

OPPORTUNITY NOTICE – PROVISION OF MANAGEMENT OF HELICOBACTER PYLORI C13 UREA BREATH TEST SERVICE

This is a call for competition. NHS Leicester City CCG is re-commissioning its Management of Helicobacter Pylori C13 Urea Breath Test Service.

This opportunity is to maintain a wide provider market and patient choice for this service by commissioning this as an AQP contract framework.

The Commissioners wish to receive responses to the Invitation to Tender (ITT) from suitably qualified and experienced Providers with the necessary capacity and capability (or a demonstrable ability to provide the necessary capacity and capability) to provide the range of services required.

The aims and objectives of the service are:

- To satisfactorily deliver the H Pylori breath test service across Leicester City.
- To enable appropriate and timely treatment for the management of dyspepsia
- To improve the care of patients with dyspepsia symptoms through the provision of a standardised effective and evidence-based H. pylori service.
- To ensure that all patients with dyspepsia requiring a H-Pylori test as per NICE guidelines have access to this test in a community setting
- To improve access and choice for patients
- To ensure that all requests for Endoscopy are appropriate and only those patients with “ALARM symptoms” are referred to secondary care providers. This will prevent unnecessary and inappropriate outpatient attendances which has an emphasis on providing better value for money
- To ensure that the treatment and review of dyspeptic patients is documented on practice computer systems so that a register of patients with dyspepsia can be produced

Please see service specification for further detail.

In securing services from Providers, the Commissioner needs assurance of competence, quality and safety standards, just as it would for services secured under a formal tender process. Any provider will be eligible to join a list of qualified providers subject to demonstrating competency against the authority’s specified criteria. The list will be open to new entrants to the market, and previous unsuccessful applicants subject to assessment. Providers must deliver the service from premises within Leicester City (as defined by the boundary of Leicester City council)

The successful provider(s) will be expected to sign the standard NHS contract, accepting all terms and conditions. It should be noted that under the Any Qualified Provider model, there will be no guarantees of volume or payment in the contracts awarded. This contract is available until 31st March 2024.

The contract duration will be for a period of 5 years.

The ITT will be live on the 18th January 2019 on M&L CSU Bravo portal (see below) and it will have a deadline for submissions of 12:00 on the 12th February 2019. Clarifications may be asked during the procurement process up to a week before the ITT deadline, i.e. the deadline for submitting clarification questions on the tender is 17:00 6th February 2019.

Interested providers are guided to the MLCSU eProcurement portal Bravo at <https://mlcsu.bravosolution.co.uk> to register their interest and gain access to this procurement’s documents and more specific information. Please see next page for instructions on how to register on the portal. (to register on the ML CSU Bravo portal please see instructions on the following page).

NOTES

“Light Touch Regime” services

This procurement is for clinical services which are Light Touch Regime services for the purpose of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as specified in Schedule 3 of the Regulations (“Regulations”). Accordingly, the contracting authorities are only bound by those parts of the Regulations detailed in Chapter 3 Particular Procurement Regimes Section 7. The contracting authorities are not voluntarily following any other part of the Regulations.

The procedure which the contracting authorities are following is set out in the MOI and ITT. As the CCG is a relevant body for the purpose of the National Health Service (Procurement, Patient Choice and Competition) (No 2) Regulations 2013 these Regulations also apply to this procurement.

Right to Cancel

The contracting authority reserves the right to discontinue the procurement process at any time, which shall include the right not to award a contract or contracts, and does not bind itself to accept the lowest tender, or any tender received, and reserves the right to award a contract in part, or to call for new tenders should it consider this necessary. The contracting authority shall not be liable for any costs or expenses incurred by any candidate or tenderer in connection with the completion and return of the information requested in this Contract Notice, or in the completion or submission of any tender, irrespective of the outcome of the competition or if the competition is cancelled or postponed. All dates, time periods and values specified in this notice are provisional and the contracting authority reserves the right to change these.

Transparency

The contracting authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) and may be required to disclose information received in the course of this procurement under FOIA or the EIR. In addition, and in accordance with the UK Government's policies on transparency, the contracting authority intends to publish procurement documentation and the text of any resulting contractual arrangements, subject to possible redactions at the discretion of the contracting authority. Any redactions, whether in relation to information requests under FOIA, the EIR or policies on transparency will be in accordance with those grounds prescribed under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. Further information on transparency can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-and-contracting-transparency-requirements-guidance>

To register on the Bravo portal

If your organisation has registered previously, you do not need to re-register.

- 1) Register on the portal webpage at <https://mlcsu.bravosolution.co.uk> (registration and use of the website is free of charge).
- 2) Once registered, candidates must Express their Interest by:
 - a) logging into the ML CSU eTendering Bravo portal
 - b) selecting response to ITT_627,
 - c) select Open Access ITT_627,
 - d) search for and access listing related to this contract and view details,
 - e) click on Express Interest link.
- 3) Once you have expressed your interest, please access the My ITTs page, where you can view all the documentation (and download if required) and construct your reply in the bravo online questionnaire, as instructed. The deadline will be detailed in the tender documentation.

For technical support in submitting your Expression of Interest or registering on the 'Bravo Solution' Electronic Sourcing system please contact the Bravo Solution helpdesk via Tel: 0800 069 8630 or email: help@bravosolution.co.uk.

All communications from Bidders (including their Bidder Members) during the period of the Procurement must be directed to MLCSU via the 'messaging' area within the ML CSU online procurement portal: <https://mlcsu.bravosolution.co.uk>.

Strictly no other forms of communication to MLCSU or the Commissioner will be accepted (including telephone calls, postal queries/submissions, faxes or email communications) during this period.

