

News release

12 January 2004

Bidders Named for Local £300 Million Health Investment Project

Chris Banks, Chief Executive of the Peterborough Hospitals NHS Trust, today (12 January 2004) announced the names of the private sector consortia that have been selected to bid for the £300 million project.

The three are:

- MediCo (Amey plc and Ferrovia Agroman S.A.)
- Progress Health (ABN Amro Bank and Multiplex Construction (UK) Ltd)
- Skanska Innisfree (Skanska BOT Investments UK Ltd and Innisfree Ltd)

Announcing the names, Chris Banks said, "This marks a significant step in the implementation of the Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan. The plan aims to provide local people with a modern health service delivered to the highest standards. The three bidders are all very strong candidates and we expect the competition to be very close."

The Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan covers a wide range of local health services. It was approved by the local Health Authority in March 2003. At its core is the creation of three new state of the art healthcare facilities; an integrated care centre on the site of Fenland Wing at PDH; a new mental health unit and a new major acute hospital both on the Edith Cavell Hospital site.

Mel Ewell, Chief Executive of Amey plc, commented: "Amey and Ferrovia Agroman are delighted to have been selected to bid for this exciting project. We will bring to the project our expertise in the health sector, together with the global experience of our parent company Ferrovia Group, in order to develop and deliver modern, flexible health facilities and non-clinical support services to the NHS Trusts, the City of Peterborough and the surrounding communities. We look forward to working with the implementation team of the Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan."

Paul Gandy, Managing Director of Multiplex Constructions (UK) Ltd, commented, "ABN-AMRO and Multiplex are very excited about the prospect of working with the partners of the GPHIP.

Multiplex and ABN have an established healthcare track record and a strong history of working together on PFI, and are confident that with the high level of expertise and commitment of the Trusts' Project Board we will be able to deliver an excellent solution for the provision of this health investment plan."

Simon Hipperson of Skanska commented: "Skanska is delighted to have been selected for the next phase in the selection of a preferred partner for the Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan Project. We look forward to working with the Trusts and their local Stakeholders." Tim Pearson of Innisfree added, "We are very excited to be involved in this excellent health improvement plan with a first-class public sector team."

Between now and May 2004 the three bidders will develop their initial design proposals for the three facilities which will be built and maintained by the private sector. In June 2004, the two bidders that offer the best designs will go forward to the next stage in the process. This will involve submitting detailed designs and costs and agreeing the contractual arrangements.

The successful bidder will be selected in February 2005 and the contract signed by late 2005. Building will start in early 2006.

Ends

Notes for editors

1. The Greater Peterborough Health Investment Plan is a partnership between:
 - Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust;
 - Greater Peterborough Primary Care Partnership; and
 - Peterborough Hospitals NHS Trust.
2. The health investment plan will mean better clinical standards, better quality services and more choice for patients to obtain the treatment they need. For example, emergency care will be separated from non-urgent care and minor injuries. This will ensure help is always available when needed and the waiting time for treatment is reduced.
3. The health investment plan will provide people with easier access to a wider range of routine health care services, helping them to get fast, effective treatment. For example, patients who have chronic diseases will be able to book outpatient appointments directly without first needing to go to their GP. This will mean faster access to diagnosis and treatment.

4. The health investment plan is also about taking healthcare into the community and making people aware of the wide range of health services that are available. Pharmacists, for example are able to recommend treatment for many common ailments so a visit to a GP may be unnecessary. The plan will enable many patients to be treated closer to their home, GPs will have more choice for the care of their patients and people will have to visit hospital less often.
5. The procurement process is being undertaken in accordance with the Government's Private Finance Initiative. The successful bidder will be responsible for designing, funding, building and maintaining for new facilities for the duration of the contract. At the end of the contract, the bidder will give the buildings to the NHS at no cost.
6. The successful bidder will also provide a range of support services.
7. The three bidders were chosen following a detailed assessment of:
 - Their ability to deliver all aspects of the project;
 - Their having sufficient resources to deliver the three facilities and provide the support services the health service requires;
 - Their previous experience; and
 - Their ability to raise the money required to fund the project.
8. Further information on the project can be obtained from the project website at <http://healthplan.org.uk>

**Contact: Ann McHugh, Communications manager on
Tel: 01733 874110 Pager: 01733 874000 ask for bleep 4110
Out of hours contact the duty manager on 01733 874000**

Peterborough Hospitals NHS Trust, Edith Cavell Hospital, Bretton Gate, Peterborough, Cambs,
PE3 9GZ