

**Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group Board
24th August 2016
Part I**

Title of Report:	Thurrock CCG Multiple Any Qualified Provider (AQP) Services	
Board Sponsor:	Primary Care Commissioning	
Prepared by :	Hayley Gallagher - Procurement Lead-Attain Vicky Kankam - Primary Care Locality Manager Thurrock CCG	
Committees previously consulted:	AQP Task and Finish Group – 3 rd August 2016 Finance and Performance Committee – 17 th August 2016 Conflict of Interest – 23 rd August 2016	
Executive Summary:	To provide the Board with the outcome of the AQP procurement process and the recommendations approved by the Conflict of Interest Committee.	
Financial / Resource Implications:	The services are within the allocated budget, therefore no adverse financial implications.	
Fit with CCG strategy/objectives:	The provision of these services forms part of the overall commissioning and financial responsibilities of the CCG	
Risks identified / Outcome / Link to BAF:	Failure to commission the identified services within Primary Care at the adequate capacity could result in gap in service provision, increase in acute activity and poor patient outcomes and satisfaction	BAF Ref:
Actions Required:	To note recommendations	When By: 24th August 2016
Recommendation to the Committee:	Members of the Board are invited to note the decision made on their behalf at the Conflict of Interest Committee	

1. Introduction

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the outcome of the AQP Procurement and to inform Board members of the decision made on their behalf by the Conflict of Interest Committee.

Due to an unsuccessful AQP tender undertaken in 2015, the CCG decided to undertake a Multiple AQP tendering exercise in May 2016 for the following services:

- 24 hour BP Monitoring
- Anticoagulation
- Gonadorelin
- Secondary Care Wound Management
- Vasectomy services
- Phlebotomy service

2. The Long Term objectives of the AQP tendering process are to:

- Bring care closer to home.
- Provide fair and equitable service provision throughout Thurrock CCG
- Reduce demand on secondary care services.
- Reduction and maintenance of waiting times.
- Aid reduction in unplanned hospital admissions by improving early diagnosis and intervention.
- Reduce the growing cost to the NHS.
- Contribute to the reduction in health inequalities.
- Demonstrate improved quality and effectiveness of services for patients
- Provide a range of quality, patient focused care programmes

3. The Any Qualified Provider (AQP) Process

The AQP model is an accreditation process underpinned by 'call-off' of a Provider's services determined according to patients' choice.

The details of the procurement are shown in **Appendix 1 AQP Procurement Process Conducted**.

4. Summary

Bidders had to demonstrate in their bid that they were competent and capable of delivering the Service to the required standard.

An advert was placed on the Contracts Finder website on 3rd May 2016 where bidders were invited to express an interest.

The AQP process is an open competition and can therefore receive bids from GP practices, including those who are represented on the CCG Board, consequently there is a potential for conflicts of interest. In line with NHS Conflict of Interest guidance, the evaluation team (listed in Appendix 1), signed a declaration form stating they did not

Vision Statement: The Health and care experience of the people of Thurrock will be improved as a result of our working effectively together.

have a Conflict of Interest with bidders or interested parties involved within this procurement activity.

However, to further assure the CCG that the exercise was conducted in line with prevailing procurement regulations, there was a need to convene the Conflict of Interest Committee, as a number of bidders conflicted, due to representations on the Thurrock CCG Board.

The procurement report was shared with the Conflict of Interest (COI) Committee.

The COI committee approved the recommendations on behalf of Thurrock CCG Board, to award 1 bidder and pre-award 11 bidders subject to minor policy change.

5. Conclusion

Members of the Board are invited to note the outcome of the procurement process and the recommendations made by the Conflict of Interest Committee on 23rd August 2016.

APPENDIX 1

AQP Process Conducted

REFERENCE: ACE-0248-2016

Background

An advert was placed on the Contracts Finder website on 3rd May 2016 where providers were invited to express an interest and download all the AQP documents.

At the close of the AQP tender on 6th June 2016, 14 bids were received.

Evaluation

The evaluation of the tender was carried out by:

- Vicky Kankam – Primary Care Locality Manager
- Dr Olumuyiwa Jegede – GP – NHS Havering CCG
- Debbie Smith-Shaw – Information Governance Advisor (Subject Matter Expert)
- Sue Cleall,- Quality and Patient Safety Manager
- Joanne Mayhew – Senior Infection Prevention and Control Nurse (Subject Matter Expert)
- Laura Davis - Quality and Patient Safety Manager
- Linda Smart - Head of Quality and Patient Safety

A Moderation meeting co-chaired by Hayley Gallagher (Attain – Procurement Lead) and Vicky Kankam was held. The aim of the meeting was to reach consensus scores in relation to the evaluation of the responses evaluated as part of Stage 2 by Clinical, Commissioning and Quality Team. The meeting was attended by a Lay board Member (Trevor Hitchcock) who was able to observe and provide assurance to the Board that the Moderation had been undertaken in a proper manner.

Bidders had to demonstrate in their Bid that they are competent and capable of delivering the Service to the required standard. There were two evaluation stages to this Procurement:

Stage One: Core Assessment;

Stage Two: Capability Assessment

Stage 1 – Core Assessment

The assessment at Stage 1 comprised a number of questions on the following topics:

- Regulation - including evidence of registration with Clinical Quality Commission
- Information Management & Technology
- Legal, commercial and financial compliance
- Local policies – including evidence of compliance
- Confirmation that the Bidder accepted the terms set out in the documentation

Vision Statement: The Health and care experience of the people of Thurrock will be improved as a result of our working effectively together.

Stage 2 – Capability Assessment.

Stage 2 involved the assessment of Bids against the requirements of Thurrock’s local service criteria requirements as set out in Table 1 below:

Table 1: Assessment Criteria for Section 6 (Local Policies) and Section 7 (Service Delivery)

Assessment	Score	Interpretation
Excellent	5	Exceeds the requirement. Exceptional demonstration by the Bidder of the relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the services. Response identifies factors that will offer potential added value, with evidence to support the response.
Good	4	Satisfies the requirement with minor additional benefits. Above average demonstration by the Bidder of the relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the services. Response identifies factors that will offer potential added value, with evidence to support the response.
Acceptable	3	Satisfies the requirement. Demonstration by the Bidder of the relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the services, with evidence to support the response.
Minor Reservations	2	Satisfies the requirement with minor reservations. Some minor reservations of the Bidder’s relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the services, with little or no evidence to support the response.
Serious Reservations	1	Satisfies the requirement with major reservations. Considerable reservations of the Bidder’s relevant ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the services, with little or no evidence to support the response.
Unacceptable	0	Does not meet the requirement. Does not comply and/or insufficient information provided to demonstrate that the Bidder has the ability, understanding, experience, skills, resource & quality measures required to provide the services, with little or no evidence to support the response.

Please note that within Section 6 (Stage 1);

Each Policy had to score 3 or above to Pass.

Please note that within Section 7 (Stage 2);

- Question 7.1 was a Pass/Fail Question. Any bidder who responds “No” will be rejected and their bid will not be considered further.

Vision Statement: The Health and care experience of the people of Thurrock will be improved as a result of our working effectively together.

- With regard to Questions 7.2 to 7.8 – In order to achieve a pass, bidders had to score 3 or above in at least six of these seven questions and no less than two for the seventh question.
- Any bidder who scored zero or one in any of the questions would be disqualified.