

**Oldham Council Tender Guidance Event
Targeted Community Testing Service
CHEST Ref: DN527008**



Background

Oldham Council is seeking to commission a number of providers to enable asymptomatic targeted testing at scale. This service is required as a response to the current COVID-19 pandemic to contribute to the overarching aim to provide targeted and repeat asymptomatic testing to ensure the early identification of positive cases to reduce transmission in high prevalence and high-risk populations within Oldham, in order to reduce population prevalence of COVID-19 and its associated harm.

Since the 18th January 2021 Oldham has been delivering a targeted community testing programme, based on the national Community Testing programme utilising the lateral flow tests. This has been focused at people that cannot work from home. The government has stated that this programme is to run to at least the end of June, but there is every indication that there will be a requirement to deliver this for the longer term.

This requires a new model that is more financially resilient and self-sustaining. A new model is proposed – that being a clinic based multi-site delivery model for example a pharmacy under a Pseudo Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) – a completely electronic system used for the commissioning of these service.

It is proposed that organisations with clinic space /pharmacies are asked to bid for a 12-month contract with an option to extend for a further 12 months. This service is intended to go live from 01st April, 2021.

Tender Guidance Event

As part of the commissioning process, we are holding a Tender Guidance event on Monday 22 March 2021 and would like to invite interested providers to attend. The purpose of the event will be to engage with providers and discuss:

- Help providers understand the service requirements for asymptomatic testing
- Share details of proposed procurement process
- Understand the structure, composition and language/terminologies of the tender documents
- Be able to identify the important areas of a tender
- Understand the process internal officers go through when evaluating tenders
- Understand the way in which tenders are scored

Details of the event:

Date: 22 March 2021

Time: 2PM – 4PM

Venue: Virtual via Microsoft Teams

Please confirm your attendance by messaging on The Council e-tendering portal 'THE CHEST' (<https://www.the-chest.org.uk/>) and/or email Raj Ahuja

rainish.ahuja@oldham.gov.uk by 12PM Friday 19th March, 2021. When confirming your attendance please provide your full email address in order to organise the MS TEAMS invite. We ask you to restrict the number of virtual attendees to a maximum of two from your organisation in order to keep the virtual session manageable.