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Tender

Bus Franchising Contract Management System

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-080448

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-058bbf ([view related notices](#))

Published 8 December 2025, 9:49am

Scope

Reference

DN799484

Description

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority (LCRCA) is preparing to implement bus franchising across the region, with the first franchised services scheduled to commence on 6 September 2026. As part of this transformation, LCRCA requires a robust, scalable and data-driven approach to contract management, payments and performance monitoring, with the system required to provide consistent, high-quality data across all operators, routes and reporting periods.

LCRCA requires a modern, cloud-based, fully auditable system that delivers end-to-end management of franchise contracts and ensures accurate, repeatable and reliable calculation of operator payments. The CMS and PPC (Payment Performance Calculator) must give LCRCA and franchise operators a clear, shared view of live performance, contractual obligations, lost mileage, variations, KPI outcomes and payment adjustments. The solution must reduce manual intervention, increase operational efficiency, and support the delivery of a consistent, region-wide performance framework that helps

improve service quality, reliability and customer experience

Total value (estimated)

- £680,000 excluding VAT
- £816,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2031
- Possible extension to 31 March 2033
- 7 years

Description of possible extension:

The Authority may request the extension of this agreement in respect of the whole (or part) of the Services and on the same terms for two periods of up to 12 months' each.

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 72000000 - IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support

Contract locations

- UKD7 - Merseyside

Participation

Technical ability conditions of participation

Conditions of participation are further described within the PSQ.

Particular suitability

Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

6 January 2026, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

12 January 2026, 11:00am

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.thechest.org.uk>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

Yes

Languages that may be used for submission

English

Award decision date (estimated)

19 February 2026

Award criteria

Name	Description	Type	Weighting
Quality	The Qualitative Evaluation is as fully detailed in the '4. BFR CMS Procurement - Qualitative Evaluation' document. This also states Pass / Fail Criteria in relation to Essential Non-Functional CMS PPC Requirements.	Quality	80%
Cost	To be stated within the Cost issued '5. BFR CMS Procurement - Pricing Template'.	Cost	20%

Other information

Conflicts assessment prepared/revised

Yes

Procedure

Procedure type

Open procedure

Contracting authority

Liverpool City Region Combined Authority

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PNDZ-8253-CJJM

1 Mann Island

Liverpool

L3 1BP

United Kingdom

Email: tender@liverpoolcityregion-ca.gov.uk

Region: UKD72 - Liverpool

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government

