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Contract

Contract for the Provision of a Mental Health Befriending Service

Hertfordshire County Council

F03: Contract award notice

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-085594

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-05fc05

Published 22 December 2025, 5:51pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Hertfordshire County Council

County Hall

Hertford

SG138DQ

Email

strategic.procurement@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKH23 - Hertfordshire

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.hertfordshire.gov.uk

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Contract for the Provision of a Mental Health Befriending Service

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 85323000 - Community health services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

The provision of a mental health befriending service that helps adults to re-engage with their local community through social activities. There is also a carers service that gives carers information and support through one-to-one meetings and also courses. Services are focused on East Herts area.

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: £380,695

II.2) Description

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKH23 - Hertfordshire

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Council is intending to award this contract to our existing provider following Direct Award Process C under the Provider Selection Regime (PSR.)

The contract will commence on 9th January 2026 until 8th January 2029 with the option to extend for 2 years up until 8th January 2031. (Maximum 5 years total.)

The approximate life time value of this contract is stated in II.1.7 above and includes the value of any possible extensions.

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: Yes

Description of options

There is the option to extend the contract for two (2) years subject to available funding and satisfactory performance at the discretion of the Council.

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 7th January 2026.

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

Contract No

HCC2517047

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

1 December 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

Rethink Mental Illness

28 Albert Embankment

London

SE1 7GR

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI44 - Lewisham and Southwark

Charity Commission (England and Wales)

271028

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: £380,695

Total value of the contract/lot: £380,695

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 publication of this notice marks the start of the standstill period.

Representations must be made to decision makers by 7th January 2026.

The contract has not yet formally been awarded; this notice services as an intention to award under the PSR.

Written representations should be sent to:

strategic.procurement@hertfordshire.gov.uk

Details of individuals making the award decision:

Director of Adult Care Services

The existing provider is satisfying the existing contract and will likely satisfy the proposed new contract. The provider has been assessed against the relevant 5 key criteria and has passed the requirements.

There were no conflicts of interest identified.

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Independent Choice and Procurement Panel

Wellington House

London

SE1 8UG

Country

United Kingdom

VI.4.3) Review procedure

Precise information on deadline(s) for review procedures

The Council will enter into an 8 working day standstill period following publication of this Contract Award Notice before officially awarding the contract in line with the requirements under PSR.