

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/051499-2025>

Tender

National Framework Agreement for the provision of Secure Patient Transport Services

COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

F02: Contract notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-051499

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058e51

Published 27 August 2025, 10:56am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

COUNTESS OF CHESTER HOSPITAL NHS FOUNDATION TRUST

Liverpool Road

Chester

CH21UL

Email

info@coch-cps.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD63 - Cheshire West and Chester

NHS Organisation Data Service

RJR

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

I.2) Information about joint procurement

The contract is awarded by a central purchasing body

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted electronically via

<https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

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

National Framework Agreement for the provision of Secure Patient Transport Services

Reference number

F/094/SPTS/24/MH

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

In 2024, the Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust established a Framework Agreement under the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 (and as amended) (the PSR) for use by all Relevant Authorities (and any future successors to these organisations).

"Relevant authority" is defined in section 12ZB(7) of the National Health Service Act 2006. It means a combined authority, an integrated care board, a local authority in England, NHS England, an NHS foundation trust or an NHS trust established under section 25 of that Act. For the avoidance of doubt, any successor bodies of any of the above entities shall be entitled to place Orders and shall be deemed Relevant Authorities for the purposes of this Framework Agreement.

This framework agreement aims to support mental health patient requirements through the provision of secure patient transport services.

The framework was awarded to run for an initial term of 2 years with options to extend for up to a further 2 years in annual increments.

As previously advertised in the Framework tender documentation, the Framework will be reopened to new applicants annually, approximately 90 days before the anniversary of the Framework Commencement Date. Previously appointed Suppliers will NOT be obliged to reapply on an annual basis.

Framework Suppliers appointed on the first anniversary of the Framework Commencement Date will be awarded a Framework Agreement of up to 3 years duration; Framework Suppliers appointed on the second anniversary of the Framework Commencement Date will be awarded a Framework Agreement of up to 2 years duration and Framework Suppliers appointed on the third anniversary of the Framework Commencement Date will be awarded a Framework Agreement of up to 1 year duration.

This notice concerns the first re-opening of the Framework to new applicants.

II.1.5) Estimated total value

Value excluding VAT: £25,000,000

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 34114122 - Patient-transport vehicles
- 60000000 - Transport services (excl. Waste transport)
- 85143000 - Ambulance services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Supplier will provide secure patient transport services.

The expected outcomes of the Services will be:

- Provide patients with a safe, professional, and quality service which is appropriate to their needs.
- Provide the appropriate vehicle and accompanying suitably qualified and experienced staff in a timely manner.
- Convey patients to the appropriate destination in a vehicle suitable for their needs, ensuring their dignity and respect.
- Provide a high-quality service based on individual patient needs which meets industry best practice and NICE guidance.
- Provide an efficient, easy to use booking system for Contracting Authorities to utilise to minimise delays.
- Provide all appropriate paperwork and service level reports in accordance with national

and local requirements.

- Eliminate aborted journeys/empty vehicles to provide a financially and environmentally sustainable service.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Price is not the only award criterion and all criteria are stated only in the procurement documents

II.2.7) Duration of the contract, framework agreement or dynamic purchasing system

Duration in months

36

This contract is subject to renewal

Yes

Description of renewals

The framework will run for an initial term of 1 year with options to extend for up to a further 2 years in annual increments.

II.2.10) Information about variants

Variants will be accepted: Yes

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

The framework will run for an initial term of 1 year with options to extend for up to a further 2 years in annual increments.

II.2.12) Information about electronic catalogues

Tenders must be presented in the form of electronic catalogues or include an electronic catalogue

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.1) Conditions for participation

III.1.2) Economic and financial standing

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

III.1.3) Technical and professional ability

Selection criteria as stated in the procurement documents

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Open procedure

IV.1.3) Information about a framework agreement or a dynamic purchasing system

The procurement involves the establishment of a framework agreement

Framework agreement with several operators

IV.1.6) Information about electronic auction

An electronic auction will be used

Additional information about electronic auction

Electronic auctions may be used in further competitions

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of tenders or requests to participate

Date

29 September 2025

Local time

2:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which tenders or requests to participate may be submitted

English

IV.2.6) Minimum time frame during which the tenderer must maintain the tender

Duration in months: 3 (from the date stated for receipt of tender)

IV.2.7) Conditions for opening of tenders

Date

1 October 2025

Local time

2:00pm

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Information about recurrence

This is a recurrent procurement: No

VI.2) Information about electronic workflows

Electronic ordering will be used

Electronic invoicing will be accepted

Electronic payment will be used

VI.3) Additional information

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) Contract 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 and the Procurement Act 2023 do not apply to this award.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Countess of Chester Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Chester

Email

info@coch-cps.co.uk

Country

United Kingdom