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Award

Hertfordshire Admission Avoidance Response Car (HAARC)

NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-038026

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-042a22

Published 29 December 2023, 3:58pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board

Charter House, Parkway

Welwyn Garden City

AL8 6JL

Contact

Sarah Beaumont

Email

sarah.beaumont@attain.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH23 - Hertfordshire

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://hertsandwestessex.icb.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

Hertfordshire Admission Avoidance Response Car (HAARC)

Reference number

ACE-0734-2023-HWE

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is a Voluntary Ex-Ante Transparency Notice and as such provides notification of the intention of the Authority to enter into a contract for the Hertfordshire Admission Avoidance Car (HAARC) with its incumbent provider, East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST).

The new contract is intended to begin on 1st April 2024 and end on 31st March 2025 with the option to extend for a further 12 months. The value of the new contract is £630,121 (excl. VAT) with a maximum cumulative value of £1,260,242. Please note that these are expected values and may be amended post contract finalisation with the provider.

The service has been in place since 1st April 2019 and has a total cumulative value of £2,889,498 (excluding the value of this new contract).

This service has an MDT approach with the ICBs Care home Improvement Team working alongside the HAARC Service / Specialist paramedic team to ensure the ICB reduces the number of admissions and attendances from care homes across South and West Hertfordshire. This is a specialised service which is only available from ambulance Trusts. This is a short-term arrangement with our incumbent provider which will allow the ICB time to review the service and understand future commissioning intentions.

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: £1,260,242

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This is a Voluntary Ex-Ante Transparency Notice and as such provides notification of the intention of the Authority to enter into a contract for the Hertfordshire Admission Avoidance Car (HAARC) with its incumbent provider, East of England Ambulance Service (EEAST).

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The service has been in place since 1st April 2019 and has a total cumulative value of £2,889,498 (excluding the value of this new contract).

This service has an MDT approach with the ICBs Care home Improvement Team working alongside the HAARC Service / Specialist paramedic team to ensure the ICB reduces the number of admissions and attendances from care homes across South and West Hertfordshire. This is a specialised service which is only available from ambulance Trusts. This is a short-term arrangement with our incumbent provider which will allow the ICB time to review the service and understand future commissioning intentions.

The HAARC service provides quick access to specialist clinical advice and support to enhance the Care Home care management plans so that patients only attend hospital if it is clinically necessary. This has reduced ambulance conveyances to A&E, unplanned admissions, and frequent use of the UEC services. The HAARC service work closely with the EEAST ambulance service to assess ambulance callouts from care homes and is complemented by admission avoidance services, such the CLCH Rapid Response Service.

The service also provides bespoke training for the Care Home staff to enhance their skills.

HAARC provides the following outcomes:

- Reduction in ambulance conveyances to A&E from care homes.
- Reduction in unplanned admissions of care home patients.
- Reduction in frequent use of UEC services.
- Upskilling care home staff.

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

Option to extend for a further 12 months to 31st March 2026.

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

In line with best practice, the Authority will observe a voluntary 10-day standstill period prior to finalising a new contract with the East of England Ambulance Service.

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:

There is a MDT approach to this service with the ICB's Care Home Improvement Team working alongside the HAARC Service/Specialist Paramedic team to ensure the ICB reduce the number of admissions and attendances from care homes across S&W Hertfordshire.

This is a specialised service only available from NHS Ambulance Trusts. Our local ambulance trust has been used for ease, however this is a short-term arrangement whilst the ICB is reviewing the service to understand future commissioning intentions which will ensure continuity of service for our patients.

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

Hertfordshire Admission Avoidance Response Car (HAARC)

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

8 December 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

East of England Ambulance Service NHS Trust (EEAST)

Whiting Way, Melbourne

Cambridgeshire

SG8 6EN

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH12 - Cambridgeshire CC

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

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

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £1,260,242

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

High Court of Justice England and Wales

The Strand

London

WC2A 2LL

Country

United Kingdom

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

Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board

Charter House, Parkway

Welwyn Garden City

AL8 6JL

Country

United Kingdom

Internet address

<https://hertsandwestessex.icb.nhs.uk>