

Supplier Guide

Version: V02 (Dec-2025)





“MetroLink is going to
change **everything.**”

Dr. Seán Sweeney - Programme Director

Introduction to MetroLink Supplier Guide



This guide has been developed to provide information and support to prospective suppliers in discovering and accessing opportunities with MetroLink, Ireland's first high-capacity, high-frequency metro system, running 18.8km from Swords to Charlemont, with 16 new stations.

What this guide covers:

- MetroLink overview
- What we are buying
- When we are buying
- How we are buying
- What can you do next
- How to engage with MetroLink

MetroLink Overview

MetroLink is Ireland's first major metro project in nearly a century, designed to tackle Dublin's growing congestion and support the Greater Dublin Area (GDA) transport strategy. It will deliver a high-capacity, high-frequency, and fully automated rail service, running 18.8km from Swords to Charlemont with 16 new stations.

The metro will connect key destinations including Dublin Airport, DCU, the Mater and Rotunda Hospitals, and Trinity College Dublin. It will also integrate seamlessly with Irish Rail, DART, Luas, and Dublin Bus, creating a truly connected public transport network.

MetroLink will be fully electrified, carbon-neutral, and driverless, offering fast and reliable service with trains every 3 minutes during peak times. By 2060, this could increase to every 90 seconds. The system will carry up to 20,000 passengers per hour in each direction and is expected to serve up to 53 million passengers annually.

Much of the route will run underground, ensuring minimal disruption to road traffic and pedestrians. With its "Access for All" design, MetroLink will provide inclusive, modern transport for Ireland's future.



Benefits of MetroLink



* Cumulative from opening year to 2050, depending on the potential future growth scenario.

» For more information, visit: [About MetroLink](#)

MetroLink's Design Principles



Sustainable

Reduce traffic, improve air quality, catalyst for regeneration, low carbon



Efficient

Functional and elegant engineering solutions



People Focused

Inclusive, accessible and enjoyable to use by all



Safe and Secure

Clear sightlines, natural surveillance, robust materials



Legible

Consistent identity, intuitive, uncluttered, clear information zoning



Timeless

Future proof, robust & long life materials, easy to maintain & operate



Sense of Place

Responsive and sensitive to the City and local context/character



Value for Money

Standardisation, economies of scale, quality of common design



Health, Safety & Wellbeing

MetroLink’s safety culture is founded on a Target Zero principle, aiming to prevent all injuries through proactive risk management and ongoing attention to safety in daily operations. This ensures everyone goes home safe every day.

Continuous Improvement is supported by regularly reviewing safety practices and learning from incidents to strengthen procedures and adapt to changing needs.

Clear Direction is provided through strong leadership and clear policies. Safety programmes meet national standards, and confidential reporting encourages transparency and accountability.

MetroLink also promotes Wellbeing and Positive Culture, supporting mental health and fostering a safe, inclusive environment through outreach and collaboration.

We expect the whole supply chain to actively support MetroLink’s safety culture by embedding safe practices into their own operations. Working together, we can ensure that safety remains a shared priority at every stage of delivery.



Target Zero



Continual Improvement



Clear Direction



Well-being



Positive



What are we buying?

M100 Enabling Works Programme:

MetroLink’s Enabling Works Programme involves early site preparation through a suite of framework agreements and qualification systems. These works aim to remove risks such as utilities, archaeology, heritage assets, and existing structures before main construction begins.

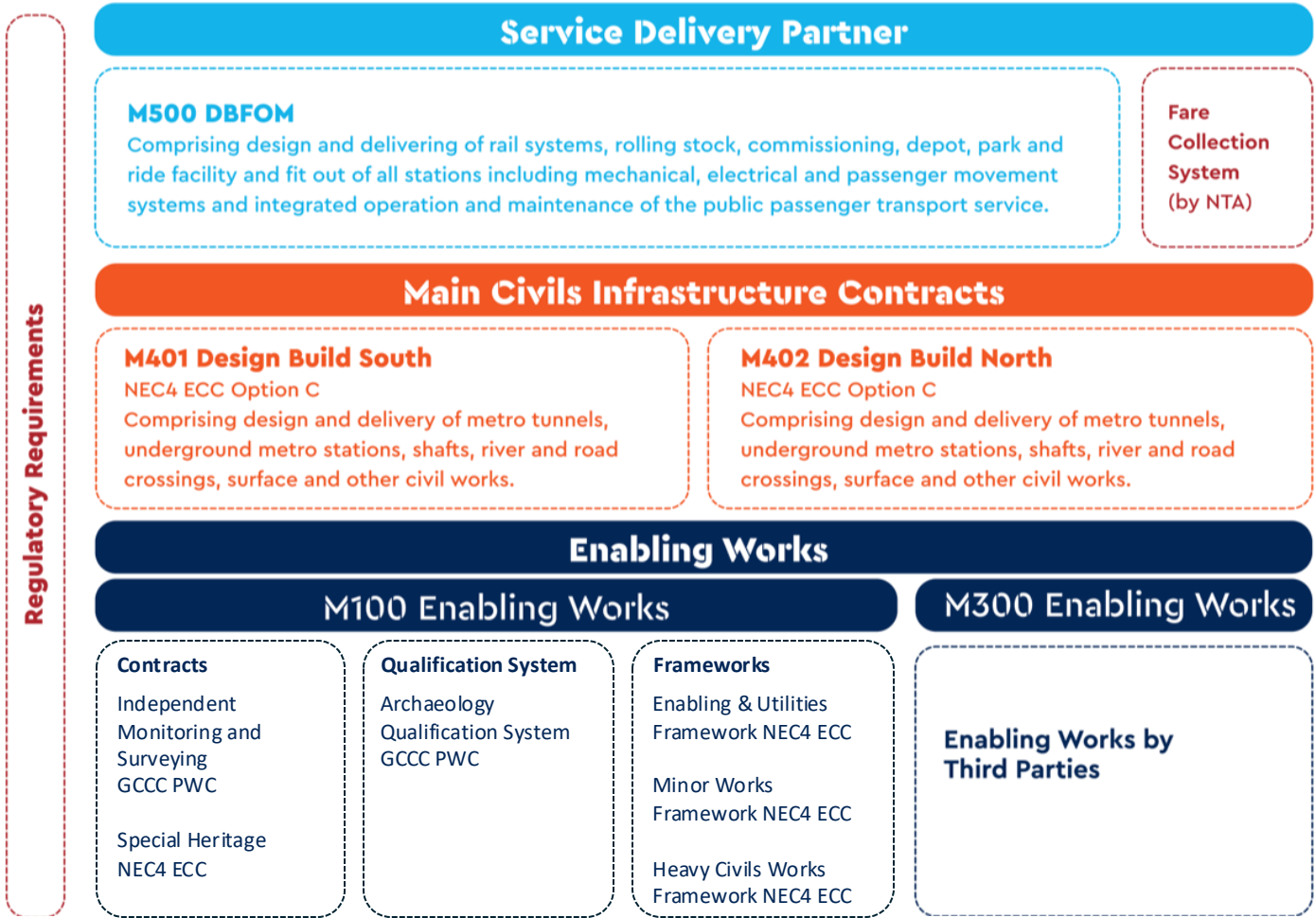
MetroLink M401/402 Main Civils Infrastructure Contracts:

The MetroLink programme includes two NEC4 ECC contracts covering the design and delivery of metro tunnels, station box structures, and other civil works. These packages will be of interest to large international construction companies or consortia.

MetroLink M500 Contract:

The M500 contract will be delivered via a DBFOM model (Design, Build, Finance, Operate, Maintain) who will be responsible for:

- Designing and delivering rail systems, station fit-out, rolling stock, and depot facilities
- Commissioning and integrating the railway into service
- Operating and maintaining the public transport service
- Financing the works





When are we buying? M100 Contracts





When are we buying? M400 & M500 Contracts

MetroLink – Update on Procurement Sequencing and PQQ Timelines

Updated Approach:

- The PQQ submission period will be extended to provide bidders with more time to prepare submissions, supporting strong competition and value for money
- A gap will be introduced between the commencement of the M401 tender competition, the M402 and M500 tender competitions. (see below table)

Contract Package	Milestone	Proposed New Date
M401 (South)	Contract Notice	3rd Feb (Unchanged)
	PQQ Period	Q2/26
	ITN Issue	Q3/26
M402(North)	Contract Notice	3rd Feb (Unchanged)
	PQQ Period	Q2/26
	ITN Issue	Q4/26
M500 (DBFOM)	Contract Notice	Q2/26
	PQQ Period	Q3/26
	ITT Issue	Q4/26

Further details, including updated timelines where relevant, will be shared as these are finalised.

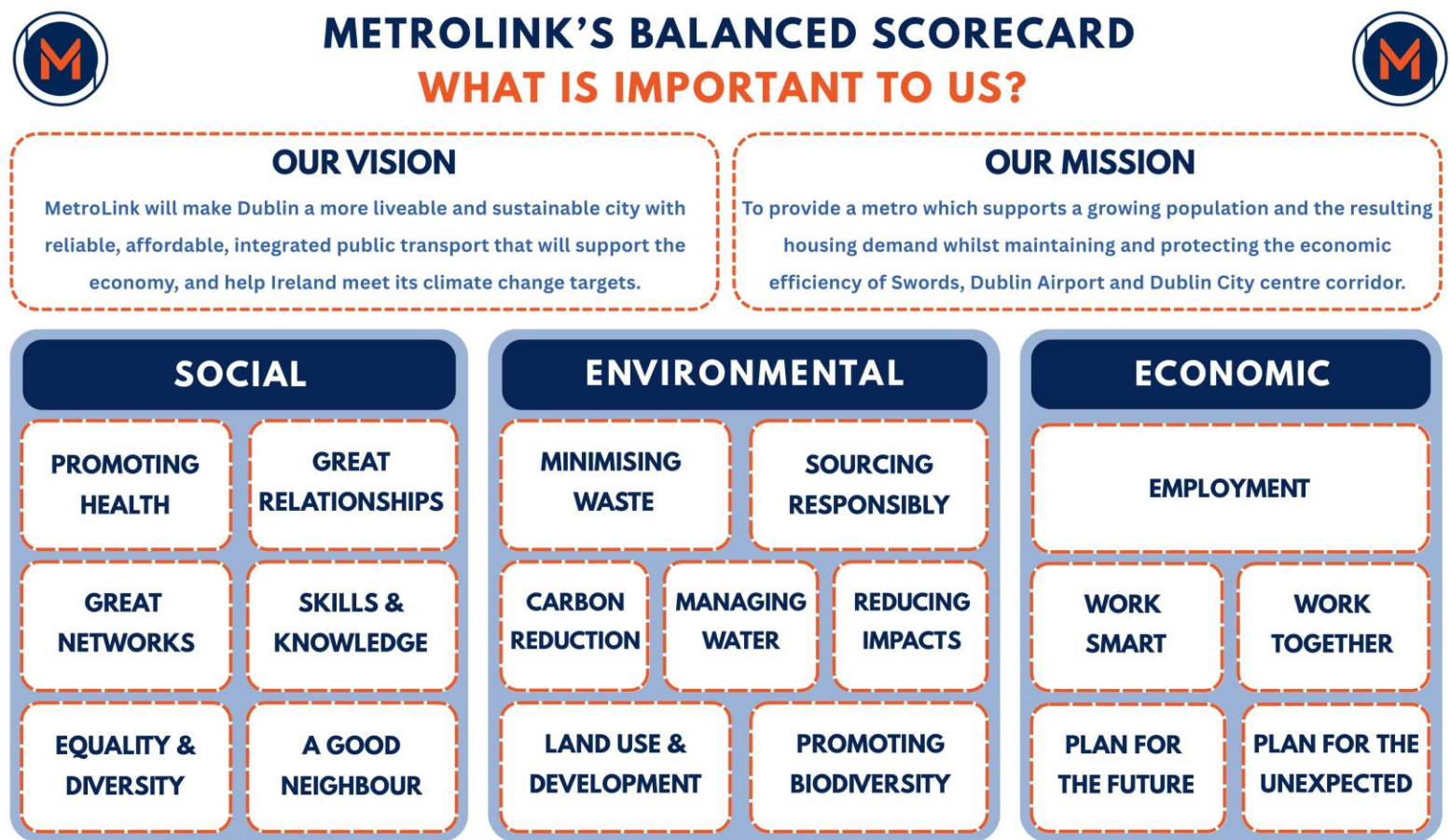
How are we buying?

MetroLink is introducing a Balanced Scorecard to guide supplier selection and performance across the programme.

This tool reflects our strategic priorities, highlighting areas such as social responsibility, environmental sustainability, innovation, and long-term public value.

It provides a clear framework to support alignment between contractor proposals and the outcomes MetroLink is working to achieve.

We encourage all prospective contractors to use the scorecard as a reference when preparing tender responses.





Our Commercial Approach

MetroLink's commercial approach is fair, open and transparent, ensuring all stakeholders are treated equitably and with integrity. Clear communication and consistent practices help build trust and confidence.

We strive for efficient processes that simplify commercial activity and reduce complexity, enabling quicker decisions and smoother collaboration.

MetroLink aims to be easy to do business with, offering straightforward procedures and responsive teams. It removes barriers to engagement and supports long-term partnerships.

By combining fairness, efficiency and openness, MetroLink creates a commercial environment that encourages collaboration and shared success.



**Fair, open and
transparent**



Efficient Processes



**Easy to do business
with**



Brokerage System Maximising Opportunities for SMEs

In line with government policy, MetroLink is committed to creating an environment which engages SMEs and is clear about how SMEs can gain access to Metrolink's Supply Chain.

Visibility of the Procurement Pipeline:

MetroLink and its Supply Chain are committed to publishing information on the procurement pipeline, live procurements and details of tender awards. We will also publish guidelines to ensure that SMEs are aware of what we expect of our contractors.

Contract Requirements:

The majority of the opportunities available to SMEs will be made available indirectly through our Tier 1 contractors and their supply chains. They will be required to publish opportunities on our online portal [1].

Supplier Engagement:

MetroLink and its Tier 1 Contractors will engage with the wider supply chain using Events. We will also work with relevant trade associations and business networks to highlight contract opportunities and provide a clear route to accessing them.

[1] Details of the approach will be published in 2026.



What can you do next?

Monitor



Tenders Electronic Daily
(TED) Platform

eTenders

Visit



New 'Supply Chain'
section on MetroLink.ie

Supply Chain Page

Register



Brokerage system connecting
buyers and suppliers

Coming Early 2026

Email



Supply Chain Email


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