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Planning

GP Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Service - Early Market Engagement, Norfolk and Waveney

NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-016239

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-065a7d

Published 23 February 2026, 4:47pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care Board

8th Floor, County Hall, Martineau Lane

Norwich

NR1 2DH

Contact

Holly O'Connell

Email

holly.oconnell1@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH15 - Norwich and East Norfolk

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.improvinglivesnw.org.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.improvinglivesnw.org.uk/>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Electronic communication requires the use of tools and devices that are not generally available. Unrestricted and full direct access to these tools and devices is possible, free of charge, at

<https://atamis-1928.my.site.com/s/Welcome>

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

GP Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Service - Early Market Engagement, Norfolk and Waveney

Reference number

AG25529

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85121000 - Medical practice services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is a Prior Information Notice (PIN) for Expressions of Interest (EOI)

NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB is conducting an initial market engagement exercise to establish potential interest to deliver a GP Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Service in Norfolk and Waveney.

The GP Special Allocation Scheme is for patients who have been referred by their existing GP. There are currently 108 patients that are being treated in the Scheme. It is anticipated that the contract shall start within the early 2026/27 financial year and the estimated contract value will be circa £150,000 per annum. The contract is expected to be for 3 years, with an option to extend for a further 2, with an estimated lifetime value of £750,000.

The service will be required to provide good quality, safe primary medical services for this group of vulnerable and challenging patients and ensure a consistent approach to service provision across Norfolk and Waveney.

The new service provision will ensure that patients assigned to the Special Allocation Scheme are cared for in an individual manner, involving multi-disciplinary teams that will seek to ensure their successful return to general primary medical services and registration with a GP practice.

Please note that an Expression of Interest in this market engagement will not automatically entitle involvement in any future procurement exercise. Any procurement(s) conducted as a result of this event will be advertised separately and all organisations wanting to participate will need to respond to the procurement advertisement as and when it may be published.

Potentially interested parties are invited to feedback their comments with regard to their interest, capacity, capability and readiness in delivering these services in Norfolk and Waveney.

Commissioners wish to understand:

1. Organisation name and contact details

2. Are you currently providing a Special Allocation Scheme for patients? Are you providing any other services under an APMS Contract? If so, please state which Commissioner your contract is with and provide contract start and end dates?
3. Does your organisation have the capability, capacity and readiness to provide the GP Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Service across Norfolk and Waveney? If so, please provide further details. Please provide a short overview of your area of expertise and previous experience of delivering Special Allocation Scheme Services.
4. Taking into account the potential number of patients that are referred to the Special Allocation Scheme and the quality-of-service provision required, do you consider your organisation able to provide this service within the indicative envelope over the full contract term?

Providers are requested to answer these questions within the Atamis requirements section when registering interest

(via <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome> ref C423998)

NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB is not bound to follow any particular procurement process at this stage. Responding to this EOI will not guarantee providers further involvement in any future process the ICB decides to follow.

Should this Early Engagement lead to a Procurement process, providers will be required to register interest for this separately and should not rely on their response to this PIN notice. The ICB has not determined which Procurement process to follow at this stage of Early Engagement.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £750,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85100000 - Health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH1 - East Anglia

Main site or place of performance

Norfolk and Waveney

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB is conducting an initial market engagement exercise to establish potential interest to deliver a GP Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Service in Norfolk and Waveney.

The GP Special Allocation Scheme is for patients who have been referred by their existing GP. There are currently 108 patients that are being treated in the Scheme. It is anticipated that the contract shall start within the early 2026/27 financial year and the estimated contract value will be circa £150,000 per annum. Any proposed contract will be for a period of 4 years plus the option to extend for up to an additional 2 years, however this may be subject to change.

The service will be required to provide good quality, safe primary medical services for this group of vulnerable and challenging patients and ensure a consistent approach to service provision across Norfolk and Waveney.

The new service provision will ensure that patients assigned to the Special Allocation Scheme are cared for in an individual manner, involving multi-disciplinary teams that will seek to ensure their successful return to general primary medical services and registration with a GP practice.

Please note that an expression of interest in this market engagement will not automatically entitle involvement in any future procurement exercise. Any procurement(s) conducted as a result of this event will be advertised separately and all organisations wanting to participate will need to respond to the procurement advertisement as and when it may be published.

The Commissioners are keen to receive early market feedback via an online questionnaire to support the development of new service specification.

The aim of this Expression of Interest is to;

1. provide the market with visibility of the proposed opportunity;
2. support the ICB decision making to inform the future commissioning of services (as applicable);
3. to help define the future service approach, model and timelines;
4. to gauge the level of interest from the market of capable providers with capacity across the region to deliver the services noted above.

A further advertisement will be issued at the appropriate time. The deadline for Soft Market Testing responses is by 17:00 hours on 6th March 2026.

Please note this is a market testing exercise and does not commit the ICB to carry out any further procurement process. Current services will remain in place during this period in line with existing contracts and service level agreements. Any future opportunity will be carried out in accordance with the ICB's procurement obligations under the Provider Selection Regime.

This is an early market engagement exercise only and at this stage the proposed contract length and anticipated contract value are to be determined and will be communicated during any future next steps.

Please note that whilst this market engagement has been advertised on behalf of NHS Norfolk and Waveney ICB and NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB, from the 1st April 2026 the ICBs will merge together and form the new NHS Norfolk and Suffolk ICB.

The Contracting Authority will be using an eTendering system for this market testing exercise. The online questionnaire can be found via the 'Live Opportunities' list on the e-procurement system at the following link: <https://atamis-1928.my.site.com/s/Welcome>

You can search for the opportunity by entering the following contract reference:
C423998 - GP Special Allocation Scheme (SAS) Service Early Market Engagement

II.2.14) Additional information

The Contracting Authority will be using an eTendering system for this market testing exercise. The online questionnaire can be found via the 'Live Opportunities' list on the e-procurement system at the following link: <https://atamis-1928.my.site.com/s/Welcome>

You can search for the opportunity by entering the following contract reference:
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II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

9 March 2026

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No