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Planning

Preliminary Market Engagement Escorting and Related Services

Home Office

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

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Scope

Reference

project_19029

Description

The Home Office is seeking to engage with suppliers who are interested in becoming the commercial partners (Prime Contractor) responsible for delivering the Escorting Services contract, which provides the in-country and overseas escorting of detained persons and management of Short-Term Holding Facilities (STHF), across the UK and Northern France.

Background:

The Home Office is responsible for detaining and enforcing the removal of people from the UK who have no legal basis to remain here. The Escorting Services contract is fundamental to delivering this through the movement of people within the UK, which supports the functioning of the immigration detention / removal estate; the removal of

people from the UK, which is predominately via air travel and a mix of escorted (to destination) and unescorted (not escorted to destination). The contract also includes the operation, management and maintenance of Residential Short-Term Holding Facilities and the operation and management of Non-Residential Short-Term Holding Facilities at air/seaports and Immigration Enforcement reporting centres (STHFs). STHFs support the wider immigration detention / removal estate, enforcement activity within the community and protection of the UK border.

Requirement (please note not exhaustive and subject to change):

Management Services - includes operational control centre, performance monitoring and reporting, audit arrangement, and complaint procedures.

Core Services - includes welfare, care of children, risk assessments, use of force, staffing & personnel and training.

In-Country Escorting - 24/7 escorting between locations within the UK. Includes prisons, police stations, hospitals (inc bed watches), STHFs, Immigration Removal Centres. Also includes escort to aircraft for purpose of removal (unescorted) and provision of medical escorts.

Overseas Escorting - 24/7 escorting from place of detention within the UK to designated overseas destination, primarily via air travel with a mix between scheduled and charter flights. Also includes provision of medical escorts and interfacing with the authorities travel service provider.

Non-Residential STHF - the operation and management of designated holding rooms across all parts of the UK. There are currently 28 of these facilities which operate up to 24/7 and can hold people up to 24 hours and beyond in certain circumstances.

Residential STHF - the operation, management and maintenance of RSTHF across all parts of the UK. There are currently 3 of these facilities which operate 24/7 and can hold people up to 7 days in certain circumstances.

Juxtaposed Controls (Northern France) 24/7 escorting services with the UK control zones (Calais, Coquelles, and Dunkerque) and operation and management of 5 (currently) holding rooms at these French ports.

Total value (estimated)

- £950,000,000 excluding VAT

- £1,140,000,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 May 2028 to 30 April 2038
- 10 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 50111100 - Vehicle-fleet management services
- 60130000 - Special-purpose road passenger-transport services
- 79710000 - Security services
- 55500000 - Canteen and catering services
- 80000000 - Education and training services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

25 August 2025

Engagement process description

The Market Engagement exercise seeks to understand supplier interest, capabilities, and approaches to delivering a high-quality and compliant operational service. The Home Office seeks to understand market views on specific topics such as:

Pricing mechanisms

Performance management

Continuous improvement and innovation

Volumes

Staffing

Risk Management

The Market Engagement process will run from the 18th July to 25th August 2025. All participants will be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) prior to being given access to the Market Engagement exercise. The NDA will be accessible via Jaggaer.

The stages of the process are as follows:

The Home Office will send prospective suppliers a questionnaire, after they have signed the NDA, along with a background note. Suppliers will have until the 25th of August 2025 to complete the questionnaire and upload on the Jaggaer e-sourcing portal.

Suppliers shall be invited to a virtual industry day likely to take place week commencing 28th of July 2025.

Suppliers are invited to request a virtual 1:1 meeting with the Home Office. Should Suppliers want a 1:1 meeting, they must indicate their interest to the Home Office at their earliest convenience, and in any event, before the 1st of August 2025.

The Home Office will capture any questions raised in the 1:1 meetings and issue responses to all suppliers for transparency purposes, prior to the engagement deadline.

Please note:

To express your interest in the Market Engagement process, your organisation must be registered on the Home Office eSourcing Portal. If you have not yet registered, this can be done online at <https://homeoffice.app.jaggaer.com/web/login.html> by following the Register Here link. To register, you must have a valid DUNS number for the organisations which you are registering and who will be entering into a contract if invited to do so.

Once registered, please search for the following project information:

project_19029 - Escorting and Related Services

pqq_674 - NDA stage - Escorting and Related Services Preliminary Market Engagement

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

10 February 2026

Contracting authority

Home Office

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PWGC-6513-PQLZ

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London

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United Kingdom

Email: Escorting.Services.Procurement@homeoffice.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government