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Award

Provision of FOC driver and PIC services

FIRST GREATER WESTERN LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-035497

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-055465

Published 26 June 2025, 3:49pm

Scope

Description

An immediate requirement has been identified for the provision of cl80x including Automatic Train Protection (ATP) competent Freight Operating Company (FOC) Drivers who are trained to Great Western Railway (GWR) standards. The FOC Drivers are required over 17 days to provide driving services to GWR for the management and servicing of its rolling stock to/from off network locations as mitigations to planned perturbation. In addition to driving services, there is also a requirement for Person in Charge (PICs) to work with the Drivers and operate off network facilities/locations on behalf of GWR. To ensure GWR can deliver for its customers, the route learning for the FOC Drivers must commence no later than August 2025. A tender will be published shortly for future requirements.

Contract 1

Supplier

- GB RAILFREIGHT LIMITED

Contract value

- £1,500,000 excluding VAT
- £1,800,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

29 August 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 September 2025 to 31 March 2026
- Possible extension to 30 September 2026
- 1 year, 1 month

Description of possible extension:

Extensions may be applied in circumstances where the main tender process requires additional time to complete. This could arise due to factors such as the complexity of submissions, the need for clarifications, or delays in evaluation or approvals.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 60200000 - Railway transport services

Contract locations

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD - North West (England)
- UKE - Yorkshire and the Humber
- UKF - East Midlands (England)
- UKG - West Midlands (England)
- UKH - East of England
- UKI - London
- UKJ - South East (England)
- UKK - South West (England)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

Extreme and unavoidable urgency

Due to substantial scope changes in GWR requirements GWR intends to re-tender the entire requirement to ensure compliance with procurement legislation and to uphold the principles of fairness, transparency, and equal opportunity for all potential bidders.

However, due to time constraints preventing the completion of a full procurement process at this stage, a short-term direct award has been made to meet urgent operational requirements.

A full tender process will be launched in due course.

Supplier

GB RAILFREIGHT LIMITED

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London

EC3V 3NH

United Kingdom

Email: ian.grey@gbrailfreight.com

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): No

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1

Contracting authority

FIRST GREATER WESTERN LIMITED

- Companies House: 05113733

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PXVG-2764-GZCQ

Milford House 1 Milford Street

Wiltshire

SN1 1HL

United Kingdom

Email: procurement@gwr.com

Region: UKK14 - Swindon

Organisation type: Private utility