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**SOFT MARKET TESTING EXERCISE**

**Birmingham and Solihull: Sexual and Reproductive Health Service**

**Closing date for submission of response**

**12:00hrs (NOON) Wednesday 5th April 2023**

**Please note this soft market testing exercise has been issued as an information seeking exercise and is not part of a procurement process. There is no guarantee of any procurement activity taking place following this exercise.**

# Introduction

Birmingham City Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council are interested in assessing the market to establish the options for the delivery of a jointly commissioned all-age Sexual and Reproductive Health Service in Birmingham and Solihull.

# Sexual and Reproductive Health Service

The prevention, testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and the provision of a range of contraceptive and reproductive health services are essential elements delivered across Birmingham and Solihull to diverse populations. Accessible from multiple sites with over 7,000 clinic contacts per month, the service also benefits from a strong online presence and partnership working with community providers.

Key Public Health outcomes for Sexual and Reproductive Health focus on:

* Increasing prescribing of long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) excluding injections (females aged 15 to 44)
* Reducing conceptions in under 18s
* Increasing the chlamydia detection rate
* Reducing new STIs diagnosis (excluding chlamydia in the under 25s)
* Reducing the number people presenting with HIV at a late stage of infection

# Parameters for the service:

## Financial Envelopes

The Contract has a core value of approximately £15,000,000 per year.

## Provider Turnover

Based on the above approximate contract values of £15,000,000, there is an expectation that the prospective Service Provider will have a turnover of a least £30,000,000 per year.

## Contract Duration

To be confirmed, for a minimum period of 5 years with a potential option to extend for a yet to be determined period.

## Premises

For the Sexual and Reproductive Health Service there is an expectation that the Service will operate from multiple locations within Birmingham and Solihull which are easily accessible for residents.

## Operating Model

The current model is a lead provider model with sub-contracting arrangements.

## Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations (TUPE)

There is an expectation that TUPE will apply to both contracts.

# Expressions of Interest Questionnaire

Birmingham City Council and Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council are looking for informal expressions of interest on the abovementioned services at this stage in order to establish the level of market interest. Please click on the link below to complete the expression of interest form on MS Forms.

<https://forms.office.com/e/XhLLX6GcUs>

# e-Tendering System

The Soft Market Test (SMT) exercise is being issued via the Council’s e-tendering system In-tend with a link to an MS Form questionnaire. Interested organisations are requested to complete and submit the questionnaire using the link provided.

Responses from the questionnaire will only be made available to the relevant Council Public Health officers and/or their advisers in respect of this SMT exercise.

The ‘In-tend’ system is secure and free to use for organisations. If you have any questions on how to use this web site, please contact the In-Tend Support team at [ecatalogue@birmingham.gov.uk](mailto:ecatalogue@birmingham.gov.uk).

# Communications

All formal communications (including, but not limited to clarifications) to the Council are to be made in writing using the Council’s e-tendering system In-tend. Under no circumstances should Council Officers be contacted directly.

# Confidentiality

All information supplied by the Council in connection with this SMT exercise shall be regarded as confidential by the organisation (except that such information may as is necessary be disclosed for the purpose of obtaining information necessary for the preparation of the response).

All responses will be kept in confidence but may be taken into consideration by the Council.