

Press Release

Serco selected by Ofsted to run Inspections

25 March 2009

Serco Group plc (Serco) today confirms it has been selected by Ofsted to run inspections in the 'Midlands', covering the central region of England¹. As announced by Ofsted today³, the award of the new 6 year contract, valued at around £55M will see Serco managing inspection services at a third of all education based organisations in England.

Under the contract in partnership with Ofsted, Serco will deliver inspection services to schools, further education colleges, and work-based learning organisations. With over 7 years of managing educational services on behalf of local government across 3 local authorities, a range of national contracts supporting service delivery across the whole country and previous experience of delivering inspections, Serco will be bringing current practical experience to improving the delivery of inspection services. In particular it will draw from its wider Group and IT capability to introduce innovative systems and processes to drive more effective inspections. Of particular note will be increasing the use of current practitioners (existing and recent headteachers and other senior educational staff), and an automated scheduler to manage the process of inspections.

Darryn Gibson, Chief Executive, Serco Solutions said: "We are delighted to be appointed by Ofsted and are excited about introducing our ideas and capabilities to support the improvement of inspection services. Our first priority will be to build up a strong and professional base of Inspectors, Managers and supporting staff. We are really look forward to working with Ofsted, with existing and potential new Inspectors, and with all the educational establishments that provide learning services to children, young people and adults in this central region of the UK.

This appointment underlines our position as one of the leading private sector providers of educational services in the UK. We are committed to ensuring these services will ultimately result in higher attainment for the children and young people in our region.

End

For further details contact:

Serco Group plc, Palm Court, 4 Heron Square, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1EW, United Kingdom
T +44 (0)1256 745900 F +44 (0)20 8334 4118 www.serco.com

Press Release

1. The 'Midlands' region comprises Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Suffolk, Bedfordshire & Luton, Hertfordshire, Essex, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire & Rutland, Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Shropshire, Staffordshire, The Black Country, Birmingham & Solihull, Herefordshire & Worcestershire, Coventry & Warwickshire.
2. Serco will not run Inspections Services within maintained schools in Walsall or Stoke since Serco currently provides education services in those areas.
3. This press release should be read together with the Ofsted press release found at <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/Ofsted-home/News/Press-and-media/2009/March/New-inspection-contracts-signed>

**For further information please contact Mark Vaughan, Strategic Marketing & Communications Manager, Education & Children's Services :
T +44 (0) 7834 801 415**

About Serco in Education and Children's Services

Serco works in partnership with National and Local Government Children's Services bodies to provide strategic support, increase organisational capacity and enhance capability. We provide management of the full Children's Services at Stoke-on-Trent Council and Education services at Walsall Metropolitan Borough Council and Bradford Metropolitan Council. We are the lead partner in the Together for Children programme, which is providing support and challenge to all local authorities in England that will enable the rollout of 3500 children's centres by 2010. We are also the lead partner in the Together for Disabled Children programme, which provides supports the Aiming High for Disabled Children short breaks programme and development of parent participation forums. Serco also delivers a range of leadership training programmes on behalf of the National College for School Leadership, the Welsh Assembly, the Scottish Executive and other government agencies.

For further details contact:

Serco Group plc, Palm Court, 4 Heron Square, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1EW, United Kingdom
T +44 (0)1256 745900 F +44 (0)20 8334 4118 www.serco.com

Press Release

About Serco

Serco is a FTSE 100 international service company which combines commercial know-how with a deep public service ethos.

We improve services by managing people, processes, technology and assets more effectively. We advise policy makers, design innovative solutions, integrate systems and - most of all - deliver to the public.

Serco supports governments, agencies and companies who seek a trusted partner with a solid track record of providing assured service excellence. Our people offer operational, management and consulting expertise in the aviation, BPO, defence, education, health, home affairs, local government, science, technology, transport and the commercial sectors.

More information can be found at www.serco.com.

For further details contact:

Serco Group plc, Palm Court, 4 Heron Square, Richmond, Surrey TW9 1EW, United Kingdom
T +44 (0)1256 745900 F +44 (0)20 8334 4118 www.serco.com