

United Kingdom-London: Railway transport

Prior information notice for a public service contract

Form for notification under Article 7(2) of Regulation 1370/2007, as amended by the Regulation (EC) No 1370/2007 (Public Service Obligations in Transport) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020, to be published one year before the launch of the invitation to tender procedure or direct award on the Department's website.

Competent authorities may decide not to publish this information where a public service contract concerns an annual provision of less than 50 000 kilometres of public passenger transport services.

Section I: Competent authority

I.1 Name and addresses

Department for Transport
Great Minster House, 33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR
United Kingdom
Contact person:
E-mail: railprocurement@dft.gov.uk
NUTS code: UKI32 Westminster

Internet address(es):

Main address: <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport>

I.2 Contract award on behalf of other competent authorities

I.3 Communication

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

I.4 Type of competent authority

Ministry or any other national or federal authority, including their regional or local subdivisions

Section II: Object

II.1 Scope of the procurement

II.1.1 Title

Contract for West Coast Partnership Rail Services. Currently operated by First Trenitalia West Coast Rail Ltd

II.1.2 Main CPV code

60200000 Railway transport services

II.1.3 Type of contract

Services

Areas covered by the public transport services:
Rail transport services

II.2 Description

II.2.2 Additional CPV code(s)

60210000 Public transport services by railways

II.2.3 Place of performance

NUTS code: UKI LONDON

NUTS code: UKD NORTH WEST (ENGLAND)

NUTS code: UKG WEST MIDLANDS (ENGLAND)

NUTS code: UKM SCOTLAND

NUTS code: UKL WALES
NUTS code: UK UNITED KINGDOM
NUTS code: UKJ SOUTH EAST (ENGLAND)

Main site or place of performance:
West Coast Partnership rail services link London Euston, the West Midlands, North West England, North Wales and Scotland.

II.2.4 Description of the procurement

Contract for provision of long distance rail services on the UK conventional mainline rail system. They serve the key cities of London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow. It is envisaged the services would run between:

- (a) London Euston to Lichfield Trent Valley, Crewe, Preston and Glasgow Central;
- (b) Lichfield Trent Valley to Macclesfield and Manchester Piccadilly;
- (c) Crewe to Wilmslow and Manchester Piccadilly;
- (d) Crewe to Chester, Wrexham General and Holyhead;
- (e) Crewe to Liverpool Lime Street;
- (f) Preston to Blackpool North;
- (g) Carlisle to Edinburgh;
- (h) London Euston to Coventry, Birmingham New Street, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury;
- (i) Wolverhampton to Stafford; and
- (j) Birmingham New Street to Wolverhampton, Stafford, Crewe and Glasgow or Edinburgh.

There is a mixture of leisure, business and commuter travel. These services would be similar to those currently operated on the West Coast Partnership franchise. It is envisaged that the contract would also encompass the provision of rail services on HS2 (initially between Old Oak Common in London and Curzon Street in Birmingham and potentially between London Euston and Crewe), and will also include the performance of services in relation to the planning and preparation of HS2 rail services.

II.2.7 Envisaged start date and the duration of the contract

Start: 01/04/2022
Duration in months: 120

Section IV

Procedure

IV.1 Type of procedure

Direct awards for railway transport (article 5(6) of Regulation 1370/2007)

Section VI: Complementary information

V1.1 Additional information

The PIN published in the OJEU (document number: 534166-2020) on 2 November 2020 had anticipated that the contract would have a duration of up to 6 years in total.

This PIN is being issued as the contract is now anticipated to have a duration of up to 10 years in total, which may be made up of a core term and one or more optional periods with the option(s) exercisable by the contracting authority.

The contracting authority reserves the right not to proceed with the Direct Award as envisaged or to use an alternative method to procure an operator for the contract.

V1.4 Date of dispatch of this notice

31 March 2021