

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/005577-2026>

Award

Transaction Management System

RAIL DELIVERY GROUP LIMITED

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-005577

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-060bbc ([view related notices](#))

Published 22 January 2026, 9:23am

Scope

Description

RDG operates the Digital Ticketing Service (DTS), formerly known as Central Back Office (CBO) on behalf of the UK rail industry to support the provision of ITSO smartcard ticket services. Established in 2014, one of the key components of the CBO is the Transaction Management System (TMS) which is in its extension period and due for renewal.

TMS is a bespoke system that was designed and developed specifically to meet the needs of National Rail. This included specific requirements for the combined management, reporting and control of multiple TOC ITSO (electronic smartcards) schemes, scheme interoperability and integration and reporting to a number of external systems. The TMS has subsequently been incrementally developed, maintained and operated by the same supplier, Colibri, to meet the changing requirements of the rail industry. RDG, via RSP, own the TMS Intellectual Property (IP) and code / system.

This modification is a permitted modification under Section 74 and Paragraph 8 of Schedule 8 (Additional Goods, Services or Works) of the Procurement Act 2023. The contract provides bespoke software services critical to national rail operations. A change of supplier at this juncture cannot be made at this point in time for technical reasons because: (i) a new supplier would face significant interchangeability issues with the existing proprietary architecture; and (ii) it would result in a substantial duplication of costs for RDG.

These technical constraints are compounded by the transition to Great British Railways (GBR). Procuring a replacement system now would cause significant inconvenience and disproportionate financial risk before the long-term strategic and technical requirements of GBR are established. The extension is strictly limited to a duration that ensures operational continuity until the GBR transition allows for a settled procurement strategy.

Contract 1

Supplier

- GCI NETWORK SOLUTIONS LIMITED

Contract value

- £1,429,917 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Award decision date

8 January 2026

Standstill period

- End: 2 February 2026
- 8 working days

Earliest date the contract will be signed

3 February 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 3 February 2026 to 26 January 2028
- 1 year, 11 months, 24 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72212100 - Industry specific software development services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Supplier

GCI NETWORK SOLUTIONS LIMITED

- Companies House: 04082862
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PTXG-1465-YWXJ

Melbourne House Brandy Carr Road

West Yorkshire

WF2 0UG

United Kingdom

Email: tenders@nasstar.com

Website: <http://www.nasstar.com>

Region: UKE45 - Wakefield

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

RAIL DELIVERY GROUP LIMITED

- Companies House: 08176197
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PMXW-9895-MJXN

First Floor North

London

EC4V 3DS

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@raildeliverygroup.com

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Organisation type: Public undertaking (commercial organisation subject to public authority oversight)