**Preliminary Market Engagement**

**The provision of Emergency Accommodation and Home Support Services for Adults with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism**

**May 2025**

**Project Reference: PROC.90.0023 Crisis Housing**

**Preliminary Market Engagement Notice**

BSOL Procurement Collaborative (hosted by University Hospitals Birmingham NHS FT) acting on behalf of Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust, Birmingham Women and Children’s NHS Foundation Trust, Forward Thinking Birmingham, Birmingham Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust and NHS Coventry And Warwickshire Partnership Trust to advise the market of a collaborative procurement exercise and intention to issue a tender opportunity for the provision of emergency accommodation and home support services.

The service refers to Adults of working age between 18 to 65, who have a diagnosis of a learning disability and/or Autism and are registered with Birmingham or Solihull GP practices. They will be on either a dynamic support register or are known to or are receiving input from an LDA specialist team or service across NHS services in BSMHFT, BWC, FTB, BCHC, CWPT and have a care plan and risk assessment that has been completed in at least the 4 weeks leading up to referral.

The service provision is one commissioned and provided through BSMHFT, BWC, FTB, BCHC, CWPT.

Part of the initial process includes Provider Market Engagement with the Trusts looking to engage with Provider(s) for feedback regarding service delivery.

**Introduction to Preliminary Market Engagement**

This PME allows BSMHFT the opportunity to engage with the market and encourages the commercial and voluntary sectors to participate in the development process before a procurement is released. The market can express its views, outline market developments, provide insights into innovative and effective approaches for delivery and potentially influence how solutions to BSMHFT’s needs might be met. By engaging in the market, BSMHFT hopes to foster stronger partnerships with providers that share a commitment to improving public health outcomes and provide value for money in the community.

**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.

**Aims & Objectives**

A key priority for the Learning Disabilities & Autism team is to reduce unnecessary admissions to an inpatient hospital bed and to increase the alternatives to admission and crisis support in the community.   The aim of the service will be to support and accommodate adults with Learning Disabilities and/or Autism from across Birmingham and Solihull and contribute to prevention of tier 3 & 4 admissions, inappropriate hospital stays within acute trusts, and breakdowns within usual living circumstances.

This will be done though provision of emergency accommodation of which most be based in Birmingham or Solihull and wrap around community support (both in the emergency accommodation and in the individual’s usual residence) to support these individuals in a robust way. The stay should not exceed 28 days and exit planning should begin immediately on admission to the property.   This may include but is not limited to working with health and social care professionals, informing care planning to help determine future support and accommodation, and where possible support remaining/returning to their usual provision.

**Outcomes and benefits**

The objectives of the service are that:

• Individuals are safeguarded

• Individuals health, emotional well-being and resilience is supported

• Individuals educational needs are supported

• Individuals views are listened to and influence practice and service development

• Individuals feel recognised, supported and respected regarding their identity

• Individuals are supported to develop basic independent living skills

• Risk assessments demonstrate a reduction in risk and presenting concerns upon

Admission

**Population - Demography**

According to 2021 census figures the proportion of the combined Birmingham and Solihull population aged 18 years and above is 75% (1,026,768 / 1,361,159 = 75%).

However, BSOL has considerably more patients registered within its Primary care services as seen below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TOTAL BIRMINGHAM | 1,393,360 |
| TOTAL SOLIHULL | 237,947 |
| TOTAL BSOL | 1,631,307 |

**Volume/referrals**

Number of referrals c.10 annually currently.

**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.

*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)

**Match my Project**

Match My Project provides a platform for businesses and the community to come together and improve their local area. It matches the resources of business with the local know-how of community organisations.

As a business, you can use the site to find community projects that need the kind of resources you can provide as well as offer any other support/resources/funds.

As suppliers to Birmingham City Council and the Birmingham and Solihull ICS, the projects you deliver via Match My Project will help demonstrate how you have delivered Social Value in the local area.

This tool is expected to be adopted by our suppliers to aid you to fulfil your Social Value commitments that forms part of the contractual arrangements.

*Portal Link:* [*https://matchmyproject.org/birmingham*](https://matchmyproject.org/birmingham)

**How to get involved**

Those Provider(s) who express will be an interest will find a copy of the draft service specification on the Find a Tender Portal, to which the Trust welcome Expressions of Interest by Noon on Friday 13/06/2025 as there is a planned virtual Provider meeting organised for Tuesday 17/06/2025.

Meetings on Tuesday 17/06/2025 will be virtual. They will compromise of an open conversation on Aims & Objectives. Depending on the number of Providers showing an Expression of Interest, the sessions could be 30 minutes-1 hour. We will be in touch by End of Day 13/06/2025 with confirmation of meetings.

If you wish to participate, please confirm in writing via the Atamis portal to Bernadette Melody – Assistant Category Manager by Noon on Friday 13/06/2025.

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

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.

**Indicative Timetable**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity** | **Date** | **Time of Day** |
| Preliminary Market Engagement Published | 30/05/2025 |  |
| Deadline for Confirmation of Participation | 13/06/2025 | Noon |
| Confirmation of Meeting time | 13/06/2025 | End of Day |
| Virtual Provider Meeting | 17/06/2025 |  |
| Indicative Date for Release of the Tender | 01/07/2025 |  |