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Planning

Escalator Foot Entrapment

Transport for London

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2023/S 000-030674

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-040cd8

Published 17 October 2023, 6:33pm

Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Transport for London

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LONDON

E201JN

Contact

Chris Margarido

Email

v_chrismargarido@tfl.gov.uk

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKI - London

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://tfl.gov.uk/>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Regional or local authority

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Transport

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Escalator Foot Entrapment

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 71000000 - Architectural, construction, engineering and inspection services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

Transport for London (TfL) is undertaking an early market engagement exercise, by inviting potential suppliers to complete a Market Sounding Questionnaire (MSQ) for an upcoming escalator foot entrapment trial in which TfL is looking for innovative, scalable solutions that can:

- Reduce and/or eliminate the risk of escalator foot entrapments (Entrapments) on our network, mainly for children.
- Reduce the severity of an Entrapment, should it occur.

This MSQ is issued by Transport for London (TfL) and is seeking market feedback to:

- Understand what solutions exist and ready for implementation
- Understand what technologies exist in other industries that might be applicable to this problem area
- Gauge suppliers' interest, capabilities, and capacity to engage in a trial.

If you have any questions regarding this PIN please contact:

v_chrismargarido@tfl.gov.uk

TfL have recently switched to a new sourcing system, SAP Ariba, meaning that TfL's processes are now different to those that suppliers may be familiar with. The following instructions explain this new system and provide guidance on how interested parties will be able to communicate with TfL and access the MSQ through the new system.

For help on registering on the SAP Ariba system and for checking if your organisation already has an account please refer to <https://content.tfl.gov.uk/supplier-registration.pdf>

In case of registration problems please contact Ariba_Supplier_Enablement@tfl.gov.uk

Upon completion of registration, interested parties must inform the TfL lead via email (v_chrismargarido@tfl.gov.uk), in order that they can be invited to the event in Ariba. They will then have unrestricted and full access to the MSQ, free of charge through their dashboard when they login to Ariba at <https://service.ariba.com/Supplier.aw>. Any subsequent competitions shall also be run through SAP Ariba.

Please can you express your interest by emailing v_chrismargarido@tfl.gov.uk by close of play 17th November 2023 to be gain access to the MSQ event. The last date that MSQ submissions shall be accepted is 20th November 2023.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: No

II.2) Description

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 16000000 - Agricultural machinery
- 34000000 - Transport equipment and auxiliary products to transportation
- 42000000 - Industrial machinery
- 43000000 - Machinery for mining, quarrying, construction equipment
- 44000000 - Construction structures and materials; auxiliary products to construction (except electric apparatus)
- 71000000 - Architectural, construction, engineering and inspection services
- 73000000 - Research and development services and related consultancy services
- 76000000 - Services related to the oil and gas industry

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

TfL is committed to keeping its customers safe on their journey. However, with over 500 escalators on the TfL network there is a risk of customer entrapment. Whilst the risk of this entrapment is very low (roughly 0.04 times per million passengers since the start of 2022), the potential harm to customers can be serious. TfL customers most at risk are children who account for 76% of Entrapments.

TfL is looking to procure a supplier to run a trial to test innovative solutions to mitigate and where possible eliminate the entrapment problem.

Entrapments can be described as:

- When a shoe/foot enters the space between the escalator skirt and the moving steps and becomes wedged (Step-Skirt)
- When a shoe/foot goes into the comb plate at the end of an escalator (Comb plate)

- When a shoe gets caught between two steps as they form from inclined to flat (Step-Step)

The issue of escalator foot entrapment has been historically difficult to solve because:

Our understanding of the problem is limited as:

- Entrapments are a very rare occurrence
- Escalators were designed predominately for use by adults and not Children who have different needs and face higher entrapment rates,
- TfL's escalators vary in age and design which makes it difficult to retroactively fit a cost-effective, one size fits all solution.

TfL is currently addressing Entrapments with several trials which include:

- Painting the escalator step-edges,
- Extending the step-edge brushes and making them stiffer
- inserting raised and plastic edges,
- Using trip-switches,
- Using Tactile skirting,
- Reducing escalator speeds.

As such TfL is looking within this procurement for alternative innovative solutions to escalator entrapment.

An appointed supplier would be expected to not just communicate their solution but also have the capability to run a trial of their solution, potentially on the TfL network.

II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 May 2024

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

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

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

TfL reserves the right without prior notice to amend the information provided, including, but not limited to, changing the timetable, the scope and nature of the procurement and the procurement process. In particular, TfL reserves the right to issue circulars to interested parties providing further information or supplementing and / or amending the procurement process. In no circumstances shall TfL incur any liability in respect of any changes. This will be subject to the requirements of public law, the UK and EU procurement rules and Treaty on the functioning of the European Union rules and general principles.

TfL reserves the right without prior notice not to follow up the MSQ documents in any way or with any interested parties. TfL also reserves the right to terminate this process at any time without awarding a contract. TfL will not enter into a contract based solely on the responses to the MSQ document and no information contained within the MSQ document or in any communication made between TfL and any interested party in connection with the MSQ document shall be relied upon as constituting a contract or representation that any contract shall be offered.