

**Prior Information Notice for the provision of Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC)  
Service across Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and West Mercia**

**Bravo Project Ref 514, Pgg 267**

**Description of the procurement opportunity:**

Arden and Greater East Midlands Commissioning Support Unit, acting on behalf of NHS England North Midlands (the Commissioner) and its partners, will be commencing a tender for the provision of Adult Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) Services across Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and West Mercia. This Prior Information Notice (PIN) is to advise prospective providers of the Commissioner's intention and a planned Market Engagement Event.

The Commissioner seeks providers able to demonstrate the achievement of excellent health and criminal justice outcomes, reliable assurance systems and the delivery of high service standards centred on the holistic needs of the client. The provider will be expected to deliver an open access 24/ 7 /365 sexual assault service for adults (18 years plus) who have been sexually assaulted or raped (acute and historic cases). Providers are expected to deliver a one stop service from named SARC locations, supported by referral pathways into appropriate local services for support and follow-up care.

The service is expected to provide a clinical consultation which will include the risk assessment of harm/self-harm, together with an assessment of vulnerability and sexual health; there will be immediate access to emergency contraception, post-exposure prophylaxis after sexual exposure (PEPSE) or other acute, mental health or sexual health services and follow-up as needed. The service model is more than a medical examination: it includes access to crisis workers (support staff), counselling and related support and governance activities.

Discussions regarding the inclusion of forensic medical examinations in the SARC service model are being held with commissioning partners and further detail will be provided at the bidder event. This list is not exhaustive and is subject to revision and clarification.

**Contract value and duration:**

Contract will be advertised and procured on the basis of the current NHS Standard Community Contract with contract length of up to 5 (five) years. This contract will commence from 1 September 2017.

**Procurement procedure:**

The procurement will be in accordance with the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the “Regulations”).

### **“Market Engagement Event”**

NHS England (North Midlands) is inviting all interested providers to attend a “Market Engagement Event” which will take place on Friday 16 September 2016, 10:00 – 14:00.

The purpose of the event is:

- To tell you more about the Commissioner and the vision
- To tell you about the service and the contract
- To inform you of the procurement process and anticipated timeline
- To enable you to ask questions regarding the above
- To receive feedback on the service specification
- To secure your feedback on the configuration of the contract packages on offer i.e.
  - Option 1 - 1 Lot: 1 contract covering all of Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands and West Mercia
  - Option 2 - 2 Lots: 2 contracts covering 1) Staffordshire and West Midlands and 2) Warwickshire, and West Mercia
  - Option 3 - 4 Lots: 1 contract per Police Force Area
  - Other lotting options

There will be an opportunity to comment on the draft service specification prior to the event. The draft service specification will be published on the BravoSolution website, <https://ardengemcsu.bravosolution.co.uk> (project 514, pqq 267) in early September 2016 and feedback will be collected via BravoSolution.

There will be a further opportunity to comment on the consolidated feedback from the Market Engagement Event which will be published on the BravoSolution website, <https://ardengemcsu.bravosolution.co.uk> (project 514, pqq 267). This is published at the end of September/beginning of October 2016.

### **Agenda**

Item	Description	Time
1	Registration	9:30 – 10:00 (30 min)
2	Introduction, Welcome, Purpose	10:00 – 10:10 (10min)
3	Overview of Intentions and Service Background	10:10 – 10:30 (20 min)
4	Procurement and Process	10:30 – 10:50 (20min)
	Coffee Break	10.50-11.15 (25 mins)
5	“MINI-PROCUREMENT MASTERCLASS” with guidance and tips on tender writing and an opportunity to ask questions	11.15 – 11.35 (20 mins)
6	Q&A	11.35-11.50 (15 mins)
	Lunch and networking	11.50-12.30 (40 mins)
7	Feedback session a) service specification	a) 12.30-13.30 (1 hour)

	b) lotting strategy and voting c) contract term d) cost model	
7	Final questions and close	13:30 – 14.00 (30min)

### Venue

Royal Angus Hotel,  
Birmingham  
St Chads Queensway  
Birmingham  
B4 6HY

Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

You can register for the event by completing a short questionnaire on the BravoSolution website <https://ardengemcsu.bravosolution.co.uk> (project 514, pqq 267). Please note that the number of participants per organisation is 2 (two). For any support in registering or submitting your questionnaire please contact the eTendering Help-desk at 0800-011-2470 or [help@bravosolution.co.uk](mailto:help@bravosolution.co.uk). Participants can also contact [Neli.Garbuzanova@ardengemcsu.nhs.uk](mailto:Neli.Garbuzanova@ardengemcsu.nhs.uk) for further information or clarifications. Note: This is not a PQQ, we are using this functionality within the Arden and GEM Bravo procurement portal to communicate with interested parties. This is purely an exercise to register your interest in this market place event.

**Closing Date for registration: 5 September 2016 at 5pm.** Please note that after this deadline the Commissioner cannot guarantee your place at the event.

### Where to find further information regarding this procurement?

The procurement relating to this PIN notice will be advertised on Contracts Finder (<https://www.contractsfinder.service.gov.uk/Search>) and administered/conducted via the Arden & GEM CSU's e-Tendering portal known as Bravo solutions. Providers wishing to be considered for this opportunity must register with Arden&Gem CSU's e-Tendering portal by visiting following web link: <https://ardengemcsu.bravosolution.co.uk>.

Full details regarding this procurement opportunity will be available there. Please note that there is no cost to register. Once registered, providers must express their interest by taking following steps:

1. Log in within the portal with the username/password,
2. Click on 'View Current Opportunities' sections.
3. Find appropriate project and click on it
4. Click the "Express Interest" button at the top of the page,
5. On the next screen please go to 'My Procurement Projects' and click on 'ITT Open To All Supplier' section,
6. Follow further instructions and provide additional procurement specific information (if required)

**Please note that this PIN is not a call for competition. It is expected that the procurement opportunity will be advertised in November 2016 (may be subject to change). Registering an interest in attending this market event will not automatically entitle involvement in any future procurement exercise as interested providers will need to respond to the formal call for competition.**