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Contract

Patient Discharge Bridging Service

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-000874

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-060083

Published 7 January 2026, 8:03am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

729 The Ridge

St Leonards on Sea

TN37 7PT

Contact

Procurement

Email

esht.procurement@nhs.net

Telephone

+44 3001314500

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.esht.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.esht.nhs.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Patient Discharge Bridging Service

Reference number

ES/25/1475

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85141210 - Home medical treatment services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice.

A Patient Discharge Bridging Service for ESHT. The service supports patients who are medically optimised for discharge and do not meet the criteria to remain in hospital, but whose long-term local authority care package is not yet in place.

The aim of the supply of care service is to enable timely, safe discharge from hospital, reduce unnecessary delays, improve patient flow, and ensure continuity of care until statutory services assume responsibility. Working collaboratively with ESHT, Local Authorities, and community partners to ensure safe handover and continuity of care and ensuring our teams are integrated into the ESHT teams to ensure that happens.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £4,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Service summary:

- Provide same-day or within-24-hour home-based support to enable timely and safe discharge from hospital.
- Deliver personal care and daily living support to eligible patients until their care is formally handed over to Adult Social Care.
- Operate under clear inclusion and exclusion criteria, supported by daily triage, robust governance oversight, and alignment with the MDT.
- Supply the required workforce, management structure, digital care-notes platform, reporting systems, and quality governance needed to safely deliver bridging care at a rolling capacity, trained to required CQC and NHS standards
- Source Care Teams from outside the local area to avoid placing additional pressure on local services.
- Work collaboratively with the Trust, local authorities, and community partners to ensure safe transitions and continuous monitoring of patient outcomes.
- Take responsibility for operational delivery, care coordination, risk management, data-sharing compliance, and performance reporting against KPIs, including discharge timeliness, length of stay, safe handover, and patient experience.
- Complete assessments for patients who are medically ready to be discharged upon arrival at home and prepare the referral for their ongoing pathway, in partnership with ESHT teams and appropriately Trained Assessors.
- The service Minerva provides to ESHT has a Rolling Care Capacity adjusted depending on the size of the service and patient numbers

This is a established service, which has been stood up and down with Minerva several times since 2022. The intention is to award under the most suitable provider process. The maximum contract value including extensions is £4,000,000. The contract is nil commitment and services can be stood down up and down with 1 weeks notice.

Contract commencement - January 2026 - initial term 24 months, with option of a further 12 months.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality and Innovation / Weighting: 20%

Quality criterion - Name: Integration, Collaboration & Sustainability / Weighting: 20%

Quality criterion - Name: Improving Access, reducing health inequalities& Sustainability /

Weighting: 20%

Quality criterion - Name: Social value / Weighting: 20%

Cost criterion - Name: Value / Weighting: 20%

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

II.2.14) Additional information

The service was awarded equally across the five key criteria below (20%) each, as the Service felt each of the criteria require required equal consideration

Social Value was given 20% weighting as the relevant authority felt it was important to give some priority to social and environmental well-being.

Quality & Innovation was weighted 20%, as the Authority wanted to ensure consideration was given to the requirements of the service, along with previous experience of innovation and quality improvement

Value was weighted 20%, as the Authority felt it important to balance the cost of the service against the patient pathway and improved health outcomes

Integration, collaboration & service sustainability was weighted at 20%, as the Authority must ensure the service model and service delivery are sustainable.

Improving access and reducing health inequalities was weighted at 20% as it is important this service supports safe discharge of patients and implement patient specific packages of care.

Award Decision Makers:

Claire Lockwood - Service Manager

Katy Lyne - Deputy Director of Operations

Abigail Turner - Deputy Chief Operating Officer Community

No conflicts of interest declared

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

'This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award. The publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period. Representations by providers must be made to decision makers by 19th January 2026 at midday. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR'.

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

7 January 2026

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

MINERVA NURSING LTD

2 Station Road West

Oxted

RH8 9EP

Telephone

+44 2039592000

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ - South East (England)

National registration number

08770382

Internet address

www.minervanursing.co.uk

The contractor is an SME

Yes

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot (excluding VAT)

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £4,000,000

Lowest offer: £4,000,000 / Highest offer: £4,000,000 taken into consideration

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

ESHT

District General Hospital

Eastbourne

Bn21 2ud

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution

70 Fleet Street

London

EC4Y 1EU

Email

info@cedr.com

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.cedr.com/>