



Department  
for Transport

# **Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI)**

**National Transport Model Version 5  
2024 Rebase**

**The Department for Transport**

## 1. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

We require information on your capability and capacity to provide the services detailed below.

Please provide a pdf document, not longer than 4 pages, responding to the following five questions:

- 1) How well do you think that the proposed Deliverables meet the Objectives set out in the report? These objectives include completing the work with limited time and post-covid19 data.
- 2) Briefly, what compromises do you anticipate will be needed to achieve the objectives within the limitations of time and data?
- 3) What innovations / opportunities do you anticipate will need to be exploited to achieve the objectives within the limitations of time and data?
- 4) Are you interested in bidding for this opportunity? If not, please can you provide reason(s), as this will be valuable feedback.
- 5) Please can you advise on the resources you think will be needed, and a ballpark estimate of the cost.

To respond to this EoI, please first register an account on the Department for Transport's e-sourcing platform, Jaggaer (<https://dft.app.jaggaer.com/>).

Once you have registered an account, please access and respond to the Jaggaer PQQ event for this EoI (pqq\_431, available at: <https://dft.app.jaggaer.com/go/10612947018E65985C93>). Communications about this procurement should be routed by the message function under the PQQ event.

The deadline for responses to the EoI is **11:00, 15 April 2024**. Further competition will not be restricted to respondents to this EoI.

## 2. ANTICIPATED PROCUREMENT TIMETABLE

**EOI publication date:** 22 March 2024

**EOI return date:** 15 April 2024

The steps beyond this are at present uncertain but we would expect that, should a procurement exercise go ahead, we may aim for the following timescales:

**ITT issue:** 3 May 2024

**ITT deadline:** 7 June 2024

**Announcement of intention to award and standstill period:** 21 June 2024

**Contract start:** 5 July 2024

### 3. BACKGROUND TO THE REQUIREMENT

Please see the attached draft specification for fuller details:

EOI NTMv5 Rebase Mid Tier Spec v2 1.1.docx

**Abstract:** The National Transport Model version 5 (NTMv5) is a large transport model, developed using classic transport modelling principles but with a number of adaptations to enable it to be sufficiently informative with shorter run times. Some parts of the model use a “masking” system with a representative subset of zone-to-zone movements, to reduce computation times.

There are three important elements to this work. First, and most important, the requirement is to update the highway assignment component of NTMv5 to reflect the situation post-covid19. This is needed for strategic forecasting purposes. In practice, this means using data from 2022 and 2023, a shorter period than the original data used to estimate NTMv5. The challenge with this work will be to exercise judgement about where compromises are needed to meet the tight timescales for this project, whilst still providing sufficient quality for strategic forecasting. This work may also provide some opportunity (albeit within limited timescales) for an innovative approach to meet this challenge.

Secondly, we intend to switch from using National Highways traffic counts to the Department's data (potentially including traffic by region and road type as well as counts) for this update. This is because for strategic forecasting purposes, the Department requires the modelled traffic to match its own understanding of traffic in the model base year.

Finally, the Department would like to have the capability to carry out similar updates in-house in future. Therefore, we would anticipate allowing some time after the model updates are complete for documentation, handover, and potentially training to the Department in the methods used for this update.

**Contract start date:** Early July 2024

**Length of contract (if known):** Approx 7-8 months. Most of the work would be due for completion by the end of 2024, but additional time is allowed for documentation if needed.

**Service conditions:** The supplier will require sufficient computing power and a PTV VISUM licence of sufficient size to accommodate a model with 7,131 zones and up to 150,000 highway network links. Further details of the computing requirements are given in the attached draft specification.

**Security and vetting requirements:** Please see the sections entitled “Information Assurance”, “Offshoring of Government Data”, “Data Protection”, and “Cyber Security” in the attached draft specification.

**Budget range:** £150,000-£300,000

### 4. EVALUATION CRITERIA

Please see enclosed document:

### 5. RIGHT TO CANCEL OR VARY THIS EOI

We reserve the right to: amend, clarify or cancel any part of this EOI at any time.