

BNSSG CCG Governing Body

Date: Tuesday 7th May 2019

Time: 1.30pm

Location: The Vassall Centre, Gill Avenue, Downend, Bristol, BS16 2QQ

Agenda number: 6.3

Report title: Adult Community Health Services Procurement

Report Author: Dr Debra de Silva, Community Services Procurement Manager

Report Sponsor: Lisa Manson, Director of Commissioning

1. Purpose

In January 2019, the Governing Body approved the launch of a procurement for adult community health services. This paper provides an update of progress as of May 2019, for information only.

2. Recommendations

The Governing Body is asked to note progress with the procurement.

3. Summary

The CCG's contracts for adult community health services end in 2020 and 2021. As part of business as usual, the CCG needs to make sure that services are available in the community. In January 2019 the CCG began advertising for a single provider of adult community health services across Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire, to begin from 1 April 2020. The focus is on ensuring people have the same or better services as currently. The CCG is using a competitive procedure with up to two rounds of proposals. Progress is as follows:

- In January 2019, the procurement was advertised and 45 organisations expressed an interest in learning more. Ten organisations attended a bidder information event.
- All procurement documentation was made available to anyone interested through an online portal. Information about the procurement and the full draft contract and service specifications are available on the CCG's website (<https://bnssgccg.nhs.uk/health-advice-and-support/adult-community-services/>).
- In January and February 2019, interested entities took part in meetings with the CCG, partner organisations and patient and carer representatives to help develop proposals.
- Initial proposals were received in March 2019 and evaluated based on pre-set criteria by a panel of 35 evaluators drawn from the CCG and partner organisations.
- Bidders were shortlisted based on pre-set criteria and Round 2 began in April 2019.
- In April 2019, shortlisted bidders visited 35 potential sites for delivering community services.
- During April/May 2019 shortlisted bidders are taking part in meetings with the CCG and partner organisations with a view to strengthening their proposals prior to final submission.

All is on track with the procurement timeline. Final proposals will be received by 31 May 2019 and evaluated in June. Following due diligence checks and assurance by the CCG Governing Body, NHS England and NHS Improvement in July/August 2019, it is expected that the CCG will be in a position to announce a provider in September 2019, subject to change.

As is common practice, the CCG is not releasing the names of shortlisted bidders so bidders have privacy to prepare their proposals and to safeguard fair and equitable competition in line with the 'light touch regime' of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

The procurement is being overseen by a Programme Board which includes clinicians, a patient and carer representative, directors, CCG membership and representatives from partner organisations including primary care, mental health, acute care and local authorities.

4. Financial resource implications

The indicative total financial envelope is about £1bn spread over a 10-year contract term.

5. Legal implications

Public procurement is governed by the Public Contracts Regulations 2015. The Mills and Reeve legal team reviewed the CCG's process and advised that the CCG is fulfilling its responsibilities.

6. Risk implications

The Programme Board for the procurement reviews risks and mitigations monthly. It is important to make sure that there is no disruption to services and a plan has been developed to support this during the mobilisation period.

7. Implications for health inequalities

A Quality Impact Assessment and Equalities Impact Assessment have been undertaken. It has been identified that the procurement has no negative implications for health inequalities over and above existing known issues and a plan is in place to examine equality and diversity in planned service provision. Assessments will be updated over the next quarter to include mobilisation plans.

8. Implications for equalities (Black and other minority ethnic/disability/age)

An Equalities Impact Assessment identified areas for further engagement and prioritisation. The Assessment will be updated over the next quarter to consider equalities issues during mobilisation and service delivery and plan further engagement with stakeholders.

9. Implications for public involvement

More than 500 stakeholders, including patients and carers, helped to develop priorities for adult community services. A patient and carer panel met bidders during the first round of the procurement to comment on bidder plans and patient and voluntary sector representatives are involved in assessing proposals. Formal consultation is not required at this stage as no 'significant variation' to services is planned. This will be monitored as the process progresses.

A communications plan has been developed to engage with service users, carers, members of the public, staff, affected organisations and other stakeholders once the outcome of the procurement is known. A Public Reference Group and a Clinical Reference Group helped guide the development phase of the procurement. These groups are now involved in planning communication and engagement strategies for the public and professionals during the next phase.