

decision regarding both publication and redaction of the Contract Information.

25. **Dispute Resolution**

- 25.1 The Authority and the Service Provider shall use all reasonable endeavours to negotiate in good faith and settle any dispute or difference that may arise out of or relate to the Contract (“**Dispute**”) before resorting to litigation.
- 25.2 If the Dispute is not settled through discussion between the Contract Manager and a representative of the Service Provider within a period of seven (7) Business Days of the date on which the Dispute arose, the Parties may refer the Dispute in writing to a director or chief executive (or equivalent) (“**Senior Personnel**”) of each of the Parties for resolution.
- 25.3 If the Dispute is not resolved within 14 Business Days of referral to the Senior Personnel, the Parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve the Dispute through entry into a structured mediation or negotiation with the assistance of a mediator. Either Party may give notice to the other Party (“**Notice**”) to commence such process and the Notice shall identify one or more proposed mediators.
- 25.4 If the Parties are unable to agree on a mediator, or if the agreed mediator is unable or unwilling to act within 28 Business Days of the service of the Notice, either Party may apply to the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (“**CEDR**”) in London to appoint a mediator. The costs of that mediator shall be divided equally between the Parties or as the Parties may otherwise agree in writing.
- 25.5 Where a dispute is referred to mediation under Clause 25.3, the Parties will attempt to settle such Dispute by mediation in accordance with the model mediation procedures published by CEDR or such other procedures as the mediator may recommend.
- 25.6 If the Parties reach agreement on the resolution of the Dispute, such agreement shall be recorded in writing and once signed by the Parties’ authorised representatives, shall be final and binding on the Parties.
- 25.7 If either Party refuses at any time to participate in the mediation procedure and in any event if the Parties fail to reach agreement on the Dispute within 40 Business Days of the service of the Notice either Party may commence proceedings in accordance with Clause 40.
- 25.8 For the avoidance of doubt, the Service Provider shall continue to provide the Services in accordance with the Contract and without delay or disruption while the Dispute is being resolved pursuant to this Clause 25.