

DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form and Order Schedule Order Form)

ORDER REFERENCE: PS23228 – Collective Conciliation Evaluation

THE BUYER: Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas)

BUYER ADDRESS 8th Floor Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street,
Westminster, London, SW1H 0TL

THE SUPPLIER: National Centre for Social Research

SUPPLIER ADDRESS: 35 Northampton Square, London, EC1V 0AX

REGISTRATION NUMBER: 04392418

DUNS NUMBER: N/A

DPS SUPPLIER REGISTRATION SERVICE ID: N/A

APPLICABLE DPS CONTRACT

This Order Form is for the provision of the Deliverables and dated 21st September 2023

It's issued under the DPS Contract with the reference number RM6126 for the provision of PS23228 Collective Conciliation Evaluation

DPS FILTER CATEGORY(IES):

- Employment
- Quantitative
- Qualitative
- Mixed method (qualitative and quantitative)
- Online
- Telephone
- CATI (computer assisted telephone interview)
- Cognitive interviewing / testing
- Depth interviews
- Purposive sampling
- Theory-based impact evaluation (incl. Theories of Change (ToC) and Logic Modelling)
- Process evaluation
- Customer journey research
- Customer satisfaction research
- Customer List
- Focus group discussions Impact evaluation

DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form Order Schedules)

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ORDER INCORPORATED TERMS

The following documents are incorporated into this Order Contract. Where numbers are missing we are not using those schedules. If the documents conflict, the following order of precedence applies:

1. This Order Form including the Order Special Terms and Order Special Schedules.
2. Joint Schedule 1(Definitions and Interpretation) **RM6126**
3. DPS Special Terms
4. The following Schedules in equal order of precedence:
 - Joint Schedules for **RM6126**
 - Joint Schedule 2 (Variation Form)
 - Joint Schedule 3 (Insurance Requirements)
 - Joint Schedule 4 (Commercially Sensitive Information)
 - Joint Schedule 6 (Key Subcontractors)
 - Joint Schedule 10 (Rectification Plan) ○
 - Joint Schedule 11 (Processing Data)
 - Order Schedules for **PS23228**
 - Order Schedule 2 (Staff Transfer)
 - Order Schedule 3 (Continuous Improvement)
 - Order Schedule 5 (Pricing Details)
 - Order Schedule 7 (Key Supplier Staff)
 - Order Schedule 20 (Order Specification)
5. CCS Core Terms (DPS version) v1.0.3
6. Joint Schedule 5 (Corporate Social Responsibility) **RM6126**
7. Order Schedule 4 (Order Tender)

No other Supplier terms are part of the Order Contract. That includes any terms written on the back of, added to this Order Form, or presented at the time of delivery.

ORDER SPECIAL TERMS

The following Special Terms are incorporated into this Order Contract:
None

ORDER START DATE: Monday, 25th September 2023

ORDER EXPIRY DATE: Friday, 28th June 2024

ORDER INITIAL PERIOD: 9 months

DELIVERABLES

See details in Order Schedule 20 (Order Specification)

DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form Order Schedules)

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MAXIMUM LIABILITY

The limitation of liability for this Order Contract is stated in Clause 11.2 of the Core Terms.

The Estimated Year 1 Charges used to calculate liability in the first Contract Year is £121,000.00 excluding VAT.

ORDER CHARGES

See details in Order Schedule 5 (Pricing Details)

The Charges will not be impacted by any change to the DPS Pricing. The Charges can only be changed by agreement in writing between the Buyer and the Supplier because of:

- Specific Change in Law

REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES

Recoverable as stated in the DPS Contract

PAYMENT METHOD

Payment shall be made via BACS.

Invoices payable upon receipt of invoice and Purchase Order

Payment shall be made on Acceptance of the deliverables.

BUYER'S INVOICE ADDRESS:

Invoices to be sent to email: finance@acas.org.uk

BUYER'S AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE

[REDACTED]

BUYER'S ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Available on request

BUYER'S SECURITY POLICY

Available on request

SUPPLIER'S AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVE

[REDACTED]

SUPPLIER'S CONTRACT MANAGER

[REDACTED]

PROGRESS REPORT FREQUENCY

Weekly

PROGRESS MEETING FREQUENCY

Monthly

KEY STAFF

[REDACTED]

KEY SUBCONTRACTOR(S)

RM6126 - Research & Insights DPS

Project Version: v1.0

Model Version: v1.3

DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form Order Schedules)

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E-AUCTIONS

Not applicable

COMMERCIALLY SENSITIVE INFORMATION

Suppliers bid proposal and AW5.2 costs and breakdown

SERVICE CREDITS

Not applicable

ADDITIONAL INSURANCES

Additional Insurances required in accordance with Joint Schedule 3 (Insurance Requirements)

GUARANTEE

Not applicable

SOCIAL VALUE COMMITMENT

The Supplier agrees, in providing the Deliverables and performing its obligations under the Order Contract, that it will comply with the social value commitments in Order Schedule 4 (Order Tender)

Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions)

- 1.1 In each Contract, unless the context otherwise requires, capitalised expressions shall have the meanings set out in this Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions) or the relevant Schedule in which that capitalised expression appears.
- 1.2 If a capitalised expression does not have an interpretation in this Schedule or any other Schedule, it shall, in the first instance, be interpreted in accordance with the common interpretation within the relevant market sector/industry where appropriate. Otherwise, it shall be interpreted in accordance with the dictionary meaning.
- 1.3 In each Contract, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 1.3.1 the singular includes the plural and vice versa; 1.3.2 reference to a gender includes the other gender and the neuter; 1.3.3 references to a person include an individual, company, body corporate, corporation, unincorporated association, firm, partnership or other legal entity or Crown Body;
 - 1.3.4 a reference to any Law includes a reference to that Law as amended, extended, consolidated or re-enacted from time to time;
 - 1.3.5 the words **"including"**, **"other"**, **"in particular"**, **"for example"** and similar words shall not limit the generality of the preceding words and shall be construed as if they were immediately followed by the words **"without limitation"**;
 - 1.3.6 references to **"writing"** include typing, printing, lithography, photography, display on a screen, electronic and facsimile transmission and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form, and expressions referring to writing shall be construed accordingly;
 - 1.3.7 references to **"representations"** shall be construed as references to present facts, to **"warranties"** as references to present and future facts and to **"undertakings"** as references to obligations under the Contract;
 - 1.3.8 references to **"Clauses"** and **"Schedules"** are, unless otherwise provided, references to the clauses and schedules of the Core Terms and references in any Schedule to parts, paragraphs, annexes and tables are, unless otherwise provided, references to the parts, paragraphs, annexes and tables of the Schedule in which these references appear;
 - 1.3.9 references to **"Paragraphs"** are, unless otherwise provided, references to the paragraph of the appropriate Schedules unless otherwise provided;
 - 1.3.10 references to a series of Clauses or Paragraphs shall be inclusive of the clause numbers specified;

1.3.11 the headings in each Contract are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation or construction of a Contract; and 1.3.12 where the Buyer is a Crown Body the Supplier shall be treated as contracting with the Crown as a whole.

1.4 In each Contract, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words shall have the following meanings:

"Achieve"	in respect of a Test, to successfully pass such Test without any Test Issues and in respect of a Milestone, the issue of a Satisfaction Certificate in respect of that Milestone and "Achieved" , "Achieving" and "Achievement" shall be construed accordingly;
"Additional Insurances"	insurance requirements relating to an Order Contract specified in the Order Form additional to those outlined in Joint Schedule 3 (Insurance Requirements);
"Admin Fee"	means the costs incurred by CCS in dealing with MI Failures calculated in accordance with the tariff of administration charges published by the CCS on: http://CCS.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/i-amsupplier/management-information/admin-fees ;
"Affected Party"	the party seeking to claim relief in respect of a Force Majeure Event;
"Affiliates"	in relation to a body corporate, any other entity which directly or indirectly Controls, is Controlled by, or is under direct or indirect common Control of that body corporate from time to time;
"Annex"	extra information which supports a Schedule;
"Approval"	the prior written consent of the Buyer and "Approve" and "Approved" shall be construed accordingly;
"Audit"	the Relevant Authority's right to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) verify the accuracy of the Charges and any other amounts payable by a Buyer under an Order Contract (including proposed or actual variations to them in accordance with the Contract); b) verify the costs of the Supplier (including the costs of all Subcontractors and any third party suppliers) in connection with the provision of the Services; c) verify the Open Book Data; d) verify the Supplier's and each Subcontractor's compliance with the applicable Law; e) identify or investigate actual or suspected breach of Clauses 27 to 33 and/or Joint Schedule 5 (Corporate Social Responsibility), impropriety or accounting mistakes or any breach or threatened breach of security and in these circumstances the Relevant Authority shall have no obligation to inform the Supplier of the purpose or objective of its investigations;

	<p>f) identify or investigate any circumstances which may impact upon the financial stability of the Supplier, any Guarantor, and/or any Subcontractors or their ability to provide the Deliverables;</p> <p>g) obtain such information as is necessary to fulfil the Relevant Authority's obligations to supply information for parliamentary, ministerial, judicial or administrative purposes including the supply of information to the Comptroller and Auditor General;</p> <p>h) review any books of account and the internal contract management accounts kept by the Supplier in connection with each Contract;</p> <p>i) carry out the Relevant Authority's internal and statutory audits and to prepare, examine and/or certify the Relevant Authority's annual and interim reports and accounts;</p> <p>j) enable the National Audit Office to carry out an examination pursuant to Section 6(1) of the National Audit Act 1983 of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Relevant Authority has used its resources;</p> <p>k) verify the accuracy and completeness of any Management Information delivered or required by the DPS Contract;</p>
"Auditor"	<p>a) the Buyer's internal and external auditors;</p> <p>b) the Buyer's statutory or regulatory auditors;</p> <p>c) the Comptroller and Auditor General, their staff and/or any appointed representatives of the National Audit Office;</p> <p>d) HM Treasury or the Cabinet Office;</p> <p>e) any party formally appointed by the Buyer to carry out audit or similar review functions; and</p> <p>f) successors or assigns of any of the above;</p>
"Authority"	CCS and each Buyer;
"Authority Cause"	any breach of the obligations of the Relevant Authority or any other default, act, omission, negligence or statement of the Relevant Authority, of its employees, servants, agents in connection with or in relation to the subject-matter of the Contract and in respect of which the Relevant Authority is liable to the Supplier;
"BACS"	the Bankers' Automated Clearing Services, which is a scheme for the electronic processing of financial transactions within the United Kingdom;
"Beneficiary"	a Party having (or claiming to have) the benefit of an indemnity under this Contract;
"Buyer"	the relevant public sector purchaser identified as such in the Order Form;

"Buyer Assets"	the Buyer's infrastructure, data, software, materials, assets, equipment or other property owned by and/or licensed or leased to the Buyer and which is or may be used in connection with the provision of the Deliverables which remain the property of the Buyer throughout the term of the Contract;
"Buyer Authorised Representative"	the representative appointed by the Buyer from time to time in relation to the Order Contract initially identified in the Order Form;
"Buyer Premises"	premises owned, controlled or occupied by the Buyer which are made available for use by the Supplier or its Subcontractors for the provision of the Deliverables (or any of them);
"CCS"	the Minister for the Cabinet Office as represented by Crown Commercial Service, which is an executive agency and operates as a trading fund of the Cabinet Office, whose offices are located at 9th Floor, The Capital, Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 9PP;
"CCS Authorised Representative"	the representative appointed by CCS from time to time in relation to the DPS Contract initially identified in the DPS Appointment Form and subsequently on the Platform;
"Central Government Body"	a body listed in one of the following sub-categories of the Central Government classification of the Public Sector Classification Guide, as published and amended from time to time by the Office for National Statistics: a) Government Department; b) Non-Departmental Public Body or Assembly Sponsored Public Body (advisory, executive, or tribunal); c) Non-Ministerial Department; or d) Executive Agency;
"Change in Law"	any change in Law which impacts on the supply of the Deliverables and performance of the Contract which comes into force after the Start Date;
"Change of Control"	a change of control within the meaning of Section 450 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010;
"Charges"	the prices (exclusive of any applicable VAT), payable to the Supplier by the Buyer under the Order Contract, as set out in the Order Form, for the full and proper performance by the Supplier of its obligations under the Order Contract less any Deductions;
"Claim"	any claim which it appears that a Beneficiary is, or may become, entitled to indemnification under this Contract;

"Commercially Sensitive Information"	the Confidential Information listed in the DPS Appointment Form or Order Form (if any) comprising of commercially sensitive information relating to the Supplier, its IPR or its business or which the Supplier has indicated to the Authority that, if disclosed by the Authority,
	would cause the Supplier significant commercial disadvantage or material financial loss;
"Comparable Supply"	the supply of Deliverables to another Buyer of the Supplier that are the same or similar to the Deliverables;
"Compliance Officer"	the person(s) appointed by the Supplier who is responsible for ensuring that the Supplier complies with its legal obligations;
"Confidential Information"	means any information, however it is conveyed, that relates to the business, affairs, developments, trade secrets, Know-How, personnel and suppliers of CCS, the Buyer or the Supplier, including IPRs, together with information derived from the above, and any other information clearly designated as being confidential (whether or not it is marked as "confidential") or which ought reasonably to be considered to be confidential;
"Conflict of Interest"	a conflict between the financial or personal duties of the Supplier or the Supplier Staff and the duties owed to CCS or any Buyer under a Contract, in the reasonable opinion of the Buyer or CCS;
"Contract"	either the DPS Contract or the Order Contract, as the context requires;
"Contracts Finder"	the Government's publishing portal for public sector procurement opportunities;
"Contract Period"	the term of either a DPS Contract or Order Contract from the earlier of the: a) applicable Start Date; or b) the Effective Date until the applicable End Date;
"Contract Value"	the higher of the actual or expected total Charges paid or payable under a Contract where all obligations are met by the Supplier;
"Contract Year"	a consecutive period of twelve (12) Months commencing on the Start Date or each anniversary thereof;
"Control"	control in either of the senses defined in sections 450 and 1124 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 and "Controlled" shall be construed accordingly;
"Controller"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;

"Core Terms"	CCS' standard terms and conditions for common goods and services which govern how Supplier must interact with CCS and Buyers under DPS Contracts and Order Contracts;
"Costs"	<p>the following costs (without double recovery) to the extent that they are reasonably and properly incurred by the Supplier in providing the Deliverables:</p> <p>a) the cost to the Supplier or the Key Subcontractor (as the context requires), calculated per Man Day, of engaging the Supplier Staff, including:</p>

	<p>i) base salary paid to the Supplier Staff; ii) employer's National Insurance contributions; iii) pension contributions; iv) car allowances;</p> <p>v) any other contractual employment benefits;</p> <p>vi) staff training; vii) work place accommodation; viii) work place IT equipment and tools reasonably necessary to provide the Deliverables (but not including items included within limb (b) below); and</p> <p>ix) reasonable recruitment costs, as agreed with the Buyer;</p> <p>b) costs incurred in respect of Supplier Assets which would be treated as capital costs according to generally accepted accounting principles within the UK, which shall include the cost to be charged in respect of Supplier Assets by the Supplier to the Buyer or (to the extent that risk and title in any Supplier Asset is not held by the Supplier) any cost actually incurred by the Supplier in respect of those Supplier Assets;</p> <p>c) operational costs which are not included within (a) or (b) above, to the extent that such costs are necessary and properly incurred by the Supplier in the provision of the Deliverables;</p> <p>d) Reimbursable Expenses to the extent these have been specified as allowable in the Order Form and are incurred in delivering any Deliverables;</p> <p>but excluding:</p> <p>a) Overhead;</p> <p>b) financing or similar costs;</p> <p>c) maintenance and support costs to the extent that these relate to maintenance and/or support Deliverables provided beyond the Order Contract Period whether in relation to Supplier Assets or otherwise;</p> <p>d) taxation;</p> <p>e) fines and penalties;</p> <p>f) amounts payable under Order Schedule 16 (Benchmarking) where such Schedule is used; and</p> <p>g) non-cash items (including depreciation, amortisation, impairments and movements in provisions);</p>
"Crown Body"	the government of the United Kingdom (including the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive Committee, the Scottish Government and

	the National Assembly for Wales), including, but not limited to, government ministers and government departments
	and particular bodies, persons, commissions or agencies from time to time carrying out functions on its behalf;
"CRTPA"	the Contract Rights of Third Parties Act 1999;
"Data Protection Impact Assessment"	an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged Processing on the protection of Personal Data;
"Data Protection Legislation"	(i) the GDPR, the LED and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time (ii) the DPA 2018 to the extent that it relates to Processing of personal data and privacy; (iii) all applicable Law about the Processing of personal data and privacy;
"Data Protection Officer"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;
"Data Subject"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;
"Data Subject Access Request"	a request made by, or on behalf of, a Data Subject in accordance with rights granted pursuant to the Data Protection Legislation to access their Personal Data;
"Deductions"	all Service Credits, Delay Payments (if applicable), or any other deduction which the Buyer is paid or is payable to the Buyer under an Order Contract;
"Default"	any breach of the obligations of the Supplier (including abandonment of a Contract in breach of its terms) or any other default (including material default), act, omission, negligence or statement of the Supplier, of its Subcontractors or any Supplier Staff howsoever arising in connection with or in relation to the subject-matter of a Contract and in respect of which the Supplier is liable to the Relevant Authority;
"Default Management Levy"	has the meaning given to it in Paragraph 8.1.1 of DPS Schedule 5 (Management Levy and Information);
"Delay Payments"	the amounts (if any) payable by the Supplier to the Buyer in respect of a delay in respect of a Milestone as specified in the Mobilisation Plan;
"Deliverables"	Goods and/or Services that may be ordered under the Contract including the Documentation;

"Delivery"	delivery of the relevant Deliverable or Milestone in accordance with the terms of an Order Contract as confirmed and accepted by the Buyer by either (a) confirmation in writing to the Supplier; or (b) where Order Schedule 13 (Implementation Plan and Testing) is used, issue by the Buyer of a Satisfaction Certificate. "Deliver" and "Delivered" shall be construed accordingly;
"Disaster"	the occurrence of one or more events which, either separately or cumulatively, mean that the Deliverables, or a material part thereof

	will be unavailable (or could reasonably be anticipated to be unavailable) for the period specified in the Order Form (for the purposes of this definition the "Disaster Period");
"Disclosing Party"	the Party directly or indirectly providing Confidential Information to the other Party in accordance with Clause 15 (What you must keep confidential);
"Dispute"	any claim, dispute or difference arises out of or in connection with the Contract or in connection with the negotiation, existence, legal validity, enforceability or termination of the Contract, whether the alleged liability shall arise under English law or under the law of some other country and regardless of whether a particular cause of action may successfully be brought in the English courts;
"Dispute Resolution Procedure"	the dispute resolution procedure set out in Clause 34 (Resolving disputes);
"Documentation"	<p>descriptions of the Services and Service Levels, technical specifications, user manuals, training manuals, operating manuals, process definitions and procedures, system environment descriptions and all such other documentation (whether in hardcopy or electronic form) is required to be supplied by the Supplier to the Buyer under a Contract as:</p> <p>a) would reasonably be required by a competent third party capable of Good Industry Practice contracted by the Buyer to develop, configure, build, deploy, run, maintain, upgrade and test the individual systems that provide the Deliverables;</p> <p>b) is required by the Supplier in order to provide the Deliverables; and/or</p> <p>has been or shall be generated for the purpose of providing the Deliverables;</p>

"DOTAS"	the Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes rules which require a promoter of tax schemes to tell HMRC of any specified notifiable arrangements or proposals and to provide prescribed information on those arrangements or proposals within set time limits as contained in Part 7 of the Finance Act 2004 and in secondary legislation made under vires contained in Part 7 of the Finance Act 2004 and as extended to National Insurance Contributions;
"DPA 2018"	a) the Data Protection Act 2018;
"DPS"	the dynamic purchasing system operated by CCS in accordance with Regulation 34 that this DPS Contract governs access to;
"DPS Application"	the application submitted by the Supplier to CCS and annexed to or referred to in DPS Schedule 2 (DPS Application);
"DPS Appointment Form"	the document outlining the DPS Incorporated Terms and crucial information required for the DPS Contract, to be executed by the Supplier and CCS and subsequently held on the Platform;

"DPS Contract"	the dynamic purchasing system access agreement established between CCS and the Supplier in accordance with Regulation 34 by the DPS Appointment Form for the provision of the Deliverables to Buyers by the Supplier pursuant to the OJEU Notice;
"DPS Contract Period"	the period from the DPS Start Date until the End Date or earlier termination of the DPS Contract;
"DPS Expiry Date"	the date of the end of the DPS Contract as stated in the DPS Appointment Form;
"DPS Incorporated Terms"	the contractual terms applicable to the DPS Contract specified in the DPS Appointment Form;
"DPS Initial Period"	the initial term of the DPS Contract as specified in the DPS Appointment Form;
"DPS Optional Extension Period"	such period or periods beyond which the DPS Initial Period may be extended up to a maximum of the number of years in total specified in the DPS Appointment Form;
"DPS Pricing"	the maximum price(s) applicable to the provision of the Deliverables set out in DPS Schedule 3 (DPS Pricing);
"DPS Registration"	the registration process a Supplier undertakes when submitting its details onto the Platform;
"DPS SQ Submission"	the Supplier's selection questionnaire response;
"DPS Special Terms"	any additional terms and conditions specified in the DPS Appointment Form incorporated into the DPS Contract;

"DPS Start Date"	the date of start of the DPS Contract as stated in the DPS Appointment Form;
"Due Diligence Information"	any information supplied to the Supplier by or on behalf of the Authority prior to the Start Date;
"Effective Date"	the date on which the final Party has signed the Contract;
"EIR"	the Environmental Information Regulations 2004;
"Employment Regulations"	the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/246) as amended or replaced or any other Regulations implementing the European Council Directive 77/187/EEC;
"End Date"	the earlier of: a) the Expiry Date (as extended by any Extension Period exercised by the Authority under Clause 10.2); or if a Contract is terminated before the date specified in (a) above, the date of termination of the Contract;
"Environmental Policy"	to conserve energy, water, wood, paper and other resources, reduce waste and phase out the use of ozone depleting substances and

	minimise the release of greenhouse gases, volatile organic compounds and other substances damaging to health and the environment, including any written environmental policy of the Buyer;
"Estimated Year 1 Contract Charges"	the anticipated total charges payable by the Supplier in the first Contract Year specified in the Order Form; a)
"Estimated Yearly Charges"	means for the purposes of calculating each Party's annual liability under clause 11.2 : i) in the first Contract Year, the Estimated Year 1 Contract Charges; or ii) in any subsequent Contract Years, the Charges paid or payable in the previous Contract Year; or iii) after the end of the Contract, the Charges paid or payable in the last Contract Year during the Contract Period;
"Equality and Human Rights Commission"	the UK Government body named as such as may be renamed or replaced by an equivalent body from time to time;

"Existing IPR"	any and all IPR that are owned by or licensed to either Party and which are or have been developed independently of the Contract (whether prior to the Start Date or otherwise);
"Expiry Date"	the DPS Expiry Date or the Order Expiry Date (as the context dictates);
"Extension Period"	the DPS Optional Extension Period or the Order Optional Extension Period as the context dictates;
"Filter Categories"	the number of categories specified in DPS Schedule 1 (Specification), if applicable;
"FOIA"	the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and any subordinate legislation made under that Act from time to time together with any guidance and/or codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant Government department in relation to such legislation;
"Force Majeure Event"	<p>any event, occurrence, circumstance, matter or cause affecting the performance by either the Relevant Authority or the Supplier of its obligations arising from:</p> <p>a) acts, events, omissions, happenings or non-happenings beyond the reasonable control of the Affected Party which prevent or materially delay the Affected Party from performing its obligations under a Contract;</p> <p>b) riots, civil commotion, war or armed conflict, acts of terrorism, nuclear, biological or chemical warfare;</p>
	<p>c) acts of a Crown Body, local government or regulatory bodies;</p> <p>d) fire, flood or any disaster; or</p> <p>e) an industrial dispute affecting a third party for which a substitute third party is not reasonably available but excluding:</p> <p>i) any industrial dispute relating to the Supplier, the Supplier Staff (including any subsets of them) or any other failure in the Supplier or the Subcontractor's supply chain; ii) any event, occurrence, circumstance, matter or cause which is attributable to the wilful act, neglect or failure to take reasonable precautions against it by the Party concerned; and</p> <p>any failure of delay caused by a lack of funds;</p>
"Force Majeure Notice"	a written notice served by the Affected Party on the other Party stating that the Affected Party believes that there is a Force Majeure Event;
"GDPR"	i) the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679);

"General Anti-Abuse Rule"	b) the legislation in Part 5 of the Finance Act 2013; and any future legislation introduced into parliament to counteract tax advantages arising from abusive arrangements to avoid National Insurance contributions;
"General Change in Law"	a Change in Law where the change is of a general legislative nature (including taxation or duties of any sort affecting the Supplier) or which affects or relates to a Comparable Supply;
"Goods"	a) goods made available by the Supplier as specified in DPS Schedule 1 (Specification) and in relation to an Order Contract as specified in the Order Form;
"Good Industry Practice"	standards, practices, methods and procedures conforming to the Law and the exercise of the degree of skill and care, diligence, prudence and foresight which would reasonably and ordinarily be expected from a skilled and experienced person or body engaged within the relevant industry or business sector;
"Government"	the government of the United Kingdom (including the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive Committee, the Scottish Government and the National Assembly for Wales), including government ministers and government departments and other bodies, persons, commissions or agencies from time to time carrying out functions on its behalf;
"Government Data"	the data, text, drawings, diagrams, images or sounds (together with any database made up of any of these) which are embodied in any electronic, magnetic, optical or tangible media, including any of the Authority's Confidential Information, and which: i) are supplied to the Supplier by or on behalf of the Authority; or

	the Supplier is required to generate, process, store or transmit pursuant to a Contract;
"Government Procurement Card"	the Government's preferred method of purchasing and payment for low value goods or services https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/governmentprocurement-card--2 ;
"Guarantor"	i) the person (if any) who has entered into a guarantee in the form set out in Joint Schedule 8 (Guarantee) in relation to this Contract;
"Halifax Abuse Principle"	the principle explained in the CJEU Case C-255/02 Halifax and others;
"HMRC"	Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs;

"ICT Policy"	the Buyer's policy in respect of information and communications technology, referred to in the Order Form, which is in force as at the Order Start Date (a copy of which has been supplied to the Supplier), as updated from time to time in accordance with the Variation Procedure;
"Impact Assessment"	<p>an assessment of the impact of a Variation request by the Relevant Authority completed in good faith, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) details of the impact of the proposed Variation on the Deliverables and the Supplier's ability to meet its other obligations under the Contract; b) details of the cost of implementing the proposed Variation; c) details of the ongoing costs required by the proposed Variation when implemented, including any increase or decrease in the DPS Pricing/Charges (as applicable), any alteration in the resources and/or expenditure required by either Party and any alteration to the working practices of either Party; d) a timetable for the implementation, together with any proposals for the testing of the Variation; and <p>such other information as the Relevant Authority may reasonably request in (or in response to) the Variation request;</p>
"Implementation Plan"	the plan for provision of the Deliverables set out in Order Schedule 13 (Implementation Plan and Testing) where that Schedule is used or otherwise as agreed between the Supplier and the Buyer;
"Indemnifier"	a) a Party from whom an indemnity is sought under this Contract;
"Independent Control"	where a Controller has provided Personal Data to another Party which is not a Processor or a Joint Controller because the recipient itself determines the purposes and means of Processing but does so separately from the Controller providing it with Personal Data and "Independent Controller" shall be construed accordingly;
"Indexation"	the adjustment of an amount or sum in accordance with DPS Schedule 3 (DPS Pricing) and the relevant Order Form;
"Information"	has the meaning given under section 84 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000;
"Information Commissioner"	the UK's independent authority which deals with ensuring information relating to rights in the public interest and data privacy for individuals is met, whilst promoting openness by public bodies;
"Initial Period"	the initial term of a Contract specified on the Platform or the Order Form, as the context requires;

"Insolvency Event"	<p>a) in respect of a person:</p> <p>b) a proposal is made for a voluntary arrangement within Part I of the Insolvency Act 1986 or of any other composition scheme or arrangement with, or assignment for the benefit of, its creditors; or</p> <p>c) a shareholders' meeting is convened for the purpose of considering a resolution that it be wound up or a resolution for its winding-up is passed (other than as part of, and exclusively for the purpose of, a bona fide reconstruction or amalgamation); or</p> <p>d) a petition is presented for its winding up (which is not dismissed within fourteen (14) Working Days of its service) or an application is made for the appointment of a provisional liquidator or a creditors' meeting is convened pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</p> <p>e) a receiver, administrative receiver or similar officer is appointed over the whole or any part of its business or assets; or</p> <p>f) an application is made either for the appointment of an administrator or for an administration order, an administrator is appointed, or notice of intention to appoint an administrator is given; or</p> <p>g) it is or becomes insolvent within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</p> <p>h) being a "small company" within the meaning of section 382(3) of the Companies Act 2006, a moratorium comes into force pursuant to Schedule A1 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</p> <p>i) where the person is an individual or partnership, any event analogous to those listed in limbs (a) to (g) (inclusive) occurs in relation to that individual or partnership; or</p> <p>any event analogous to those listed in limbs (a) to (h) (inclusive) occurs under the law of any other jurisdiction;</p>
"Installation Works"	<p>all works which the Supplier is to carry out at the beginning of the Order Contract Period to install the Goods in accordance with the Order Contract;</p>
"Intellectual Property Rights" or "IPR"	<p>a) copyright, rights related to or affording protection similar to copyright, rights in databases, patents and rights in inventions, semi-conductor topography rights, trade marks, rights in internet domain names and website addresses and other rights in trade or</p>

	<p>business names, goodwill, designs, Know-How, trade secrets and other rights in Confidential Information;</p> <p>b) applications for registration, and the right to apply for registration, for any of the rights listed at (a) that are capable of being registered in any country or jurisdiction; and</p> <p>c) all other rights having equivalent or similar effect in any country or jurisdiction;</p>
"Invoicing Address"	the address to which the Supplier shall Invoice the Buyer as specified in the Order Form;
"IPR Claim"	a) any claim of infringement or alleged infringement (including the defence of such infringement or alleged infringement) of any IPR, used to provide the Deliverables or otherwise provided and/or licensed by the Supplier (or to which the Supplier has provided access) to the Relevant Authority in the fulfilment of its obligations under a Contract;
"IR35"	<p>the off-payroll rules requiring individuals who work through their company pay the same tax and National Insurance contributions as an employee which can be found online at:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/guidance/ir35-find-out-if-it-applies;</p>
"Joint Controller Agreement"	the agreement (if any) entered into between the Relevant Authority and the Supplier substantially in the form set out in Annex 2 of Joint Schedule 11 (<i>Processing Data</i>);
"Joint Controllers"	where two or more Controllers jointly determine the purposes and means of Processing;
"Key Personnel"	the individuals (if any) identified as such in the Order Form;
"Key Sub-Contract"	each Sub-Contract with a Key Subcontractor;
"Key Subcontractor"	<p>any Subcontractor:</p> <p>a) which is relied upon to deliver any work package within the Deliverables in their entirety; and/or</p> <p>b) which, in the opinion of CCS or the Buyer performs (or would perform if appointed) a critical role in the provision of all or any part of the Deliverables; and/or</p> <p>c) with a Sub-Contract with a contract value which at the time of appointment exceeds (or would exceed if appointed) 10% of the aggregate Charges forecast to be payable under the Order Contract, and the Supplier shall list all such Key Subcontractors on the</p> <p>Platform and in the Key Subcontractor Section in the Order Form;</p>

"Know-How"	all ideas, concepts, schemes, information, knowledge, techniques, methodology, and anything else in the nature of know-how relating to the Deliverables but excluding know-how already in the other Party's possession before the applicable Start Date;
"Law"	any law, subordinate legislation within the meaning of Section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, enforceable right within the meaning of Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements with which the relevant Party is bound to comply;
"LED"	Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680);
"Losses"	all losses, liabilities, damages, costs, expenses (including legal fees), disbursements, costs of investigation, litigation, settlement, judgment, interest and penalties whether arising in contract, tort (including negligence), breach of statutory duty, misrepresentation or otherwise and "Loss" shall be interpreted accordingly;
"Man Day"	7.5 Man Hours, whether or not such hours are worked consecutively and whether or not they are worked on the same day;
"Man Hours"	the hours spent by the Supplier Staff properly working on the provision of the Deliverables including time spent travelling (other than to and from the Supplier's offices, or to and from the Sites) but excluding lunch breaks;
"Management Information"	the management information specified in DPS Schedule 5 (Management Levy and Information);
"Management Levy"	the sum specified on the Platform payable by the Supplier to CCS in accordance with DPS Schedule 5 (Management Levy and Information);
"Marketing Contact"	shall be the person identified in the DPS Appointment Form;
"MI Default"	means when two (2) MI Reports are not provided in any rolling six (6) month period;
"MI Failure"	means when an MI report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) contains any material errors or material omissions or a missing mandatory field; or b) is submitted using an incorrect MI reporting Template; or is not submitted by the reporting date (including where a declaration of no business should have been filed);
"MI Report"	means a report containing Management Information submitted to the Authority in accordance with DPS Schedule 5 (Management Levy and Information);

"MI Reporting Template"	a) means the form of report set out in the Annex to DPS Schedule 5 (Management Levy and Information) setting out the information the Supplier is required to supply to the Authority;
"Milestone"	an event or task described in the Mobilisation Plan;
"Milestone Date"	the target date set out against the relevant Milestone in the Mobilisation Plan by which the Milestone must be Achieved;

"Month"	a calendar month and "Monthly" shall be interpreted accordingly;
"National Insurance"	contributions required by the National Insurance Contributions Regulations 2012 (SI 2012/1868) made under section 132A of the Social Security Administration Act 1992;
"New IPR"	<p>a) IPR in items created by the Supplier (or by a third party on behalf of the Supplier) specifically for the purposes of a Contract and updates and amendments of these items including (but not limited to) database schema; and/or</p> <p>b) IPR in or arising as a result of the performance of the Supplier's obligations under a Contract and all updates and amendments to the same; but shall not include the Supplier's Existing IPR;</p>
"Occasion of Tax Non – Compliance"	<p>where:</p> <p>a) any tax return of the Supplier submitted to a Relevant Tax Authority on or after 1 October 2012 which is found on or after 1 April 2013 to be incorrect as a result of:</p> <p>i) a Relevant Tax Authority successfully challenging the Supplier under the General Anti-Abuse Rule or the Halifax Abuse Principle or under any tax rules or legislation in any jurisdiction that have an effect equivalent or similar to the General Anti-Abuse Rule or the Halifax Abuse Principle; ii) the failure of an avoidance scheme which the Supplier was involved in, and which was, or should have been, notified to a Relevant Tax Authority under the DOTAS or any equivalent or similar regime in any jurisdiction; and/or</p> <p>any tax return of the Supplier submitted to a Relevant Tax Authority on or after 1 October 2012 which gives rise, on or after 1 April 2013, to a criminal conviction in any jurisdiction for tax related offences which is not spent at the Start Date or to a civil penalty for fraud or evasion;</p>

"Open Book Data"	<p>complete and accurate financial and non-financial information which is sufficient to enable the Buyer to verify the Charges already paid or payable and Charges forecast to be paid during the remainder of the Order Contract, including details and all assumptions relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the Supplier's Costs broken down against each Good and/or Service and/or Deliverable, including actual capital expenditure (including capital replacement costs) and the unit cost and total actual costs of all Deliverables; b) operating expenditure relating to the provision of the Deliverables including an analysis showing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) the unit costs and quantity of Goods and any other consumables and bought-in Deliverables; ii) manpower resources broken down into the number and grade/role of all Supplier Staff (free of any contingency)
	<p>together with a list of agreed rates against each manpower grade;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> iii) a list of Costs underpinning those rates for each manpower grade, being the agreed rate less the Supplier Profit Margin; and iv) Reimbursable Expenses, if allowed under the Order Form; c) Overheads; d) all interest, expenses and any other third party financing costs incurred in relation to the provision of the Deliverables; e) the Supplier Profit achieved over the DPS Contract Period and on an annual basis; f) confirmation that all methods of Cost apportionment and Overhead allocation are consistent with and not more onerous than such methods applied generally by the Supplier; g) an explanation of the type and value of risk and contingencies associated with the provision of the Deliverables, including the amount of money attributed to each risk and/or contingency; and the actual Costs profile for each Service Period;
"Order"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) means an order for the provision of the Deliverables placed by a Buyer with the Supplier under a Contract;
"Order Contract"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) the contract between the Buyer and the Supplier (entered into pursuant to the provisions of the DPS Contract), which consists of the terms set out and referred to in the Order Form;
"Order Contract Period"	<p>the Contract Period in respect of the Order Contract;</p>

"Order Expiry Date"	the date of the end of an Order Contract as stated in the Order Form;
"Order Form"	a completed Order Form Template (or equivalent information issued by the Buyer) used to create an Order Contract;
"Order Form Template"	the template in DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form Template and Order Schedules);
"Order Incorporated Terms"	the contractual terms applicable to the Order Contract specified under the relevant heading in the Order Form;
"Order Initial Period"	the Initial Period of an Order Contract specified in the Order Form;
"Order Optional Extension Period"	such period or periods beyond which the Order Initial Period may be extended up to a maximum of the number of years in total specified in the Order Form;
"Order Procedure"	the process for awarding an Order Contract pursuant to Clause 2 (How the contract works) and DPS Schedule 7 (Order Procedure);

"Order Special Terms"	any additional terms and conditions specified in the Order Form incorporated into the applicable Order Contract;
"Order Start Date"	the date of start of an Order Contract as stated in the Order Form;
"Order Tender"	the tender submitted by the Supplier in response to the Buyer's Statement of Requirements following an Order Procedure and set out at Order Schedule 4 (Order Tender);
"Other Contracting Authority"	any actual or potential Buyer under the DPS Contract;
"Overhead"	those amounts which are intended to recover a proportion of the Supplier's or the Key Subcontractor's (as the context requires) indirect corporate costs (including financing, marketing, advertising, research and development and insurance costs and any fines or penalties) but excluding allowable indirect costs apportioned to facilities and administration in the provision of Supplier Staff and accordingly included within limb (a) of the definition of "Costs";
"Parliament"	takes its natural meaning as interpreted by Law;
"Party"	in the context of the DPS Contract, CCS or the Supplier, and in the in the context of an Order Contract the Buyer or the Supplier. "Parties" shall mean both of them where the context permits;
"Performance Indicators" or "PIs"	the performance measurements and targets in respect of the Supplier's performance of the DPS Contract set out in DPS Schedule 4 (DPS Management);

"Personal Data"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;
"Personal Data Breach"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;
"Personnel"	all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and suppliers of a Party and/or of any Subcontractor and/or Subprocessor engaged in the performance of its obligations under a Contract;
"Platform"	the online application operated on behalf of CCS to facilitate the technical operation of the DPS;
"Prescribed Person"	a legal adviser, an MP or an appropriate body which a whistle-blower may make a disclosure to as detailed in 'Whistleblowing: list of prescribed people and bodies', 24 November 2016, available online at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/blowing-the-whistle-list-of-prescribed-people-and-bodies--2/whistleblowing-list-of-prescribed-people-and-bodies ;
"Processing"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;
"Processor"	has the meaning given to it in the GDPR;

"Processor Personnel"	all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and suppliers of the Processor and/or of any Subprocessor engaged in the performance of its obligations under a Contract;
"Progress Meeting"	a meeting between the Buyer Authorised Representative and the Supplier Authorised Representative;
"Progress Meeting Frequency"	the frequency at which the Supplier shall conduct a Progress Meeting in accordance with Clause 6.1 as specified in the Order Form;
"Progress Report"	a report provided by the Supplier indicating the steps taken to achieve Milestones or delivery dates;
"Progress Report Frequency"	the frequency at which the Supplier shall deliver Progress Reports in accordance with Clause 6.1 as specified in the Order Form;

"Prohibited Acts"	<p>a) to directly or indirectly offer, promise or give any person working for or engaged by a Buyer or any other public body a financial or other advantage to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) induce that person to perform improperly a relevant function or activity; or ii) reward that person for improper performance of a relevant function or activity; <p>b) to directly or indirectly request, agree to receive or accept any financial or other advantage as an inducement or a reward for improper performance of a relevant function or activity in connection with each Contract; or</p> <p>c) committing any offence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) under the Bribery Act 2010 (or any legislation repealed or revoked by such Act); or ii) under legislation or common law concerning fraudulent acts; or iii) defrauding, attempting to defraud or conspiring to defraud a Buyer or other public body; or any activity, practice or conduct which would constitute one of the offences listed under (c) above if such activity, practice or conduct had been carried out in the UK;
"Protective Measures"	<p>appropriate technical and organisational measures which may include pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of the such measures adopted by it including those outlined in DPS Schedule 9 (Cyber Essentials), if applicable, in the case of the DPS Contract or Order Schedule 9 (Security), if applicable, in the case of an Order Contract;</p>
"Recall"	<p>a) a request by the Supplier to return Goods to the Supplier or the manufacturer after the discovery of safety issues or defects (including defects in the right IPR rights) that might endanger health or hinder performance;</p>
"Recipient Party"	<p>the Party which receives or obtains directly or indirectly Confidential Information;</p>

"Rectification Plan"	<p>the Supplier's plan (or revised plan) to rectify its breach using the template in Joint Schedule 10 (Rectification Plan Template) which shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) full details of the Default that has occurred, including a root cause analysis; b) the actual or anticipated effect of the Default; and <p>the steps which the Supplier proposes to take to rectify the Default (if applicable) and to prevent such Default from recurring, including timescales for such steps and for the rectification of the Default (where applicable);</p>
"Rectification Plan Process"	the process set out in Clause 10.4.3 to 10.4.5 (Rectification Plan Process);
"Regulations"	a) the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and/or the Public Contracts (Scotland) Regulations 2015 (as the context requires);
"Reimbursable Expenses"	<p>the reasonable out of pocket travel and subsistence (for example, hotel and food) expenses, properly and necessarily incurred in the performance of the Services, calculated at the rates and in accordance with the Buyer's expenses policy current from time to time, but not including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) travel expenses incurred as a result of Supplier Staff travelling to and from their usual place of work, or to and from the premises at which the Services are principally to be performed, unless the Buyer otherwise agrees in advance in writing; and subsistence expenses incurred by Supplier Staff whilst performing <p>the Services at their usual place of work, or to and from the premises at which the Services are principally to be performed;</p>
"Relevant Authority"	the Authority which is party to the Contract to which a right or obligation is owed, as the context requires;
"Relevant Authority's Confidential Information"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) all Personal Data and any information, however it is conveyed, that relates to the business, affairs, developments, property rights, trade secrets, Know-How and IPR of the Relevant Authority (including all Relevant Authority Existing IPR and New IPR); b) any other information clearly designated as being confidential (whether or not it is marked "confidential") or which ought reasonably be considered confidential which comes (or has come) to the Relevant Authority's attention or into the Relevant Authority's possession in connection with a Contract; and
	c) information derived from any of the above;
"Relevant Requirements"	all applicable Law relating to bribery, corruption and fraud, including the Bribery Act 2010 and any guidance issued by the Secretary of State pursuant to section 9 of the Bribery Act 2010;

"Relevant Tax Authority"	HMRC, or, if applicable, the tax authority in the jurisdiction in which the Supplier is established;
"Reminder Notice"	a notice sent in accordance with Clause 10.6 given by the Supplier to the Buyer providing notification that payment has not been received on time;
"Replacement Deliverables"	any deliverables which are substantially similar to any of the Deliverables and which the Buyer receives in substitution for any of the Deliverables following the Order Expiry Date, whether those goods are provided by the Buyer internally and/or by any third party;
"Replacement Subcontractor"	a Subcontractor of the Replacement Supplier to whom Transferring Supplier Employees will transfer on a Service Transfer Date (or any Subcontractor of any such Subcontractor);
"Replacement Supplier"	any third party provider of Replacement Deliverables appointed by or at the direction of the Buyer from time to time or where the Buyer is providing Replacement Deliverables for its own account, shall also include the Buyer;
"Request For Information"	a request for information or an apparent request relating to a Contract for the provision of the Deliverables or an apparent request for such information under the FOIA or the EIRs;
"Required Insurances"	the insurances required by Joint Schedule 3 (Insurance Requirements) or any additional insurances specified in the Order Form;
"Satisfaction Certificate"	the certificate (materially in the form of the document contained in Part B of Order Schedule 13 (Implementation Plan and Testing) or as agreed by the Parties where Order Schedule 13 is not used in this Contract) granted by the Buyer when the Supplier has met all of the requirements of an Order, Achieved a Milestone or a Test;
"Schedules"	any attachment to a DPS or Order Contract which contains important information specific to each aspect of buying and selling;
"Security Management Plan"	the Supplier's security management plan prepared pursuant to Order Schedule 9 (Security) (if applicable);
"Security Policy"	the Buyer's security policy, referred to in the Order Form, in force as at the Order Start Date (a copy of which has been supplied to the Supplier), as updated from time to time and notified to the Supplier;
"Self Audit Certificate"	means the certificate in the form as set out in DPS Schedule 8 (Self Audit Certificate);
"Serious Fraud Office"	the UK Government body named as such as may be renamed or replaced by an equivalent body from time to time;

"Service Levels"	any service levels applicable to the provision of the Deliverables under the Order Contract (which, where Order Schedule 14 (Service Credits) is used in this Contract, are specified in the Annex to Part A of such Schedule);
"Service Period"	has the meaning given to it in the Order Form;
"Services"	services made available by the Supplier as specified in DPS Schedule 1 (Specification) and in relation to an Order Contract as specified in the Order Form;
"Service Transfer"	any transfer of the Deliverables (or any part of the Deliverables), for whatever reason, from the Supplier or any Subcontractor to a Replacement Supplier or a Replacement Subcontractor;
"Service Transfer Date"	the date of a Service Transfer;
"Sites"	any premises (including the Buyer Premises, the Supplier's premises or third party premises) from, to or at which: a) the Deliverables are (or are to be) provided; or the Supplier manages, organises or otherwise directs the provision or the use of the Deliverables;
"SME"	an enterprise falling within the category of micro, small and medium sized enterprises defined by the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium enterprises;
"Special Terms"	a) any additional Clauses set out in the DPS Appointment Form or Order Form which shall form part of the respective Contract;
"Specific Change in Law"	a Change in Law that relates specifically to the business of the Buyer and which would not affect a Comparable Supply where the effect of that Specific Change in Law on the Deliverables is not reasonably foreseeable at the Start Date;
"Specification"	the specification set out in DPS Schedule 1 (Specification), as may, in relation to an Order Contract, be supplemented by the Order Form;
"Standards"	any: a) standards published by BSI British Standards, the National Standards Body of the United Kingdom, the International Organisation for Standardisation or other reputable or equivalent bodies (and their successor bodies) that a skilled and experienced operator in the same type of industry or business sector as the Supplier would reasonably and ordinarily be expected to comply with; b) standards detailed in the specification in DPS Schedule 1 (Specification);

	c) standards detailed by the Buyer in the Order Form or agreed between the Parties from time to time; relevant Government codes of practice and guidance applicable from time to time;
"Start Date"	in the case of the DPS Contract, the date specified on the DPS Appointment Form, and in the case of an Order Contract, the date specified in the Order Form;
"Statement of Requirements"	a) a statement issued by the Buyer detailing its requirements in respect of Deliverables issued in accordance with the Order Procedure;
"Storage Media"	the part of any device that is capable of storing and retrieving data;
"Sub-Contract"	any contract or agreement (or proposed contract or agreement), other than an Order Contract or the DPS Contract, pursuant to which a third party: a) provides the Deliverables (or any part of them); b) provides facilities or services necessary for the provision of the Deliverables (or any part of them); and/or is responsible for the management, direction or control of the provision of the Deliverables (or any part of them);
"Subcontractor"	any person other than the Supplier, who is a party to a Sub-Contract and the servants or agents of that person;
"Subprocessor"	a) any third party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of that Processor related to a Contract;
"Supplier"	the person, firm or company identified in the DPS Appointment Form;
"Supplier Assets"	all assets and rights used by the Supplier to provide the Deliverables in accordance with the Order Contract but excluding the Buyer Assets;
"Supplier Authorised Representative"	the representative appointed by the Supplier named in the DPS Appointment Form, or later defined in an Order Contract;
"Supplier's Confidential Information"	a) any information, however it is conveyed, that relates to the business, affairs, developments, IPR of the Supplier (including the Supplier Existing IPR) trade secrets, Know-How, and/or personnel of the Supplier; b) any other information clearly designated as being confidential (whether or not it is marked as "confidential") or which ought reasonably to be considered to be confidential and which comes (or has come) to the Supplier's attention or into the Supplier's possession in connection with a Contract; Information derived from any of (a) and (b) above;

"Supplier's Contract Manager"	the person identified in the Order Form appointed by the Supplier to oversee the operation of the Order Contract and any alternative person whom the Supplier intends to appoint to the role, provided that the Supplier informs the Buyer prior to the appointment;
"Supplier Equipment"	a) the Supplier's hardware, computer and telecoms devices, equipment, plant, materials and such other items supplied and used by the Supplier (but not hired, leased or loaned from the Buyer) in the performance of its obligations under this Order Contract;
"Supplier Non-Performance"	where the Supplier has failed to: a) Achieve a Milestone by its Milestone Date; b) provide the Goods and/or Services in accordance with the Service Levels ; and/or comply with an obligation under a Contract;
"Supplier Profit"	in relation to a period, the difference between the total Charges (in nominal cash flow terms but excluding any Deductions and total Costs (in nominal cash flow terms) in respect of an Order Contract for the relevant period;
"Supplier Profit Margin"	a) in relation to a period or a Milestone (as the context requires), the Supplier Profit for the relevant period or in relation to the relevant Milestone divided by the total Charges over the same period or in relation to the relevant Milestone and expressed as a percentage;
"Supplier Staff"	all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Supplier and/or of any Subcontractor engaged in the performance of the Supplier's obligations under a Contract;
"Supply Chain Information Report Template"	the document at Annex 1 of Joint Schedule 12 (Supply Chain Visibility);
"Supporting Documentation"	sufficient information in writing to enable the Buyer to reasonably assess whether the Charges, Reimbursable Expenses and other sums due from the Buyer under the Order Contract detailed in the information are properly payable;
"Termination Notice"	a written notice of termination given by one Party to the other, notifying the Party receiving the notice of the intention of the Party giving the notice to terminate a Contract on a specified date and setting out the grounds for termination;
"Test Issue"	any variance or non-conformity of the Deliverables or Deliverables from their requirements as set out in an Order Contract;

"Test Plan"	a plan: a) for the Testing of the Deliverables; and setting out other agreed criteria related to the achievement of Milestones;
"Tests and Testing"	any tests required to be carried out pursuant to an Order Contract as set out in the Test Plan or elsewhere in an Order Contract and "Tested" shall be construed accordingly;
"Third Party IPR"	a) Intellectual Property Rights owned by a third party which is or will be used by the Supplier for the purpose of providing the Deliverables;
"Transferring Supplier Employees"	those employees of the Supplier and/or the Supplier's Subcontractors to whom the Employment Regulations will apply on the Service Transfer Date;
"Transparency Information"	the Transparency Reports and the content of a Contract, including any changes to this Contract agreed from time to time, except for – (i) any information which is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA, which shall be determined by the Relevant Authority; and (ii) Commercially Sensitive Information;
"Transparency Reports"	the information relating to the Deliverables and performance of the Contracts which the Supplier is required to provide to the Buyer in accordance with the reporting requirements in Order Schedule 1 (Transparency Reports);
"Variation"	has the meaning given to it in Clause 24 (Changing the contract);
"Variation Form"	the form set out in Joint Schedule 2 (Variation Form);
"Variation Procedure"	the procedure set out in Clause 24 (Changing the contract);
"VAT"	value added tax in accordance with the provisions of the Value Added Tax Act 1994;
"VCSE"	a non-governmental organisation that is value-driven and which principally reinvests its surpluses to further social, environmental or cultural objectives;
"Worker"	any one of the Supplier Staff which the Buyer, in its reasonable opinion, considers is an individual to which Procurement Policy Note 08/15 (Tax Arrangements of Public Appointees) (https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0815-tax-arrangements-of-appointees) applies in respect of the Deliverables; and

"Working Day"	any day other than a Saturday or Sunday or public holiday in England and Wales unless specified otherwise by the Parties in the Order Form.
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Joint Schedule 2 (Variation Form)

Contract Details		
This variation is between:	[delete as applicable: Buyer] ("the Buyer") And [insert name of Supplier] ("the Supplier")	
Contract name:	[insert name of contract to be changed] ("the Contract")	
Contract reference number:	[insert contract reference number]	
Details of Proposed Variation		
Variation initiated by:	[delete as applicable: Buyer/Supplier]	
Variation number:	[insert variation number]	
Date variation is raised:	[insert date]	
Proposed variation		
Reason for the variation:	[insert reason]	
An Impact Assessment shall be provided within:	[insert number] days	
Impact of Variation		
Likely impact of the proposed variation:	[Supplier to insert assessment of impact]	
Outcome of Variation		
Contract variation:	This Contract detailed above is varied as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">[Buyer to insert original Clauses or Paragraphs to be varied and the changed clause]	
Financial variation:	Original Contract Value:	£ [insert amount]
	Additional cost due to variation:	£ [insert amount]
	New Contract value:	£ [insert amount]

1. This Variation must be agreed and signed by both Parties to the Contract and shall only be effective from the date it is signed by **[delete as applicable: Buyer]**
2. Words and expressions in this Variation shall have the meanings given to them in the Contract.
3. The Contract, including any previous Variations, shall remain effective and unaltered except as amended by this Variation.

Signed by an authorised signatory for and on behalf of the **[delete** as applicable: Buyer]

Signature

Date

Name (in Capitals)

Address

Signed by an authorised signatory to sign for and on behalf of the Supplier

Signature

Date

Name (in Capitals)

Address

Joint Schedule 3 (Insurance Requirements)

1. The insurance you need to have

1.1 The Supplier shall take out and maintain, or procure the taking out and maintenance of the insurances as set out in the Annex to this Schedule, any additional insurances required under an Order Contract (specified in the applicable Order Form) ("**Additional Insurances**") and any other insurances as may be required by applicable Law (together the "**Insurances**"). The Supplier shall ensure that each of the Insurances is effective no later than:

- 1.1.1 the DPS Start Date in respect of those Insurances set out in the Annex to this Schedule and those required by applicable Law; and
- 1.1.2 the Order Contract Effective Date in respect of the Additional Insurances.

1.2 The Insurances shall be:

- 1.2.1 maintained in accordance with Good Industry Practice;
- 1.2.2 (so far as is reasonably practicable) on terms no less favourable than those generally available to a prudent contractor in respect of risks insured in the international insurance market from time to time;
- 1.2.3 taken out and maintained with insurers of good financial standing and good repute in the international insurance market; and
- 1.2.4 maintained for at least six (6) years after the End Date.

1.3 The Supplier shall ensure that the public and products liability policy contain an indemnity to principals clause under which the Relevant Authority shall be indemnified in respect of claims made against the Relevant Authority in respect of death or bodily injury or third party property damage arising out of or in connection with the Deliverables and for which the Supplier is legally liable.

2. How to manage the insurance

2.1 Without limiting the other provisions of this Contract, the Supplier shall:

- 2.1.1 take or procure the taking of all reasonable risk management and risk control measures in relation to Deliverables as it would be reasonable to expect of a prudent contractor acting in accordance with Good Industry Practice, including the investigation and reports of relevant claims to insurers;
- 2.1.2 promptly notify the insurers in writing of any relevant material fact under any Insurances of which the Supplier is or becomes aware; and
- 2.1.3 hold all policies in respect of the Insurances and cause any insurance broker effecting the Insurances to hold any insurance slips and other

evidence of placing cover representing any of the Insurances to which it is a party.

3. What happens if you aren't insured

- 3.1 The Supplier shall not take any action or fail to take any action or (insofar as is reasonably within its power) permit anything to occur in relation to it which would entitle any insurer to refuse to pay any claim under any of the Insurances.
- 3.2 Where the Supplier has failed to purchase or maintain any of the Insurances in full force and effect, the Relevant Authority may elect (but shall not be obliged) following written notice to the Supplier to purchase the relevant Insurances and recover the reasonable premium and other reasonable costs incurred in connection therewith as a debt due from the Supplier.

4. Evidence of insurance you must provide

- 4.1 The Supplier shall upon the Start Date and within 15 Working Days after the renewal of each of the Insurances, provide evidence, in a form satisfactory to the Relevant Authority, that the Insurances are in force and effect and meet in full the requirements of this Schedule.

5. Making sure you are insured to the required amount

- 5.1 The Supplier shall ensure that any Insurances which are stated to have a minimum limit "in the aggregate" are maintained at all times for the minimum limit of indemnity specified in this Contract and if any claims are made which do not relate to this Contract then the Supplier shall notify the Relevant Authority and provide details of its proposed solution for maintaining the minimum limit of indemnity.

6. Cancelled Insurance

- 6.1 The Supplier shall notify the Relevant Authority in writing at least five (5) Working Days prior to the cancellation, suspension, termination or nonrenewal of any of the Insurances.
- 6.2 The Supplier shall ensure that nothing is done which would entitle the relevant insurer to cancel, rescind or suspend any insurance or cover, or to treat any insurance, cover or claim as voided in whole or part. The Supplier shall use all reasonable endeavours to notify the Relevant Authority (subject to third party confidentiality obligations) as soon as practicable when it becomes aware of any relevant fact, circumstance or matter which has caused, or is reasonably likely to provide grounds to, the relevant insurer to give notice to cancel, rescind, suspend or void any insurance, or any cover or claim under any insurance in whole or in part.

7. Insurance claims

- 7.1 The Supplier shall promptly notify to insurers any matter arising from, or in relation to, the Deliverables, or each Contract for which it may be entitled to claim under any of the Insurances. In the event that the Relevant Authority receives a claim relating to or arising out of a Contract or the Deliverables, the Supplier shall co-operate with the Relevant Authority and assist it in dealing with such claims including without limitation providing information and documentation in a timely manner.
- 7.2 Except where the Relevant Authority is the claimant party, the Supplier shall give the Relevant Authority notice within twenty (20) Working Days after any insurance claim in excess of 10% of the sum required to be insured pursuant to Paragraph 5.1 relating to or arising out of the provision of the Deliverables or this Contract on any of the Insurances or which, but for the application of the applicable policy excess, would be made on any of the Insurances and (if required by the Relevant Authority) full details of the incident giving rise to the claim.
- 7.3 Where any Insurance requires payment of a premium, the Supplier shall be liable for and shall promptly pay such premium.
- 7.4 Where any Insurance is subject to an excess or deductible below which the indemnity from insurers is excluded, the Supplier shall be liable for such excess or deductible. The Supplier shall not be entitled to recover from the Relevant Authority any sum paid by way of excess or deductible under the Insurances whether under the terms of this Contract or otherwise.

ANNEX: REQUIRED INSURANCES

1. The Supplier shall hold the following standard insurance cover from the DPS Start Date in accordance with this Schedule:
 - 1.1 professional indemnity insurance with cover (for a single event or a series of related events and in the aggregate) of not less than one million pounds (£1,000,000);
 - 1.2 public liability insurance with cover (for a single event or a series of related events and in the aggregate) of not less than one million pounds (£1,000,000); and
 - 1.3 employers' liability insurance with cover (for a single event or a series of related events and in the aggregate) of not less than five million pounds (£5,000,000).

Joint Schedule 4 (Commercially Sensitive Information)

1. What is the Commercially Sensitive Information?

- 1.1 In this Schedule the Parties have sought to identify the Supplier's Confidential Information that is genuinely commercially sensitive and the disclosure of which would be the subject of an exemption under the FOIA and the EIRs.
- 1.2 Where possible, the Parties have sought to identify when any relevant Information will cease to fall into the category of Information to which this Schedule applies in the table below and in the Order Form (which shall be deemed incorporated into the table below).
- 1.3 Without prejudice to the Relevant Authority's obligation to disclose Information in accordance with FOIA or Clause 16 (When you can share information), the Relevant Authority will, in its sole discretion, acting reasonably, seek to apply the relevant exemption set out in the FOIA to the following Information:

Date	Item(s)	Duration of Confidentiality
September 2023	Tender and pricing schedule	Indefinite

Joint Schedule 5 (Corporate Social Responsibility)

1. What we expect from our Suppliers

- 1.1 In September 2017, HM Government published a Supplier Code of Conduct setting out the standards and behaviours expected of suppliers who work with government.
(https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/646497/2017-09-13_Official_Sensitive_Supplier_Code_of_Conduct_September_2017.pdf)
- 1.2 CCS expects its suppliers and subcontractors to meet the standards set out in that Code. In addition, CCS expects its suppliers and subcontractors to comply with the standards set out in this Schedule.
- 1.3 The Supplier acknowledges that the Buyer may have additional requirements in relation to corporate social responsibility. The Buyer expects that the Supplier and its Subcontractors will comply with such corporate social responsibility requirements as the Buyer may notify to the Supplier from time to time.

2. Equality and Accessibility

- 2.1 In addition to legal obligations, the Supplier shall support CCS and the Buyer in fulfilling its Public Sector Equality duty under S149 of the Equality Act 2010 by ensuring that it fulfils its obligations under each Contract in a way that seeks to:
 - 2.1.1 eliminate discrimination, harassment or victimisation of any kind; and
 - 2.1.2 advance equality of opportunity and good relations between those with a protected characteristic (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, and marriage and civil partnership) and those who do not share it.

3. Modern Slavery, Child Labour and Inhumane Treatment

"Modern Slavery Helpline" means the mechanism for reporting suspicion, seeking help or advice and information on the subject of modern slavery available online at <https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/report> or by telephone on 08000 121 700.

- 3.1 The Supplier:
 - 3.1.1 shall not use, nor allow its Subcontractors to use forced, bonded or involuntary prison labour;
 - 3.1.2 shall not require any Supplier Staff or Subcontractor Staff to lodge deposits or identify papers with the Employer and shall be free to leave their employer after reasonable notice;

- 3.1.3 warrants and represents that it has not been convicted of any slavery or human trafficking offences anywhere around the world.
- 3.1.4 warrants that to the best of its knowledge it is not currently under investigation, inquiry or enforcement proceedings in relation to any allegation of slavery or human trafficking offences anywhere around the world.
- 3.1.5 shall make reasonable enquires to ensure that its officers, employees and Subcontractors have not been convicted of slavery or human trafficking offences anywhere around the world.
- 3.1.6 shall have and maintain throughout the term of each Contract its own policies and procedures to ensure its compliance with the Modern Slavery Act and include in its contracts with its Subcontractors anti-slavery and human trafficking provisions;
- 3.1.7 shall implement due diligence procedures to ensure that there is no slavery or human trafficking in any part of its supply chain performing obligations under a Contract;
- 3.1.8 shall prepare and deliver to CCS, an annual slavery and human trafficking report setting out the steps it has taken to ensure that slavery and human trafficking is not taking place in any of its supply chains or in any part of its business with its annual certification of compliance with Paragraph 3;
- 3.1.9 shall not use, nor allow its employees or Subcontractors to use physical abuse or discipline, the threat of physical abuse, sexual or other harassment and verbal abuse or other forms of intimidation of its employees or Subcontractors;
- 3.1.10 shall not use or allow child or slave labour to be used by its Subcontractors;
- 3.1.11 shall report the discovery or suspicion of any slavery or trafficking by it or its Subcontractors to CCS, the Buyer and Modern Slavery Helpline.

4. Income Security

4.1 The Supplier shall:

- 4.1.1 ensure that all wages and benefits paid for a standard working week meet, at a minimum, national legal standards in the country of employment;
- 4.1.2 ensure that all Supplier Staff are provided with written and understandable Information about their employment conditions in respect of wages before they enter;
- 4.1.3 ensure that all workers are provided with written and understandable Information about their employment conditions in respect of wages before they enter employment and about

the particulars of their wages for the pay period concerned each time that they are paid;

4.1.4 not make deductions from wages:

- (a) as a disciplinary measure
- (b) except where permitted by law; or
- (c) without expressed permission of the worker concerned;

4.1.5 record all disciplinary measures taken against Supplier Staff; and

4.1.6 ensure that Supplier Staff are engaged under a recognised employment relationship established through national law and practice.

5. Working Hours

5.1 The Supplier shall:

5.1.1 ensure that the working hours of Supplier Staff comply with national laws, and any collective agreements;

5.1.2 ensure that the working hours of Supplier Staff, excluding overtime, shall be defined by contract, and shall not exceed 48 hours per week unless the individual has agreed in writing;

5.1.3 ensure that use of overtime is used responsibly, taking into account:

- (a) the extent;
- (b) frequency; and
- (c) hours worked;

by individuals and by the Supplier Staff as a whole;

5.2 The total hours worked in any seven day period shall not exceed 60 hours, except where covered by Paragraph 5.3 below.

5.3 Working hours may exceed 60 hours in any seven day period only in exceptional circumstances where all of the following are met:

5.3.1 this is allowed by national law;

5.3.2 this is allowed by a collective agreement freely negotiated with a workers' organisation representing a significant portion of the workforce;

5.3.3 appropriate safeguards are taken to protect the workers' health and safety; and

5.3.4 the employer can demonstrate that exceptional circumstances apply such as unexpected production peaks, accidents or emergencies.

- 5.4 All Supplier Staff shall be provided with at least one (1) day off in every seven (7) day period or, where allowed by national law, two (2) days off in every fourteen (14) day period.

6. Sustainability

- 6.1 The supplier shall meet the applicable Government Buying Standards applicable to Deliverables which can be found online at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sustainable-procurement-thegovernment-buying-standards-gbs>

Joint Schedule 6 (Key Subcontractors)

1. Restrictions on certain subcontractors

- 1.1 The Supplier is entitled to sub-contract its obligations under the DPS Contract to the Key Subcontractors identified on the Platform.
- 1.2 The Supplier is entitled to sub-contract its obligations under an Order Contract to Key Subcontractors listed on the Platform who are specifically nominated in the Order Form.
- 1.3 Where during the Contract Period the Supplier wishes to enter into a new Key Sub-contract or replace a Key Subcontractor, it must obtain the prior written consent of CCS and the Buyer and the Supplier shall, at the time of requesting such consent, provide CCS and the Buyer with the information detailed in Paragraph 1.4. The decision of CCS and the Buyer to consent or not will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Where CCS consents to the appointment of a new Key Subcontractor then they will be added to the Platform. Where the Buyer consents to the appointment of a new Key Subcontractor then they will be added to the Key Subcontractor section of the Order Form. CCS and the Buyer may reasonably withhold their consent to the appointment of a Key Subcontractor if it considers that:
 - 1.3.1 the appointment of a proposed Key Subcontractor may prejudice the provision of the Deliverables or may be contrary to its interests;
 - 1.3.2 the proposed Key Subcontractor is unreliable and/or has not provided reliable goods and or reasonable services to its other customers; and/or
 - 1.3.3 the proposed Key Subcontractor employs unfit persons.
- 1.4 The Supplier shall provide CCS and the Buyer with the following information in respect of the proposed Key Subcontractor:
 - 1.4.1 the proposed Key Subcontractor's name, registered office and company registration number;
 - 1.4.2 the scope/description of any Deliverables to be provided by the proposed Key Subcontractor;
 - 1.4.3 where the proposed Key Subcontractor is an Affiliate of the Supplier, evidence that demonstrates to the reasonable satisfaction of the CCS and the Buyer that the proposed Key Sub-Contract has been agreed on "arm's-length" terms;
 - 1.4.4 for CCS, the Key Sub-Contract price expressed as a percentage of the total projected DPS Price over the DPS Contract Period;
 - 1.4.5 for the Buyer, the Key Sub-Contract price expressed as a percentage of the total projected Charges over the Order Contract Period; and
 - 1.4.6 (where applicable) Credit Rating Threshold (as defined in Joint Schedule 7 (Financial Distress)) of the Key Subcontractor.

Joint Schedule 6 (Key Subcontractors)

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- 1.5 If requested by CCS and/or the Buyer, within ten (10) Working Days of receipt of the information provided by the Supplier pursuant to Paragraph 1.4, the Supplier shall also provide:
 - 1.5.1 a copy of the proposed Key Sub-Contract; and
 - 1.5.2 any further information reasonably requested by CCS and/or the Buyer.
- 1.6 The Supplier shall ensure that each new or replacement Key Sub-Contract shall include:
 - 1.6.1 provisions which will enable the Supplier to discharge its obligations under the Contracts;
 - 1.6.2 a right under CRTPA for CCS and the Buyer to enforce any provisions under the Key Sub-Contract which confer a benefit upon CCS and the Buyer respectively;
 - 1.6.3 a provision enabling CCS and the Buyer to enforce the Key Sub-Contract as if it were the Supplier;
 - 1.6.4 a provision enabling the Supplier to assign, novate or otherwise transfer any of its rights and/or obligations under the Key Sub-Contract to CCS and/or the Buyer;
 - 1.6.5 obligations no less onerous on the Key Subcontractor than those imposed on the Supplier under the DPS Contract in respect of:
 - (a) the data protection requirements set out in Clause 14 (Data protection);
 - (b) the FOIA and other access request requirements set out in Clause 16 (When you can share information);
 - (c) the obligation not to embarrass CCS or the Buyer or otherwise bring CCS or the Buyer into disrepute;
 - (d) the keeping of records in respect of the goods and/or services being provided under the Key Sub-Contract, including the maintenance of Open Book Data; and
 - (e) the conduct of audits set out in Clause 6 (Record keeping and reporting);
 - 1.6.6 provisions enabling the Supplier to terminate the Key Sub-Contract on notice on terms no more onerous on the Supplier than those imposed on CCS and the Buyer under Clauses 10.4 (When CCS or the Buyer can end this contract) and 10.5 (What happens if the contract ends) of this Contract; and
 - 1.6.7 a provision restricting the ability of the Key Subcontractor to sub-contract all or any part of the provision of the Deliverables provided to the Supplier under the Key Sub-Contract without first seeking the written consent of CCS and the Buyer.

Joint Schedule 10 (Rectification Plan)

Request for [Revised] Rectification Plan			
Details of the Default:	[Guidance: Explain the Default, with clear schedule and clause references as appropriate]		
Deadline for receiving the [Revised] Rectification Plan:	[add] date (minimum 10 days from request)]		
Signed by [CCS/Buyer] :		Date:	
Supplier [Revised] Rectification Plan			
Cause of the Default	[add] cause]		
Anticipated impact assessment:	[add] impact]		
Actual effect of Default:	[add] effect]		
Steps to be taken to rectification:	Steps	Timescale	
	1.	[date]	
	2.	[date]	
	3.	[date]	
	4.	[date]	
	[...]	[date]	
Timescale for complete Rectification of Default	[X] Working Days		
Steps taken to prevent recurrence of Default	Steps	Timescale	
	1.	[date]	
	2.	[date]	
	3.	[date]	
	4.	[date]	
	[...]	[date]	

Joint Schedule 10 (Rectification Plan)

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Signed by the Supplier:		Date:	
Review of Rectification Plan [CCS/Buyer]			
Outcome of review	[Plan Accepted] [Plan Rejected] [Revised Plan Requested]		
Reasons for Rejection (if applicable)	[add reasons]		
Signed by [CCS/Buyer]		Date:	

Joint Schedule 11 (Processing Data)

Definitions

1. In this Schedule, the following words shall have the following meanings and they shall supplement Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions):

“Processor Personnel” all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and suppliers of the Processor and/or of any Subprocessor engaged in the performance of its obligations under a Contract;

Status of the Controller

2. The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the nature of the activity carried out by each of them in relation to their respective obligations under a Contract dictates the status of each party under the DPA 2018. A Party may act as:

- (a) “Controller” in respect of the other Party who is “Processor”;
- (b) “Processor” in respect of the other Party who is “Controller”;
- (c) “Joint Controller” with the other Party;
- (d) “Independent Controller” of the Personal Data where the other Party is also “Controller”,

in respect of certain Personal Data under a Contract and shall specify in Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*) which scenario they think shall apply in each situation.

Where one Party is Controller and the other Party its Processor

3. Where a Party is a Processor, the only Processing that it is authorised to do is listed in Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*) by the Controller.
4. The Processor shall notify the Controller immediately if it considers that any of the Controller’s instructions infringe the Data Protection Legislation.
5. The Processor shall provide all reasonable assistance to the Controller in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to commencing any Processing. Such assistance may, at the discretion of the Controller, include:
 - (a) a systematic description of the envisaged Processing and the purpose of the Processing;
 - (b) an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the Processing in relation to the Deliverables;

- (c) an assessment of the risks to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects; and
 - (d) the measures envisaged to address the risks, including safeguards, security measures and mechanisms to ensure the protection of Personal Data.
6. The Processor shall, in relation to any Personal Data Processed in connection with its obligations under the Contract:
- (a) Process that Personal Data only in accordance with Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*), unless the Processor is required to do otherwise by Law. If it is so required the Processor shall notify the Controller before Processing the Personal Data unless prohibited by Law;
 - (b) ensure that it has in place Protective Measures, including in the case of the Supplier the measures set out in Clause 14.3 of the Core Terms, which the Controller may reasonably reject (but failure to reject shall not amount to approval by the Controller of the adequacy of the Protective Measures) having taken account of the:
 - (i) nature of the data to be protected;
 - (ii) harm that might result from a Personal Data Breach;
 - (iii) state of technological development; and
 - (iv) cost of implementing any measures;
 - (c) ensure that :
 - (i) the Processor Personnel do not Process Personal Data except in accordance with the Contract (and in particular Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*));
 - (ii) it takes all reasonable steps to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Processor Personnel who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:
 - (A) are aware of and comply with the Processor's duties under this Joint Schedule 11, Clauses 14 (*Data protection*), 15 (*What you must keep confidential*) and 16 (*When you can share information*);
 - (B) are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Processor or any Subprocessor;
 - (C) are informed of the confidential nature of the Personal Data and do not publish, disclose or divulge any of the Personal Data to any third party unless directed in writing to do so by the Controller or as otherwise permitted by the Contract; and
 - (D) have undergone adequate training in the use, care, protection and handling of Personal Data;
 - (d) not transfer Personal Data outside of the UK or EU unless the prior written consent of the Controller has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (i) the Controller or the Processor has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer (whether in accordance with UK GDPR Article 46 or LED Article 37) as determined by the Controller;
 - (ii) the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
 - (iii) the Processor complies with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred (or, if it is not so bound, uses its best endeavours to assist the Controller in meeting its obligations); and
 - (iv) the Processor complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Controller with respect to the Processing of the Personal Data; and
 - (e) at the written direction of the Controller, delete or return Personal Data (and any copies of it) to the Controller on termination of the Contract unless the Processor is required by Law to retain the Personal Data.
7. Subject to paragraph 7 of this Joint Schedule 11, the Processor shall notify the Controller immediately if in relation to it Processing Personal Data under or in connection with the Contract it:
- (a) receives a Data Subject Access Request (or purported Data Subject Access Request);
 - (b) receives a request to rectify, block or erase any Personal Data;
 - (c) receives any other request, complaint or communication relating to either Party's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;
 - (d) receives any communication from the Information Commissioner or any other regulatory authority in connection with Personal Data Processed under the Contract;
 - (e) receives a request from any third Party for disclosure of Personal Data where compliance with such request is required or purported to be required by Law; or
 - (f) becomes aware of a Personal Data Breach.
8. The Processor's obligation to notify under paragraph 6 of this Joint Schedule 11 shall include the provision of further information to the Controller, as details become available.
9. Taking into account the nature of the Processing, the Processor shall provide the Controller with assistance in relation to either Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation and any complaint, communication or request made under paragraph 6 of this Joint Schedule 11 (and insofar as possible within the timescales reasonably required by the Controller) including by immediately providing:

- (a) the Controller with full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;
 - (b) such assistance as is reasonably requested by the Controller to enable it to comply with a Data Subject Access Request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation;
 - (c) the Controller, at its request, with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject;
 - (d) assistance as requested by the Controller following any Personal Data Breach; and/or
 - (e) assistance as requested by the Controller with respect to any request from the Information Commissioner's Office, or any consultation by the Controller with the Information Commissioner's Office.
10. The Processor shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this Joint Schedule 11. This requirement does not apply where the Processor employs fewer than 250 staff, unless:
- (a) the Controller determines that the Processing is not occasional;
 - (b) the Controller determines the Processing includes special categories of data as referred to in Article 9(1) of the UK GDPR or Personal Data relating to criminal convictions and offences referred to in Article 10 of the UK GDPR; or
 - (c) the Controller determines that the Processing is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.
11. The Processor shall allow for audits of its Data Processing activity by the Controller or the Controller's designated auditor.
12. The Parties shall designate a Data Protection Officer if required by the Data Protection Legislation.
13. Before allowing any Subprocessor to Process any Personal Data related to the Contract, the Processor must:
- (a) notify the Controller in writing of the intended Subprocessor and Processing;
 - (b) obtain the written consent of the Controller;
 - (c) enter into a written agreement with the Subprocessor which give effect to the terms set out in this Joint Schedule 11 such that they apply to the Subprocessor; and
 - (d) provide the Controller with such information regarding the Subprocessor as the Controller may reasonably require.
14. The Processor shall remain fully liable for all acts or omissions of any of its Subprocessors.
15. The Relevant Authority may, at any time on not less than thirty (30) Working Days' notice, revise this Joint Schedule 11 by replacing it with any applicable

controller to processor standard clauses or similar terms forming part of an applicable certification scheme (which shall apply when incorporated by attachment to the Contract).

16. The Parties agree to take account of any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office. The Relevant Authority may on not less than thirty (30) Working Days' notice to the Supplier amend the Contract to ensure that it complies with any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office.

Where the Parties are Joint Controllers of Personal Data

17. In the event that the Parties are Joint Controllers in respect of Personal Data under the Contract, the Parties shall implement paragraphs that are necessary to comply with UK GDPR Article 26 based on the terms set out in Annex 2 to this Joint Schedule 11.

Independent Controllers of Personal Data

18. With respect to Personal Data provided by one Party to another Party for which each Party acts as Controller but which is not under the Joint Control of the Parties, each Party undertakes to comply with the applicable Data Protection Legislation in respect of their Processing of such Personal Data as Controller.
19. Each Party shall Process the Personal Data in compliance with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation and not do anything to cause the other Party to be in breach of it.
20. Where a Party has provided Personal Data to the other Party in accordance with paragraph 8 of this Joint Schedule 11 above, the recipient of the Personal Data will provide all such relevant documents and information relating to its data protection policies and procedures as the other Party may reasonably require.
21. The Parties shall be responsible for their own compliance with Articles 13 and 14 UK GDPR in respect of the Processing of Personal Data for the purposes of the Contract.
22. The Parties shall only provide Personal Data to each other:
 - (a) to the extent necessary to perform their respective obligations under the Contract;
 - (b) in compliance with the Data Protection Legislation (including by ensuring all required data privacy information has been given to affected Data Subjects to meet the requirements of Articles 13 and 14 of the UK GDPR); and
 - (c) where it has recorded it in Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*).
23. Taking into account the state of the art, the costs of implementation and the nature, scope, context and purposes of Processing as well as the risk of varying likelihood and severity for the rights and freedoms of natural persons, each

Party shall, with respect to its Processing of Personal Data as Independent Controller, implement and maintain appropriate technical and organisational measures to ensure a level of security appropriate to that risk, including, as appropriate, the measures referred to in Article 32(1)(a), (b), (c) and (d) of the UK GDPR, and the measures shall, at a minimum, comply with the requirements of the Data Protection Legislation, including Article 32 of the UK GDPR.

24. A Party Processing Personal Data for the purposes of the Contract shall maintain a record of its Processing activities in accordance with Article 30 UK GDPR and shall make the record available to the other Party upon reasonable request.
25. Where a Party receives a request by any Data Subject to exercise any of their rights under the Data Protection Legislation in relation to the Personal Data provided to it by the other Party pursuant to the Contract (**“Request Recipient”**):
 - (a) the other Party shall provide any information and/or assistance as reasonably requested by the Request Recipient to help it respond to the request or correspondence, at the cost of the Request Recipient; or
 - (b) where the request or correspondence is directed to the other Party and/or relates to that other Party's Processing of the Personal Data, the Request Recipient will:
 - (i) promptly, and in any event within five (5) Working Days of receipt of the request or correspondence, inform the other Party that it has received the same and shall forward such request or correspondence to the other Party; and
 - (ii) provide any information and/or assistance as reasonably requested by the other Party to help it respond to the request or correspondence in the timeframes specified by Data Protection Legislation.
26. Each Party shall promptly notify the other Party upon it becoming aware of any Personal Data Breach relating to Personal Data provided by the other Party pursuant to the Contract and shall:
 - (a) do all such things as reasonably necessary to assist the other Party in mitigating the effects of the Personal Data Breach;
 - (b) implement any measures necessary to restore the security of any compromised Personal Data;
 - (c) work with the other Party to make any required notifications to the Information Commissioner's Office and affected Data Subjects in accordance with the Data Protection Legislation (including the timeframes set out therein); and

- (d) not do anything which may damage the reputation of the other Party or that Party's relationship with the relevant Data Subjects, save as required by Law.
- 27. Personal Data provided by one Party to the other Party may be used exclusively to exercise rights and obligations under the Contract as specified in Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*).
- 28. Personal Data shall not be retained or processed for longer than is necessary to perform each Party's respective obligations under the Contract which is specified in Annex 1 (*Processing Personal Data*).
- 29. Notwithstanding the general application of paragraphs 2 to 16 of this Joint Schedule 11 to Personal Data, where the Supplier is required to exercise its regulatory and/or legal obligations in respect of Personal Data, it shall act as an Independent Controller of Personal Data in accordance with paragraphs 18 to 27 of this Joint Schedule 11.

Annex 1: Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects

1. The contact details of the Contracting Authority Data Protection Officer are:

Acas Data Protection Officer
8th floor Windsor House
50 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0TL

Email:

(1) The contact details of the Supplier Data Protection Officer (or if not applicable, details of the person responsible for data protection in the organisation) are:

(2) The Supplier shall comply with any further written instructions with respect to processing by the Contracting Authority.

(3) Any such further instructions shall be incorporated into this Annex 1.

Description	Details
Subject matter of the processing	<p>The processing of names and business contact details of customers of the Contracting Authority's Collective Conciliation service is needed to ensure that the Supplier can effectively deliver the Contract to provide a survey of these customers and undertake interviews and focus groups with a subset of these customers, which requires processing of case data and names and contact details in all cases.</p> <p>The processing of names and business contact details of staff of both the Contracting Authority and Supplier will be necessary to deliver the Services exchanged during the course of the Contract, and to undertake Contract and performance management.</p> <p>The Contract itself will include the names and business contact details of staff of both the Contracting Authority and the Supplier involved in managing the Contract</p>

Duration of the processing	<p>Processing will take place from for the Commencement of the Contract</p> <p>The Contract will end on 28th June 2024</p>
Nature and purposes of the processing	<p>The nature of the Processing will include collection, recording, organisation, structuring, storage, adaptation / alteration, retrieval, consultation, use, disclosure by transmission, dissemination, and secure destruction of data.</p> <p>Processing takes place for the purposes of Acas' statutory duty to "promote the improvement of industrial relations" (TULRA) and to conciliate in industrial disputes, in this case by operating a Collective Conciliation service, for which it is necessary to assess service effectiveness by processing user data (including for users who are identifiable as trade union officers and hence by extension trade union members).</p> <p>Processing takes place on two lawful bases: 1) for 'ordinary' personal data – 'Task in the Public Interest' (Article 6(1)(e) GDPR) and 'the exercise of a function of the Crown...' (Section 8(d) DPA 2018); 2) for 'special category' personal data – 'reasons of substantial public interest' (Article 9(2)(g) GDPR) and 'the exercise of a function of the Crown...' (Section 6(2)(b) DPA 2018).</p> <p>The nature of processing will include the storage and use of names and business contact details of staff of both the Contracting Authority and the Supplier as necessary to deliver the Services and to undertake Contract and performance management. The Contract itself will include the names and business contact details of staff of both the Contracting Authority and the Supplier involved in managing the Contract.</p>
Type of Personal Data	<p>The types of personal data comprise Acas collective conciliation customers' names, job titles and full business contact details including</p>

	<p>business telephone numbers, email addresses and office addresses. Furthermore, these customers' organisation and trade union names, and, in the case of employee representatives, Trade Union officer details, from which the inference of Trade Union membership can plausibly be made (hence regarded as sensitive personal data).</p> <p>Names, business telephone numbers and email addresses, office location and position of staff of both the Contracting Authority and the Supplier as necessary to deliver the Services and to undertake Contract and performance management. The Contract itself will include the names and business contact details of staff of both the Contracting Authority and the Supplier involved in managing the Contract.</p>
Categories of Data Subject	<p>Parties to Acas Collective Conciliation, both employer representatives and employee representatives (including Trade Union representatives), for Collective Conciliation cases that Acas closed on its systems between April 2022 and September 2023.</p> <p>Staff of the Contracting Authority and the Supplier, including where those employees are named within the Contract itself or involved within Contract management.</p>
<p>Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete</p> <p>UNLESS requirement under European Union or European member state law to preserve that type of data</p>	<p>The Supplier will delete the Personal Data and erase the Personal Data from any computers, storage devices and storage media that are to be retained by the Supplier after the expiry of the Contract (include if applicable). The Supplier will certify to the Contracting Authority that it has completed such deletion. Where Personal Data is contained within the Contract documentation, this will be retained in line with the Department's privacy notice found within the Procurement Documents.</p>

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2. Cyber Security

In line with [HM Government's Cyber Essentials Scheme](#), the Supplier will hold valid **Cyber Essentials certification** by the time of contract award. Evidence of the certification must be provided to the Contracting Authority in order for the contract to be awarded

Evidence of renewal of certification must then be provided to the Contracting Authority on each anniversary of the first applicable certificate obtained by the Supplier for the duration of the Contract. In the event the Supplier fails to comply, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to terminate the Contract for material breach in line with the Standard Terms and Conditions of Contract.

If the Supplier already holds ISO27001 accreditation (or equivalent), no further Cyber Essentials certification will be necessary provided that the certification body carrying out this verification is approved to issue a Cyber Essentials certificate by one of the accreditation bodies.

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1. Definitions

1.1 In this Schedule, the following words have the following meanings and they shall supplement Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions):

"Acquired Rights Directive"	<p>1 the European Council Directive 77/187/EEC on the approximation of laws of European member states relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, businesses or parts of undertakings or businesses, as amended or re-enacted from time to time;</p> <p>2</p>
"Employee Liability"	<p>3 all claims, actions, proceedings, orders, demands, complaints, investigations (save for any claims for personal injury which are covered by insurance) and any award, compensation, damages, tribunal awards, fine, loss, order, penalty, disbursement, payment made by way of settlement and costs, expenses and legal costs reasonably incurred in connection with a claim or investigation including in relation to the following:</p> <p>a) redundancy payments including contractual or enhanced redundancy costs, termination costs and notice payments;</p>
	<p>b) unfair, wrongful or constructive dismissal compensation;</p>
	<p>c) compensation for discrimination on grounds of sex, race, disability, age, religion or belief, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation or claims for equal pay;</p>
	<p>d) compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed term employees;</p>
	<p>e) outstanding employment debts and unlawful deduction of wages including any PAYE and National Insurance Contributions;</p>

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	f) employment claims whether in tort, contract or statute or otherwise;
	g) any investigation relating to employment matters by the Equality and Human Rights Commission or other enforcement, regulatory or supervisory body and of implementing any requirements which may arise from such investigation;
"Former Supplier"	a supplier supplying services to the Buyer before the Relevant Transfer Date that are the same as or substantially similar to the Services (or any part of the Services) and shall include any Subcontractor of such supplier (or any Subcontractor of any such Subcontractor);
"New Fair Deal"	the revised Fair Deal position set out in the HM Treasury guidance: <i>"Fair Deal for Staff Pensions: Staff Transfer from Central Government"</i> issued in October 2013 including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) any amendments to that document immediately prior to the Relevant Transfer Date; and(ii) any similar pension protection in accordance with the Annexes D1-D3 inclusive to Part D of this Schedule as notified to the Supplier by the Buyer;
"Old Fair Deal"	HM Treasury Guidance <i>"Staff Transfers from Central Government: A Fair Deal for Staff Pensions"</i> issued in June 1999 including the supplementary guidance <i>"Fair Deal for Staff pensions: Procurement of Bulk Transfer Agreements and Related Issues"</i> issued in June 2004;
"Partial Termination"	the partial termination of the relevant Contract to the extent that it relates to the provision of any part of the Services as further provided for in Clause 10.4 (When CCS or the Buyer can end this contract) or 10.6 (When the Supplier can end the contract);
"Relevant Transfer"	a transfer of employment to which the Employment Regulations applies;
"Relevant Transfer Date"	in relation to a Relevant Transfer, the date upon which the Relevant Transfer takes place. For the purposes of Part D: Pensions and its Annexes, where the Supplier or a Subcontractor was the Former Supplier and there

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	is no Relevant Transfer of the Fair Deal Employees because they remain continuously employed by the Supplier (or Subcontractor), references to the Relevant Transfer Date shall become references to the Start Date;
"Staffing Information"	<p>in relation to all persons identified on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List or Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, as the case may be, such information as the Buyer may reasonably request (subject to all applicable provisions of the Data Protection Legislation), but including in an anonymised format:</p> <p>(a) their ages, dates of commencement of employment or engagement, gender and place of work;</p>
	(b) details of whether they are employed, self-employed contractors or consultants, agency workers or otherwise;
	(c) the identity of the employer or relevant contracting Party;
	(d) their relevant contractual notice periods and any other terms relating to termination of employment, including redundancy procedures, and redundancy payments;
	(e) their wages, salaries, bonuses and profit sharing arrangements as applicable;
	(f) details of other employment-related benefits, including (without limitation) medical insurance, life assurance, pension or other retirement benefit schemes, share option schemes and company car schedules applicable to them;
	(g) any outstanding or potential contractual, statutory or other liabilities in respect of such individuals (including in respect of personal injury claims);
	(h) details of any such individuals on long term sickness absence, parental leave, maternity leave or other authorised long term absence;
	(i) copies of all relevant documents and materials relating to such information, including copies of

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	relevant contracts of employment (or relevant standard contracts if applied generally in respect of such employees); and
	(j) any other "employee liability information" as such term is defined in regulation 11 of the Employment Regulations;
"Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List"	a list provided by the Supplier of all Supplier Staff whose will transfer under the Employment Regulations on the Service Transfer Date;
"Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List"	a list prepared and updated by the Supplier of all Supplier Staff who are at the date of the list wholly or mainly engaged in or assigned to the provision of the Services or any relevant part of the Services which it is envisaged as at the date of such list will no longer be provided by the Supplier;
"Term"	the period commencing on the Start Date and ending on the expiry of the Initial Period or any Extension Period or on earlier termination of the relevant Contract;
"Transferring Buyer Employees"	those employees of the Buyer to whom the Employment Regulations will apply on the Relevant Transfer Date;
"Transferring Former Supplier Employees"	in relation to a Former Supplier, those employees of the Former Supplier to whom the Employment Regulations will apply on the Relevant Transfer Date.

2. INTERPRETATION

- 2.1 Where a provision in this Schedule imposes any obligation on the Supplier including (without limit) to comply with a requirement or provide an indemnity, undertaking or warranty, the Supplier shall procure that each of its Subcontractors shall comply with such obligation and provide such indemnity, undertaking or warranty to CCS, the Buyer, Former Supplier, Replacement Supplier or Replacement Subcontractor, as the case may be and where the Subcontractor fails to satisfy any claims under such indemnities the Supplier will be liable for satisfying any such claim as if it had provided the indemnity itself.
- 2.2 The provisions of Paragraphs 2.1 and 2.6 of Part A, Paragraph 3.1 of Part B, Paragraphs 1.5, 1.7 and 1.9 of Part C, Part D and Paragraphs 1.4, 2.3 and 2.8 of Part E of this Schedule (together "Third Party Provisions") confer benefits on third parties (each such person a "Third Party Beneficiary") and are intended to be enforceable by Third Party Beneficiaries by virtue of the CRTPA.

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- 2.3 Subject to Paragraph 2.2 above, a person who is not a Party to this Order Contract has no right under the CRTPA to enforce any term of this Order Contract but this does not affect any right or remedy of any person which exists or is available otherwise than pursuant to that Act.
- 2.4 No Third Party Beneficiary may enforce, or take any step to enforce, any Third Party Provision without the prior written consent of the Buyer, which may, if given, be given on and subject to such terms as the Buyer may determine.
- 2.5 Any amendments or modifications to this Order Contract may be made, and any rights created under Paragraph 2.2 above may be altered or extinguished, by the Parties without the consent of any Third Party Beneficiary.

3. Which parts of this Schedule apply

Only the following parts of this Schedule shall apply to this Call Off Contract:

- Part C (No Staff Transfer on the Start Date)
- Part E (Staff Transfer on Exit)

PART C: NO STAFF TRANSFER ON THE START DATE

1. What happens if there is a staff transfer

- 1.1 The Buyer and the Supplier agree that the commencement of the provision of the Services or of any part of the Services will not be a Relevant Transfer in relation to any employees of the Buyer and/or any Former Supplier.
- 1.2 If any employee of the Buyer and/or a Former Supplier claims, or it is determined in relation to any employee of the Buyer and/or a Former Supplier, that his/her contract of employment has been transferred from the Buyer and/or the Former Supplier to the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive then:
 - 1.2.1 the Supplier shall, and shall procure that the relevant Subcontractor shall, within 5 Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, notify the Buyer in writing and, where required by the Buyer, notify the Former Supplier in writing; and
 - 1.2.2 the Buyer and/or the Former Supplier may offer (or may procure that a third party may offer) employment to such person within 15 Working Days of the notification from the Supplier or the Subcontractor (as appropriate) or take such other reasonable steps as the Buyer or Former Supplier (as the case may be) it considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with applicable Law.
- 1.3 If an offer referred to in Paragraph 1.2.2 is accepted (or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Buyer and/or the Former Supplier),, the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Subcontractor shall, immediately release the person from his/her employment or alleged employment.
- 1.4 If by the end of the 15 Working Day period referred to in Paragraph 1.2.2:
 - 1.4.1 no such offer of employment has been made;
 - 1.4.2 such offer has been made but not accepted; or
 - 1.4.3 the situation has not otherwise been resolved;the Supplier may within 5 Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.
- 1.5 Subject to the Supplier and/or the relevant Subcontractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 1.2 to 1.4 and in accordance with all applicable employment procedures set out in applicable Law and subject also to Paragraph 1.8 the Buyer shall:
 - 1.5.1 indemnify the Supplier and/or the relevant Subcontractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination of the employment of any of the Buyer's employees referred to in Paragraph 1.2 made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1.4

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- provided that the Supplier takes, or shall procure that the Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities; and
- 1.5.2 procure that the Former Supplier indemnifies the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of termination of the employment of the employees of the Former Supplier referred to in Paragraph 1.2 made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1.4 provided that the Supplier takes, or shall procure that the relevant Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.
- 1.6 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 1.2 is neither re employed by the Buyer and/or the Former Supplier as appropriate nor dismissed by the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor within the 15 Working Day period referred to in Paragraph 1.4 such person shall be treated as having transferred to the Supplier and/or the Subcontractor (as appropriate) and the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Subcontractor shall, comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under Law.
- 1.7 Where any person remains employed by the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor pursuant to Paragraph 1.6, all Employee Liabilities in relation to such employee shall remain with the Supplier and/or the Subcontractor and the Supplier shall indemnify the Buyer and any Former Supplier, and shall procure that the Subcontractor shall indemnify the Buyer and any Former Supplier, against any Employee Liabilities that either of them may incur in respect of any such employees of the Supplier and/or employees of the Subcontractor.
- 1.8 The indemnities in Paragraph 1.5:
- 1.8.1 shall not apply to:
- (a) any claim for:
- (i) discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or
- (ii) equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,
- in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Supplier and/or Subcontractor; or
- (b) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and
- 1.8.2 shall apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 1.2.1 is made by the Supplier and/or any

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Subcontractor to the Buyer and, if applicable, Former Supplier within 6 months of the Start Date.

- 1.9 If the Supplier and/or the Subcontractor does not comply with Paragraph 1.2, all Employee Liabilities in relation to such employees shall remain with the Supplier and/or the Subcontractor and the Supplier shall (i) comply with the provisions of Part D: Pensions of this Schedule, and (ii) indemnify the Buyer and any Former Supplier against any Employee Liabilities that either of them may incur in respect of any such employees of the Supplier and/or employees of the Subcontractor.

2. Limits on the Former Supplier's obligations

Where in this Part C the Buyer accepts an obligation to procure that a Former Supplier does or does not do something, such obligation shall be limited so that it extends only to the extent that the Buyer's contract with the Former Supplier contains a contractual right in that regard which the Buyer may enforce, or otherwise so that it requires only that the Buyer must use reasonable endeavours to procure that the Former Supplier does or does not act accordingly.

PART E: STAFF TRANSFER ON EXIT

1. Obligations before a Staff Transfer

1.1 The Supplier agrees that within 20 Working Days of the earliest of:

- 1.1.1 receipt of a notification from the Buyer of a Service Transfer or intended Service Transfer;
- 1.1.2 receipt of the giving of notice of early termination or any Partial Termination of the relevant Contract;
- 1.1.3 the date which is 12 Months before the end of the Term; and
- 1.1.4 receipt of a written request of the Buyer at any time (provided that the Buyer shall only be entitled to make one such request in any 6 Month period),

it shall provide in a suitably anonymised format so as to comply with the Data Protection Legislation, the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List, together with the Staffing Information in relation to the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List and it shall provide an updated Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List at such intervals as are reasonably requested by the Buyer.

1.2 At least 20 Working Days prior to the Service Transfer Date, the Supplier shall provide to the Buyer or at the direction of the Buyer to any Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor (i) the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, which shall identify the basis upon which they are Transferring Supplier Employees and (ii) the Staffing Information in relation to the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List (insofar as such information has not previously been provided).

1.3 The Buyer shall be permitted to use and disclose information provided by the Supplier under Paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 for the purpose of informing any prospective Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor.

1.4 The Supplier warrants, for the benefit of The Buyer, any Replacement Supplier, and any Replacement Subcontractor that all information provided pursuant to Paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 shall be true and accurate in all material respects at the time of providing the information.

1.5 From the date of the earliest event referred to in Paragraph 1.1.1, 1.1.2 and 1.1.3, the Supplier agrees that it shall not, and agrees to procure that each Subcontractor shall not, assign any person to the provision of the Services who is not listed on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List and shall not without the approval of the Buyer (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed):

:

- 1.5.1 replace or re-deploy any Supplier Staff listed on the Supplier Provisional Supplier Personnel List other than where any replacement is of equivalent grade, skills, experience and

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expertise and is employed on the same terms and conditions of employment as the person he/she replaces

- 1.5.2 make, promise, propose, permit or implement any material changes to the terms and conditions of employment of the Supplier Staff (including pensions and any payments connected with the termination of employment);
- 1.5.3 increase the proportion of working time spent on the Services (or the relevant part of the Services) by any of the Supplier Staff save for fulfilling assignments and projects previously scheduled and agreed;
- 1.5.4 introduce any new contractual or customary practice concerning the making of any lump sum payment on the termination of employment of any employees listed on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List;
- 1.5.5 increase or reduce the total number of employees so engaged, or deploy any other person to perform the Services (or the relevant part of the Services);
- 1.5.6 terminate or give notice to terminate the employment or contracts of any persons on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List save by due disciplinary process;

and shall promptly notify, and procure that each Subcontractor shall promptly notify, the Buyer or, at the direction of the Buyer, any Replacement Supplier and any Replacement Subcontractor of any notice to terminate employment given by the Supplier or relevant Subcontractor or received from any persons listed on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List regardless of when such notice takes effect.

- 1.6 On or around each anniversary of the Start Date and up to four times during the last 12 Months of the Term, the Buyer may make written requests to the Supplier for information relating to the manner in which the Services are organised. Within 20 Working Days of receipt of a written request the Supplier shall provide, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall provide, to the Buyer such information as the Buyer may reasonably require relating to the manner in which the Services are organised, which shall include:

- 1.6.1 the numbers of employees engaged in providing the Services;
- 1.6.2 the percentage of time spent by each employee engaged in providing the Services;
- 1.6.3 the extent to which each employee qualifies for membership of any of the Statutory Schemes or any Broadly Comparable scheme set up pursuant to the provisions of any of the Annexes to Part D (Pensions) (as appropriate); and
- 1.6.4 a description of the nature of the work undertaken by each employee by location.

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- 1.7 The Supplier shall provide, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall provide, all reasonable cooperation and assistance to the Buyer, any Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor to ensure the smooth transfer of the Transferring Supplier Employees on the Service Transfer Date including providing sufficient information in advance of the Service Transfer Date to ensure that all necessary payroll arrangements can be made to enable the Transferring Supplier Employees to be paid as appropriate. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, within 5 Working Days following the Service Transfer Date, the Supplier shall provide, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall provide, to the Buyer or, at the direction of the Buyer, to any Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor (as appropriate), in respect of each person on the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List who is a Transferring Supplier Employee:
- 1.7.1 the most recent month's copy pay slip data;
 - 1.7.2 details of cumulative pay for tax and pension purposes;
 - 1.7.3 details of cumulative tax paid;
 - 1.7.4 tax code;
 - 1.7.5 details of any voluntary deductions from pay; and
 - 1.7.6 bank/building society account details for payroll purposes.

2. Staff Transfer when the contract ends

- 2.1 The Buyer and the Supplier acknowledge that subsequent to the commencement of the provision of the Services, the identity of the provider of the Services (or any part of the Services) may change (whether as a result of termination or Partial Termination of the relevant Contract or otherwise) resulting in the Services being undertaken by a Replacement Supplier and/or a Replacement Subcontractor. Such change in the identity of the supplier of such services may constitute a Relevant Transfer to which the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive will apply. The Buyer and the Supplier agree that, as a result of the operation of the Employment Regulations, where a Relevant Transfer occurs, the contracts of employment between the Supplier and the Transferring Supplier Employees (except in relation to any contract terms disapplied through operation of regulation 10(2) of the Employment Regulations) will have effect on and from the Service Transfer Date as if originally made between the Replacement Supplier and/or a Replacement Subcontractor (as the case may be) and each such Transferring Supplier Employee.
- 2.2 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall, comply with all its obligations in respect of the Transferring Supplier Employees arising under the Employment Regulations in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date and shall perform and discharge, and procure that each Subcontractor shall perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of all the Transferring Supplier Employees arising in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date (including (without limit) the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements, and outgoings, all wages, accrued

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but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions and all such sums due as a result of any Fair Deal Employees' participation in the Schemes which in any case are attributable in whole or in part to the period ending on (and including) the Service Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between: (i) the Supplier and/or the Subcontractor (as appropriate); and (ii) the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor.

2.3 Subject to Paragraph 2.4, the Supplier shall indemnify the Buyer and/or the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor against any Employee Liabilities arising from or as a result of:

2.3.1 any act or omission of the Supplier or any Subcontractor in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Supplier Employee whether occurring before, on or after the Service Transfer Date;

2.3.2 the breach or non-observance by the Supplier or any Subcontractor occurring on or before the Service Transfer Date of:

(a) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Supplier Employees; and/or

(b) any other custom or practice with a trade union or staff association in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employees which the Supplier or any Subcontractor is contractually bound to honour;

2.3.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Supplier Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Supplier or a Subcontractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or before the Service Transfer Date;

2.3.4 any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:

(a) in relation to any Transferring Supplier Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising on and before the Service Transfer Date; and

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- (b) in relation to any employee who is not identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Supplier to the Buyer and/or Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising on or before the Service Transfer Date;
 - 2.3.5 a failure of the Supplier or any Subcontractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Supplier Employees in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date);
 - 2.3.6 any claim made by or in respect of any person employed or formerly employed by the Supplier or any Subcontractor other than a Transferring Supplier Employee identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List for whom it is alleged the Buyer and/or the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor may be liable by virtue of the relevant Contract and/or the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive; and
 - 2.3.7 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Supplier Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Supplier Employee relating to any act or omission of the Supplier or any Subcontractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the failure by the Buyer and/or Replacement Supplier to comply with regulation 13(4) of the Employment Regulations.
- 2.4 The indemnities in Paragraph 2.3 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Service Transfer Date including any Employee Liabilities:
- 2.4.1 arising out of the resignation of any Transferring Supplier Employee before the Service Transfer Date on account of substantial detrimental changes to his/her working conditions proposed by the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Subcontractor to occur in the period on or after the Service Transfer Date); or

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- 2.4.2 arising from the Replacement Supplier's failure, and/or Replacement Subcontractor's failure, to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.
 - 2.5 If any person who is not identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Employee List claims, or it is determined in relation to any employees of the Supplier, that his/her contract of employment has been transferred from the Supplier to the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive, then:
 - 2.5.1 the Buyer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor will, within 5 Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, notify the Buyer and the Supplier in writing; and
 - 2.5.2 the Supplier may offer (or may procure that a Subcontractor may offer) employment to such person, or take such other reasonable steps as it considered appropriate to deal the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with Law, within 15 Working Days of receipt of notice from the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor.
 - 2.6 If such offer of is accepted, or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Supplier or a Subcontractor, Buyer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier shall, or procure that the and/or Replacement Subcontractor shall, immediately release or procure the release the person from his/her employment or alleged employment;
 - 2.7 If after the 15 Working Day period specified in Paragraph 2.5.2 has elapsed:
 - 2.7.1 no such offer has been made:
 - 2.7.2 such offer has been made but not accepted; or
 - 2.7.3 the situation has not otherwise been resolved
- the Buyer shall advise the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor (as appropriate) that it may within 5 Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person;
- 2.8 Subject to the Replacement Supplier's and/or Replacement Subcontractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7 and in accordance with all applicable proper employment procedures set out in applicable Law and subject to Paragraph 2.9 below, the Supplier will indemnify the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination of the employment of any of the Supplier's employees pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 2.7 provided that the Replacement Supplier takes, or shall procure that the Replacement Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.
 - 2.9 The indemnity in Paragraph 2.8:
 - 2.9.1 shall not apply to:

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- (a) any claim for:
 - (i) discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or
 - (ii) equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,

In any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor, or

- (b) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and

2.9.2 shall apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 2.5.1 is made by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor to the Supplier within 6 months of the Service Transfer Date..

2.10 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 2.5 is neither re-employed by the Supplier or any Subcontractor nor dismissed by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor within the time scales set out in Paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7, such person shall be treated as a Transferring Supplier Employee. .

2.11 The Supplier shall comply, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall comply, with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations and shall perform and discharge, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of any person identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List before and on the Service Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions and such sums due as a result of any Fair Deal Employees' participation in the Schemes and any requirement to set up a broadly comparable pension scheme which in any case are attributable in whole or in part in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between:

- (b) the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor; and
- (c) the Replacement Supplier and/or the Replacement Subcontractor.

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- 2.12 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Subcontractor shall, promptly provide the Buyer and any Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor, in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Buyer, the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations. The Buyer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor, shall promptly provide to the Supplier and each Subcontractor in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Supplier and each Subcontractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.
- 2.13 Subject to Paragraph 2.14, the Buyer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier indemnifies the Supplier on its own behalf and on behalf of any Replacement Subcontractor and its Subcontractors against any Employee Liabilities arising from or as a result of:
- 2.13.1 any act or omission of the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employee in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any such Transferring Supplier Employee;
 - 2.13.2 the breach or non-observance by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor on or after the Service Transfer Date of:
 - (a) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Supplier Employees identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List; and/or
 - (b) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employees identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List which the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor is contractually bound to honour;
 - 2.13.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Supplier Employees identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List arising from or connected with any failure by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or after the Service Transfer Date;
 - 2.13.4 any proposal by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Subcontractor to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any Transferring Supplier Employees identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List on or after their transfer to the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Subcontractor (as the case may be) on the Service Transfer Date, or to change the terms and conditions of employment or

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- working conditions of any person identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List who would have been a Transferring Supplier Employee but for their resignation (or decision to treat their employment as terminated under regulation 4(9) of the Employment Regulations) before the Service Transfer Date as a result of or for a reason connected to such proposed changes;
- 2.13.5 any statement communicated to or action undertaken by the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Subcontractor to, or in respect of, any Transferring Supplier Employee identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List on or before the Service Transfer Date regarding the Relevant Transfer which has not been agreed in advance with the Supplier in writing;
- 2.13.6 any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
- (a) in relation to any Transferring Supplier Employee identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising after the Service Transfer Date; and
 - (b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Supplier Employee identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Supplier or Subcontractor, to the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Subcontractor to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising after the Service Transfer Date;
- 2.13.7 a failure of the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Subcontractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Supplier Employees identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List in respect of the period from (and including) the Service Transfer Date; and
- 2.13.8 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Supplier Employee identified in the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any such Transferring Supplier Employee relating to any act or omission of the Replacement

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Supplier or Replacement Subcontractor in relation to obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

- 2.14 The indemnities in Paragraph 2.13 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor (as applicable) whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Service Transfer Date, including any Employee Liabilities arising from the failure by the Supplier and/or any Subcontractor (as applicable) to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.

Order Schedule 3 (Continuous Improvement)

1. Buyer's Rights

- 1.1 The Buyer and the Supplier recognise that, where specified in DPS Schedule 4 (DPS Management), the Buyer may give CCS the right to enforce the Buyer's rights under this Schedule.

2. Supplier's Obligations

- 2.1 The Supplier must, throughout the Contract Period, identify new or potential improvements to the provision of the Deliverables with a view to reducing the Buyer's costs (including the Charges) and/or improving the quality and efficiency of the Deliverables and their supply to the Buyer.
- 2.2 The Supplier must adopt a policy of continuous improvement in relation to the Deliverables, which must include regular reviews with the Buyer of the Deliverables 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 Deliverables. The Supplier and the Buyer must provide each other with any information relevant to meeting this objective.
- 2.3 In addition to Paragraph 2.1, the Supplier shall produce at the start of each Contract Year a plan for improving the provision of Deliverables 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:
 - 2.3.1 identifying the emergence of relevant new and evolving technologies;
 - 2.3.2 changes in 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);
 - 2.3.3 new or potential improvements to the provision of the Deliverables including the quality, responsiveness, procedures, benchmarking methods, likely performance mechanisms and customer support services in relation to the Deliverables; and
 - 2.3.4 measuring and reducing the sustainability impacts of the Supplier's operations and supply-chains relating to the Deliverables, and identifying opportunities to assist the Buyer in meeting their sustainability objectives.
- 2.4 The initial Continuous Improvement Plan for the first (1st) Contract Year shall be submitted by the Supplier to the Buyer for Approval within one hundred (100) Working Days of the first Order or six (6) Months following the Start Date, whichever is earlier.

Order Schedule 3 (Continuous Improvement)

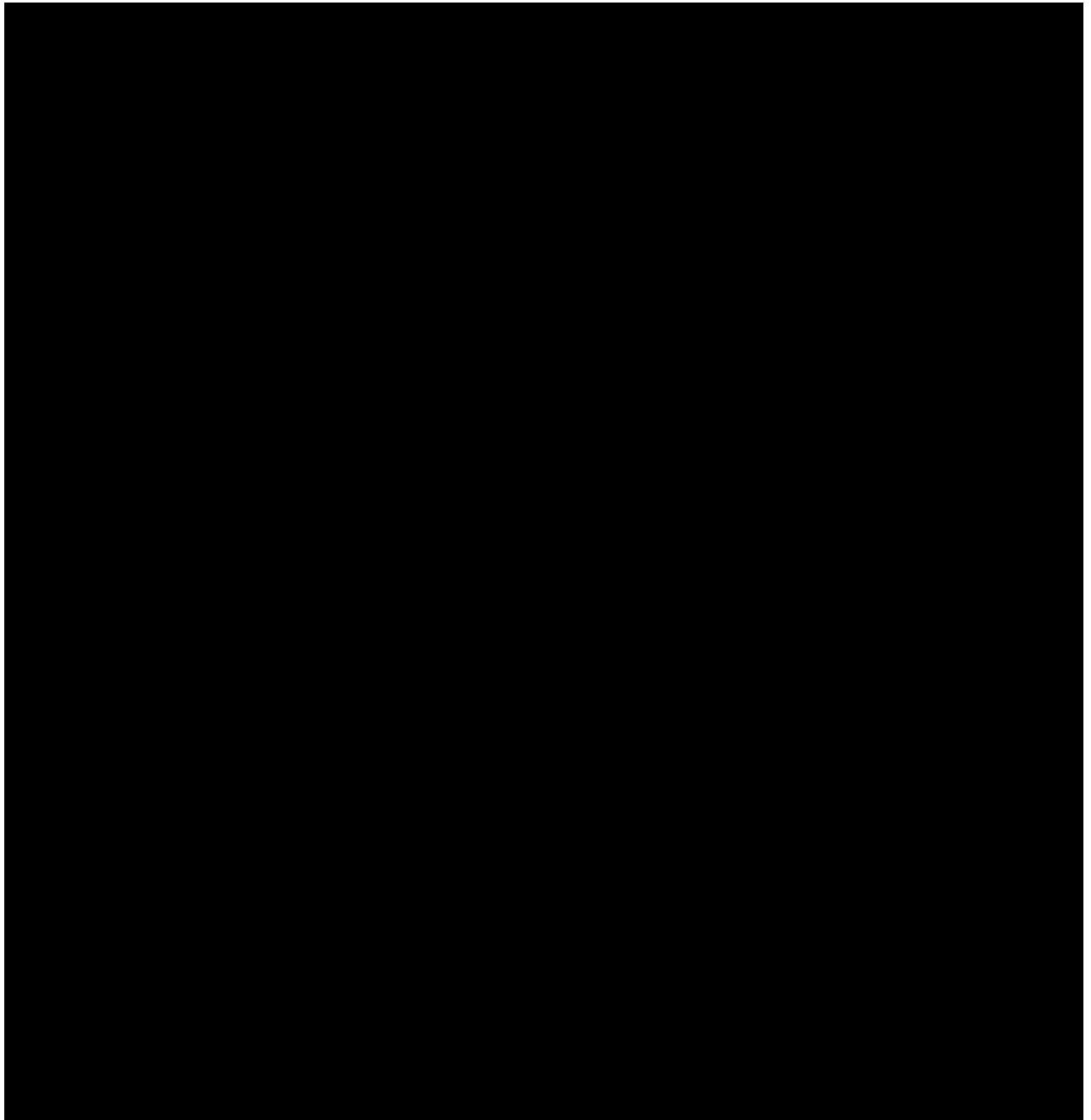
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- 2.5 The Buyer shall notify the Supplier of its Approval or rejection of the proposed Continuous Improvement Plan or any updates to it within twenty (20) Working Days of receipt. If it is rejected then the Supplier shall, within ten (10) Working Days 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.
- 2.6 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.
- 2.7 If the Buyer wishes to incorporate any improvement into this Contract, it must request a Variation in accordance with the Variation Procedure and the Supplier must implement such Variation at no additional cost to the Buyer or CCS.
- 2.8 Once the first Continuous Improvement Plan has been Approved in accordance with Paragraph 2.5:
 - 2.8.1 the Supplier shall use all reasonable endeavours to implement any agreed deliverables in accordance with the Continuous Improvement Plan; and
 - 2.8.2 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.
- 2.9 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 2.3.
- 2.10 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.
- 2.11 Should the Supplier's costs in providing the Deliverables 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 Deliverables.
- 2.12 At any time during the Contract Period of the Order 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.

Order Schedule 4 (Order Tender)

Winning Supplier proposal here.



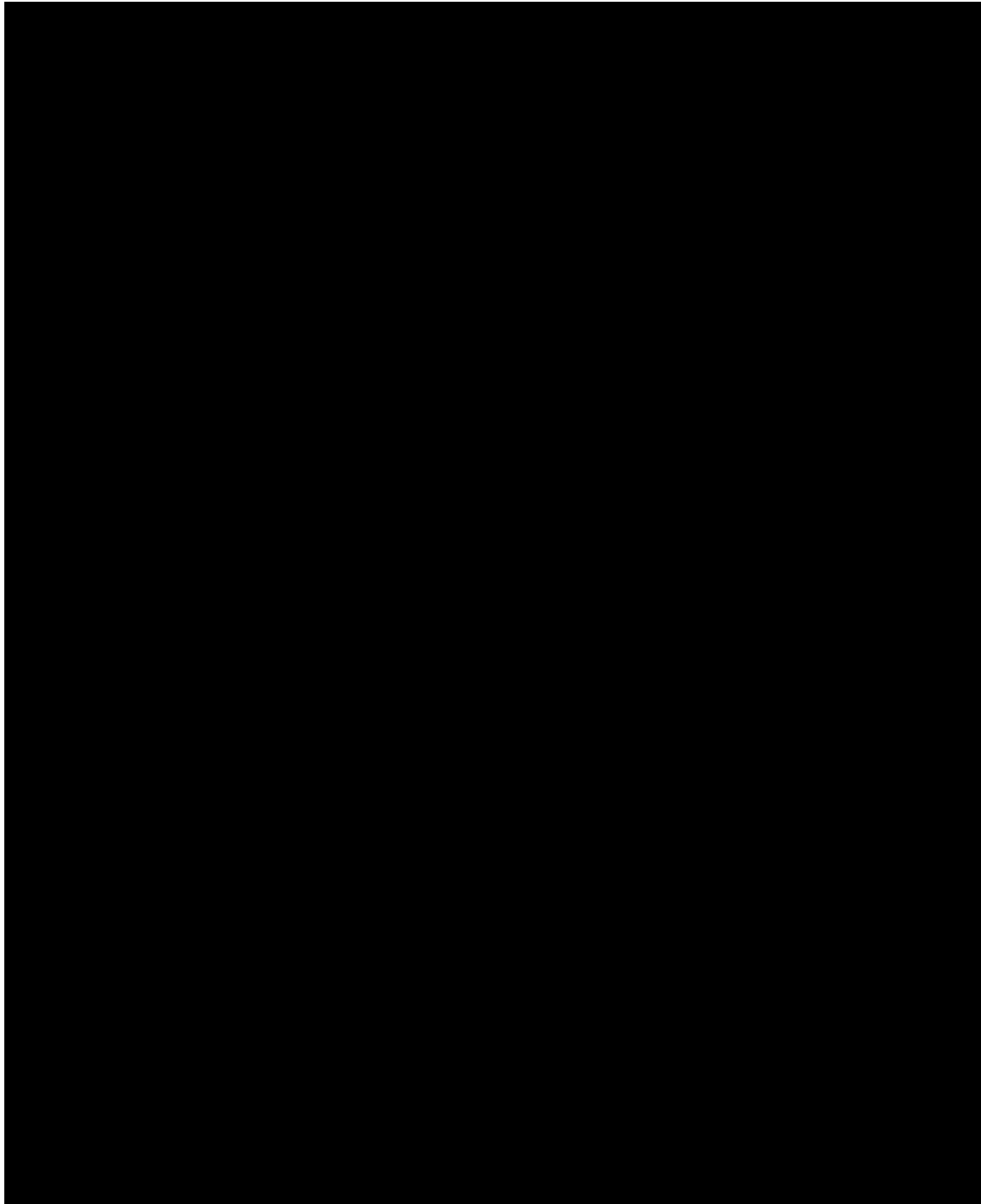
Order Schedule 5 (Pricing Details)

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Order Schedule 5 (Pricing Details)

The total contract value will not exceed £121,000.00 excluding VAT



Order Schedule 7 (Key Supplier Staff)

- 1.1 The Annex 1 to this Schedule lists the key roles ("**Key Roles**") and names of the persons who the Supplier shall appoint to fill those Key Roles at the Start Date.
- 1.2 The Supplier shall ensure that the Key Staff fulfil the Key Roles at all times during the Contract Period.
- 1.3 The Buyer may identify any further roles as being Key Roles and, following agreement to the same by the Supplier, the relevant person selected to fill those Key Roles shall be included on the list of Key Staff.
- 1.4 The Supplier shall not and shall procure that any Subcontractor shall not remove or replace any Key Staff unless:
 - 1.4.1 requested to do so by the Buyer or the Buyer Approves such removal or replacement (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed);
 - 1.4.2 the person concerned resigns, retires or dies or is on maternity or long-term sick leave; or
 - 1.4.3 the person's employment or contractual arrangement with the Supplier or Subcontractor is terminated for material breach of contract by the employee.
- 1.5 The Supplier shall:
 - 1.5.1 notify the Buyer promptly of the absence of any Key Staff (other than for short-term sickness or holidays of two (2) weeks or less, in which case the Supplier shall ensure appropriate temporary cover for that Key Role);
 - 1.5.2 ensure that any Key Role is not vacant for any longer than ten (10) Working Days;
 - 1.5.3 give as much notice as is reasonably practicable of its intention to remove or replace any member of Key Staff and, except in the cases of death, unexpected ill health or a material breach of the Key Staff's employment contract, this will mean at least three (3) Months' notice;
 - 1.5.4 ensure that all arrangements for planned changes in Key Staff provide adequate periods during which incoming and outgoing staff work together to transfer responsibilities and ensure that such change does not have an adverse impact on the provision of the Deliverables; and

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- 1.5.5 ensure that any replacement for a Key Role has a level of qualifications and experience appropriate to the relevant Key Role and is fully competent to carry out the tasks assigned to the Key Staff whom he or she has replaced.
- 1.6 The Buyer may require the Supplier to remove or procure that any Subcontractor shall remove any Key Staff that the Buyer considers in any respect unsatisfactory. The Buyer shall not be liable for the cost of replacing any Key Staff.

Section 4 – Specification

1. BACKGROUND

Acas (the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service) is seeking proposals from suppliers to undertake a robust evaluation of its collective conciliation service; one of the primary services offered by Acas, for resolving employment disputes between employers, trade unions and other representative bodies.

The service was last evaluated in 2016 (see <https://www.acas.org.uk/about-us/evaluations/acas-collective-conciliation-evaluation-2016>) using an approach that has remained broadly consistent for several years, centring on a census survey of recent users (prior evaluations were undertaken in 2006 and 2012). The 2016 evaluation offers the most recent assessment of users' experience of the service and suppliers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with this document.

There is now a pressing need to update this survey series, to provide robust evidence of current service effectiveness, especially in the light of new aspects of service delivery – notably the hybrid model of delivery that has been operational following the Covid-19 pandemic – and wider policy context, namely the recent high-profile increases in strike action across the economy.

In so doing Acas seeks to understand above all: what can be learned from how the service is currently being delivered, and what processes are leading to successful and unsuccessful outcomes.

Acas collective conciliation

A Crown Non-Departmental Public Body funded by the Department for Business and Trade (DBT); Acas exists 'to make working life better for everyone in Britain'. Its four strategic ambitions supporting that vision are:

1. To grow our reach and access
2. **To resolve disputes more quickly and effectively**
3. To forge consensus on the future of work
4. To embrace difference, increase inclusion and create fairness

The second of these ambitions is supported by a range of dispute resolution services, among them collective conciliation, Acas's long-standing service for resolving a dispute between an employer and a group of employees (typically represented by a trade union). The word 'collective' is used to distinguish the service from Individual Conciliation, Acas's service for promoting the resolution of claims to the Employment Tribunal.

The new (2023) vision and purpose statement for Acas's dispute resolution services – which forms the backdrop to this study – is to be **credible, visible, and attractive to users**:

- **Credible:** Experts staff, who are highly skilled, who know and love their craft and who apply it well
- **Visible:** Our work and our impact will be well-known to staff, stakeholders, customers, and the wider community.
- **Attractive:** Our reputation as experts in dispute resolution will create an appetite to use our services and will strengthen the brand of Acas

Acas has been offering free collective conciliation in employment disputes since its creation as an independent body in 1974, and its statutory powers are defined in the 1992 Trade Union and Labour Relations Consolidation Act as follows: in situations where ‘a trade dispute exists or is apprehended Acas may, at the request of one or more parties offer its assistance with a view to bringing about a settlement.’ Use and provision of collective conciliation is voluntary to ensure disputing parties take ownership of any settlement. And while Acas has no compulsion to act, we usually offer our services in almost all cases. The scope of collective conciliation is wide-ranging, and while the service tends to focus on cases in which all internal negotiation procedures have been exhausted, conciliation can also be used during informal discussions at the initial stages of disputes, to encourage the earliest possible resolution.

How conciliation works

In practical terms, collective conciliation is a dispute resolution mechanism involving an Acas conciliator entering a dispute to offer a new perspective and encourage parties to re-engage in negotiations, either directly or via Acas. The conciliator’s role is to listen to the viewpoints of each side and to communicate with the opposing side in a neutral fashion, taking an impartial perspective and without ruling on the positions taken by disputing parties or recommending a solution. They may nevertheless offer their professional judgement of the pros and cons of positions taken by the parties and their experience of other disputes, the application of good employment practice and the law in similar situations. They may also offer options for potential solutions although different conciliators may have different ‘styles’ in terms of the pro-activity of their approach. Acas conciliators also help increase employer understanding of employee concerns and discontent, and facilitate discussions about ways of working together, better communication and improved productivity.

Collective conciliation is delivered by a dedicated cohort of staff, located across Acas’s 11 regional offices as well as its Head Office (in the case of national disputes). In Spring 2023, as part of a wider change programme in Acas, the staffing model for collective conciliation was reconfigured: the pool of staff delivering the service has now been concentrated among a smaller group of individuals; a break from previous arrangements, whereby a larger pool of staff had performed the role in a less dedicated fashion, alongside other duties. Most cases in the 2023 evaluation will therefore relate to the old staffing model and the evaluation will serve as a baseline in that regard.

Hybrid service delivery

Online/remote-delivered Acas collective conciliation has only been operational since April 2020, when the service – which had previously only ever been delivered in traditional face-to-face contexts – shifted to an exclusively online delivery model ‘overnight’, for the first time and of necessity, as a direct response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The service operated on that basis until Spring 2022, at the point of all coronavirus restrictions ending, when it transitioned to what is now a nominally hybrid model of delivery.

When being delivered face-to-face, the service typically happens in company premises, or in Acas offices or other neutral venues where there is a particular need for privacy from the workforce at issue. Conversations with the parties can take place in parallel, with the parties physically situated in separate rooms, and/or together, in a joint setting: the conciliator has the flexibility to determine the structure of these conversations.

Online delivery of collective conciliation mirrors the traditional face-to-face operation insofar as it remains flexible: the conciliator will still normally begin by having informal discussions with both sides, either jointly or separately, to understand the issues in the dispute. As with face-to-face delivery, the conciliator will encourage both sides to consider their options for finding a solution and help by creating a positive environment to have discussions. If both sides reach an agreement, the conciliator will either help draft an agreement or will write up what's been discussed and then give it to both parties. Ensuring that everyone understands what has been agreed remains the conciliator's role.

Under current hybrid arrangements, Acas seeks to capitalise on the benefits of online delivery (speed, convenience, cost) where practicable, while recognising that in-person delivery remains preferable for certain cases or parts of a case. Rather than having entire cases delivered wholly online – unless specific circumstances make this a desirable option, for instance very straightforward cases – hybrid operation is designed to allow staff to use their discretion to deliver different parts of the same case online or in-person, as appropriate. For instance, it may be that the preliminary stages (background scoping) of the case are sufficiently straightforward that these might be easily delivered online, with the subsequent negotiations between the parties happening in-person.

Caseload characteristics

Volumes

The application of collective conciliation in settling disputes between groups of employees and employers has changed and evolved over recent decades, as has the incidence of its use: in recent years, a complex set of factors including the growth in the statutory individual employment rights framework, the nature of trade unions and falling membership, the reduced incidence of collective bargaining, and the dwindling experience of HR and employee representatives – the key players in collective conciliation – have all played a role

in influencing the extent to which collective conciliation remains a firm fixture of workplace collective relations.

In the most recent operating year, 2022/23, Acas received 621 collective conciliation requests. This is up considerably from c.500 cases received in each of the previous two years – reflecting wider labour dispute trends – but low *historically* and relative to Acas conciliation in individual disputes (viz. Early Conciliation and conciliation in Employment Tribunal applications, which are very high-volume activities). Collective conciliation nevertheless remains an integral function of Acas. Economic impact analysis undertaken for Acas has evidenced the extremely high economic impact of the service (conferring benefits of more than £90m in a single year of operation). Moreover, collective conciliation was instrumental in the very creation and design of Acas and retains huge influence in the public profile and rationale of the organisation, particularly today, given recent, well-publicised increases in numbers of strikes occurring across a range of industries, including many parts of the rail and bus networks, postal workers, civil servants, teaching staff and NHS staff. It follows that any research in this area must take the utmost care regarding the sensitivities involved and be of the highest possible quality.

Outcomes

Finding a solution to the dispute and wherever possible avoiding industrial action remain the essential aims of collective conciliation. In most cases the conciliator is successful in finding a solution before this happens, but where the dispute has escalated, conciliators are able to help parties find a solution in most cases.

Acas has a KPI target for “promoting a settlement” in 85% of collective conciliation cases; in fact, according to management information, a settlement has been achieved or progress made in 91% of cases in each of the last three operating years (see Tables 1a and 1b, below).

Table 1a – Collective disputes closed by outcome, last three operating years

Dispute outcome	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21
Successfully completed	467	374	421
Unsuccessfully completed	45	35	41
All completed cases	512	409	462
Cases withdrawn	60	141	50
Total	572	550	512

Table 1b – Detailed breakdown of case outcomes, 2022/23 operating year

Dispute outcome	2022-23	
Settled by conciliation	345	
Progress made – Differences reduced	61	
Progress made – Deadlock broken	48	
Settled to arbitration or mediation	10	
Progress to mediation or workplace project	3	
Total successfully completed cases	467	
Unsuccessfully completed	45	

Request withdrawn		60				
<p>On a year-by-year basis this figure is provided by Acas’s own management information systems, based upon data provided by the conciliators themselves (the conciliator records the case outcome as they see it at the end of each case). Every few years this indicator is validated by an independent customer survey (most recently as part of the 2016 evaluation and next as part of the 2023 evaluation, at issue here). The survey aims to come up with a figure to represent a single customer viewpoint on the outcome of the conciliation cases.</p>						
<p>Request source and dispute cause</p>						
<p>Requests for Acas involvement come from private, public and voluntary sectors. The source of the request can be inbound; that is from the parties themselves – or may result from an outbound Acas approach or initiative.</p>						
<p>As shown in Table 2, among inbound requests the proportion from employers has increased in recent years, with requests from trade unions having fallen proportionately. Robust evidence on user satisfaction user journeys/routes into using the service is, however, lacking – the 2023 evaluation should seek to fill this evidence gap.</p>						
<p>Table 2 – Collective disputes received by source of request, last three operating years</p>						
Source of request	2022-23		2021-22		2020-21	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%
Employer	187	30.1%	127	25.0%	100	19.8%
Trade Union	221	35.6%	209	41.0%	219	43.5%
Joint	116	18.7%	94	18.0%	108	21.4%
Acas Initiative	97	15.6%	80	16.0%	77	15.3%
Total	621		510		504	
<p>The most common cause of collective disputes is pay or pay-related matters. A breakdown of collective disputes for the last three operating years dispute cause and request source appears in Tables 2 and 3, below (note that while Table 1 shows cases <i>closed</i> in a given operating year, Tables 2 and 3 shows cases <i>received</i> in these years).</p>						
<p>Table 3 – Collective disputes received by dispute case, last three operating years</p>						
Dispute cause	2022-23		2021-22		2020-21	
	Volume	%	Volume	%	Volume	%

General pay claim	276	39.7%	167	28.8%	62	12.3%
Other pay / conditions of employment	171	24.6%	173	29.8%	197	39.1%
Changes in working practices	50	7.2%	46	7.9%	51	10.1%
Recognition	95	13.6%	81	14.0%	65	12.9%
Other TU matters	42	6.0%	37	6.4%	62	12.3%
Dismissal / discipline	21	3.0%	22	3.8%	16	3.2%
Redundancy	16	2.3%	17	2.9%	67	13.3%
Other	25	3.6%	37	6.4%	33	6.5%
Total dispute causes	696		580		553	
Total collective cases received	621		510		504	

Since a collective case can have multiple dispute causes, the sum of the percentages in this table exceeds 100%.

Note that some employers and trade union officers are represented in multiple cases across the yearly caseload. For instance, of the 621 cases received in 22/23, these featured 397 *unique* trade union officers and 502 *unique* employers, reflecting the fact that some organisations will be party to multiple cases in the same year (some inter-related), and that some Trade Union officers, because of the nature of their job, are likely to work across several different disputes that come to Acas for conciliation – they are, in that sense, the principal ‘repeat customer’ of the service.

2. AIMS

The central aim of this project is to design and undertake a mixed-methods evaluation of Acas collective conciliation that provides a reliable picture of the views of all users of the service – both employers and trade union representatives – in the 2022/23 period.

Through robust assessment of users’ experiences of collective conciliation in this period, we seek to:

- Assess the quality and effectiveness of current service delivery, corresponding especially to the vision statement for Acas dispute resolution services to be ‘credible, visible and attractive to users’
- Identify what can be learned from how collective conciliation is currently being delivered – what works and what doesn’t, for whom and why – to inform future service improvement
- Determine what processes are leading to successful and unsuccessful outcomes

And, more broadly:

- Understand the ‘bigger picture’ of how current service operation ‘fits’ within the current policy context of high-profile increases in strike action across the economy

Under these aims, the project will seek to achieve the following objectives:

1. Add to Acas’s time series of surveys of users of collective conciliation (2006, 2012, 2016); generating robust findings that can be compared to results from the previous iteration of the survey, to track change [Survey]
2. Provide an analysis of the characteristics of users of collective conciliation in the 2022/23 period and the context of the disputes in which conciliation was delivered (with an attendant focus on exploring the characteristics of first-time and newer users to help inform our understanding of how non-users become users) [Survey]
3. Explore service users’ perceptions of the quality and effectiveness of different aspects of the service – including their overall satisfaction with the service and views on conciliator attributes (‘credibility’) – and identify areas for future service improvement/ opportunities to be more ‘attractive to users’ (again, with an attendant focus on the judgements of first-time and newer users, to inform our understanding of user needs and wants among this group and, by extension, non/lesser-users of the service) [Survey and qualitative]
4. Measure case outcomes as perceived by users (to validate conciliator-reported outcomes) and user satisfaction with those outcomes [Survey]
5. Identify the determinants of successful case outcomes and overall customer satisfaction [Survey]
6. Evidence the wider and longer-term impacts of Acas collective conciliation (impacts on employment relationships within organisations, economic impacts) and explore the sustainability of settlements (i.e. the extent to which conciliation has addressed the underlying issues and ‘root causes’ of disputes) [Survey and qualitative]
 - Suppliers are invited to comment here on how the impact of collective conciliation could be represented by a ‘logic chain’ or ‘Theory of Change’ model i.e. illustrating the intervention and the outcomes and impacts one would expect to see, a priori, with a view to evidencing these through evaluation, as part of a possible theory-based approach.
7. Explore the interaction between collective conciliation and follow-up workplace projects [Survey and qualitative]
8. Explore user journeys, to better understand service ‘visibility’ and parties’ routes into using the service, and any barriers to access, especially among first-time and newer users (i.e. to generate insight about the process whereby prior non-users have become users and how to support and develop this process) [Survey and qualitative]
 - Related to this: Explore the (perceived and material) benefits of securing earlier Acas involvement in disputes, and how to facilitate this – at what stage is Acas currently becoming involved in collective disputes; what bearing does this have on case outcomes, and; can we identify the ‘best’ time for Acas intervention?
9. Build an understanding of how hybrid service delivery is currently operating [Survey and qualitative] – within which:
 - Which stages of what cases currently involve what amount of online delivery
 - Build a picture of the messaging that staff are communicating to the parties about the option to use online
 - Assess users’ preferences for and experiences of the hybrid service, with a view to understanding how hybrid delivery can be improved
 - Evaluate the role of online delivery in leading to successful and unsuccessful outcomes

3. METHOD

In order to achieve the research objectives detailed above, suppliers should outline an evaluation approach that comprises two elements:

1. A survey of users of Acas's collective conciliation service
2. Qualitative research with a subset of collective conciliation users

Phase 1 – Survey

Broadly speaking, this element of the project should resemble the 2016 collective conciliation customer survey in most respects, albeit with some re-design of the survey instrument to reflect new areas of interest, such as hybrid operation. This is largely because Acas would like as much backwards comparability of the results as possible, in order to track change.

Suppliers are welcome to put forward methodological alternatives where they see a benefit – but we would certainly require a compelling reason to consider fundamentally moving away from a method that was successfully employed in 2016. On the other hand, new ideas for making the existing basic method work better and, in particular, identification of the key project challenges and suggestions for dealing with these are actively sought.

An overview of the methodology used for the 2016 customer survey is detailed in Chapter 1 of the report: <https://www.acas.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-04/acas-collective-conciliation-evaluation-2016.pdf> (N.B. technical annex not available).

Survey method and sample frame

All previous collective conciliation customer surveys have used a computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) design, and our belief is that a CATI survey will again be the most appropriate way of delivering the survey of conciliation customers for 2023 – so as to enable reliable comparisons with 2016 results, maintain high response rates among what are comparatively modestly sized samples, and to reflect the fact that the research instrument includes some upfront screening to confirm respondent eligibility. Suppliers are welcome to put the case for pivoting to an online or online-first approach where they see this as advantageous but bids should be costed in the first instance on a CATI basis (i.e. the basis of scoring bids; provide separate alternative costs for any non-CATI approach being recommended).

Suppliers should provide full details about their processes and quality controls for undertaking CATI – for instance, staffing, call volumes that can be handled and, perhaps most importantly, safeguards for ensuring careful supervision of fieldwork (bearing in mind the confidential nature of the service and the need for ensuring quality).

Each collective conciliation case involves two sets of customers: management representatives and employee representatives (typically trade union officers – usually one apiece per case although some cases take in multiple bargaining units represented by different trade unions; in these instances, there may be more than one trade union customer per case).

As previously, it is envisaged that the survey will take the form of a census of all customers having used Acas collective conciliation in a given period.

In deciding on the optimum period, there are two related considerations:

1. We are working towards commencing survey fieldwork by mid-October 2023, with the aim of completing all interviews comfortably ahead of the Christmas period (working towards a deadline for the draft report by end-March 2024)
2. Mirroring the 2016 evaluation approach, customers should be surveyed about cases that ended 3 - 18 months beforehand (the logic being more recent than 3 months and the customer cannot talk meaningfully about longer-term impacts and the sustainability of any settlements; any longer than 15 months and recall becomes an issue).

On this basis we are proposing to survey customers who were involved in cases that *concluded* between April 2022 – June 2023 (i.e., the entire 2022/23 operating year, plus the first quarter of the current operating year). Our expectation is that fifteen, rather than twelve months, is preferable given that this replicates the 2016 approach and generates additional sample – suppliers are welcome to comment on this.

Data cleaning

A significant data cleaning/priming exercise will be undertaken by Acas ahead of passing the sample to the suppliers in the following ways:

1. Completing missing data: Acas management information relating to collective conciliation (i.e. case details input by conciliators) is of variable quality and completeness. Ahead of providing a sample frame, local Acas staff will therefore be tasked with providing any missing contact data, such as telephone numbers.
2. Removing inappropriate cases: Given the sensitivity of conciliation work it is necessary to confirm with conciliators that cases have definitely closed and that there are no overriding sensitivities at issue that mean the individuals involved should not be contacted (any cases earmarked for exclusion will need to be approved by Acas senior management). In addition, it is likely necessary to remove a rump of cases – mainly multiple Employment Tribunal cases – that sit outside the parameters of the study
3. Identifying 'duplicates': Where possible, the sample will include contacts for both sides, however there are a complex set of data duplication issues at play. Most obviously, a single trade union contact has the potential to be involved in multiple Acas collective conciliation cases in a given year, since they will represent more than one bargaining unit. Similarly, a single organisation contact has the potential to be involved in multiple Acas collective conciliation cases – either at different times throughout the year, or even with different bargaining units at the same point in time (since a single trade dispute might involve multiple bargaining units, each covered by different trade unions, but sharing one organisation contact). Clearly, we would only want to approach each trade union contact and each organisation contact once.

It is envisaged that the aforesaid data cleaning process will be conducted by Acas and will take place in August 2023, with a view to passing over a cleaned sample ready for the supplier to use from September 2023.

Research instruments

The survey questionnaire that was used in 2016 is provided as an Appendix [Appendix 1 Acas 2016 collective conciliation survey instrument] to this specification. This was designed

by Acas researchers in conjunction with the supplier (Ipsos Mori) and in consultation with Acas stakeholders, following which, a round of cognitive interviews and a pilot were carried out to assess new questions (all historic questions having been cognitively tested and piloted in previous years). The foundation of the research approach is that individuals are asked about one particular pre-selected dispute and not their experience of Acas conciliation as a whole. The questionnaire is structured into logical sections that mirror the stages of a dispute and the conciliation process and it contains a number of screener questions to check eligibility, including checking whether respondents recalled the particular case; screening is an important consideration for this research.

Some amendments will be required in order for the questionnaire to reflect new priorities as detailed in the aims section of this specification (e.g. about hybrid operation) – suppliers are invited to put forward their views on how well the existing instrument ‘fits’ with the updated research aims presented above. We also seek to review and reconfirm the questions contained in the instrument for assessing the economic impacts of the service, to ensure these are as good as possible and will support any future economic impact assessments of the service that might need to draw on these data.

The average interview length in 2016 was 30 minutes – please provide costs on this same basis for 2023 i.e. an average interview length of 30 minutes. Please also include in your costings for 6 cognitive interviews to test any new questions added and detail your approach to cognitive testing and piloting. (We propose supplying a small amount of surplus sample for the purposes of cognitive testing e.g. cases that closed 1-2 months too recently to form part of the main sample). Please additionally outline your approach towards, and cost for, leading a workshop with Acas stakeholders as part of the project inception phase, to review and agree where the survey instrument needs to change at the outset of the project.

Number of achieved interviews and response rates

The envisaged approach is a census of the ‘cleaned’ sample provided by Acas based on collective conciliations completed in a fifteen-month period between 3 and 18 months before the commencement of fieldwork.

It is difficult to be precise before the data cleaning exercise described above has taken place, however based on current caseloads set out in the ‘Background’ section, and historic rates of case removals to account for ineligible, we anticipate supplying a total of c.750 unique contacts; suppliers should work on this basis while acknowledging that there is necessarily some uncertainty here given the issues detailed above.

Acas tends to achieve high response rates across all its evaluations: an achievement which we are at pains to maintain. There is a particular need to maximise the number of interviews for this project to allow multivariate statistical analysis to be conducted (described below).

In the 2016 collective conciliation evaluation, an unadjusted response rate – including deadwood and other unusable leads from the final sample – of 43% was achieved (342 interviews from a total sample of 792). Once unusable leads were removed, the adjusted response rate was 52%. In total, the survey covered 283 disputes, and in 58 disputes, both sides of the dispute were covered i.e. “a matched case”. Full survey response rates by party type achieved in 2016 were as follows:

2016 survey response rates by service user type

Customer group	Interviews	Contacts	Response Rate (%)
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Employer	181	436	42 (52 adjusted)
Trade Union	161	356	45 (52 adjusted)
Total	342	792	43 (52 adjusted)
<i>Disputes covered</i>	283	539	53
<i>Matched cases</i>	116	-	-

In terms of all aspects of response – that is, the overall response rate, the dispute coverage and the number of matched cases – the 2016 evaluation represented an improvement compared to the previous (2012) iteration, when a 44% response rate was achieved and a sizeable number of leads had remained active (111 contacts) at the end of the fieldwork period, highlighting the fact that employers and trade union officers are to some degree ‘hard to reach’ populations.

For 2023 we would like to maintain the 2016 response rate – of at least 50 per cent – and to maximise the number of matched cases due to the analytical opportunities this presents. Suppliers should demonstrate that they have the fieldwork capacity to fully work the sample to achieve a good level of response. Please therefore cost in the first instance on the basis of an achieved sample of 375 (i.e. 50% of 750), providing costs on a sliding-scale such that, in the event that substantially more or fewer responses than this are achieved, then the difference can be accounted for elsewhere.

As noted above, the research instrument should be designed such that interviewees are asked about *one* particular dispute. For users who have been party to more than one case within the sample window, the supplier will be required to develop and adhere to appropriate rules in determining which dispute to ask the respondent to focus upon. In 2016, where contacts were involved in multiple disputes over the period of interest, the survey first concentrated on the most recently-closed case. However, in cases where an interview had been conducted with the other party in a listed dispute, this particular case was prioritised to create what is known as a “matched case” – a dispute where both employer and employee parties were interviewed.

Suppliers should outline how fieldwork will be managed and what steps will be taken to maximise response rates and the number of matched cases in each stage of the methodology. Include in your tender the process for working the sample, including the number of attempts made to contact individuals, the fieldwork hours (i.e. days of weeks and times of day) and the flexibility of approach (e.g. the extent to which sample can reschedule their interview to a more convenient time).

Suppliers should also comment on the most effective use of advance written correspondence (doubly functioning as an opt-out) ahead of telephone interviewing and include doing so in their costs. Traditionally, advance paper letters have been posted to respondents (by the supplier, signed by a senior Acas manager), announcing the research, giving necessary assurances and forewarning people to expect to be contacted. For 2023, we anticipate that this process will unavoidably shift to email, which carries certain risks in terms of emails being mis-directed to ‘spam’ or simply overlooked, greater ease of opting-out and the difficulty of signalling the importance of the research via email. We welcome suggestions from suppliers for how to overcome these obstacles.

In previous surveys, fieldwork has lasted 6 weeks – please comment on the feasibility of extending beyond this in the interests of maximising response.

Analysis

A small weight will likely be required to ensure that overall survey findings represent the viewpoint of employer and employee representatives equally, as in previous surveys. Historically, for some specific cases, where a question refers to the facts of a particular dispute, responses from those who form part of a “matched case” (i.e. where both employer and trade union participants in a case have been interviewed) have been half-weighted to avoid double-counting, and a similar approach is envisaged for 2023.

The principal quantitative analytical approach will comprise bivariate analysis, explored through the production of full tables for the surveys. Key factors should include industry sector and business size and, above all, participant type (employer / employee representative).

In the 2012 evaluation, two sets of factor analysis and multiple regression analysis were additionally conducted on the data to ascertain the key drivers of i) successful case outcomes and ii) customer satisfaction. For 2016, only the first of these was retained i.e. a KDA was conducted on the data to understand which particular elements of the service – ‘external’ factors (e.g. dispute characteristics) and those related to conciliator skills – were especially important to a successful resolution. The variable used in the logit model was a binary measure of success based on the participant’s description of the extent to which key issues were settled by conciliation – see Section 5.6 at: <https://www.acas.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-04/acas-collective-conciliation-evaluation-2016.pdf>).

For 2023 we seek to revisit this analysis – and also to repeat a multivariate analysis that additionally considers the drivers of satisfaction or some other closely aligned dependant variable, as in 2012. The 2012 approach is set out in some detail at: <https://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/ukgwa/20210104110803/https://archive.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=2056>)

Suppliers should cost the above basis (i.e. two sets of factor analysis and multiple regression analysis), but are actively encouraged to engage with this element of the design, suggest possible refinements and indeed propose alternative statistical analyses that perhaps better address the research aims detailed in this specification and add greater value to the study.

Phase 2 - Qualitative component

We would like suppliers to include proposals for incorporating a qualitative component as a nested method within the overall research design (i.e. with the survey as the predominant method) as a deep evidence-gathering and analytical technique to help evidence how and why the conciliation service is working (or could work better) with regard to the aims outlined above.

In 2016, after survey fieldwork had completed, fourteen additional in-depth interviews with survey participants who had consented to being re-contacted for further research on the topic were conducted. Seven conciliation cases were identified, and participants from both sides were interviewed to ensure that both perspectives on any given dispute were covered. These interviews were written-up in the form of seven very short ‘vignette’-style case studies and were reported in an annex to the main report (see Chapter 7 of 2016 report).

The primary focus of these interviews had been to understand the situation in which disputes had arisen, how Acas came to be involved, and the outcomes of conciliation in greater depth. However, there was no thematic analysis across cases, and while they succeeded

in illustrating aspects of the service and helped to contextualise some of the survey findings, these 'case studies' added limited value to the evaluation in relation to the key objectives.

For 2023 we seek again to complement the survey of users with a qualitative component – however we wish to adopt a different design to that used in 2016, with the aim of generating deeper insights that address a subset of the research aims – especially Objectives 3 (user perceptions of service quality and identification of options for service improvement), 6 (exploration of longer-term impacts), 8 (user journeys and especially routes into using conciliation) and 9 (experiences of and views on hybrid delivery) as detailed in the 'Aims' section above.

Related to this, we anticipate that the qualitative component will be especially key to:

- Build our understanding of the needs and experiences of newer users, including first-time and irregular users, i.e. to understand and delineate these customers' prior non-use and their transition to becoming users of the service.
- Contextualise user experiences relative to the 'bigger picture' of high-profile increases in strike action across the GB economy that forms the backdrop to this study.

We seek to use this qualitative component to generate *actionable* insights from both sets of users i.e. employee representatives and employers; albeit the two audiences may support different types of qualitative enquiry. For instance, we feel that undertaking focus groups with trade union officials is a viable and potentially worthwhile approach that may lend itself especially to the identification of options for service improvement for the 2023 study. There are some important differences that differentiate trade union representative users of conciliation i.e. these individuals work in relatively culturally distinct trade unions, operating in different industries and locations that may be characterised by different types of dispute; moreover the individuals themselves will bring to bear a range of different levels of experience of collective trade disputes and using Acas. Nevertheless, there is a good degree of professional common ground among these individuals, which ought to support the selection of relatively homogenous groups (perhaps based on characteristics such as sector and length of experience). Moreover, given the nature of their job role, these are all potential 'repeat users' of the service and many should be able to reflect on a wider range of experiences that go beyond a single dispute or use of conciliation. This is doubly important because it would not be desirable for participants to divulge some of the (confidential) specifics of individual cases in a group setting (please comment on how to manage this risk).

Conversely, repeat-use of the service is less observed among employers and the employer user base is necessarily more heterogeneous i.e. employers will represent a very wide range of organisations in terms of size and sector and will themselves operate a range of individual roles. Some employers will be able to generalise beyond the experience of a single dispute and use of conciliation although likely not to the same degree as their trade union counterparts. Moreover, one might anticipate a greater reluctance among this population to speak candidly in a group setting about their own dispute experiences.

For this reason, we propose a dual-strand qualitative research design that combines:

- A series of online focus groups with trade union-side users
- A series of remote 1:1 depth interviews with employer-side users

N.B. This is put forward as a proposed, rather than a prescribed, design and suppliers are encouraged to propose their own qualitative research designs building on and/or responding to these proposals: we are open to suggestions for refinements/improvements/ alternative approaches.

In all cases, please set out your approach to sampling, recruitment, instrument design and data collection, analysis and generation of outputs.

In terms of sample sizes, suppliers are invited to put forward a costed qualitative research design that maximises the number of data collection interactions possible given the overall budget (i.e. minus the costs of the survey, which remains the foremost component of the project).

In terms of analysis, we seek to break with the approach used in 2016 and undertake a thematic analysis across groups and interviews, triangulating between the employer and trade unions research strands and, where possible, survey responses. Please set out your proposed analytical approach accordingly.

It is envisaged that participants for the qualitative stage will again be recruited with the use of a re-contact question at the end of the survey, with data in the sample or collected during the survey being used to inform purposive sampling for the qualitative stage (e.g. to identify satisfied and/or dissatisfied users, those with or without experience of hybrid operation, new vs. experienced users etc.). Suppliers are invited to comment on how best to make this approach work.

Due to the need to deliver a draft report by the end of March 2024, we anticipate that it may be necessary to begin fieldwork for the qualitative strand before fieldwork for the survey has completed; suppliers are invited to comment and demonstrate that they have sufficient resource to undertake elements of both strands concurrently if this is the case.

Pricing

Suppliers should present their project costs broken down separately, for the two different phases of the study:

- **Phase 1 – Survey Component:** The cost element of bids will be evaluated on your core costs which should be for achieving 375 interviews using a CATI approach (this assumes 50% response of an assumed sample of 750 contacts; an average interview duration 30 minutes is also assumed).
 - *You are free to additionally propose alternative formulations for the survey component; where doing so please cost these separately.*
 - *Please provide costs on a sliding-scale such that, in the event that substantially more or fewer responses than anticipated are achieved, then the difference can be accounted for.*
- **Phase 2 – Qualitative Component:** Suppliers are encouraged to propose their own qualitative research design and cost accordingly, maximising the number of data collection interactions possible given the overall budget (i.e. minus the costs of the survey component).
 - *A dual-strand qualitative research design comprising focus groups with trade-union side users and 1:1 depth interview's with employer-side users has been put forward as a proposed, not a prescribed, design – even here we have not prescribed fixed numbers of groups/interviews; this is for suppliers to determine as part of their proposal.*

4. DELIVERABLES AND DEADLINES

Deliverables

Please detail your approach to preparation of the following primary deliverables required for this project:

- A written report, detailing the full findings of the survey of collective conciliation service users, and integrating selected qualitative findings:
 - This document will be broadly similar in style, detail and length to the 2016 evaluation report: <https://www.acas.org.uk/sites/default/files/2021-04/acas-collective-conciliation-evaluation-2016.pdf>. Its structure must be agreed with Acas prior to drafting. We envisage a report of approximately 20,000 – 30,000 words and the report should be written using MS Word, fully adherent to Acas house style. This document will present a detailed analysis of the data together with an explanatory commentary. The primary aim of this report will be to inform Acas policymakers, although the report would be expected to additionally be published externally for the general public at www.acas.org.uk/evaluations (Acas holds the final decision on the appropriate dissemination of findings).
 - The report will additionally integrate selected qualitative findings (precise scope to be agreed with Acas), where these help to elucidate the survey data and the combination of qualitative and quantitative data produces richer insights.
 - The report should include an Executive Summary drawing out the key findings. It should also include a technical appendix that covers all stages of the evaluation process in detail, from planning and design to details of multivariate analysis and production of datasets. It should accurately demonstrate reliability of the research methods but also describe what went well and where any problems occurred. It is intended to be a comprehensive account of the evaluation process so that it could be replicated in future by someone who has no involvement in the current study.
- A comprehensive, detailed presentation of integrated findings for the whole evaluation, across both the survey and qualitative components of the study, delivered to an internal audience of policymakers and delivery staff within Acas:
 - The accompanying slide deck must be sufficiently comprehensive to function as a standalone output in its own right, especially with regard to the qualitative component of the study. Whereas the published report (described above) will integrate *selected* qualitative findings, the deck will provide a full coverage of the qualitative data and will be suitably detailed to operate as a discrete output in that respect.
 - Full thematic analysis on all data relevant to answering the research objectives will be presented, using primary data to support and illustrate findings and with differences between participant groups described.
 - The structure of the presentation will be developed closely with Acas and should reflect our need for an engaging output that is accessible to non-research audiences and prioritises the reporting of actionable findings, to help maximise the practical impact of the research, reflecting its principal function (i.e. to inform decision-making by Acas policymakers).

- A full, clean, clearly labelled, dataset in SPSS format for the survey of collective conciliation service users.
- Full survey tables in Microsoft Excel and OpenDocument Spreadsheet (ODS) formats.

Quality assurance

All research tools and project outputs shall be accurately compiled and proofed before submission to Acas, who will review all outputs. Poor quality outputs will be rejected by Acas.

The supplier must commit to undertaking quality assurance of all deliverables and provide details of the quality assurance procedures they have in place. The supplier will guarantee the accuracy of all outputs, and detail what quality assurance processes have been undertaken.

Timescales

A timetable should be included in the proposal. This should provide timings for all stages leading up to fieldwork (finalisation of research materials etc.) and also for each post- fieldwork element (data processing, analysis and reporting etc.).

Acas is committed to working towards delivery of a draft report by the end of March 2024, with sign-off of all deliverables by June 2024. Based on this, we envisage the following broad timescales which are presented as a loose guide (note that timescales relating to the qualitative component are especially indicative as this will depend on the supplier's proposed approach for sequencing the two strands of the evaluation).

Date	Suggested milestone
Late September 2023	Contract awarded
September/October 2023	Survey instrument finalised and cleaned sample provided by Acas
October – December 2023	Survey data collection Qualitative instruments finalised
October 2023 – February 2024	Qualitative data collection
December 2023 – March 2024	Analysis and reporting
March 2024	Delivery of draft report
June 2024	Sign-off of all final deliverables

Risks

The Supplier must identify and assess the risks associated with undertaking the research and propose how these may be managed and overcome. The supplier will develop a full risk register on award of the contract.

Project costs

The maximum budget allocated for the evaluation is £125,000.00 excluding VAT which we believe is realistic and allows for a high-quality approach and we will accept bids up to this amount. The Supplier should outline the best bid they can offer and outline costs for both survey and qualitative components, including any assumptions with the costs. The project is VAT recoverable meaning VAT does not need to be included in the bid. The Supplier must demonstrate how their bid provides value in meeting the research aims while containing costs. Payment milestones will be tied to achievement of key stages of the contract.



Crown
Commercial
Service

Core Terms - DPS

1. Definitions used in the contract

Interpret this Contract using Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions).

2. How the contract works

- 2.1 The Supplier is eligible for the award of Order Contracts during the DPS Contract Period.
- 2.2 CCS does not guarantee the Supplier any exclusivity, quantity or value of work under the DPS Contract.
- 2.3 CCS has paid one penny to the Supplier legally to form the DPS Contract. The Supplier acknowledges this payment.
- 2.4 If the Buyer decides to buy Deliverables under the DPS Contract it must use DPS Schedule 7 (Order Procedure) and must state its requirements using DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form Template and Order Schedules). If allowed by the Regulations, the Buyer can:
- (a) make changes to DPS Schedule 6 (Order Form Template and Order Schedules);
 - (b) create new Order Schedules;
 - (c) exclude optional template Order Schedules; and/or
 - (d) use Special Terms in the Order Form to add or change terms.
- 2.5 Each Order Contract:
- (a) is a separate Contract from the DPS Contract;
 - (b) is between a Supplier and a Buyer;
 - (c) includes Core Terms, Schedules and any other changes or items in the completed Order Form; and
 - (d) survives the termination of the DPS Contract.
- 2.6 Where the Supplier is approached by any Other Contracting Authority requesting Deliverables or substantially similar goods or services, the Supplier must tell them about this DPS Contract before accepting their order.
- 2.7 The Supplier acknowledges it has all the information required to perform its obligations under each Contract before entering into a Contract. When information is provided by a Relevant Authority no warranty of its accuracy is given to the Supplier.
- 2.8 The Supplier will not be excused from any obligation, or be entitled to additional Costs or Charges because it failed to either:

Core Terms - DPS

(a) verify the accuracy of the Due Diligence Information; or (b) properly perform its own adequate checks.

2.9 CCS and the Buyer will not be liable for errors, omissions or misrepresentation of any information.

2.10 The Supplier warrants and represents that all statements made and documents submitted as part of the procurement of Deliverables are and remain true and accurate.

2.11 An Order Contract can only be created using the electronic procedures described in the FTS Notice as required by the Regulations.

2.12 A Supplier can only receive Orders under the DPS Contract while it meets the basic access requirements for the DPS stated in the FTS Notice. CCS can audit whether a Supplier meets the basic access requirements at any point during the DPS Contract Period.

3. What needs to be delivered

3.1 All deliverables

3.1.1 The Supplier must provide Deliverables:

- (a) that comply with the Specification, the DPS Application and, in relation to an Order Contract, the Order Tender (if there is one);
- (b) to a professional standard;
- (c) using reasonable skill and care; (d) using Good Industry Practice;
- (e) using its own policies, processes and internal quality control measures as long as they do not conflict with the Contract; (f) on the dates agreed; and (g) that comply with Law.

3.1.2 The Supplier must provide Deliverables with a warranty of at least 90 days from Delivery against all obvious defects.

3.2 Goods clauses

3.2.1 All Goods delivered must be new, or as new if recycled, unused and of recent origin.

3.2.2 All manufacturer warranties covering the Goods must be assignable to the Buyer on request and for free.

3.2.3 The Supplier transfers ownership of the Goods on Delivery or payment for those Goods, whichever is earlier.

3.2.4 Risk in the Goods transfers to the Buyer on Delivery of the Goods, but remains with the Supplier if the Buyer notices damage following Delivery and lets the Supplier know within 3 Working Days of Delivery.

Core Terms - DPS

- 3.2.5 The Supplier warrants that it has full and unrestricted ownership of the Goods at the time of transfer of ownership.
- 3.2.6 The Supplier must deliver the Goods on the date and to the specified location during the Buyer's working hours.
- 3.2.7 The Supplier must provide sufficient packaging for the Goods to reach the point of Delivery safely and undamaged.
- 3.2.8 All deliveries must have a delivery note attached that specifies the order number, type and quantity of Goods.
- 3.2.9 The Supplier must provide all tools, information and instructions the Buyer needs to make use of the Goods.
- 3.2.10 The Supplier must indemnify the Buyer against the costs of any Recall of the Goods and give notice of actual or anticipated action about the Recall of the Goods.
- 3.2.11 The Buyer can cancel any order or part order of Goods which has not been Delivered. If the Buyer gives less than 14 days notice then it will pay the Supplier's reasonable and proven costs already incurred on the cancelled order as long as the Supplier takes all reasonable steps to minimise these costs.
- 3.2.12 The Supplier must at its own cost repair, replace, refund or substitute (at the Buyer's option and request) any Goods that the Buyer rejects because they do not conform with Clause 3. If the Supplier does not do this it will pay the Buyer's costs including repair or re-supply by a third party.

3.3 Services clauses

- 3.3.1 Late Delivery of the Services will be a Default of an Order Contract.
- 3.3.2 The Supplier must co-operate with the Buyer and third party suppliers on all aspects connected with the Delivery of the Services and ensure that Supplier Staff comply with any reasonable instructions.
- 3.3.3 The Supplier must at its own risk and expense provide all Supplier Equipment required to Deliver the Services.
- 3.3.4 The Supplier must allocate sufficient resources and appropriate expertise to each Contract.
- 3.3.5 The Supplier must take all reasonable care to ensure performance does not disrupt the Buyer's operations, employees or other contractors.

3.3.6 The Supplier must ensure all Services, and anything used to Deliver the Services, are of good quality and free from defects.

3.3.7 The Buyer is entitled to withhold payment for partially or undelivered Services, but doing so does not stop it from using its other rights under the Contract.

4. Pricing and payments

4.1 In exchange for the Deliverables, the Supplier must invoice the Buyer for the Charges in the Order Form.

4.2 CCS must invoice the Supplier for the Management Levy and the Supplier must pay it using the process in DPS Schedule 5 (Management Levy and Information).

4.3 All Charges and the Management Levy:

- (a) exclude VAT, which is payable on provision of a valid VAT invoice; and (b) include all costs connected with the Supply of Deliverables.

4.4 The Buyer must pay the Supplier the Charges within 30 days of receipt by the Buyer of a valid, undisputed invoice, in cleared funds using the payment method and details stated in the Order Form.

4.5 A Supplier invoice is only valid if it:

- (a) includes all appropriate references including the Contract reference number and other details reasonably requested by the Buyer;
- (b) includes a detailed breakdown of Delivered Deliverables and Milestone(s) (if any); and
- (c) does not include any Management Levy (the Supplier must not charge the Buyer in any way for the Management Levy).

4.6 The Buyer must accept and process for payment an undisputed Electronic Invoice received from the Supplier.

4.7 The Buyer may retain or set-off payment of any amount owed to it by the Supplier if notice and reasons are provided.

4.8 The Supplier must ensure that all Subcontractors are paid, in full, within 30 days of receipt of a valid, undisputed invoice. If this does not happen, CCS or the Buyer can publish the details of the late payment or non-payment.

4.9 If CCS or the Buyer can get more favourable commercial terms for the supply at cost of any materials, goods or services used by the Supplier to provide the Deliverables, then CCS or the Buyer may require

Core Terms - DPS

the Supplier to replace its existing commercial terms with the more favourable terms offered for the relevant items.

4.10 If CCS or the Buyer uses Clause 4.9 then the DPS Pricing (and where applicable, the Charges) must be reduced by an agreed amount by using the Variation Procedure.

4.11 The Supplier has no right of set-off, counterclaim, discount or abatement unless they are ordered to do so by a court.

5. The buyer's obligations to the supplier

5.1 If Supplier Non-Performance arises from an Authority Cause:

- (a) neither CCS or the Buyer can terminate a Contract under Clause 10.4.1;
- (b) the Supplier is entitled to reasonable and proven additional expenses and to relief from liability and Deduction under this Contract;
- (c) the Supplier is entitled to additional time needed to make the Delivery; and (d) the Supplier cannot suspend the ongoing supply of Deliverables.

5.2 Clause 5.1 only applies if the Supplier:

- (a) gives notice to the Party responsible for the Authority Cause within 10 Working Days of becoming aware;
- (b) demonstrates that the Supplier Non-Performance would not have occurred but for the Authority Cause; and
- (c) mitigated the impact of the Authority Cause.

6. Record keeping and reporting

6.1 The Supplier must attend Progress Meetings with the Buyer and provide Progress Reports when specified in the Order Form.

6.2 The Supplier must keep and maintain full and accurate records and accounts on everything to do with the Contract:

- (a) during the Contract Period;
- (b) for 7 years after the End Date; and (c) in accordance with UK GDPR, including but not limited to the records and accounts stated in the definition of Audit in Joint Schedule 1.

6.3 The Relevant Authority or an Auditor can Audit the Supplier.

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6.4 During an Audit, the Supplier must:

- (a) allow the Relevant Authority or any Auditor access to their premises to verify all contract accounts and records of everything to do with the Contract and provide copies for an Audit; and
- (b) provide information to the Relevant Authority or to the Auditor and reasonable co-operation at their request.

6.5 Where the Audit of the Supplier is carried out by an Auditor, the Auditor shall be entitled to share any information obtained during the Audit with the Relevant Authority.**6.6 If the Supplier is not providing any of the Deliverables, or is unable to provide them, it must immediately:**

- (a) tell the Relevant Authority and give reasons;
- (b) propose corrective action; and
- (c) provide a deadline for completing the corrective action.

6.7 The Supplier must provide CCS with a Self Audit Certificate supported by an audit report at the end of each Contract Year. The report must contain:

- (a) the methodology of the review;
- (b) the sampling techniques applied; (c) details of any issues; and (d) any remedial action taken.

6.8 The Self Audit Certificate must be completed and signed by an auditor or senior member of the Supplier's management team that is qualified in either a relevant audit or financial discipline.

7. Supplier staff

7.1 The Supplier Staff involved in the performance of each Contract must:

- (a) be appropriately trained and qualified;
- (b) be vetted using Good Industry Practice and the Security Policy; and
- (c) comply with all conduct requirements when on the Buyer's Premises.

7.2 Where a Buyer decides one of the Supplier's Staff is not suitable to work on a contract, the Supplier must replace them with a suitably qualified alternative.**7.3 If requested, the Supplier must replace any person whose acts or omissions have caused the Supplier to breach Clause 27.**

- 7.4 The Supplier must provide a list of Supplier Staff needing to access the Buyer's Premises and say why access is required.
- 7.5 The Supplier indemnifies CCS and the Buyer against all claims brought by any person employed by the Supplier caused by an act or omission of the Supplier or any Supplier Staff.

8. Rights and protection

8.1 The Supplier warrants and represents that:

- (a) it has full capacity and authority to enter into and to perform each Contract;
- (b) each Contract is executed by its authorised representative;
- (c) it is a legally valid and existing organisation incorporated in the place it was formed;
- (d) there are no known legal or regulatory actions or investigations before any court, administrative body or arbitration tribunal pending or threatened against it or its Affiliates that might affect its ability to perform each Contract;
- (e) it maintains all necessary rights, authorisations, licences and consents to perform its obligations under each Contract;
- (f) it does not have any contractual obligations which are likely to have a material adverse effect on its ability to perform each Contract;
- (g) it is not impacted by an Insolvency Event; and (h) it will comply with each Order Contract.

8.2 The warranties and representations in Clauses 2.10 and 8.1 are repeated each time the Supplier provides Deliverables under the Contract.

8.3 The Supplier indemnifies both CCS and every Buyer against each of the following:

- (a) wilful misconduct of the Supplier, Subcontractor and Supplier Staff that impacts the Contract; and (b) non-payment by the Supplier of any Tax or National Insurance.

8.4 All claims indemnified under this Contract must use Clause 26.

8.5 The description of any provision of this Contract as a warranty does not prevent CCS or a Buyer from exercising any termination right that it may have for breach of that clause by the Supplier.

8.6 If the Supplier becomes aware of a representation or warranty that becomes untrue or misleading, it must immediately notify CCS and every Buyer.

8.7 All third party warranties and indemnities covering the Deliverables must be assigned for the Buyer's benefit by the Supplier.

9. Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)

- 9.1 Each Party keeps ownership of its own Existing IPRs. The Supplier gives the Buyer a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty-free, irrevocable, transferable worldwide licence to use, change and sub-license the Supplier's Existing IPR to enable it to both:
- (a) receive and use the Deliverables; and
 - (b) make use of the deliverables provided by a Replacement Supplier.
- 9.2 Any New IPR created under a Contract is owned by the Buyer. The Buyer gives the Supplier a licence to use any Existing IPRs and New IPRs for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations during the Contract Period.
- 9.3 Where a Party acquires ownership of IPRs incorrectly under this Contract it must do everything reasonably necessary to complete a transfer assigning them in writing to the other Party on request and at its own cost.
- 9.4 Neither Party has the right to use the other Party's IPRs, including any use of the other Party's names, logos or trademarks, except as provided in Clause 9 or otherwise agreed in writing.
- 9.5 If there is an IPR Claim, the Supplier indemnifies CCS and each Buyer against all losses, damages, costs or expenses (including professional fees and fines) incurred as a result.
- 9.6 If an IPR Claim is made or anticipated the Supplier must at its own expense and the Buyer's sole option, either:
- (a) obtain for CCS and the Buyer the rights in Clause 9.1 and 9.2 without infringing any third party IPR; or
 - (b) replace or modify the relevant item with substitutes that do not infringe IPR without adversely affecting the functionality or performance of the Deliverables.
- 9.7 In spite of any other provisions of a Contract and for the avoidance of doubt, award of a Contract by the Buyer and placement of any contract task under it does not constitute an authorisation by the Crown under Sections 55 and 56 of the Patents Act 1977 or Section 12 of the Registered Designs Act 1949. The Supplier acknowledges that any authorisation by the Buyer under its statutory powers must be expressly provided in writing, with reference to the acts authorised and the specific IPR involved.

10. Ending the contract or any subcontract

10.1 Contract Period

- 10.1.1 The Contract takes effect on the Start Date and ends on the End Date or earlier if required by Law.

10.1.2 The Relevant Authority can extend the Contract for the Extension Period by giving the Supplier no less than 3 Months' written notice before the Contract expires.

10.2 Ending the contract without a reason

10.2.1 CCS has the right to terminate the DPS Contract at any time without reason by giving the Supplier at least 30 days' notice.

10.2.2 Each Buyer has the right to terminate their Order Contract at any time without reason by giving the Supplier not less than 90 days' written notice.

10.3 Rectification plan process

10.3.1 If there is a Default, the Relevant Authority may, without limiting its other rights, request that the Supplier provide a Rectification Plan.

10.3.2 When the Relevant Authority receives a requested Rectification Plan it can either:

- (a) reject the Rectification Plan or revised Rectification Plan, giving reasons; or
- (b) accept the Rectification Plan or revised Rectification Plan (without limiting its rights) and the Supplier must immediately start work on the actions in the Rectification Plan at its own cost, unless agreed otherwise by the Parties.

10.3.3 Where the Rectification Plan or revised Rectification Plan is rejected, the Relevant Authority:

- (a) must give reasonable grounds for its decision; and
- (b) may request that the Supplier provides a revised Rectification Plan within 5 Working Days.

10.3.4 If the Relevant Authority rejects any Rectification Plan, including any revised Rectification Plan, the Relevant Authority does not have to request a revised Rectification Plan before exercising its right to terminate its Contract under Clause 10.4.3(a).

10.4 When CCS or the buyer can end a contract

10.4.1 If any of the following events happen, the Relevant Authority has the right to immediately terminate its Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier:

- (a) there is a Supplier Insolvency Event;
- (b) there is a Default that is not corrected in line with an accepted Rectification Plan;
- (c) the Supplier does not provide a Rectification Plan within 10 days of the request;
- (d) there is any material Default of the Contract;
- (e) there is any material Default of any Joint Controller Agreement relating to any Contract;

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- (f) there is a Default of Clauses 2.10, 9, 14, 15, 27, 32 or DPS Schedule 9 (Cyber Essentials) (where applicable) relating to any Contract;
- (g) there is a consistent repeated failure to meet the Performance Indicators in DPS Schedule 4 (DPS Management);
- (h) there is a Change of Control of the Supplier which is not pre-approved by the Relevant Authority in writing;
- (i) if the Relevant Authority discovers that the Supplier was in one of the situations in 57 (1) or 57(2) of the Regulations at the time the Contract was awarded; or
- (j) the Supplier or its Affiliates embarrass or bring CCS or the Buyer into disrepute or diminish the public trust in them.

10.4.2 CCS may terminate the DPS Contract if a Buyer terminates an Order Contract for any of the reasons listed in Clause 10.4.1.

10.4.3 If any of the following non-fault based events happen, the Relevant Authority has the right to immediately terminate its Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier:

- (a) the Relevant Authority rejects a Rectification Plan;
- (b) there is a Variation which cannot be agreed using Clause 24 (Changing the contract) or resolved using Clause 34 (Resolving disputes);
- (c) if there is a declaration of ineffectiveness in respect of any Variation; or (d) any of the events in 73 (1) (a) or (c) of the Regulations happen.

10.5 When the supplier can end the contract

The Supplier can issue a Reminder Notice if the Buyer does not pay an undisputed invoice on time. The Supplier can terminate an Order Contract if the Buyer fails to pay an undisputed invoiced sum due and worth over 10% of the annual Contract Value within 30 days of the date of the Reminder Notice.

10.6 What happens if the contract ends

10.6.1 Where a Party terminates a Contract under any of Clauses 10.2.1, 10.2.2, 10.4.1, 10.4.2, 10.4.3, 10.5 or 20.2 or a Contract expires all of the following apply:

- (a) The Buyer's payment obligations under the terminated Contract stop immediately.
- (b) Accumulated rights of the Parties are not affected.
- (c) The Supplier must promptly repay to the Buyer any and all Charges the Buyer has paid in advance in respect of Deliverables not provided by the Supplier as at the End Date.
- (d) The Supplier must promptly delete or return the Government Data except where required to retain copies by Law.
- (e) The Supplier must promptly return any of CCS or the Buyer's property provided under the terminated Contract.

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- (f) The Supplier must, at no cost to CCS or the Buyer, co-operate fully in the handover and reprocurement (including to a Replacement Supplier).

10.6.2 In addition to the consequences of termination listed in Clause 10.6.1, where the Relevant Authority terminates a Contract under Clause 10.4.1 the Supplier is also responsible for the Relevant Authority's reasonable costs of procuring Replacement Deliverables for the rest of the Contract Period.

10.6.3 In addition to the consequences of termination listed in Clause 10.6.1, if either the Relevant Authority terminates a Contract under Clause 10.2.1 or 10.2.2 or a Supplier terminates an Order Contract under Clause 10.5:

- (a) the Buyer must promptly pay all outstanding Charges incurred to the Supplier; and
- (b) the Buyer must pay the Supplier reasonable committed and unavoidable Losses as long as the Supplier provides a fully itemised and costed schedule with evidence - the maximum value of this payment is limited to the total sum payable to the Supplier if the Contract had not been terminated.

10.6.4 In addition to the consequences of termination listed in Clause 10.6.1, where a Party terminates under Clause 20.2 each Party must cover its own Losses.

10.6.5 The following Clauses survive the termination or expiry of each Contract: 3.2.10, 4.2, 6, 7.5, 9, 11, 12.2, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 31.3, 34, 35 and any Clauses and Schedules which are expressly or by implication intended to continue.

10.7 Partially ending and suspending the contract

10.7.1 Where CCS has the right to terminate the DPS Contract it can suspend the Supplier's ability to accept Orders (for any period) and the Supplier cannot enter into any new Order Contracts during this period. If this happens, the Supplier must still meet its obligations under any existing Order Contracts that have already been signed.

10.7.2 Where CCS has the right to terminate a DPS Contract it is entitled to terminate all or part of it.

10.7.3 Where the Buyer has the right to terminate an Order Contract it can terminate or suspend (for any period), all or part of it. If the Buyer suspends a Contract it can provide the Deliverables itself or buy them from a third party.

10.7.4 The Relevant Authority can only partially terminate or suspend a Contract if the remaining parts of that Contract can still be used to effectively deliver the intended purpose.

10.7.5 The Parties must agree any necessary Variation required by Clause 10.7 using the Variation Procedure, but the Supplier may not either:

- (a) reject the Variation; or
- (b) increase the Charges, except where the right to partial termination is under Clause 10.2.

10.7.6 The Buyer can still use other rights available, or subsequently available to it if it acts on its rights under Clause 10.7.

10.8 When subcontracts can be ended

At the Buyer's request, the Supplier must terminate any Subcontracts in any of the following events:

- (a) there is a Change of Control of a Subcontractor which is not pre-approved by the Relevant Authority in writing;
- (b) the acts or omissions of the Subcontractor have caused or materially contributed to a right of termination under Clause 10.4; or
- (c) a Subcontractor or its Affiliates embarrasses or brings into disrepute or diminishes the public trust in the Relevant Authority.

11. How much you can be held responsible for

11.1 Each Party's total aggregate liability in each Contract Year under this DPS Contract (whether in tort, contract or otherwise) is no more than £1,000,000.

11.2 Each Party's total aggregate liability in each Contract Year under each Order Contract (whether in tort, contract or otherwise) is no more than one hundred and twenty five percent (125%) of the Estimated Yearly Charges unless specified in the Order Form.

11.3 No Party is liable to the other for:

- (a) any indirect Losses; or
- (b) Loss of profits, turnover, savings, business opportunities or damage to goodwill (in each case whether direct or indirect).

11.4 In spite of Clause 11.1 and 11.2, neither Party limits or excludes any of the following:

- (a) its liability for death or personal injury caused by its negligence, or that of its employees, agents or Subcontractors;
- (b) its liability for bribery or fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation by it or its employees;
- (c) any liability that cannot be excluded or limited by Law;
- (d) its obligation to pay the required Management Levy or Default Management Levy.

- 11.5 In spite of Clauses 11.1 and 11.2, the Supplier does not limit or exclude its liability for any indemnity given under Clauses 7.5, 8.3(b), 9.5, 31.3 or Order Schedule 2 (Staff Transfer) of a Contract.
- 11.6 In spite of Clauses 11.1, 11.2 but subject to Clauses 11.3 and 11.4, the Supplier's aggregate liability in each and any Contract Year under each Contract under Clause 14.8 shall in no event exceed the Data Protection Liability Cap.
- 11.7 Each Party must use all reasonable endeavours to mitigate any Loss or damage which it suffers under or in connection with each Contract, including any indemnities.
- 11.8 When calculating the Supplier's liability under Clause 11.1 or 11.2 the following items will not be taken into consideration:
- (a) Deductions; and
 - (b) any items specified in Clauses 11.5 or 11.6.
- 11.9 If more than one Supplier is party to a Contract, each Supplier Party is jointly and severally liable for their obligations under that Contract.

12. Obeying the law

- 12.1 The Supplier must use reasonable endeavours to comply with the provisions of Joint Schedule 5 (Corporate Social Responsibility).
- 12.2 To the extent that it arises as a result of a Default by the Supplier, the Supplier indemnifies the Relevant Authority against any fine or penalty incurred by the Relevant Authority pursuant to Law and any costs incurred by the Relevant Authority in defending any proceedings which result in such fine or penalty.
- 12.3 The Supplier must appoint a Compliance Officer who must be responsible for ensuring that the Supplier complies with Law, Clause 12.1 and Clauses 27 to 32.

13. Insurance

The Supplier must, at its own cost, obtain and maintain the Required Insurances in Joint Schedule 3 (Insurance Requirements) and any Additional Insurances in the Order Form.

14. Data protection

- 14.1 The Supplier must process Personal Data and ensure that Supplier Staff process Personal Data only in accordance with Joint Schedule 11 (Processing Data).
- 14.2 The Supplier must not remove any ownership or security notices in or relating to the Government Data.

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- 14.3 The Supplier must make accessible back-ups of all Government Data, stored in an agreed off-site location and send the Buyer copies every 6 Months.
- 14.4 The Supplier must ensure that any Supplier system holding any Government Data, including back-up data, is a secure system that complies with the Security Policy and any applicable Security Management Plan.
- 14.5 If at any time the Supplier suspects or has reason to believe that the Government Data provided under a Contract is corrupted, lost or sufficiently degraded, then the Supplier must notify the Relevant Authority and immediately suggest remedial action.
- 14.6 If the Government Data is corrupted, lost or sufficiently degraded so as to be unusable the Relevant Authority may either or both:
- (a) tell the Supplier to restore or get restored Government Data as soon as practical but no later than 5 Working Days from the date that the Relevant Authority receives notice, or the Supplier finds out about the issue, whichever is earlier; and/or
 - (b) restore the Government Data itself or using a third party.
- 14.7 The Supplier must pay each Party's reasonable costs of complying with Clause 14.6 unless CCS or the Buyer is at fault.
- 14.8 The Supplier:
- (a) must provide the Relevant Authority with all Government Data in an agreed open format within 10 Working Days of a written request;
 - (b) must have documented processes to guarantee prompt availability of Government Data if the Supplier stops trading;
 - (c) must securely destroy all Storage Media that has held Government Data at the end of life of that media using Good Industry Practice;
 - (d) securely erase all Government Data and any copies it holds when asked to do so by CCS or the Buyer unless required by Law to retain it; and
 - (e) indemnifies CCS and each Buyer against any and all Losses incurred if the Supplier breaches Clause 14 and any Data Protection Legislation.

15. What you must keep confidential

15.1 Each Party must:

- (a) keep all Confidential Information it receives confidential and secure;

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- (b) except as expressly set out in the Contract at Clauses 15.2 to 15.4 or elsewhere in the Contract, not disclose, use or exploit the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information without the Disclosing Party's prior written consent; and
- (c) immediately notify the Disclosing Party if it suspects unauthorised access, copying, use or disclosure of the Confidential Information.

15.2 In spite of Clause 15.1, a Party may disclose Confidential Information which it receives from the Disclosing Party in any of the following instances:

- (a) where disclosure is required by applicable Law or by a court with the relevant jurisdiction if, to the extent not prohibited by Law, the Recipient Party notifies the Disclosing Party of the full circumstances, the affected Confidential Information and extent of the disclosure;
- (b) if the Recipient Party already had the information without obligation of confidentiality before it was disclosed by the Disclosing Party;
- (c) if the information was given to it by a third party without obligation of confidentiality;
- (d) if the information was in the public domain at the time of the disclosure;
- (e) if the information was independently developed without access to the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information;
- (f) on a confidential basis, to its auditors;
- (g) on a confidential basis, to its professional advisers on a need-to-know basis; or
- (h) to the Serious Fraud Office where the Recipient Party has reasonable grounds to believe that the Disclosing Party is involved in activity that may be a criminal offence under the Bribery Act 2010.

15.3 In spite of Clause 15.1, the Supplier may disclose Confidential Information on a confidential basis to Supplier Staff on a need-to-know basis to allow the Supplier to meet its obligations under the Contract. The Supplier Staff must enter into a direct confidentiality agreement with the Relevant Authority at its request.

15.4 In spite of Clause 15.1, CCS or the Buyer may disclose Confidential Information in any of the following cases:

- (a) on a confidential basis to the employees, agents, consultants and contractors of CCS or the Buyer;
- (b) on a confidential basis to any other Central Government Body, any successor body to a Central Government Body or any company that CCS or the Buyer transfers or proposes to transfer all or any part of its business to;
- (c) if CCS or the Buyer (acting reasonably) considers disclosure necessary or appropriate to carry out its public functions;
- (d) where requested by Parliament; or (e) under Clauses 4.7 and 16.

- 15.5 For the purposes of Clauses 15.2 to 15.4 references to disclosure on a confidential basis means disclosure under a confidentiality agreement or arrangement including terms as strict as those required in Clause 15.
- 15.6 Transparency Information is not Confidential Information.
- 15.7 The Supplier must not make any press announcement or publicise the Contracts or any part of them in any way, without the prior written consent of the Relevant Authority and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that Supplier Staff do not either.

16. When you can share information

- 16.1 The Supplier must tell the Relevant Authority within 48 hours if it receives a Request For Information.
- 16.2 Within five (5) Working Days of the Buyer's request the Supplier must give CCS and each Buyer full cooperation and information needed so the Buyer can:
- (a) publish the Transparency Information;
 - (b) comply with any Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request; and/or (c) comply with any Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) request.
- 16.3 The Relevant Authority may talk to the Supplier to help it decide whether to publish information under Clause 16. However, the extent, content and format of the disclosure is the Relevant Authority's decision in its absolute discretion.

17. Invalid parts of the contract

If any part of a Contract is prohibited by Law or judged by a court to be unlawful, void or unenforceable, it must be read as if it was removed from that Contract as much as required and rendered ineffective as far as possible without affecting the rest of the Contract, whether it is valid or enforceable.

18. No other terms apply

The provisions incorporated into each Contract are the entire agreement between the Parties. The Contract replaces all previous statements, agreements and any course of dealings made between the Parties, whether written or oral, in relation to its subject matter. No other provisions apply.

19. Other people's rights in a contract

No third parties may use the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 (CRTPA) to enforce any term of the Contract unless stated (referring to CRTPA) in the Contract. This does not affect third party rights and remedies that exist independently from CRTPA.

20. Circumstances beyond your control

20.1 Any Party affected by a Force Majeure Event is excused from performing its obligations under a Contract while the inability to perform continues, if it both:

- (a) provides a Force Majeure Notice to the other Party; and
- (b) uses all reasonable measures practical to reduce the impact of the Force Majeure Event.

20.2 Either Party can partially or fully terminate the affected Contract if the provision of the Deliverables is materially affected by a Force Majeure Event which lasts for 90 days continuously.

21. Relationships created by the contract

No Contract creates a partnership, joint venture or employment relationship. The Supplier must represent themselves accordingly and ensure others do so.

22. Giving up contract rights

A partial or full waiver or relaxation of the terms of a Contract is only valid if it is stated to be a waiver in writing to the other Party.

23. Transferring responsibilities

23.1 The Supplier cannot assign, novate or transfer a Contract or any part of a Contract without the Relevant Authority's written consent.

23.2 The Relevant Authority can assign, novate or transfer its Contract or any part of it to any Central Government Body, public or private sector body which performs the functions of the Relevant Authority.

23.3 When CCS or the Buyer uses its rights under Clause 23.2 the Supplier must enter into a novation agreement in the form that CCS or the Buyer specifies.

23.4 The Supplier can terminate a Contract novated under Clause 23.2 to a private sector body that is experiencing an Insolvency Event.

23.5 The Supplier remains responsible for all acts and omissions of the Supplier Staff as if they were its own.

23.6 If CCS or the Buyer asks the Supplier for details about Subcontractors, the Supplier must provide details of Subcontractors at all levels of the supply chain including:

- (a) their name;
- (b) the scope of their appointment; and
- (c) the duration of their appointment.

24. Changing the contract

24.1 Either Party can request a Variation which is only effective if agreed in writing and signed by both Parties.

24.2 The Supplier must provide an Impact Assessment either:

- (a) with the Variation Form, where the Supplier requests the Variation; or
- (b) within the time limits included in a Variation Form requested by CCS or the Buyer.

24.3 If the Variation cannot be agreed or resolved by the Parties, CCS or the Buyer can either:

- (a) agree that the Contract continues without the Variation; or
- (b) terminate the affected Contract, unless in the case of an Order Contract, the Supplier has already provided part or all of the provision of the Deliverables, or where the Supplier can show evidence of substantial work being carried out to provide them; or
- (c) refer the Dispute to be resolved using Clause 34 (Resolving Disputes).

24.4 CCS and the Buyer are not required to accept a Variation request made by the Supplier.

24.5 If there is a General Change in Law, the Supplier must bear the risk of the change and is not entitled to ask for an increase to the DPS Pricing or the Charges.

24.6 If there is a Specific Change in Law or one is likely to happen during the Contract Period the Supplier must give CCS and the Buyer notice of the likely effects of the changes as soon as reasonably practical. They must also say if they think any Variation is needed either to the Deliverables, DPS Pricing or a Contract and provide evidence:

- (a) that the Supplier has kept costs as low as possible, including in Subcontractor costs; and
- (b) of how it has affected the Supplier's costs.

24.7 Any change in the DPS Pricing or relief from the Supplier's obligations because of a Specific Change in Law must be implemented using Clauses 24.1 to 24.4.

24.8 For 101(5) of the Regulations, if the Court declares any Variation ineffective, the Parties agree that their mutual rights and obligations will be regulated by the terms of the Contract as they existed immediately prior to that Variation and as if the Parties had never entered into that Variation.

25. How to communicate about the contract

- 25.1 All notices under the Contract must be in writing and are considered effective on the Working Day of delivery as long as they are delivered before 5:00pm on a Working Day. Otherwise the notice is effective on the next Working Day. An email is effective at 9:00am on the first Working Day after sending unless an error message is received.
- 25.2 Notices to CCS must be sent to the CCS Authorised Representative's address or email address indicated on the Platform.
- 25.3 Notices to the Buyer must be sent to the Buyer Authorised Representative's address or email address in the Order Form.
- 25.4 This Clause does not apply to the service of legal proceedings or any documents in any legal action, arbitration or dispute resolution.

26. Dealing with claims

- 26.1 If a Beneficiary is notified of a Claim then it must notify the Indemnifier as soon as reasonably practical and no later than 10 Working Days.
- 26.2 At the Indemnifier's cost the Beneficiary must both:
- (a) allow the Indemnifier to conduct all negotiations and proceedings to do with a Claim; and
 - (b) give the Indemnifier reasonable assistance with the claim if requested.
- 26.3 The Beneficiary must not make admissions about the Claim without the prior written consent of the Indemnifier which can not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
- 26.4 The Indemnifier must consider and defend the Claim diligently using competent legal advisors and in a way that does not damage the Beneficiary's reputation.
- 26.5 The Indemnifier must not settle or compromise any Claim without the Beneficiary's prior written consent which it must not unreasonably withhold or delay.
- 26.6 Each Beneficiary must take all reasonable steps to minimise and mitigate any losses that it suffers because of the Claim.
- 26.7 If the Indemnifier pays the Beneficiary money under an indemnity and the Beneficiary later recovers money which is directly related to the Claim, the Beneficiary must immediately repay the Indemnifier the lesser of either:

- (a) the sum recovered minus any legitimate amount spent by the Beneficiary when recovering this money; or
- (b) the amount the Indemnifier paid the Beneficiary for the Claim.

27. Preventing fraud, bribery and corruption

27.1 The Supplier must not during any Contract Period:

- (a) commit a Prohibited Act or any other criminal offence in the Regulations 57(1) and 57(2); or
- (b) do or allow anything which would cause CCS or the Buyer, including any of their employees, consultants, contractors, Subcontractors or agents to breach any of the Relevant Requirements or incur any liability under them.

27.2 The Supplier must during the Contract Period:

- (a) create, maintain and enforce adequate policies and procedures to ensure it complies with the Relevant Requirements to prevent a Prohibited Act and require its Subcontractors to do the same;
- (b) keep full records to show it has complied with its obligations under Clause 27 and give copies to CCS or the Buyer on request; and
- (c) if required by the Relevant Authority, within 20 Working Days of the Start Date of the relevant Contract, and then annually, certify in writing to the Relevant Authority, that they have complied with Clause 27, including compliance of Supplier Staff, and provide reasonable supporting evidence of this on request, including its policies and procedures.

27.3 The Supplier must immediately notify CCS and the Buyer if it becomes aware of any breach of Clauses 27.1 or 27.2 or has any reason to think that it, or any of the Supplier Staff, has either:

- (a) been investigated or prosecuted for an alleged Prohibited Act;
- (b) been debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or is otherwise ineligible to take part in procurement programmes or contracts because of a Prohibited Act by any government department or agency;
- (c) received a request or demand for any undue financial or other advantage of any kind related to a Contract; or
- (d) suspected that any person or Party directly or indirectly related to a Contract has committed or attempted to commit a Prohibited Act.

27.4 If the Supplier notifies CCS or the Buyer as required by Clause 27.3, the Supplier must respond promptly to their further enquiries, co-operate with any investigation and allow the Audit of any books, records and relevant documentation.

27.5 In any notice the Supplier gives under Clause 27.3 it must specify the:

- (a) Prohibited Act;
- (b) identity of the Party who it thinks has committed the Prohibited Act; and
- (c) action it has decided to take.

28. Equality, diversity and human rights

28.1 The Supplier must follow all applicable equality Law when they perform their obligations under the Contract, including:

- (a) protections against discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, gender reassignment, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, maternity, age or otherwise; and
- (b) any other requirements and instructions which CCS or the Buyer reasonably imposes related to equality Law.

28.2 The Supplier must take all necessary steps, and inform CCS or the Buyer of the steps taken, to prevent anything that is considered to be unlawful discrimination by any court or tribunal, or the Equality and Human Rights Commission (or any successor organisation) when working on a Contract.

29. Health and safety

29.1 The Supplier must perform its obligations meeting the requirements of:

- (a) all applicable Law regarding health and safety; and
- (b) the Buyer's current health and safety policy while at the Buyer's Premises, as provided to the Supplier.

29.2 The Supplier and the Buyer must as soon as possible notify the other of any health and safety incidents or material hazards they are aware of at the Buyer Premises that relate to the performance of a Contract.

30. Environment

30.1 When working on Site the Supplier must perform its obligations under the Buyer's current Environmental Policy, which the Buyer must provide.

30.2 The Supplier must ensure that Supplier Staff are aware of the Buyer's Environmental Policy.

31. Tax

31.1 The Supplier must not breach any Tax or social security obligations and must enter into a binding agreement to pay any late contributions due, including where applicable, any interest or any fines. CCS

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and the Buyer cannot terminate a Contract where the Supplier has not paid a minor Tax or social security contribution.

31.2 Where the Charges payable under a Contract with the Buyer are or are likely to exceed £5 million at any point during the relevant Contract Period, and an Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance occurs, the Supplier must notify CCS and the Buyer of it within 5 Working Days including:

- (a) the steps that the Supplier is taking to address the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance and any mitigating factors that it considers relevant; and
- (b) other information relating to the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance that CCS and the Buyer may reasonably need.

31.3 Where the Supplier or any Supplier Staff are liable to be taxed or to pay National Insurance contributions in the UK relating to payment received under an Order Contract, the Supplier must both:

- (a) comply with the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax, the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (including IR35) and National Insurance contributions; and
- (b) indemnify the Buyer against any Income Tax, National Insurance and social security contributions and any other liability, deduction, contribution, assessment or claim arising from or made during or after the Contract Period in connection with the provision of the Deliverables by the Supplier or any of the Supplier Staff.

31.4 If any of the Supplier Staff are Workers who receive payment relating to the Deliverables, then the Supplier must ensure that its contract with the Worker contains the following requirements:

- (a) the Buyer may, at any time during the Contract Period, request that the Worker provides information which demonstrates they comply with Clause 31.3, or why those requirements do not apply, the Buyer can specify the information the Worker must provide and the deadline for responding;
- (b) the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker fails to provide the information requested by the Buyer within the time specified by the Buyer;
- (c) the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker provides information which the Buyer considers is not good enough to demonstrate how it complies with Clause 31.3 or confirms that the Worker is not complying with those requirements; and
- (d) the Buyer may supply any information they receive from the Worker to HMRC for revenue collection and management.

32. Conflict of interest

- 32.1 The Supplier must take action to ensure that neither the Supplier nor the Supplier Staff are placed in the position of an actual or potential Conflict of Interest.
- 32.2 The Supplier must promptly notify and provide details to CCS and each Buyer if a Conflict of Interest happens or is expected to happen.
- 32.3 CCS and each Buyer can terminate its Contract immediately by giving notice in writing to the Supplier or take any steps it thinks are necessary where there is or may be an actual or potential Conflict of Interest.

33. Reporting a breach of the contract

- 33.1 As soon as it is aware of it the Supplier and Supplier Staff must report to CCS or the Buyer any actual or suspected breach of:
- (a) Law;
 - (b) Clause 12.1; or
 - (c) Clauses 27 to 32.
- 33.2 The Supplier must not retaliate against any of the Supplier Staff who in good faith reports a breach listed in Clause 33.1 to the Buyer or a Prescribed Person.

34. Resolving disputes

- 34.1 If there is a Dispute, the senior representatives of the Parties who have authority to settle the Dispute will, within 28 days of a written request from the other Party, meet in good faith to resolve the Dispute.
- 34.2 If the Dispute is not resolved at that meeting, the Parties can attempt to settle it by mediation using the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) Model Mediation Procedure current at the time of the Dispute. If the Parties cannot agree on a mediator, the mediator will be nominated by CEDR. If either Party does not wish to use, or continue to use mediation, or mediation does not resolve the Dispute, the Dispute must be resolved using Clauses 34.3 to 34.5.
- 34.3 Unless the Relevant Authority refers the Dispute to arbitration using Clause 34.4, the Parties irrevocably agree that the courts of England and Wales have the exclusive jurisdiction to:
- (a) determine the Dispute;
 - (b) grant interim remedies; and/or
 - (c) grant any other provisional or protective relief.

- 34.4 The Supplier agrees that the Relevant Authority has the exclusive right to refer any Dispute to be finally resolved by arbitration under the London Court of International Arbitration Rules current at the time of the Dispute. There will be only one arbitrator. The seat or legal place of the arbitration will be London and the proceedings will be in English.
- 34.5 The Relevant Authority has the right to refer a Dispute to arbitration even if the Supplier has started or has attempted to start court proceedings under Clause 34.3, unless the Relevant Authority has agreed to the court proceedings or participated in them. Even if court proceedings have started, the Parties must do everything necessary to ensure that the court proceedings are stayed in favour of any arbitration proceedings if they are started under Clause 34.4.
- 34.6 The Supplier cannot suspend the performance of a Contract during any Dispute.

35. Which law applies

This Contract and any Disputes arising out of, or connected to it, are governed by English law.