

EQUITABLE ACCESS TO PRIMARY MEDICAL CARE – CONTRACT AWARD

The purpose of this project is to procure 3 new GP surgeries (in Hodge Hill, Kingstanding and Washwood Heath) and 1 new GP led health centre (in Erdington/Tyburn). The procurement is proceeding well and is expected to achieve deadlines.

To date a robust procurement procedure has been followed:

1. Adverts were placed; inviting bidders from interested organisations to get in contact for further information.
2. Expressions of Interest (EOIs) and Memorandums of Information (MOIs) were sent out to prospective bidders with returns requested by the deadline
3. Pre-Qualification Questionnaires (PQQs) were sent out to the bidders who submitted an EOI by the deadline
4. Returned PQQs were evaluated according to the PQQ evaluation strategy
5. An Invitation To Tender (ITT) was sent out to all bidders who has successful passed the PQQ stage. (this is the current stage the project is at, the ITT document was sent to bidders on 18th September 2008 and due back 13th November 2008)
6. Returned ITTs will be evaluated according to the ITT evaluation strategy
7. Bidders interviewed by PCT and invited to give a presentation
8. Final sign off by the PCT. (To be agreed by PCT board October 2008)
9. The successful bidders are notified of the PCTs decision
10. The 10 day Alcatel period is observed (10-day standstill)
11. The successful bidders are invited to sign contracts with the PCT

Department of Health timescales require that the contract is awarded to the successful bidder no later than 31st December 2008. In order to achieve this, and taking into account the required Alcatel period (10 day standstill after the successful bidder is announced), the successful bidders must be declared by 11th December 2008. (Project stage Plan in annex 1)

Before the successful bidders can be declared, and the 10 day standstill commence, the contract award must be ratified by the PCT board, or a delegated sub group/ individuals, to ensure governance of the process. The DoH required timescales for final sign off by the PCT does not allow the project to use any existing PCT board meetings and still achieve deadlines. As such two options are available to the PCT to enable the procurement sign off and therefore achieve DoH deadlines:

Option 1

The PCT board reform for an Extraordinary PCT Board meeting on the afternoon of 11th December 2008.

Option 2

The PCT board delegate power to the Integrated Governance Meeting which is already due to meet on the 11th December to ratify the contract award decision on behalf of the PCT.

Due to the tight timescales on the tender evaluations it is recommended that the PCT board also agree a contingency plan of delegating the same powers to Jonathan Tringham and Sophia Christie, should it not prove to be possible for the decision to be taken at the Integrated Governance meeting.

Summary

The PCT board is asked to consider the two options as proposed above and advise on the preferred way forward for sign off of the procurement results and for contract approval

ATTACHMENT 2.1

