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Planning

Network Rail Track Focused Railway Systems Contract

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

UK2: Preliminary market engagement notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-009166

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-06136d ([view related notices](#))

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Scope

Description

The Rail Systems Alliances are Track Work contracts formed as partnerships between Network Rail and one or more suppliers. The scope predominantly includes the design and construction of track works on plain line track and switches and crossings (points). Associated work covers survey, site investigation, development, design, and installation works, including drainage, formation, ballast, sleeper, slab, and rail works, along with associated traction power, signalling, and minor civil engineering works such as signal/traction power foundations, level crossings, platform works, and cable troughing routes. The current alliance partnerships are due to end in May and June 2029.

Network Rail is seeking to appoint suitable supplier(s) to continue the delivery of Rail Systems and associated work for the Control Period (CP) 8 and 9 programmes, the estimated start date for mobilisation is mid 2028, with go live in mid 2029.

The current scope includes:

- Track renewals and upgrades across designated routes

- Integration with signalling and electrification works
- Provision of specialist plant and equipment
- Compliance with GBR transition requirements and sustainability objectives

The detailed scope and commercial model will be published within the tender documents.

Total value (estimated)

- £5,000,000,000 excluding VAT
- £6,000,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 August 2028 to 31 July 2039
- 11 years

Main procurement category

Works

CPV classifications

- 45234000 - Construction work for railways and cable transport systems
- 45234100 - Railway construction works
- 71311230 - Railway engineering services
- 71311100 - Civil engineering support services

- 50225000 - Railway-track maintenance services
- 71320000 - Engineering design services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

31 January 2027

Engagement process description

Network Rail will be holding a Market Engagement Meeting with potential suppliers in advance of this procurement activity. We will be holding this as an in-person session on a date in the first week of March 2026 (date to be confirmed) i.e. the week commencing 02/03/2026. The precise timings and venue is to be confirmed but it will be in London or Birmingham. We will provide suppliers with an overview of the procurement activity and our key requirements, challenges, and priorities, followed by a Q&A session. At this stage our strategy and the precise scope is yet to be determined, however we would welcome any views or insights that you may have. If you would like to attend this session please could you follow the link to complete the form and register your interest, no later than Friday 13th February: <https://forms.office.com/e/LxwgaqRZZb> Please note that a maximum of two attendees per supplier may attend. We will also be holding separate individual supplier meetings after this session to help us further understand the supply market and develop our strategy. These are likely to be held remotely over Microsoft Teams and will take place at a mutually convenient time. You can also register your interest in these sessions by completing the form. We look forward to meeting you soon to discuss this procurement activity further.

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

4 May 2027

Procedure

Special regime

Utilities

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

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United Kingdom

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Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government