

Press release

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Anglia Support Partnership

Search for a new partner reaches final stages

Anglia Support Partnership (ASP), which provides support services such as finance, payroll, recruitment, IT, estates and facilities services to 49 organisations primarily across the east of England, has today announced that Serco has been chosen as the remaining single bidder to manage its services.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust (CPFT), which has hosted ASP as an 'arms length' support services operation since 2002, has been looking for a strategic partner that can offer the investment vital to keep its services at the cutting edge. The Strategic Projects Team at NHS Midlands and East has been guiding CPFT through the procurement process for the last ten months. With the NHS under pressure to maximise resources for front line care, CPFT has been looking for a partner which can modernise systems and invest in infrastructure, while seizing the opportunities of a changing NHS, such as supporting the new Clinical Commissioning Groups.

Serco has now been asked to submit its final proposals by 19 January 2012. These will confirm its operational and delivery plans for managing ASP's services in the future. If the submission is acceptable Serco will be confirmed as the preferred partner, subject to the required approvals.

Gus Williamson, ASP's Acting Managing Director, said:

"When we said that we were looking for a new partner, over 70 organisations initially expressed an interest. Through a formal procurement process in which bidders had to bring their ideas to our table, we arrived at our final two, Serco and Sodexo. Both made such excellent proposals that Sodexo has been appointed reserve bidder while Serco is taken forward as the remaining single bidder for the final proposals".

---- Ends ----

Notes for Editors

1. ASP is an 'arms length' NHS support services organisation hosted by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust. ASP's principal stakeholders (known as Partners) include both its Host and other NHS Trusts in Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. ASP also provides services to a number of other NHS and public sector clients principally within the east of England.
2. ASP has over 600 staff and serves 49 organisations. It provides services including finance, payroll, recruitment, primary care support, IT, estates and facilities services, contract management, catering, risk management, occupational health and a range of informatics services.
3. NHS Midlands and East's Strategic Projects Team, comprises specialists who work in partnership to develop and deliver innovation in the NHS through strategic change. It is led by Andrew MacPherson, Director of Customer Service Strategy and Strategic Projects. Martin Peat was Project Director.

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www.eoe.nhs.uk/strategicprojects

www.asp.nhs.uk