

UK – West Coast
Public Transport Services by Rail
Prior Information Notice
Services

Regulation (EC) No. 1370/2007 - Article 7(2)

Section I: Competent Authority

I.1) Name, addresses and contact point(s)

Department for Transport,
Great Minster House,
33, Horseferry Road,
London,
SW1P 4DR,
United Kingdom.

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

Contact point – Rail Franchising Directorate – Attn: Caroline Pallister
Tel (+44) 207 944 3000
Email: Caroline.Pallister@dft.gsi.gov.uk

I.2) Type of competent authority

Ministry

I.3) Main activity

Government Department

I.4) Contract award on behalf of other competent authorities

No

Section II: Object of the contract

II.1.1) Title attributed to the contract:

Directly awarded West Coast rail services

II.1.2) Type of contract, area(s) covered by the Public Transport Service

Public Service contract. Service category 18 - Rail transport services.

Rail transport services described in II.1.3)

NUTS codes: UKK, UKI and UKJ34

II.1.3) Short description of the contract:

Contract for provision of long distance passenger rail services on the UK conventional main line rail system.

The InterCity West Coast franchise provides express train services from London Euston to the West Midlands, North West England, North Wales and Scotland, and serves the key cities of London, Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh and Glasgow. The franchisee may be required to manage the delivery of changes relating to the accommodation of HS2.

It operates around 300 train services per day, covering 4.3 billion passenger miles per annum in 2014/15. These services would be similar to those currently operated by the InterCity West Coast Rail Franchise.

A direct award is now being planned to facilitate the procurement of the West Coast Partnership rail franchise, in line with the policy published in March 2013 issued further to Section 26 of the Railways Act 1993.

As at the date of this notice and subject to affordability, the Department currently anticipates that the contract will include provisions that achieve the following objectives:

- i. Improve the passenger experience, as measured by NRPS;
- ii. Secure specific requirements that are now Departmental policy, including free WiFi; smart based ticketing options; and Delay Repay 15;
- iii. Improve PPM performance;
- iv. Ensure obligations to cooperate with any future West Coast Partnership franchisee, Department, Network Rail, HS2 Ltd, and industry groups as necessary in planning and preparation of services and works for HS2 to minimise disruption to passengers using ICWC Continuation Services, and;
- v. Maintain and develop existing joint working initiatives.

For the purposes on Article 5(6) of Regulation 1370/2007 the term of the contract shall be formed of both a core period of 1st April 2018 to 1st April 2019 plus an optional extension, callable by the Secretary of State, of a maximum 13 additional reporting periods.

II.1.4) Common procurement vocabulary (CPV)

60210000-3 – public transport services by railway

II.3) Expected start and duration of the contract

Starting 01/04/2018 for 24 months.

Section IV: Procedure

IV.1) Type of procedure

Direct Award for transport by rail without a call for competition (article 5(6) of Regulation 1370/2007).