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Planning

TfL Zero-Emission Dial-a-Ride Vehicle Trial

Transport for London

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

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Scope

Description

TfL Zero-Emission Dial-a-Ride Vehicle Trial

TfL is working towards transitioning to a fully zero-emission Dial-a-Ride (DaR) fleet by 2034, with an aspirational target of 2030. This transition supports TfL's broader environmental objectives and aligns with the Mayor of London's commitment to achieving a zero-emission bus fleet.

Objectives of the Transition:

- Reduce the environmental impact of the DaR fleet
- Improve air quality across London
- Deliver a cleaner, more sustainable service for DaR users
- Maintain accessibility and safety for vulnerable passengers

Vehicle Trial Overview

Ahead of fleet procurement decisions, TfL is seeking to trial electric vehicles currently available in the market. We invite suppliers to provide a suitable electric vehicle for a trial period at no cost.

The vehicle must be appropriate for the safe and accessible transport of customers with mobility and/or long-term disabilities. For reference, please consult the linked vehicle specification document.

The trial will help TfL gather essential data on battery range and energy consumption, which will inform the strategy for transitioning to an electric DaR fleet.

Trial Structure

To assess performance under varying conditions, we aim to conduct trials across seasonal periods:

1. Spring/Summer Period

- Duration: Four weeks
- Timing: Flexible

2. Autumn/Winter Period

- Duration: Four weeks
- Timing: Flexible

Please note this time frame is flexible and subject to change.

These windows are designed to capture seasonal transitions and provide a comprehensive view of operational performance. While participation in both periods is preferred, it is not mandatory. TfL welcomes alternative proposals based on vehicle availability, operational feasibility, or other supplier considerations.

Requirements for Data Collection and Support

To ensure a successful trial, we request the following:

- Installation of data recorders to capture detailed operational data throughout both trial phases
- Supplier support during the trial to ensure smooth operation and timely issue resolution

- Completion of driver training prior to the trial to ensure staff are confident and prepared to operate the vehicle

Contract dates (estimated)

- 18 October 2025 to 18 March 2026
- Possible extension to 18 April 2026
- 6 months, 1 day

Main procurement category

Goods

CPV classifications

- 34144900 - Electric vehicles

Contract locations

- UKI - London

Engagement

Engagement deadline

18 September 2025

Engagement process description

This notice is for Early Market Engagement purposes, this is to inform the market of TfL's current strategy and business requirements as it pertains to Dial a Ride Zero emission vehicles and how to register their interest.

If you are interested in providing TfL an electric Dial a Ride vehicle to trial, please contact madeleineshermer@tfl.gov.uk via email.

Interest Response Deadline: 12pm (noon) 18 September 2025

Any feedback received will be reviewed, analysed, and may be considered by the project team in developing any subsequent procurement strategy for any potential procurement activity.

Dial a Ride previously issued a early market engagement notice (Publication reference: 2024/S 000-015662), within this notice includes the scope and activities, you can access the requirement documents within the MSQ link here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/gCZGAfapTZ>

If you have any questions. please contact:

madeleineshermer@tfl.gov.uk

Contracting authority

Transport for London

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