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Award

Blanket Audio-visual Copyright Licence

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

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

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-076945

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05e891 ([view related notices](#))

Published 25 November 2025, 3:14pm

Scope

Reference

project_44719

Description

The Motion Picture Licensing Company (MPLC) provides a Blanket Licence that legally authorises the public performance of copyrighted audiovisual works—films, TV programmes, streaming clips, and training videos—in non-domestic environments. This is required under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, particularly after the 2016 amendment to Section 72, which removed exemptions for films in public settings.

Purpose and Legal Requirement

The licence ensures compliance for organisations showing audiovisual content in workplaces, stations, depots, or staff areas.

Activities such as streaming YouTube or TED Talks during safety briefings, or displaying news feeds on office TVs, count as public performance and require MPLC licensing.

Other licences like TV Licence or PRS/PPL do not cover these uses.

Contract 1. Blanket Audio-visual Copyright Licence

Supplier

- MOTION PICTURE LICENSING COMPANY LIMITED

Contract value

- £864,138.40 excluding VAT
- £1,036,966.08 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Earliest date the contract will be signed

15 December 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 15 December 2025 to 30 September 2030
- 4 years, 9 months, 17 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 79120000 - Patent and copyright consultancy services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Participation

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Direct award

Special regime

Utilities

Direct award justification

- Single supplier - intellectual property or exclusive rights
- Single supplier - technical reasons

Exclusive Rights – Sole Supplier

MPLC (Motion Picture Licensing Company) is the only provider of the blanket licence for public performance of films and TV content in non-domestic settings under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 - No alternative suppliers offer equivalent coverage.

Legal Obligation

Since the 2016 amendment to Section 72 CDPA, exemptions for film broadcasts in public spaces were removed. Organisations like Network Rail must hold an MPLC licence to avoid copyright infringement.

This is a statutory requirement, similar to a TV licence, making competitive tendering irrelevant because the licence is a legal necessity

Supplier

MOTION PICTURE LICENSING COMPANY LIMITED

- Companies House: 08087372

MPLC House, 22-24 Gildredge Road

Eastbourne

BN21 4SA

United Kingdom

Telephone: 01323 649647

Email: ukinfo@mplc.com

Region: UKJ22 - East Sussex CC

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. Blanket Audio-visual Copyright Licence

Contracting authority

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNZN-9524-VCQJ

Waterloo General Office

London

SE1 8SW

United Kingdom

Contact name: Edward Mayhew

Email: edward.mayhew@networkrail.co.uk

Website: <https://www.networkrail.co.uk/>

Region: UKI45 - Lambeth

Organisation type: Public authority - central government