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Award

## GP Clinical Assessment Service - Cat 3 & 4

SOUTH CENTRAL AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-004198

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04dcd6

Published 7 February 2025, 2:44pm

### Section I: Contracting authority/entity

#### I.1) Name and addresses

SOUTH CENTRAL AMBULANCE SERVICE NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

UNIT 7 &8 TALISMAN BUSINESS CENTRE

BICESTER

OX266HR

#### Contact

Julie Robins

#### Email

[julie.robins@scas.nhs.uk](mailto:julie.robins@scas.nhs.uk)

#### Telephone

+44 7815476108

#### Country

United Kingdom

**Region code**

UKJ14 - Oxfordshire

**NHS Organisation Data Service**

None

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.scas.nhs.uk](http://www.scas.nhs.uk)

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Regional or local Agency/Office

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

GP Clinical Assessment Service - Cat 3 & 4

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85121100 - General-practitioner services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Intention to award a Contract under THE HEALTH CARE SERVICES (PROVIDER SELECTION REGIME)

REGULATIONS 2023 - Direct Award Process C for the provision of a GP Lead Clinical Assessment Service for Category 3 & 4 - to allow for calls to the Urgent Care phone line to be assessed by GPs over the telephone, reducing the need for dispatching ambulances in cases where the medical need

would be better served by a different clinical solution. Achieving an 80% downgrade rate.

#### **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: £2,733,000

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKJ - South East (England)

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

As part of the South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SCAS) remit to operate the 999 call service, it was identified that ambulances were being sent to patients that didn't need them, which otherwise could have been downgraded over the phone, reducing the need to dispatch an ambulance unnecessarily, and reducing the pressure and demand on the use of ambulances.

A subcontract was set up between SCAS and their subcontractor to provide a GP Clinical Assessment Service to support this.

The existing contract is due to expire on 31st March 2025.

The contract has shown a huge benefit to SCAS - downgrade rates of 80%.

As a result of the success of the contract, an additional one year contract is required from 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026, with an option to extend for a further additional year. to 31st March 2027.

If the contract expires with no replacement, SCAS and the public would experience a huge drop in service level, and an unnecessary dispatching of ambulances, putting further pressure on ambulance resources.

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: Yes

Description of options

One additional optional extension year is allowable as part of this contract placement.

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## **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 contract falls under the THE HEALTH CARE SERVICES (PROVIDER SELECTION REGIME)

REGULATIONS 2023.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section V. Award of contract/concession**

### **Title**

GP Clinical Assessment Service - Cat 3 & 4

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract/concession**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

6 February 2025

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

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

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire**

East Berkshire Primary Care Out of Hours

Inspired, Easthampstead Road,

Bracknell, Berkshire

RG12 1YQ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ - South East (England)

Companies House

IP29827R

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £2,733,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

This notice is to publish our intention to award a contract using THE HEALTH CARE SERVICES (PROVIDER SELECTION REGIME) REGULATIONS 2023 - Direct Award Process C.

A mandatory 8 working day standstill period will be observed, until 19th February 2025.

A subsequent award notice will be published in due course

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

South Central Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust

Northern House, 7&8 Talisman Business Centre, Talisman Road,

Bicester

OX26 6HR

Email

[julie.robins@scas.nhs.uk](mailto:julie.robins@scas.nhs.uk)

Country

United Kingdom