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Contract

Specialist Paediatric Speech & Language Therapy in Halton

NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-081824

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05f378

Published 11 December 2025, 10:57am

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

NHS CHESHIRE AND MERSEYSIDE INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

1 Lakeside, 920 Centre Park

Warrington

WA1 1QY

Contact

Claire Tyghe

Email

claire.tyghe@cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKD71 - East Merseyside

NHS Organisation Data Service

QYG

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.cheshireandmerseyside.nhs.uk>

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

Specialist Paediatric Speech & Language Therapy in Halton

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85100000 - Health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Specialist Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Service in Halton.

The service will be delivered to all children up to their 19th birthday (26th birthday with a statement of special educational needs) who are resident in Halton and registered with a local GP or those not registered with a GP but resident in the borough, e.g. traveller families.

Undertake assessment of need, including provision of specialist speech and language advice to Section G as part of the development of EHCPs and annual reviews, in line with prescribed timeframes.

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: £248,609

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKD71 - East Merseyside

Main site or place of performance

Halton place

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

NHS Cheshire and Merseyside ICB - Halton Place have awarded a 6 month contract to the current provider of this service on the ground of urgency to deliver specialist paediatric speech and language therapy services in Halton Place (to note - this service was previously contracted via a Local Authority led arrangement).

This urgent award is considered as the only feasible option utilising a known provider, whilst a new provider is able to mobilise the new service being transferred to them under a longer term contract.

The contract commenced on 10th November 2025 and will expire no later than 10th May 2026. The contract value is £248,609.

II.2.5) Award criteria

Quality criterion - Name: To address an immediate risk to safety and quality of care / 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

- Extreme urgency brought about by events unforeseeable for the contracting authority

Explanation:

This is a Provider Selection Regime (PSR) contract award notice on the grounds of Urgency. 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.

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

Contract No

25-26-QYG-Communicate SF V1

Title

Specialist Paediatric Speech and Language Therapy Service in Halton

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

4 November 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

Communicate Speech & Language Services

Lancaster House, Amy Johnson Way

Blackpool

FY24 2RP

Telephone

+44 1253462123

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKD71 - East Merseyside

Companies House

08398194

Internet address

<https://communicate-slt.org.uk>

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: £248,609

Total value of the contract/lot: £248,609

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

This contract has been awarded under the urgent circumstances provision of the Provider Selection Regime (PSR). This contract has been awarded under 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.

On the 4th November 2025, Andrea McGee, ICB Interim Director of Finance approved this decision and no conflicts of interest were declared.

The existing CYP SLT contract expired on 29th October 2025 and the new service provider was not in a position to transfer and mobile the service by that date.

The ICB has a statutory responsibility for ensuring the provision of specialist SALT services for its registered population. For many, an inability to access this service will impact on their development, for some this could be significant and cause long-term harm. For CYP with dysphagia, no service has significant potential to result in significant harm.

Therefore, the ICB agreed to enter into a short-term contract with the outgoing provider to ensure ongoing provision whilst the required due diligence and transfer preparations are concluded by the new provider.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

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1 Lakeside, 920 Centre Park

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WA1 1QY

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