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Award

714923453 BBMF Lancaster Aircraft PDS Transparency Notice

Defence Equipment and Support

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-009282

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-0614fc

Published 3 February 2026, 9:32am

Scope

Reference

714923453

Description

provision of Post Design Services (PDS) for the Lancaster Aircraft, along with associated supporting activities.

Contract 1. BBMF Lancaster Aircraft PDS

Supplier

- BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd

Contract value

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

23 March 2026

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2030
- Possible extension to 31 March 2035
- 9 years

Description of possible extension:

Additional 12 month priced extensions are included to align this contract with the new BISAP suite of contracts and OSD.

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

Additional 12 month priced extensions are included to align this contract with the new BISAP suite of contracts and OSD.

CPV classifications

- 50211100 - Aircraft maintenance services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

There is a requirement to contract for the Post Design Services (PDS) of the BBMF Lancaster aircraft.

The BBMF Delivery team, part of DE&S in the UK Ministry of Defence (“the Authority”), intends to award a 5-year contract to BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd for the PDS of the BBMF Lancaster aircraft, with further options for extension. The estimated contract value is 3.5M

It is considered that this contract can be awarded under Section 41 of the Procurement Act 2023 because the direct award justification specified in paragraph 6 of Schedule 5 (Technical reasons) applies, which reads:-

(6) The following conditions are met in relation to the public contract—

(a) due to an absence of competition for technical reasons, only a particular supplier can supply the goods, services or works required, and

(b) there are no reasonable alternatives to those goods, services or works.

The Authority submits that this justification applies because, due to an absence of competition for technical reasons, and there being no alternatives, only BAE Systems are able to provide the services required. The BBMF Lancaster is the sole flying Lancaster aircraft in Europe, and as such BAE Systems has the required technical expertise necessary to fulfil the Authority’s requirement and owns the relevant technical information relating to the Lancaster, without which the PDS activities cannot be conducted. BAE Systems operates as the original Equipment Manufacturer (OEM) and as the MAA Design Approved Organisation (DAOS) for the Lancaster, which is a critical requirement from the MAA for any Company completing design activities on the Lancaster. There would also be a serious risk to airworthiness of a single legacy platform with significant importance to the history of the RAF and Britain.

Supplier

BAE Systems (Operations) Ltd

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PBXB-4886-CXBX

Victory Point, Lyon Way, Camberley

Surrey

GU167EX

United Kingdom

Email: www@baesystems.com

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

Region: UKJ25 - West Surrey

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. BBMF Lancaster Aircraft PDS

Contracting authority

Defence Equipment and Support

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVRL-5831-GLMM

MOD Abbey Wood

Bristol

BS34 8JH

United Kingdom

Contact name: Jess Pellowe

Email: Jess.Pellowe101@mod.gov.uk

Website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/defence-equipment-and-support>

Region: UKK12 - Bath and North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire

Organisation type: Public authority - central government