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Planning

Market Engagement - Non Destructive Testing Training

Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-038762

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-04c17e

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Section I: Contracting authority

I.1) Name and addresses

Network Rail Infrastructure Ltd

Waterloo General Offices

London

SE1 8SW

Email

Vicky.Brown2@networkrail.co.uk

Telephone

+44 1908781000

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UK - United Kingdom

Internet address(es)

Main address

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/>

Buyer's address

<https://networkrail.bravosolution.co.uk/web/login.html>

I.3) Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

Other activity

Rail Industry

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Market Engagement - Non Destructive Testing Training

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 80500000 - Training services

II.1.3) Type of contract

Services

II.1.4) Short description

This soft market testing PIN and RFI questionnaire has been developed by Network Rail (NR) in advance of procuring a solution for the provision of

Non Destructive Testing (NDT) Training Courses.

NR wishes to incentivise the market to engage with the opportunity and contribute innovation, experience and delivery capability to the delivery of

these courses. In line with NR's procurement principles, NR is committed to becoming an 'informed' client with excellent visibility and understanding of the market and the supply chains and customers operating within them.

At this stage, pre-procurement, NR are committed to engaging with the industry to inform and refine the overall sourcing strategy.

II.1.6) Information about lots

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 2

The contracting authority reserves the right to award contracts combining the following lots or groups of lots:

Lot 1 Non Destructive Testing - Level 1 – Basic Ultrasonic Test & Ultrasonic Testing Rail
Level 2

Lot 2 – All other courses

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 1 Non Destructive Testing - Level 1 – Basic Ultrasonic Test & Ultrasonic Testing Rail
Level 2

Lot No

1

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71632200 - Non-destructive testing services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-regions/>

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

The purpose of this RFI and soft market testing is to:

- Understand the markets capacity and capability to deliver the courses and to further develop the procurement strategy;
- Provide potential suppliers the opportunity to give feedback to help inform the refinement of NR's approach;
- Obtain information from the market to understand the market perspective;
- Understand the appetite from Small / Medium Enterprises (SME) to consider tendering; and
- Understand the appetite from Non Destructive Testing service providers to consider tendering with the use of experts to deliver the training.

The responses to this Questionnaire will be synthesised to identify key market themes, to

be shared internally with key stakeholders and to further inform the sourcing strategy. This soft market testing is not itself a Call for Competition under the Find a Tender Services (FTS) (whether pursuant to the Public Contracts regulations 2015, the Utilities Contracts Regulations 2016, the Concession Contracts Regulations 2016, or otherwise). NR does not commit itself to commencing any such sourcing process.

The supplier must:

- Provide high quality training;
- Ensure that trainers have enough knowledge of NR and/or the rail industry, and a detailed knowledge of the subject area concerned;
- Ensure all trainers are approved as per the Associate Trainer Process (ATP), as set out below (NB Suppliers do not need ATP approval to tender for this opportunity but this will need to be in place following the award of a contract);
- Ensure that all personnel and trainers maintain all appropriate and current qualifications and/or competences necessary;
- Promote equality, diversity, and inclusion as per NRs strategy Equity, diversity and inclusion - Network Rail; and
- Ensure that its personnel and trainers adhere to the relevant assurances set out in NR standard NR/L2/CTM/202. This standard specifies requirements for the quality assurance of training/assessment organisations and individuals involved in the delivery of training/assessments which award a Network Rail competence which is deemed Safety Critical and requires an 'Authority to Work'.

An overview of the NR designed & completed training courses for “Non Destructive Testing” (NDT) are included in the RFI document located on the NR opportunity page on Bravo at

www.networkrail.bravosolution.co.uk. View current opportunities and select the link for "Soft-Market Engagement NDT RFI December 2024"

II.2) Description

II.2.1) Title

Lot 2 - All other courses

Lot No

2

II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)

- 71632200 - Non-destructive testing services

II.2.3) Place of performance

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

Main site or place of performance

<https://www.networkrail.co.uk/running-the-railway/our-regions/>

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II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice

1 September 2025

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

IMPORTANT NOTE: Interested parties should go to the Network Rail Bravo page (<https://networkrail.bravosolution.co.uk>), select view current opportunities, click on the link for 'Market Engagement Non Destructive Testing Training Services' to access a copy of the RFI which includes a questionnaire for suppliers to complete.

NR may be looking to tender this requirement in the near future. Any potential tender event in relation to this requirement will be issued via the NR procurement platform – BravoNR.

Please note any discussions which do occur will cease immediately should a formal competition ultimately be announced. NR is committed to ensuring fairness, openness and transparency, and to following the procurement regulations. The Periodic Indicative Notice is issued solely for the purpose of conducting pre-procurement market engagement via a request for information and does not constitute any commitment to undertake any procurement in the future. Interested parties will not be prejudiced by any response or failure to respond to the PIN event and a response to this PIN does not guarantee any invitation to participate in this event or any future procurement.

This PIN does not constitute a call for competition to procure any services, supplies or works mentioned in this PIN and NR will not accept any proposals offered in response to this PIN. NR is not liable for any costs, fees, or expenses incurred by any party in replying to or attending any PIN event. Any procurement of any services, supplies or works by NR will be carried out strictly in accordance with the provisions of the Utilities Regulations 2016 or otherwise.