Healthwatch Wolverhampton (CWC20104)

Market Warming Event - 12th November 2021 – 11:00

Presentation copies:



Meeting recorded and shared via MSTeams.

Present:

Alastair Jewson – Procurement Manager – [presenter] [Alastair.jewson@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Alastair.jewson@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Jacqui McLaughlin– Commissioning Officer - Lead – [presenter] [Jacqui.McLaughlin2@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqui.McLaughlin2@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Sophie Yeomans – Commissioning Support Officer

[Sophie.Yeomans@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.Yeomans@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

12 Provider Representatives.

FAQ Feedback: Questions and Responses:

1. Is there still an intention to separate Healthwatch and WHACS?
   1. Both services have been separated out and will be tendered in their own right imminently. This follows a trend nationally (Healthwatch England).
2. Are you looking for the governance of your Healthwatch in the future to be vested in local people, or anywhere?
   1. We require local people to be actively involved in decision-making and activities, this should be balanced with representation from individuals who have the specialist knowledge and skills required to support the functions of the organisation. The new service provider will also be required to involve the local voluntary sector in the decision-making process.
3. How many Healthwatch’s are there linked to the local CCG?
   1. Five; Black Country and West Birmingham – Wolverhampton, Walsall, Dudley, Sandwell, Birmingham (West).
4. Contract Values?
   1. Max £169k pa. Total maximum budget - 5 years = £845k.
   2. Contract term = 3 years with the option to extend for up to a further two years.
5. Is there any scope to increase the contract value over the term to fall in line with inflation, index linking, etc?
   1. The intention is that tenderers will submit their costs based on experience and assumptions about future costs. It will be up to the individual organisations to make those decisions.
6. Will the voluntary sector be included on the tender panel?
   1. No, the Council would not normally request a representative from the voluntary sector to be present solely for one particular element of the evaluation (social value) – this is something we cannot facilitate at the moment. All panel members would need to be independent and are required to make a conflict of interest declaration.
   2. The Social Value Act asks Commissioners to consider the social value issues pre-procurement, and a question relating to the City Charter has been added to the evaluation model to reflect this.
   3. Wolverhampton Council is currently working with anchor organisations and the Cross Sector Forum on developing an approach/s to social value, however, this has not yet been finalised and therefore we are not able to share that at this time.
   4. The evaluation panel consists of local representation from Health, Public Health, Social Care and Carers.
7. Have councils given any thought to jointly commissioning their Healthwatch across the area, especially with the development of ICS? Is there a breakpoint in the contract?
   1. Commissioning is not aware of any plans to merge local Healthwatch organisations - the duration of the contract (3+ option to extend for a further 2 years) reflects this.
   2. Within social care contracts there is always a standard break clause. However, the Commissioner stated that in her experience, Wolverhampton has not terminated a contract other than on the grounds of none or poor performance.
8. What happens to any underspend at the end of the contract?
   1. As the contractor will have calculated the cost of delivering the service we would not expect there to be a (substantial) underspend. However, should this occur, the contractor would be required to reinvest funds into local Healthwatch activities.

Next Steps:

Please forward any service/ commissioning comments and suggestions asap, to [Jacqui.McLaughlin2@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:Jacqui.McLaughlin2@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

Procurement queries pre-tender asap to: alastair.jewson@wolverhampton.gov.uk

*Nb. Information presented at this event is subject to amendment, please refer to the final published tender documents (CWC20104) when they are available.*