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Planning

Critical Care Transfer Coordination Service (Call Handling) – East Midlands

NHS England Midlands

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-028235

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-040381

Published 25 September 2023, 4:21pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS England Midlands

County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester

Glenfield, Leicester

LE3 8RA

Contact

Anna Salt

Email

anna.salt@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/midlands/>

Buyer's address

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/midlands/>

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://health-family.force.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

Critical Care Transfer Coordination Service (Call Handling) – East Midlands

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 75122000 - Administrative healthcare services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit (AGCSU), on behalf of NHS England Midlands (referred to as the Commissioner), is undertaking a market engagement exercise to understand the current and future capacity and capability of the providers and potential providers within this specialised area. Interested parties are encouraged to register their interest and participate in the market questionnaire which will provide feedback to commissioners.

The service provider will receive and coordinate urgent and emergency requests made via telephone and digital routes 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year from specialised service leads who require advice on resuscitation and stabilisation, to facilitate cot/bed locating from within and outside the East Midlands region, and/or to facilitate patient transfers to and from general hospitals to specialist treatment centres via the commissioned Ambulance Transport Provider (currently St John Ambulance).

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKF - East Midlands (England)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS England Midlands would like to identify providers who are interested in the provision

of a 24/7 critical care transfer coordination service (Call Handling) in line with the service specification.

The service will receive and coordinate all urgent and emergency requests for advice and/or transfers (via telephone and digital routes) for intra-uterine, neonatal critical care (CenTre), paediatric critical care (CoMET), and Extra Corporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) for the East Midlands Region. It will manage requests according to agreed protocols and act as a conduit to support the provision of advice, patient referrals and transfers being processed, including the facilitation of cot/bed locating calls where required. The service will be delivered 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The service will respond to all requests within the Key Performance Indicators.

This notice is to advise prospective providers in the market of the commissioner's intention to commission this service and to provide an opportunity to engage with and participate in a market engagement questionnaire. The outcome of this market engagement will help inform commissioners of the current and future capacity and capability of the market and will be considered with other evidence to inform the commissioning approach. Where it is noted that competition is absent, direct awards may be considered. All providers will be notified of next steps following the conclusion of this market engagement exercise.

It is anticipated that the contract duration for this service will be 5 years, including an option to extend for up to an additional 12 months.

The questionnaire is available through the Atamis portal:

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

There will also be an opportunity to attend a market engagement event via Microsoft Teams at 3.30pm – 5pm on Thursday 19th October 2023. If you would like to participate in this event, please email anna.salt@nhs.net by 9am on Thursday 19th October 2023. All slides and questions and responses will be made available to all bidders following the event.

The reference is C211721 and the closing date for submission of the completed questionnaire will be: 12pm midday on Wednesday 15th November 2023.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

22 December 2023

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: Yes