

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/026327-2021>

Contract

Mid and south Essex Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS)

NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS Basildon and Brentwood Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS Southend Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS Castle Point and Rochford Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-026327

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-02afe3

Published 20 October 2021, 10:45pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group

Wren House, Colchester Road

Chelmsford

CM2 5PF

Contact

Amy Wilson

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://midessexccg.nhs.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Basildon and Brentwood Clinical Commissioning Group

Phoenix House, Christopher Martin Road

Basildon

SS14 3HG

Contact

NHS Basildon & Brentwood Clinical Commissioning Group

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Southend Clinical Commissioning Group

6th Floor, Civic Centre, Victoria Avenue

Southend-on-Sea

SS1 9SB

Contact

Amy Wilson

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://southendccg.nhs.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group

Civic Offices 2nd Floor, New Road

Grays

RM17 6SL

Contact

Amy Wilson

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Castle Point and Rochford Clinical Commissioning Group

Pearl House, 12 Castle Road

Rayleigh

SS6 7QF

Contact

Amy Wilson

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH3 - Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://castlepointandrochfordccg.nhs.uk/>

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group

Building 4 Spencer Close, The Plain

Epping

CM16 6TN

Contact

Amy Wilson

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKH35 - West Essex

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://westessexccg.nhs.uk/>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract involves joint procurement

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

Mid and south Essex Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS)

Reference number

ACE-0477-2021-ALC

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The Contracting Authorities (hereinafter referred to as "the Authority") for this procurement were: NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (as Coordinating Commissioner), NHS Basildon & Brentwood Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Castle Point and Rochford Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Southend Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group.

The Authority has awarded a contract to deliver Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS) for the population of mid and south Essex (MSE), to the most economically advantageous tenderer (Thames Ambulance Service Limited) as a result of an 'Open' (above light-touch threshold) procurement procedure.

The Service covers all land-based provision (across all ages) with the exception of secure mental health transport. Additionally, the service will be provided to patients registered with NHS West Essex CCG in relation to journeys to/from the Essex Cardiothoracic

Centre.

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: £40,559,758

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH3 - Essex
- UKH35 - West Essex

Main site or place of performance

The Service will primarily be delivered within Essex and surrounding areas and for patients registered with NHS West Essex CCG in relation to journeys to/from the Essex Cardiothoracic Centre.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Authority has awarded a contract to deliver Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS) for the population of mid and south Essex (MSE), to the most economically advantageous tenderer (Thames Ambulance Service Limited) as a result of an 'Open' (above light-touch threshold) procurement procedure.

The Service covers all land-based provision (across all ages) with the exception of secure mental health transport. Additionally, the service will be provided to patients registered with NHS West Essex CCG in relation to journeys to/from the Essex Cardiothoracic Centre. The Service was not lotted as it was deemed that would result in unnecessary fragmentation and complexities.

The NEPTS encompasses:

- Booking & Eligibility Assessment;
- Transportation of patients; and

- On Site support at local NHS Acute Trust sites.

NEPTS are a key enabler underpinning access to elective care and supporting timely and efficient discharge processes for acute and community providers. As a partner within the system, the successful provider will support improvements in the latter stages of urgent and emergency care pathways, enabling patient choice and equitable access for elective care.

The Contract has been awarded for a term of 60 months (five years), with the possibility of extending the term for a period of 24 additional months (two years) beyond the initial contracted duration by agreement between the Authority and the Bidder.

The anticipated aggregate contract value including extensions, variations, growth and inflation advertised in the Find a Tender Service Contract Notice was £73,150,000 and the contract was awarded within the pre-published affordability envelope of £40,800,000 over the full 5 years contract term.

The contract model for the NEPTS is a block, with tolerance levels of 5% to be applied to the contract, which will be monitored on a mobility level, with adjustment to the block being considered if activity goes above tolerance levels.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 80

Price - Weighting: 20

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Option to extend for up to an additional two years after the initial 5 year term.

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

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: [2021/S 000-010354](#)

Section V. Award of contract

Title

Mid and south Essex Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS)

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

29 September 2021

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 5

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Thames Ambulance Service Limited (TASL)

Danwood House, Harrison Place, Whisby Road, Lincoln

Lincolnshire

LN6 3AH

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKF3 - Lincolnshire

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £40,559,758

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract is likely to be subcontracted

Value or proportion likely to be subcontracted to third parties

Proportion: 1 %

Short description of the part of the contract to be subcontracted

Paramedic and Ambulance Technician work only

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

The Services to which this Procurement related fall within Schedule 3 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended The Public Procurement (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020). As such, the procurement of the Services was conducted as a bespoke, single stage application process akin to the Open procedure, involving a number of stages which are outlined within the suite of procurement documents. The Authority does not intend to hold itself bound by any of the Regulations, save those applicable to Schedule 3 Services.

As published in the FTS Contract Notice, the Authority may wish to introduce additional services during the lifetime of the contract ("Contract modifications"). Such contract modifications will be contemplated where additional requirements are similar and or complementary to the services already included in the Specification, at any given time. The aggregate contract value (£73,150,000.00) published in the FTS Contract Notice was inclusive of all options to extend and any such potential modifications over the term of the contract.

Such expansion would be by the addition of services commissioned by the Authority as named in the Contract Notice. To this end, the Bidder should be aware that after the award of contract, there is a possibility that the successful Bidder may be offered a variation to the contract to include (but not be limited to) reduction of activity and removal of funding for Personal Health Budgets and/or an increase in additional low level/low risk journeys where activity may be transferred from the 999 contract to the patient transport service (for example 'GP Urgents' services) in accordance with Regulation 72 (1) (a) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (as amended The Public Procurement (Amendment etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020).

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of Justice of England and Wales

Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures

NHS Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group

Wren House, Colchester Road

Chelmsford

CM2 5PF

Email

amy.wilson@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom