



Contracts Finder - Early Engagement Notice

Early Engagement for the provision of the Central Reading APMS Contract for NHS Berkshire West Clinical Commissioning Group

Notice Brief

This notice is placed as an Early Engagement Notice and relates to a pre-procurement provider engagement process.

NHS Berkshire West CCG, the Commissioner, seeks to procure primary care services for central Reading, comprising a registered list and management of unplanned urgent (same day) primary care illness currently provided on a walk-in basis. The new contract is expected to be a length of 3 years, with the option to extend by up to a further year to align with the current estate arrangements. At this stage the Commissioner seeks feedback from the market to inform the future requirements.

The anticipated annual contract value will be up to a maximum of c.£2.5m, based on 19/20 FY activity for existing services at the Reading Walk in Centre and appropriate minor illness activity at the Royal Berkshire Emergency Department, which we anticipate to be redirected into primary care in the future.

The service will work in partnership with practices within central Reading that are developing as Primary Care Networks (PCNs) and the Emergency Department of the Royal Berkshire Foundation Trust to dynamically manage demand for same day primary care within the locality with patients being re-directed from ED to the service where appropriate and frequent walk-in attenders encouraged to attend their own practice and/or to register with the service.

Over time the strategic intention for management of same day primary care is that patients should be seen primarily on a registered basis either by their own practice or through a hub arrangement and patients attending the Emergency Department with minor illness needs that can be met within primary care will be redirected. In future patients will also be encouraged to contact 111 for assessment and signposting to an appropriate service in a 'phone before you go' model. Future service models will also take into account the findings of the National Review of Access to GP Services.

It is anticipated that the provider will replicate the current level of walk-in provision at the Reading Walk in Centre in year 1 of the service as Primary Care Networks mature whilst encouraging registration where appropriate; in Year 2 and 3 of the service, the provider will work in partnership with PCNs in Berkshire West but particularly in Central Reading where many current walk-in attendees reside to manage patients seeking same day care in a planned and coordinated manner, with a reduction in patients attending as walk-ins. As indicated above, the level of walk-in activity expected to be managed by the service will reduce after Year 1.

The expected activity within the service to be provided is:

- provision of Alternative Provider Medical Services (APMS) services to a registered list population of c. 10,000 patients for each year of the contract and;



- management of walk-in patients seeking same day care of minor illness with activity planned to reduce from an anticipated level of 42,000 cases in year 1 of the service. Walk-in care is currently delivered between the hours of 8am-8pm, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

The provider will have regard to the specific needs of the local population, as part of a registered list and unplanned walk-in activity including:

- homeless patients
- parents of young children who frequent the Emergency Department with conditions that are clinically appropriate for management in the community
- patients for whom English is not their first language

The provider will be required to provide care to these patients in a manner that is appropriate to their needs, with such measures potentially including 'drop in' clinics and rapid access to assessment in the after-school period. We are interested in hearing potential solutions you have experience of that could be applied within central Reading.

South Central and West Commissioning Support Unit (SCW), on behalf of NHS Berkshire West CCG are seeking feedback through the attached market sounding questionnaire (via [Survey Monkey](#)).

Provider views are important so please complete the questionnaire by no later than the 16th October 2019.

The services are healthcare services falling within Schedule 3 to the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 ("the Regulations") which are not subject to the full regime of the Regulations, but is instead governed by the "Light Touch Regime" contained within Chapter 3, Section 7 of the Regulations (Regulations 74 to 77).

Any future tendering process will be conducted in accordance with the requirements and flexibilities provided by Articles 74 to 76 of the Directive, and Regulations 74 to 76 of the Regulations. The Authority will run any tender process in a transparent manner, treating all bidders equally. For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority will not be bound by the Regulations or the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union or any other regulations or legislation except for the specific parts or circumstances that apply to the procurement of these Services.