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Planning

13 Pounder Design Organisation (DO)

Defence Equipment and Support

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-037181

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05586e ([view related notices](#))

Published 3 July 2025, 3:15pm

Scope

Reference

715245452-13 Pounder Design Organisation (DO)

Description

1. Defence Equipment and Support (DE&S) require a Design Organisation (DO) for the Ordnance, Quick Firing 13 Pounder Gun and Limber to ensure its availability, reliability and maintainability until its Out of Service Date (OSD) of 2030. The 13 Pounder DO include subsequent Post Design Services (PDS) that have core and non-core activities. This Project will provide assurance that capability can be retained in-service to enable Kings Troop to safely fulfil their State Ceremonial and Public Duties until the OSD in 2030 (Potential to change).

2. This Preliminary Market Engagement Notice has been issued to provide information to the market that DE&S TOWED is planning to procure Design Authority for 13pd and needs further intel to understand the feasibility of the requirement to enable it to develop the procurement strategy.

3. The tasks required to maintain the 13 Pounder Capability are as follows:

Configuration Management Plan - Develop and maintain a comprehensive Configuration Management Plan. Ensure the plan includes all associated tasks, such as maintaining configuration baselines, status records, drawings, and Engineering Change Proposals (ECPs).

Design Documentation - Update and maintain all design documentation, including drawings, verification data, and specifications. Ensure all documentation complies with the Authority's procedures and adheres to the standards outlined in DEF STAN 05-10 (Parts 1-2) and DEF STAN 05-061 Part 1.

Proposed Modifications - Identify, propose, and document modifications as required.

Certificates of Design - Provide or Manage Certificates of Design to confirm compliance with design requirements and standards.

Supporting Documentation - Produce all supporting documentation as specified in the 13 Pounder Statement of Work (SOW).

Ad-Hoc and Non-Core Activities - Fulfil all ad-hoc and non-core activities as outlined in the 13 Pounder SOW.

Obsolescence Management - Produce and maintain annually an Obsolescence Management Plan (OMP) for the 13 Pounder including an Obsolescence Report Status List

4. The Towed Artillery Systems anticipates a contract duration of 3 years with a 1-year options (3+1) to extend.

5. Note: The information contained in this Preliminary Market Engagement (PME) may be subject to change. Insofar as is permitted by law, the Authority shall not be liable for any losses incurred by any party as a result of reliance on the information contained herein.

6. Whilst a complete solution is being sought, DE&S encourages participation in the RFI, which is to be issued within 10 working days from the date of this notice.

7. Note: This PMEN is not a means to seek formal expression of interest and shall not constitute a commitment to instigate a formal procurement process for the requirement.

Total value (estimated)

- £2,500,000 excluding VAT
- £3,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 2 April 2029
- Possible extension to 3 April 2030
- 4 years, 3 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 35322300 - Towed artillery
- 35322000 - Artillery
- 50111000 - Fleet management, repair and maintenance services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

18 July 2025

Engagement process description

DE&S encourages participation in the Request For Information (RFI), which is to be issued within 10 working days from the date of this notice and it is to be closed within further 10 working days from the RFI being published. Further steps will be confirmed within the RFI.

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

18 July 2025

Procedure

Special regime

Defence and security

Contracting authority

Defence Equipment and Support

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVRL-5831-GLMM

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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