

CALL OFF SCHEDULE 17: CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

1. SUPPLIER'S OBLIGATIONS

- 1.1 The Supplier must, throughout the Contract Period, identify new or potential improvements to the provision of the Services with a view to reducing the Buyer's costs (including the Charges) and/or improving the quality and efficiency of the Services and their supply to the Buyer.
- 1.2 The Supplier must adopt a policy of continuous improvement in relation to the Services, which must include regular reviews with the Buyer of the Services and the way it provides them, with a view to reducing the Buyer's costs (including the Charges) and/or improving the quality and efficiency of the Services. The Supplier and the Buyer must provide each other with any information relevant to meeting this objective.
- 1.3 In addition to Paragraph 1.1, the Supplier shall produce at the start of each Contract Year a plan for improving the provision of Services and/or reducing the Charges (without adversely affecting the performance of this Contract) during that Contract Year ("**Continuous Improvement Plan**") for the Buyer's approval. The Continuous Improvement Plan must include, as a minimum, proposals:
 - 1.3.1 identifying the emergence of relevant new and evolving technologies which could improve the IT Environment and/or the provision of the Services, and those technological advances potentially available to the Supplier and the Buyer which the Parties may wish to adopt;
 - 1.3.2 improvements which the Supplier uses or is planning to use with its other customers;
 - 1.3.3 proposals as to how any investment required for continuous improvement could be shared with other customers of the Supplier;
 - 1.3.4 a zero-usage report to identify opportunities for cost avoidance;
 - 1.3.5 changes in IT Environment, business processes of the Supplier or the Buyer and ways of working that would provide cost savings and/or enhanced benefits to the Buyer (such as methods of interaction, supply chain efficiencies, reduction in energy consumption and methods of sale);
 - 1.3.6 new or potential improvements to the provision of the Services including the quality, responsiveness, procedures, benchmarking methods, likely performance mechanisms and customer support services in relation to the Services; and
 - 1.3.7 measuring and reducing the sustainability impacts of the Supplier's operations and supply-chains relating to the Services, and identifying opportunities to assist the Buyer in meeting their sustainability objectives.
- 1.4 The initial Continuous Improvement Plan for the first (1st) Contract Year shall be submitted by the Supplier to the Buyer for approval within six (6) Months following the Commencement Date, whichever is earlier.
- 1.5 The Buyer shall notify the Supplier of its approval or rejection of the proposed Continuous Improvement Plan or any updates to it within twenty (20) Working Days of receipt. If it is rejected then the Supplier shall, within ten (10) Working Days of receipt of notice of rejection, submit a revised Continuous Improvement Plan reflecting the changes required. Once approved, it becomes the Continuous Improvement Plan for the purposes of this Contract.

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- 1.6 The Supplier must provide sufficient information with each suggested improvement to enable a decision on whether to implement it. The Supplier shall provide any further information as requested.
- 1.7 If the Buyer wishes to incorporate any improvement into this Contract, it must request a Change in accordance with the Change Control Procedure. The Supplier shall bear any and all implementation costs associated with the incorporation of the Change. Any consequential changes to the Service Charges (which shall exclude recovery of any implementation costs) will be agreed via the Change Control Procedure.
- 1.8 Once the first Continuous Improvement Plan has been approved in accordance with Paragraph 1.5:
 - 1.8.1 the Supplier shall use all reasonable endeavours to implement any agreed services in accordance with the Continuous Improvement Plan; and
 - 1.8.2 the Parties agree to meet as soon as reasonably possible following the start of each quarter (or as otherwise agreed between the Parties) to review the Supplier's progress against the Continuous Improvement Plan.
- 1.9 The Supplier shall update the Continuous Improvement Plan as and when required but at least once every Contract Year (after the first (1st) Contract Year) in accordance with the procedure and timescales set out in Paragraph 1.3.
- 1.10 All costs relating to the compilation or updating of the Continuous Improvement Plan and the costs arising from any improvement made pursuant to it and the costs of implementing any improvement, shall have no effect on and are included in the Charges.
- 1.11 Should the Supplier's costs in providing the Services to the Buyer be reduced as a result of any changes implemented, all of the cost savings shall be passed on to the Buyer by way of a consequential and immediate reduction in the Charges for the Services.
- 1.12 At any time during the Contract Period of this Contract, the Supplier may make a proposal for gainshare. If the Buyer deems gainshare to be applicable then the Supplier shall update the Continuous Improvement Plan so as to include details of the way in which the proposal shall be implemented in accordance with an agreed gainshare ratio.