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**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 which was received into this office on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

**You asked for information regarding competitive tendering NHS contracts:**

- a) What number and value of contracts were let by competitive tender for NHS clinical services over each of the last three years (2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16)? Where a contract is let for multiple years, please provide the appropriate value for that year.
- b) Of the services awarded by competitive tender, what number and percentage were awarded to an incumbent provider?
- c) Of the services awarded by competitive tender, what was their percentage financial value in relation to total CCG spend on NHS clinical services in each of these three years.
- d) For these contracts, how was the requirement under the National Health Service Act 2006 – to record information about how the award of all contracts let by the CCG complies with statutory duties under that Act – met?

For the first two questions, please also specify the number and value of contracts awarded to either NHS or non-NHS providers.

**Our Response:**

Question A	What number and value of contracts were let by competitive tender for NHS clinical services over each of the last three years (2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16)? Where a contract is let for multiple years, please provide the appropriate value for that year.		
	13/14	14/15	15/16
Number	1	3	4
Service and Value	Community Phlebotomy Service £700,698	Community Phlebotomy Service £820,147	Community Phlebotomy Service £806,204
		<b>Community Appliance AQP</b> – value of contract £0	Community Appliance AQP – value of contract £0

	<b>Wirral Community Eye Service</b> AQP - value of contract £0	Wirral Community Eye Service AQP - value of contract £0
		<b>Primary Care MH Services</b> £7,700,000

NB: **Bold** text identifies the first year that this procurement took place and when the contract was let.

Question B	Of the services awarded by competitive tender, what number and percentage were awarded to an incumbent provider?			
	Community Phlebotomy	Community Appliance	Wirral Community Eye Care Service	Primary Care and MH Service
	100% awarded to incumbent provider	50% awarded to incumbent provider 1 of 2 providers	33% awarded to incumbent provider one of 3 providers	100% awarded to one of 5 incumbent provider

Question C	Of the services awarded by competitive tender, what was their percentage financial value in relation to total CCG spend on NHS clinical services in each of these three years.		
	13/14	14/15	15/16
	0.2%	0.2%	2.4%

Question D	For these contracts, how was the requirement under the National Health Service Act 2006 – to record information about how the award of all contracts let by the CCG complies with statutory duties under that Act – met?
	The requirement under the National Health Service Act 2006 – to record information about how the award of all contracts let by the CCG complies with statutory duties under that Act.
	<p>When procuring health care services for the purposes of the CCG, its aim was to:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• secure services that met the needs of the people who use the services</li> <li>• improve the quality / efficiency of the services, and improve services through integration.</li> </ul> <p>The procurements were undertaken in a transparent and proportionate way, and providers were treated in an equitable and non-discriminatory way. The CCG procured services from one or more provider that was the most capable and provided best value for money in doing so. Prior to undertaking the Procurement the CCG considered how it could improve quality and efficiency in the provision of the services and look at means of making such improvements, including through:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the services being provided in a more integrated way (including with other health care services, health-related services, or social care services),</li> </ul>

- enabling providers to compete to provide the services, and
- allowing patients a choice of provider of the services.

The CCG retains information on how each contract was awarded by it for health care services and details of how in awarding the contract it complied with its duties.

The CCG accesses and publishes details on a website of any opportunities for providers to provide health care services for the purposes of the NHS, and publishes Contract Notices and records as appropriate. These notices include a description of the services required to be provided, and the criteria against which any bids for the contract will be evaluated. The CCG ensures that they secure arrangements for enabling providers to express an interest in providing any health care service.

The CCG did not award a contract for the provision of health care services where conflicts, or potential conflicts, between the interests involved in commissioning such services and the interests involved in providing them affected, or appeared to affect, the integrity of the award of that contract.

In assessing the suitability of Bidders the CCG established a transparent, proportionate and non-discriminatory criteria which would determine:-

- which providers qualify to be included on a list from which a patient is offered a choice of provider in respect of first outpatient appointment with a consultant or a member of a consultant's team,
- which providers qualify to be included on a list from which a patient is otherwise offered a choice of provider,
- which providers to enter into a framework agreement with, and
- which providers could bid for potential future contracts to provide health care services for the purposes of the CCG.

The CCG records the details of all contracts awarded and maintains, and publishes on the website a record of each contract it awards for the provision of health care services for the purposes of the NHS.

The CCG can confirm that during the course of any procurement it did not participate in actions that could be described as 'Anti-competitive behavior'.

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