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Award

2526-0313 Community Equipment Service - North London Equipment Partnership (NLEP)

Islington Council

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-057846

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059d85

Published 18 September 2025, 4:15pm

Scope

Reference

2526-0313

Description

Provision of community equipment to support independence, hospital discharge, and care at home for adults and children. Includes supply, maintenance, and collection of items.

Contract 1. 2526-0313 Community Equipment Service - NLEP

Supplier

- Provide Care Solutions

Contract value

- £4,435,750 excluding VAT
- £5,322,900 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

19 September 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 20 September 2025 to 21 September 2026
- Possible extension to 21 September 2028
- 3 years, 2 days

Description of possible extension:

Initial term of 24 months with an optional extension of 12 months

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 85000000 - Health and social work services

Contract locations

- UKI - London

Other information

Description of risks to contract performance

The primary risk to contract performance arises from the short mobilisation period following the insolvency of the incumbent provider, NRS Healthcare, and the service formally closing on 15 September 2025. This created an urgent need to secure continuity of statutory services under the Care Act 2014.

Risks include potential delays in service mobilisation, supply chain disruption, and gaps in equipment availability or maintenance during the transition. These could impact hospital discharge timelines, people's ability to live independently, and safeguarding outcomes. Mitigation measures include a phased transition with interim 'patchwork' arrangements, contingency planning for high-priority equipment, and collaborative oversight from the eight-borough consortium.

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Light touch

Direct award justification

Extreme and unavoidable urgency

The Council has a statutory duty to provide the integrated community equipment and service pursuant to the Care Act 2014. The existing provider has notified the Council that they will cease trading from 15 September 2025 and therefore cease providing these services to the Council. Due to the short notice provided by the incumbent provider it is impossible to commission a new contract within the relevant timescales and ensure continuity of service. It is necessary for the Council to urgently award a replacement contract to secure continuity of these critical statutory services in Islington. The Council has considered all options and has concluded that due to this extreme urgency a directly awarded contract under Section 41 and Sections 13 and 14 of Schedule 5 of the Procurement Act 2023 to Essex Cares Limited should be made.

Supplier

Provide Care Solutions

- Companies House: 04331279

900 The Crescent

Colchester

CO4 9YQ

United Kingdom

Email: provide.pmo@nhs.net

Region: UKH34 - Essex Haven Gateway

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. 2526-0313 Community Equipment Service - NLEP

Contracting authority

Islington Council

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBMD-2513-CWJJ

Islington Town Hall

London

N1 2UD

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@islington.gov.uk

Website: <http://www.islington.gov.uk/>

Region: UKI43 - Haringey and Islington

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government