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Contract

## **Primary Care (GP) IT Management Service**

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-005700

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-03943f

Published 27 February 2023, 3:03pm

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

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

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board

Unit 10, Phoenix Court , Christopher Martin Road

Basildon

SS14 3HG

#### **Contact**

Kevin Edwards

#### **Email**

[kevin.edwards@attain.co.uk](mailto:kevin.edwards@attain.co.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKH3 - Essex

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

[www.midandsouthessex.ics.nhs.uk](http://www.midandsouthessex.ics.nhs.uk)

**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**

Primary Care (GP) IT Management Service

Reference number

ACE-659-2022-MSE

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 72511000 - Network management software services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

This is a contract award notice following publication of a voluntary ex ante transparency notice which expired at 12:00 midnight on 3rd January 2023 and is intended to provide notice of NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board ("the ICB") intention to award a 24-month contract term, with the option to extend the contract for up to an additional 12-month period, for the provision of Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management and Primary Care Enabling Services for Primary Care, Pharmacists, Optometrists and

Dentists (PODs) across Mid and South Essex.

### **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: £9,238,226

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 72322000 - Data management services

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

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

Main site or place of performance

Mid and South Essex

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

The contracting authority (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority") for this Contract Award Notice are Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board.

The Authority has awarded a contract to NHS Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit following publication of a voluntary ex-ante transparency notice which expired on 3rd January 2023 12:00 midnight. The contract will be for 24-month contract (1st July 2023 - 30th June 2025) with the option to extend the contract by up to an additional 12-month period (1st July 2025-30th June 2026); a maximum contract term of 36-months for the provision for the provision of Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management and Primary Care Enabling Services for Primary Care, Pharmacists, Optometrists and Dentists (PODs) across Mid and South Essex.

The national guidance confirms that Commissioning support units (CSUs) operate within the NHS family across England, providing services that have been independently evaluated for quality and value for money. The expectation is that CSUs will continue to develop as trusted delivery partners to ICSs, providing economies of scale.

Nationally NHS England have put in place a moratorium to protect core CSU services

whilst clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are dissolved and transitioned to ICB. No definitive date has been given for when the protected status will end.

The Authority had concluded that there is an unacceptable risk associated with change of service provision whilst the system is in a significant state of transition and valuable resources must be duly focused on ensuring Business as Usual (BAU) services and steady state across the new MSE ICB. The Authority deems that the incumbent provider is the only technically capable provider to deliver the services within the timescale and budget available. Additionally, there is insufficient time to complete a robust contract mobilisation, involving critical mobilisation and transition risks including workforce and transfer of data and systems, which is estimated to require 12+ months to implement in a robust and safe manner, based on previous experience. In the face of current ICB transition environment and in the absence a longer mobilisation period, no reasonable alternative or substitute exists.

The Authority had decided that the best solution to ensure that Primary Care users across Mid and South Essex benefit from Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management is to ensure continuity of service provision with the existing supplier, who is uniquely placed to successfully deliver GP IT Service Management in accordance with the NHS England Moratorium and the available timescales.

The Authority will award the contract utilising the NHS supply of goods and provision of service, with similar contract mechanisms utilised within the Health Systems Services Framework (HSSF).

In accordance with Regulation 72 (1) (a) of the PCR 2020 (as amended), the services covered by the arrangement may change and expand as the Service develops in accordance with national guidelines and mandates in relation to operating principles for the funding applications for Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management.

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

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

#### **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

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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 contract award notice follows a voluntary ex ante transparency notice and is intended to provide notice of MSE ICB's intention to award a 12-month contract (1st July 2023 - 30th June 2024) with the option to extend the contract by up to an additional 12-month period (1st July 2024-30th June 2025); a maximum contract term of 24-months. It is MSE ICB's intention to award this contract to the existing supplier, NHS Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit (AGEM CSU) for the provision of Corporate IT Service Management to Mid and South Essex integrated Care Board.

The national guidance confirms that Commissioning support units (CSUs) operate within the NHS family across England, providing services that have been independently evaluated for quality and value for money. The expectation is that CSUs will continue to develop as trusted delivery partners to ICSs, providing economies of scale.

Nationally NHS England have put in place a moratorium to protect core CSU services whilst clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are dissolved and transitioned to ICB. No definitive date has been given for when the protected status will end.

The ICB have concluded that there is an unacceptable risk associated with change of service provision whilst the system is in a significant state of transition and valuable resources must be duly focused on ensuring Business as Usual (BAU) services and steady state across the new MSE ICB. The ICB deem that the incumbent provider is the only technically capable provider to deliver the services within the timescale and budget available. Additionally, there is insufficient time to complete a robust contract mobilisation, involving critical mobilisation and transition risks including workforce and transfer of data and systems, which is estimated to require 12+ months to implement in a robust and safe manner, based on previous experience. In the face of current ICB transition environment and in the absence a longer mobilisation period, no reasonable alternative or substitute exists.

MSE ICB have decided that the best solution to ensure that corporate users across Mid

and South Essex benefit from Corporate IT Service Management is to ensure continuity of service provision with the existing supplier, who is uniquely placed to successfully deliver Corporate IT Service Management in accordance with the NHS England Moratorium and the available timescales. As such the ICB propose to award a contract to AGEM CSU for the provision of Corporate IT Service Management, service delivery commencing 1st July 2023-30th June 2024 (with the option to extend by a further 12 months).

The contracting authority will award the contract utilising the NHS supply of goods and provision of service, with similar contract mechanisms utilised within the Health Systems Services Framework (HSSF).

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

### **IV.2) Administrative information**

#### **IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure**

Notice number: [2022/S 000-036579](#)

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

### **Title**

Primary Care (GP) IT Management Service

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

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

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

7 September 2022

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

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 1

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 1

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

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

NHS Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit

Suite 2, Phoenix Place, Christopher Martin Rd

Basildon

SS14 3HG

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH3 - Essex

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £9,238,226

Total value of the contract/lot: £9,238,226

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**Section VI. Complementary information**

**VI.3) Additional information**

The contracting authority (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority") for this Contract Award Notice are Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board.

The Authority has awarded a contract to NHS Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit following publication of a voluntary ex-ante transparency

notice which expired on 3rd January 2023 12:00 midnight. The contract will be for 24-month contract (1st July 2023 - 30th June 2025) with the option to extend the contract by up to an additional 12-month period (1st July 2025-30th June 2026); a maximum contract term of 36-months for the provision for the provision of Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management and Primary Care Enabling Services for Primary Care, Pharmacists, Optometrists and Dentists (PODs) across Mid and South Essex.

The national guidance confirms that Commissioning support units (CSUs) operate within the NHS family across England, providing services that have been independently evaluated for quality and value for money. The expectation is that CSUs will continue to develop as trusted delivery partners to ICSs, providing economies of scale.

Nationally NHS England have put in place a moratorium to protect core CSU services whilst clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) are dissolved and transitioned to ICB. No definitive date has been given for when the protected status will end.

The Authority had concluded that there is an unacceptable risk associated with change of service provision whilst the system is in a significant state of transition and valuable resources must be duly focused on ensuring Business as Usual (BAU) services and steady state across the new MSE ICB. The Authority deems that the incumbent provider is the only technically capable provider to deliver the services within the timescale and budget available. Additionally, there is insufficient time to complete a robust contract mobilisation, involving critical mobilisation and transition risks including workforce and transfer of data and systems, which is estimated to require 12+ months to implement in a robust and safe manner, based on previous experience. In the face of current ICB transition environment and in the absence a longer mobilisation period, no reasonable alternative or substitute exists.

The Authority had decided that the best solution to ensure that Primary Care users across Mid and South Essex benefit from Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management is to ensure continuity of service provision with the existing supplier, who is uniquely placed to successfully deliver GP IT Service Management in accordance with the NHS England Moratorium and the available timescales.

The Authority will award the contract utilising the NHS supply of goods and provision of service, with similar contract mechanisms utilised within the Health Systems Services Framework (HSSF).

In accordance with Regulation 72 (1) (a) of the PCR 2020 (as amended), the services covered by the arrangement may change and expand as the Service develops in accordance with national guidelines and mandates in relation to operating principles for the funding applications for Primary Care (GP) IT Service Management.

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

**VI.4.1) Review body**

High Court of Justice of England and Wales

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

**VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

NHS Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board

Unit 10, Phoenix Court , Christopher Martin Road

Basildon

SS14 3HG

Email

[kevin.edwards@attain.co.uk](mailto:kevin.edwards@attain.co.uk)

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

[www.midandsouthessex.ics.nhs.uk/about/boards/integrated-caer-board/](http://www.midandsouthessex.ics.nhs.uk/about/boards/integrated-caer-board/)