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Planning

## **Trustee and Governor Recruitment and Induction Support Programmes**

Department for Education

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2021/S 000-021528

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocids-h6vhtk-02db87

Published 31 August 2021, 10:45pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

Department for Education

Sanctuary Buildings, 20, Great Smith Street

London

SW1P 3BT

#### **Email**

[Governance.RECRUITMENT@education.gov.uk](mailto:Governance.RECRUITMENT@education.gov.uk)

#### **Telephone**

+44 8700012345

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

**NUTS code**

UK - United Kingdom

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-education>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Ministry or any other national or federal authority

**I.5) Main activity**

Education

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## **Section II: Object**

### **II.1) Scope of the procurement**

#### **II.1.1) Title**

Trustee and Governor Recruitment and Induction Support Programmes

#### **II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

#### **II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

#### **II.1.4) Short description**

The purpose of this prior information notice (PIN) is to notify the market that the Department for Education (DfE) will be publishing in early September 2021, Invitation to Tender for providers and consortiums, including Multi-Academy Trusts with excellent governance, interested in bidding for the future procurement of trustee and governor recruitment services and induction support.

#### **II.1.5) Estimated total value**

Value excluding VAT: £2,400,000

#### **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: Yes

Maximum number of lots that may be awarded to one tenderer: 2

### **II.2) Description**

#### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot No

Lot No: 1 - Trustee Recruitment

#### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 80000000 - Education and training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

A national service to recruit and match trustees to the boards of Single Academy Trusts (SATs) and to trusts with multiple academies (MATs).

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.1) Title**

Lot No

Lot No: 2 - Governor Recruitment

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 800000000 - Education and training services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UK - United Kingdom

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

A national service to recruit governors to the boards of local authority maintained schools and academy local governing bodies.

## **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

13 September 2021

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## **Section IV. Procedure**

### **IV.1) Description**

#### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

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## Section VI. Complementary information

### VI.3) Additional information

The department's vision is to see robust and effective governance in every school and academy trust. As the first line of accountability, the department recognises that high quality, effective and ethical governance is key to success in our school system and for the future of children and young people.

Schools and academies need governing boards that have a balance and diversity of knowledge, skills, and experience to enable it to be effective. Governors and trustees have a huge opportunity to make a positive impact, and we need even more people to come forward to invest in their local community and help shape young people's futures.

The department is therefore seeking providers to deliver governor and trustee recruitment and matching services, combined with support for volunteers and the recruiting board throughout the recruitment process and into the early stages of the volunteer's term (induction support).

Contracts will run for an initial period of two years from February 2022 to January 2024 with provision to extend for a further one year period.

There will be two lots to deliver:

1. A national service to recruit and 1. match trustees to the boards of Single Academy Trusts (SATs) and to Trusts with multiple academies (MATs), along with a support service providing high-quality induction and expert guidance for all trustees recruited.
2. A national service to recruit governors to the boards of Local Authority maintained schools and academy Local Governing Bodies, along with a support service providing high-quality induction and expert guidance for all governors recruited.

This procurement is subject to the ongoing 2021 Comprehensive Spending Review and the DfE reserves the right to not procure or procure one lot of the services outlined below following the culmination of this review.

#### Scope

In funding governance recruitment and induction support services, the department's key priorities are to:

- Provide a recruitment offer enabling state-funded educational institutions in England that provide education to pupils of compulsory school age, to have access to people with the

commitment, skills, and knowledge to help secure effective governance.

- Provide greater support and target resources to those governing boards in most need.
- Help create diverse boards, made up of volunteers from a wide range of backgrounds and cultures.
- Ensure those new to governance receive a high-quality onboarding service and ongoing induction support.
- Promote the importance of governance and generate demand from schools and trusts for skilled board members, especially for those schools and trusts in most need.
- Promote the importance of governance and generate support from employers of the benefits to their organisation of their employees being involved in school governance.

To achieve our aim of helping governing boards to recruit and retain people with the right skills and from a range of backgrounds in order to govern well, it is expected that lead providers will as a minimum need to:

- Identify and recruit suitable, high-calibre, skilled volunteers across all areas of England who have the commitment to serve on governing boards. They will need to prioritise supporting those governing boards most in need, or in areas of the country where educational standards and capacity to improve are weakest
- Design and deliver a quality 'onboarding' service to help ensure that volunteers understand the roles and responsibilities of a governor/trustee, the time commitment required and what will be expected of them in their role in advance of their accepting a position on the board. This will help in recruiting committed volunteers who understand the challenges and expectations of the role from the start.
- Work effectively with a range of stakeholders, including but not limited to DfE Regional Schools Commissioner teams, other appointing and nominating bodies such as foundations, dioceses, and local authorities to identify boards wh