



1. INTRODUCTION

The mandate of LDPT is to provide an intercity bus passenger transport service which operates on a fully commercial basis and supports PRASA Rail operations through effective feeder and distribution services.

LDPT wishes to follow a Request for Quotation (RFQ) process for the appointment of a National Bus Towing Services service provider, for the provision of bus towing, on an as and when required basis, through an open bid method, for the LDPT fleet of buses.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 STATUS QUO

- LDPT is currently procuring bus towing services for the fleet of buses on an as and when basis, from suppliers willing to assist, which results in irregular expenditure. An open tender process was followed in 2024/2025 financial, and the only bidder did not qualify.

2.2 PROBLEM STATEMENT

- LDPT runs 94 of the following models: Mercedes Benz 0500 luxury and MAN HB4 Lion Explorers semi-luxury buses.
- These vehicles are assigned to long haul operation (>400 km per day). There is a requirement to attend to and recover vehicles that breaks down enroute, and when the bus is not repairable on the breakdown site, it must be towed to the nearest depot or safe parking area.

3. OBJECTIVE OF THE PROPOSED PROJECT

LDPT exists to service the primary mandate of PRASA. The main purpose of the division is to provide safe, reliable, and affordable long-distance bus passenger transport. The main



objective of this project is to source a National Bus Towing service provider who will provide towing services along all LDPT routes on “as and when required basis”.

The acquisition of this service will ensure that the LDPT eradicates the current irregular expenditure, which is not in line with PRASA Supply Chain Management Policy, and to ensure the availability of a service provider to offer bus towing services on an as and when required basis for a period of three years.

3.1 DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR CARRYING OUT THE PROPOSED PROJECT

This project will ensure that LDPT procures bus towing services for broken down buses that can't be repaired on the breakdown site, in a regular manner and in line with the existing Supply Chain Management policies as well as Treasury regulations.

This service can be procured at a competitive cost, but the current arrangement does not necessarily provide for this. This project will also ensure that LDPT is able to acquire bus towing services for a period of three (03) years.

3.2 PROJECT BENEFITS TO PRASA

The following benefits will accrue to PRASA through this project:

- Immediate eradication of the irregular spending on bus towing services.
- LDPT will have a towing supplier on all LDPT routes, as and when required, which will improve efficiency and reduce the cost of doing business.
- Procurement of bus towing services at a competitive cost.

3.3 CURRENT MECHANISMS IN PLACE TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM

3.3.1 LDPT is currently procuring bus towing services without a contract in place, from suppliers willing to assist.

3.1.2 The continued incurrence, mentioned above results in irregular expenditure and has been flagged by the Auditor-General South Africa (AGSA).

4. SCOPE OF WORK AND AREAS OF FOCUS



4.1 SERVICE PROVIDER

The supplier must render towing services, 24/7, 7-days a week and 365-days a year, nationally in South Africa, and have sub-contractors and/or alliance partners in the areas where the supplier is not physically represented to conduct towing services. The approved supplier will remain responsible to LDPT for services rendered by the alliance partner and payment of the alliance partner for their services rendered.

Refer to attached **Annexure A: LDPT Tender Routes Map**.

4.2 AVAILABILITY OF SERVICES

The successful bidder must be able to assist with bus towing 7 days a week and 365 days per year. LDPT is rendering a passenger service, 7 days a week and 365 days per year, on specific routes as per Operating Licenses issued by the National Department of Transport and subsequently needs the support as specified.

4.3 BIDDER QUALITY ASSURANCE and WARRANTY.

- Mercedes Benz: (VIN: 9BM6340619B649766) fitted with Marcopolo, Andare and Paradiso bodies.
- MAN HB4: (VIN: AAMHB40450PX22754) fitted with MAN Lions Explore body.

4.4 RESPONSE TIME

- The response time must be within one hour from the time of LDPT requesting the towing assistance, by the appointed supplier and/or an alliance partner of the appointed supplier.

4.5 BIDDER CAPACITY TO PROVIDE SERVICES

- The bidder is allowed to go into an alliance with other bus towing service providers for increased supply capacity. The bidder will however remain responsible for the quality of work done, response time and payment of the alliance partner.



- The successful bidder will be required to provide proof of ownership (Roadworthy/Registration certificate) of at least one heavy-duty towing truck.

4.5.1 Quality Assurance

The bidder must ensure the safe towing of the bus, in accordance with towing industry standards.

The towing will be required on the following buses:

- Mercedes Benz: (VIN: 9BM6340619B649766) fitted with Marcopolo, Andare and Paradiso bodies.
- MAN HB4: (VIN: AAMHB40450PX22754) fitted with MAN Lions Explore body.

4.5.2 Breakdown Scene

The bidder will be responsible for clearing and rehabilitation of the breakdown scene, as and when required, when oil and/or diesel spillage occurred, before the bus is towed away.

4.5.3 Workmanship and Warranty

- All mechanical parts that may be removed to allow the bus to be towed must be returned to LDPT on delivery of the bus.
- The successful bidder will be held liable for any damage, loss or destruction caused to PRASA property due to proven negligence during the rendering of its services.
- The successful bidder shall have sufficient insurance to cover damage or destruction to any PRASA property incurred in the performance of its services to LDPT.

4.6 REQUIRED SERVICES

The successful bidder shall:

SPECIFICATION/SCOPE OF WORK



- Provide bus towing services and have the necessary equipment to do so.
- Have alliance partners in proximity to main cities where LDPT operates, that can assist or respond quickly to the required bus towing.
- Charge LDPT a standard rate per kilometer for travelling and towing respectively, which includes, toll fees incurred during the provision of towing services be it done by the bidder or the bidder's alliance partner.

4.7 TARGETED AREA BY THIS PROJECT

- This project is targeted at a bus towing services provider, to provide bus towing services countrywide, with the assistance of alliance partners.

4.8 EXTENT AND COVERAGE BY THIS PROJECT

- The project will cover all LDPT routes within South Africa.