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Award

Project_5066- Provision of Bill of Lading Shipping Data

Department for Business & Trade

UK5: Transparency notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-075816

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05e5d5 ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 November 2025, 4:18pm

Scope

Reference

5066

Description

Bill of Lading data is used by DBT to monitor container trade to and from the UK. DBT have been receiving Bill of Lading data for exports from the UK (where a container leaves from a UK port) and imports to the UK (where the container lands at a UK port or the container lands at a foreign port but with a final destination of the UK) since 2021.

The Data DBT requires includes:

- a. Container events including port departure time and port arrival time.
- b. Information on which ship the good was transported on. This must include International Maritime Organization ('IMO' number') and vessel name, and it is also desirable that Maritime Mobile Service Identity 'MMSI'). Information on both IMO and, ideally, MMSI designations are required to allow government to match data with UN Global Platform automated identification system (AIS) data.

- c. Carrier, shipper, forwarder, and container details. These details are required to identify the movements of the specific cargo containers that goods are shipped in. We also require the address data for the carrier, shipper and forwarder.
 - d. Port of load, port of destination, place of receipt, and place of destination details. The data must allow us to identify where goods are shipped via intermediate ports.
 - e. The types and details of goods being shipped. This should be the name/type of product using HS classification codes and the volume/weight of the product.
 - f. Allocated container count (i.e. unit of measurement used to determine the cargo capacity relative to the total container capacity).
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Contract 1. Provision of Bill of Lading Shipping Data

Supplier

- THINKDATA WORKS LIMITED

Contract value

- £520,000 excluding VAT
- £624,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

28 November 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2026
- Possible extension to 29 November 2027
- 1 year, 11 months, 29 days

Description of possible extension:

DBT will input an optional 12 month extension clause into the contract that can be triggered at DBT's discretion.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72300000 - Data services

Participation

Particular suitability

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

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Direct award justification

Single supplier - technical reasons

DBT carried out pre market engagement excersises before switching to the Direct Award route.

A Direct Award is considered justified using the following reasoning from the Procurement Act 2023:

- Where, due to an absence of competition for technical reasons and provided there are no reasonable alternatives, only a particular supplier can supply the goods, services or works required.

Supplier

THINKDATA WORKS LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PCLR-3928-GXBG

5 New Street Square

London

EC4A 3TW

United Kingdom

Email: info@thinkdataworks.com

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Provision of Bill of Lading Shipping Data

Contracting authority

Department for Business & Trade

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PZZJ-6312-QTTD

Old Admiralty Building

London

SW1A 2DY

United Kingdom

Email: commercialddat@businessandtrade.gov.uk

Region: UKI32 - Westminster

Organisation type: Public authority - central government