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Contract

## **All-Age Recovery Coordination Service (AARCS)**

Essex County Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-020717

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-047b6a

Published 8 July 2024, 9:08am

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Essex County Council

Essex County Council

Chelmsford

CM1 1QH

#### **Contact**

Rachel Horne

#### **Email**

[Rachel.Horne@essex.gov.uk](mailto:Rachel.Horne@essex.gov.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKH36 - Heart of Essex

**Justification for not providing organisation identifier**

Not on any register

**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

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

All-Age Recovery Coordination Service (AARCS)

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85323000 - Community health services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

Essex County Council ("the Council") are re-commissioning an All Age Recovery Coordination Service (AARCS) for people with drug and alcohol misuse issues. AARCS provides a range of evidence-based interventions shaped to meet individual needs, as well as ongoing support for individuals who have exited the service/treatment system but who may experience instances of need for acute recovery support.

Please be advised that this notice is designed to record the Council's intention to award a contract to deliver the AARCS service under the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 ("Provider Selection Regime") via Direct Award Process C as detailed below.

#### **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: £13,702,836

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 85100000 - Health services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex

## **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

Following the conclusion of the internal governance process, Essex County Council ("the Council") is due to award a contract to deliver the AARCS service to the two (2) incumbent providers under the Direct Award Process C of the Provider Selection Regime. Please note that the award of the contract for this service remains subject to the successful conclusion of the standstill period as detailed within section IV of this notice alongside the full organisational details of the incumbent providers.

AARCS provides a range of evidence-based interventions shaped to meet individual needs, as well as ongoing support for individuals who have exited the service/treatment system but who may experience instances of need for acute recovery support.

This service is being commissioned under an initial term of five (5) years with an option to extend for a further two (2) years, thereby resulting in a maximum contractual duration of seven (7) years. The commencement date of this contract will be 1st October 2024 with an expiry date of 30th September 2029 pending the enactment of the optional extension period. For the avoidance of any further doubt, please be advised that if the extension period is enacted, the contract will expire on 30th September 2031.

Please be advised that the stated contract value within section II.I.7 of this notice reflects the aggregate value for the maximum seven (7) year term based on an annual value of £1,957,548.

Following the Council's assessment of the incumbent providers' delivery of the current service against the key criteria within the Provider Selection Regime as outlined below, the Council is assured that the providers are delivering the current AARCS contract to a sufficient standard. Furthermore, the Council is satisfied that the providers will satisfy the proposed new contract to a sufficient standard following a review of the following key criteria:

1. Quality and Innovation
2. Value
3. Integration, collaboration and service sustainability
4. Improving access, reducing health inequality and facilitating choice
5. Social Value

Please be advised that each of the above noted key criteria was assigned an equal

weighting of 20%. In addition, the Council conducted this assessment on the basis of the providers' delivery of the contractual key performance indicators alongside due consideration of the national performance of analogous services as reported by the National Drug Treatment Monitoring System. The latter part of the Council's assessment of the current service demonstrated that the current provision is performing favourably and exceeding the recorded national evidence across multiple reporting fields.

In addition, the Council assessed the financial value of the current service in line with the reported CIPFA indicators for unit costs of similar services which demonstrated that this service performs favourably in comparison with both neighbouring and comparable local authorities.

In terms of integration, collaboration and service sustainability, the Council has secured positive evidence that both incumbent providers have successfully delivered joint working including but not limited to collaborative work with local schools and Essex Police during the delivery of the current service and this engagement is due to continue under the proposed contract. Furthermore, the Council has secured robust evidence of positive levels of engagement from the individuals who have accessed the service and completed a recovery programme.

In terms of social value, the incumbent providers have demonstrated a commitment to utilising local knowledge of the demographics and geography including insight of any areas of deprivation which is critical to delivering a placed based approach to the delivery of the AARCS service.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Quality criterion - Name: The existing providers are satisfying the original contract and are likely to satisfy the proposed contract to a sufficient standard / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

#### **II.2.11) Information about options**

Options: No

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## **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 is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to 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 contract. The publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period. Representations by providers must be made to the decision-makers in writing by Friday 19th July 2024 at midnight.

This contract has not been formally awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## **Section V. Award of contract**

### **Title**

All-Age Recovery Coordination Service

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

### **V.2) Award of contract**

#### **V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract**

25 June 2024

#### **V.2.2) Information about tenders**

Number of tenders received: 1

Number of tenders received from SMEs: 1

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: Yes

#### **V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Church of England Children's Society T/a The Children's Society

Whitecross Studios, 50 Banner Street

London

EC1Y 8ST

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

Charity Commission (England and Wales)

221124

The contractor is an SME

No

**V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor**

Open Road Solutions Limited T/a Open Road

12 North Hill

Colchester

CO1 1DZ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH3 - Essex

Companies House

08417728

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £13,702,836



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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to 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 contract. The publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period. Representations by providers must be made to the decision-makers in writing by Friday 19th July 2024 at midnight via the following e-mail address:

[rachel.horne@essex.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.horne@essex.gov.uk)

This contract has not been formally awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Award decision-makers: Cabinet Member for Health, Social Care and Integration in consultation with the Head of Public Health and Wellbeing.

No conflicts of interest, or potential conflicts of interest, were declared by any decision makes.

### VI.4) Procedures for review

#### VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

The Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom