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Award

Blood Glucose Meters & Associated Consumables

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership-Procurement Services (hosted by Velindre University NHS Trust)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-025199

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02e9dd

Published 8 October 2021, 1:05pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Wales Shared Services Partnership-Procurement Services (hosted by Velindre University NHS Trust)

4-5 Charnwood Court,, Heol Billingsley, Parc Nantgarw

Cardiff

CF15 7QZ

Contact

Richard Clayfield

Email

richard.clayfield@wales.nhs.uk

Telephone

+44 1639684431

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<http://nwssp.nhs.wales/ourservices/procurement-services/>

Buyer's address

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA0221

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

Blood Glucose Meters & Associated Consumables

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 33696200 - Blood-testing reagents

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

Supply of Blood testing equipment (Glucose Meters) & associated consumables (Test-strips), together with EQA & IQA

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: £468,765

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 33696200 - Blood-testing reagents

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKL18 - Swansea

Main site or place of performance

Swansea Bay University Health Board Hospital sites and Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Blood glucose monitoring refers to testing the concentration of glucose in the blood to aid the management of Diabetes types 1 & 2. Similarly, monitoring the presence of ketones in the blood is also important as high levels can result in complications such as Ketoacidosis.

This procurement will involve the supply of Blood glucose monitoring equipment (meters) and associated consumables (Test-strips) for the Point of Care Testing (POCT) Service at Swansea Bay University Health Board & Princess of Wales Hospital, Bridgend. This will be to renew the existing arrangement with Abbott Laboratories for a further two years.

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:

The current contract with Abbott Laboratories ended on the 30th September 2021. The Health Board's intention was to enter into a 2 year contract with Abbott Laboratories through a direct award, under the terms of a Public Sector Framework. this would enable sufficient time for NWSSP Shared Services Procurement to undertake a formal market-test exercise, to award a new All Wales Framework in Autumn of 2023. Currently, the Health Board's POCT Service are not able to contemplate an alternative supplier for the reasons outlined below:

Within SBU there are 3,279 active operators and the POCT Team also support another

937 on the Princess of Wales site, under the terms of an SLA.

The migration of operators to a completely new device would need to be completed on a rolling basis, with full training to every member of staff. The POCT Team are not in a position to support this due to the extra training demands in relation to Covid-19 and clinical areas are finding it difficult to release staff to attend training due to staffing pressures.

The current management of testing allows for staff to move flexibly from one area or site to another. During the process of migration, this flexibility will be lost to some degree with some areas using the new meter and other areas using the existing. This could expose the Health Board to risk, given current staffing pressures.

Abbott Laboratories have now advised that they are withdrawing from all national framework agreements, for commercial reasons, with immediate effect. Consequently, the opportunity to direct award under the auspices of a Public Sector Framework to Abbott Laboratories is no longer feasible. Therefore, for the reasons outlined above and to ensure continuity of service for patient care, the Health Board has no option but to extend for two years without any formal underpinning Framework. In the interim, the Health Board is committed to the All Wales market test which will come to fruition in Autumn 2023 for a new formal contract for Point of Care Blood Glucose & Ketone Testing.

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

5 October 2021

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

Abbott Laboratories Ltd

Abbott House, Vanwall Business Park

Maidenhead

SL64XE

Telephone

+44 1628644

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UK - United Kingdom

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £468,765

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

NOTE: To register your interest in this notice and obtain any additional information please visit the Sell2Wales Web Site at

https://www.sell2wales.gov.wales/Search/Search_Switch.aspx?ID=114702.

(WA Ref:114702)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court

Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Telephone

+44 2079477501

Country

United Kingdom