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Contract

Integrated Community Equipment Loan Service for Essex

Essex County Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-009364

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-037de2

Published 30 March 2023, 5:22pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

Contact

Barry Messenger

Email

barry.messenger@essex.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 3330130223

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.essex.gov.uk/>

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Integrated Community Equipment Loan Service for Essex

Reference number

0959-ICELS2023

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Notice of award by Essex County Council for the Integrated Community Equipment Loan Service for Essex (ICELS) commencing July 2023 for an initial 5-year period (with a further extension option of up to 2 years) for the benefit of the Consortium. The Council is the lead organisation for the Consortium which is currently made up of the Council and the Partners identified in section VI.3 of this notice.

The Consortium works together under partnership arrangements under the National Health Service Act 2006 and the Local Government Act 1972 (as applicable to the relevant Partner) to provide community equipment services to Essex residents who are eligible under the Health and Social Care Act 2006 and the Care Act 2014 (as applicable to the relevant Partner) across the administrative areas of the Consortium in Essex. To be noted that delivery of the Services extends to a wider geographic area to facilitate where service users may be located.

Enabling people to remain independent, and to live as full a life as they can in their own home, is fundamental to the Consortium's approach to supporting people. One of the principal ways that the Consortium does this is with the provision of equipment to people of all ages and needs across the administrative areas of the Consortium in Essex. The ICELS for Essex provides equipment on loan to people living in the community, based on clinical or assessed need, to enable them to do tasks they would otherwise be unable to do and/or to provide support to a Carer or care worker (including family members), to enable care and support to happen where required.

The ICELS aims to:

- enable and support people to live, age and die well.
- provide the right solution, at the right time, in the right place, the first time.

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: £140,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 98000000 - Other community, social and personal services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Essex County Council on behalf of the Consortium invited tenders in November 2022 for provision of an integrated community equipment loan service for people of all ages and needs across Essex, providing such items as commodes, beds, shower chairs and hoists, as well as adaptations such as grab rails and chair raisers in line with the requirements set out in the Contract and Service Specification.

This service will be for an initial 5-year term, with an option to extend for up to a further 2 years, with services commencing in July 2023.

The community equipment service complements other Health and Social Care services, such as reablement and domiciliary care and support. The aim of all these services is to promote independence and enable people to gain, regain and maintain skills, as well as helping to prevent hospital admissions. This accords strongly with the Council's 'Everyone's Essex' ambition of promoting health, care, and wellbeing for all ages, as well as the Council's aims around levelling up. It does this by promoting independence and healthy lifestyles, levelling up health, supporting carers, improving outcomes for vulnerable adults and children, encouraging green growth (minimising waste and increasing recycling of equipment) and strengthening family resilience and stability.

The non-exhaustive list of activities to deliver a core service are as set out below, and defined within the Contract and Service Specification:

- Sourcing, purchasing and storage of equipment including management of stock;
- Delivery, installation and fitting of equipment;
- Approved Assessor assessment service for low-level items;
- Collection of equipment from service users when no longer required;
- Counter service for the collection and return of equipment, demonstration of equipment or clinical assessment;
- Adaptations;
- Maintenance and repair/refurbishment of equipment, including scheduled testing and servicing (e.g., LOLER, PAT, etc.);
- Cleaning and decontamination of returned equipment;
- Ceiling track hoist assessments, installations, repairs, replacement, maintenance and removal;
- Moving or relocating equipment within or between someone's home(s) e.g. upstairs to downstairs or to a new property;
- Reporting and management of any situations of concern or safeguarding;
- Maintenance of accurate information and asset management records on stock, procurement, warranties, maintenance, cleaning etc providing suitable transparency to for the Consortium;
- Facilitation of new product evaluation, demonstrations and clinical trials for the Consortium;
- Assessment and reduction of non-recyclable and single use items over the life of the contract;
- Engaging with stakeholders supporting the health and social care system in Essex.

Notwithstanding the indicative contract value, the services the subject matter of this contract are demand-based services with no guarantee of equipment or activity volumes or inflation uplifts at any point during the term.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality/Technical / Weighting: 50

Quality criterion - Name: Climate/Environmental / Weighting: 10

Quality criterion - Name: Social Value / Weighting: 10

Cost criterion - Name: Commercial / Weighting: 30

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract will be for an initial 5 year term commencing on 1 July 2023 with an option at the Council's sole discretion to extend for up to a further 2 years.

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

Competitive procedure with negotiation

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2022/S 000-032242](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Contract No

0959

Title

Integrated Community Equipment Loan Service for Essex

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

22 March 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 3

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

Number of tenders received from tenderers from other EU Member States: 0

Number of tenders received from tenderers from non-EU Member States: 3

Number of tenders received by electronic means: 3

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Medequip Assistive Technology Limited

Unit 2, The Summit Centre, Skyport Drive

West Drayton

UB7 0LJ

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: £140,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £140,000,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Council opted to proceed to award the contract on the basis of the initial tenders without conducting negotiations, exercising its discretion to do so as notified in the contract notice.

Current members of the Consortium:

- Essex County Council, as lead organisation
- East Suffolk and North Essex NHS Foundation Trust
- Essex Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust
- Mid & South Essex Integrated Care Board (ICB)
- Thurrock Council

The future of the Integrated Community Equipment Loan Service may provide an opportunity for the addition of the West Essex elements of the Hertfordshire and West Essex ICS as a member of the Consortium.

At the commencement date, certain equipment will be outside of the scope of the Essex ICELS:

- Care Technology Equipment, for remote monitoring, alarms or similar;
- Pressure Area Care (PAC) - Air pressured mattresses/cushions to reduce skin pressure;
- Active/Dynamic Pressure Relief Equipment prescribed by Health Partners;
- Wheelchair Services, for those with mobility challenges;
- Stairlifts and Steplifts, other than for legacy maintenance

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

Country

United Kingdom