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Planning

S1140 (2027) PROVISION OF LARGE PLANT HIRE AND ASSOCIATED SERVICES

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-056927

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059b3f ([view related notices](#))

Published 16 September 2025, 12:43pm

Scope

Reference

S1140 (2027)

Description

NIE Networks is conducting a Preliminary Market Engagement (PME) to gather insights from the market before initiating a procurement process for S1140 (2027) Provision of Large Plant Hire and Associated Services.

The primary focus of this PME is to invite interested parties to complete a Market Sounding Questionnaire (MSQ) to provide information to assist with NIE Networks' consideration of the options available and preparation of the tender process including, without limitation, in relation to market appetite, capacity, capability and perceived risks and opportunities. The procurement route, tender approach, scope of services and Contract terms required will be further considered by NIE Networks following this PME exercise and engagement with interested parties. This PME is open to all suppliers and is intended to be a collaborative effort to ensure a robust and successful procurement

process

The scope of services will include:

- Hire of Large Plant (Lots 1–3) – Supply of track machines and rubber wheel diggers, inclusive of operators, to assist with the erection/replacement of electricity poles and towers, installation of stay rods, and substation earthing; unaccompanied rigging and erection of new electricity poles; transportation of NIE Networks' own plant.
- Hire of Forklifts, Telescopic Handlers with Transportation (Lots 4–6) – Transportation and installation of equipment to and within work sites including electricity substations; recovery of redundant equipment from such sites.
- Mobile Crane Hire (Lot 7) – Provision of a 'Contract Lift' service through mobile cranes to support work programmes, including works within live electrical substations up to 400kV and in public/private property locations, in accordance with the Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (NI) 1999 and BS 7121.

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 January 2027 to 31 December 2031
- Possible extension to 31 December 2035
- 9 years

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 45500000 - Hire of construction and civil engineering machinery and equipment with operator
- 43262100 - Mechanical excavators
- 43300000 - Construction machinery and equipment
- 43310000 - Civil engineering machinery
- 45520000 - Hire of earthmoving equipment with operator
- 42414000 - Cranes, mobile lifting frames and works trucks fitted with a crane
- 42414100 - Cranes
- 45510000 - Hire of cranes with operator
- 42400000 - Lifting and handling equipment and parts
- 42410000 - Lifting and handling equipment
- 42414310 - Mobile lifting frames
- 42415100 - Lifting trucks
- 42418000 - Lifting, handling, loading or unloading machinery
- 42419000 - Parts of lifting and handling equipment
- 60182000 - Hire of industrial vehicles with driver

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Engagement

Engagement deadline

7 October 2025

Engagement process description

Interested parties should submit clarification questions via the messaging function within PQQ_4681 S1140 (2027) Provision of Large Plant Hire and Associated Services - Pre-Market Engagement on eSourcingNI by 5.00pm on Friday 3rd October 2025.

All clarifications or queries relating to the MSQ must be submitted via the eSourcingNI portal as a secure message. Clarification requests may be answered in batches rather than one at a time.

Each response to a request for clarification may be issued as a broadcast message, suitably anonymised, to all interested parties via eSourcingNI. It shall be the interested parties' responsibility to monitor clarification responses.

If an interested party raises a clarification which it considers is confidential in nature, this must be stated within the request. In all circumstances, NIE Networks reserves the right to issue clarification responses to all interested parties at any stage when it believes, at its sole discretion, the clarification should be issued to all interested parties.

Where any additions or amendments are made to the MSQ documents, these will be issued to all interested parties via eSourcingNI in the form of an addendum. Responses to clarification requests issued by NIE Networks shall be deemed to form part of the documents and must be treated as such by the interested party.

Any queries or correspondence during the process must not be directed to any NIE Networks employees or any other address rather than the method outlined above. Any violation of this instruction by the Bidder may render their MSQ Response invalid.

No oral conversations or agreements with any representatives of NIE Networks shall affect or modify any terms of this document and/or the MSQ or any submitted response. Any oral communication between NIE Networks and the Bidder shall not be binding on NIE Networks, unless the communication is subsequently issued as a broadcast clarification message in response to a clarification requested submitted via eSourcingNI.

MSQ Responses must be submitted in accordance with the following conditions:

- eSourcingNI is NIE Networks' chosen electronic tendering portal for the Procurement.
- Should you have any queries, or if you are having any problems registering on the portal, please contact the Bravo Solution dedicated helpdesk by calling 0800 368 4850

(UK) or 00442033496601 (outside UK).

- The MSQ Response must be completed as directed and returned via the eSourcingNI portal. MSQ Responses received after the submission deadline will not be considered
- Phoned, faxed or emailed MSQ Responses will not be accepted.
- The MSQ Response can be uploaded anytime until the submission deadline within this document.
- When uploading your response, please be aware that the speed of your internet connection, your system configuration and general web traffic, may impact on the time required to complete the transaction. Uploading of MSQ Responses must be completed by the final submission time.
- NIE Networks cannot accept responsibility for transmission delays. It is the responsibility of the Bidder to ensure that its MSQ Response has been submitted in the prescribed manner and in accordance with the specified deadline.
- When uploading your MSQ Response please ensure that:
 - o You have checked that your whole MSQ Response has been uploaded correctly, including supporting attachments;
 - o Once uploaded and saved, a final check of the MSQ Response is carried out to ensure the document/s uploaded contain ALL the answers.

Please consider this document in detail and if you feel that your organisation is able to contribute to this PME exercise, please complete the MSQ and return by the deadline specified below.

MSQ responses should be submitted by 5:00pm on Tuesday 7th October 2025.

Submission

Publication date of tender notice (estimated)

9 January 2026

Procedure

Special regime

Utilities

Contracting authority

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks Limited

- Companies House: NI026041

120 Malone Road

Belfast

BT9 5HT

United Kingdom

Email: noreen.magowan@nienetworks.co.uk

Organisation type: Private utility

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland