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Contract

Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) Service

NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-010271

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04ef62

Published 19 March 2025, 6:41pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board

Level 3, Christ Church Precinct, County Hall, Fishergate Hill

Preston

PR18XB

Email

lscicb.procurement@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD4 - Lancashire

NHS Organisation Data Service

QE1

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.nhs.uk>

Buyer's address

<https://www.lancashireandsouthcumbria.icb.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

Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) Service

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The provision of an Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) Service.

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: £0.01

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD4 - Lancashire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The provision of an Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder (ARFID) Service.

This notice is confirmation of an award having been made due to urgent circumstances.

This contract is an activity based contract and activity would be agreed on a case by case basis, therefore the contract value in this notice has been entered as 0.01.

Contract Start Date: 01/10/2024

Contract End Date: 31/08/2025

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: To address immediate risks to safety and quality of care /
Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: 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:

This contract has been awarded under the urgent circumstances provision of the Provider Selection Regime (PSR). This contract has been awarded under the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award.

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

Title

Avoidant Restrictive Food Intake Disorder Service

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

11 September 2024

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Wren Psychology Ltd

4 Maltings Court, Castlethorpe

Milton Keynes

MK19 7AZ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD4 - Lancashire

Companies House

13481337

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £0.01

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

This contract has been awarded under the urgent circumstances provision of the Provider Selection Regime (PSR). This contract has been awarded under the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award.

The contract award was urgent due to meeting identified patient need. There are a number of cases in the ICB area of children and adults who have ARFID, which have been escalated to the ICB via Tribunals, IFR'S, complaints and from clinicians directly. The basis of these escalations is due to an increase in risk and concerns for patient safety as a result of the untreated ARFID presentations.

ARFID is now a recognised Eating Disorder, but the assessment and treatment pathway requires a different approach and skillset to that of Anorexia and Bulimia, which our current commissioned Eating Disorder Service provides for.

The ICB has approached national and neighbouring NHS organisations to try and seek support for these cases, however services across the country are either not in place or all in their infancy and unable to meet our local needs and those of their populations.

There is an urgent need to secure specialist dietetic and psychological expertise to undertake assessments and provide interventions which are only currently available from the private sector. An organisation has been identified who provide this specialist expertise and offer the required interventions either face to face or remotely. It is proposed to award a contract to this organisation to provide individual packages of support, for cases that are identified as at risk or high risk via a bespoke ARFID individual funding pathway and panel.

The reason for this urgency was not foreseeable by and not attributable to the ICB because although ARFID is now recognised as an Eating Disorder, national commissioning guidance and NICE guidance for eating disorders has not yet been updated to include ARFID.

Delaying an award of contract to conduct a full application of the PSR would result in those with unmet and escalating needs to continue to escalate and place a risk on theirs and their families safety. Specifically for the cases where the ARFID needs continue not to be addressed this includes:

- Significant impact on weight growth and physical development
- Nutritional inadequacy of diet leading to severe malnutrition, enteral feeding and admission to paediatric wards.

- Impact of young peoples social and emotional development-leading to educational attendance not being possible

The ICB's CFO approved this urgent award on the 11/09/2024.

No conflicts were declared.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board

Preston

Country

United Kingdom