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Contract

Special Care & Paediatric Dentistry (SCPD) to NHS Sussex ICB

NHS Sussex Integrated Care Board (ICB) on behalf of NHS England

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-076661

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05e7d8

Published 24 November 2025, 5:40pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS Sussex Integrated Care Board (ICB) on behalf of NHS England

Sackville House, Brooks Close

Lewes, East Sussex

BN7 2FZ

Email

scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.sussex.ics.nhs.uk/nhs-sussex/>

Buyer's address

<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

Special Care & Paediatric Dentistry (SCPD) to NHS Sussex ICB

Reference number

WA18630

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85131000 - Dental-practice services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This is an intention to award notice.

Special Care & Paediatric Dentistry (SCPD) services are available for children and adults with additional needs who are unable to have treatment at a general dental practice. It is a referral-only service, providing a range of dental treatments for children and adults with additional needs, including physical or learning disabilities, or where they have a need for additional support to receive treatment. Home visits are also provided for patients who are housebound. People are usually referred in via their dentist or doctor.

NHS Sussex Integrated Care Board (ICB) intends to award contracts to 2 existing providers following Direct Award Process C of the UK Health Care Services (PSR) Regulations 2023 for SCPD services in the Sussex area. 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.

The existing SCPD contracts have previously been contracted under the Standard Clauses For A Personal Dental Services (PDS) Agreement and include the provision of general anaesthetic (GA) services. As the provision of services under GA is excluded under clause 73 of the PDS contract, SCPD GA services will instead be contracted for separately under NHS standard contracts.

The terms of the existing SCPD contracts are due to expire on 31st March 2026 and NHS Sussex ICB have proposed that new SCPD and SCPD GA contracts should replace the existing contracts at the end of their term. All requirements outlined in Regulation 6(5) of the Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023 have been met, including that the considerable change threshold has not been met, and therefore Direct Award Process C has been determined as the appropriate provider selection process.

After conducting assessments of the existing providers, taking into account the key criteria and applying the basic selection criteria, NHS Sussex ICB is content that the existing providers are satisfying the original contracts and will likely satisfy the proposed contracts to a sufficient standard.

The awarded contracts will each be for a term of up to 2 years and are due to commence from 1st April 2026. The total maximum contract value of these contracts is £15,188,196.

There are 4 contracts being awarded to 2 providers as follows:-

1. SCPD for West Sussex & Brighton & Hove - Sussex Community Foundation Trust
2. SCPD GA for West Sussex & Brighton & Hove - Sussex Community Foundation Trust
3. SCPD for East Sussex - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
4. SCPD GA for East Sussex - East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £15,188,196

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

SCPD for West Sussex & Brighton & Hove

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85131000 - Dental-practice services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ21 - Brighton and Hove
- UKJ27 - West Sussex (South West)
- UKJ28 - West Sussex (North East)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This transparency notice serves as an intention to award the contract to the existing provider, using Direct Award Process C under PSR.

SCPD services are available for children and adults with additional needs who are unable to have treatment at a general dental practice. It is a referral-only service, providing a range of dental treatments for children and adults with additional needs, including physical or learning disabilities, or where they have a need for additional support to receive treatment. Home visits are also provided for patients who are housebound. People are usually referred in via their dentist or doctor.

The awarded contract for this Lot will be for a term of up to 2 years and is due to commence from 1st April 2026, terminating 31st March 2028. The total maximum value of

the contract is £9,295,206.

The ICB intends to procure a new service commencing from 1st April 2028, as part of which other providers will have an opportunity to express interest.

The existing SCPD service will not change, and the new contract will be based on current clinical standards.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: The existing provider is satisfying the original contract and will likely satisfy the proposed contract to a sufficient standard / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

SCPD GA for West Sussex & Brighton & Hove

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85131000 - Dental-practice services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ21 - Brighton and Hove
- UKJ27 - West Sussex (South West)
- UKJ28 - West Sussex (North East)

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This transparency notice serves as an intention to award the contract to the existing

provider, using Direct Award Process C under PSR.

SCPD services are available for children and adults with additional needs who are unable to have treatment at a general dental practice. It is a referral-only service, providing a range of dental treatments for children and adults with additional needs, including physical or learning disabilities, or where they have a need for additional support to receive treatment. Home visits are also provided for patients who are housebound. People are usually referred in via their dentist or doctor.

The awarded contract for this Lot will be for a term of up to 2 years and is due to commence from 1st April 2026, terminating 31st March 2028. The total maximum value of the contract is £1,463,134.

The ICB intends to procure a new service commencing from 1st April 2028, as part of which other providers will have an opportunity to express interest.

The existing SCPD service will not change, and the new contract will be based on current clinical standards.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: The existing provider is satisfying the original contract and will likely satisfy the proposed contract to a sufficient standard / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

SCPD for East Sussex

Lot No

3

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85131000 - Dental-practice services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ22 - East Sussex CC

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This transparency notice serves as an intention to award the contract to the existing provider, using Direct Award Process C under PSR.

SCPD services are available for children and adults with additional needs who are unable to have treatment at a general dental practice. It is a referral-only service, providing a range of dental treatments for children and adults with additional needs, including physical or learning disabilities, or where they have a need for additional support to receive treatment. Home visits are also provided for patients who are housebound. People are usually referred in via their dentist or doctor.

The awarded contract for this Lot will be for a term of up to 2 years and is due to commence from 1st April 2026, terminating 31st March 2028. The total maximum value of the contract is £3,195,298.

The ICB intends to procure a new service commencing from 1st April 2028, as part of which other providers will have an opportunity to express interest.

The existing SCPD service will not change, and the new contract will be based on current clinical standards.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: The existing provider is satisfying the original contract and will likely satisfy the proposed contract to a sufficient standard / Weighting: 100

Price - Weighting: 0

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: No

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

SCPD GA for East Sussex

Lot No

4

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 85131000 - Dental-practice services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKJ22 - East Sussex CC

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

This transparency notice serves as an intention to award the contract to the existing provider, using Direct Award Process C under PSR.

SCPD services are available for children and adults with additional needs who are unable to have treatment at a general dental practice. It is a referral-only service, providing a range of dental treatments for children and adults with additional needs, including physical or learning disabilities, or where they have a need for additional support to receive treatment. Home visits are also provided for patients who are housebound. People are usually referred in via their dentist or doctor.

The awarded contract for this Lot will be for a term of up to 2 years and is due to commence from 1st April 2026, terminating 31st March 2028. The total maximum value of the contract is £1,234,558.

The ICB intends to procure a new service commencing from 1st April 2028, as part of which other providers will have an opportunity to express interest.

The existing SCPD service will not change, and the new contract will be based on current clinical standards.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: The existing provider is satisfying the original contract and will likely satisfy the proposed contract to a sufficient standard / 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 the relevant authority by 4th December 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

Lot No

1

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

7 October 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

Sussex Community Foundation Trust

Brighton General Hospital, Elm Grove

Brighton

BN2 3EW

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

NHS Organisation Data Service

SCFT RJZ

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: £9,295,206

Total value of the contract/lot: £9,295,206

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

2

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

7 October 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

Sussex Community Foundation Trust

Brighton General Hospital, Elm Grove

Brighton

BN2 3EW

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

NHS Organisation Data Service

SCFT RJZ

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: £1,463,134

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,463,134

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

3

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

7 October 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

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

St. Annes House, 729 The Ridge

St. Leonards-on-Sea

TN37 7PT

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

NHS Organisation Data Service

ESHT RJV

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: £3,195,298

Total value of the contract/lot: £3,195,298

Section V. Award of contract

Lot No

4

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

7 October 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

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust

St. Annes House, 729 The Ridge

St. Leonards-on-Sea

TN37 7PT

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKJ2 - Surrey, East and West Sussex

NHS Organisation Data Service

ESHT RJV

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: £1,234,558

Total value of the contract/lot: £1,234,558

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Assessment of the existing providers took into account the key criteria, which were weighted as follows:-

- Quality and innovation (25%)
- Value (25%)
- Integration, collaboration and service sustainability (20%)
- Improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice (20%)
- Social value (10%)

Quality and innovation (25%): The commissioned service must be of high quality and performing to expectation. They must demonstrate a commitment to continuous quality improvement and willingness to innovate.

Value (25%): The service must be delivering, or be on track to deliver, an optimal combination of benefits to individuals (patients and workforce), population health outcomes and taxpayers. It must add value across the integrated care system.

Integration, collaboration and service sustainability (20%): The service must operate in a manner which maximises opportunities for integration and collaboration across the ICB area and wider context, across organisational and geographical boundaries. This must be balanced by due consideration of the financial sustainability and stability of the service and its operating model.

Improving access, reducing health inequalities and facilitating choice (20%): Enhancing patient access and addressing health inequalities and unwarranted variation are priority areas aligned to local population priorities and national ambitions. Promoting patient choice is integral to service delivery.

Social value (10%): The service will contribute to promoting broader impact (to social, economic and environmental wellbeing). It will provide community benefits beyond core service delivery, supporting social cohesion and inclusion.

Weighted scores were given to each area to arrive at a total weighted score for each provider. The requirement was that i) the minimum weighted score should be 51, and; ii) no criteria should score 1 (inadequate).

Both providers exceeded the minimum weighted score threshold, with no inadequate scores. The ICB therefore judged the existing providers to be Assured across all five key criteria. This outcome reflects a consistent level of performance, strategic alignment with NHS priorities, and capacity to deliver sustainable, inclusive, and socially valuable dental services. The providers are considered suitable for continued commissioning under the proposed contract.

Award decisions have been authorised by the Chief Integration and Primary Care Officer, NHS Sussex ICB.

No conflicts of interest (COI) were declared as part of this award process. COI are managed via a combination of the NHS Sussex ICB COI policy and the NHS England South East Commissioning Hub (Workstream 2) COI process.

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 and The Procurement Act 2023 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 4th December 2025. This contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice serves as an intention to award under the PSR.

Written representations should be sent to scwcsu.procurement@nhs.net

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

NHS England

London

United Kingdom

Country

United Kingdom