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Contract

Procurement for the provision of Covid Medicine Delivery Unit to Somerset Integrated Care Board

NHS Somerset ICB

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-023461

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-04ded0

Published 20 May 2025, 4:44pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Somerset ICB

Wynford House

Yeovil

BA228HR

Contact

Ian Weston

Email

Ian.Weston3@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK23 - Somerset

NHS Organisation Data Service

11X

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Buyer's address

www.nhssomerset.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

Procurement for the provision of Covid Medicine Delivery Unit to Somerset Integrated Care Board

Reference number

W160439-C338990

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB) intends to award a contract to Somerset Primary Healthcare Limited to deliver a Covid Medicine Delivery Service to assess all patients in the community aged 18 years and over who are identified as being at high risk of an adverse outcome from Covid and have Covid symptoms and/or a positive lateral flow test. It is expected that these patients will have been provided with a letter by NHSE or have been identified as high risk by their specialist/consultant.

The service will assess the patient and where appropriate prescribe Covid medications. Where the patient does not fit the criteria for oral medication but may be eligible for second line intravenous medication, the service will make a referral to Somerset NHS Foundation Trust (Somerset FT) via Somerset Primary Link (SPL) for consideration and treatment if appropriate.

The contract term will be for 2 years with an optional extension of any period up to 1 year.

The contract value is £110,000.00 per annum giving a contract value of £220,000.00 for the initial contract period and £330,000.00 if the full extension period is adopted.

The new service will commence on the 1st August 2024

This procurement was being carried out by NHS South, Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW) on behalf of the Commissioner.

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: £330,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK23 - Somerset

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS Somerset Integrated Care board (ICB) is seeking to secure a Prime Provider who has the capability and capacity to deliver Covid Medicines Delivery Unit (CMDU) Services

to People who are registered with a GP practice in Somerset or normally resident in Somerset who:

- a) have been identified by NHSE or their consultant/specialist as high risk of an adverse Covid outcome
- b) have Covid symptom onset and/or a positive lateral flow test

This service is for non-hospitalised adults who meet the criteria for assessment.

To assess and prescribe oral antiviral medications for the treatment of Covid, safely and effectively for patients eligible and suitable for this treatment.

Desired Outcomes:

- The patient has access to Covid medication within 5 days of symptom onset/positive lateral flow test
- Patients assessed overnight are expected to be assessed via a remote service the next day.

If for reasons of service sickness, a patient can be delayed for 24 hours. Anything further needs to be escalated to the ICB for agreement

The service will assess all patients in the community aged 18 years and over who are identified as being at high risk of an adverse outcome from Covid and have Covid symptoms and/or a positive lateral flow test. It is expected that these patients will have been provided with a letter by NHSE or have been identified as high risk by their specialist/consultant.

The service will assess the patient and where appropriate prescribe Covid medications. Where the patient does not fit the criteria for oral medication but may be eligible for second line intravenous medication, the service will make a referral to Somerset NHS Foundation Trust (Somerset FT) via Somerset Primary Link (SPL) for consideration and treatment if appropriate.

Referrals into the service are to be triaged on the day they are received. For those referrals received within 1 hour of the service closing time, the number of days since symptom onset should be ascertained. If clinically appropriate and the 5-day threshold will not be breached, the assessment of these patients may be delayed to the next opening day.

Assessments will be conducted remotely by telephone/video call. In instances when this default approach is not appropriate, online communication or another suitable method of

communication will be utilised. To ensure an inclusive service, the service will make reasonable adjustments which includes for example (but not limited to) textphone, sign language, interpreter.

Patients are to be provided with advice on steps to take should they become more unwell, and "worsening advice" should also be given to those not eligible for any Covid medication. All patients should be provided with Covid infection control advice.

This service will be provided remotely.

It will operate for a minimum of 6-days per week throughout the year including morning and afternoon provision referred to as "core hours" in this specification, except for weeks where there is a normal UK national bank holiday (Good Friday, Easter Monday, May Day, Spring Bank Holiday, Summer Bank Holiday, Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day). During the weeks when these bank holiday dates fall, the service may operate for a minimum of 5-days per week but must not be closed for more than 3 consecutive days. Closure dates must interface with Community Pharmacy.

The contract term will be for 2 years with an optional extension of any period up to 1 year.

The contract value is £110,000.00 per annum giving a contract value of £220,000.00 for the initial contract period and £330,000.00 if the full extension period is adopted.

The new service will commence on the 1st August 2025

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: The contract award criteria are specified in the procurement documents / Weighting: 100%

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The contract period of an optional extension of any period up to 1 year.

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.1) Previous publication concerning this procedure

Notice number: [2025/S 000-004992](#)

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

16 May 2025

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 6

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Somerset Primary Healthcare Limited (trading as Somerset GPSU)

Chard

TA20 1FA

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKK23 - Somerset

Companies House

08668830

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: £330,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £330,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The award decision-makers were NHS Somerset ICB Primary Care Operational Group.

There were no conflicts or potential conflicts of interest of individuals making the decision declared.

The winning bidder was chosen in line with the key criteria published within the tender documentation.

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 award. The publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period. Representations by providers must be made to decision makers by midnight, 3RD June 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Written representations should be sent to Ian.Weston3@nhs.net

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Somerset Integrated Care Board

Yeovil

Country

United Kingdom