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Award

## **Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS)**

NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex Integrated Care Board

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-038032

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-042a25

Published 29 December 2023, 4:11pm

### **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

#### **Email**

[sarah.beaumont@attain.co.uk](mailto: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

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## Section II: Object

### II.1) Scope of the procurement

#### II.1.1) Title

Non-Emergency Patient Transport Service (NEPTS)

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 provision of Non-Emergency Transport Services (NEPTS) with its incumbent provider, East of England NHS Ambulance Trust (EEAST).

The new contract is intended to start on 1st October 2024 and will be for a period of 1-year, ending on 30th September 2025. Prior to the the incorporation of NHS Hertfordshire and West Essex ICB, the service was provided to each of the Clinical Commissioning Groups under separate contractual arrangements but delivered by the same provider.

The contract has now been consolidated into a single contract under an all inclusive block arrangement. The total cumulative value of all contracts since they started, to 30th September 2024 will be £43,065,760 (exclusive of VAT). Please note that these are expected values and may be amended post contract finalisation with the provider.

The value of the new proposed contract is £9,293,757 (exclusive of VAT).

NHS England has bene working to improve NEPTS and as a part of this work, certain regions have been identified as pathfinder areas to test the implementation of the new national framework for NEPTS. The East of England Region is one of those pathfinder areas. EEAST are participating in the second wave of the national pilot for the coordination of NEPTS at both a regional and place-based level to explore how the

service can support the regionally agreed clinical model of Access to the Stack, 'Call before you Convey' and Community Hubs.

This work may have implications for the future service model which the new specification should consider. To procure the service at this point would likely mean that a service model is implemented which is not fit for the future and not in line with the national model.

A process will be undertaken prior to the new contract end date to ensure a new contract is in place by 1st October 2025.

#### **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: £9,293,757

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

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

NUTS codes

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire
- UKH35 - West Essex

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

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Non-Emergency Patient Transport is an eligibility-based service that provides transport and care to individuals that, due to their medical needs, would otherwise be unable to travel to or from the point at which they receive health care services.

#### **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**

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

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## 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:

NHSE has been working on improving NEPTS and as part of this effort certain regions have been identified as pathfinder areas to test the implementation of the new national framework for NEPTS. Our region, the East of England, is one of the pathfinder areas. East of England NHS Trust (EEAST) are participating in the second wave of the national pilot for the co-ordination of NEPTS, at a regional and place-based level to explore how the service can support the regionally agreed clinical model of Access to the Stack, 'Call before you Convey' and Community Hubs.

This work may have implications for the future service model which the new specification should consider. To procure the service at this point would likely mean that a service model is implemented which is not fit for the future and not in line with the national model.

A process will be undertaken prior to the new contract end date to ensure a new contract is in place by 1st October 2025.

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: No

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## Section V. Award of contract/concession

### Title

Non-Emergency Patient Transport Services (NEPTS)

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, Melbourn

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: £9,293,757

**V.2.5) Information about subcontracting**

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

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## **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>