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**Serco Group plc ("Serco") selected to partner
Bradford Metropolitan District Council in delivering education services.**

Serco is pleased to announce its education division, Serco Education (bidding as Serco QAA), has been selected by Bradford Metropolitan District Council as preferred bidder in the delivery of education services, through the LEA, to schools within the district.

The partnership between Bradford and Serco Education is focused on raising educational standards through improved leadership and management, primarily by introducing new management capability, enhanced processes and change management techniques.

In addition, the partnership aims to encourage improved performance in schools through the provision of effective support to head teachers and their colleagues.

The contract, with a total initial value of £210m, is for a period of seven years. Contract negotiations are scheduled for completion by 1 June 2001, with a contract commencement on 30 July 2001.

Commenting on the award, Kevin Beeston - Serco's Chief Executive said:

"This partnership with Bradford Metropolitan District Council, to develop and improve the quality of education services delivered to the community, represents a significant milestone for Serco Education. Our solutions will be aimed at improving the quality of education services delivered to learners and to further enhance the current achievements of educators.

This announcement for Serco Education follows the announcement four weeks ago of our opportunity to partner with the Walsall community. It further strengthens our position to provide management solutions to Local Education Authorities for the future."

- Ends -

Additional Information

Serco Education (bidding as Serco QAA) was formed in December 2000 when Serco acquired Quality Assurance Associates Limited (QAA). The acquisition of QAA's specialist education experience complements Serco's successful experience in managing change in complex public sector services.

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