Specification

Provision of Grade 6 Qualified Accountant

**Contract Reference: PS/23/69**

**Framework Title & Reference: RM6229 - Permanent Recruitment 2**

**Date: 15th May 2023**

**Version: 1.0**

[1. Introduction 3](#_Toc135031509)

[2. Background to the Requirement 3](#_Toc135031510)

[3. Procurement Timetable 3](#_Toc135031511)

[4. Scope 4](#_Toc135031512)

[5. Implementation and Deliverables 4](#_Toc135031513)

[6. Specifying Goods and / or Services 4](#_Toc135031514)

[7. Quality Assurance Requirements 5](#_Toc135031515)

[8. Other Requirements 6](#_Toc135031516)

[9. Management and Contract Administration 8](#_Toc135031517)

[10. Training / Skills / Knowledge Transfer 8](#_Toc135031518)

[11. Documentation 8](#_Toc135031519)

[12. Arrangement for End of Contract 8](#_Toc135031520)

[13. Response Evaluation 9](#_Toc135031521)

[Points of Contact 11](#_Toc135031522)

[Annex 1 12](#_Toc135031523)

## 1. Introduction

In accordance with the terms and conditions of the **RM6229 : Permanent Recruitment 2** Framework Agreement the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (**DVLA**) invites proposals for the following role: **Grade 6 Qualified Accountant.**

## 2. Background to the Requirement

The DVLA is an Executive Agency of the Department for Transport (DfT), based in Swansea. The DVLA’s primary aims are to facilitate road safety and general law enforcement by maintaining accurate registers of drivers and vehicle keepers and to collect Vehicle Excise Duty (VED).

DVLA operates nationwide across Great Britain, employing around 6,000 staff in a variety of operational and administrative roles.

DVLA’s headquarters are located at various locations within the Swansea area.

The aim of the contract is to provide a recruitment service to include, sourcing suitable candidates to fill the **Grade 6 Qualified Accountant role at DVLA**.

Candidates will need to have relevant skills and experience for the role aligned to the job profile and person specification.

## 3. Procurement Timetable

The timetable for this procurement is set out in the Invitation to Tender (ITT). The timetable may be changed at any time but any changes to the dates will be made in accordance with the Regulations (where applicable).

Suppliers will be informed if changes to the timetable are necessary.

The key dates for this procurement (Timetable) are currently anticipated to be as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Event** | **Date** |
| Tender goes live | 15th May 2023 |
| Clarification questions period closes | 29th May 2023 @13:00 |
| Tender submission date | 9th June 2023 |
| Evaluation Ends | 12th June 2023 @ 13:00 |
| Award | 14th June 2023 |
| Engagement Exercise Begins | 16th June 2023 |

DVLA reserves the right to amend the Timetable. Any changes to the Timetable shall be

notified to all suppliers as soon as practicable.

## 4. Scope

The requirement is for 1 x **Grade 6 Qualified Accountant (G6Q)**

This recruitment needs to support both the capability of the DVLA but also reinforce the organisation's brand values and help build its reputation. A professional, commercial feel to the recruitment will be essential to build brand value. In addition, this recruitment is key in bringing in high calibre individuals who will themselves strengthen the culture and reputation of the organisation.

We require a supplier who is flexible in how they provide the solution and can demonstrate a degree of innovation across the requirement. The supplier should have a proven track record in the recruitment to the Civil Service of CCAB or equivalent qualified accountants at a senior level in the South Wales area.

## 5. Implementation and Deliverables

We will work with the supplier to agree appropriate dates for the direct sourcing of candidates once awarded based on the requirements provided below:

* Provision of quality and appropriately skilled candidates quickly and efficiently
* Reduce administrative burden and management overheads for DVLA
* Maximise opportunities for early matching of people to roles

## 6. Specifying Goods and / or Services

The supplier will be required to:

* Meet with the hiring manager to understand the brief
* Provide market insight
* Support the hiring manager in developing a recruitment pack for advertisement
* Carry out a candidate search and find a good quality range of candidates to enter the selection process
* Manage the candidate to ensure they remain engaged throughout the process
* Co-ordinate selection process dates
* Provide regular updates to the hiring manager throughout the process
* Receive and manage the candidate application
* Carry out longlisting for review by the hiring manager
* Carry out interviews to inform shortlisting
* Carry out shortlisting for review by the hiring manager
* Collect diversity data throughout the campaign
* Communicate outcomes to candidates and provide feedback

DVLA are flexible in its approach, and if there are reasonable recommendations to alter how this is done, they can be discussed following award. This also applies for timescales.

As indicated above, DVLA will be conducting the final interviews and would expect that this is reflected in the submitted response (Pricing Schedule) where optional discounts from the rate card are able to be submitted.

**6.1 Social Value Considerations**

DVLA is committed to adding to Social Value and mandates a 10% of each procurement exercise to make sure that its contracts help deliver this.

Please see below embedded document which includes a link to the Social Value Model, and also the criteria and question that is being asked for this procurement.

## 7. Quality Assurance Requirements

The following metrics are what DVLA will use to monitor performance during the lifetime of the contract:

* Quality and quantity of applications received
* Quality of a diverse range of candidates
* Quality of initial sift by suppliers
* Quality and timeliness of sift results to candidates
* Quality and timeliness of interview invites to candidates
* Quality and timeliness of interview results to candidates
* Quality and timeliness of successful candidates being sent to vacancy holder to enable them to start the manual recruitment process
* Quality and handling of MI data and diversity data, providing market insight by role type where appropriate, including:
  + Number of applications received
  + Number of applications passing sift
  + Number of candidates invited to interview
  + Number of candidates interviewed
  + Number of candidates passing interview
  + Number of candidates offered role

DVLA expect a solution to be provided by the winning supplier (eliminating the need for another procurement), which mitigates the cost of the campaign should the candidate be not suitable following a trial period (to be agreed) or if the candidate leaves the agency within a specified timeframe (to be agreed).

## 8. Other Requirements

**Information Assurance**

|  |
| --- |
| **Removable Media**  Tenderers should note that removable media is not permitted in the delivery of this Contract. Where there is a requirement for Supplier Staff to take data off site in electronic format, the DVLA will consider if it is appropriate to supply an encrypted hard drive.  **Security Clearance**  **Level 1**  Tenderers are required to acknowledge in their response that any Supplier Staff that will have access to the DVLA site for meetings and similar (but have no access to the DVLA systems), must be supervised at all times by DVLA staff.  **Information Supply Chain**  Tenderers are required to confirm how DVLA Data will be securely managed at each stage of the Information Supply Chain. This applies to both Suppliers and Subcontractors. Retention schedules will need to be defined and agreed prior to award of contract.  **Processing of Government Data**  This contract **may** require the successful tenderer to process Government data on DVLA’s behalf. If or where this is the case the successful tenderer will be required to complete a Statement of Assurance Questionnaire (SoAQ) prior to formal contract award and before any processing of data commences in relation to this contract, to satisfy DVLA that its data will be appropriately protected. The SoAQ is included as part of this Invitation to Tender (ITT). The purpose of the Questionnaire is to assess the maturity of policies, systems and controls associated with the handling of our data. The Questionnaire was developed for use throughout the Government supply chain and is based on ISO27001 criteria and aligned to the HMG Security Policy Framework.  Tenders are required to confirm their understanding and acceptance of the requirement to complete and return the Questionnaire during the Standstill Period.  The completed Questionnaire will be assessed by our Information Assurance Group and DVLA will work with the successful tenderer to address any information aspects requiring improvement.  The HMG Security Policy Framework requires Departments to conduct an annual compliance review of third-party suppliers. The Questionnaire will therefore need to be completed annually throughout the term of the contract in order to assess ongoing compliance. DVLA may also audit Suppliers to validate the responses and evidence provided in the Questionnaire.  **Processing Personal Data**  Please note that the successful tenderer as part of the contract agrees to comply with all applicable requirements of UK Data Protection Legislation (including UK GDPR) and all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy.  **Schedule of Processing, Personal Data and Data**  Where the processing of personal data has been identified as part of this requirement, please refer to the Terms and Conditions of this contract for full details of the instructions to be followed when processing data.  **Offshoring of Government Data**  Government policy is that data it holds should be protected appropriately regardless of location.  Offshoring is defined as “Any arrangement where the performance of any part of the services or a solution under a contract may occur outside the UK for domestic (UK) consumption.”  When offshoring is described, the focus is typically on the physical location where data is hosted (such as where are the data centres located). Whilst physical location of data is a critical part of the offshoring question, it is important to understand how and where data might be logically accessed. Administrators or technical support staff may be located anywhere in the world, with logical access to data.  Tenderers must indicate in their response whether any DVLA data supplied as part of the contract, would be offshored. If so, tenderers must confirm the location(s) including the location of any business continuity, disaster recovery and technical support staff.  All Central Government Departments and Agencies are required to seek approval for any proposed offshoring activity, which ensures that information held offshore is appropriately managed and that pan-government risks are identified, tracked and managed, where appropriate.  In the event that the successful tenderer proposes to offshore any DVLA Data as part of the contract, they would be required to provide details about the processing to be carried out offshore, the privacy risks and the security controls in place to protect the data. If the intention is to store the information in a cloud environment outside the UK, the successful tenderer will also need to confirm the extent to which the environment complies with the cloud security principles. This information would be used to submit the offshoring proposal for approval.  Any request to offshore must receive clearance prior to the commencement of any data processing activity. |

**Health and Safety**

Please be aware of DVLA’s Health and Safety policy, which must be adhered to whilst on DVLA premises.

Attached with Invitation to tender.

**Business Continuity**

Suppliers shall provide a statement regarding the scope of their Business Continuity and Disaster Recovery Plans to protect the Agency from the consequences of business interruptions.

## 9. Management and Contract Administration

DVLA will ask for progress reviews on an ad-hoc basis to ensure timescales are achievable. Following award of this contract, we expect a quick turnaround with engagement occurring as soon as possible post award, with a view to achieving as early as possible a start date for the successful candidate.

## 10. Training / Skills / Knowledge Transfer

Not applicable.

## 11. Documentation

Any report will be required in electronic format, and should outline the approach that was taken, and why the supplier believes the successful candidate is appropriate for the role.

In addition the following information will be required post-award:

* Completion of Annex 8 (Schedule of Processing Personal Data & Data Subjects)
* An eligibility check for the candidates right to work in the UK
* Information will be needed for the successful candidate as part of the Pre- Employment Checks process.
* The successful supplier will also be provided with an electronic Diversity Questionnaire that all candidates will need to complete as part of the recruitment process. This will be provided to the supplier during initial engagement.

## 12. Arrangement for End of Contract

The successful bidder shall fully cooperate with DVLA as contract owner for this procurement, to ensure a fair and transparent re-tendering process for this contract.

This may require the Supplier to demonstrate separation between teams occupied on the existing Contract and those involved in tendering for the replacement contract to prevent actual (or perceived) conflicts of interest arising.

## 13. Response Evaluation

**Quality Factors:**

Selection will be based on the evaluation criteria encompassing the most economically advantageous tender, which demonstrates a high degree of overall value for money, competence, credibility, and ability to deliver.

This tender will be evaluated using the weightings set out at Annex 1 to obtain the optimal balance of quality and cost.

**Quality Criteria Scoring Methodology:**

The scoring methodology used to assess and allocate scores to each criteria are included in the table below

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Points awarded** | **Description** |
| 100 | Fully meets/evidence provided that demonstrates the requirement can be met |
| 60 | Minor concerns/issues that the requirement can be met |
| 30 | Major concerns/issues that the requirement can be met |
| 0 | Does not meet the requirement, not addressed or no evidence provided |

Based on the allocated score, a percentage will be calculated against each element using on the following calculation:

(Allocated Score

X Weighting

Maximum Score)

For example, “Quality Element 1” can be allocated a score between 0 and 100 but carries a weighting of 10%. Supplier A is given a score of 60 for this element so receives a score of (60/100 x 10) = 6%. The scores for each element will then be added together to calculate the overall Quality Criteria score.

**Financial / Price Criteria**

Evaluation of the prices submitted will be performed separately by a Commercial Finance Accountant and details will not be made available to the Quality Evaluation Panel. This is to ensure fairness and avoid any subconscious influence of a lower price on the quality scoring. The overall percentage weighting allocated for the Financial/Price Criteria is outlined in the Table “Overall Weighting Allocation”.

**Financial / Price Criteria Scoring Methodology:**

A Percentage Scoring Methodology will be used to evaluate all proposals for this requirement. This methodology is based on the following principles:

The lowest tendered price will be awarded the maximum score available. Each subsequent bid will be baselined to this score and will be awarded a percentage of the maximum score available. The calculation used is as follows:

(Lowest Tendered Price

X Maximum Score Available (i.e. Weighting)

Tender Price Submitted per Supplier)

For example, if the Financial/Price weighting allocation is 40%, the maximum score available is 40. Supplier A submits the lowest price of £100,000 and Supplier B submits a price of £180,000. Based on the above calculation Supplier A and B will receive the scores shown below:

Supplier A = 100k/100k x 40 = 40%

Supplier B = 100k/180k x 40 = 22.22%

**Overall Weighting Allocation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Evaluation Criteria** | **Weighting** |
| **Quality Criteria and Social Value Criteria (if applicable)** | 60% |
| **Financial / Price Criteria** | 40% |
| **Total** | 100% |

**Calculation of Overall Score:**

The allocated score for the Quality and Social Value Criteria (where applicable) will be added to the Financial/Price Factor score to calculate the overall score for each tender (out of a max available 100%). The tender with the highest overall score will be deemed as successful. The cost of the contract is dictated by the CCS Rate Card for RM6229, but the Pricing Schedule offers the opportunity to allow the supplier to include a discount, based on the fact that DVLA itself, will conduct the interviews. This discount is optional. The net price, following discount will be used to give the Price score for the bid.

## Points of Contact

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Commercial Advisor** | Name | Xxxxx redacted under FOI Section 40 |
| Tel | Xxxxx redacted under FOI Section 40 |
| e-mail | Xxxxx redacted under FOI Section 40 |
| **Project Lead DVLA** | Name | Xxxxx redacted under FOI Section 40 |
| Tel | Xxxxx redacted under FOI Section 40 |
| e-mail | Xxxxx redacted under FOI Section 40 |

**All queries/questions should be sent to the Commercial Advisor**

## Annex 1

**Annex 1 – Evaluation Criteria**

**Scored Quality Criteria:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Primary Scored Criteria** | **Primary Scored Criteria Weighting (%)** | **Scored Sub-criteria Description** | **Individual Scored Sub -Criteria Weighting (%)** |
| Evidence of recruiting specified roles for an organisation of the scale (size, nature and scope) of DVLA. | 70% | Outline experience of, including providing examples of recruiting senior qualified accountant roles within the civil service including any data on how long recruited candidates have stayed in the appointed roles. | 40% |
| Outline of the methods used. | 10% |
| Please provide evidence of, including providing examples of recruiting to a single location in Wales / South West. | 10% |
| Any testimonials/feedback from similar organisations. | 5% |
| Any added value / innovation which may benefit a positive outcome. | 5% |
| Back Office Systems and Management Information / Candidate Management | 10% | Outline the candidate journey, and how you manage the candidate from start to finish of the process. | 5% |
| Outline the use of any systems used to help manage the process including any Management Information this produces. | 5% |
| Implementation Plan / Transfer of Staff | 10% | Outline the timescales expected to recruit suitable candidates with key milestones. | 5% |
| Outline factors that could cause potential delays and how this could be mitigated. | 5% |
| Social Value Question | 10% | **Theme 4 : Equal Opportunity**  Policy Outcome: Tackle workforce inequality  Please see section 6.1 (embedded document) for the Question relating to this which should be answered as described. | 10% |
|  | **Total = 100% (60 marks)** |  |  |

**Financial/Pricing Criteria**

| **Primary Financial/Pricing Criteria** | **Financial/Pricing Weighting (%)** | **Description** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Pricing Requirements | 100% | The total cost as completed in the embedded pricing schedule (Annex 2) |
|  | **Total = 100% (40 marks)** |  |

**Annex 2 – Pricing Schedule**

**Annex 3 – Health and Safety Policy (for information)**

**Annex 4 – Procurement Fraud Statement (for information)**

**Annex 5 - Diversity and Inclusion Policy (for information**)

**Annex 6 – Invoicing Procedures (for information)**

**Annex 7 – Armed Forces (for information)**

**Annex 9 – Statement of Assurance Questionnaire**

**Annex 10 – Corporate Environment Policy**

**Annex 11 – Information to be provided by Bidders**