**Leicester City Council**

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**SOFT MARKET TESTING QUESTIONNAIRE**

**Leicester City Council**

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| PROJECT |
| Leicester Inpatient Detox Service (Stabilisation and Withdrawal) |

**This document should be completed and returned in accordance with the Guidance for Providers**

**This completed questionnaire must be returned electronically by email**

**before or no later than 14:00 hours on 30th September 2022 to**

[**procurement-asc@leicester.gov.uk**](mailto:procurement-asc@leicester.gov.uk)

**with the subject heading: ‘Completed SMT Q – DAY SERVICE’’**

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| Officer involved:  Ashok Chotalia, Procurement Manager - Adult Social Care & Public Health  Leicester City Council |

**09/09/2022**

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**THIS IS NOT A CALL FOR COMPETITION**

**Leicester Inpatient Detox Service (Stabilisation and Withdrawal)**

1. **Introduction**

Leicester City Council Public Health is carrying out a commissioning review of its provision of a recovery-orientated, dedicated inpatient treatment service, offering assessment, (24 hour medically supervised) stabilisation and medically assisted withdrawal for eligible adults (18+), with substance misuse problems, who reside in the city of Leicester. The Service provides 24 hour qualified staffing cover in a controlled therapeutic environment sourced by the provider.

The current service specification is being reviewed, and subject to the review findings, a tender for this Service could potentially be advertised from mid November 2022 at the earliest to enable a new contract to begin from 01/06/2023.

As part of the commissioning process, the Authority is undertaking a soft market test. This gives potential providers and other stakeholders the opportunity to express their interests and feed in their views about the potential service model and specification principles. The Commissioners will use the information to appraise options and further develop the specification.

This process does not constitute a formal tender or other competitive bidding process and will not result in the letting of a Contract. The Authority is using this process solely to test the market to gather information and ascertain the level of interest in this particular service. There are therefore no formal criteria which we will use to judge your responses and it is not our intention to provide any feedback.

1. **Service Scope**

The current inpatient detox service is delivered by Framework Housing Association and is based at The Level, Nottingham. The Level works closely with Turning Point, Leicester’s Specialist Substance Misuse service provider, in ensuring an effective pathway is in place for managed stabilisations and withdrawals. Turning Point is the only referring organisation.

Dear Albert, a local lived experience recovery community organisation, is subcontracted by The Level to deliver a pre-detox group, which people can attend prior to treatment, to find out what is involved. Dear Albert also provides assistance with travel if this is required.

Key service indicators are provided in the table below.

Table 1 – key outputs delivered by the current inpatient detox service between contract start date and 31/3/2022

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Output** | **Data period - 1/6/2018 to 31/3/2022 (3 years 10 months)** | **Comment** |
| Number of people admitted for treatment | Total - 311  Drugs – 151  Alcohol - 159 | On average between 14 and 23 people are admitted for treatment per quarter. |
| People admitted for Stabilisation | 62 |  |
| People admitted for Withdrawal | 249 |  |
| Disciplinary/self-discharges | 8/29 |  |
| Parents living with children | 43 |  |
| Support involving pregnancies | 9 |  |
| Male/Female ratio | 221/90 |  |

**Out of scope of this recommissioning exercise**

For people completing a managed withdrawal at The Level, there is an option of attending Dear Albert’s Next Step (aftercare) programme for up to 6 months following discharge from Turning Point. This service is subcontracted by Turning Point.

Leicester City Council is part of a consortium with other local authorities in the East Midlands, which recently procured a medically managed inpatient detox service. The lead local authority (Nottinghamshire County Council) awarded a contract to Framework Housing Association (i.e. The Level), which started on 4 July 2022 for an initial term of 2 years 9 months, with an option to extend up to 31 March 2028. Leicester City Council’s allocation is 248 bed days per year.

**Additional drug and alcohol provision in Leicester**

Leicester City Council has recently re-commissioned its Specialist Substance Misuse Service, and a new contract, for up to 7 years, started April 2022. The service is delivered by Turning Point. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Leicestershire/Rutland (OPCC) and the National Probation Service (NPS) make a financial contribution to this service. This service includes provision for adults and young people, criminal justice and non-criminal justice services, and access to residential rehabilitation.

In addition, the Authority has separate contracts for the following services:

* The No.5 Day Centre Service provides harm reduction support for people who use alcohol and drugs, are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, rough sleeping and/or living a street lifestyle (including street drinking/drug use). The Centre includes a wet room facility where people can drink (in a controlled way) as an alternative to street drinking.
* Substance Misuse supported accommodation and floating support (Substance Misuse Housing Related Support Service). This contract ends March 2023 and there is the potential to extend up to March 2025.

Drug and alcohol services are supported by a commissioning structure which includes a bi-monthly Substance Misuse Stakeholder Group which brings together key stakeholders and lived experience to discuss the impact of adult substance misuse and the response of local service provision.

**New Developments**

A range of new initiatives are being developed within Leicester that could increase demand for inpatient detox services.

* **Specialist Substance Misuse Service** – a homelessness team of up to 11 recovery workers (including specialist workers for alcohol, rough sleeping and women) and associated clinical/administrative resources has recently been established through the Rough Sleepers Drug and Alcohol Treatment Grant to support individuals who are rough sleeping, at risk of rough sleeping and using drugs and alcohol. There is potential for an increase in demand for stabilisation support for people accessing this service.
* **Fibroscanning** – the Specialist Substance Misuse provider is rolling out community fibroscanning with a view to identifying Chronic Liver Disease/liver fibrosis caused by alcohol consumption. The fibroscanning service is delivered by a dedicated 0.5 FTE Nurse and uses a leased portable fibro scan machine.
* **Alcohol Care Team (ACT)**- Leicester’s Specialist Substance Misuse provider is working in partnership with the Integrated Commissioning Board and University Hospitals Leicester (UHL) to develop an Alcohol Care Team as part of the NHS Long Term Plan. This will support the identification and support of people at risk of alcohol related harm. Although the ACT will provide advice on the provision of medically managed withdrawals within UHL it is envisaged that the service could result in an increase in the number of people entering structured treatment, some of whom will require support from an inpatient detox service.

1. **Guidance for Providers**

Keep a copy of your completed questionnaire. You will need this if we need to clarify or discuss your answers with you.

This completed questionnaire must be returned electronically by email before or no later than **14:00 hours on 30/09/2022** to [procurement-asc@leicester.gov.uk](mailto:procurement-asc@leicester.gov.uk) with the subject heading: **‘Completed SMT Q – IPD SERVICE’**

1. **Confidentiality and Freedom of Information**

Please be aware that we are subject to the disclosure requirements of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and that potentially any information we hold is liable to disclosure under that Act. For this reason, we would strongly advise that any information you consider to be confidential is labelled as such.

The Council is committed to open governance and to meeting its legal responsibilities under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Accordingly, all information submitted to a public authority may need to be disclosed by the public authority in response to a request under the Act. The Council may also decide to include certain information in the publication scheme which the Council maintain under the Act. Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA"), members of the public or any interested party may make a request for information to the Council.

The Council will consider the disclosure of any information, including prices, contained in the SMT document, subject to the exemptions the FOIA.

# Soft Market Testing Questionnaire

**General Information:**

# Full name, address and website

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Trading name of the organisation |  |
| Address |  |
| Town/ City |  |
| Postcode |  |
| Country |  |
| Website URL |  |

# Main Contact for correspondence about this questionnaire

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Position |  |
| Telephone number |  |
| Mobile phone number |  |
| Email address |  |

# Trading Status

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Trading status of organisation: | a limited company  a public limited company  a limited liability partnership  other partnership  a sole trader  a third sector  other (please specify) |
| Date of registration in country of origin |  |
| Company registration number (if applicable) |  |
| Charity registration number (if applicable) |  |

# Organisation Classification

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Relevant classifications (state whether you fall within one of these, and if so which one) | Voluntary Community Social Enterprise (VCSE)  Sheltered Workshop  Public service mutual  Not applicable |

# Size of Organisation

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Is your organisation a Large, Medium, Small or Micro Enterprise (SME)? | Micro (9 employees or fewer)  Small (10-49 employees)  Medium (50-249 employees)  Large (over 250 employees) |

**Questions for the Market**

Interested parties are asked to provide responses to the following questions.

Please note that although there is no word limit, we do not expect huge amounts of detail in response to each question.

|  |
| --- |
| Question 1 |
| Please tick which response applies to your service: |
| a) We deliver a medically assisted drug and alcohol stabilisation and withdrawal service for adults (with 24 hour qualified staffing cover and supervision) in a controlled therapeutic environment dedicated to the inpatient service.  b) We deliver other substance misuse services. Please briefly state your organisation’s service area(s): |

|  |
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| Question 2 |
| Is there any information that you would like commissioners to consider when writing the specification for this service? |
| Please type your response here |

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| --- |
| Question 3 |
| Are there any new treatment and clinical developments and practices that you would like commissioners to consider when writing the service specification for this service? |
| Please type your response here |

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| Question 4 |
| Are there any key challenges that commissioners need to be aware of concerning the provision of an inpatient detox service? |
| Please type your response here |

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| Question 5 |
| Commissioners are considering aligning the term for the inpatient detox contract with other service contract terms, which would necessitate an initial inpatient detox contract term of 2 years and 10 months instead of 3 years, plus a further extension term which is yet to be decided.  Would a minimum term of 2 years 10 months impact your ability to bid for this contract?  What do commissioners need to be mindful of when setting the overall contract term plus extension period? |
| Please type your response here |
| Question 6 |
| Leicester City Council is considering its procurement options which include the following:   1. a block contract with a single successful bidder in line with historical usage and estimated increase in demand. 2. a core block contract with a single successful bidder (in line with historical usage) with provision to spot purchase a set number of additional bed days to manage increases in demand as required.   Please tell us your views about these options, the challenges and opportunities that they could present and any impacts on the likelihood of your organisation submitting a bid. |
| Please type your response here |

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| Question 7 |
| Do you think you would be interested in tendering for this service? |
| Please type your response here |

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| Question 8 |
| Do you have any other comments? |
| Please type your response here |

# Undertaking by the Provider

I/We certify that the information supplied is accurate to the best of my/our knowledge and that I/We accept the conditions and undertakings requested in the questionnaire and also fully understand that this is not a call for competition.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Signed\* |  |
| Name (please print) |  |
| Position |  |
| On behalf of (name of organisation) |  |
| Date |  |

**\****Please note the term ‘Provider’ refers to sole proprietor, partnership, incorporated company, and cooperative as appropriate. The undertaking should be signed by a partner or authorised representative in her/his own name and on behalf of the Provider*