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Planning

Delivery of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) Training

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-044310

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Scope

Description

Network Rail is undertaking this Market Engagement exercise to gather insights from potential suppliers regarding the future provision of Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) training. This engagement is intended to inform the development of a potential procurement strategy and ensure that any future contracting approach is aligned with market capabilities, best practices, and innovation in training delivery.

The purpose of this Market Engagement is to:

- Understanding views of the supply market on the proposed scope, pricing mechanism and call-off mechanism.
- Identify any additional or alternative services, requirements or concepts that Network Rail have not considered - this information may then be considered to support Network Rail in developing/updating the scope of services for the tender opportunity.
- Identify suitable suppliers available in the market.
- Identify the capacity and capabilities of the suppliers available in the market.

- Engage with the supply market and understand the level of interest in bidding for this potential future opportunity.

- Allow suppliers who are interested in any potential future tender activity relating to this requirement, to be aware of the procurement platform that will be used and provide them with the steps to complete qualification to this platform if requested (should they not have already done so).

Please note that any content received in response to this Market Engagement will be used for information purposes only and will not be deemed as forming part of any proposed bid or potential future tender.

The Requirement

Proposed Framework Lotting Structure and Service

NR is considering the use of a Lotting Structure with either a single supplier or a number of suppliers to deliver the services for NDT. The breakdown of courses per Lot can be found in Annex B - Scope of Services.

NR acknowledges that a percentage of the delivery maybe sub-contracted with NR's approval of the subcontractor.

The supplier may need to serve multiple sites, supplier owned or at NR premises, of which locations are varied across the Regions.

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'.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Total value (estimated)

- £3,000,000 excluding VAT
- £3,600,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2028
- Possible extension to 30 September 2030
- 4 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 80500000 - Training services

- 71632200 - Non-destructive testing services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

15 August 2025

Engagement process description

The Market Engagement will take place through completion of a questionnaire to be returned by 15th August 2025.

To access the Market Engagement submission document, please go to our Bravo site via the link and select "View Current Opportunities" at the bottom left of the login page. Select the Link for Delivery of NDT Training Courses and complete the response to the engagement questionnaire.

Please note that there is no need to login to Bravo to be able to access the opportunity.

The instructions for returning the market engagement information are included within the Market Engagement document titled NDT Pre Market Engagement.

The link to the Opportunity Listing on Bravo is -

<https://networkrail.bravosolution.co.uk/esop/toolkit/opportunity>

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

5 January 2026

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

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Organisation type: Public authority - central government