

Reference: FOI.ICB-2324/259

Subject: Procurement for the Provision of an Urgent and Emergency Care

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE			
I hope you are doing well. I am writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 to request the following information for the "Project - Procurement for the Provision of an Urgent and Emergency Care Live Dashboard and CTCC Strategic Partner to BNSSG ICB, Notice Reference - 2023/S 000-007518"				
Copy of successful tender (by removing confidential information)	The ICB has applied Section 43(2) to the disclosure of the successful tender. Section 43(2) exempts from disclosure information which would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of an organisation. The ICB believes that disclosure of the information would prejudice the commercial interests of the winning bidder Faculty Science Ltd. Faculty Science Ltd have reviewed the documents and confirmed that the majority of the submitted bid contains commercially sensitive information related to the functionality of the product, the methods and approaches, and pricing. Faculty Science Ltd have also confirmed that the redactions required would render the document meaningless. The ICB has considered this information when applying the public interest test to the exemption.			



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The public interest arguments in favour of disclosing the information include the ICB's responsibility to be transparent and accountable in its decision making and to promote public understanding of processes. The ICB also took into account other statutory and mandatory duties placed upon it, including the legal framework for public authority procurements as set out in the Public Contracts Regulation 2015. The contract was paid for using public funds and therefore the public have an interest in what the ICB has bought and why.

The public interest argument in favour of maintaining the exemption includes the confirmation from the winning bidders that the information requested is considered to be commercially sensitive and would prejudice their commercial interests as the provider could be at a competitive disadvantage if information about the product and methodology were made publicly available. The ICB has considered the current high market activity around System Control Centres (SCCs) which has seen an increase since ICBs were funded nationally to source these products. This means that the likelihood of prejudice is increased as there is more opportunity to bid for contracts and the prejudice to commercial interests higher should the information be used by competitors. The ICB has also considered the that the content of the winning tender is less than a year old and so likely still relevant to the commercial business of the winning bidders. The ICB has also considered that the information relevant to the



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	costs of the system is available on the ICB website as part of the spend over 25k publications. The ICB believes that disclosing the information would prejudice the commercial interests of a current contract holder and therefore disclosure may result in the contract holder and other potential contract holders not tendering for bids in the future. The ICB has a responsibility to secure the best use of public resources and provide value for money. To achieve this, the ICB needs to have a wide range of organisations willing to bid for tenders. The ICB has considered both arguments and believes that maintaining the exemption is in the public's interest as it supports the ICB to commission services which are value for money.					
Scoring table of all bidders, split by scores awarded for each question of bid.					. The near	
	Faculty	64.25%	1.88%	7.50%	73.63%	1
	Intouch	48.88%	1.25%	7.28%	57.41%	
	Teletracking	38.25%	1.25%	6.95%	46.45%	
	Interworks	22.44%	0.63%	7.00%	30.06%	4



3. Approximate date that the tender will be reissued towards the end of the current contract period.	The current contract runs until 31st March 2025, with options for up to two one year extensions with a total maximum duration of four years i.e. to 31st March 2027.
4. How many bidders submitted responses?	4
5. Name of all bidders who submitted responses.	Faculty Science Ltd, Interworks Europe, Intouch with Health Ltd, Teletracking Technologies Inc.
6. Rank of all bidders who submitted responses I would prefer to receive the information electronically.	Please see response to question 2 above

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 6 November 2023 and has been approved for release by Deborah El-Sayed, Director of Transformation and Chief Digital Information Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.