**UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED LANGUAGE TRAINING SERVICES**

**Purpose of Tender**

1. The current language training and examination services contracts for Her Majesty’s Government (HMG) end on 31 March 2022. We (the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, hereafter referred to as ‘the Authority’) are offering 5 lots to suppliers to replace these contracts. Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4 are for language training services and Lot 5 is for examinations services.

1. Each Lot is for a separate commercial opportunity run through an open competition. Bidders may elect to submit proposals for several of the language training lots. However, in order to maintain a separation of responsibility between training and examination, we will maintain this boundary in our tender instructions and contract award methodology. This is set out in 02. Instructions to Tender.

**UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED LANGUAGE TRAINING SERVICES – LOT 1 – MAIN PROVIDER**

**Aim**

1. To identify and contract a ‘Main Provider’ to deliver a managed, professional language school including (but not limited to) the following requirements:

* Deliver UK-based language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver 3 types of language assessments, including 2 mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Provide central management of the Language Centre at the Authority’s King Charles Street building.
* Deliver administration services.

1. The appointed Main Provider will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Main Provider will be expected to support HMG’s objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

**UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED FRENCH LANGUAGE TRAINING SERVICES – LOT 2 – CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR FRENCH**

**Aim**

* 1. To identify and contract a **‘Centre of Excellence for French’** to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:
* Deliver UK-based French language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver 2 types of French language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver administration services.

* 1. The appointed Centre of Excellence for French will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for French will be expected to support HMG’s objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

**UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED SPANISH LANGUAGE TRAINING SPECIFICATION – LOT 3 – CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SPANISH**

**Aim**

* 1. To identify and contract a ‘**Centre of Excellence** for Spanish to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:
* Deliver UK-based Spanish language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver 2 types of Spanish language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver administration services.

* 1. The appointed Centre of Excellence for Spanish will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for Spanish will be expected to support HMG’s objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

**UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF UK-BASED ARABIC LANGUAGE TRAINING SPECIFICATION – LOT 4 – CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR ARABIC**

**Aim**

* 1. To identify and contract a ‘**Centre of Excellence** for Arabic’ to deliver a managed, professional language training service including (but not limited to) the following requirements:
* Deliver UK-based Arabic language training mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver 2 types of Arabic language assessments, both mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages>.
* Deliver administration services.

* 1. The appointed Centre of Excellence for Arabic will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Centre of Excellence for Arabic will be expected to support HMG’s objective of delivering excellence in language training within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

**UK GOVERNMENT (HMG) PROVISION OF ONLINE LANGUAGE EXAMINATIONS SPECIFICATION – LOT 5 – EXAMINATIONS PROVIDER**

**Aim**

* 1. To identify and contract an ‘Examinations Provider’ to deliver a managed, professional examination provision including (but not limited to) the following requirements:
* Deliver formal online language examinations mapped against the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR): <https://www.coe.int/en/web/common-european-framework-reference-languages> .
* Deliver application, marking, moderation, and appeals services.
* Deliver administration services, including (but not limited to): staffing; examiner selection, training, and monitoring; full service reporting and evaluation.

* 1. The appointed Examinations Provider will have full responsibility for delivering the requirements described within this Specification. The Examinations Provider will be expected to support HMG’s objective of delivering excellence in language examinations within a culture of continuous improvement, innovation, and value for money.

Further information is available via tender documents

**OTHER DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES AND PUBLIC BODIES WITH ACCESS TO CONTRACT**

The service provision will be available to Central Government Departments, their Executive Agencies and their Non Departmental Public Bodies (NDPBs), and any successors (hereafter Her Majesty’s Government/HMG).

Without limiting the forgoing, the following is an indicative list of the Central Government bodies which will have access to use the contract resulting from this procurement. These contracts will not preclude HMG from sourcing alternative language training and examinations, with the exception of the Authority unless otherwise stated in the Specification:

Prime Minister's Office, 10 Downing Street

Attorney General's Office

Cabinet Office

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Department for Education

Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Department for International Trade

Department for Transport

Department for Work & Pensions

Department of Health & Social Care

HM Treasury

Home Office

Ministry of Defence

Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government

Ministry of Justice

Northern Ireland Office

Office of the Advocate General for Scotland

Office of the Leader of the House of Commons

Office of the Leader of the House of Lords

Office of the Secretary of State for Scotland

Office of the Secretary of State for Wales

UK Export Finance

**Separation of training and examination responsibilities - conflict of interest.**

The Authority is tendering for five different opportunities. Each Lotted tender is a separate opportunity which will be evaluated in line with the MEAT (Most Economically Advantageous Tender) criteria as set out for that Lot.

However the Authority does stress that, while bidders are welcome to bid for any of our five opportunities, we have identified a conflict of interest risk as follows: In the event that a single supplier bids for, and wins, any of our Language training contracts (Lots 1, 2, 3 or 4) and bids for, and wins, our Examinations Contract (Lot 5) there is a potential conflict of interest in the provision of service, since the Examinations Supplier will be required to work with the Authority on language performance and reporting. This links to directly service delivery and performance of the Language contract(s). We are therefore clear that while all contracts are separate opportunities to provide services for the Authority, we must maintain an ethical and operational division between our Language and Examinations services.

In order to handle the potential conflict of interest, no single supplier may be:

Awarded the contract for Lot 1 as well as Lot 5.

Awarded the contract for Lot 2 as well as Lot 5.

Awarded the contract for Lot 3 as well as Lot 5

Awarded the contract for Lot 4 as well as Lot 5.

Awarded any combination of Lots 1-4 as well as Lot 5.