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Contract

Upper Thames Medical Group APMS Contract

NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-036892

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0425db

Published 15 December 2023, 9:45am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board

Shire Hall, Westgate Street

Gloucester

GL1 2TG

Contact

Paul Wilkinson

Email

paul.wilkinson2@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKK13 - Gloucestershire

NHS Organisation Data Service

QR1

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.nhsglos.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**

Upper Thames Medical Group APMS Contract

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This notice relates to the award of a public contract for GP primary care services under the

negotiated procedure without prior publication. The contract is subject to the provisions of Part 2, Chapter 3, Section 7 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("the PCR") (the Light Regime).

NHS Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board ("the ICB") has an existing General Medical Services (GMS) contract in place for delivery of GP services at what is known as the Upper Thames Medical Group practice (covering two GP surgeries, one in Cirencester and one in Lechlade). The current partners of the provider of the GMS contract, Inspire Healthcare Partnership ("Inspire"), identified inherent financial challenges and inefficiencies of running two surgeries across two sites. The provider is in financial difficulty and ICB investment in improvement and transformation is required in order for the practice to remain viable. That investment cannot be provided via the existing GMS contract.

Due to exceptional circumstances in relation to this contract, the ICB has taken the decision to end the existing GMS contract and award Inspire a new Alternative Provider Medical Services ("APMS") contract which provides for a financial premium, linked to KPIs to enable transformation, to Inspire for delivery of the GP services at the Upper Thames Medical Group practice. This will ensure that service continuity is maintained for patients.

Competition is absent because the services for patients to be provided by Inspire under the APMS contract are the same as those they provided under the GMS contract and only Inspire is in a position to continue delivery of those services without disruption. The ICB is accordingly awarding the contract by negotiated procedure without prior publication, under regulation 32(2)(b) of the Public Contract Regulations 2015.

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: £9,578,599

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85100000 - Health services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKK13 - Gloucestershire

Main site or place of performance

Cirencester, Gloucestershire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Contract covers the provision of GP primary care services to the patients registered with the Upper Thames Medical Group which has a patient list of 11,802 patients across Park Surgery in Cirencester and Lechdale Medical Centre.

It is an Alternative Provider Medical Services ("APMS") Contract with an initial term of five years with the option to extend subject to satisfactory contractual performance for a further five years.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: 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 Authority (the ICB) considers that Inspire is the only supplier able to supply the primary care services at the Upper Thames Medical Group practice because competition is absent for technical reasons.

Inspire have been delivering the primary care services to patients at the practice under the GMS contract (which is an arrangement which continues indefinitely). Inspire is satisfying its existing contract in terms of patient services and the ICB considers it is in the best interests of patients to ensure continuity of those services.

Due to historic financial losses and the wider financial climate, the practice is in financial difficulty and is at risk of failing entirely without financial intervention from the ICB. The previous contract form (GMS) did not provide a mechanism for the additional financing needed and therefore the ICB has awarded an APMS form of contract to Inspire to facilitate the financial premium required. However, the GP primary care services to be provided under the APMS contract are the same as those provided under the previous GMS contract.

In light of this, and given the importance of continuity of primary care services, the ICB considers that Inspire is the only supplier which can provide the contracted service to patients at this time. It does not consider there to be a reasonable alternative to Inspire being awarded the APMS contract which would not result in significant disruption to patient services.

Accordingly, and in the best interests of its patients, the ICB is able pursuant to Regulation 32(2)(b)(ii) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 to negotiate an APMS contract directly with Inspire without needing to advertise the opportunity and has done so.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 December 2023

V.2.2) Information about tenders

Number of tenders received: 1

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

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor

Inspire Healthcare Group

The Devereux Centre, Barton Road

Tewkesbury

GL20 5GJ

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKK13 - Gloucestershire

NHS Organisation Data Service

L84010

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Total value of the contract/lot: £9,578,599

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

The High Court of England and Wales

The Royal Court of Justice, The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

In accordance with Part 3, Chapter 6 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.