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Contract

Connect for Health Social Prescribing Programme

NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-039167

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c267

Published 5 December 2024, 9:38am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Suffolk and North East Essex ICB

Aspen House, Stephenson Road

COLCHESTER

CO49QR

Contact

Sarah Skilton

Email

sarah.skilton@snee.nhs.uk

Telephone

+44 1473770225

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH34 - Essex Haven Gateway

NHS Organisation Data Service

QJG

Internet address(es)

Main address

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

Buyer's address

<https://in-tendhost.co.uk/snee-icb/asp/Home>

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

Connect for Health Social Prescribing Programme

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Social Prescribing currently exists in Suffolk in a localised scheme across Ipswich and East Suffolk called Connect for Health. The programme provides community-based support, personalised to the individual, using a "what matters to me" approach to create a personalised care and support plan with the person to help improve health and wellbeing by addressing wider determinants of health.

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: £483,501

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH14 - Suffolk

Main site or place of performance

Ipswich and East Suffolk Alliance area.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The service is a social prescribing link worker offer to support adults with non-medical needs that affect health and wellbeing. In social prescribing a variety of health care professionals, social care, community teams, statutory services and Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprises (VCFSE) refer people to a social prescribing link worker (SPLW) as well as self-referrals. SPLWs give people time, focusing on 'what matters to me?' to coproduce a simple personalised care and support plan (PCSP), and support people to take control of their health and wellbeing. Social prescribing is an all-age, whole population approach that works particularly well for people who:

- have one or more long term conditions;
- need support with low level mental health issues;
- are lonely or isolated;
- have complex social needs which affect their wellbeing.

The services use a "what matters to me" approach to create a personalised care and support plan with the person and aims to support people with addressing wider determinants of health to enable better health and wellbeing close to home and in their community.

In each INT area, individuals will access the Connect for Health programme by self-referral or be referred by GPs and other health staff, social care providers, or any other professional. They will meet with trained Connect for Health staff (a Link Worker or equivalent) who will arrange an initial 'Discovery Session' to identify what is important to them, including starting to explore their goals and micro-goals. They will together develop a personalised care and support plan (PCSP) identifying their interests and priorities and identify ways of using their strengths to build resilience and empower them to make choices that support their own health and wellbeing. As well as supporting them over a period of weeks or months, the Connect for health community connector or adviser will signpost them to appropriate local sources of support, including services and groups, which are appropriate and proportionate to their needs, ideally using the Suffolk Warm Handover Scheme.

Five years of delivery of the Connect for health service has shown that tailored support from a dedicated worker focussed on what matters most to the individual, and a network of connections into non-clinical support reduces demand on NHS and social care services (such as GPs, accident and emergency departments and social workers) by decreasing the number of occasions that clinical appointments are required by individuals with non-medical needs.

The contract will commence 1 April 2025 and will end on 31 March 2027. Any extension of

the contract is subject to funding.

NHS Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board are awarding the contract named within this notice under the Direct Award C process which is outlined within the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. The provider named in this notice is an existing provider and has been reviewed through a Key Criteria assessment to ensure the awarding body is satisfied with current performance and reasonably expects the provider to be able to satisfy the contract which is the subject of this notice. The contract which is the subject of this notice has not changed considerably when compared with the existing / previous contract delivered by the named provider.

The ICB may wish to introduce additional services during the lifetime of the contract ("Contract modifications"). Such contract modifications will be contemplated where additional requirements are similar and or complementary to the services already included in the Specification, at any given time. Such expansion would be by the addition of services commissioned by the Authority as named in the Contract Notice. To this end, after the award of contract, there is a possibility that the contract may be varied as allowable in accordance with the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Quality / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

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:

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) intention to award notice. The awarding of this contract is subject to the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. For the avoidance of doubt, the provisions of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 do not apply to this award. The publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period.

Representations by providers must be made to decision makers by 17th December 2024 (8 working days following publication of intention to award notice). They should be submitted in writing to procurement@snee.nhs.uk. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Award decision-makers: IES Alliance; IESA Partnerships team; IESA Be Well Domain Steering Group.

- No conflicts of interest, or potential conflicts of interest, were declared by any decision makers.

The decision to award this contract in line with Direct Award Process C was based on evaluation against the five required key criteria as follows:

- Quality and Innovation - Assured - SNEE ICB are assured that the provider is delivering a safe and effective service as required by the specification and contract they are currently delivering. This criterion was reviewed in line with the Quality Impact Assessment.
- Value - Assured - SNEE ICB are assured that the provider is delivering value to the integrated care system and the cost of change would not be outweighed by the potential benefit of a new provider.
- Integration, Collaboration and Service Sustainability - Assured - SNEE ICB are assured that the provider is positively impacting on the integrated care system through their

integration and collaboration delivered as a requirement of the specification and prevention elements linked to the delivery.

- Improving Access, Reducing Health Inequalities and Facilitating Choice - Assured - SNEE ICB are assured that the provider is meeting needs of the population to ensure equitable access and choice as required by the specification and contract. This criterion was reviewed in line with the Equality Impact Assessment.
- Social Value - Assured - SNEE ICB are assured that the provider is delivering in line with the SNEE Green Plan, especially increasing initiatives that positively impact on the wider determinants of health. This criterion was reviewed in line with the Sustainability Impact Assessment.

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

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

5 November 2024

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

Citizens Advice Ipswich

Tower House

Ipswich

IP1 3BE

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKH14 - Suffolk

Companies House

03438957

The contractor is an SME

Yes

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £483,501

Total value of the contract/lot: £483,501

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Suffolk and North East Essex Integrated Care Board

Aspen House, Stephenson Road, Severalls Business Park

Colchester

CO4 9QR

Country

United Kingdom