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Award

Provision of Eye Care Liaison Officer

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership-Procurement Services (hosted by Velindre University NHS Trust)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-007611

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04e8d8

Published 3 March 2025, 9:55am

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership-Procurement Services (hosted by Velindre University NHS Trust)

Woodland House

Cardiff

CF15 7QZ

Contact

Bethan Dyke

Email

bethan.dyke@wales.nhs.uk

Telephone

+44 2921501500

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://nwssp.nhs.wales/ourservices/procurement-services/>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0221

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

Provision of Eye Care Liaison Officer

Reference number

CAV-DCO (24-25) 107

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85112200 - Outpatient care services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This Direct Award will cover the employment of an Eye Care Liaison Officer to work within Cardiff and Vale University Health Board Ophthalmology Department.

The role of the officer includes the following:

- Supporting information to families, carers and patients
- Assisting with sight registration process
- Referral and signposting to external agencies i.e. Social Services, third sector organisations etc
- Supporting clinicians within Ophthalmology CAVUHB
- Current Sight Life employee runs their own clinic supported and overseen by Ophthalmology CAVUHB clinicians. This covers sight registration and general support.
- Covering both Paediatrics and Adult Ophthalmology

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: £220,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL - Wales

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Eye Care Liaison Officer employed with UHW Ophthalmology Department will be employed to deliver services in line with the Royal National Institute of Blind People Quality Framework and Practice guidelines, to people affected by sight loss, their friends, families and carers. The Officer will assist with all aspects of support and guidance to those at any stage of their sight loss journey, providing invaluable care to both Paediatric and Adult patients within the C&V Health Board areas.

The contract will be let for a three-year period plus an additional two-year extension option, via this Voluntary Ex Ante Notice, allowing for direct award to the chosen supplier.

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

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 current provider is well established, having provided this service for the Health Board for over ten years. They are a local organisation already providing support and guidance to patients with impaired vision and supporting communities within the Health Board localities.

Due to an aging population, there have been significant increases in Ocular complications and diseases. This has led to major increases in patient cohorts and demands for the Health Board. Therefore, this is an essential service support mechanism both for patients and Cardiff and Vale Clinicians, allowing them to carry out higher priority clinical activities.

The employed individual is currently a part of the service and is supporting the department with critical service tasks. To lose this provision, it would have a significant negative impact on the planned delivery of a critical service.

The Eye Care Liaison Officer already has Eye Clinic Support Studies Accreditation and meets the relevant legal requirements to undertake the service. The provision invaluable care to both Paediatric and Adult patients within the Cardiff & Vale Health Board areas, assisting the Ophthalmology team with certification and registration processes in line with Department of Health as required.

Awarding to the incumbent supplier ensures continuation of service and care of an essential service within the Ophthalmology department. Without this service, there will be a gap in the level of care provided to those who are currently living with sight loss, at any stage of their journey. A potential break in service could be detrimental to pre-existing relationships with the Ophthalmology department as well as the current patients within the locality.

The provision is essential for high quality of patient care, spanning both general and specific requirements of each individual patient. On top of caring for visually impaired individuals, the Officer provides invaluable support for their families and carers, extending their care and knowledge to those who may also be indirectly affected by sight loss.

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

Contract No

CAV-DCO (24-25) 107

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

13 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

CARDIFF INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND,(INCORPORATED)(THE)

Jones Court, Womanby Street

Cardiff

CF101BR

Telephone

+44 7599209636

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKL - Wales

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: £220,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

(WA Ref:148651)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom