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Contract

Diabetic Eye Screening Programmes for Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire and Dorset Contract Award

The NHS Commissioning Board operating as NHS England

F21: Social and other specific services – public contracts

Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2022/S 000-007379

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02b773

Published 18 March 2022, 8:38am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

The NHS Commissioning Board operating as NHS England

Sedgemoor Centre, Priory Road

St Austell, Cornwall

PL25 5AS

Contact

Hannah Morley

Email

scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKK3 - Cornwall and Isles of Scilly

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.england.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**

Diabetic Eye Screening Programmes for Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire and Dorset Contract Award

Reference number

WA10400/CA

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS England and NHS Improvement South West (The Commissioner) sought to recommission two Diabetic Eye Screening Programmes (DESP) to deliver screening to the eligible populations of Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) (Lot 1) and the eligible population of Dorset (Lot 2).

The eligible population of both Lots includes patients over the age of 12 diagnosed with diabetes and registered with, or eligible to be registered with a GP, as well as individuals within prisons, secure units and the armed forces.

The Contract term will be 5 years, with an option to extend for a further 3 years at the sole discretion of the Commissioner. The Contracts will commence on 1st April 2022.

The 8 year estimated expected contract values, based on predicted activity levels, are;

- Lot 1 = £11,311,233.60
- Lot 2 = £10,985,831.92

Interested providers were able to bid for one or both lots.

This procurement was carried out by NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW) on behalf of the Commissioners.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £22,297,065.52

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 1 - Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK1 - Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Bristol/Bath area

Main site or place of performance

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS England and NHS Improvement South West (The Commissioner) sought to re-commission a Diabetic Eye Screening Programmes (DESP) to deliver screening to the eligible populations of Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW).

The eligible population includes patients over the age of 12 diagnosed with diabetes and registered with, or eligible to be registered with a GP, as well as individuals within prisons, secure units and the armed forces.

The aim of the DESP is to reduce the risk of sight loss amongst people with diabetes by the prompt identification and effective treatment if necessary of sight threatening diabetic retinopathy.

This will be achieved by delivering an evidence-based service that:

- Identifies the eligible population and ensures effective delivery with maximum coverage
- Is safe, effective, high quality, externally and independently monitored, and quality assured
- Leads to earlier detection, appropriate referral, effective treatment and improved outcomes
- Is delivered and supported by suitably trained, competent and qualified clinical and non-clinical staff who, where relevant, participate in recognised ongoing continuing medical education (CME), continuous professional development (CPD) and quality assurance (QA) schemes

- Has audit embedded in the service
- Works effectively with other stakeholders to ensure the care pathway is smooth and efficient.

There are three key elements of service delivery, namely:

- Call/recall for all people with diabetes invited for routine digital screening - this is currently undertaken on an annual basis but screening intervals are likely to extend to two years for people at low risk during the contract term in line with national guidance
- Digital surveillance where individuals need more frequent screening
- Slit lamp bio-microscopy (SLB) for those individuals where normal photography is inappropriate (e.g. those having cataracts).

Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT) does not form part of this Contract at this time, though this position may change over the life of the contract in line with national guidance.

The Contract term will be 5 years, with an option to extend for a further 3 years at the sole discretion of the Commissioner. The Contracts will commence on 1st April 2022.

The Services have been commissioned using the national service specification for DESP Services, localised where appropriate.

The 8 year estimated expected contract value, based on predicted activity levels is £11,311,233.60.

The Contract will operate on a hybrid basis with a fixed "block" element based upon the average uptake of routine screening in the eligible population for the last 2 years plus a variable element for digital surveillance and SLB and a further variable element to incentivise routine screening uptake to 85%. Variable elements will be paid according to activity undertaken.

The Commissioner's ambition through the financial model is to encourage uptake of DESP to achieve or exceed the national achievable target of 85% uptake in routine screening (DE1).

National changes to screening frequency for low risk individuals are expected to be implemented during the contract term which will have an impact on activity. The subsequent impact on contract values will be agreed between the Provider and the Commissioner via contract variation.

This procurement was carried out by NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW) on behalf of the Commissioners.

II.2.14) Additional information

The services are healthcare services falling within Schedule 3 to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations") which are not subject to the full regime of the Regulations, but is instead governed by the "Light Touch Regime" contained within Chapter 3, Section 7 of the Regulations (Regulations 74 to 77).

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 2 - Dorset

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK25 - Dorset

Main site or place of performance

Dorset

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS England and NHS Improvement South West (The Commissioner) sought to re-commission a Diabetic Eye Screening Programme (DESP) to deliver screening to the eligible population of Dorset.

The eligible population includes patients over the age of 12 diagnosed with diabetes and registered with, or eligible to be registered with a GP, as well as individuals within prisons, secure units and the armed forces.

The aim of the DESP is to reduce the risk of sight loss amongst people with diabetes by the prompt identification and effective treatment if necessary of sight threatening diabetic

retinopathy.

This will be achieved by delivering an evidence-based service that:

- Identifies the eligible population and ensures effective delivery with maximum coverage
- Is safe, effective, high quality, externally and independently monitored, and quality assured
- Leads to earlier detection, appropriate referral, effective treatment and improved outcomes
- Is delivered and supported by suitably trained, competent and qualified clinical and non-clinical staff who, where relevant, participate in recognised ongoing continuing medical education (CME), continuous professional development (CPD) and quality assurance (QA) schemes
- Has audit embedded in the service
- Works effectively with other stakeholders to ensure the care pathway is smooth and efficient.

There are three key elements of service delivery, namely:

- Call/recall for all people with diabetes invited for routine digital screening - this is currently undertaken on an annual basis but screening intervals are likely to extend to two years for people at low risk during the contract term in line with national guidance
- Digital surveillance where individuals need more frequent screening
- Slit lamp bio-microscopy (SLB) for those individuals where normal photography is inappropriate (e.g. those having cataracts).

Coherence Tomography (OCT) does not form part of this Contract at this time, though this position may change over the life of the contract in line with national guidance.

The Contract term will be 5 years, with an option to extend for a further 3 years at the sole discretion of the Commissioner. The Contracts will commence on 1st April 2022.

The Services have been commissioned using the national service specification for DESP Services, localised where appropriate.

The 8 year estimated expected contract value, based on predicted activity levels is £10,985,831.92.

The Contract will operate on a hybrid basis with a fixed "block" element based upon the average uptake of routine screening in the eligible population for the last 2 years plus a variable element for digital surveillance and SLB and a further variable element to incentivise routine screening uptake to 85%. Variable elements will be paid according to activity undertaken.

The Commissioner's ambition through the financial model is to encourage uptake of DESP to achieve or exceed the national achievable target of 85% uptake in routine screening (DE1).

National changes to screening frequency for low risk individuals are expected to be implemented during the contract term which will have an impact on activity. The subsequent impact on contract values will be agreed between the Provider and the Commissioner via contract variation.

This procurement was carried out by NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW) on behalf of the Commissioners.

II.2.14) Additional information

The services are healthcare services falling within Schedule 3 to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations") which are not subject to the full regime of the Regulations, but is instead governed by the "Light Touch Regime" contained within Chapter 3, Section 7 of the Regulations (Regulations 74 to 77).

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Form of procedure

Open procedure

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2021/S 000-012289](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

1

Title

Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

17 March 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

NEC Software Solutions UK Limited

Hemel Hempstead

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £11,311,233.60

Total value of the contract/lot: £11,311,233.60

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

2

Title

Dorset

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

17 March 2022

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 2

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

NEC Software Solutions UK Limited

Hemel Hempstead

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £10,985,831.92

Total value of the contract/lot: £10,985,831.92

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The services are healthcare services falling within Schedule 3 to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations") which are not subject to the full regime of the Regulations, but is instead governed by the "Light Touch Regime" contained within Chapter 3, Section 7 of the Regulations (Regulations 74 to 77).

The tendering process has been conducted in accordance with the requirements and flexibilities provided by Articles 74 to 76 of the Directive, and Regulations 74 to 76 of the Regulations. The Authority ran a transparent tender process, treating all Bidders equally. For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority will not be bound by the Regulations or the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or any other regulations or legislation except for the specific parts or circumstances that apply to the procurement of these Services.

Neither the inclusion of a selection stage, nor the use of any language or terms found in the Directive or Regulations, nor the description of the procedure voluntarily adopted by the Authority ("Open", "Restricted", "Competitive Procedure with Negotiation", "Competitive Dialogue" or any other description), nor any other indication, shall be taken to mean that the Authority intends to hold itself bound by the Directive or Regulations, save by the provisions applicable to services coming within the scope of Annex XIV of the Directive / Schedule 3 of the Regulations.

The Contracting Authority has voluntarily observed the award decision notices provisions and held a 10 day standstill period as described in Regulation 86 of the Regulations. Deadline for lodging of appeals should be in accordance with Regulation 87 and Regulation 91 of the Regulations.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

As described in VI.3, deadline for lodging of appeals should be in accordance with Regulation 87 and Regulation 91 of the 2015 Regulations.