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Award

Provision of Onboard IoT SIM Cards and Data Services

NORTHERN TRAINS LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-014577

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-050161 ([view related notices](#))

Published 11 April 2025, 12:43pm

Scope

Description

Provision of SIM cards and mobile data services to support the onboard communication infrastructure of Northern Railways' fleet.

Contract 1

Supplier

- [BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY](#)

Contract value

- £2,457,600 excluding VAT
- £2,949,120 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

23 April 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2030
- 5 years

Main procurement category

Services

Options

The right to additional purchases while the contract is valid.

The contract has the option to add more data/SIMS

CPV classifications

- 64210000 - Telephone and data transmission services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

Northern Trains Limited intends to directly award British Telecommunications Limited the contract for the supply of SIM cards and data provision services. This decision is based on our established partnership with British Telecommunications Limited, which already supplies various data sources integral to Northern's operations.

Northern Trains Limited operates fleets of trains equipped with sophisticated hardware that relies on onboard routers to facilitate seamless communication while in transit. To ensure the continued functionality and operational efficiency of these systems, as well as Northern's comprehensive data management infrastructure, it is imperative to maintain compatibility with the SIM cards provided by British Telecommunications Limited. Following an evaluation process, alternative Mobile Network Operators were found incapable of meeting Northern's commercial requirements for maintaining the existing routers on our fleet nor meet the technical requirements for interoperability and the essential availability required by our systems.

This direct award to British Telecommunications Limited is essential for ensuring uninterrupted service provision and maintaining the high standards of service and reliability that our passengers expect and deserve.

Supplier

BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

- Companies House: 01800000
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PRYC-1538-TGMN

1 Braham Street

London

E1 8EE

United Kingdom

Email: ccsframeworks@bt.com

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

Region: UKI42 - Tower Hamlets

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

NORTHERN TRAINS LIMITED

- Companies House: 03076444
- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZCJ-2164-HJQZ

George Stephenson House

York

YO1 6JT

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@northernrailway.co.uk

Region: UKE21 - York

Organisation type: Public authority - central government