

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/004076-2026>

Award

Class 170 Rolling Stock Lease

ScotRail Trains Limited

F15: Voluntary ex ante transparency notice

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-004076

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-06080e

Published 16 January 2026, 4:35pm

Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

ScotRail Trains Limited

Atrium Court, 50 Waterloo Street

Glasgow

G2 6HQ

Email

emma.docherty@scotrail.co.uk

Telephone

+44 3448110141

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

UKM - Scotland

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk>

Buyer's address

https://www.publiccontractsscotland.gov.uk/search/Search_AuthProfile.aspx?ID=AA30589

I.6) Main activity

Railway services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Class 170 Rolling Stock Lease

Reference number

SR-PACT-PROJ-0238

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 34600000 - Railway and tramway locomotives and rolling stock and associated parts

II.1.3) Type of contract

Supplies

II.1.4) Short description

This notice concerns a modification to an existing lease (the Lease) procured whilst ScotRail was under the Abellio franchise ownership, between ScotRail Trains Limited (SRT) and Porterbrook Leasing Company Limited (Porterbrook) for 102 Class 170 vehicles (the Fleet).

The Lease is currently scheduled to expire on 31 March 2030 and a 10-year extension has been agreed to the Lease for the same scope of supplies, with an additional option to extend for up to a further 2 years. The value of that extension (inclusive of options) is GBP 265,700,000 excluding VAT.

This extension is necessary to ensure SRT is able to discharge its obligations and continue to deliver vital services while the suburban and rural new fleet procurements are commenced and is therefore an interim solution until the new fleet can be procured, built and commissioned for passenger service.

An interior refurbishment will be undertaken to the Fleet to ensure it can continue to operate for passenger service for the duration of the extension.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.1.7) Total value of the procurement (excluding VAT)

Value excluding VAT: £421,700,000

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 34600000 - Railway and tramway locomotives and rolling stock and associated parts

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UKM - Scotland

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The Lease is being modified in accordance with regulation 86(1)(b) of the Utilities Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2016 as additional supplies not included within the original procurement have become necessary, and a change of contractor cannot be made for economic or technical reasons and would cause significant inconvenience or substantial duplication of cost for SRT, because:

1. The modification has become necessary: there is a need to secure the ongoing operation of the Lease, which includes lifeline services in rural and east suburban areas, while SRT carries out a full procurement for an enduring rolling stock solution using emerging technologies (including batteries and network electrification). Diesel trains are the only feasible option for this interim period.

2. A change of contractor cannot be made for economic or technical reasons: this is because:

a. the Fleet has specific characteristics and technical features that are designed to interoperate with the rail infrastructure and SRT's other fleets and are required for operation on the East Suburban Lines. For example:

i. the Fleet is the only available DMU passenger stock which is fully accepted for operation on these lines and is able to make use of differential speed limits to meet the required journey times;

ii. the Fleet has been fitted with Variable Rate Sanding Equipment, funded by the Scottish Targeted Performance Fund, to offer improved braking performance in low adhesion environments and support SRT's safety case;

iii. the Fleet is able to maintain technical compatibility with the network (including the CL158 fleet with which it is required to operate interchangeably) and depots, ensuring

SRT satisfies the operational requirements stipulated in its Grant Agreement with Scottish Ministers.

iv. any alternative Fleet would require an extensive programme of train crew and engineering staff training, incurring significant training which would create significant additional (and disproportionate) training workload at a time when SRT is already engaged in an intensive programme of recruitment for future fleet cascades and new trains;

v. Please note there is a Section 54 Agreement currently in place until 2035. An extension to the Section 54 agreement is being finalised in relation to the Fleet, and SRT expects that agreement to be in place for the full duration of the lease and options.

b. SRT's analysis has confirmed that there are no alternative available fleets (other than the CL158s that SRT already operates) that contain the necessary technical features and could meet these requirements.

In the event that an alternative existing fleet with suitable performance and technical characteristics was available (which in SRT's view is not the case), and that fleet could be adapted to accommodate the necessary technical features, this would result in substantial duplication of cost, significant inconvenience and extra time out of service, which would be disproportionate in the context of an interim solution

II.2.11) Information about options

Options: Yes

Description of options

As per Section II.1.4, there is an option to extend for up to a further 2 years.

II.2.13) Information about European Union Funds

The procurement is related to a project and/or programme financed by European Union funds: No

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.1) Type of procedure

Award of a contract without prior publication of a call for competition in the cases listed below

- The procurement falls outside the scope of application of the regulations

Explanation:

Please refer to II.2.4 for the Description of the procurement

IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section V. Award of contract/concession

Contract No

SR-PACT-PROJ-0238

A contract/lot is awarded: Yes

V.2) Award of contract/concession

V.2.1) Date of conclusion of the contract

16 January 2026

V.2.2) Information about tenders

The contract has been awarded to a group of economic operators: No

V.2.3) Name and address of the contractor/concessionaire

Porterbrook

8th Floor, Lynton House, Tavistock Square

London

WC1H 9LT

Telephone

+44 7929050934

Country

United Kingdom

NUTS code

- UKI - London

The contractor/concessionaire is an SME

No

V.2.4) Information on value of contract/lot/concession (excluding VAT)

Total value of the contract/lot/concession: £265,700,000

V.2.5) Information about subcontracting

The contract/lot/concession is likely to be subcontracted

Short description of the part of the contract to be subcontracted

Supply/overhaul of the rafts to Wabtec UK Limited

C6/C5P/C8/C10 works to Brodie Engineering Limited

Bogies/Wheels and C4 kits to Alstom Transport UK Limited

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Please note the value provided at II.1.7 represents the total value of the lease from the point of transfer to ScotRail Trains Limited in 2022.

(SC Ref:820071)

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Glasgow Sheriff Court and Justice of the Peace Court

1 Carlton Place

Glasgow

G5 9DA

Country

United Kingdom