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Planning

Contract for Northern Franchise rail services. Currently operated by Northern Trains Limited (NTL)

DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT

T01: Prior information notice for public service contract

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-003980

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0296f4

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Section I: Competent authority

I.1) Name and addresses

DEPARTMENT FOR TRANSPORT

Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road

LONDON

SW1P 4DR

Email

railprocurement@dft.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKI - LONDON

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the competent authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Contract for Northern Franchise rail services. Currently operated by Northern Trains Limited (NTL)

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 60200000 - Railway transport services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

Areas covered by the public transport services:
Rail transport services

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 60210000 - Public transport services by railways

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKC - NORTH EAST (ENGLAND)
- UKD - NORTH WEST (ENGLAND)
- UKE - YORKSHIRE AND THE HUMBER
- UKF - EAST MIDLANDS (ENGLAND)

Main site or place of performance

The Northern Trains Limited services consist of a range of inter-urban, commuter and rural services throughout the North of England. The envisaged operating routes are summarised below.

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Contract for provision of regional passenger rail services on the UK conventional mainline rail system. It is envisaged the services would run between:

- Bradford Forster Square - Skipton
- Wakefield - Huddersfield/Hebden Bridge - Bradford Interchange - Leeds - Selby
- Bradford Forster Square - Ilkley
- Sheffield - Moorthorpe - Leeds
- Sheffield - Hull
- Knottingley - Wakefield
- Bradford FQ - Skipton
- Goole - Castleford -Leeds
- Blackpool North -Leeds/York
- Sheffield - Gainsborough Central/Lincoln
- Doncaster - Scunthorpe
- Hull- Scarborough
- Hull- Bridlington -Scarborough
- Wigan - Leeds
- Leeds - Bradford Forster Square
- Leeds - Ilkley
- Bradford FQ - Ilkley

- Hull- York/Bridlington
- Scarborough/Hull-Sheffield via Doncaster
- Barton on Humber- Cleethorpes
- Carlisle - Settle - Leeds
- Skipton - Leeds
- Adwick - Sheffield
- Doncaster - Leeds
- Leeds - Knottingley
- Leeds - Knaresborough
- York-Leeds/Huddersfield
- Sheffield - York
- Wakefield - Huddersfield
- Halifax - Hull
- Leeds - Barnsley - Sheffield (Stoppers)
- Blackpool N - York
- Leeds - Lancaster
- Castleford - Bradford Interchange via Huddersfield
- Leeds - Lincoln via Sheffield
- Leeds - Sheffield via Moorthorpe
- Leeds - Harrogate - York
- Leeds - Manchester Victoria
- Sheffield - Huddersfield

- Leeds - Garforth - York
- Leeds - Nottingham
- Leeds - Chester
- Cleethorpes - Gainsborough
- Bishop Auckland - Darlington - Saltburn
- Newcastle - Carlisle
- Saltburn - Chester le Street - Carlisle
- Saltburn - Bishop Auckland
- Newcastle - Carlisle
- Whitby-Middlesbrough
- Durham Coast
- Chathill- Newcastle
- Wigan Wallgate - Via Bolton - Manchester Vic
- Manchester Vic - Stalybridge/Huddersfield
- Manchester Ox Road / Manchester Airport - Crewe (Styal)
- Southport-Wigan - Via Atherton - Manchester Vic
- Manchester Piccadilly - Crewe via Stockport
- Clitheroe - Manchester Victoria via Bolton
- Rochdale - Blackburn
- Manchester Piccadilly - Crewe via Manchester Airport
- Manchester Piccadilly - Chester
- Manchester Piccadilly - Buxton

- Manchester Piccadilly- New Mills Central
- Manchester Piccadilly - Stoke on Trent
- Kirby-Manchester Victoria via Atherton
- Clitheroe - Blackburn - Manchester Victoria via Todmorden
- Southport- Stalybridge
- Manchester Victoria - Stalybridge
- Manchester Piccadilly- Marple/Rose Hill
- Hazel Grove - Blackpool
- Manchester Piccadilly - Hadfield/Glossop
- Blackburn - Wigan
- Manchester Piccadilly - Sheffield
- Southport-Alderley Edge via Bolton
- Manchester Piccadilly - Hazel Grove
- Liverpool - Newton Le Willows/Wigan/Manchester Victoria
- Windermere - Oxenholme
- Liverpool/Warrington Central- Manchester Oxford Road/Piccadilly
- Blackpool N - Preston
- Barrow/ Windemere - Preston - Wigan - Bolton - Manchester
- Warrington BQ - Liverpool
- Liverpool/Hunts Cross - Warrington Central - Manchester Ox Rd
- Blackpool N - Liverpool (Stoppers)
- Preston - Ormskirk

- Carlisle - Whitehaven - Barrow
- Liverpool-Manchester Airport via Warrington (express)
- Cumbria Coast
- Blackpool N - Liverpool (express)
- Blackpool South - Colne
- Manchester - Preston
- Manchester Airport- Windermere/ Barrow (Express) via Wigan
- Blackpool N - Manchester Airport (Express) via Bolton
- Liverpool - Crewe via Manchester Piccadilly
- Barrow/Windermere - Preston
- Liverpool-Oxford Road via Warrington Central (Stoppers)
- Carlisle - Clitheroe - Blackpool N
- Lancaster-Morecambe
- Ellesmere Port- Liverpool via Warrington BQ
- Blackpool North - Preston - Manchester

There is a mixture of leisure, business and commuter travel. These services would be similar to those currently operated by Northern Trains Limited.

II.2.7) Envisaged start date and the duration of the contract

Start date

1 March 2022

Duration in months

60

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Type of procedure

Direct awards for railway transport

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.1) Additional information

It is anticipated that the contract will have a duration in the region of 24 months to five years in total and this is likely to include a core period of at least 24 months with an optional additional period or periods exercisable at the sole discretion of the Contracting Authority.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right not to proceed with the Direct Award as envisaged or to use an alternative method to procure an operator for the contract.