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Award

West Yorkshire Patient Transport Services

NHS Calderdale CCG

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-005824

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-029e31

Published 22 March 2021, 10:56pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Calderdale CCG

5th Floor, F Mill, Dean Clough Mills

Halifax

HX3 5AX

Contact

Brenda Powell

Email

brenda.powell1@nhs.net

Telephone

+44 1422464262

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKE44 - Calderdale and Kirklees

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.calderdaleccg.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

West Yorkshire Patient Transport Services

Reference number

WYPTS21-22

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Non-emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS) across West Yorkshire. This is a VEAT notice for the award of an additional contract of 24 months to the incumbent provider. Patient transport journeys are booked for patients being moved to and from NHS funded treatment at a range of sites across West Yorkshire including acute hospitals and local venues providing community-based care. The service is responsible for safely and effectively transporting eligible patients between their nominated place of residence, to, from and between NHS-funded healthcare facilities in a timely manner, so that they can receive the health care for which they are booked.

Total Quantity or Scope

The Covid-19 outbreak has delayed the Commissioners detailed preparation and engagement for a full procurement for the non- emergency patient transport services in West Yorkshire. This has given rise to an urgent need to secure a safe continued provision of service during these uncertain times. There is insufficient time for West Yorkshire CCGs to comply with undertaking a competitive procurement process under Public Contracts Regulations 2015. Accordingly, the contracting authority considers this is a state of urgency that is duly substantiated and been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen and awards an additional contract of 24 months to the incumbent provider. This does not alter the overall nature of the contract.

The service is responsible for safely and effectively transporting eligible patients between

their nominated place of residence, to, from and between NHS-funded healthcare facilities in a timely manner, so that they can receive the health care for which they are booked. This responsibility includes:

- providing a single point of access and full booking service for patients and HCPs; equitable and consistent application of the eligibility criteria to all patients and carers; signposting patients who are not eligible for PTS to alternative transport arrangements; effective determination of mobility need or needs;
- allocation of journeys across the sub-contracted transport providers through an equitable, open and transparent process;
- effective communication and collaboration with system wide stakeholders;
- coordination and management of all patient journeys;
- timely reporting to commissioners.

NHS Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group is acting in its capacity as Lead Commissioner on behalf of West Yorkshire CCGs. The list of CCGs participating in this collaborative contract is as follows: Bradford District & Craven; Calderdale; Kirklees; Leeds and Wakefield..

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: £30,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 34114122 - Patient-transport vehicles
- 34115200 - Motor vehicles for the transport of fewer than 10 persons
- 60000000 - Transport services (excl. Waste transport)
- 60130000 - Special-purpose road passenger-transport services
- 60140000 - Non-scheduled passenger transport
- 85000000 - Health and social work services

- 85143000 - Ambulance services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKE4 - West Yorkshire

Main site or place of performance

West Yorkshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Covid-19 has delayed the Commissioners preparation and engagement for procurement for the non-emergency patient transport services (NEPTS) in West Yorkshire. This has given rise to an urgent need to secure a safe continued provision of service. There is insufficient time for West Yorkshire CCGs (CCGS) to comply with undertaking a competitive procurement process under Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCRs). Accordingly, the CCGs considers this a state of urgency that is duly substantiated and brought about by circumstances which a contracting authority could not have foreseen and awards an additional contract of 12 months with an option to extend for a further 12 months to the incumbent provider. This does not alter the overall nature of the contract.

NHS England has announced its intention to continue the national review into NEPTS, recognising the high number of unsuccessful procurements over the past few years and the overall fragility of the market. The stated purpose of the review is to establish a set of standards, deliverables and outcomes to support the commissioning and delivery of NEPTS. The impact of Covid has delayed the outcome of the National Review, intended to form part of the developmental process of the procurement. It is not appropriate to put further pressure on patient transport services when resources are being redeployed and used very flexibly to meet the challenges of the current emergency. This includes: lifting of eligibility criteria and prioritising of patients, increase in number of discharges and different locations to take patients to, flexibility in demand to new hot hub sites, single patient journeys to reduce any cross infection and increased need to deep clean vehicles. Potential further peaks of non-Covid activity impacting on journeys and the need for a provider to be flexible in rapid response to the wider system needs in demand and operating hours. It is expected that the Covid-19 pandemic will impact on services for many months to come and it is considered imperative that the current service provider be afforded greater security of tenure to ensure stability of workforce and subcontracting provision.

There is a need for assurance which will safely provide continuation of the service. Experience and knowledge is required to ensure adherence to NHS guidance for transport and on pathways impacted for acute, community and primary care services, any

early transition in service could have a negative effect on patient experience. Continuation of the service is required to allow sufficient time for a full procurement that would enable a realistic mobilisation period for transition from the current service to the commencement of a new service, at the earliest practicable date i.e. 1 April 2023. It is envisaged that a mobilisation period of up to 9 months will be required in order for the new provider to secure the order and provision of a fleet of vehicles in time for service commencement.

The additional contractual term will allow for a future procurement and allow the commissioners sufficient time to undertake engagement with all stakeholders to inform a robust procurement process, which aims to award a new longer term contract whilst ensuring continuity of care for its patient population. The provisional plan is to relaunch in spring 2022, with the procurement and mobilisation periods resulting in the new service commencing April 2023. However, given the uncertainty of the coming months, a contract extension of 12 months with an option to extend for a further 12 months is proposed, enabling a further extension to be undertaken, should any further incidents or issues associated with the pandemic, prevent the procurement commencing as planned again. It is our view that the commissioning of NEPTS for West Yorkshire falls under the 'Light Touch' Regime (Schedule 3 'social and other specific services' of the PCRs) because clinical interaction is a significant part of the specification.

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

Negotiated without a prior call for competition

- The works, supplies or services can be provided only by a particular economic operator for the following reason:
 - absence of competition for technical reasons
- Extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable for the contracting authority

Explanation:

The Covid-19 outbreak has delayed the Commissioners detailed preparation and engagement for a full procurement for the non- emergency patient transport services in West Yorkshire. This has given rise to an urgent need to secure a safe continued provision of service during these uncertain times. There is insufficient time for West Yorkshire CCGs to comply with undertaking a competitive procurement process under Public Contracts Regulations 2015. Accordingly, the contracting authority considers this is a state of urgency that is duly substantiated and been brought about by circumstances which a diligent contracting authority could not have foreseen and awards an additional contract of 12 months with an option to extend for a further 12 months to the incumbent provider. This does not alter the overall nature of the contract.

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/concession

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

22 March 2021

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

Yorkshire Ambulance Services NHS Trust

Trust Headquarters, Brindley Way, Wakefield 41 Business Park

Wakefield

WF2 0XQ

Telephone

+44 3331300550

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKE45 - Wakefield

Internet address

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

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £30,000,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Royal Courts of Justice

Strand, Holborn

London

WC21 2LL

Telephone

+44 207947600

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://courtribunalfinder.service.gov.uk/courts/royal-courts-of-justice>