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Contract

Pathology Services

WARRINGTON AND HALTON TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-039877

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-055f30

Published 15 July 2025, 11:30am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

WARRINGTON AND HALTON TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Lovely Lane

WarrINGTON

WA51QG

Contact

Alison Parker

Email

alison.parker1@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD61 - Warrington

NHS Organisation Data Service

RWW

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://whh.enquiries.procurement.team@nhs.net>

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

Pathology Services

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85111800 - Pathology services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Provision of Pathology Services

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: £75,000,000

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Main site or place of performance

Warrington

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

In 2019 the NHS Long Term Plan set out the key ambition that all pathology services in England would be part of a pathology network by 2023 (now April 2025). In response to this the Cheshire & Merseyside Pathology Network developed an Outline Business Case which detailed an ambitious Target Operating Model which consists of developing 3 pathology hubs which would work together to make the best use of the assets and capabilities available, and to deliver on the benefits to patient care that are available by working more closely together. These three hubs cover the following geographical areas:

North Hub - Liverpool

East Hub - Sefton, Knowsley, St Helens, Warrington & Halton

South Hub - Cheshire West and the Wirral

To meet the National and Local ambitions Warrington & Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trusts are seeking a provider to deliver the East Hub Pathology Service. This provider must be able to offer a single pathology service for the geographical area of the East hub (see table above) delivered through a hub and spoke model. The provider must be able to deliver a single pathology service which consists of a Central Hub, situated in the geographic area, and Essential Service Laboratories at Ormskirk Southport, St Helens, Warrington, and Halton hospitals. The provider must be able to deliver all aspects of: Cellular Pathology (Histopathology and Cytology), Mortuary Services, Blood Science (Chemistry, Haematology, and blood transfusion), Immunology and Microbiology pathology services within the Central Hub. The provider must be able to deliver Blood science (Chemistry, Haematology and blood transfusion) and a small number of Microbiology Screening (Blood Cultures and Cerebral Spinal Fluid) tests on site at the Essential Services Laboratories. To provide the service, all hospital sites will retain their current equipment from their current suppliers and so the provider will not be required to provide any equipment as part of this service.

It is the intention to award under the Most Suitable Provider Process. The approximate lifetime value of the contract is £75m. This a new service.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: Most suitable provider process with regard to the key criteria with a weighting of 100 / Weighting: 100

Cost criterion - Name: Most suitable provider process with regard to the key criteria with a weighting of 100 / Weighting: 100

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 standstill period begins on the day after the publication of this notice. Representations by providers must be made to the relevant authority by Midnight on Monday 28 July 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR

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

11 July 2025

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

Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust

St Helens

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD - North West (England)

NHS Organisation Data Service

RBN

Internet address

www.merseywestlancs.nhs.uk

The contractor is an SME

No

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

Initial estimated total value of the contract/lot: £75,000,000

Total value of the contract/lot: £75,000,000

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

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 standstill period begins on the day after the publication of this notice. Representations by providers must be made to decision makers by Midnight on Monday 28 July 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Key Decision Makers

Chief Strategy & Partnerships Officer

Medical Director

Chief Operating Officer/Deputy Chief Executive

Deputy Director of Strategy & Partnerships

Pathology Manager

Associate Director of Finance

There were no declared conflicts or potential conflicts of interest

Key Criteria as set under the Most Suitable Provider Process used to made the decision were as follows:

Quality & Innovation 5%

Value 20%

Integration, collaboration and service sustainability 60%

Improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice 5%

Social Value 10%

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Warrington and Halton Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Warrington

Country

United Kingdom