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Award

International Study Tour 2026 –Toulouse

Cardiff University

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-077831

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05ea7b

Published 27 November 2025, 4:11pm

Scope

Reference

CU.2096.MP

Description

This Procurement Plan outlines the rationale and process for awarding a direct contract to StudyLink Tours for the provision of an International Study Tour to Toulouse in March 2026. The tour is designed to support Cardiff University's educational objectives by providing students with an immersive international learning experience aligned with their academic curriculum.

StudyLink Tours has been selected due to its proven expertise in organizing educational group travel, compliance with ABTA and ATOL financial protection standards, and robust risk management framework, including audited accommodation and transport providers. The supplier offers preferential group rates, sustainability measures such as carbon offsetting, and a dedicated Account Executive to ensure continuity and quality of service.

This document details the estimated contract value, key stakeholders, funding arrangements, and risk considerations, ensuring transparency and adherence to Cardiff

University's procurement policies. The direct award approach is justified by the specialist nature of the service, the need for continuity, and the time-sensitive nature of securing flights and accommodation at competitive rates.

Contract 1. International Study Tour 2026 –Toulouse

Supplier

- NST TRAVEL GROUP LIMITED

Contract value

- £39,300 excluding VAT
- £47,160 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Award decision date

24 November 2025

Earliest date the contract will be signed

28 November 2025

Contract dates (estimated)

- 23 March 2026 to 27 March 2026
- 5 days

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 63000000 - Supporting and auxiliary transport services; travel agencies services

Contract locations

- UK - United Kingdom

Information about tenders

- 1 tender received
 - 1 tender assessed in the final stage:
 - 1 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
 - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
 - 1 supplier awarded contracts
 - 0 suppliers unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)
-

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - limited competition

Supplier

NST TRAVEL GROUP LIMITED

- Companies House: 02665024

Discovery House Brooklands Way

Blackpool

FY4 5LW

United Kingdom

Email: info@studylinktours.co.uk

Region: UKD45 - Mid Lancashire

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Contract 1. International Study Tour 2026 -Toulouse

Contracting authority

Cardiff University

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PHVT-4343-HWYR

Procurement Services

Cardiff

CF24 4HQ

United Kingdom

Contact name: Mateusz Piorczynski

Email: PiorczynskiM@cardiff.ac.uk

Website: <http://www.cardiff.ac.uk/business/why-work-with-us/for-suppliers>

Region: UKL22 - Cardiff and Vale of Glamorgan

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

Devolved regulations that apply: Wales