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Contract

Routine Elective Care Services and Direct Access to Radiology for NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group

NHS Midlands and Lancashire CSU

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-002757

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03115f

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Midlands and Lancashire CSU

Heron House, 120 Grove Road

Stoke on Trent

ST4 4LX

Email

lyle.lloyd@nhs.net

Telephone

+44 7557487934

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKG - West Midlands (England)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://mlcsu.bravosolution.co.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

Routine Elective Care Services and Direct Access to Radiology for NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group sought Independent Sector Providers to provide extra capacity for the local recovery of routine elective care services, and direct access to radiology, post covid-19.

A contract was awarded to BMI The Droitwich Spa Hospital by NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group to provide NHS patients in the Clinical Commissioning Group's locality with a clinically safe and effective routine elective outpatient, day case, in-patient service, and direct access to a radiology diagnostic service, that is responsive to their needs.

The contract duration is 18 months (from 1st October 2021 to March 31st 2023) to facilitate stabilisation of the system on a number of levels. This allows Herefordshire & Worcestershire Integrated Care System sufficient time to settle in as from 1st April 2022; sufficient time for resources to optimise post covid-19; and further time to consider potential future procurement options within redesigned care pathways.

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: £9,072,984

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG11 - Herefordshire, County of
- UKG12 - Worcestershire

Main site or place of performance

The counties of Herefordshire & Worcestershire.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Commissioner requires an Independent Sector Provider to deliver the following with regards to routine elective care services:

To provide NHS patients with a clinically safe and effective routine elective outpatient, day case and in-patient service that is responsive to their needs.

- To ensure the availability and range of elective surgical providers to improve choice for patients.
- To stimulate improved efficiencies in NHS providers through collaborative working.
- To reduce the need to spot purchase from the independent sector.
- To offer services in protected elective surgical beds which are not affected by emergency demands.

The Commissioner requires the service provider to deliver the following services:-

- New Outpatient appointments
- Follow-up Outpatient appointments
- Outpatient procedures
- Day case procedures
- Inpatient procedures

The provider will perform activity within the following specialties in line with the Exclusion Criteria, as set out in the Service Specification, and in line with the host Commissioner's Commissioning Policies:- ENT, General Surgery, Gynaecology, Gastroenterology, Orthopaedics, Ophthalmology, Urology Physiotherapy

The overall aims of this service are:

- To deliver a high-quality routine elective service that meets the needs of NHS patients, locally.
- To ensure patients receive appropriate assessment, diagnosis and treatment in a timely manner which helps reduce or prevent long term disability from their condition.
- To ensure that patients are only treated where clinically appropriate and in accordance with the patient's host Commissioner's Commissioning Policies.
- To achieve a maximum waiting time of 18 weeks from GP referral to commencement of treatment (noting this requirement has been impacted by the UK's Government's policy response to covid-19).
- To provide timely access to any required diagnostic services e.g. X-ray, Pathology, Magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), Ultrasound within four weeks of assessment including reports. To ensure every referral follows a pathway as agreed with the Commissioner that optimises both the patient outcome and use of resources.
- To offer choice of appointment with a directly bookable service at the point of referral.
- To demonstrate equity of access in the delivery of this service.
- To deliver a high-quality safe service compliant with all NHS regulations.
- To deliver services within a key performance indicator framework.

Furthermore, the Commissioner requires the following with regards to direct access to radiology:

Direct access to clinical radiological services is essential for modern general practice. It can shorten the time to diagnosis, which improves the quality of care. It can also help prevent unnecessary referrals to secondary care. General practitioners should have the right to request radiological examinations similar to those enjoyed by hospital consultants, bearing in mind the limitations in capacity within some departments of clinical radiology and the recommendations contained in nationally agreed guidelines on referral of patients for radiological examination.

The aim of the service is therefore to:

- i. Provide a patient-centered service that is a seamless journey from referral to investigation.
- ii. Provide a convenient Direct Access radiology service, with timely appointments to the local population.
- iii. Provide a service that can shorten diagnosis times and hence improve the quality of care.
- iv. Provide a cost-effective service which delivers value for money.
- v. Demonstrate equity of access in the delivery of this service.
- vi. Deliver services within a key performance indicator framework.
- vii. Provide speedy reports following on from a diagnostic test.

The service will provide direct access radiology to local patients referred by Worcestershire GP commissioning consortia, covering:

- i. Radiology as defined within the Korner definitions
- ii. CAT
- iii. Fluoroscopy
- iv. Ultrasound

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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

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:

The UK Government's policy in response to covid-19 initially gave rise to a situation of extreme urgency brought about by unforeseeable events. Following this, it became vital for NHS organisations to build in extra capacity locally for the recovery of the routine elective care services and direct access to diagnostic services post covid-19. The award of this contract is a follow-on contract from previous arrangements, and so the necessary linkage with current pathways is already established locally to ensure minimum disruption to the patient whilst urgent catch-back on resources and capacity is established.

The contract duration for this directly awarded contract was subject to detailed discussions by the contracting authority and it was agreed that a period of 18 months (from 1st October 2021 to 31st March 2023) would be advisable to facilitate system stabilisation on a number of levels. This would allow the new structure of the Herefordshire & Worcestershire Integrated Care System time to settle in; time for resources to be optimized post covid-19; and time to consider future potential procurement options within redesigned care pathways. The estimated value for this period of time is circa £9,072,984.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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

30 September 2021

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

BMI The Droitwich Spa Hospital

St Andrews Rd

Droitwich

WR9 8DN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG12 - Worcestershire

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £9,072,984

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NHS Herefordshire and Worcestershire CCG

The Coach House, John Comyn Drive, Perdiswell,

Worcester

WR3 7NS

Country

United Kingdom