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Award

NMCPS Pathology Managed Services

University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-013074

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04fd4c

Published 4 April 2025, 12:56pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust

Newcastle Road, Staffordshire

Stoke on Trent

ST4 6QG

Contact

Steven Andrew Kettle

Email

steve.kettle@uhnm.nhs.uk

Telephone

+44 1782672062

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKG2 - Shropshire and Staffordshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Other type

NHS

I.5) Main activity

Health

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

NMCPS Pathology Managed Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

With two separate competitive procurement exercises, UHNM has attempted to procure the future delivery of the Service. However, these processes have had to be abandoned, so UHNM is making two contract awards, to existing suppliers, to September 2028 to allow itself time to conduct a re-procurement of the Service and sufficient time for handover and implementation of the future delivery of the Service from September 2028.

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: £1

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 33159000 - Clinical chemistry system
- 33159000 - Clinical chemistry system
- 38434560 - Chemistry analyser
- 33910000 - Pathology dissection instruments and supplies
- 45215146 - Pathology room construction work

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKG2 - Shropshire and Staffordshire

Main site or place of performance

Staffordshire and Shropshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Service comprises the essential delivery of critical services across four separate sites in the North Midlands.

UHNM has attempted to procure a supplier to deliver the future of the Service but as a result of legal challenges from bidders during each of these processes, has not been able to make an award for future delivery of the Service.

UHNM is currently undertaking preparation for a new procurement process for the Service, to be conducted under the Procurement Act 2023. UHNM expects to publish a preliminary market engagement notice on the central digital platform in May 2025 in respect of this new process and interested organisations should look out for this notice.

However, well-planned, a change of critical analytical platforms across four sites will result in a reduction in productivity during any transition period, and the Service would be affected, particularly in respect of A&E turnaround times. The patients of Staffordshire, Cheshire and Shropshire will also be put at a significant disadvantage and increased clinical risk if this process were not given a sufficient lead-in time.

Due to these complexities, therefore, UHNM expects implementation and clinical change management, plus conducting a robust procurement exercise, requires a target start date of the new Service delivery from September 2028. UHNM has learned from the two abandoned procurements and wishes to allow for sufficient time to conduct a successful procurement process for the future Service involving the following:

- 1) conducting market engagement;
- 2) planning and preparing its procurement documents and process;
- 3) delivering its procurement process successfully;
- 4) evaluating and moderating robustly;
- 5) finalising contractual arrangements with the successful supplier; and
- 6) allowing for handover to the new supplier and implementation of the new Service.

To enable UHNM to have this time to conduct a successful procurement and implementation of the new Service, it is making the following modifications to contracts it already has in place for the current delivery of the Service:

- 1) Extending a contract with Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Limited, for delivery of the Service at the Royal Stoke and County sites, from its current expiry date of September 2026 to September 2028; and
- 2) Extending a contract with Beckman Coulter United Kingdom Limited for delivery of the Service at the Leighton and Macclesfield sites, from its current expiry date of September 2025 to September 2028.

The extensions will also include some vital equipment replacement to ensure continuity of current service and mitigation of delivery risks. Any unavoidable replacement of ageing/failing equipment will be kept to a minimum specification so that the current level of service can be maintained without adversely impacting patient care.

UHNM believes that this is the minimum time required to ensure the procurement is successfully completed and implementation is handled successfully, following a thorough planning stage and increased governance throughout the procurement lifecycle. If the contracts are not extended now, they will require extension at a time UHNM will also be conducting the new procurement exercise. This would be disruptive, so UHNM considers

it more efficient to extend the contracts now.

The alignment of the expiry date of these contracts will also ensure that the successful supplier in the new procurement to be conducted by UHNM is able to deliver the future of the Service from the same date, rather than having differing commencement dates at different sites. UHNM believes this will make handover and implementation easier for the future supplier.

Therefore, UHNM considers that the circumstances at Regulation 32(2)(b) and (c) Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (PCR) are met. In addition, UHNM does not consider that there are viable alternatives considering that the Service comprises the delivery of essential clinical services and resources (both human and financial) are extremely stretched in UHNM and the NHS generally. While not an ideal situation, UHNM has sought to procure the future contract unsuccessfully and considers the time period to September 2028 will allow it to successfully procure a supplier to deliver the future iteration of the Service.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

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:

UHNM has attempted to procure a supplier to deliver the future of the Service but as a result of legal challenges from bidders during each of these processes, has not been able to make an award for future delivery of the Service.

UHNM is currently undertaking preparation for a new procurement process for the Service, to be conducted under the Procurement Act 2023. UHNM expects to publish a preliminary market engagement notice on the central digital platform in May 2025 in respect of this new process and interested organisations should look out for this notice.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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

4 April 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

Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Ltd

Parkview Watchmoor Park

Frimley

GU15 3YL

Email

diagnostics-bids.team@siemens-healthineers.com

Telephone

+44 3306781637

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

03050664

Internet address

<http://www.siemens.com>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1

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

4 April 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

BECKMAN COULTER UNITED KINGDOM LIMITED

Amersham Place Little Chalfont

Amersham

HP7 9NA

Email

uk.commercial@beckman.com

Telephone

+44 1494441181

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

National registration number

00640961

Internet address

<http://www.beckmancoulter.co.uk>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The date in V.2.1 should be disregarded when viewing this notice, as it is the date of sending this notice and is completed only as it is a mandatory field which does not enable a date in the future to be entered. The current indicative date for award of the contracts/variations is July 2025.

The estimated values at sections II.1.7 and V.2.4 should be disregarded when viewing this notice, as the estimated value of the contracts/variations is currently to be determined but the field on the form requires mandatory completion, so a figure of £1 has been included to allow successful completion of the form.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court and Court of Appeal of England and Wales

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Email

internationalrelationsjudicialoffice@judiciary.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://www.judiciary.uk/>

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

University Hospitals of North Midlands NHS Trust

Newcastle Road, Staffordshire

Stoke on Trent

ST4 6QG

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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