr360.eventbrite.co.uk.



Building the UK's electric vehicle infrastructure

As more people choose to make the switch to electric vehicles (EV) and with increasing pressure on the government to deliver on their 'Road to Zero' strategy, the UK has now become one of the top European countries for EV sales.

Although there is a considerable increase on the take up of these vehicles, there is still a long way to go before the UK has converted every vehicle on the road to zero emission alternatives.

So why should the public sector go electric and how can organisations ensure the infrastructure is there to cope with demand?

Benefits of using and supporting electric vehicles

As well as the environmental benefits and cheaper running costs that these vehicles provide compared to petrol or diesel engines, EVs have now become more affordable for professionals following changes to Benefit In Kind (BIK) rates – making them even more appealing for those using company cars.

If you want to support the use of EVs too, there is specific government funding available to help organisations with the set up costs of installing EV charging points.

Installing points will not only help build the UK's electric vehicle infrastructure but can be a source of income for an organisation once it is up and running.

Building the infrastructure

Currently one of the biggest barriers to converting people to electric vehicles is 'range anxiety'. Despite developments continually providing longer ranges on vehicles there is still a worry from drivers that they will be left stranded on longer journeys. This is something that can be tackled and reduced through the increase of EV charging points, including the option of rapid charge.

There are endless options for charging points that organisations can choose from such as whether to lease or purchase, solutions to fit in with surrounding aesthetics and whether to include a tariff for charging. There is a lot of useful information out there to help you make your decision, including our Buyer Guide which can be found at espo.org.

Helping the public sector

To support public sector organisations with charging solutions for electric vehicles we have a **Vehicle Charging Infrastructure framework (636)** which offers EU/UK procurement compliant access to market leading suppliers.

As with all our frameworks it is completely free to access and our procurement experts are on hand to support you as much or as little as you need. If you'd like to discuss how we can help you, please contact the team.



For more information contact place@espo.org or call 0116 265 7934.



Carrying out a Transforming Care Programme

Liz Zacharias - a Senior Consultant from 664 supplier, Campbell Tickell - shares her key lessons learned from carrying out a Transforming Care Programme.

The programme worked to support people with learning disabilities and those who have behaviours that challenge or a mental health condition, to move from in-patient care to community-based services in order to reduce the reliance on in-patient beds in the longer term.

Here are Campbell Tickell's key lessons learned from carrying out this project:

1. A multi-agency steering group really helps.

A group that includes representatives from all appropriate areas has a better chance of achieving agreement on the needs and the way forward.

2. A clear data specification that is General Data Protection Requirement (GDPR) compliant is key.

Data specification that enables the local authority to generate data for the accommodation plan without breaching confidentiality.

3. Persistence.

This is particularly important when following up on data gaps and obtaining supplementary data, to ensure that a clear picture of needs and supply can be established.

4. Engagement with practitioners is essential.

This allows you to work through credible assumptions for modelling, to ensure the plan includes accurate data on demand and usage and is realistic in terms of the supply needs.

5. Identifying quality, commissioning and market shaping issues.

These are needed to form part of the plan.

6. Producing granular information about the housing needs of individuals.

Information collected should include the type of tenure to be considered, whether shared or individual accommodation is appropriate, specific physical needs and public safety issues.

You can read the full article on espo.org and find out more about the framework.



Find compliant training providers for apprenticeship schemes

Public sector customers can now compliantly procure apprenticeship training via ESPO's Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS).

Having successfully piloted the system with a group of London Boroughs, our DPS is now up and running nationally and has had a number of awards from sectors such as Blue Light and Local Authority among others.

Unlike some alternatives on the market, our DPS service providers are continuously refreshed, meaning we keep up with the changing landscape of the market and standards as new suppliers can join the DPS at any time. We also encourage customers to conduct regular engagement exercises with apprenticeship training providers to see which new, up-and-coming apprenticeship standards they can provide.

We continually listen to customer feedback so if your local providers or any SMEs that you have identified are not currently included within the DPS it is a straightforward process to submit an application.

We have created some helpful guides on espo.org and as always our team are on hand to help if you need.



Could modular buildings be the future for public sector?

The phrase 'modular building' may not bring the most pleasant images to mind – a clinical, cold, closed space filled with drafts, cracks and constant instability. All rickety steps and wrong temperatures (too hot in the summer, never warm enough in the winter), but thankfully improvements mean that future generations won't need to experience this.

Today's modular buildings still include all the benefits that the old-fashioned versions had; a relatively pain free, quick and easy expansion of the premises in a cost-effective manner. However, now they are far more comfortable and encompass a more modern, practical and eye-catching design quality.

No matter which area of the public sector you reside in you are likely to face similar challenges – tight budget constraints, short time scales, choosing a compliant route and ensuring quality to name a few. Modular buildings are able to offer flexibility and value-for-money which is ideal for the continually changing face of healthcare or for innovative universities reacting quickly to bring their students new facilities.

Modular buildings are built in controlled environments which ensure quality, provide versatility and are often considerably cheaper than traditional builds.

Modular solutions have also started to make an impact on construction for Housing Associations. Providing adequate housing – and quickly – is currently one of the biggest challenges for councils so it is no wonder that they are turning away from traditional buildings and exploring the benefits of modular designs. These constructions can reduce disruption for local residents as well as reduce environmental impacts due to less time required on site.

ESPO's Modular Building framework (953) not only allows public sector organisations access to a variety of top suppliers, but it also takes care of procurement compliance, provides professional support and is completely free to access. The framework has been split into Lots including healthcare buildings and accommodation as well as offering a further competition option for more bespoke requirements.

To help you further we have created a helpful how-to guide which can be viewed or downloaded from espo.org.



For more information contact Charlotte Springthorpe on place@espo.org or call **0116 294 4065**.



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What's New?

Take a look at the new frameworks launched since our last edition:



Buildings

- Electrical Testing Services (306)
- Security and Surveillance Equipment and Services (628)



People and Professional Services

- Insurance Solutions (964)
- Occupational Health Services (985)



Energy

- Renewable Energy Solutions (2838)



Fleet and Highways

- Vehicle Lease (RM6096)

Did you know you can conduct further competitions for ESPO frameworks directly through ProContract to save time? Speak to a member of the ESPO team at commercial@espo.org to find out more.



Have you seen our White Goods catalogue?

Browse our wide range of products on espo.org or email communication@espo.org to request a copy.

Help shape the future of frameworks

ESPO are currently in the early stages of establishing a brand new solution, as well as renewing two of our long-standing frameworks. We'd like feedback and suggestions from people who really need these solutions to make sure we create the best possible frameworks.

Digital HR and Workforce Solutions (650)

A new solution anticipated to commence by summer 2020, this framework is expected to comprise a variety of 'off-the-shelf' software products designed to enable customers to digitise their human resources service and transform their workforce. The scope is likely to include digital systems to handle functions such as: compliance; recruitment; workforce planning and scheduling; human resources management; and payroll.

Advertising Solutions (3A)

This national framework is due for renewal next year and will cover a range of advertising relevant to the public sector including recruitment, public notices and advertising campaigns. Going forward the scope may also be expanded to include additional services such as PR and student attraction - so we would especially like to speak to Universities and further education establishments.

Language Services (402)

We are replacing our current Interpretation, Translation and Transcription Services framework which will launch in the spring. If your organisation has a requirement for translation (spoken or non-spoken) services, we'd like to hear from you to help shape this new version.

If you'd like to participate in customer engagement or find out more about these frameworks please contact resources@espo.org.

For further information on any of the articles in this newsletter, or to discuss your procurement needs please contact the relevant Account Manager:



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