

DRAFT DESCRIPTION FOR OPHTHALMOLOGY VEAT NOTICE

This notice aims at providing voluntary prior transparency as referred to in Article 2d(4) of Directives 89/665/EEC and 92/13/EEC on Remedies, and Article 60(4) of Directive 2009/81/EC (information on the award of the contract without prior publication of a contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union).

II.1.4) Short description of the contract or purchase(s):

This is a Voluntary Ex Ante notice for the purpose of transparency and is not a call for competition.

NHS South Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS Redditch & Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group wish to re-design Ophthalmology Services in Worcestershire County. Current contracts with community providers expire in December 2018.

The purpose of this notice is to advise the market of the CCGs intent, in the interests of transparency, to work with incumbent providers to develop a pilot for the future which will integrate all aspects of this service for the GP registered population of Worcestershire. The aim of the pilot is to develop a model which provides seamless integration of eye health services across primary, community and acute care – and which resolves, on a sustainable basis, the current issues with respect to waiting time performance, system wide service inefficiency, and financial affordability. The pilot will include the development of a robust model of demand for eye health services, across the setting of care, sufficient to meet this demand in the most cost effective and efficient way.

There are currently two different commissioning arrangements and service models for community based eye health services across Worcestershire, with a consultant-led community ophthalmology service in Redditch and Bromsgrove and Community Optometry services covering South Worcestershire and Wyre Forest. Having different models of provision contributes to inequalities and inefficiencies in the provision of community and acute care - exacerbating the increasing waiting times and backlog of patients at Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust.

The existing Community Ophthalmology contract in Redditch and Bromsgrove and Community Optometry services in South Worcestershire and Wyre Forest has been extended until December 2018. To ensure service continuity, further extensions will be offered to existing suppliers for the duration of the pilot on terms that will support the objectives of the pilot and the adoption, where appropriate, of the new service model that is currently being developed. The new model is expected to provide a system based approach providing an opportunity to develop an emerging integrated landscape, including acute care.

It is anticipated that the pilot will be a commitment by Worcestershire Acute Trust, The Practice Group and Local Optical Committee to implement a model of care that will be jointly designed with all stakeholders including the CCGs as commissioners.

This work will support Worcestershire CCGs to align to the Systems and Assurance Framework for Eye Health (SAFE) that provides a system based approach to the planning, commissioning and provision of services. We are currently not in a position to procure a system wide model of care and have established an STP wide eye health quality board to develop a future commissioning model. The intention, therefore, is to commission a new STP wide commissioning model from April 2020.

Reasons for not going out to competition are:

1. This supports the move towards a new model of integrated care services for Worcestershire CCG's. Models of integration are emerging and being tested at locality level. This approach will support local service development in line with the 5 year forward view, without compromising future commissioning arrangements for wider models of integration.
2. Following the recent publication of the Systems and Assurance Framework for Eye Health there is a need to facilitate an STP wide review of eye health services. Not going out to competition allows Worcestershire CCG's to develop and pilot a future commissioning model across both Worcestershire and Herefordshire over the next 18 months. This is best done through incumbent providers as to conduct a procurement process during this time period would not be deemed practical.

Providers are advised of the Worcestershire CCG's intent to work with incumbent providers without a call for competition via this transparency notice. The current providers are:

NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Practice Group
NHS Wyre Forest CCG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Practice Group
NHS South Worcestershire CCG	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Optical Committee

“Light Touch Regime” services: This service is classified as clinical which comes under the Light Touch Regime services for the purpose of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 as specified in Schedule 3 of the Regulations (“Regulations”). The contracting authorities are not voluntarily following any other part of the Regulations. 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. 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 service under FOIA or the EIR. In addition, and in accordance with the UK Government's policies on transparency. This service may be 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>”