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Contract

## **Telephone cover for Protected Learning Time - Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland**

NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ICB

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-005208

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04e210

Published 14 February 2025, 3:36pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ICB

Room G30, Pen Lloyd Building, County Hall, Glenfield

Leicester

LE3 8TB

#### **Email**

[paulo.sousa-cabral@nhs.net](mailto:paulo.sousa-cabral@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKF - East Midlands (England)

**NHS Organisation Data Service**

QK1

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://leicesterleicestershireandrutland.icb.nhs.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

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

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

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**Section II: Object**

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

**II.1.1) Title**

Telephone cover for Protected Learning Time - Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85121100 - General-practitioner services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

Service commissioned by LLR ICB to provide primary care medical services cover for GP practices during periods of Primary Care Protected Learning Time (PLT), including provision of clinical advice from a duty doctor or other suitable clinician via telephone; a face-to-face consultation or home visit if clinically required; referral to other urgent services where indicated.

### **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: £199,046

## **II.2) Description**

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

NUTS codes

- UKF21 - Leicester
- UKF22 - Leicestershire CC and Rutland

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

Service commissioned by LLR ICB to provide primary care medical services cover for GP practices during periods of Primary Care Protected Learning Time (PLT), including provision of clinical advice from a duty doctor or other suitable clinician via telephone; a face-to-face consultation or home visit if clinically required; referral to other urgent services where indicated.

The ICB is intending to award two contracts to the existing providers following direct award process C, where the existing providers are satisfying the existing contract and will likely satisfy the proposed new contracts, and the contracts are not changing considerably, and the test for considerable change is not met.

The approximate lifetime value of the contract is £99,523.10 per financial year for both providers, for a total of £199,046 for two years.

The dates between which the services are intended to be provided are: 01/04/2025 to 31/03/2026, with the option to extend by another 12 months until the 31/03/2027.

### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Cost criterion - Name: The existing provider is satisfying the original contract and will likely satisfy the proposed contract to a sufficient standard / Weighting: 100

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

Options: No

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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:

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 the relevant authority by the 26th February 2025. 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: No

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## **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**

28 January 2025

#### **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**

Willows Group Ltd

184 Coleman Road

Leicester

LE5 4LJ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKF21 - Leicester

Companies House

09490005

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £100,000

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## **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**

28 January 2025

#### **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**

DHU Health Care CIC

Derby

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKF11 - Derby

Companies House

05834163

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £99,046

## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

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 the 26th of February 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Email address where written representations should be sent: [llricb-llr.contracting@nhs.net](mailto:llricb-llr.contracting@nhs.net)

Details of the award decision-makers: NHS LLR ICB Strategic Commissioning Group on 28th of January 2025

Any declared conflicts or potential conflicts of interest of individuals making the decision and how these were managed:

- Conflicts of interest were identified among the members of the Strategic Commissioning Group. The non-conflicted members assessed the nature and risk of this conflict and decided to allow the conflicted member to participate in the discussion but was excluded from the decision-making.

The Contracting Authority has assessed the provider's suitability and technical / professional ability to pursue this service in accordance with basic selection criteria schedule 16 of PSR, based on their current activities and performance. The provider's economic and financial standing has been considered in proportion to the financial risk of a sessional-based contract.

Relative importance and rationale for the key criteria, and the rationale for choosing the provider with reference to the key criteria:

- Description of how and key selection criteria were assessed

#### 1. Quality and innovation

The providers offer safe and effective services and meet the ICB's quality and safety requirements.

#### 2. Value

This service offers value financially and to the local healthcare community as patients continue to access services within a primary care setting, which reduces demand on more costly services.

In turn this provides practices with the opportunity of dedicated time to attend training to enable service delivery for their own registered patients.

### 3. Improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice.

The service telephone cover provides patients continuity and access to primary care services when practices are closed to attend training.

### 4. Social value

By offering a service that is predominantly telephone-based, this contributes to sustainable environmental impact, reducing emissions and air pollution by preventing the need for patients to travel to other services to access care and advice.

The integrated provision from local providers contributes to social value by providing local employment opportunities.

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

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

NHS Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland ICB

Leicester

Country

United Kingdom