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Award

## **Variation for construction and operation of a Community Diagnostics Facility**

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-034513

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05520b

Published 23 June 2025, 4:56pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority/entity**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

Musgrove Park Hospital

Taunton

TA1 5DA

#### **Contact**

Paul Saunders, Head of Procurement

#### **Email**

[paul.saunders@somersetft.nhs.uk](mailto:paul.saunders@somersetft.nhs.uk)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKK23 - Somerset

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

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

Buyer's address

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

**I.6) Main activity**

Other activity

Health

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**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

Variation for construction and operation of a Community Diagnostics Facility

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85323000 - Community health services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

The Trust entered into a contract with Ergéa (previously known as Asterol) in July 2017 for the provision of a Healthcare Facility (the Contract). Ergéa's service provision includes equipment installation and enabling works (including turnkey works), commissioning, procurement, maintenance and support, replacement, disposal and the provision of radiology consumables. The Trust intends to modify the Contract in accordance with Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the PCR 2015) to provide a Community Diagnostic Centre at Bridgwater Community Hospital (the CDC). Ergéa will provide a full turnkey solution for the CDC. It will design and construct the building and

then deliver an equipment management service at the CDC. The building will be built on the Trust's existing site and the Trust will retain ownership of the building. The project will be funded by NHS England. Provision of funding is dependent on the CDC being delivered by 31/03/2026.

#### **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: £37,539,000

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 85150000 - Medical imaging services

#### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKK23 - Somerset

Main site or place of performance

Bridgwater Community Hospital, Bower Lane, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA6 4GU

#### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

The Trust entered into a contract with Ergéa (previously known as Asterol) in July 2017 for the provision of a Healthcare Facility (the Contract). Ergéa's service provision includes equipment installation and enabling works (including turnkey works), commissioning, procurement, maintenance and support, replacement, disposal and the provision of radiology consumables. The Trust intends to modify the Contract in accordance with Regulation 72 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the PCR 2015) to provide a Community Diagnostic Centre at Bridgwater Community Hospital (the CDC). Ergéa will provide a full turnkey solution for the CDC. It will design and construct the building and then deliver an equipment management service at the CDC. The building will be built on the Trust's existing site and the Trust will retain ownership of the building. The project will be funded by NHS England. Provision of funding is dependent on the CDC being delivered by 31/03/2026.

#### **II.2.5) Award criteria**

Price

### **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

### **II.2.14) Additional information**

On 30 May 2025 the Trust's Finance Committee took the decision to proceed with varying the Contract to provide the CDC (subject to final agreement of the amended terms, the necessarily approvals for funding from NHS England and ratification of the Trust Board). The Trust relies on Regulation 72(1)(b) and, in the alternative, Regulation 72(1)(e) to modify the Contract.

## **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 Trust relies on Regulation 72(1)(b) of the PCR 2015.

Necessity:

- The CDC will significantly increase diagnostic capacity as it will deliver an additional 24,282 MRI and CT scans per year. The additional capacity of the CDC will help to significantly reduce waiting times for complex imaging.
- The CDC will be located close to the Trust's main hospital site and operated by Trust staff so the Trust will be able to carry out interventional imaging in the new facility. Patients can be transferred across easily for recovery purposes.

Economic/technical reasons:

- NHSE funding for the CDC is on the basis that it is built by 30/03/26 so there would not

be sufficient time to procure/negotiate a new contract with another supplier in such short timescales. A change of contractor would give rise to a significant risk of not meeting the conditions for receipt of the funding.

- Having a different provider would create operational issues for the Trust e.g. if a different provider were to deliver and manage the CDC, this could lead to a situation whereby the equipment at the CDC has not been updated to the same level as the equipment in the Trust's acute site. Having the same supplier operating both sites will therefore ensure that there is consistency between the equipment which is being provided by the Trust to its patients.
- Having the same supplier will enable the Trust to freely transfer and/or move equipment and consumables between the sites as and when required to deal with any demand issues. This will drive efficiencies which will help improve the delivery of patient care as well as give rise to cost efficiencies.

Significant inconvenience / duplication of costs:

- Having the same supplier operating the two sites will avoid duplication of resource and costs associated with contract management.
- There will be a single point of contact for staff if there are any issues with equipment. Not only will this be more convenient for the Trust, it will also enable any issues to be dealt with more efficiently.

As noted above, the modification does not result in an increase in price of more than 50% of the value of the original Contract.

Alternatively, the Trust relies on Regulation 72(1)(e) of the PCR 2015. The Contract already includes the provision of turnkey and enabling works and the Trust intends to keep the payment mechanisms the same. The Trust therefore does not consider the modification to be substantial.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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### **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**

30 May 2025

##### **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**

Ergea UK and Ireland Limited

Units 4-6 Ely Road Theale Commercial Estate Theale, Reading

Theale

RG7 4BQ

Email

[uk.ccc-endo@ergeagroup.com](mailto:uk.ccc-endo@ergeagroup.com)

Telephone

+44 1189008100

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ11 - Berkshire

National registration number

04328629

Internet address

<http://www.asteral.com>

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot/concession: £14,336,000

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £37,539,000

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## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

Value of contract modification £14,336,000. Original contract value £37,539,000.

### **VI.4) Procedures for review**

#### **VI.4.1) Review body**

The High Court

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

#### **VI.4.2) Body responsible for mediation procedures**

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

Musgrove Park Hospital

Taunton

TA1 5DA

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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

#### **VI.4.3) Review procedure**

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

In accordance with Regulation 88 to Regulation 102 of the PCR 2015 (particularly, Regulations 92, 93, 94 and 99 in relation to deadlines).

**VI.4.4) Service from which information about the review procedure may be obtained**

Somerset NHS Foundation Trust

Musgrove Park Hospital

Taunton

TA1 5DA

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

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