

Context & background:

The Authority is aware that the information requested within this document once submitted, will be commercially sensitive, and as such will be treated appropriately and with great care. The responses to this RFI will not be used to down select third parties, and all future formal procurement procedure will be conducted without bias to this RFI. This RFI is not a commitment to launch a formal procurement procedure; this would be done by formal Contract Notice/ Defence Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (DPQQ) at a later stage.

Your response to this RFI should be limited to ten (10) sides of A4, returned to nathaniel.dewfall100@mod.gov.uk by date 05th July 2023, and should include, but not be limited to:

- Company summary
- Key areas of capability/specialty
- Relevant recent experience
- Summary of solution(s) you may have to fulfil the requirement
- Any innovation and/or efficiency opportunities you have identified
- Market exchange day information
 - Declare any intent to attend
 - Submit required details (see below)
 - Submit request as applicable for 1-2-1 with Authority, with overview of discussion points

Short Description of Requirements:

There is a requirement for the Chinook Platform (quantity 51 Aircraft (potentially 55)) to be embodied with an innovative walk on / bolt on compliant PBN capability, inclusive of the design, test and integration in accordance with MAA regulations and appropriate spares to support the capability for the remainder of the in service life of the Chinook A/C. Chinook crews will require a capability that complies with International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) requirement for navigation and communications systems within international civil or military controlled national, international, or disputed airspace. Defence Airspace and Air Traffic Management (DAATM) and ICAO have stated changes to airspace from Dec 2020 with all services transferred to PBN by 2030. The solution must be compliant with MAA Regulatory Article (RA) 2380 covering PBN operations, complementing RA 1380 which covers the PBN regulatory requirements. The PBN solution needs to support an Initial Operating Capability (Trials and Proof Installations Completed on Mk5, 6 & 6As (Qty 6 aircraft embodied) and training available (proposed EDD-1) by 31 Jan 2026 and Full Operating Capability (Qty 51 Chinook aircraft embodied with the PBN capability (proposed EDD-2)) by 31 Mar 2027. The requirement will also include support elements such as Train the Trainer, Courseware and Material. Additionally, the successful supplier is expected to support security accreditation of the technical solution.

Required Technical Specifications

The PBN technical solution needs to be compliant with the legislated change in airspace use and airfield approaches, requiring aircraft to use Area Navigation (RNAV). The system will need a Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)/European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) approved GNSS for procedural navigation.

To support IFR approaches the technical solution must provide Lateral Navigation/Vertical Navigation (LNAV / VNAV) and should have access to Satellite-based Augmentation

Systems (SBAS). Further support to IFR approaches such as Localiser Performance with Vertical Guidance (LPV) could be included where possible, however this is not an essential functionality for this product. The solution needs to be DAL compliant to the correct level so it can be used during terminal phases of flight. The display needs to be within the pilot's natural scan as during approaches it will be used as the primary reference.

The Principal Information Being Sought:

The Authority requests that interested suppliers detail the current / developmental solutions for certified delivery ~Jan 2026) available to meet the requirements in a walk-on/bolt on solution. The Authority request provision of a Company Brief, comprising; company name, key POC, a top-level summary of the company's history / experience of working with a similar requirement.

The Authority is interested in any innovative opportunities involving a technical solution that can be delivered within the timeline mentioned. If such solutions are offered, they are to be included in the above requested briefs and presented to the Authority.

Market information Exchange Day

In addition to seeking responses to this RFI as detailed above, the Authority hereby invites capable suppliers with an interest in the PBN requirement to a face-to-face Market Information Exchange Day on **12 July 2023 at MOD Abbey Wood North (timings to be communicated separately).**

The event will allow the Authority the opportunity to present the top-level PBN requirement from both a Commercial and Technical perspective, before inviting attending suppliers to discuss solutions and innovations, as well as and . hold any pertinent but sensitive discussions with the Authority in a one-to-one setting.

The purpose of the Market Information Exchange Day is to:

- Allow the Authority to further understand the capability of Industry with regards to delivering the solution
- Seek Industry expertise and advice with regards to:
 - how may be best to define the requirement and its specification
 - efficiency and/or innovation opportunities
 - any potential envisaged risks
- Identify suppliers who may have interest and capability
- Identify and discuss any Clarification Questions, either public or sensitive

To Register Interest: Suppliers who believe they can meet the requirement(s) and have an interest in engaging in the Market Information Exchange Day should register by email to nathaniel.dewfall100@mod.gov.uk by 30th June 2023, providing the following information:

1. Full name of the company and UK base;
2. Full name(s), contact details and applicable security clearance(s) of the POC representative(s) within the company, limited to three (3);
3. Any dietary or site access assistance requirements.

Parking and site access details will be provided upon confirmation of attendance