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Planning

Road Asset Management - Surface Dressing Framework

DfI Transport and Road Asset Management (TRAM)

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-062899

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05a99b ([view related notices](#))

Published 7 October 2025, 2:19pm

Scope

Reference

T-1146

Description

The RAM Surface Dressing Framework will include the following work activities: application of surface dressing, associated road markings, delivery of temporary traffic management as part of associated civils works on live trafficked public roads and other associated ancillary works.

The Framework will comprise of seven area Lots (Works Orders valued up to £750k) covering the following areas:

SDF S1 - Armagh, Banbridge & Craigavon;

SDF S2 - Newry, Mourne & Down / Ards & North Down;

SDF E1 - Belfast / Lisburn & Castlereagh;

SDF N1 - Causeway Coast & Glens;

SDF N2 - Mid & East Antrim / Antrim & Newtownabbey;

SDF W1 - Mid Ulster;

SDF W2 - Derry & Strabane / Fermanagh & Omagh

Commercial tool

Establishes a framework

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 March 2026 to 1 March 2030
- 4 years, 1 day

Main procurement category

Works

CPV classifications

- 45220000 - Engineering works and construction works
- 45233220 - Surface work for roads

Contract locations

- UKN0 - Northern Ireland
-

Engagement

Engagement deadline

31 January 2023

The engagement was carried out before this notice was published.

Engagement process description

As part of the Department for Infrastructure's (DfI) Procurement Enhancement Programme (PEP), a comprehensive procurement strategy was developed to support the efficient and cost-effective delivery of road asset maintenance across Northern Ireland. This strategy encompasses a range of road maintenance and improvement works, including Surface Dressing, with individual project values up to £5 million.

To ensure the strategy was informed by industry insight and stakeholder needs, DfI undertook a structured Preliminary Market Engagement (PME) process between June 2022 and January 2023. This engagement involved consultation with internal stakeholders and the wider market to align procurement approaches with current capabilities and expectations.

The feedback gathered during this PME directly shaped the final Procurement Strategy, which was published on 31 March 2023. Responses to stakeholder input are detailed in Appendix A of the strategy document.

Further details on the Procurement Strategy, the PME process and outcome, are available in the published documentation which can be found here:

www.infrastructure-ni.gov.uk/publications/department-infrastructure-roads-works-and-maintenance-procurement-enhancement-programme

Although the Framework is expected to be awarded in March 2026, works under the MTC call-off contracts are not anticipated to commence until the 2027 Surface Dressing season, expected to start in May 2027.

It is currently anticipated that the Surface Dressing Framework tender competition will be published via eTendersNI in October 2025.

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Contracting authority

DfI Transport and Road Asset Management (TRAM)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PYQH-8789-DZPG

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Region: UKN06 - Belfast

Organisation type: Public authority - central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Northern Ireland

