

New Acute Hospital benefits South West Economy

Embargo; Friday 9th Oct @ noon

Tender opportunities for the construction of the Western Trust's New Acute Hospital were top of the agenda in Fermanagh College on Friday (9th October). This reason was the first of a second series of 'Meet the Buyer' events hosted by Northern Ireland Health Group and their construction contractor FCC Elliott Healthcare. The next event will take place in Omagh College on Friday 16th October.

With the construction of the New Acute Hospital well underway at Wolf Lough, north of Enniskillen, the call is out for experienced local contractors to express an interest in some of the many tender packages currently on offer.

As Cormac McElvaney, Director with FCC Elliott Healthcare explained, 'We in the Northern Ireland Health Group have been tasked by the Western Trust to ensure that the local economy obtains every benefit from this £270million capital investment. This is a task which we are committed to and are already delivering on. As a locally based company ourselves, we in FCC Elliott are only too well aware of the high level of skills, expertise and experience that exists here amongst the construction industry in the southwest of Northern Ireland. We are already seeing the success of the strategy as we had 250 companies attend our last series of 'Meet the Buyer' events in February and have awarded 17 contracts to date. Over 50% of these have been awarded to suitably qualified local firms from the southwest region.' Mr McElvaney continued, 'The events are part of a Social and Economic Regeneration Plan that we have developed in partnership with the Western Trust. An Employment & Training Working Group has been established to help deliver this plan, which has an objective of creating as many as 200 new jobs. This Group includes representatives from Department for Employment and Learning (DEL), South West College and Invest Northern Ireland through the NI Supplier Model, as well as the Trust and Northern Ireland Health Group.'

The key aim of the Working Group is to promote employment, sub-contracting and supply chain opportunities and to provide the necessary training and support to help suitable local firms to prepare for the tendering process.

DRAFT News Release

Janis Mahoney of the Northern Ireland Supplier Model, which is supported by InvestNI is a key partner on the project’s Employment and Training Working Group. Janis explained, ‘The interest in the tender opportunities for the New Acute Hospital has been unsurpassed and we in the Northern Ireland Supplier Model are working with a wide range of companies that have expressed an interest in the project. Our role is to identify the training and development needs of local companies and help them through the tendering process. But the process does not stop there. Together with the South West College and other training providers we assist even the unsuccessful companies to achieve their potential and introduce other public procurement tendering opportunities. We are glad to be a part of the New Acute Hospital Working Group as we see this project as an example of best practice in public procurement’.

Firms interested in tender opportunities for the New Acute Hospital should attend Omagh College on Friday 16th October from 9am – 1pm.

Notes: Sub-contracts awarded to date include;

	Sub-Contractor Package	Company
1	Security Fencing	NK Fencing, Carrickfergus
2	Earthworks	Power Better, West Meath
3	Site Enabling (small works)	KPH, Omagh
4	Security	McElwaine Group, Fermanagh
5	Piling	Dawson Wam, Ballynahinch
6	Sub-structure Ancillary Buildings	McGrory’s, Fermanagh
7	Carpentry (Set-up)	Orchard Carpentry, Armagh
8	Structural Steel (mock-up and car park)	Steel Solutions, Fermanagh
9	Site Catering	CP Catering, Omagh
10	Mechanical and Electrical	Mercury Engineering Co Ltd, Dublin
11	Main Building Sub-structure	Fernwave, Dungiven
12	Concrete	Tracey Brothers, Fermanagh
13	Transfer Slab	O Neill Brothers, Omagh
14	Tarmac and Stone Supply	Clarke Group, Fermanagh
15	Concrete Slabs (Mock-up + Two Tier)	Creagh Concrete, Toomebridge
16	Civils (small works)	Conwell Ltd, Fermanagh
17	Reinforcement	Walter Watson, Castlewellan

ENDS

DRAFT News Release

For additional information please contact Anita McConnell, 028 8283 5891 or 078 414 69476 or anita.mcconnell@westerntrust.hscni.net

NOTES:

The Northern Ireland Health Group consortium has 4 stakeholders: FCC Construction SA, Allied Irish Bank, Interserve Investments & P Elliott & Co.

NI Supplier Model: Background Information

The Northern Ireland Supplier Model is a construction sourcing initiative which is funded and supported by Invest NI. The role of the Model within the build of the New Acute Hospital for the South West project is to assist companies to achieve pre-qualification standards as set by FCC/Elliott Health Care. The model has been in existence since 2003 and since its inception has been instrumental in assisting construction companies to tender for and win in excess of £70 million of contracts within mainly the commercial and public sectors. All the staff who work on the Supplier Model are highly qualified professionals who all have experience of the construction sector and hold professional qualifications.