

**Market Survey / Questionnaire**

National Capability Testing Centre

(NCTC)

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The National Capability Testing Centre is a key part of the Department for Transport’s (DfT) testing capabilities and provides a central location for the handling, manufacture and disposal of explosives against national and international standards, such as, but not limited to, European Civil Aviation Conference (ECAC) as well as the storing of firearms and knives.

DfT need a new site and we are currently assessing the market capabilities on offer, before defining our detailed requirements. Participation will not guarantee being a part of any future procurement. If any future procurement is restricted to certain suppliers, a suitable set of criteria will be applied to select participants.

# National Capability Testing Centre (NCTC) Questionnaire

Suppliers are invited to complete this questionnaire to indicate their capabilities associated with the potential NCTC facilities specification.

The primary purpose of this questionnaire is to explore the market’s capabilities, and to capture the offerings of suppliers and other emerging market trends and capabilities.

Responses may be used to help define requirements for a potential future procurement, but responses will not be formally assessed and are non-binding. Any future detailed requirements are still to be determined.

Please include your currentcapabilities, not planned or aspirational ones, so that the Department for Transport have an accurate view of the current capabilities of suppliers. If you do not have capabilities in this area, then please mark as Not Applicable.

We may follow up with you for further queries, feedback or clarification if necessary.

Please note, the DfT reserves the right not to run a procurement or any further engagement related to this PIN.

## Company details

Please input your details below:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Name |  |
| Company |  |
| Address |  |
| Primary E-mail Address |  |
| Secondary E-mail Address (in case primary e-mail address unavailable) |  |
| Company Website URL |  |
| Phone Number |  |

## Background and Context

The NCTC facility will serve a critical role, encompassing a range of essential services that will ensure safety, compliance, and operational efficiency, potentially including:

1. **Security and Storage:** Providing comprehensive security measures and explosives storage solutions, including handling of explosive precursors and ability to manufacture, handle and dispose of Home-Made Explosives (HMEs).
2. **Infrastructure**: Providing necessary infrastructure to support its operations, including reliable power and connectivity, and Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) services.
3. **Access**: Providing access for staff and visitors, supporting operations with dedicated testing areas and maintaining high standards for cleanliness and safety.
4. **Specialist Resource**: Providing specialist resources, including personnel with Security Clearance (SC), to carry out various tasks essential to the facility’s operations.

## Procurement Timeline

The potential procurement process for this long-term solution may be scheduled to run in FY25. No decision is made at present.

## Response instructions

* The deadline for submission of this questionnaire is **5pm, Friday 20th September.**
* Please complete the questions below, and submit to **Ryan.Wake@dft.gov.uk**
* Please direct any clarification questions to **Ryan.Wake@dft.gov.uk**
* There is no strict word limit on each question, please complete each section with as much detail as you feel necessary or attach separate documents if required.

## Supplier Capability Questions

Describe your experience and capabilities capacity in the following areas:

|  |
| --- |
| 1. Describe your capability and capacity in providing logistics, security measures and storage for explosives, firearms, and security equipment. You should include:
* Your capability in explosives logistics work (e.g. overnight storage, delivery etc.)
* Ability to provide and handle commercial / military explosives and Home Made Explosives (HMEs) throughout their lifecycle (e.g. precursors, manufacture and processing, in-use and disposal), firearms, knives, other aviation prohibited items
* What your licences allow and what their expiry dates are if applicable
* Any upper limits on what you cannot do when handling these types of goods (e.g. maximum quantities per material / total storage availability etc.)
* Ability to handle sensitive/secret information (i.e. having Facility Security Clearance)

Your answer should cover both your physical facilities and your people who will operate them. Please note, Question 4 will also provide you a chance to provide a detailed description of your people. |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| **2a) Describe your capabilities and capacity in facilities that can receive heavy machineries and operate industrial logistics equipment. In your response you should include:*** List your facilities, locations, their typical footprint (square metres) and whether they could be available for permanent and/or temporary occupation – you may include or attach a facility plan to demonstrate this, if appropriate
* Dimensions of each facility’s largest door opening (metre by metre dimensions)
* Ability to operate industry machinery to support the movement of large equipment
* Space to accommodate users from various bodies (e.g. in-house staff, testing bodies, government officials)
* Regions in the UK that you have facilities in
* Availability of the facilities or if any restrictions exist (e.g. full time 24/7 vs part time)
 |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| **2b)** Des**cribe your available spaces and their capabilities in the following:*** Heating and cooling facilities and temperature range supported
* Facilities management, including type of power supply (mains supply, water supply, amperage, backup generators etc.)
* Connectivity supported (wired and/or wireless)
* Flooring (e.g. concrete, appropriate working use – specific loads that can be taken etc.)
 |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| 1. **Describe your capabilities in facilities for customers, including:**
* Perimeter and access management, including parking spaces and appropriate access and manoeuvring for Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGVs)
* Security services (e.g. patrols)
* How much time, if any, or under what circumstances DfT would not have access to site
* Reception services for visitors (including in-advance booking of visits and associated security checks)
* Any local / planning restrictions on the area (e.g. no HGV traffic)
 |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| 1. **Provide give examples of your people’s capabilities and qualifications in handling and processing explosives. Specifically, please address your provision of the following:**
* Types of work that your company conducts with explosives and/or firearms
* Resources with Security Clearance
* Explosive handling and processing staff: explain your capacity and capability to provide qualified explosive handling staff
* Previous experience / reference case studies that you would be willing to provide
* Ongoing training your resources receive, including any formal qualifications they have.
 |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| 1. **Describe any relevant experience in testing and evaluation of equipment and any relevant standards (e.g. ISO17025, ISO99001, Health & Safety at Work Act, Cyber Essentials etc.)**
 |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| 1. **We are keen to understand how much it would indicatively cost to implement and run the future facility. Please provide:**
	* An indicative rough order magnitude cost to provide the facilities above
* Key cost drivers behind the service (e.g. explosives logistics/storage, length of lease on a facility, access to the site 24/7 vs limited access). Are there any other cost drivers that you can suggest?
* Exclusive vs shared use of the facility
* Where possible, please provide your typical cost range for the locations listed in question 2a. For example, unit cost may be £/sqm p.a., £-per-unit handled/stored p.a. and/or the cost per number of days accessed etc.
* Day rates for explosive qualified staff
* Any commercial examples that you used in a similar service elsewhere.

Please note, all pricing and commercial information provided will be kept confidential i.e. not shared with other suppliers  |
| [Please continue on separate pages or attach separate documents if necessary] |
| 1. In**clude any other information or capabilities you have that you think would be relevant to the NCTC and this facility. This may include:**
	* Your opinion on providing alternative capacity to an existing facility (e.g. such as investment for a new facility or an ‘add on’ to an existing facility)
	* Limitations (e.g. any preference on public sector versus private sector clients etc.)
	* Support that would be needed in running a facility
	* Any other feedback you would like to share.
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