**Preliminary Market Engagement**

**The provision of General Practitioner Services for Forensic Inpatients**

**September 2025**

**Project Reference: Proc 90.025**

**Atamis Reference: C385831**

**Preliminary Market Engagement**

Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust - The provision of General Practitioner (GP) Services for Forensic Inpatients

This is **NOT** a call for competition. This exercise does not form part of the competitive process and serves as an opportunity to understand how its requirements may be met by engaging the market.

The publication of this notice or the engagement in PME does not bind the trust to undergo disclosed or stated processes, and the authority retains the right to alter compliant routes to market as necessary, possibly based on information gathered during PME.

Engagement in this exercise does not positively or negatively impact the standing of any organisation through the procurement process.

**Disclaimer**

The Authority does not warrant any of the statements made in the PME and expressly informs organisations that information given out at the PME stage is liable to change; even information set out as statements of fact.

The Authority has a duty to avoid the distortion of competition and to adhere to the procurement principles and transparency requirements required by The Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023. It will take all necessary measures to discharge this duty, including (for example) making relevant information from this market engagement available to candidates and tenderers in a future procurement and maintaining suitable records of correspondence. Accordingly, no information supplied by the market during this engagement, either in written response or in discussion between interested organisations and the Authority as part of the market engagement process will be considered confidential or will be exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any future procurement will be conducted in accordance with The Health Care Services (Provider Selection Regime) Regulations 2023.

No expense in responding to this market engagement will be reimbursed by the Authority.

**Provider Selection Regime**

The scope of this service is believed fall under the Provider Selection Regime (PSR), which the authority will look to gather information around during market engagement. Information gathered will assist the authority in understanding and sculpting the process. Further information around PSR can be found below-<https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/the-provider-selection-regime-statutory-guidance/#planning-and-running-psr-processes>

**Introduction to the Preliminary Market Engagement**

BSOL Procurement Collaborative (hosted by University Hospitals Birmingham NHS FT) acting on behalf of Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust (BSMHFT) to advise the market of a collaborative procurement exercise and intention to issue a tender opportunity for the provision of in reach GP services for its forensic units.

The service refers to General Practitioner (GP) services for forensic inpatients. The provider will be responsible for meeting all minimum requirements within the specification, including:

* General Service Delivery
* Registration of new patients
* Managing agreed hours of operation
* Booking of appointments and referrals, facilitation of disease clinics
* Diagnostic testing
* Patient discharge
* Prescriptions
* All other aspects included within the specification.

Providers are heavily encouraged to read the provided specification before attending PME.   
  
Part of the initial process includes Provider Market Engagement (PME) with the Trusts looking to engage with Provider(s) for feedback regarding service delivery. Those Provider(s) who express will be an interest will be sent a copy of the Pre-Engagement pack plus a copy of the draft service specification to which the Trust welcome feedback and comments by 12.00 on 9th September 2025 as there is a planned Provider meeting organised for 12th September 2025.

**Aims and Objectives of the Service**

The aim of the service is to address health inequalities faced by persons with mental health problems. According to the Severe mental illness (SMI) and physical health inequalities briefing by Public Health England, people with mental health issues have poorer physical health than the general population and find it more difficult to access the required healthcare resources.

The trust aims to provide a service that enables the delegation of equality of treatment without the existence of any prejudice. Work to address this inequality is part of Core20PLUS5, NHS England’s flagship approach for tackling health inequalities.

The aims for this service will be achieved through initialisation and continuation of a range of primary healthcare interventions that lead to an improvement in health outcomes for the patient cohort.  
  
The current GP primary care service for adult and CYP secure care has been developed to deliver, but not limited to;

* management and treatment of service users with chronic disease and long-term conditions, including prescribing
* management of minor illness and trauma, including prescribing,
* referral to and follow up from community, acute, secondary and tertiary care
* access to and facilitation of, national screening, vaccination and immunisation, health check programmes
* health promotion / prevention and education, in line with national guidelines
* staff training and education, liaison with medical/clinical teams, other AHPs and visiting clinicians regarding prescriptions, on-going monitoring and treatment
* new patient screening and management
* integration of existing resources for health improvement; physical health trainers and gym and recreational activities

The trust will be open to feedback regarding the current provision of services, and how this can be adapted to promote patient experience.

**Current Hours of Operation**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Day** | **Provision** | **Session** | **From** | **To** | **Appts. available** |
| **Reaside** | | | | | |
| Monday | GP | 3 hours | 2pm | 5pm | 12 |
| Thursday | GP & Practice Nurse | 3 hours | 2pm | 5pm | 12 |
| **Hillis Lodge** | | | | | |
| Alternate Mondays | GP | 2 hours | 1pm | 3pm | 8 |
| **Tamarind** | | | | | |
| Wednesday | GP | 3 hours | 2pm | 5pm | 12 |
| Thursday | GP & Practice Nurse | 3 hours | 2pm | 5pm | 12 |
| **Ardenleigh** | | | | | |
| Tuesday | GP | 4 hours | 1pm | 5pm | 12 |
| TBC | GP &Practice Nurse | TBC | TBC | TBC | TBC |

The trust will look to engage for feedback on the current operational hours and possible efficiencies that can be made.

**Current Pricing Model**

Currently funded for £169,000.00 – the new contract is expected to fall within this budget.

**Social Value**

The Authority’s expectation is that the provider will contribute positively towards delivery of the Authority’s Social Value Policy ambitions, delivering tangible and meaningful added social value outputs to the local community of Birmingham and Solihull.

The Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 requires the Authority to have regard to economic, social and environmental implications of the tendering exercise within the local area. It will cover, looking beyond the price of each individual contract and looking at what the collective benefit to a community is when a public body chooses to award a contract.

Pragmatically, the authority expects to see the application of proportionate contractual public funds being used in operation to improve and provide meaningful positive impact to Birmingham and Solihull. The authority will look to support the promotion of provider initiatives over the duration of the contract.

The trust is open to feedback on possible initiatives that may be undertaken, and how these may be supported by both parties.

*Link to Procurement Policy Notice 06/20:* [*https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0620-taking-account-of-social-value-in-the-award-of-central-government-contracts*](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0620-taking-account-of-social-value-in-the-award-of-central-government-contracts)

**Engagement**

The Trust invites Provider(s) to confirm their interest through the Atamis portal by 5pm on 5th September 2025 following which will be invited to a virtual 12th September 2025 (the date is not negotiable and individual times to be confirmed on 9th September 2025 by End of Day) which will compromise of an open Conversation on Aims & Objectives.

The route to market for this service falls in-scope of the Provider Selection Regime with the specific procedure(s) as yet to be confirmed.

If you wish to participate, please confirm in writing via the Atamis portal to Ali Babu– Category Manager by 5.00PM on Friday 5th September 2025.

Adjustments to any dates mentioned above are at the discretion of the trust. Adjustments will be communicated to all providers who demonstrate interest in the pre-market engagement via the Atamis portal.

Please be advised that this notice is not a formal call for competition and participation in this pre-market engagement meeting is voluntary.

**Accessing the Atamis portal**

The Atamis portal is utilised by the Birmingham Solihull Procurement Collaborative for all associated tenders, notices and market activities. The portal is free to access via the following link –

<https://atamis-1928.my.site.com/ProSpend__eSourcing_Community_Registration>

Support for the portal is accessible via Health Family assistance. If you are struggling with technical issue, please raise a ticket via the portal. Please note that the authority will aim to assist any technical issues raised directly to the trust but encourage seeking assistance from Health Family.

**Pre-Market Engagement Timetable**

For provider ease and reference, the following timetable has been provided -

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Activity | Date |
| Invitation to engage | 28th August 2025 |
| Deadline for expressions of interest | 5th September 2025 |
| Invitation to PME | 8th September 2025 |
| Supplier invitation window for PME | 12th September 2025 |

**Confidentiality Disclaimer**

All information provided to the Provider(s) by BSOL Procurement shall be regarded as confidential and used only to prepare a response to this market engagement.