

Care UK has withdrawn from the Thames Valley NHS 111 procurement process after identifying issues with their bid following contract award.

On 3 November 2016, the 10 Thames Valley Clinical Commissioning Groups received a letter from the managing director of Care UK giving formal notification of their withdrawal from the process.

Care UK had been selected as the preferred provider and had undertaken a six-week co-production phase with the CCGs, stakeholders and the public, and had been awarded the contract to deliver the new Thames Valley 111 Integrated Urgent Service, which was due to launch in April 2017.

In line with the published procurement process, the Thames Valley CCGs have invited the reserve bidder, South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS), to enter a co-production process with them to design a new integrated urgent care system for Thames Valley.

SCAS is the current provider for the service and plan to partner with other local providers to deliver an integrated urgent care hub, an enhanced service to what currently exists, transforming urgent care across the Thames Valley.

Sam Burrows, the senior responsible officer for the procurement process, said: "We are pleased to be working with SCAS on this exciting transformation and will work in partnership through this next period of co-production to ensure we can deliver an excellent service to the public."

The launch of the new service will be launched later in 2017, with exact timeframes not yet know.

Ends.

The Thames Valley clinical commissioning groups working together on the procurement of the 111 service includes:

Aylesbury Vale CCG

Chiltern CCG

Oxfordshire CCG

Berkshire West CCG Federation (Newbury and District CCG, North and West Reading CCG, South Reading CCG, Wokingham CCG)

Berkshire East CCG Federation (Windsor, Ascot and Maidenhead CCG, Bracknell CCG, Slough CCG)