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Award

Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB)

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-030108

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-040b65

Published 12 October 2023, 1:30pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB)

Regatta Place, Brunswick Business Park, Summers Lane

Liverpool

L3 4BL

Email

mlcsu.tendersnorth@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD72 - Liverpool

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB)

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB)

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.cheshireandmerseyside.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

Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services

Reference number

WHISP 171

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

NHS Midlands and Lancashire Commissioning Support Unit (MLCSU) is working on behalf of NHS Cheshire & Merseyside Integrated Care Board (ICB) to publish this Voluntary Ex-Ante Transparency (VEAT) notice, for the award of a contract for the Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services.

The ICB wish to directly award a contract to the incumbent provider for the following period:

Contract Start Date: 1st April 2023

Contract End Date: 31 March 2026

The maximum contract value for the 3 years is £4,182,000.

The service is for the provision of community-based Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services across Cheshire and Merseyside to include medical and surgical options up to the maximum legal gestation period. The service will also include the provision of Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Service. The provider will offer local face to face clinics, to be delivered in Liverpool, Chester, Warrington, St Helens.

Patients may choose to access advice and treatment from other provider locations across England via the Provider's central booking tele-hub service.

Following the publication of this notice, a Contract Award Notice will also be published.

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: £4,182,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85100000 - Health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD - North West (England)

Main site or place of performance

Cheshire & Merseyside

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB wishes to inform the market of its action to directly award for local Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services. The current contracted services expired on 31st March 2023. The ICB are awarding a contract for a period of 36 months until 31st March 2026.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2.14) Additional information

NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB wishes to inform the market of its action to directly award for local Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services. The current contracted services expired on 31st March 2023. The ICB are awarding a contract for a

period of 36 months until 31st March 2026.

In line with the requirement to offer patient choice of provider, any approaches from potential new providers of consultant led, medical and surgical termination of pregnancy and central booking services in our region, who could meet the required specification and standards, would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The expected aims/outcomes of the service are:

- To offer and provide a high-quality termination of pregnancy service, at all stages of the patient journey, in terms of: acceptability, accessibility, effectiveness, efficiency and appropriateness to need as part of an integrated high quality sexual health service.
- To provide abortions to women at the earliest gestation practicable (within the terms of the 1967 Abortion Act) through increasing provision of both early medical and local surgical abortions.
- To offer choice of early medical and surgical abortions (depending on client's gestation) to provide a local service as an option for Early Medical Abortions. The DOH rationale is that 'The earlier in pregnancy an abortion is performed the lower the risk of complications. If women can access services before they are ten weeks pregnant, they can potentially have a choice of an early medical or surgical abortion, medical abortion avoids the need for anaesthesia and surgery.
- To ensure equity of access, patient choice, improved patient experience and optimal clinical outcomes to assist in reducing the number of women requiring repeat abortions by increasing timely access to all long-term methods of contraception.
- To provide a consistent approach to service provision throughout Cheshire and Merseyside that complements other sexual health services i.e. family planning, contraception, teenage pregnancy, genitourinary medicine and health promotion services.

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 Voluntary Ex Ante Transparency (VEAT) Notice and is published under the Public Contract Regulations (PCR) 2015. It is for clinical services which are Light Touch Regime services for the purpose of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ('Regulations') as specified in Schedule 3 of the Regulations. Accordingly, the contracting authority is only bound by those parts of the Regulations detailed in Chapter 3 Particular Procurement Regimes Section 7. The contracting authority is not voluntarily following any other part of the Regulations.

The contract is being awarded under PCR 2015 Section 32. Use of the negotiated procedure without prior publication.

General grounds

(2) The negotiated procedure without prior publication may be used for public works contracts, public supply contracts and public service contracts in any of the following cases:

b) where the works, supplies or services can be supplied only by a particular economic operator for any of the following reasons:

(ii) competition is absent for technical reasons.

There are no alternative providers that can deliver the range of virtual and face to face consultations and medical and surgical treatment up to the maximum legal gestation at clinic sites within the Cheshire & Merseyside area.

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

Title

Termination of Pregnancy and Central Booking Services

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 April 2023

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

BRITISH PREGNANCY ADVISORY SERVICE

Orion House 2 Athena Drive, Tachbrook Park

Leamington Spa

CV34 6RQ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKG - West Midlands (England)

Companies House

UK SIC 2007

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £4,182,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Short description of the part of the contract to be subcontracted

Subcontractor: Ultrasound Direct Ltd.

The Institute of Reproductive Sciences 8000, Alec Issigonis Way, Oxford Business Park North, Oxford, England, OX4 2HW.

The value / proportion to be subcontracted is unknown.

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NHS Cheshire & Merseyside ICB

Liverpool

Country

United Kingdom