

#### CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF CLIMATE AMBITION SUPPORT ALLIANCE PHASE 2 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ENERGY AND INDUSTRIAL STRATEGY (THE CONTRACT OFFER LETTER)

Contract number: con\_3096

Project reference number: prj\_9

This Contract is dated 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022 and is made between:-

1. The Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (the "Authority", "BEIS") of 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, acting as part of the Crown;

and

2. DAI Global UK Ltd. (the "Contractor", "DAI") whose registered office is at 3rd Floor Block C, Westside, Apsley, Hertfordshire, HP3 9TD.

#### INTRODUCTION

- (A) On 15 June 2022 the Authority issued an invitation to tender for the provision of Services to deliver the Climate Ambition Support Alliance (CASA) Phase 2 ("the project") - including the specification a copy of which is set out in Schedule 2 (the "Specification").
- (B) In response the Contractor submitted a proposal dated 10 August 2022 and entitled Climate Ambition Support Alliance (CASA) Phase 2, Technical Proposal explaining how it would provide the Services a copy of which is set out in Schedule 3 (the "Proposal").
- (C) The Specification and the Proposal were supplemented by the correspondence copies of which are set out in Schedule 5 (the "Correspondence").

The parties agree as follows:-

#### 1. SUPPLY OF SERVICES AND PRICE

In consideration of payment by the Authority to the Contractor of the sums set out in Schedule 4 (inclusive of Value Added Tax) (the "Contract Price") and in accordance with (a) the Specification; (b) the Contractor's Proposal; and (c) the Authority's Standard Terms and Conditions of Contract for Services (the "Standard Terms") (a copy of which is attached at Schedule 1); (d) the Correspondence the Contractor shall provide the Services described in the Specification and the Contractor's Proposal and the to the Authority.

#### 2. COMMENCEMENT AND CONTINUATION

- 2.1 This Contract shall commence on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2022 and subject to any provisions for earlier termination contained in the Standard Terms shall end on 31 March 2025 unless extended in accordance with the principles laid out in the Authority's Invitation to Tender.
- 2.2 If agreed by both parties, the Contract may be extended beyond the initial term by up to 24 months. Take-up of any extension period is subject to the Authority's approval and the continuing needs of the Contract. These extension periods may be used on a no-cost or an additional cost basis subject to the approval of the Authority.

#### 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 3.1 The Standard Terms shall form part of this Contract.
- 3.2 The Contractor's terms and conditions of business shall not apply to this Contract.
- 3.3 This Contract is formed of these clauses and the Schedules hereto. Any other attachments are provided for information purposes only and are not intended to be legally binding. In the event of any conflict or inconsistency, the documents prevail in the following order:
  - a) these clauses;
  - b) the Standard Terms (as set out in Schedule 1);
  - c) the Correspondence (as set out in Schedule 5);
  - d) the Specification (as set out in Schedule 2) and Contract Price (as set out in Schedule 4); and
  - e) the Contractor's Proposal (as set out in Schedule 3)
  - f) the remaining Schedules

(save that where the Contractor's Proposals contain a provision requiring a higher standard of service provision, the Authority may (at its discretion and for no additional remuneration confirm that such higher standard applies).

#### 4. CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS

4.1 Where the Contractor is supplying goods to the Authority these shall be delivered to the Authority in full compliance with the Specification and shall be of satisfactory quality and fit for purpose. Where the Contractor is performing Services for the Authority it shall do so in accordance with the Specification and exercise reasonable skill and care.

#### 5. MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 5.1 The Contractor shall perform the Services under the direction of the Authority.
- 5.2 Any direction by the Authority may be given by REDACTED [REDACTED@beis.gov.uk], Senior Programme Manager (the "Contract Manager") who is an officer in the Authority's International Net Zero Directorate or such other person as is notified by the Authority to the Contractor in writing. All queries (including any notice or communication

required to be provided under this Contract) to the Authority from Contractor shall initially be addressed to the Contract Manager.

- 5.3 The Contractor appoints REDACTED, Senior Manager, London Road, Westside Campus, HP3 9TD Hemel Hempstead, REDACTED@dai.com to be the Contractor's first point of contact for this Contract. All queries (including any notice or communication required to be provided under this Contract) to the Contractor from the Authority's Contract Manager shall initially be addressed to the Contractor's first point of contact.
- 5.4 The Contractor's first point of contact and the Contract Manager shall meet as often as either the Contractor or the Authority may require to review the Contractor's performance of the Contract.

#### 6. INVOICES AND PAYMENT

6.1 Subject to the Contractor providing Services to the Authority in accordance with this Contract and submitting invoice/s to the Contract Manager in the manner reasonably required by the Contract Manager payment will be made by the Authority to the Contractor in accordance with condition 17 of the Standard Terms.

#### 7. TRANSPARENCY

- 7.1 The Authority will publish the Contract and the Schedules hereto on a designated government internet site, using a redacted version of the contract The Authority will make the decision on the specific redactions to be made in light of the exemptions under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) and Condition 40 of the Standard Terms.
- 7.2 However, subject to those redactions, the rest of the Contract and Schedules will be published in full, in accordance with the government's policy on the publication of contracts, which forms part of the government's transparency agenda, and the Contract is therefore entered into on the basis of such publication taking place.
- 7.3 The Authority emphasises that its decision to redact information on this occasion does not preclude it publishing such information in the future in the context of other contracts. Neither does it preclude the disclosure of such information in the circumstances of a request for disclosure under FOIA or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (EIR) or where such disclosure is required by virtue of any other legal requirement. In such cases, the Authority would need to consider disclosure in the context of the particular circumstances of the request or requirement concerned.

Signed by the parties' duly authorised representatives.

Signatures will be processed through the Authority's e-signature platform and the signature page attached to this contract.

## For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Print Name: REDACTED

Job Title: Deputy Director

#### For DAI Global UK Ltd.

Print Name: REDACTED

Job Title: Senior VP

#### The following Schedules form part of this Contract:

Schedule 1	The Authority's Standard Terms & Conditions of Contract for Services
Schedule 2	The Authority's Specification
Schedule 3	The Contractor's Proposal
Schedule 4	Contract Price
Schedule 5	The Correspondence
Schedule 6	Expenses Policy and Eligible Costs Guidance
Schedule 7	Performance Management
Schedule 8	Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects schedule
Schedule 9	Variation Template

#### Annex 1 SME MI Reporting Template

Suppliers are required to provide data on their direct spend with SMEs in the supply chain relating to the Contract on a template provided by the Authority.

REDACTED

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

# SCHEDULE 1 - BEIS STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT FOR SERVICES

#### INDEX

SIGN	IED BY THE PARTIES' DULY AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES
AND	IATURES WILL BE PROCESSED THROUGH THE AUTHORITY'S E-SIGNATURE PLATFORM THE SIGNATURE PAGE ATTACHED TO THIS CONTRACT
FOR	DAI GLOBAL UK LTD
1	DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATIONS
2	CONFLICT13
3	ENTIRE AGREEMENT
4	ACTS BY THE AUTHORITY14
5	CONTRACTOR STATUS14
6	ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACTING14
7	AMENDMENTS AND VARIATIONS15
8	INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL TO THE CONTRACTOR
9	TRANSPARENCY16
10	CONFIDENTIALITY
11	FREEDOM OF INFORMATION17
12	DATA PROTECTION
13	BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION
14	OFFICIAL SECRETS
15	CONTRACTOR'S PERSONNEL
16	GOVERNMENT PROPERTY
17	INVOICES AND PAYMENT
18	ACCOUNTS
19	RECOVERY OF SUMS DUE
20	VALUE ADDED TAX
21	PROVISION OF SERVICES
22	CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
23	REPORTING, MONITORING AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION
24	INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS
25	RIGHTS OF THIRD PARTIES
26	INDEMNITIES AND LIABILITIES
27	INSURANCE
28	DISPUTE RESOLUTION
29	TERMINATION FOR INSOLVENCY OR CHANGE OF CONTROL
30	TERMINATION FOR BREACH OF CONTRACT
31	CANCELLATION
32	SUSPENSION OF THE SERVICES
33	CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION/EXPIRY

34	EXIT MANAGEMENT	39
35	CONSEQUENTIAL LOSSES	42
36	SURVIVAL OF TERMS	42
37	TRANSFER OF SERVICES	42
38	SERVICE OF NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS	43
39	FORCE MAJEURE	44
40	WAIVER	44
41	SEVERABILITY	44
42	PAYMENT OF TAXES: INCOME TAX AND NICS	44
43	PAYMENT OF TAXES: OCCASIONS OF TAX NON-COMPLIANCE	46
44	EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION	47
45	WELSH LANGUAGE ACT	48
46	SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT	48
47	CYBER ESSENTIALS	49
48	SAFEGUARDING	49
49	MODERN SLAVERY	50
50	OTHER LEGISLATION	52
51	HEALTH AND SAFETY	52
52	LAW AND JURISDICTION	52
1.	GLOSSARY	53
2.	INTRODUCTION	53
3.	BACKGROUND	54
4.	REQUIREMENTS OF THE SUPPLIER	60

#### 1 Definitions and Interpretations

(1) In these terms and conditions of contract for services, unless the context otherwise requires, capitalised expressions shall have the meanings set out below.

"Annex 1" means the Annex 1 (Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects schedule) attached to the Contract Offer Letter which forms part of this Contract;

"**Authority**" means the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy of 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, acting as part of the Crown;

"Authority's Premises" premises owned, controlled or occupied by the Authority which are made available for use by the Contractor or its subcontractors for provision of the Services (or any of them;

"**Charges**" means the Contract Price (or parts thereof) agreed in respect of the Services, excluding Value Added Tax (as more fully detailed in Schedule 4 of the Contract Offer Letter);

"Confidential Information": information in whatever form (including without limitation, in written, oral, visual or electronic form or on any magnetic or optical disk or memory and wherever located) relating to the business, activities, suppliers, products, affairs and finances of the Authority or any other department or office of her Majesty's Government or related to or connected with the Contract or the Services including, without limitation, technical data and know-how relating to Her Majesty's Government, the Contract or the Services or any of their suppliers, agents, management or contacts and including (but not limited to) information that the Contractor creates, develops, receives or obtains in connection with their Contract or the Services, whether or not such information (if in anything other than oral form) is marked confidential (but "Confidential Information" does not include the Contract itself and the provisions of the Contract where, or to the extent that, the Authority publishes them in the public domain);

"**Consents**" means all permissions, consents, approvals, certificates, permits, licenses and authorisations required for the performance of any of the Contractor's obligations under this Contract including for the avoidance of doubt environmental permits, planning permissions and obligations, consents of third parties (whether or not from a public authority or any other person whatsoever);

"**Contract**" means the agreement concluded between the Authority and the Contractor for the supply of Services, including without limitation the Contract Offer Letter (and Schedules thereto), Annex 1, these Standard Terms and Conditions (to the extent that they are not expressly excluded or modified), all specifications, plans, drawings and other documents which are incorporated into the agreement;

"**Contract Offer Letter**" means the offer letter that sets out inter-alia the Parties to the Contract and the key Contract terms;

"**Contract Period**" means the period from the commencement of this Contract to the date of expiry of this Contract set out in the Contract Offer Letter or such earlier date as this Contract is terminated in accordance with its terms;

"**Contract Year**" means a period of 12 consecutive months starting on the date of this Contract and each anniversary thereafter;

"**Contractor**" means the person who agrees to supply the Services and includes any person to whom all or part of the Contractor's obligations are assigned pursuant to Condition 6;

"**Contract Manager**" means the person nominated by the Authority to manage the Contract;

"**Contractor Personnel**" means all directors, officers, employees, other workers, agents, consultants, persons and contractors engaged by or on behalf (whether directly or indirectly) of the Contractor and of any subcontractor (of any tier) engaged in the performance of the Contractor's obligations under this Contract;

"**Contracts Finder**" means the Government's publishing portal for public sector procurement opportunities;

"Controller" shall have the same meaning as given in the UK GDPR;

**"Crown**" means the government of the United Kingdom (including the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive Committee, the Scottish Executive and the National Assembly for Wales) including, but not limited to, government ministers and government departments and particular bodies, persons and government agencies;

"**Data Loss Event**" means any event that results, or may result, in unauthorised access to Personal Data held by the Contractor under this Contract and/or actual or potential loss and/or alteration and/or destruction of Personal Data in breach of this Contract, including any Personal Data Breach;

"**Data Protection Impact Assessment**" means an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data;

"Data Protection Legislation" means:

- a. the UK GDPR and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time;
- b. the Data Protection Act 2018 to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy;
- c. all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy;

"Data Protection Officer" shall have the same meaning as given in the UK GDPR;

"Data Subject" shall have the same meaning as given in the UK GDPR;

"**Data Subject Request**" means 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;

"**Default**" means any breach of the obligations of the Contractor (including abandonment of a Contract in breach of its terms) or any other default (including material default), act, omission, negligence or statement of the Contractor, of any person acting on its behalf (including subcontractors) howsoever arising in connection with or in relation to the subject-matter of a Contract and in respect of which the Contractor is liable to the Authority;

"**Deliverables**" means any objectives or deliverables that are required to be provided by the Contractor as part of the Services under the Contract, or any goods ordered under the Contract including, without limitation, any documentation required to be provided; "Existing IPR" means 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 commencement of this Contract or otherwise);

"**Force Majeure**" means any of the below circumstances provided that they are not within a party's reasonable control including, only:

- a. acts of God, flood, drought, earthquake or other natural disaster;
- b. epidemic or pandemic;
- c. terrorist attack, civil war, civil commotion or riots, war, threat of or preparation for war, armed conflict, imposition of sanctions, embargo, or breaking off of diplomatic relations;
- d. nuclear, chemical or biological contamination or sonic boom;
- e. collapse of buildings, fire, explosion or accident; and
- f. interruption or failure of utility service.

"**Government Property**" means anything issued or otherwise furnished in connection with the Contract by or on behalf of the Authority, including but not limited to equipment, parts, materials, documents, papers or data issued in electronic form and any other materials;

"**Health and Safety Policy**" means the health and safety policy of the Authority as provided to the Contractor from time to time;

"Intellectual Property Rights" or "IPR" means patents, utility models, rights to inventions, copyright and neighbouring and related rights, moral rights, trade marks and service marks, business names and domain names, rights in get-up and trade dress, goodwill and the right to sue for passing off or unfair competition, rights in designs, rights in computer software, database rights, rights to use, and protect the confidentiality of, confidential information (including know-how and trade secrets) and all other intellectual property rights, in each case whether registered or unregistered and including all applications and rights to apply for and be granted, renewals or extensions of, and rights to claim priority from, such rights and all similar or equivalent rights or forms of protection which subsist or will subsist now or in the future in any part of the world;

"IPR Claim" means 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 Contractor (or to which the Contractor has provided access) to the Authority in the fulfilment of its obligations under the Contract;

"Law" means any legal provision the Contractor must comply with including any law, statute, 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 (as implemented into UK law, by virtue of the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2018 (as amended by the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020)), regulation, order, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements of any regulatory body;

"Material Breach" means a material breach of the Contract, which, for the avoidance of doubt, shall include:

- a. the failure on the part of the Contractor to provide a Rectification Plan to the Authority within 10 Working Days of being so requested;
- b. the Contractor's proposed Rectification Plan is rejected by the Authority in line with Conditions (4) and b; or
- c. failure to deliver on an agreed Rectification Plan;

"**MI Reporting Template**" means the document (included as an annex to the Contract Offer Letter) as amended in accordance with Condition 23;

"New IPR" means a) IPR in Deliverables or other items created by the Contractor (or by a third party on behalf of the Contractor) specifically for the purposes of the Contract and updates and amendments of these items including (but not limited to) database schema; and/or b) IPR in or arising as a result of the performance of the Contractor's obligations under the Contract and all updates and amendments to the same; but shall not include the Contractor's Existing IPR;

"**Open Book Data**" means complete and accurate financial and non-financial information which is sufficient to enable the Authority to verify the Charges already paid or payable and Charges forecast to be paid during the remainder of the Contract, including details and all assumptions relating to:

- a. the Contractor's costs broken down against each 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:
  - i. the unit costs and quantity of goods and any other consumables and bought-in Deliverables;
  - work force resources broken down into the number and grade/role of all Contractor Personnel (free of any contingency) together with a list of agreed rates against each work force grade;
  - iii. a list of costs underpinning those rates for each work force grade, being the agreed rate less the Contractor profit margin;
  - iv. and reimbursable expenses, if allowed under the Purchase Order form;
- c. overheads; and all interest, expenses and any other third-party financing costs incurred in relation to the provision of the Deliverables;
- d. the Contractor's profit achieved over the Contract period and on an annual basis;
- e. confirmation that all methods of cost apportionment and overhead allocation are consistent with and not more onerous than such methods applied generally by the Contractor;
- f. 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
- g. the actual costs profile for each service period;

"Party" means a Party to this Contract, and "Parties" shall mean both of them;

"Personal Data" shall have the same meaning as given in the UK GDPR;

"Personal Data Breach" shall have the same meaning as given in the UK GDPR;

"Processor" shall have the same meaning as given in the UK GDPR;

"Protective Measures" means any 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;

"**Purchase Order**" means the document so described by the Authority to purchase the Services which makes reference to the Conditions;

"**Rectification Plan**" means a plan (or revised plan) by the Contractor to rectify a Default, which shall include:

- a. full details of the Default that has occurred, including a root cause analysis;
- b. the actual or anticipated effect of the Default;
- c. the steps which the Contractor proposes to take to rectify the Default and to prevent such Default from recurring, including the Contractor's proposed timescales for such rectification;
- d. an analysis of the Contractor's ability to provide the Services and Deliverables under the Contract; and
- e. any reasonably foreseeable events that may impact on the Contractor's ability to comply with the measures contained within the Rectification Plan.

"**Required Insurances**" means those insurances required pursuant to Conditions **Error! Reference source not found.** and (1);

"**Services**" means the services including the Deliverables to be supplied under the Contract;

**"SME**" means an enterprise falling within the category of micro, small and mediumsized enterprises defined by the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises;

"**Standard Terms and Conditions**" means the terms and conditions contained in this document;

"**Sub-Processor**" means any third Party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of the Contractor related to this Contract;

"**UK GDPR**" the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 as retained into UK law by virtue of the Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019;

**"VCSE**" means a non-governmental organisation that is value-driven and which principally reinvests its surpluses to further social, environmental or cultural objectives.

**"Working Day"** means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in England and Wales.

- (2) The interpretation and construction of the Contract shall (save where context requires otherwise) be subject to the following provisions:
  - a. a reference to any statute, enactment, order, regulation or similar instrument shall be construed as a reference to the statute, enactment,

order, regulation or instrument as subsequently amended or reenacted;

- b. a reference to any agreement, consent, permission or other document at a particular time shall be construed as a reference to it as it may then have been amended, restated, varied, supplemented, modified, suspended, assigned or novated;
- c. a reference to this Contract includes any schedules or annexures to this Contract;
- d. references in the singular shall include references in the plural and vice versa;
- e. a reference to a "day" means a calendar day, a reference to a "month" means a calendar month and a reference to a "year" means a calendar year;
- f. the *ejusdem generis* rule shall not apply and references to "includes", "including", "in particular", "other", "otherwise" or any such similar terms shall be construed without limitation;
- g. the headings in this Contract are for ease of reference only and shall not affect the interpretation or construction of the Contract;
- any reference to European Union law that is directly applicable or directly effective in the UK at any time is a reference to it as it applies in England from time to time including as retained, amended, extended, re-enacted or otherwise given effect on or after 11pm on 31 December 2020; and
- i. references to "person", any person, firm, company, corporation, government (including any government department), state or agency of a state, or any association, trust or partnership.

## 2 Conflict

In the case of any conflict or inconsistency between these Standard Terms and Conditions and any specific terms of the Contract:

- (1) the specific term of the Contract dealing with conflicts shall determine which provision shall prevail; or
- (2) (if applicable) where there is no such specific conflicts provision in the Contract then, the specific terms of the Contract shall prevail (save that these Standard Terms and Conditions shall prevail over and above any terms, conditions or provisions set out in any Contractor's proposals or terms and conditions provided by the Contractor).

## 3 Entire Agreement

The Contract constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the Parties and supersedes all prior written and oral representations, assurances, warranties, representations, agreements or understandings between them relating to the subject matter of the Contract provided that neither Party excludes liability for fraudulent misrepresentations upon which the other Party has relied.

Subject to any liability for fraudulent misrepresentation, each Party agrees that it shall have no remedies in respect of any statement, representation, assurance or warranty (whether made innocently or negligently) that is not set out in this Contract.

## 4 Acts by the Authority

Any decision, act or thing which the Authority is required or authorised to take or do under the Contract may be taken or done by any person authorised, either expressly or impliedly, by the Authority to take or do that decision, act or thing.

## 5 Contractor Status

Nothing in the Contract shall create or be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture, a contract of employment or relationship of employer and employee, or a relationship of principal and agent between the Authority and the Contractor. Nor shall anything in this Contract entitle the Contractor to make or enter in to any agreements or commitments for or on behalf of the other Party.

## 6 Assignment and Subcontracting

- (1) The Contractor shall not give, bargain, assign, transfer, mortgage, charge, delegate, declare a trust over, sell, assign, subcontract or otherwise dispose of the Contract or any part thereof without the previous agreement in writing of the Authority.
- (2) The Contractor shall not use the services of self-employed individuals in connection with the Contract without the previous agreement in writing of the Authority.
- (3) If the Contractor uses a subcontractor for the purpose of performing the Services or any part of it, the Contractor shall include in the relevant contract a provision which requires the Contractor to pay for those goods or services within 30 days of the Contractor receiving a correct invoice from the subcontractor.
- (4) Notwithstanding any subcontracting by the Contractor in accordance with this Condition 6, the Contractor shall remain responsible for all acts and omissions of its subcontractors and the acts and omissions of those employed or engaged by its subcontractors as if they were its own.
- (5) The Authority shall be entitled to assign any or all of its rights under the Contract to any "contracting authority" as defined in Regulation 2(1) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
- (6) Where the Authority notifies the Contractor that it estimates the Charges payable under this Contract are due to exceed REDACTED in one or more Contract Years the Contractor shall:
  - a. subject to Condition (9), advertise on Contracts Finder all subcontract opportunities arising from or in connection with the provision of the Goods and/or Services and/or Works above REDACTED that arise during the Contract Period;
  - b. within 90 days of awarding a subcontract to a subcontractor, update the notice on Contracts Finder with details of the successful subcontractor;
  - monitor the number, type and value of the subcontract opportunities placed on Contracts Finder advertised and awarded in its supply chain during the Contract Period;
  - d. provide reports on the information in Condition (6)c to the Authority in the format and frequency as reasonably specified by the Authority; and

- e. promote Contracts Finder to its Contractors and encourage those organisations to register on Contracts Finder.
- (7) Each advert referred to in Condition (6)a above shall provide a full and detailed description of the subcontract opportunity with each of the mandatory fields being completed on Contracts Finder by the Contractor.
- (8) The obligation in Condition (6)a shall only apply in respect of subcontract opportunities arising after the date of the commencement of the Contract.
- (9) Notwithstanding Condition (6), the Authority may, by giving its prior written approval, agree that a subcontract opportunity is not required to be advertised on Contracts Finder.

## 7 Amendments and Variations

No amendment or variation to the terms of the Contract shall be valid unless agreed in writing between the Authority and the Contractor.

#### 8 Information Confidential to the Contractor

(1) Unless agreed expressly by both Parties:

- a. in writing; and
- b. in a confidentiality agreement identifying the relevant information,

information obtained by the Authority from the Contractor shall not constitute confidential information relating to the Contractor.

- (2) Where any information held by the Authority does constitute confidential information relating to the Contractor, the Authority shall nonetheless have the right to disclose that information:
  - a. on a confidential basis to any other government department or agency for any proper purpose of the Authority or of that department or agency;
  - b. to Parliament and Parliamentary Committees or if required by any Parliamentary reporting requirement;
  - c. to the extent that the Authority (acting reasonably) deems disclosure necessary or appropriate in the course of carrying out its public functions;
  - d. to report a suspected criminal offence to the police or any law enforcement agency or co-operating with the police or any law enforcement agency regarding a criminal investigation or prosecution;
  - e. to comply with an order from a court or tribunal to disclose or give evidence;
  - f. to make a disclosure required by law or required by HMRC, a regulator, ombudsman or other supervisory authority;
  - g. on a confidential basis to a professional adviser, consultant, Contractor or other person engaged by any of the entities described in Condition (2)a (including any benchmarking organisation) for any purpose relating to or connected with the Contract or the Services;
  - h. on a confidential basis for the purpose of the exercise of its rights under the Contract; or
  - i. on a confidential basis to a proposed successor body in connection with any assignment, novation or disposal of any of its rights, obligations or liabilities under the Contract.

(3) For the purpose of clause (2) of this Condition, references to disclosure on a confidential basis mean disclosure subject to a confidentiality agreement.

#### 9 Transparency

- (1) In order to comply with the Government's policy on transparency in the areas of procurement and contracts, the Authority will, subject to Conditions 0 and (3), publish the Contract and the tender documents issued by the Authority which led to its creation on a designated web site.
- (2) The entire Contract and all the tender documents issued by the Authority will be published on that web site save where the Authority, in its absolute discretion, considers that the relevant documents, or their contents, would be exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("FOIA").
- (3) Where the Authority considers that any such exemption applies, the Authority will redact the relevant documents to the extent that the Authority considers the redaction is necessary to remove or obscure the relevant material, and those documents will be published on the designated web site subject to those redactions.
- (4) Where the Parties later agree changes to the contract, the Authority will publish those changes, and will consider any redaction, on the same basis.
- (5) In Condition 9, the expression "tender documents" means the advertisement issued by the Authority seeking expressions of interest, the pre-qualification questionnaire and the invitation to tender and the contract includes the Contractor's proposal.

#### 10 Confidentiality

- (1) The Contractor agrees not to disclose any Confidential Information to any third party without the prior written consent of the Authority. To the extent that it is necessary for the Contractor to disclose Confidential Information to its staff, agents and subcontractors, the Contractor shall ensure that such staff, agents and subcontractors are subject to the same obligations as the Contractor in respect of all Confidential Information.
- (2) Condition (1) shall not apply to information which:
  - a. is or becomes public knowledge (otherwise than by breach of these Conditions or a breach of an obligation of confidentiality);
  - b. is in the possession of the Contractor, without restriction as to its disclosure, before receiving it from the Authority or any other department or office of Her Majesty's Government;
  - c. is required by law to be disclosed;
  - d. was independently developed by the Contractor without access to the Confidential Information.
- (3) The obligations contained in this Condition shall continue to apply after the expiry or termination of the Contract.

- (4) The Contractor shall comply with any security requirements and instructions issued by the Authority in relation to any document classified as "Official – Sensitive", "Confidential", "Secret" or "Top Secret".
- (5) The Contractor shall not communicate with representatives of the general or technical press, radio, television or other communications media, with regard to the Contract, unless previously agreed in writing with the Authority.
- (6) Except with the prior consent in writing of the Authority, the Contractor shall not make use of the Contract or any Confidential Information otherwise than for the purposes of carrying out the Services.

#### 11 Freedom of Information

- (1) The Contractor acknowledges that the Authority is subject to the requirements of FOIA and the Environmental Information Regulations SI 2004 No. 3391 ("EIR") and shall provide all necessary assistance and cooperation as reasonably requested by the Authority to enable the Authority to comply with its obligations under the FOIA and the EIRs.
- (2) In this Condition:

"**Information**" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 84 of the FOIA (and also includes "environmental information" as defined in the EIR;

**"Request for Information**" has the meaning ascribed to it in section 8 of the FOIA, or means any request for environmental information to which the EIR applies or any apparent request for information or environmental information under the FOIA or EIR.

- (3) The Contractor shall (and shall procure that its subcontractors shall):
  - a. transfer any Request for Information to the Authority as soon as practicable after receipt and in any event within two Working Days;
  - b. provide the Authority with a copy of all Information in its possession or power in the form that the Authority requires within five Working Days (or such other period as the Authority may specify) of the Authority requesting that Information; and
  - c. provide all necessary assistance as reasonably requested by the Authority to enable it to respond to a Request for Information within the time for compliance set out in section 10 of the FOIA or regulation 5 of the EIR.
- (4) The Authority shall be responsible for determining, at its absolute discretion, whether any Information:
  - a. is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOA or the EIR;
  - b. is to be disclosed in response to a Request for Information.
- (5) In no event shall the Contractor respond directly to a Request of Information unless expressly authorised to do so in writing by the Authority.

- (6) The Contractor acknowledges that the Authority may, acting in accordance with the Freedom of Information Code of Practice (issued under section 45 of the FOIA in July 2018), be obliged under the FOIA or the EIR to disclose Information unless an exemption applies. The Authority may at its discretion consult the Contractor with regard to whether the FOIA applies to the Information and whether an exemption applies.
- (7) The Contractor shall ensure that all Information produced in the course of the Contract or relating to the Contract is retained for disclosure in accordance with law and shall permit the Authority to inspect such records as requested from time to time.
- (8) The Contractor acknowledges that any lists or schedules provided by it outlining information it deems confidential or commercially sensitive are of indicative value only and that the Authority may nevertheless be obliged to disclose information which the Contractor considers confidential in accordance with Conditions (4) and (6).

#### 12 Data Protection

- The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Authority is the Controller and the Contractor is the Processor. The only processing that the Contractor is authorised to do is listed in Annex 1 of this Contract by the Authority and may not be determined by the Contractor.
- (2) The Contractor shall notify the Authority immediately if it considers that any of the Authority's instructions infringe the Data Protection Legislation.
- (3) The Contractor shall provide all reasonable assistance to the Authority in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to commencing any processing. Such assistance may, at the discretion of the Authority, include:
  - a. a systematic description of the envisaged processing operations and the purpose of the processing;
  - b. an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the Services;
  - 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.
- (4) The Contractor shall, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Contract:
  - a. process that Personal Data only in accordance with Annex 1, unless the Contractor is required to do otherwise by Law. If it is so required the Contractor shall promptly notify the Authority before processing the Personal Data unless prohibited by Law;
  - b. ensure that it has in place Protective Measures, as appropriate to protect against a Data Loss Event, which the Authority may reasonably reject (but failure to reject shall not amount to approval by the Authority

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 Data Loss Event;
- iii. state of technological development; and
- iv. cost of implementing any measures;

The review and approval of the Protective Measures by the Authority shall not relieve the Contractor of its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation, and the Contractor acknowledges that it is solely responsible for determining whether such Protective Measures are sufficient for it to have met its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation.

- c. ensure that:
  - i. the Contractor Personnel do not process Personal Data except in accordance with this Contract and in particular Annex 1;
  - ii. it takes all reasonable steps to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Contractor Personnel who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:
    - 1. are aware of and comply with the Contractor's duties under this Condition;
    - 2. are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Contractor or any Sub-Processor;
    - 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 Authority or as otherwise permitted by this Contract; and
    - 4. have undergone adequate training in the use, care, protection and handling of Personal Data;
- d. not transfer Personal Data outside of the UK unless the prior written consent of the Authority has been obtained and provided the following conditions are fulfilled:
  - the Authority or the Contractor has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer in accordance with guidance issued by the UK Government or body appointed by the Government and approved by the Authority;
  - ii. the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
  - iii. the Contractor 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 Authority in meeting its obligations); and
  - iv. the Contractor complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Authority with respect to the processing of the Personal Data.
- (5) Subject to clause (6) below, the Contractor shall notify the Authority immediately if it:

- a. receives a Data Subject Request (or purported Data Subject 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 this 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 Data Loss Event.
- (6) The Contractor's obligation to notify under clause (5) of this Condition shall include the provision of further information to the Authority in phases, as details become available.
- (7) Taking into account the nature of the processing, the Contractor shall provide the Authority with full assistance in relation to either Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation and any complaint, communication or request made under Condition (5) (and insofar as possible within the timescales reasonably required by the Authority) including by promptly providing:
  - a. the Authority with full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;
  - b. such assistance as is reasonably requested by the Authority to enable the Authority to comply with a Data Subject Request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation;
  - c. the Authority, at its request, with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject;
  - d. assistance as requested by the Authority following any Data Loss Event; and
  - e. assistance as requested by the Authority with respect to any request from the Information Commissioner's Office, or any consultation by the Authority with the Information Commissioner's Office.
- (8) The Contractor shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this Condition. This requirement does not apply where the Contractor employs fewer than 250 staff, unless:
  - a. the Authority determines that the processing is not occasional;
  - b. the Authority 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; and
  - c. the Authority determines that the processing is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.
- (9) The Contractor shall allow for audits of its Data Processing activity by the Authority or the Authority's designated auditor.
- (10) The Contractor shall designate a Data Protection Officer if required by the Data Protection Legislation.

- (11) Before allowing any Sub-Processor to process any Personal Data related to this Contract, the Contractor must:
  - a. notify the Authority in writing of the intended Sub-Processor and processing;
  - b. obtain the written consent of the Authority;
  - c. enter into a written agreement with the Sub-Processor which give effect to the terms set out in this Condition 12 such that they apply to the Sub-Processor; and
  - d. provide the Authority with such information regarding the Sub-Processor as the Authority may reasonably require.
- (12) The Contractor shall remain fully liable for all acts or omissions of any of its Sub-Processors.
- (13) The Authority may, at any time on not less than 30 Working Days' notice, revise this Condition 12 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 this Contract).
- (14) The Parties agree to take account of any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office. The Authority may on not less than 30 Working Days' notice to the Contractor amend this Contract to ensure that it complies with any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office.
- (15) If the Contractor fails to comply with any provision of this Condition 12, the Authority may terminate the Contract immediately in which event the provisions of Condition 33 shall apply.
- (16) The Contractor shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority against all claims and proceedings, and all costs and expenses incurred by it in connection therewith, made or brought against the Authority by any person in respect of the Data Protection Legislation or equivalent applicable legislation in any other country which claims would not have arisen but for some act, omission, misrepresentation or negligence on the part of the Contractor, its subcontractors and/or its Sub-Processors and hold it harmless against all costs, fines, losses and liability whatsoever incurred by it arising out of any action or inaction on its part in relation to any of its obligations as set out in this Contract which results in the Authority being in breach of its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation or equivalent applicable legislation in any other country.
- (17) Upon expiry or earlier termination of this Contract for whatever reason, the Contractor shall, unless otherwise specified in Annex 1 or required by Law, immediately cease any processing of the Personal Data on the Authority's behalf and at the written direction of the Authority:
  - a. provide the Authority with a complete and uncorrupted version of the Personal Data in electronic form (or such other format as reasonably required by the Authority); and

- b. delete the Personal Data (and any copies of it) including from any computers, storage devices and storage media that are to be retained by the Contractor after the expiry of the Contract. The Contractor will certify to the Authority that it has completed such deletion.
- (18) Where the Contractor is required to collect any Personal Data on behalf of the Authority, it shall ensure that it provides the relevant Data Subjects from whom the Personal Data are collected with a privacy notice in a form to be agreed with the Authority.

## 13 Bribery and Corruption

- (1) The Contractor shall not, and shall ensure that its Contractor Personnel do not:
  - a. offer or promise, to any person employed or engaged by or on behalf of the Authority, any financial or other advantage as an inducement or reward for the improper performance of a function or activity, or for showing or not showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to this Contract or any other contract with the Authority;
  - b. agree to receive or accept any financial or other advantage as an inducement or reward for any improper performance of a function or activity in relation to this Contract or any other contract with the Authority; or
  - c. enter into the Contract or any other contract with the Authority or any other department or office of Her Majesty's Government in connection with which commission has been paid, or agreed to be paid by the Contractor or on the Contractor's behalf, or to the Contractor's knowledge, unless, before the Contract is made, particulars of any such commission and the terms and conditions of any agreement for the payment thereof, have been disclosed in writing to any person duly authorised by the Authority to act as its representative for the purpose of this Condition.
- (2) Nothing contained in this Condition shall prevent the Contractor paying such commission or bonuses to the Contractor's own staff in accordance with their agreed contracts of employment.
- (3) Any breach of this Condition by the Contractor, or by any person employed or engaged by the Contractor or acting on the Contractor's behalf (whether with or without the Contractor's knowledge), or any act or omission by the Contractor, or by such other person, in contravention of the Bribery Act 2010 or any other anti-corruption law, in relation to this Contract or any other contract with the Authority, shall entitle the Authority to terminate the Contractor the amount of any loss resulting from such termination, and the amount of the value of any such gift, consideration or commission as the Authority shall think fit.
- (4) In any dispute, difference or question arising in respect of:
  - a. the interpretation of this Condition (except so far as the same may relate to the amount recoverable from the Contractor under clause (2)

of this Condition in respect of any loss resulting from such determination of the Contract); or

- b. the right of the Authority to determine the Contract; or
- c. the amount or value of any gift, consideration or commission,

the decision of the Authority shall be final and conclusive.

#### 14 Official Secrets

The Contractor's attention is drawn to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989. The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps by display of notices or by other appropriate means to ensure that all persons employed in connection with the Contract have notice that these statutory provisions apply to them and will continue so to apply after the expiry or early termination of the Contract.

#### 15 Contractor's Personnel

- (1) The Authority reserves the right to refuse to admit to the Authority's Premises any person employed or engaged by the Contractor or its subcontractors, whose admission would be undesirable in the opinion (and at the discretion) of the Authority.
- (2) If and when requested by the Authority, the Contractor shall provide a list of the names and addresses of all persons who may at any time require admission (in connection with the performance of the Services) to the Authority's Premises, specifying the role in which each such person is concerned with the Contractor and giving such other particulars as the Authority may require.
- (3) If and when requested by the Authority, the Contractor shall procure from each person identified by the request, a signed statement that they understand that the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989 applies to them both during the carrying out and after expiry or termination of the Contract and that they will comply with the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989 in so far as they apply to the work/Services they are performing under the Contract.
- (4) If and when requested by the Authority the Contractor agrees that it will submit any person employed or engaged by the Contractor or its subcontractors to the Authority's security vetting procedure. The Contractor further agrees that any individual who refuses to submit to such vetting procedure or does not attain the clearance required by the Authority, will not carry out any work/Services on the Contract which the Authority certifies as suitable only for people who have passed its security vetting procedure.
- (5) If the Contractor fails to comply with clauses (1), (2) or (3) of this Condition and the Authority decides that such failure is prejudicial to its interests, the Authority may immediately terminate the Contract by notice in writing to the Contractor, provided that such termination shall be without prejudice to any accrued rights of, or to any rights that shall accrue thereafter to, the Authority.
- (6) No action of the Authority under this Condition shall entitle the Contractor to any additional costs or charges (this includes any requirement of the Authority

to replace any personnel). Further no action of the Authority under this Condition shall entitle the Contractor to any relief in respect of its obligations under this Contract.

(7) The Contractor's attention is drawn to the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989. The Contractor shall take all reasonable steps by display of notices or by other appropriate means to ensure that all persons employed in connection with the Contract have notice that these statutory provisions apply to them and will continue so to apply after the expiry or early termination of the Contract.

#### **16 Government Property**

- (1) All Government Property shall remain the property of the Authority and shall be used in the execution of the Contract and for no other purpose whatsoever except with the prior agreement in writing of the Authority. Save where this Contract states to the contrary, the Contractor shall not be entitled to the provision of any Government Property to carry out the Services. Further, the Authority shall not be obliged to replace any item of the Government Property provided.
- (2) All Government Property shall be deemed to be in good condition when received by or on behalf of the Contractor unless the Authority is notified to the contrary within 14 days or such other time as is specified in the Contract. The Contractor shall be responsible for the maintenance of any of the Government Property provided to it at its own expense. To the greatest extent permissible by law, the Authority does not guarantee, warrant or give any assurances as to the age, state of repair or suitability for use in the Services of any item of the Government Property provided and the Contractor hereby acknowledges that it has carried out its own due diligence including inspections of such Government Property and has satisfied itself as to the condition and suitability of each item for use in the provision of the Services and accordingly the Contractor shall not be relieved from any liability in relation to any failure to provide the Services or any part of them where such failure is caused by a failure in of or the unsuitability of any of the Government Property provided.
- (3) The Contractor undertakes to return any and all Government Property on completion of the Contract or on any earlier request by the Authority.
- (4) The Contractor shall, except as otherwise provided for in the Contract repair or replace or, at the option of the Authority, pay compensation for all loss, destruction or damage occurring to any Government Property caused or sustained by the Contractor, or by the Contractor's servants, agents or subcontractors, whether or not arising from the Contractor's or their performance of the Contract and wherever occurring, provided that if the loss, destruction or damage occurs at the Authority's Premises or any other Government premises, this Condition shall not apply to the extent that the Contractor is able to show that any such loss, destruction or damage was not caused or contributed to by the Contractor's negligence or default or the neglect or default of the Contractor's servants, agents, or subcontractors.

- (5) Where the Government Property comprises data issued in electronic form to the Contractor (including Personal Data) the Contractor shall not store, copy, disclose or use such electronic data except as necessary for the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under the Contract (including its obligation to back up electronic data as provided in clause (5) below) or as otherwise expressly authorised in writing by the Authority.
- (6) The Contractor shall perform secure back-ups of all such electronic data in its possession and shall ensure that an up to date back up copy is securely stored at a site other than that where any original copies of such electronic data are being stored.
- (7) The Contractor shall, and shall procure that its subcontractors, agents and personnel, shall observe best practice when handling or in possession of any such electronic data. By way of example if the Contractor removes any such data or information from a Government establishment, or is sent such data or information by the Authority it shall ensure that the data and any equipment on which it is stored or is otherwise being processed is kept secure at all times. The Contractor shall impress on any of its subcontractors, agents and personnel who are required to handle or have possession of such electronic data that they must safeguard it all times, and shall not place it in jeopardy for example by leaving it unattended in a vehicle or on public transport or by transmitting or posting it by insecure means.
- (8) If at any time the Contractor suspects or has reason to believe that such electronic data has or may become corrupted, lost, destroyed, altered (other than to the extent that the Contractor alters it by lawful processing in accordance with its obligations under this contract) or so degraded as a result of the Contractor's default so as to be unusable then the Contractor shall notify the Authority immediately and inform the Authority of the remedial action the Contractor proposes to take.
- (9) The Contractor shall indemnify the Authority against all claims and proceedings, and all costs and expenses incurred in connection therewith arising from the corruption, loss, destruction, alteration (other than by lawful processing permitted by this Contract) or degradation of electronic data which claims would not have arisen but for some act, omission, misrepresentation or negligence on the part of the Contractor or subcontractors, agents and personnel and hold it harmless against all costs, losses and liability whatsoever incurred by it arising out of any action or inaction on its part in relation to any of its obligations as set out in this Contract which results in such corruption, loss or degradation.

## 17 Invoices and Payment

(1) The Contractor shall submit invoices at times or intervals required by the Authority in the Contract or otherwise. The Contractor shall ensure that any invoice it submits sets out the Authority's Purchase Order or contract number, the Charges and, where not all of the Services have been completed, the relevant part of the Charges with an appropriate breakdown of time worked, the part of the Services (if all the Services have not been completed) and period to which the invoice relates, and its confirmation that the Services (or relevant part of the Services referred to on the invoice) have been fully performed in accordance with this Contract.

- (2) In consideration of the provision of the Services by the Contractor, the Authority shall pay the Charges after receiving a correctly submitted invoice as set out in clause (1) above. Such payment shall normally be made within 30 days of receipt of the correctly submitted invoice.
- (3) The Contractor shall not be entitled to charge for the provision of any services that are not part of the Services agreed within the Contract, unless the Contract has been properly varied in advance in accordance with Condition 7.
- (4) Except as a result of default or negligence on the part of the Authority, if the Contractor either fails to provide, or, in the reasonable opinion of the Authority, has inadequately provided, any Services or Deliverables due under the Contract, the Authority may:
  - a. reduce payment in respect of those Services or Deliverables; and/or
  - recoup payment(s) already made in respect of those Services or Deliverables

without prejudice to any other rights or remedies of the Authority. Such reduction or recoup of payments shall be a reduction or recoupment in direct proportion to either: (A) the amount of the Services that have actually been provided in accordance with the Contract, or (B) (if lower) the value in the Services that have been fully provided in accordance with the Contract.

- (5) If the Contractor believes that payment for a correctly submitted invoice is overdue, the Contractor should, in the first instance, speak to the named contact on the face of the Contract. In the event that the problem is not resolved to the Contractor's satisfaction, they should write to the Head of Procurement at the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy setting out their case. The Head of Procurement shall ensure that the complaint is dealt with by an official who is independent of the main contact and that the Contractor is not treated adversely in future for having made a complaint.
- (6) For the purpose of calculating any statutory interest under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998, the relevant date for the payment of the debt shall be deemed to be the last day of a period of 30 days commencing on the day when the Authority received the invoice, or, if the Contractor had not completed the Services (or the part of the Services to which the invoice relates) before submitting the invoice, the last day of a period of 30 days commencing on the day when the Contractor completed the Services, (or the part of the Services to which the invoice relates).
- (7) Where the Contractor submits an invoice (including an electronic invoice) to the Authority in accordance with this Condition 17 the Authority will consider and verify that invoice in a timely fashion and shall make payment in accordance with this Condition 17.

- (8) Where the Contractor enters into a Subcontract, the Contractor shall include in that Subcontract:
  - a. provisions having the same effect as Condition (6) of this Contract; and
  - b. a provision requiring the counterparty to that Subcontract to include in any Subcontract which it awards provisions having the same effect as Condition (6).

In this clause (7), "**Subcontract**" means a contract between two or more suppliers, at any stage of remoteness from the Authority in a subcontracting chain, made wholly or substantially for the purpose of performing (or contributing to the performance of) the whole or any part of this Contract.

#### 18 Accounts

- (1) The Contractor shall keep full and proper accounts, records and vouchers relating to all expenditure reimbursed by the Authority and all payments made by the Authority in respect of the Services.
- (2) The Contractor shall permit the Authority acting by its officers, servants and agents or independent auditor on request and at all reasonable times to examine all accounts, records and vouchers at the offices of the Contractor or at such other places as the Authority shall direct, and to take copies of such accounts, records and vouchers and the Contractor shall provide the Authority or its independent auditor with such explanations relating to that expenditure as the Authority may request.
- (3) The Contractor shall ensure that the said accounts, records and vouchers are available for a period of six years after termination or expiry of the Contract.

#### 19 Recovery of Sums Due

- (1) The Authority may set off any amount owed by the Contractor to the Crown or any part of the Crown (including the Authority) against any amount due to the Contractor under this Contract or under any other agreement between the Contractor and the Authority.
- (2) If the Authority wishes to set off any amount owed by the Contractor to the Crown or any part of the Crown (including the Authority) against any amount due to the Contractor pursuant to Condition 17 it shall give notice to the Contractor within 15 days of receipt of the relevant invoice, setting out the Authority's reasons for withholding or retaining the relevant amounts.
- (3) The Contractor shall make any payments due to the Authority without any deduction whether by way of set-off, counterclaim, discount, abatement or otherwise, unless the Contractor has a valid court order requiring an amount equal to such deduction to be paid by the Authority to the Contractor.

#### 20 Value Added Tax

(1) If this Contract gives rise to a taxable supply for Value Added Tax purposes by the Contractor to the Authority under law from time to time in force, on the production of a valid Value Added Tax invoice, the Authority will pay to the

Contractor a sum equal to that Value Added Tax in respect of relevant amounts of the Charges that become payable in accordance with this Contract.

- (2) The Contractor shall provide to the Authority any information reasonably requested in relation to the amount of VAT chargeable in accordance with this Contract. Any invoice or other request for payment of monies due to the Contractor under the Contract shall, if they are a taxable person, be in the same form and contain the same information as if the same were a tax invoice for the purposes of Regulations made under the Value Added Tax Act 1994.
- (3) The Contractor shall, if so requested by the Authority, furnish such information as may reasonably be required by the Authority relating to the amount of Value Added Tax chargeable on the Services.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other clause of this Condition 20 a VAT invoice will not be valid for the purposes of charging VAT if more than twelve (12) months have elapsed since the time of supply.

#### 21 **Provision of Services**

- (1) The Contractor shall provide the Services (and the Deliverables):
  - a. in accordance with the requirements of this Contract (including the Specification);
  - b. in a manner which does not damage the Authority's reputation;
  - c. in accordance with Law;
  - d. in accordance with any applicable Consents;
  - e. exercising the reasonable skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness which would be expected from a reasonably and suitably skilled, trained and experienced person performing the relevant obligations;
  - f. in accordance with all appropriate and applicable standard specifications and standard codes of practice issued by the British Standards Institution or European Economic Community;

(in each case) to the reasonable satisfaction of the Authority (whose decision shall be final and conclusive as to the quality of Services provided). The Authority shall have the power to inspect and examine the performance of the Services at any location at which they are performed.

In the event of any conflict between the requirements set out in this Condition (1), the Contractor shall notify the Authority and the Authority shall instruct the Contractor as to which requirement should apply. The Contractor shall comply with any such instruction from the Authority (and such instruction shall not give rise to any variation to this Contract or right to any additional remuneration or relief whatsoever for the Contractor).

- (2) If the Authority reasonably considers that the Contractor has, except as a result of default or negligence on the part of the Authority:
  - a. provided inadequate Services or Deliverables; or
  - b. provided Services or Deliverables that are differing from those required under Contract in any material respect,

the Authority may request that the Contractor perform (or re-perform) the work correctly at the Contractor's expense, without prejudice to any other rights or remedies of the Authority.

- (3) If the Authority exercises its right under Condition 0 above, the work shall be performed to the Authority's reasonable satisfaction and within such reasonable time as may be specified by the Authority.
- (4) Without prejudice to any other rights or remedies of the Authority, if there is a Default, the Authority may request that the Contractor provide a Rectification Plan.
- (5) Where the Authority receives a proposed Rectification Plan, in line with Condition (3) above, it can either:
  - a. reject the proposed Rectification Plan; or
  - b. accept the Rectification Plan (without limitation) and the Contractor must immediately begin work on the proposed corrective measures and actions under the Rectification Plan at its own cost.
- (6) Where the Rectification Plan is rejected, the Authority:
  - a. must provide reasonable grounds for its decision; and
  - b. may request that the Contractor provides a revised Rectification Plan.
- (7) Where the Authority requests that the Contractor provides a revised Rectification Plan the Contractor must provide such a revised plan within five
   (5) Working Days of the date of such request except where otherwise agreed. The revised Rectification Plan must address the grounds given by the Authority for its initial rejection of the proposed Rectification Plan.
- (8) If the performance of the Contract by the Contractor is delayed by reason of any act on the part of the Authority or by industrial dispute (other than by an industrial dispute occurring within the Contractor's or its subcontractor's organisation) or any other cause which the Contractor could not have prevented then the Contractor shall be allowed a reasonable extension of time for completion. For the purposes of this Condition, the Contractor shall be deemed to have been able to prevent causes of delay that are within the reasonable control of the Contractor or Contractor Personnel.
- (9) Timely provision of the Services shall be of the essence of the Contract, including in relation to commencing the provision of the Services within the time agreed or on a specified date.
- (10) The Contractor warrants that it shall provide the Services with all due skill, care and diligence, and in accordance with good industry practice and legal requirements.
- (11) Without prejudice to the provision of Condition (1), the Contractor shall reimburse the Authority for all reasonable costs incurred by the Authority which have arisen as a direct consequence of the Contractor's delay in the

performance of the Contract which the Contractor had failed to remedy after being given reasonable notice by the Authority.

## 22 Conflicts of Interest

- (1) For the purposes of this Condition 22, a reference to a "conflict of interest" includes any scenario where the Contractor or any person engaged by it or on its behalf (including any subcontractors) is in a position where there is or may be an actual, potential or perceived conflict between the pecuniary and/or personal interests of that person and the duties owed to the Authority under the provisions of this Contract.
  - (2) The Contractor shall ensure that there is no conflict of interest likely to prejudice the Contractor's independence and objectivity in performing the Contract and undertakes that upon becoming aware of any conflict of interest during the performance of the Contract (whether the conflict existed before the award of the Contract or arises during its performance) the Contractor shall immediately notify the Authority in writing of the same, giving particulars of its nature and the circumstances in which it exists or arises and shall furnish such further information as the Authority may reasonably require.
  - (3) Where the Authority is of the opinion that a conflict of interest notified to it under Condition (1) is capable of being avoided or removed, the Authority may require the Contractor to take such steps as will, in its opinion, avoid, or as the case may be, remove the conflict and:
    - a. if the Contractor fails to comply with the Authority's requirements in this respect; or
    - b. if, in the opinion of the Authority, it is not possible to remove the conflict,

the Authority may terminate the Contract immediately and recover from the Contractor the amount of any loss resulting from such termination.

(4) Notwithstanding Condition (2), where the Authority is of the opinion that the conflict of interest which existed at the time of the award of the Contract could have been discovered with the application by the Contractor of due diligence and ought to have been disclosed as required by the tender documents pertaining to it, the Authority may terminate the Contract immediately for breach of a fundamental condition and, without prejudice to any other rights, recover from the Contractor the amount of any loss resulting from such termination.

#### 23 Reporting, Monitoring and Management Information

- (1) Where requested by the Authority, the Contractor shall supply to the Authority such information - including in the form of progress reports or management information ("MI") reports - relating to the Services and to the Contractor's management and performance of the Contract as they may require.
- (2) Where reports are required by the Contract, the Contractor shall render such reports in such a form and timeframe as specified by the Authority, or as otherwise agreed between the Contractor and the Authority.

- (3) The MI reports referenced in Condition (1) above shall include, without limitation, the information required by the MI Reporting Template and any guidance issued by the Authority from time to time.
- (4) The Contractor will maintain Open Book Data in relation to the Services to be performed under the terms of this Contract. The Authority may request any information comprising the Open Book Data and the Contractor will provide the information requested within five Working Days.
- (5) The Contractor's performance of the Services shall be monitored by the Contract Manager. Without prejudice to any other rights and remedies under the Contract, the Contract Manager shall be entitled to review the Contractor's performance and make reasonable recommendations to the Contractor for improving the standard of the Contractor's performance in undertaking the Services. The Contractor must use reasonable endeavours to implement such recommendations. The Contractor's Representative shall attend any meetings arranged by the Contract Manager for the purpose of discussing the Services being provided, and reviewing the Contractor's performance.
- (6) If the Contractor (or any Contractor Personnel) is unable, or considers that it is likely to be unable to provide any of the Deliverables, the Contractor must immediately:
  - a. tell the Contract Manager and provide reasons;
  - b. propose corrective action(s); and
  - c. propose a deadline for completing the corrective action(s).

#### 24 Intellectual Property Rights

- (1) Each Party keeps ownership of its own Existing IPRs. The Contractor hereby grants the Authority a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty-free, irrevocable, transferable worldwide licence to use, change and sub-license the Contractor's Existing IPR to enable it to both:
  - receive and use the Deliverables
  - make use of (including to modify) the Deliverables
- (2) The Parties hereby agree that (and the Contractor hereby assigns to the Authority) any New IPR created under the Contract is wholly owned (with fulltitle guarantee) by the Authority (this clause shall act as a grant and assignment of such New IPR as applicable including acting as an assignment of future New IPR). The Authority gives the Contractor a licence to use any Existing IPRs and New IPRs for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations under the Contract.
- (3) The Parties will (as required by the Authority) execute (and procure that any Contractor Personnel or relevant third parties including consultants and subcontractors execute) any documentation at their own cost and in a timely manner to the extent required to give effect to the intent of clause (2).
- (4) 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.

- (5) 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 24 or otherwise agreed in writing.
- (6) The Contractor indemnifies the Authority against all losses, damages, costs or expenses (including professional fees and fines) incurred as a result of any IPR Claim.
- (7) If an IPR Claim is made or anticipated the Contractor must at its own expense and the Authority's sole option, either:

• obtain for the Authority the rights in Clause 24.1 and 24.2 without infringing any third party IPR

• replace or modify the relevant item with substitutes that don't infringe IPR without adversely affecting the functionality or performance of the Deliverables

(8) The Contractor shall indemnify, and keep indemnified, the Authority in full against all costs, expenses, damages and losses, including any interest, penalties, and reasonable legal and other professional fees awarded against or incurred or paid by the Authority as a result of or in connection with any claim made against the Authority for actual or alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property arising out of, or in connection with, the supply or use of the Services, to the extent that the claim is attributable to the acts or omission of the Contractor or Contractor Personnel.

## 25 Rights of Third Parties

It is not intended that the Contract, either expressly or by implication, shall confer any benefit on any person who is not a party to the Contract and accordingly the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 shall not apply.

## 26 Indemnities and Liabilities

- (1) Subject to Condition 35 the Contractor shall hold harmless and indemnify the Authority on demand from and against all:
  - a. claims;
  - b. demands;
  - c. proceedings;
  - d. actions;
  - e. damages;
  - f. costs (including legal costs);
  - g. expenses; and
  - h. any other liabilities,

arising from claims made by the Authority's staff or agents, or by third parties, in respect of:

- i. any death or personal injury; or
- j. loss or destruction of or damage to property;
- k. any other direct loss, destruction or damage, including but not limited to direct financial losses which are caused,

by the breach of contract or breach of duty (whether in negligence, tort, statute or otherwise) of the Contractor, its employees, agents or subcontractors.

- (2) The Contractor shall be liable to the Authority for any loss, damage, destruction, injury or expense (and including but not limited to loss or destruction of or damage to the Authority's property, which includes data) arising from the Contractor's breach of contract or duty (whether arising in negligence, tort, statute or otherwise).
- (3) Nothing in these Conditions nor in any part of the Contract shall impose any liability on any member of the staff of the Authority or its representatives in their personal capacity.
- (4) The Contractor shall indemnify the Authority against all proceedings, actions, claims, demands, costs (including legal costs), charges, expenses and any other liabilities arising from or incurred by reason of any infringement or alleged infringement of any third party's Intellectual Property Rights used by or on behalf of the Contractor for the purpose of the Contract, provided that any such infringement or alleged infringement is not knowingly caused by, or contributed to, by any act of the Authority.
- (5) Subject to clause (4), each Party's total aggregate liability in each Contract Year under this Contract (whether in tort, contract or otherwise) is no more than the greater of £5 million or 150% of the estimated annual Charges due under this Contract.
- (6) Nothing in this Contract shall limit or exclude any of the following (nor shall any liabilities in respect of the following in any way cause or contribute to the erosion of any liability cap):
  - a. 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 or subcontractors;
  - c. any liability that cannot be excluded or limited by Law;
  - d. any claim pursuant to Condition Error! Reference source not found.; or

#### 27 Insurance

- (1) The Contractor shall obtain and maintain for a period of 12 years after the expiration of termination of this Contract (and on business as usual terms) with a reputable insurance company the following policy/policies:
  - Public liability insurance with a limit of indemnity of not less than £10,000,000 (Ten Million Pounds) in relation to any one claim, the number of claims being unlimited;
  - b. Professional indemnity insurance with a limit of indemnity of not less than £5,000,000 (Five Million Pounds) in relation to any one claim, the number of claims being unlimited;
  - (2) The Required Insurances, detailed above, to be effected by the Contractor shall be in respect of all risks which may be incurred by the Contractor, arising out of the Contractor's performance of the Contract including death or personal injury, loss of or damage to property or any other loss. The required

insurance shall include cover in respect of any financial loss arising from any advice given or omitted to be given by the Contractor.

- (3) The Contractor shall give the Authority, on request, copies of all the insurance policies required under this Condition or a broker's verification of insurance to demonstrate that the Required Insurances are in place, together with receipts or other evidence of payment of the latest premiums due under those policies.
- (4) If, for any reason, the Contractor fails to give effect to and maintain the Required Insurances, the Authority may make alternative arrangements to protect its interests and may recover the costs of such arrangements from the Contractor.
- (5) The terms of any insurance or the amount of cover shall not relieve the Contractor of any liabilities under this Contract or otherwise.

## 28 Dispute Resolution

- (1) The Parties shall attempt in to negotiate a settlement to any dispute between them arising out of or in connection with the Contract.
- (2) If the Parties cannot resolve the dispute pursuant to clause (1) of this Condition, the dispute may, by agreement between the Parties, be referred to mediation pursuant to clause (3) of this Condition.
- (3) The performance of the Services shall not cease or be delayed by the reference of a dispute to mediation pursuant to clause (1) of this Condition.
- (4) If the Parties agree to refer the dispute to mediation:
  - a. in order to determine the person who shall mediate the dispute (the "Mediator") the Parties shall by agreement choose a neutral adviser or mediator from one of the dispute resolution providers listed by the Government Procurement Service on its website or in its printed guidance on dispute resolution within 30 days after agreeing to refer the dispute to mediation;
  - b. the Parties shall within 14 days of the appointment of the Mediator meet with them in order to agree a programme for the exchange of all relevant information and the structure to be adopted for negotiations to be held. If considered appropriate, the Parties may at any stage seek assistance from the Government Procurement Service to provide guidance on a suitable procedure;
  - c. unless otherwise agreed, all negotiations connected with the dispute and any settlement agreement relating to it shall be conducted in confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the Parties in any future proceedings;
  - d. if the Parties reach agreement on the resolution of the dispute within 60 days of the Mediator being appointed, or such longer period as may be agreed between the Parties, the agreement shall be reduced to writing and shall be binding on the Parties once it is signed by both the Authority and the Contractor;

- e. failing agreement within 60 days of the Mediator being appointed, or such longer period as may be agreed between the Parties, either of the Parties may invite the Mediator to provide a non-binding but informative opinion in writing. Such an opinion shall be provided on a without prejudice basis and shall not be used in evidence in any proceedings relating to the Contract without the prior written consent of both Parties.
- (5) If the Parties:
  - a. do not agree to refer the dispute to mediation;
  - b. fail to reach agreement as to who shall mediate the dispute pursuant to Condition (4); or
  - c. fail to reach agreement in the structured negotiations within 60 days of the Mediator being appointed (or such longer period as may be agreed by the Parties),

then any dispute or difference between them may be referred to the courts.

## 29 Termination for Insolvency or Change of Control

- (1) The Contractor shall notify the Authority in writing immediately upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
  - a. the Contractor party fails to pay any amount due to the Authority (whether under this Contract or otherwise) on the due date for payment and remains in default not less than 30 days after being notified to make such payment;
  - b. the Contractor party suspends, or threatens to suspend, payment of its debts or is unable to pay its debts as they fall due or admits inability to pay its debts or is deemed unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986 as if the words "it is proved to the satisfaction of the court" did not appear in sections 123(1)(e) or 123(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986;
  - c. the Contractor commences negotiations with all or any class of its creditors with a view to rescheduling any of its debts, or makes a proposal for or enters into any compromise or arrangement with any of its creditors other than (being a company) for the sole purpose of a scheme for a solvent amalgamation of the Contractor with one or more other companies or the solvent reconstruction of that Contractor;
  - d. applies to court for, or obtains, a moratorium under Part A1 of the Insolvency Act 1986;
  - e. petition is filed, a notice is given, a resolution is passed, or an order is made, for or in connection with the winding up of the Contractor;
  - f. an application is made to court, or an order is made, for the appointment of an administrator, or a notice of intention to appoint an administrator is given or if an administrator is appointed, over the Contractor;
  - g. the holder of a qualifying floating charge over the assets of the Contractor has become entitled to appoint or has appointed an administrative receiver;
  - a person becomes entitled to appoint a receiver over all or any of the assets of the Contractor or a receiver is appointed over all or any of the assets of the Contractor;

- a creditor or encumbrancer of the Contractor attaches or takes possession of, or a distress, execution, sequestration or other such process is levied or enforced on or sued against, the whole or any part of the Contractor's assets and such attachment or process is not discharged within 14 days;
- j. the Contractor suspends, ceases or threatens to suspend or cease trading or carrying on a substantial part of its business;
- k. the Contractor's financial position deteriorates materially in the reasonable view of the Authority;
- I. any event occurs, or proceeding is taken, with respect to the Contractor in any jurisdiction to which it is subject that has an effect equivalent or similar to any of the events mentioned above; or
- m. the Contractor undergoes a change of control, where "control" is interpreted in accordance with Section 1124 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010.
- (2) After receipt of the notice under clause (1) above or earlier discovery by the Authority of the occurrence of any of the events described in that clause, the Authority may, by notice in writing to the Contractor, terminate the Contract with immediate effect without compensation to the Contractor and without prejudice to any right or action or remedy which may accrue to the Authority thereafter. The Authority's right to terminate the Contract under Condition (1)I will exist until the end of a period of three months starting from receipt of the notice provided by the Contractor pursuant to Condition (1), or such other period as is agreed by the Parties.

## **30** Termination for Breach of Contract

- (1) If the Contractor commits a Material Breach that is not capable of remedy the Authority shall be entitled to terminate the Contract with immediate effect by notice in writing to the Contractor.
- (2) The Authority's right to terminate the Contract under Condition (1) above is without prejudice to any other right or remedies in respect of the breach concerned or any other breach of the Contract.

## 31 Cancellation

- (1) The Authority shall be entitled to terminate the Contract, or to terminate the provision of any part of the Services, if:
  - a. the Authority gives the Contractor not less than 90 days' notice in writing to that effect;
  - b. any of the mandatory or discretionary exclusion events listed under Regulations 57(1) or 57(2) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (the "PCR") occur; or
  - c. a declaration on ineffectiveness is made pursuant to the PCR in respect of this Contract or any variation thereof.
  - (2) If the Authority has given notice under Condition (1) above, the Authority may extend the period of notice at any time before it expires, subject to agreement on the level of Services to be provided by the Contractor during the period of extension.

# 32 Suspension of the Services

- (1) The Authority may at any time demand that the Contractor suspend the provision of the Services. If the Authority exercises such right to suspend the provision of the Services or any part of them (for a reason other than the default of the Contractor), the Authority shall be responsible for loss incurred by the Contractor as a result of such suspension. In such circumstances, subject to the Contractor taking reasonable steps to mitigate its loss, the Contractor will be able to recover from the Authority under this Condition 32 those losses which:
  - a. were reasonably foreseeable as arising as a direct result of the suspension; and
  - b. relate to the cost of any commitments entered into by the Contractor which cannot be met as a result of the suspension and in respect of which the Contractor cannot obtain a refund (where the Contractor has already paid in relation to the commitment) or is obliged to pay (where the Contractor has not already paid in relation to the commitment).
- (2) The provisions of this Condition shall not apply where the reason for the suspension of the Services arises from any of the circumstances listed in Condition 39.

# 33 Consequences of Termination/Expiry

- If the Authority terminates the Contract in accordance with Condition 12,
   Error! Reference source not found., 15, 22, 29, (2), 31, 42, 43 or this
   Contract is otherwise terminated for any other reason (or indeed expires):
  - a. the Contractor shall forthwith cease to provide the Services (but may be required to comply with the Exit Plan see below);
  - b. the Contractor shall submit to the Authority within five (5) Working Days of termination or expiry (at the Contractor's own cost) a comprehensive status report which shall be current as at the date of submission relating to the Services (this report shall summarise all the Services delivered up to the date of termination/expiry);
  - c. the Contractor shall cease to use the Government Property in good condition (with any keys or access cards) (and any data related to the Services or Confidential Information) and (if so requested) shall hand over to the Authority a complete and uncorrupted version of all relevant data related to the Services and all records, information, documents howsoever held and including any media used to store such data including, without limitation, correspondence with staff engaged for or on behalf of the Authority, the Authority's service departments, any users of the Services and any other relevant third party and anything else relating to the performance of the Services in its possession custody or control either in its then current format or in a format nominated by the Authority whether such Government Property (or other data related to the Services or Confidential Information) is on hard copy or on a disk or on any computer systems;
  - d. the Contractor shall return all Personal Data or (if instructed by the Authority) destroy or dispose of it in a secure manner, in accordance with the specific instructions issued by the Authority (for the avoidance of doubt, Personal Data shall include but not be limited to that data

which is Personal Data and for which the Authority retains its Controller responsibilities);

- e. the Contractor shall vacate any Authority's Premises;
- f. in the event that termination takes place in accordance with Condition 12, **Error! Reference source not found.**, 15, 22, 29, (2), 42, 43 or otherwise based on Contractor default:
  - i. the Authority shall immediately cease to be under any obligation to make further payment to the Contractor until the costs, loss and/or damage to the Authority resulting from or arising out of the termination shall have been calculated; and
  - ii. such termination shall be at no loss or cost to the Authority and the Contractor hereby indemnifies the Authority against any losses, costs and expenses (including legal costs) which the Authority may suffer as a result of any such termination, including:
    - 1. any demonstrable and reasonably incurred wasted expenditure;
    - any demonstrable and reasonably incurred additional costs (including the costs associated with time spent by Authority staff) of procuring and implementing replacements for, or alternatives to, the Services, including consultancy costs, additional costs of management time and other personnel costs and costs of equipment and materials;
    - 3. reasonable costs incurred associated with time spent by Authority officers in terminating the Contract;
    - 4. any demonstrable and reasonably incurred losses incurred by the Authority arising out of or in connection with any claim, demand, fine, penalty, action, investigation or proceeding by any third party (including any subcontractors, staff, regulator or customer of the Authority) caused by the act or omission of the Contractor; and
    - 5. any demonstrable loss of anticipated savings (including the cost of providing the Services for the remainder of the period of the Contract to the extent that such cost exceeds the payment that otherwise would have been payable to the Contractor).
- (2) The rights of the Authority under this Condition are in addition to, and without prejudice to, any other rights that the Authority may have at law or under the Contract.
- (3) The amounts to be recovered by the Authority in accordance with Condition (1)e may be recovered by the Authority as a debt and may be deducted from any sum or sums which would but for this Condition 33 have been due to the Contractor.
- (4) If the Contractor fails to comply with Conditions (1)b-(1)d, the Authority may recover possession thereof and the Contractor grants a licence to the

Authority or its appointed agents to enter (for the purposes of such recovery) any premises of the Contractor or its permitted suppliers or subcontractors where any such items may be held.

(5) Without prejudice to the Authority's other remedies, failure to comply with this Condition may result in the Authority withholding any payment due until reasonable compliance by the Contractor.

# 34 Exit Management

- (1) The Contractor shall:
  - a. within 30 days from the commencement of this Contract provide to the Authority a copy of its depreciation policy (if so required) for the purpose of calculating net book value of relevant assets related to this Contract (which shall at all times be in accordance with good industry practice);
  - b. create and maintain a detailed register of all assets used to provide the Services (including description, condition, location and details of ownership and status as either exclusive assets (used only for the Authority) or non-exclusive assets and their net book value) and subcontracts and other relevant agreements required in connection with the Deliverables; and
  - c. create and maintain a configuration database detailing the technical infrastructure and operating procedures through which the Contractor provides the Deliverables.

(Limbs (b) and (c) together being the "**Registers**").

- (2) The Contractor shall:
  - a. ensure that all assets to be used exclusively for the Authority listed in the Registers are clearly physically labelled and identified as such;
  - b. procure that all licences for software provided by third parties and used in the Services and all sub-contracts shall be assignable and/or capable of novation (at no cost or restriction to the Authority) at the request of the Authority to the Authority and/or any replacement contractor upon the Contractor ceasing to provide the Services and if the Contractor is unable to do so then the Contractor shall promptly notify the Authority and the Authority may require the Contractor to procure an alternative sub-contractor or provider of Deliverables; or
  - c. where required, appoint an exit manager, who will liaise with the relevant representative of the Authority regarding the expiration or termination of this Contract.
- (3) The Contractor shall, on reasonable notice, provide to the Authority and/or its potential replacement contractors (subject to the potential replacement contractors entering into reasonable written confidentiality undertakings), such information (including any access) as the Authority shall reasonably require in order to facilitate the preparation by the Authority of any invitation to tender and/or to facilitate any potential replacement contractors undertaking due diligence (the "Exit Information").

- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision or restriction in this Contract, the Contractor acknowledges that the Authority may disclose the Contractor's Confidential Information (excluding the Contractor's or its subcontractors' prices or costs) to an actual or prospective replacement contractor to the extent that such disclosure is necessary in connection with such engagement.
- (5) The Contractor shall provide complete updates of the Exit Information on an as-requested basis as soon as reasonably practicable and notify the Authority within five (5) Working Days of any material change to the Exit Information which may adversely impact upon the provision of any Services and/or Deliverables (and shall consult the Authority in relation to any such changes).
- (6) The Exit Information shall be accurate and complete in all material respects and shall be sufficient to enable a third party to prepare an informed offer for those Deliverables; and not be disadvantaged in any procurement process compared to the Contractor.
- (7) The Contractor shall, within three (3) months after the date on which this Contract commences, deliver to the Authority an exit plan ("Exit Plan") which complies with the requirements set out below and is satisfactory to the Authority.
- (8) The Parties shall use reasonable endeavours to agree the contents of the Exit Plan. If the Parties are unable to agree the contents of the Exit Plan within twenty (20) Working Days of the latest date for its submission (see above), then such Dispute shall be resolved in accordance with Condition 28.
- (9) The Exit Plan shall set out, as a minimum:
  - a. a detailed description of both the transfer and cessation processes, including a timetable;
  - b. how the Deliverables will transfer to the replacement contractor and/or the Authority;
  - c. details of any contracts which will be available for transfer to the Authority and/or the replacement contractor upon the date of expiration or termination of this Contract together with any reasonable costs required to effect such transfer;
  - d. proposals for the training of key members of the replacement contractor's staff in connection with the continuation of the provision of the Deliverables following the date of expiration or termination of this Contract;
  - e. proposals for providing the Authority or a replacement contractor copies of all documentation relating to the use and operation of the Deliverables and required for their continued use;
  - f. proposals for the assignment or novation of all services utilised by the Contractor in connection with the supply of the Deliverables;
  - g. proposals for the identification and return of all Government Property in the possession of and/or control of the Contractor or any third party;
  - h. proposals for the disposal of any redundant Deliverables and materials;
  - i. how the Contractor will ensure that there is no disruption to or degradation of the

- j. Deliverables during the six (6) month period after the termination/expiration of the Contract ("Termination Assistance Period"); and
- k. any other information or assistance reasonably required by the Authority or a replacement contractor
- (10) The Contractor shall:
  - a. maintain and update the Exit Plan (and risk management plan) no less frequently than:
    - i. every six (6) months throughout the Contract Period; and
    - ii. no later than twenty (20) Working Days after a request from the Authority for an up-to-date copy of the Exit Plan;
    - iii. as soon as reasonably possible following the Termination Assistance Notice, and in any event no later than ten (10) Working Days] after the date of the Termination Assistance Notice;
    - iv. as soon as reasonably possible following, and in any event no later than twenty (20) Working Days following, any material change to the Deliverables (including all changes under the Variation Procedure); and
    - v. jointly review and verify the Exit Plan if required by the Authority and promptly correct any identified failures.
- (11) The Authority shall be entitled to require the provision of all assistance as reasonably required on expiry of termination of this Contract ("Termination Assistance") at any time during the Contract Period by giving written notice to the Contractor (a "Termination Assistance Notice") at least one (1) months prior to the expiration or termination date. The Termination Assistance Notice shall specify:
  - a. the nature of the Termination Assistance required; and
  - b. the start date and the Termination Assistance Period during which it is anticipated that Termination Assistance will be required.
- (12) In the event that Termination Assistance is required by the Authority but at the relevant time the Parties are still agreeing an update to the Exit Plan pursuant to this Condition, the Contractor will provide the Termination Assistance in good faith and in accordance with the principles in this Schedule and the last Authority approved version of the Exit Plan (insofar as it still applies).
- (13) Throughout the Termination Assistance Period the Contractor shall:
  - a. if required by the Authority, provide the Termination Assistance;
  - b. provide to the Authority and/or its replacement contractor any reasonable assistance and/or access requested by the Authority and/or its replacement Contractor including assistance and/or access to facilitate the orderly transfer of responsibility for and conduct of the Deliverables to the Authority and/or its Replacement Contractor;
  - c. use all reasonable endeavours to reallocate resources to provide such assistance without additional costs to the Authority;
  - d. at the Authority's request and on reasonable notice, deliver up-to-date Registers to the Authority;

e. seek the Authority's prior written consent to access any Authority Premises from which the de-installation or removal of Contractor Assets is required.

# 35 Consequential Losses

- (1) Save where expressly stated to the contrary in this Contract, neither Party shall be liable to the other Party for any:
  - a. indirect loss;
  - b. special loss;
  - c. consequential loss;
  - d. loss of profits;
  - e. loss of turnover;
  - f. loss of business opportunities; or
  - g. damage to goodwill.
- (2) Notwithstanding Condition (1), the Contractor agrees that the Authority may, amongst other things, recover from the Contractor, the following losses incurred by the Authority to the extent that they arise as a result of the Contractor's default:
  - any additional operational and/or administrative costs and expenses incurred by the Authority, including costs relating to time spent by or on behalf of the Authority in dealing with the consequences of the Contractor's default;
  - b. any wasted expenditure or charges;
  - c. the additional cost of procuring alternative arrangements for the provision of the Services, which shall include any incremental costs associated with procuring such alternative arrangements above those which would have been payable under the Contract;
  - d. any compensation or interest payable to a third party by the Authority;
  - e. any fine or penalty incurred by the Authority pursuant to law and any costs incurred by the Authority in defending any proceedings which result in such fine or penalty; and
  - f. where applicable, the compensation described in Condition (1)e.

# 36 Survival of Terms

Any provision of this Contract that expressly or by implication is intended to come into or continue in force on or after termination or expiry of this Contract shall remain in full force and effect (including for the avoidance of doubt Conditions 10, 11, 12, 14, (6)c, 34 and 37).

# 37 Transfer of Services

- (1) Where the Authority intends to continue with services equivalent to any or all of the Services after termination or expiry of the Contract, either by performing them itself or by the appointment of a replacement contractor, the Contractor shall (both during the term of the Contract and, where relevant, after its expiry or termination):
  - a. provide all information reasonably requested to allow the Authority to conduct the procurement for any replacement services; and

- b. use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that the transition is undertaken with the minimum of disruption to the Authority including where requested, handing over directly to a replacement contractor.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of clause (1) of this Condition, the Contractor shall, at times and at intervals reasonably specified by the Authority, provide the Authority (for the benefit of the Authority, any replacement Contractor and any economic operator bidding to provide the replacement services) such information as the Authority may reasonably require relating to the application or potential application of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 including the provision of employee liability information.
- (3) Without prejudice to the generality of clause (1) of this Condition, the Contractor shall co-operate fully during the transition period and provide full access to all data, documents, manuals, working instructions, reports and any information, whether held in electronic or written form, which the Authority considers necessary.

## 38 Service of Notices and Communications

- (1) A notice or communication given to a Party under or in connection with the Contract shall be in writing and sent to the Party at the address or email address given in this Contract or as otherwise notified in writing to the other Party.
- (2) This Condition (1) sets out the delivery methods for sending a notice to a Party under the Contract and, for each delivery method, the date and time when the notice is deemed to have been received (provided that all other requirements of this clause have been satisfied and subject to the provision in Condition (2)d below):
  - a. if delivered by hand, on signature of a delivery receipt or at the time the notice is left at the address;
  - b. if sent by pre-paid first class post or other next working day delivery service, providing proof of delivery, at the time recorded by the delivery service;
  - c. if sent by pre-paid airmail providing proof of postage, at 9.00am on the fifth Working Day after posting; or
  - d. if sent by email, at the time of transmission.
- If deemed receipt under Condition (1) above would occur outside business hours in the place of receipt, it shall be deferred until business hours resume. In this clause (2)d, business hours means 9.00am to 5.00pm on a Working Day.
- (4) This clause does not apply to the service of any proceedings or other documents in any legal action or, where applicable, any arbitration or other method of dispute resolution.

# **39** Force Majeure

- (1) Provided it has complied with Condition (2), if a Party ("Affected Party") is prevented, hindered or delayed in or from performing any of its obligations under this Contract by a Force Majeure Event, the Affected Party shall not be in breach of this Contract for any such failure or delay in the performance of such obligations. The time for performance of such obligations shall be extended accordingly.
- (2) The corresponding obligations of the other Party will be suspended, and its time for performance of such obligations extended, to the same extent as those of the Affected Party.
- (3) The Affected Party shall:
  - a. as soon as reasonably practicable after the start of the Force Majeure Event but no later than 7 days from its start, notify the other Party in writing of the Force Majeure Event, the date on which it started, its likely or potential duration, and the effect of the Force Majeure Event on its ability to perform any of its obligations under the Contract; and
  - b. use all reasonable endeavours to mitigate the effect of the Force Majeure Event on the performance of its obligations.
- (4) If the Force Majeure Event prevents, hinders or delays the Affected Party's performance of its obligations for a continuous period of more than 4 weeks, the Party not affected by the Force Majeure Event may terminate this Contract by giving 4 weeks' written notice to the Affected Party.

## 40 Waiver

- (1) No failure or delay by a Party to exercise any right or remedy provided under this Contract or by law shall constitute a waiver of that or any other right or remedy nor shall it prevent or restrict the further exercise of that or any other right or remedy.
- (2) No single or partial exercise of such right or remedy shall prevent or restrict the further exercise of that or any other right or remedy.
- (3) No waiver shall be effective unless it is communicated to the other party in writing.

## 41 Severability

If any Condition, clause or provision of the Contract not being of a fundamental nature is held to be unlawful, invalid or unenforceable by a court or tribunal in any proceedings relating to the Contract, the validity or enforceability of the remainder of the Contract shall not be affected. If the court finds invalid a provision so fundamental as to prevent the accomplishment of the purpose of the Contract, the Parties shall immediately commence negotiations in good faith to remedy the invalidity in a manner that achieves the intended commercial result of the original position.

# 42 Payment of Taxes: Income tax and NICs

(1) Where the Contractor is liable to be taxed in the UK in respect of consideration received under the Contract, the Contractor shall at all times comply with the

Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax in respect of that consideration.

- (2) Where the Contractor is liable to National Insurance Contributions (NICs) in respect of consideration received under the Contract, the Contractor shall at all times comply with the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and all other statutes and regulations relating to NICs in respect of that consideration.
- (3) The Authority may, at any time during the term of the Contract, require the Contractor to provide information to demonstrate that:
  - a. the Contractor has complied with clauses (1) and (1) above; or
  - b. the Contractor or its staff are not liable to the relevant taxes.
- (4) A request under clause (2) above may specify the information which the Contractor must provide and a reasonable deadline for response.
- (5) The Authority may supply any information which it receives under clause (2) to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Revenue and Customs for the purpose of the collection and management of revenue for which they are responsible.
- (6) The Contractor shall ensure that any subcontractors (including consultants) and agents engaged by the Contractor for the purpose of the Services are engaged on, and comply with, conditions equivalent to those in clauses (1) to (4) above and this clause (5), and the Contractor shall, on request, provide the Authority with evidence to satisfy the Authority that the Contractor has done so. Those conditions shall provide both the Contractor and the Authority with the right to require the subcontractor or agent to provide information to them equivalent to clause (2), and the Contractor shall obtain that information where requested by the Authority.
- (7) The Authority may terminate the Contract with immediate effect by notice in writing where:
  - a. the Contractor does not comply with any requirement of this Condition 42; or
  - b. the Contractor's subcontractors or agents do not comply with the conditions imposed on them under clause (5) above.
- (8) In particular (but without limitation), the Authority may terminate the Contract under clause (6) above:
  - a. in the case of a request under clause (2):
    - i. the Contractor fails to provide information in response to the request within the deadline specified; or
    - the Contractor provides information which is inadequate to demonstrate how the Contractor or (where relevant) its subcontractors and agents have complied with the conditions set out or referred to in clauses (1) to (5); or
    - iii. the Authority receives information which demonstrates, to its reasonable satisfaction that the Contractor, its subcontractors or agents, are not complying with those conditions.

# 43 Payment of Taxes: Occasions of Tax Non-Compliance

- (1) This Condition 43 applies where the consideration payable by the Contractor under the Contract equals or exceeds £5,000,000 (five million pounds).
- (2) The Contractor represents and warrants that it has notified the Authority in writing of any Occasions of Tax Non-Compliance or any litigation that it is involved in that is in connection with any Occasions of Tax Non Compliance.
- (3) If, at any point during the term of the Contract, an Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance occurs, the Contractor shall:
  - a. notify the Authority in writing of such fact within 5 Working Days of its occurrence; and
  - b. promptly provide to the Authority:
    - i. details of the steps which the Contractor is taking to address the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance and to prevent the same from recurring, together with any mitigating factors that it considers relevant; and
    - ii. such other information in relation to the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance as the Authority may reasonably require.
- (4) In the event that:
  - a. the warranty given by the Contractor pursuant to clause (1) of this Condition is materially untrue;
  - b. the Contractor commits a material breach of its obligation to notify the Authority of any Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance as required by clause (2) of this Condition; or
  - c. the Contractor fails to provide details of proposed mitigating factors which, in the reasonable opinion of the Authority, are acceptable,

the Authority may terminate the Contract with immediate effect by notice in writing.

- (5) In this Condition 43, "Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance" means:
  - a. any tax return of the Contractor submitted to a Relevant Tax Authority on or after 1 October 2012 is found on or after 1 April 2013 to be incorrect as a result of:
    - i. a Relevant Tax Authority successfully challenging the Contractor under the General Anti-Abuse Rule or the Halifax Abuse Principle or under any tax rules or legislation 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 Contractor 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;

## and/or

b. any tax return of the Contractor submitted to a Relevant Tax Authority on or after 1 October 2012 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 commencement of the Contract or to a penalty for civil fraud or evasion.

- (6) For the purpose of clause 0 above:
  - a. "DOTAS" means the Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes rules (including VAT disclosure regime (VADR), Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes: VAT and other indirect taxes (DASVOIT) and Direct taxes (including Apprenticeship Levy) and National Insurance contributions (DOTAS)) which require a promoter of tax schemes to tell HM Revenue & Customs 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 by the National Insurance Contributions (Application of Part 7 of the Finance Act 2004) Regulations 2012, SI 2012/1868 made under s.132A Social Security Administration Act 1992;

## b. "General Anti-Abuse Rule" means:

- the legislation in Part 5 of the Finance Act 2013 (inclusive of Schedules 43, 43A, 43B and 43C of the same legislation and section 10 and 11 of the National Insurance Act 2014) (in each case as understood in accordance with HMRC's General Anti-Abuse Rule Guidance as approved from time to time); and
- ii. any future legislation introduced into Parliament to counteract tax advantages arising from abusive arrangements to avoid national insurance contributions;
- c. **"Halifax Abuse Principle**" means the principle explained in the CJEU Case C-255/02 Halifax and others and any equivalent case law; and
- d. "Relevant Tax Authority" means HM Revenue & Customs, or, if applicable, a tax authority in the jurisdiction in which the Contractor is established.

# 44 Equality and Non-Discrimination

- (1) The Contractor shall not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of the Equality Act 2010 and any other anti-discrimination legislation in relation to the provision of the Services or otherwise and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that its Contractor Personnel do not do so.
- (2) The Contractor shall comply with the Authority's equality scheme as published on the Authority's website and shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that its Contractor Personnel do so.
- (3) The Contractor will comply with any request by the Authority to assist the Authority in meeting its obligations under the Equality Act 2010 and to allow the Authority to assess the Contractor's compliance with its obligations under the Equality Act 2010.

- (4) Where any investigation is concluded or proceedings are brought under the Equality Act 2010 which arise directly or indirectly out of any act or omission of the Contractor, its agents or subcontractors, or Contractor Personnel, and where there is a finding against the Contractor in such investigation or proceedings the Contractor will indemnify the Authority with respect to all costs, charges and expenses (including legal and administrative expenses) arising out of or in connection with any such investigation or proceedings and such other financial redress to cover any payment the Authority may have been ordered or required to pay to a third party.
- (5) The Contractor shall (and shall procure that all Contractor Personnel shall):
  - a. perform its obligations under this Contract (including those in relation to the Services) in accordance with:
    - i. all applicable equality Law (whether in relation to race, sex, gender reassignment, age, disability, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy, maternity or otherwise);
    - ii. the Authority's equality and diversity policy as provided to the Contractor from time to time; and
    - iii. any other requirements and instructions which the Authority reasonably imposes in connection with any equality obligations imposed on the Authority at any time under applicable equality Law; and
  - b. take all necessary steps, and inform the Authority of the steps taken, to prevent unlawful discrimination designated as such by any court or tribunal, or the Equality and Human Rights Commission or (any successor organisation); and
  - c. at all times comply with the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 in the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall also undertake, or refrain from undertaking, such acts as the Authority requests so as to enable the Authority to comply with its obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998.
- (6) The Authority may (without prejudice to its other rights under the Contract) terminate the Contract with immediate effect by notice in writing where the Contractor fails (or the Contractor Personnel) to comply with clauses (1) to (4) of this Condition.

# 45 Welsh Language Act

The Contractor shall for the term of the Contract comply with the principles of the Authority's Welsh Language Scheme.

# 46 Sustainable Procurement

(1) The Contractor shall comply in all material respects with all applicable environmental laws and regulations in force from time to time in relation to the Services. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Contractor shall promptly provide all such information regarding the environmental impact of the Services as may reasonably be requested by the Authority.

- (2) The Contractor shall meet all reasonable requests by the Authority for information evidencing compliance with the provisions of this Condition by the Contractor.
- (3) All written outputs, including reports, produced in connection with the Contract shall (unless otherwise specified) be produced on recycled paper containing at least 80% post consumer waste and used on both sides where appropriate.
- (4) The supplier shall meet the Government Buying Standards applicable to Deliverables which can be found online at: <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sustainable-procurement-the-government-buying-standards-gbs</u>

# 47 Cyber Essentials

- (1) Cyber essentials certification ("**Compliance Certification**") shall be required where:
  - a. Personal Data is handled;
  - b. data marked 'OFFICIAL' is being stored by the Contractor, or by any Contractor Personnel; or
  - c. the Contract involves the provision of certain ICT products or services as specified by the Authority from time to time.
- (2) The Authority shall determine whether the Contract requires a cyber essentials or cyber essentials plus Compliance Certification, or if no Compliance Certification is necessary.
- (3) Upon request, the Contractor shall provide the Authority with a copy of each such Compliance Certification before the Contractor or the relevant Contractor Personnel (as applicable) shall be permitted to use the Core Information Management System to receive, store or Process any Authority Data. Any exceptions to the flow down of the certification requirements to third-party suppliers and Contractor Personnel must be agreed with the Authority.

# 48 Safeguarding

- (1) For the purposes of this Condition 48, "Reasonable Measures" shall mean: "all reasonable endeavours expected to be taken by a professional and prudent contractor in the Contractor's industry to eliminate or minimise risk of actual, attempted or threatened exploitation, abuse and harassment (including sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and sexual harassment) and whether or not such conduct would amount to a criminal offence in the United Kingdom or an offence under the laws of the territory in which it takes place (together "Serious Misconduct") as is reasonable and proportionate under the circumstances. Such endeavours may include (but shall not be limited to):
  - a. clear and detailed policies and guidance for Contractor Personnel, Contractor Providers and where appropriate, beneficiaries;
  - b. developing, implementing and maintaining a safeguarding plan throughout the term (including monitoring);
  - c. provision of regular training to Contractor Personnel, Contractor Providers and where appropriate, beneficiaries;

- d. clear reporting lines and whistleblowing policies in place for Contractor Personnel, Contractor Providers and beneficiaries;
- e. maintaining detailed records of any allegations of Serious Misconduct and regular reporting to the Authority and the Appropriate Authorities (where relevant) of any such incidents; and
- f. any other Good Industry Practice measures (including any innovative solutions)."
- (2) The Contractor shall take all Reasonable Measures to prevent Serious Misconduct by the Contractor Personnel or any other persons engaged and controlled by it ("Contractor Providers") and shall have in place at all times robust procedures which enable the reporting by Contractor Personnel, Contractor Providers and beneficiaries of any such Serious Misconduct, illegal acts and/or failures by the Contractor or Contractor Personnel to investigate such reports.
- (3) The Contractor shall promptly report in writing any complaints, concerns and incidents regarding Serious Misconduct or any attempted or threatened Serious Misconduct by the Contractor Personnel and Contractor Providers to BEIS Contract Manager and where necessary, the Appropriate Authorities.
- (4) The Contractor shall comply with all applicable laws, legislation, codes of practice and government guidance in the UK and additionally, in the territories where the Services are being performed, relevant to safeguarding and protection of children and vulnerable adults, which the Contractor acknowledges may include vetting of the Contractor Personnel by the UK Disclosure and Barring Service in respect of any regulated activity performed by the Contractor Personnel (as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 (as amended)) and/or vetting by a local equivalent service. Where BEIS reasonably believes that there is an increased risk to safeguarding in the performance of the Services, Contractor shall comply with any reasonable request by BEIS for additional vetting to be undertaken.
- (5) Failure by the Contractor to:
  - a. put in place preventative measures to eliminate and/or reduce the risk of Serious Misconduct; or
  - b. fully investigate allegations of Serious Misconduct; or
  - c. report any complaints to BEIS and where appropriate, the relevant authorities (including law enforcement)

shall be a material Default of this Contract and shall entitle BEIS to terminate this Contract with immediate effect.

# 49 Modern Slavery

- (1) The Contractor shall, and procure that each of its Contractor Personnel shall, comply with:
  - a. the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ("Slavery Act"); and
  - b. the Authority's anti-slavery policy as provided to the Contractor from time to time ("**Anti-Slavery Policy**").

- (2) The Contractor shall:
  - a. implement due diligence procedures for its Contractor Personnel and other participants in its supply chains, to ensure that there is no slavery or trafficking in its supply chains;
  - respond promptly to all slavery and trafficking due diligence questionnaires issued to it by the Authority from time to time and shall ensure that its responses to all such questionnaires are complete and accurate;
  - c. prepare and deliver to the Authority each year, an annual slavery and trafficking report setting out the steps it has taken to ensure that slavery and trafficking is not taking place in any of its supply chains or in any part of its business;
  - d. maintain a complete set of records to trace the supply chain of all Services provided to the Authority regarding the Contract; and
  - e. implement a system of training for its employees to ensure compliance with the Slavery Act.
- (3) The Contractor represents, warrants and undertakes throughout the Term that:
  - a. it conducts its business in a manner consistent with all applicable laws, regulations and codes including the Slavery Act and all analogous legislation in place in any part of the world;
  - b. its responses to all slavery and trafficking due diligence questionnaires issued to it by the Authority from time to time are complete and accurate; and
  - c. neither the Contractor nor any of its Contractor Personnel, nor any other persons associated with it:
    - i. has been convicted of any offence involving slavery and trafficking; or
    - ii. has been or is the subject of any investigation, inquiry or enforcement proceedings by any governmental, administrative or regulatory body regarding any offence regarding slavery and trafficking.
- (4) The Contractor shall notify the Authority as soon as it becomes aware of:
  - a. any breach, or potential breach, of the Anti-Slavery Policy; or
  - b. any actual or suspected slavery or trafficking in a supply chain which relates to the Contract.
- (5) If the Contractor notifies the Authority pursuant to Condition (3)c.ii above, it shall respond promptly to the Authority's enquiries, co-operate with any investigation, and allow the Authority to audit any books, records and/or any other relevant documentation in accordance with the Contract.
- (6) If the Contractor is in Default under Condition (1)b above or (2)e above Authority may by notice:
  - require the Contractor to remove from performance of the Contract any Contractor Personnel or other persons associated with it whose acts or omissions have caused the Default; or
  - b. immediately terminate the Contract.

# 50 Other Legislation

- (1) The Contractor shall, and shall procure that its subcontractors, agents and personnel, comply with all other applicable law in force from time to time for the duration of the Contract.
- (2) The Contractor must use reasonable endeavours to comply with the provisions of Schedule X (Corporate Social Responsibility).
- (3) The Contractor indemnifies the Authority against any costs resulting from any Default by the Contractor relating to any applicable Law to do with the Contract.
- (4) The Contractor must appoint a Compliance Officer who must be responsible for ensuring that the Contractor complies with the Law and Conditions Error! Reference source not found., 22, 42, 43, 44 and 46.

## 51 Health and Safety

- (1) The Contractor shall (and shall procure that the Contractor Personnel shall) perform its obligations under this Contract (including those in relation to the Services) in accordance with:
  - a. all applicable Law regarding health and safety; and
  - b. the Health and Safety Policy whilst at the Authority's Premises.
- (2) Each Party shall notify the other as soon as practicable of any health and safety incidents or material health and safety hazards at the Authority Premises of which it becomes aware and which relate to or arise in connection with the performance of this Contract. The Contractor shall instruct the Contractor Personnel to adopt any necessary associated safety measures in order to manage any such material health and safety hazards.

## 52 Law and Jurisdiction

This Contract and any dispute or claim (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter or formation shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

Each party irrevocably agrees that the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute or claim (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with this Contract or its subject matter or formation.

## Schedule 2 – The Authority's Specification

### 1. Glossary

Throughout this document we will refer to several group and bodies:

**AOSIS** – the <u>Alliance of Small Island States</u>, a negotiating group representing the interests of 39 small island and low-lying coastal developing states.

**BEIS** – The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the procuring Authority for this work. BEIS may also be referred to as the "Customer" or the "Authority".

**HAC** – the <u>High Ambition Coalition</u>, formed in the run-up to the Paris Agreement in 2015 to secure key elements of the deal.

LDCs – the Least Developed Countries as defined by the UN.

**LDC Group** – <u>Least Developed Countries Group</u>, a negotiating group representing the 48 Least Developed Countries <u>as defined by the UN</u>.

**RMI** – Republic of the Marshall Islands, the founder and official convener of the High Ambition Coalition

**SIDS** – Small Island Developing States <u>as defined by the UN</u>.

**Supported negotiating groups**: Groups supported by the CASA programme (currently AOSIS, RMI/HAC and the LDC group)

**UNFCCC** - <u>United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change</u>

#### 2. Introduction

- 2.1. BEIS ("the Authority") is procuring a Supplier to deliver Phase Two of the Climate Ambition Support Alliance (CASA) programme. CASA Phase Two will build on the current CASA programme and support the capacity and capability of developing country negotiators to engage and influence the outcomes of the international climate negotiations.
- 2.2. The Supplier will be responsible for the procurement, programme management and oversight of Technical Partners who will provide developing country negotiating groups with demand-led support. The Supplier may also in certain circumstances deliver technical support directly to the supported negotiating groups. Technical requirements are set out in section 4.
- 2.3. CASA currently provides support to the Least Developed Countries (LDC) Group, the High Ambition Coalition (HAC), and the Alliance of Small Island States (AOSIS). These groups include many of the most climate-vulnerable countries. While we expect CASA Phase Two as a minimum to continue to support these groups, the Supplier should be prepared to be flexible to respond to changing priorities in supporting developing country negotiating groups. For the purpose of this document "supported negotiating groups" refers to these three groups.
- 2.4. CASA is part of the UK's International Climate Finance (ICF). Programme activities are funded by Official Development Assistance.

## 3. Background

#### The International Context

- 3.1. For nearly three decades the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has been bringing together almost every country for global climate summits, termed Conference of the Parties (COP), to build consensus on the global approach to tackling climate change. Developing countries are often particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change and have the least resources for participating in the vital international decision-making processes that will have a huge impact on their economies and the livelihoods, security and safety of their citizens.
- 3.2. Progressive alliances between countries are an important part of the UNFCCC process, ensuring that the voices of those most impacted by climate change are represented and driving increased ambition for global action. At COP21 in Paris, in 2015, 196 Parties agreed to limit global temperature rise to "well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius". The influence of developing country negotiating groups was widely acknowledged for ensuring this ambitious limit was included in the final text of the Paris Agreement and for keeping this goal alive through the Glasgow Climate Pact at COP26 in November 2021.
- 3.3. At COP26 the outstanding elements of the Paris Agreement were finalised with the agreement of the Paris Rulebook setting out guidelines for how the Agreement is to be implemented. This included agreement on the transparency framework, which will enable countries to report on delivery of their targets, and on carbon trading.
- 3.4. The COP decision also launched new processes, including on adaptation (Glasgow-Sharm el-Sheikh Work Programme on the Global Goal on Adaptation), on Loss and Damage (the Glasgow Dialogue) and on climate empowerment (10 year Work Programme on Action on Climate Empowerment). A doubling of finance for adaptation was also agreed, committing developed countries to mobilising \$40bn a year by 2025.
- 3.5. Following the <u>Glasgow Climate Pact</u> (GCP), agreed at COP26, the international negotiations landscape will shift focus towards implementation, as prioritised by the COP27 Presidency. Subsequent years will see landmark mandates kick in, in particular the Global Stocktake and beginning of the Enhanced Transparency Framework. Parties are now expected to revisit and strengthen emission reduction plans in 2022 and then update them on an annual basis to align with the 1.5-degree trajectory. Parties will also continue discussions on long-term finance and negotiate the future finance goal that will come into force in 2025 as well as taking forward technical work on adaptation and loss & damage.
- 3.6. The collective level of ambition reflected in Parties' Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) is currently not consistent with the temperature goals set out in Paris Agreement Article 2.1a. The GCP enshrined an expectation to ratchet ambition to narrow the ambition gap, however momentum is required to ensure this is delivered. Similarly, climate diplomacy in the run-up to the first Global Stocktake in 2023 will be key to building the political conditions necessary for a subsequent raising of global ambition on mitigation, adaptation and means of implementation.

- 3.7. Active participation of developing countries in the UNFCCC and related multilateral fora remains critical for ensuring a fair and inclusive negotiations process, and for keeping up the pressure required to remain below 1.5 degrees and build resilience to reduce the likelihood and impact of climate extremes through successful implementation of the Paris Agreement.
- 3.8. In preparation for its COP Presidency, the UK established the COP Catalyst for Climate Action to bring together countries and institutions to discuss challenges and catalyse action in four key thematic areas:
  - 3.8.1. (i) access to finance,
  - 3.8.2. (ii) transparency and reporting,
  - 3.8.3. (iii) adaptation communications, and
  - 3.8.4. (iv) participation in carbon markets.

In addition to regular meetings of four Action Groups comprising technical experts and partner countries, the Catalyst held a series of regional and global conversations to better understand capacity building challenges faced by developing countries in implementing the Paris Agreement. Specific recommendations were developed in each action area, as well as an overarching 'Call to Action' for action on capacity building. These consultations have fed into the development of CASA Phase Two.

3.9. As part of BEIS' International Climate Finance within the International Net Zero directorate CASA aims to contribute to achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. The International Net Zero portfolio supports the UK's objectives and legacy as the COP26 Presidency to keep ambitious action and the 1.5-degree goal at the forefront of the international climate agenda. Through CASA the UK prioritises support to groups who share the UK's focus on climate ambition. Through supporting these groups CASA enhances the strong relationships the UK holds with developing country negotiating groups, supporting us to work together to achieve the collective commitments made through the international negotiations.

The Climate Ambition Support Alliance (CASA) programme: history

- 3.10. The current phase (Phase One February 2019 to January 2023) of CASA originated in 2011 as the 'Negotiations Support Programme', part of the Climate and Development Knowledge Network. The programme was created to support positive changes in the influence that the poorest and most vulnerable countries had in securing an international climate change deal in 2015 and beyond. The programme supported leaders and negotiators from these countries to become informed, active, networked and influential actors in the negotiations. This support and the continued support for CASA recognises that progressive and equitable outcomes for all Parties are only possible when developing countries particularly the poorest and most climate vulnerable are able to influence the international stage.
- 3.11. Whilst the international context and outcomes of the negotiations have changed dramatically since 2011, the fundamental objectives of the CASA programme remain as relevant as they were at the programme's inception. CASA in its current form has been active since February 2019, striving for a fairer, more inclusive negotiation process that ensures the meaningful participation of developing country negotiators, supporting the ambition to keep global warming to less than 1.5 degrees, and reducing the prospects of rapidly escalating climate extremes Page 55 of 97

and	severe	risks	for	vulnerable	people	and	systems.
-----	--------	-------	-----	------------	--------	-----	----------

- 3.12. The programme supports developing country voices in the international climate negotiations by providing legal, technical, strategic, diplomatic and media support before, during and after the negotiations. It has also created a digital guide to some of the latest, independent analysis on key issues in the climate negotiations, to support negotiators in their work.
- 3.13. CASA currently provides support to the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group, the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS) and the High Ambition Coalition (HAC). This includes, but is not limited to:
  - 3.13.1. On-demand technical, legal, scientific and strategic advice to the LDC group and chair, including supporting the regular activities of the LDC Chair's office, support for internal meetings, preparation of submissions, analysis of other Parties submissions, coordination/preparation for UNFCCC and bilateral meetings, and supporting the participation of delegates including logistical support.
  - 3.13.2. On-demand technical, strategic and planning support to the AOSIS chair and Small Island Developing States (SIDS) including support for submissions, support for engagement in the Global Stocktake, advisory briefings and technical notes, real-time support at meetings and project management/logistical support.
  - 3.13.3. Provision of knowledge products and communications activities to amplify the influence of supported negotiating groups and to support the upskilling of negotiators.
  - 3.13.4. A legal advice and assistance service free to delegates from developing country negotiating groups.
  - 3.13.5. Provision of the technical assistance and knowledge products to support climate finance negotiations and meetings (including Green Climate Fund (GCF) and Standing Committee on Finance (SCF) meetings).
- 3.14. Through these activities CASA ultimately aims to support high profile, active and visible leadership around climate change negotiations, leading to negotiated outcomes that align with supported negotiating groups' priorities and catalysing effective and ambitious national-level actions that align with the 1.5-degree limit and other long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.
- 3.15. Results from Phase One<sup>1</sup> demonstrate the value of the support provided, with stakeholders stating that groups supported by CASA played a critical role in ambition at COP25. They were also able to sustain engagement and demonstrate leadership and ambition in climate diplomacy during 2020 and 2021 when the international climate negotiations were heavily affected by the Covid-19 pandemic,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The 2019/20 Annual Review is <u>available on DevTracker</u>. Some of the results mentioned in this document are from the 2020/21 and 2021/22 Annual Reviews which have not yet been published.

through convening high-level, high-profile virtual events.

3.16. At COP26, groups supported by CASA influenced the final outcomes in several ways. For example, much of the text of a HAC Leaders' Statement was directly replicated in the final Glasgow Climate Pact. Equally whilst the negotiation texts at COP26 did not fully reflect the priority issues and positions of AOSIS and the LDC Group, the consensus was that the texts represented significant progress.

Objectives

#### CASA Phase Two: Future Objectives and Aims

3.17. This Contract for CASA Phase Two will build on the programme's successes so far, continuing demand-led support to developing country negotiating groups. The overarching objective will remain consistent with the first phase of the programme:

"A fairer, more inclusive negotiation process that ensures the meaningful participation of developing country negotiators, supporting the ambition to keep global warming to less than 1.5 degrees, and reducing the prospects of rapidly escalating climate extremes and severe risks for vulnerable people and systems"

- 3.18. A successful CASA Phase Two programme would be guided by the following broad **objectives** (further detail in section 4)<sup>2</sup>:
  - 3.18.1. <u>Negotiations support</u>: Support developing country negotiating groups to engage in and influence international climate negotiations through the provision of technical and legal advice and support for enhanced coordination and collaboration.
  - 3.18.2. <u>Capacity building</u>: Provide targeted and sustained training opportunities to build the knowledge and expertise of developing country negotiators and strengthen the institutional capacity of developing country negotiating groups through supporting systems and structures for retaining institutional knowledge.
  - 3.18.3. <u>Implementation</u>: Support members of developing country negotiating groups with the transition from Paris rulebook development to implementing commitments made in the international negotiations at a domestic level.
- 3.19. These objectives build on CASA Phase One, however through Phase Two, as reflected in the objectives in 3.18, BEIS would like to see a stronger emphasis on building longer-term, institutional capacity of negotiating groups and supporting experts in developing countries, increasing South-South support. Phase Two also extends the scope of CASA Phase One to contribute to driving domestic implementation. By doing this the programme aims to facilitate greater ambition and give Parties the confidence to strengthen their domestic commitments to close the ambition gap to 1.5 degrees. Additionally, the programme will aim to address inequality by strengthening the capacity, participation and leadership of women and negotiators from marginalised groups in line with the Lima Work Programme

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Percentages are indicative.

on Gender and its Gender Action Plan (GAP) and relevant programmes and platforms, for example, the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP).

- 3.20. The objectives above are intended to achieve the following aims:
  - 3.20.1. Developing countries are able to leverage political capital more effectively in international climate change negotiations.
  - 3.20.2. Women negotiators and negotiators from marginalised and underrepresented groups request and access available advice and support, increase their influence within supported negotiating groups and ultimately hold leadership positions within supported negotiating groups.
  - 3.20.3. Submissions, positions and interventions of developing country negotiators from supported negotiating groups are scientifically informed.
  - 3.20.4. Supported negotiating groups have improved structures for institutional knowledge retention and are increasingly able to access support from advisers based in member countries.
  - 3.20.5. UNFCCC final decision texts and negotiated outcomes represent the positions and submissions of supported negotiating groups.
  - 3.20.6. Negotiations are expedited and stronger relationships between developing and developed countries built based on enhanced trust

     a result of developing states' increased understanding of the subject matter.
  - 3.20.7. More ambition is displayed in climate negotiations owing to the increased engagement and capacity of low income but high ambition states.
  - 3.20.8. Climate action increases both internationally and domestically, closing the ambition, adaptation and implementation gaps, to align with the 1.5-degree trajectory and Global Goal on Adaptation.
  - 3.20.9. The UK showcases the breadth and depth of targeted support provided to enable ambitious climate action, sending a clear signal to the world of the UK's international climate leadership and commitment to multilateral solutions to global problems.

## Social value

- 3.21. In addition to the aims, objectives and outcomes above, all UK Government projects are required to contribute to wider social value as an additional benefit of the contract<sup>3</sup>. Social value is a broad term used to describe the wider social, environmental and economic effects of an organisation's actions, and how they contribute to the long-term wellbeing of individuals, communities and societies.
- 3.22. Social value is not just a policy requirement. Social value directly supports the mission of BEIS, BEIS International Net Zero and the CASA Phase Two programme. As such we expect our CASA Supplier(s) to mainstream social value

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Please see <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0620-taking-account-of-social-value-in-the-award-of-central-government-contracts</u> for further details on social value in Government procurements and the social value model.

in delivery of the programme. Although the whole of the specification of CASA Phase Two could be considered as contributing to social value, this element is specifically focussed on how the contract is delivered by the Supplier. The eventual contract for the delivery of CASA Phase Two will include KPIs relating to the delivery of social value commitments and the extent to which CASA Phase Two has met its social value goals will be evaluated by an independent evaluator as part of the overall programme evaluation. More information on the independent programme evaluation can be found in section 6.6.

- 3.23. Government policy requires that evaluations of proposals during the procurement process commit at least 10% of the marks to social value considerations. How this will be evaluated for CASA Phase Two is detailed in section 15. To enable clear scoring there is a specific social value question to be answered in proposals. However, BEIS also expects key social value considerations to be built into the core methodology and structure for delivery.
- 3.24. For the avoidance of doubt, social value is not a specific costed activity but is an added co-benefit of delivery and an approach to delivery that is expected of all BEIS suppliers.
- 3.25. For the delivery of CASA Phase Two BEIS is interested in two key social value themes linked to the core objectives of CASA:
  - 3.25.1. Tackling economic inequality increasing supply chain resilience and capacity; and,
  - 3.25.2. Tackling workforce inequality.

#### Tackling economic inequality

- 3.26. The Supplier will need to design an approach that:
  - 3.26.1. Creates an appropriate and diverse supply chain to deliver the contract that is reflective of the negotiating groups, including where relevant new businesses, start-ups, SMEs, VCSEs and mutuals.
  - 3.26.2. Demonstrates collaboration throughout the supply chain and a fair and responsible approach to working with supply chain partners in delivery of the contract.

#### Tackling workforce inequality

- 3.27. As outlined further in Section 5, CASA Phase Two aims to strengthen the institutional capacity of supported negotiating groups. BEIS is looking for a Supplier who will deliver the contract in such a way that will:
  - 3.27.1. Support and empower individuals from vulnerable and marginalised communities and how this support will aim to reduce dependency on advisory services based in the Global North.
  - 3.27.2. Address systemic barriers to workplace progression for minority and disadvantaged groups, address inequalities and provide development opportunities for individuals involved in the programme.

## 4. Requirements of the Supplier

- 4.1. BEIS is procuring a Supplier to deliver programme management services for CASA Phase Two. The initial term is to March 2025, and this may be extended by up to 24 additional months subject to agreement between the Authority and the Supplier. This will include procurement, contracting and management of Technical Partners to deliver negotiations support, capacity building and implementation activities to meet the needs of the Least Developed Countries (LDC) group, the Alliance of Small Island Developing States (AOSIS) and the High Ambition Coalition (HAC). This list may change and expand over the lifetime of the contract.
- 4.2. This support will enable developing country negotiators to participate effectively in the international climate negotiations and related multilateral fora including, but not limited to: UNFCCC COPs, session of the Subsidiary Bodies (Bonn Climate Change Conference), Green Climate Fund (GCF) board meetings, Global Environment Facility (GEF) meetings, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) COPs, and relevant Ministerial meetings.
- 4.3. Delivery is broken down into three work packages as detailed below. BEIS will accept proposals to deliver all three work packages only.

## 4.4. Work Package 1 (WP 1): Programme Management and Oversight

This work package is focussed on the oversight, coordination and management of the programme and includes the following requirements:

- 4.4.1. Work with BEIS and the incumbent Supplier to facilitate a smooth handover to ensure an orderly transition of services such that there is no break in support for the CASA beneficiaries.
- 4.4.2. Work with BEIS to establish effective governance mechanisms and provide a secretariat function for the programme.
- 4.4.3. Provide robust programme management, risk management and financial management of the programme, to assure the effective delivery of CASA's objectives. This will include at least annual implementation planning with the negotiating groups and Technical Partners (implementation planning cycle to be designed by the Supplier) and regular reporting as set out in section 7.7.
- 4.4.4. Design and implement a Technical Partner identification and subcontracting approach to ensure negotiating groups continue to receive support from trusted advisers, whilst considering the entry of new technical advisers where appropriate. Any approach for identifying, contracting and managing Technical Partners must ensure value for money of support provided and include appropriate due diligence of Technical Partner organisations and benchmarking of fees. BEIS will approve the selection of Technical Partners.
- 4.4.5. Manage subcontracted Technical Partners to deliver the services and activities as set out in WP2 and identified during the implementation planning cycle. BEIS anticipate there to be between Page 60 of 97

5 and 10 Technical Partners. This number may change based on the needs of the groups and the design of the programme. Technical Partners may also deliver activities set out in WP3.

- 4.4.6. Facilitate connections, support active collaboration, and drive transparency between different Technical Partners. Where appropriate this should include creating links between negotiating groups.
- 4.4.7. Establish effective Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) processes that fulfil BEIS' MEL requirements (see 7.8) and allow the programme to follow adaptive programme management principles, responding to the changing international context and evolving needs of beneficiaries. This will include collaborating with an external evaluation partner, who will be contracted separately by BEIS.
- 4.4.8. Design and oversee an Opportunity Fund (WP3) to deliver, demand-led activities that add value to the advisory and capacity building support but fall outside of the core work plan (see 5.6).
- 4.4.9. Amplify the positions of supported negotiating groups and ensure resources reach target audiences through external communications and effective knowledge management. This will include maintaining a high-quality and accessible web presence, ensuring the CASA website is hosted and maintained for the duration of the programme and working with Technical Partners to ensure relevant outputs and resources are developed for an external audience and made available on the website. Ownership of the website, materials hosted on the website, the hosting system and management logins must be in a format transferrable to BEIS at the end of the contract.

## 4.5. Work Package 2 (WP 2): Technical Delivery

The Supplier will subcontract Technical Partners and work with them to deliver an implementation plan to provide the following to the LDC group, AOSIS and the High Ambition Coalition in response to their demand and requests for support<sup>4</sup>. As detailed in WP1, implementation plans should be developed at least annually, and bidders should detail their approach for reviewing implementation plans to ensure they remain relevant to the needs of supported negotiating groups.

## Negotiations Support (60% of WP2) will include:

- 4.5.1. Provision of **demand-led support** to developing countries negotiating groups to fill gaps in in-house capacity, expertise and resource including, but not limited to:
  - 4.5.1.1. Assistance in drafting of submissions, policy papers, statements, and decision texts specialist climate finance support legal support.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Percentages are indicative.

- 4.5.1.2. Logistical support for attending virtual and in-person meetings.
- 4.5.2. Facilitation of enhanced **coordination and collaboration** amongst developing country negotiators, including through:
  - 4.5.2.1. Providing closed delegation office spaces for coordination within and between supported negotiating groups at COP sessions.
  - 4.5.2.2. Delivery of events at regional climate weeks and COP sessions to provide a platform for developing countries to showcase their ambition and priorities as well as facilitate networking and information exchange.
- 4.5.3. Provision of **knowledge and communications** products to enhance support and amplify the influence of negotiators from developing countries.

#### 4.6. Capacity building (20% of WP2) will include:

- 4.6.1. Provision of sustained, need-based **training, mentoring and development opportunities** for developing country negotiators (both remotely and in-person). With several prominent experienced developing country negotiators having moved to new roles a new cohort of negotiators will need to build their skills and knowledge to participate effectively in the negotiations. Support for young and new negotiators should align with the UNFCCC's Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) work programme to increase long-term capacity in these groups. Topics may include:
  - 4.6.1.1. The UNFCCC process and strategic participation in it, including expectations of the role of a negotiator.
  - 4.6.1.2. Technical and policy matters relating to climate change, including climate science, finance, adaptation, implementation and transparency.
- 4.6.2. Training and development opportunities should support women in alignment with the UNFCCC's Gender Action Plan to address existing gender imbalances among negotiators. Support should also be prioritised for marginalised groups, including supporting Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities to engage with UNFCCC processes and in collaborative climate action. This could include engaging with the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform (LCIPP) and activities implemented through the LCIPP three-year work plan, in particular, the capacity for engagement function.
- 4.6.3. Structures and incentives for **retaining institutional knowledge** and sharing of expertise and lessons learnt by experienced negotiators.
- 4.6.4. Activities that support strengthening of **institutions and technical** Page **62** of **97**

**experts based in developing countries** to build institutional capacity for the provision of technical, scientific and legal support to negotiating groups.

### 4.7. Implementation (20% of WP2) will include:

- 4.7.1. Extend the provision of negotiations support and capacity building support to provide targeted advisory support and training to negotiators to:
  - 4.7.1.1. Enable effective communication of the outcomes from COPs to domestic policy makers to support the shift towards implementation.
  - 4.7.1.2. Support Parties to share lessons on the development and implementation of better and more effective implementation of internationally made commitments..
  - 4.7.1.3. Support domestic policy makers to have the knowledge needed to update NDCs, create Long Term Strategies and access technical assistance and finance to turn these documents into investable plans, as well as fulfil internationally made commitments such as are part of the Global Stocktake, Enhanced Transparency Framework, ACE Action, Gender Action Plan, and the ACE Work Programme.
- 4.7.2. This work should complement and connect to other initiatives and programmes focussed on implementation. In particular, the UK is an active member (and current co-chair) of the NDC Partnership. As an NDC Partnership member, the UK receives monthly requests for support from developing countries related to the planning and implementation of NDCs and related plans. Support provided should align with the work of the NDC Partnership.

The split between the three areas of support is indicative and the final split will be decided as part of the implementation plan to be delivered in the inception stage.

## 4.8. Work Package 3 (WP 3): Opportunity Fund

In Phase One an Opportunity Fund was directly managed by BEIS to respond to ad hoc, demand-led activities that fall outside of the core implementation plan and to allow CASA to be reactive to emerging needs in the negotiations. Examples of activities funded through the Opportunity Fund in Phase One include:

- 4.8.1. A <u>report</u> providing technical analysis and implications of policy decisions for international crediting under the Paris Agreement
- 4.8.2. Placencia Ambition Forum summit, requested by Belize as Chair of AOSIS to showcase the ambition and leadership of SIDS
- 4.8.3. Thimphu Ambition Summit, requested by the LDC Group to showcase their ambition ahead of the 2020 UK Climate Action

### Summit

- 4.8.4. CASA delegation office at COP26
- 4.8.5. Co-funding of the AOSIS pavilion at COP26
- 4.9. In Phase Two the Opportunity Fund will be part of the core contract and will be managed by the Supplier. The Supplier should include an Opportunity Fund within their core design to allow the programme to enable an adaptive management approach and respond flexibly to the evolving needs of supported negotiating groups. This fund should complement and add value to core activities delivered by Technical Partners across all elements of WP2 and support the programme's intended outcomes.
- 4.10. 20% of the available budget REDACTED should be allocated to the Opportunity Fund and bidders should set out how they will manage the Opportunity Fund and maximise value for money of this flexible resource.
- 4.11. The Supplier will be responsible for the following:
  - 4.11.1. Designing an approach to develop a pipeline of Opportunity Fund projects including raising the profile of this responsive facility. This should include engagement with BEIS and other HMG departments as appropriate, as both a source of pipeline project identification and as advisers to shape projects to align with the UK's International Climate Finance strategy.
  - 4.11.2. Reviewing and agreeing Opportunity Fund projects or funding opportunities with BEIS, including providing assurance these projects offer value for money and contribute to the programme's Theory of Change.
  - 4.11.3. Subcontracting or sub-granting funds to support delivery of Opportunity Fund projects. These projects could be delivered by Technical Partners or other parties as is appropriate for the need.
  - 4.11.4. Incorporating Opportunity Fund investments into the MEL processes, communications and wider programme reporting.

## 5. Roles and responsibilities

5.1. In recognition of the well-established relationships between the negotiating groups and existing technical advisers and the need to maintain this support through CASA Phase Two, the identification and contracting of Technical Partners will be done as part of the CASA Phase Two inception stage. BEIS will work with the Supplier and supported negotiating groups during the inception stage to ensure the group of Technical Partners contains an appropriate mix of organisations to meet the groups' needs and deliver the scope of WP2 and WP3.

At this stage we do not anticipate that bids will be submitted containing finalised details of the full Technical Partners, and this will not be evaluated as part of the selection process. However, bidders should summarise types of support they may look to bring into the Technical Partner group.

5.2. Bidders should clearly set out which parts of the scope will be delivered by the

Supplier and which parts will be delivered through Technical Partners. More details on the proposed commercial arrangements are set out in Section **Error! Reference source not found.** 

- 5.3. The delivery team for CASA Phase Two will comprise the following partners:
  - 5.3.1. **The Delivery Partner ("DP") team** (also referred to as the Supplier for the purposes of this Specification), which will have responsibility for managing and coordinating the implementation of all core aspects of the CASA Phase Two programme. BEIS expects the DP team to consist of the following:
  - 5.3.1.1. **DP core team,** to act as the Programme Manager, responsible for the delivery of CASA Phase Two's objectives. The DP core team will provide oversight/management of Technical Partners, be the primary point of contact with the BEIS programme team and will ensure full cooperation with the independent evaluation partner.
  - 5.3.1.2. **Embedded monitoring, evaluation and learning function**, to undertake monitoring of programme activities and fulfil reporting requirements as set out in section 7.7, such as annual reviews and updating the logframe, as well as feeding into evaluation activities.
  - 5.3.1.3. **Communications and knowledge management function**, including the management of the CASA website.
  - 5.3.2. The DP team may be a single supplier or draw on expertise from several organisations through a consortium or subcontracting arrangement. The scope and expectations of the Supplier team are set out in section 5.
- 5.4. **Technical Partners** to deliver direct support to negotiating groups, and who will be identified based on the needs of the supported negotiating groups. It is anticipated that, at least in the short term and to some extent throughout, Groups will wish to continue to engage with their current advisers. However, the Supplier will be expected to identify the best support based on the current needs of the Groups and the technical requirements of the scope.
- 5.5. **BEIS programme team** has overall responsibility for, and ownership of, the programme and will manage the contract and relationships with the Supplier. The programme team will work closely with the UK Delegation, who will provide strategic support.
- 5.6. An independent Evaluation Partner, which will be separately procured and contracted by BEIS. The primary purpose of the Evaluation Partner will be to evaluate the impact of the UK's long-term support to developing country negotiating groups, looking at results from the past 10+ years of support and to consider lessons learned during delivery. This will inform any future phases or iterations of CASA and related International Climate Finance programming. The Evaluation Partner will also evaluate CASA Phase Two programme activities. They will be engaged in the early stages of the programme to enable interim recommendations to be integrated into CASA. The Delivery Partner team and

Technical Partners will be expected to work closely with the Evaluation Partner to facilitate access to supported negotiating groups and other stakeholders as well as reporting data and feedback held by the Supplier team and Technical Partners.

5.7. In the event that the Authority chooses to extend the contract in line with the conditions set out at Section **Error! Reference source not found.** "Contract term" above, the relevant lessons from the external evaluation will be integrated into delivery.

### Inhouse delivery of technical assistance by the Supplier

- 5.8. In certain circumstances it may be appropriate and preferable for technical assistance services, funded either through WP2 or WP3 to be provided to the negotiating groups by the Supplier. Such direct delivery is allowed under this contract where:
  - There is, in the opinion of BEIS and the beneficiaries, a clear technical and value for money case for doing so.
  - The budget is in line with a pre-agreed rate card provided as part of the commercial response to this tender.
  - The case and budget for direct delivery has been signed off by BEIS in advance of any work starting.

### 6. Outputs

6.1. Phase Two will have two stages. An inception stage (November 2022 – January 2023) and an implementation stage (February 2023 – March 2025, unless programme is extended)

#### Inception stage

6.2. The following activities and outputs should be delivered during the inception stage, which should last from the contract start date to the end of January 2023 to allow time for start-up activities. Dates are indicative and will be agreed between BEIS and the supplier at the start of the inception stage.

Table 1: Inception stage activities and outputs

Activity	Output	Deadline
Kick off meeting.	Meeting minutes detailing planned inception activities.	Within one week of contract start
Attendance at COP27 to support implementation planning and relationships with beneficiaries/current technical providers. To note: support to negotiating groups at COP27 will be overseen/provided by the CASA Phase One supplier and subcontractors.	Summary of advisory and capacity needs of negotiating groups to feed into the design of the technical support and implementation plan.	18th November 2022

Agree handover plan with CASA Phase One Supplier including any urgent support needs to ensure continuity to supported groups during the inception stage.	Written handover plan agreed by both partners.	18th November 2022
Design of the procurement and oversight approach for contracting and managing Technical Partners in collaboration with BEIS and in line with the needs of supported negotiating groups.	Procurement plan for sourcing and contracting Technical Partners.	30th November 2022
<ul> <li>Develop outline of implementation plan including: <ul> <li>Assessment of current support provision, capacity building and implementation support priorities.</li> <li>Assessment of current knowledge management and communications delivery and plans for continuation of the website.</li> <li>Overview of programme management approach including design of the Opportunity Fund.</li> <li>Scope of Technical Partner's work and where input to the implementation plan will be required from Technical Partners.</li> <li>Programme governance.</li> <li>Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning plans including reporting schedule and approach to collaborating with an independent external evaluator.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Outline implementation plan.	30th November 2022
Finalise Technical Partners for the Implementation stage, including any new partners.	Outline of Technical Partner roles and responsibilities.	16 <sup>th</sup> December 2022
Inception workshop with Technical Partners.	Agreement on ways of working and lessons sharing across workstreams/partne rs to feed into implementation plan	13th January 2023
Finalise implementation plan and breakdown of the scope of work by Technical Partner.	Implementation plan including MEL and comms plans and detailed plans for year 1 of delivery.	31st January 2023

6.3. The inception period will require a degree of agility from the Supplier. It may be the case that in certain circumstances, beneficiaries of CASA will require some immediate support on certain issues in the period from 1 December 2022 – 31 January 2023, i.e., prior to the finalisation of the implementation plan. During this period any urgent technical support requirements will need to be serviced by the

new Supplier and/or a relevant Technical Partner with the support of BEIS.

- 6.4. **Handover with incumbent Supplier:** BEIS's contract with the current Supplier comes to an end on 20 January 2023. In order to facilitate an orderly transition of services, provide consistency for beneficiaries and ensure that lessons learned over the last 3 years of delivery are not lost there will be a handover period between the current Supplier and the new Supplier facilitated by BEIS. Bidders should outline in their proposals their expectations for such a handover period. We anticipate it will include:
  - 6.4.1. Handover of documentation, including risk register and Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning documents (logframe, outcome map, transformational impact assessment and lessons learned).
  - 6.4.2. The CASA branding and website, including the <u>https://casaclimate.org/</u> domain.
  - 6.4.3. At least one working meeting with BEIS and both Suppliers to facilitate transition including details of any urgent technical assistance requirements emerging from the beneficiaries following COP27.

### Implementation Stage

6.5. The Supplier will be expected to produce an annual implementation plan. The first annual plan should be included as part of the overall implementation plan delivered in the inception stage. Implementation phase outputs will be agreed as part of this plan.

#### Governance requirements

- 6.6. The following governance requirements will apply to both stages:
  - 6.6.1. **Regular delivery meetings** to update on progress and deliverables. These will take place weekly during the inception phase and the frequency will be reviewed for the implementation phase.
  - 6.6.2. **Monthly delivery reviews** including presentation of a reporting dashboard and financial forecasts and a review of the Opportunity Fund pipeline.
  - 6.6.3. **Quarterly programme advisory board meetings**. The composition of the advisory board will be established during the inception stage.

The Supplier will be expected to circulate minutes and actions from each of these meetings.

## 6.7. **Reporting requirements in both stages:**

- 6.7.1. **Monthly reporting dashboard**. The content will be agreed with BEIS during the inception stage but will include key risks, progress updates and a forward look for each work package.
- 6.7.2. Biannual narrative reporting to be delivered one month after COP Page 68 of 97

and one month after the annual session of the subsidiary bodies (Bonn Climate Change Conference) to report on progress.

- 6.7.3. **Quarterly financial and risk reporting** including breakdown of spend by work package to accompany invoicing, projected spend for the next quarter and a copy of the programme risk register.
- 6.7.4. **Annual review** inputs and inputs into KPI15 transformational impact reporting. The Annual Review will be led by BEIS and include a review of progress against the logframe as well as lessons learned.
- 6.7.5. **Monitoring Evaluation and Learning** reporting as agreed in the Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning plan.
- 6.8. A Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning plan will be included in the implementation plan. At a minimum this will include:
  - 6.8.1. An updated Theory of Change
  - 6.8.2. A programme level logframe with detailed indicators and milestone targets at an output, outcome and impact level, building on the logframe from CASA Phase One.
  - 6.8.3. An annual beneficiary survey to gather data on usefulness of support provided by Technical Partners and the usefulness of online resources.
  - 6.8.4. An annual MEL report including an analysis of results from the annual beneficiary survey, a review of progress against the programme logframe, transformational impact reporting and any additional inputs required for the programme annual review, which will be conducted by BEIS.
  - 6.8.5. Lessons learned reports following major events to feed into adaptive management process and annual implementation plans.
  - 6.8.6. A programme completion report (at the end of the 3-year procurement period) to aggregate evidence from the project reports, logframe, annual review, and stakeholder feedback to make a critical assessment of the portfolio, providing a basis for accountability and learning.
  - 6.8.7. In addition, the Supplier will be expected to support the independent external evaluation by providing access to M&E data and facilitating engagement with stakeholders.

## 7. Working arrangements

7.1. The Supplier will be expected to identify one named point of contact through whom all enquiries can be filtered. A BEIS Project Manager will be assigned to the project and will be the central point of contact.

# Schedule 3 – Supplier Proposal

As submitted to BEIS on 10 August 2022



# **Climate Ambition Support Alliance 2**

Technical Proposal DAI Global UK Ltd 10 AUGUST 2022



## Schedule 4 – Contract Price

#### Contract price

- 1.1. The maximum value of this contract is **£9,500,000** (nine million, five hundred thousand pounds sterling) inclusive of VAT and taxes. This includes all funds to cover the fees and expenses of the Contractor and work contracted by the Contractor to the Technical Partners through WP2 and WP3.
- 1.2. The budget is made up of the following elements. A further breakdown is provided in the tables below.
  - 1.2.1. WP1 Fees to the Contractor up to a maximum of REDACTED
  - 1.2.2. Fixed costs for website maintenance up to a maximum of REDACTED
  - 1.2.3. Expenses for the Contractor Supplier up to a maximum of REDACTED
  - 1.2.4. WP2 Fees and expenses for Technical Partners up to a maximum of REDACTED
  - 1.2.5. WP3 Fees and expenses for Technical Partners up to a maximum of REDACTED
- 1.3. All budgeting, forecasting, reporting and billing from the Supplier to BEIS will be in GBP only.
- 1.4. Expenses incurred by the Supplier in performing the services, and expenses incurred in the delivery of technical assistance to the beneficiaries or in supporting their participation at negotiations and events are eligible costs under this programme. Eligible expenses including travel and subsistence that are compliant with the expenses policy in Schedule 6 will be reimbursed at cost. Exceptions to the expenses policy must be agreed in writing in advance with BEIS prior to any costs being incurred. Any costs at odds with the expenses policy that are not preagreed are incurred at the Supplier's own risk.
- 1.5. Logistical costs, including but not limited to all travel and subsistence, are limited to 15% of the overall contract value. This includes expenses incurred by the Contractor's team. Any exception to this must be justified and agreed in writing with BEIS prior to any costs being incurred. Any logistical costs over and above this 15% cap that are not pre-agreed with BEIS will not be reimbursed. The maximum amount that may be spent on logistical costs under this contract is £1,425,000.
- 1.6. The overall maximum profit margin for this contract is **10%**. The Contractor will report the actual profit margin to the Authority on an annual basis. This will be self-audited by the supplier, but the Authority reserves the right to request evidence if required.
- 1.7. Daily rates will be fixed for the duration of the contract and any extension period.
- 1.8. BEIS anticipates that the budget breakdown between work packages as provided in this Schedule will be fixed for the duration of the contract period. However, in Page **71** of **97**

line with agile contract management principles, BEIS expects the Contractor to actively manage the budget and discuss any concerns with regards to budget splits as soon as reasonably possible. Where, in the opinion of BEIS, there is a clear commercial and quality justification for reconsidering the budget split during the delivery period, changes to the budget may be considered and agreed in writing with the

#### Payment schedule

- 1.9. Billing will be every two months in arrears and will be linked to work satisfactorily delivered in the preceding months.
- 1.10. Contractor fees will be paid on a time and materials basis up to the maximum contractor fee.
- 1.11. Technical Partner fees and expenses will be passed through at cost supported by invoices.
- 1.12. Invoices will be submitted every 2 months accompanied by such supporting documentation as may be agreed with the BEIS contract officer. This will include but may not be limited to:
  - Timesheets linked to delivering relevant sections of the agreed workplan
  - Technical Partner invoices
  - Expenses breakdowns and supporting receipts

#### Forecasting and budget controls

- 1.13. The Contractor will provide a forecast of spend of the budget to be updated quarterly in line with planned payment milestones and reporting requirements. Invoiced amounts are to be within 10% of the confirmed forecast for the quarter. Exceptions must be justified.
- 1.14. The Contractor will agree with the BEIS contract manager a series of budget approval points throughout each contract year on at least an annual basis. At these points BEIS will review and approve the planned spend for the period in advance of that period starting.

Contractor budget breakdown

REDACTED

REDACTED

OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

# Schedule 5 – Correspondence

REDACTED

# Schedule 6 – Expenses Policy and Eligible Costs

Ŵ

Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

# Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

# Expenses Policy and Eligible Costs Guidance

#### 1. Background to guidance

Managing Public Money (2022), HM Treasury guidance on the use of public funds, demonstrates the Government's clear stated policy that taxpayers' money is used as intended. In order to **increase transparency, clarity** and **consistency** in the spending of funds this eligible expenditure guidance forms part of this contract. In the event of any conflict between the contract or agreement terms and conditions and this document the contract or agreement will take precedence.

This guidance document provides details of both eligible expenditure and items of expenditure that are expressly ineligible and should be referred to when submitting the budget template supporting your proposal. The guidance will help organisations calculate the full cost of a particular project or service, including an appropriate share of all relevant support services and other overheads/indirect costs as appropriate.

The Authority reserves the right to make changes to this document from time to time in line with developments in Government policy.

# 2. Principles of eligibility

The contract amount is to be used solely for costs included in the budget for the delivery of the outputs and outcomes in the log frame or agreed results model framework. These costs must:

- Be actually incurred by the recipient
- Be incurred within the period set out
- Be indicated within the cost budget
- Be incurred in connection with and necessary for implementation
- Be identifiable, verifiable and recorded in the recipient's accounts in accordance with applicable accounting standards and with the beneficiary's usual cost accounting practices
- Be compliant with applicable national law on taxes, labour and any all other relevant national law
- Be reasonable, justifiable and compliant with the principles of sound financial management

Expenditure cost categories containing specific eligible and ineligible definitions are defined within this guidance and the budget should be completed in line with the guidance.

#### 3. Foreign exchange

All costs within the budget must be in GBP. Suppliers operating in another currency must convert to GBP at the spot FX rate and the source and value of any exchange rates used should be referenced in the budget.

# 4. Ineligible costs (applicable to all budget categories)

The following expenditure items are explicitly ineligible across all expenditure cost categories unless permitting them is a specific requirement of the contract (this list is not exhaustive and does not override activities which are deemed eligible and explicitly agreed as part of the contract):

- Lobbying UK government, i.e. activities which aim to influence or attempt to influence Parliament, UK government or political activity, or UK legislative or regulatory action
- Activities which directly enable one part of government to challenge another on topics unrelated to the agreed purpose of the contract
- To petition UK Government for additional funding
- Activities which may lead to civil unrest
- Activities which discriminate against any group on the basis of age, gender reassignment, disability, race, colour, ethnicity, sex and sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity, religion or belief
- Interest payments or service charge payments for finance leases
- Gifts
- Statutory fines, criminal fines or penalties
- Payments for works or activities that are fully funded by other sources whether in cash or in kind, for example if premises are provided free of charge, BEIS will not contribute to a notional rent
- Activities in breach of UK Legislation on Subsidy Control
- Bad debts to related parties
- Payments for unfair dismissal or other compensation
- Replacement or refund of any funds lost to fraud, corruption, bribery, theft, terrorist financing or other misuse of funds
- The cost of any fines or charges applied by local Governments or by any local public authority
- Costs or benefits provided to any public official or third party if there is a high likelihood that the payment or benefit was for improper purposes (e.g. facilitation payments)
- Fundraising (with the exception of any agreed allocated costs not attributable to the project (indirect costs))
- Foreign exchange as a standalone budget line
- Contingency or risk premium
- Depreciation (with the exception of any agreed allocated indirect costs)
- Debt repayment

- Costs associated with preparing bid or commercial proposal prior to a formal agreement being executed or in the preparation of proposals for the take up of contract extension options
- Costs incurred prior to a formal agreement being executed
- Unless directly attributable to the programme, advocacy and campaigning, marketing and communications, policy, retainer fees, capital expenditure, land, bank charges and insurance (unless, by exception, explicitly agreed in writing in advance).<sup>5</sup>

Additional exclusions relating to specific expenditure cost categories are detailed in this guidance and are mandated in addition to the above general ineligible costs. In case of any doubt, the partner or potential supplier should consult BEIS in advance.

#### 5. Expenditure cost categories

In an organisation there are two types of costs that are incurred as a result of running a project or service: Direct Programme Costs and Indirect Costs.

Direct Programme Costs are subdivided further into two types of Direct Costs:

- (a) Direct project costs: These are all the costs that are clearly and directly *incurred because of the project*. Typically, they include the salaries of project staff, their travel and subsistence, project materials, and all other costs easily identifiable as part of the project.
- (b) Directly attributable project costs: These are all the costs that are clearly and directly *attributable to the project*. Typically, they include country office resources specifically allocated to the project.

**Indirect costs** comprise those overhead costs that are not attributable to a project. These costs are incurred by an organisation in order to support the projects that it runs.

# 6. Direct programme costs

Direct programme costs are activities and costs directly incurred in the delivery and implementation of the programme and are directly linked to specific project outcomes and results. This generally includes frontline delivery costs and programme management and support costs.

# 6.1. Staff costs (including payroll taxes and benefits)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> There are limited circumstances where it is appropriate to include insurance costs, for example to meet legal obligations or where doing so provides value for money (this is an extract from <u>Managing Public Money</u>)

All individuals working under an employment contract, a direct contract (consultant), a sub-contractor or an individual seconded and assigned to the programmeare eligible costs. Each salaried and non-salaried staff member should be assigned a role and the daily fee rate should be individually listed:

The daily fee rate is deemed to cover the cost of salary remuneration and benefits including superannuation (pension) and payroll taxes. If the cost is that of a sub-contractor, the daily fee rate will be the total invoiced cost chargeable to the project. A line item stating total staff costs will not be accepted.

BEIS will only reimburse productive days' work.

You should include details in your budget where time is being donated to programmes at no charge (in-kind contributions).

#### 6.2. Management fees

The costs incurred by the Lead Organisation of managing both the recruitment and project work of external consultants and delivery partner programme staff where these are significant – i.e. they result in specific additional direct programme costs that are in excess of normal organisational establishment cost levels are eligible costs.

#### 6.3. Frontline programme delivery costs

Frontline delivery expenditure includes commodities for beneficiaries or participants, transport of commodities (excluding vehicles which are capital expenditure and driver salaries which are included under travel costs, but including freight and logistics), storage of commodities, training and associated costs for beneficiaries or participants, disbursements to beneficiaries or participants, and any other frontline delivery costs associated with the delivery of programme outputs. This excludes staff costs, travel accommodation and subsistence, and capital expenditure which should be detailed separately under expenses.

# 6.4. Capital expenditure items

Capital expenditure includes specialist equipment, office furniture and equipment, standard and off-road motor vehicles and any other project related equipment. Any aspect of capital expenditure included must be fully justified as contributing to the sustainable outcome of the project. The cost should be recorded in the year in which the purchase is planned; do not spread the cost of a new purchase over the lifetime of the project. **Depreciation is not an allowable expense.** 

Ownership of any capital items bought using BEIS funds is retained by BEIS throughout the lifetime of the project. The future use of an item will be discussed and agreed on project completion.

There is a requirement for a programme asset register to be maintained for all assets purchased at a value of REDACTEDor more.

# 6.5. Travel, subsistence and accommodation

Travel undertaken for delivering the programme (including that related to monitoring, evaluation and learning activities) are eligible costs. This includes air, rail, car hire and other travel costs, hotel and accommodation costs, subsistence, travel management fees, travel documentation costs (e.g. passport/visa costs), travel vaccinations. The budget should include as much information as possible about travel plans.

BEIS is committed to working towards Net Zero both domestically and internationally. As such all BEIS suppliers should look to minimise travel as much as possible. Where travel cannot be avoided the most economical option should be chosen.

# 6.5.1. Ineligible expenses

The following are ineligible expenses and may not be claimed. Exceptions must be agreed in writing with your BEIS contract or agreement manager.

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- Personal entertainment/recreation or travel
- Per diems (N.B. at cost accommodation and subsistence can still be paid for supported by receipts)
- Business and first-class travel or fully flexible tickets for flights or ground transportation
- Clothing
- Laundry
- Excess baggage
- Extra legroom
- Other travel facilitation costs e.g. charges to select a seat in advance of travel

# 6.5.2. Travel

Travel and living expenses will be paid at a rate consistent with the <u>HMRC's</u> schedule of rates<sup>6</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/scale-rate-expenses-payments-employee-travelling-outside-the-uk</u> -

All journeys by rail or air will be budgeted by a class of travel that is no more than "standard economy" unless higher travel classes are representative of improved value for money or are required to adhere to specific legislation, for example the Equality Act 2010. Your BEIS representative will confirm if this is appropriate, and no travel should be booked in a class higher than "standard economy" without express written permission. First class travel will not be permitted under any circumstances. If a supplier books anything other than standard economy travel without prior written approval, these costs are incurred at their own risk and expense.

The most economical form of transportation must always be used. The use of taxis or car rental where safe, frequent and reliable public transport exists must be justified.

For car journeys less than or equal to 10,000 miles in a personal car, these will be reimbursed at REDACTED per mile.

# 6.5.3. Subsistence

Alcohol and tobacco are not allowable subsistence items under any circumstances.

Where food, refreshments, transportation, accommodation or other expenses are required for the participants of a workshop, conference, seminar etc. (including staff of the supplier or project partners) all costs must be reasonable and follow these guidelines.

In the event that a supplier is not able to stick to these rates they must contact their BEIS contract manager to discuss and provide a rationale for any exemption. Exemptions must be provided in writing by BEIS in advance of any above-rate expenses being incurred. In the event that a supplier incurs above-rate expense without prior written approval, these costs are incurred at their own risk and expense.

As per the guidance in this document, expenses are to be claimed and paid for based on actual expenses incurred supported by receipts. BEIS will not pay fixed per diems.

# 6.6. Claiming expenses

To be reimbursed, expenses must be incurred during the period of the project and be linked to the approved budget lines and activities of the project. All expenses must be clearly detailed and evidenced, showing the actual cost incurred supported by receipts, tickets, hotel bills etc.

- Every expense claim should include sufficient information to justify each expense and should include what the expense is, the date it was incurred and the reason why. All travel claims must state the journey start and end location.
- Bank or credit/debit card statements alone are not acceptable evidence, though must also be provided if the receipt does not evidence payment.
- The currency in which the expense was incurred should always be detailed. If this is not GBP, evidence should be provided showing the exchange rate to GBP (ideally a bank statement showing the GBP cost debited or details of the exchange rate from www.xe.com or www.oanda.com). There are several accepted approaches. So long as used consistently, reporting can use the exchange rate on the date each expense was paid; the date the invoice was submitted; or the monthly average. For advance payments, the rate used can be the date the money was paid from the bank.
- Per diem rates will not be reimbursed. However, actual expenditure (evidenced by receipts, invoices etc.) on accommodation, subsistence and travel can be reimbursed.
- Air miles or equivalent reward schemes should not be used to pay for the cost of flights as they will not be reimbursed.

# 7. Indirect costs

Indirect costs are overhead costs that relate to the overall operations, management and identity of the supplier rather than to programme services. These costs are necessary for programmes to function although cannot be clearly linked to specific project outcomes and results (i.e. business expenses not including or related to direct labour, direct materials or third-party expenses that are charged directly to projects).

Typically, they include overall management and employee costs, administration and support, equipment, space and premises costs, and activities that relate to the whole organisation and partly support your project, but also support your other projects. These may include:

# 7.1. Premises and office costs

This category relates to all costs associated with the organisation's premises and office including rent and imputed rent, mortgage costs, depreciation, management of facilities, building insurance, rates, maintenance and cleaning, groundworks and gardening, utilities, catering, vending services and residential accommodation.

#### 7.2. Central function costs

This category relates to all costs associated with the organisation's Board of Directors including basic salary, maternity and sick pay, other paid leave (sabbatical, vacation, home leave, and paid holidays) overtime, allowances, payroll taxes, pensions, travel and subsistence and telephone.

It also relates to all salary and on-costs associated with the organisation's central functions including but not limited to human resources, finance, information technology, secretarial, internal audit, policy and research and evidence departments, marketing, office management and any other central support functions, travel and subsistence, bank charges and recruitment costs.

#### 7.3. Governance and strategic development costs

This category relates to external expert and professional services expertise brought in when in-house skills are not available, including payments for services contracted to provide strategic or governance direction, financial, management, procurement, legal, audit, human resources or technical advice. This includes any other internal governance and strategic development cost that is not a central function cost or premises and office cost.

#### 7.4. Share of indirect costs

Since different projects make different demands on the organisation it is important to note that indirect costs are not necessarily proportional to the direct costs of a project. Indirect costs should be shared between on a fair and reasonable basis. This means:

- Each programme's share of the indirect cost is appropriate given the nature and extent of its activities (i.e. a programme does not receive a share of overheads that it does not incur).
- •
- There is a rational basis for the method used to share indirect costs that can be justified and supported.
- The allocation of indirect to the programme is only an estimate. The allocation method must be fair and reasonable based on the information you have.

A straight percentage allocation to the budget is not based on an understanding of your organisation's overheads and is therefore unlikely to meet the principles detailed above.

If you intend to raise income for your programme from other sources, we expect those sources to cover their fair share of the programme's indirect costs. BEIS will only fund its share of the programme's overheads. We would not expect to fund a greater share of indirect costs than the share of the programme direct costs we are funding.

#### 7.5. Accounting and budgeting for indirect costs

We anticipate that, in the vast majority of cases, indirect costs will be included in the daily fee rates of staff and a further breakdown is not required at the time of bidding. If indirect costs are not included in daily rates and you need to list them separately, please speak to BEIS.

#### 8. Payment basis and cost verification

BEIS and HMG operate on a policy of operational need. Payments are made in arrears according to BEIS policy rules unless in exceptional circumstances and where otherwise expressly agreed in writing. We expect our partners to follow the same principles downstream.

An assessment of the eligibility of the costs included within your proposal will be conducted prior to the award of any contract or funding agreement.

# Schedule 7 – Performance Management

#### 1. Supplier performance management

- 1.1. The supplier is subject to the following performance management conditions and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Please note that this section of the ITT will form an Annex to the eventual contract.
- 1.2. CASA programme performance will primarily be measured and managed using Key Performance Indicators (KPI) detailed in the table below.
- 1.3. Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) or Service Levels are used to align the Supplier's performance with the requirements of the Authority. KPIs must be realistic and achievable, and also have to be met, in order to demonstrate that the services are being delivered to an adequate quality.
- 1.4. BEIS reserves the right to amend the existing KPI's detailed below or add any new KPI's. Any changes to the KPI's will be agreed with the Supplier and, during delivery, be confirmed by way of a formal contract amendment.
- 1.5. KPIs will need to be monitored on an at least quarterly basis by BEIS and will be reported on each quarter. The Authority will reserve the right to request reporting of KPIs on a more frequent basis if performance levels would suggest increased monitoring is required.
- 1.6. BEIS reserves the right to publish contract KPIs and performance against these in line with departmental and cross-Government requirements.
- 1.7. Performance of each KPI will be recorded against a red, amber, green "score", as described below, with a red score constituting a Service Level Failure. These levels of performance are detailed in the table below, along with the frequency of reporting. As a minimum, the Supplier will be required to report against KPIs (where possible) in each quarterly invoicing period.
- The Supplier is required to develop and implement at their own cost a Remediation Plan for KPIs which are scored as an amber or a red (see 1.11 and 1.12 below).
- 1.9. Where KPI's have not been met as a result of actions or matters outside of the Supplier's direct control, the Authority may choose to disregard the KPI penalties and corrective measures in that instance.

#### Scoring methodology for KPI criteria:

- 1.10. Green Score: If a green score has been awarded to a KPI then no further action is required from the Supplier, with the exception of continuing activities to maintain this score for the next reporting period.
- 1.11. Amber Score: If an amber score is awarded, the Supplier should examine and implement measures to prevent this KPI being scored an amber in subsequent reporting periods. The Authority will not expect formal improvement measures at

that stage. If a single KPI is awarded amber in two consecutive invoice periods, or twice in four consecutive invoicing periods then the Supplier should create a Remediation Plan at their own cost. This should detail how they will change their practices to prevent another amber score being awarded for this KPI. The timeline for producing this Remediation Plan should be agreed between the Authority and the Supplier and should only be implemented following approval by the Authority. The Authority reserves the right to terminate the Contract if a satisfactory Remediation Plan cannot be agreed.

1.12. Red Score: If a red score is awarded, this is considered a Service Level Failure. The Supplier should create a Remediation Plan at their own cost. This Remediation Plan should detail how they will change practices to prevent another red score being awarded for this KPI. As above, the Authority must agree to the timelines and contents of the Remediation Plan prior to implementation and reserves the right to terminate the Contract if a satisfactory plan cannot be agreed. If, following implementation of a Remediation Plan, the Supplier scores a red in the same KPI in any subsequent period throughout the duration of the Contract, the Authority reserves the right to terminate the Contract if a KPI red score has been awarded without requesting a Remediation Plan if it is of the opinion of the Authority that a Material Default has occurred. The Authority reserves the right to suspend, or partially terminate the Contract, while a Remediation Plan is being developed and agreed, where there is justification to do so.

#### Key performance indicators applicable to this contract

1.13. The following KPIs will apply to this contract. These KPIs may be amended by the Authority before contract signature and throughout the delivery of the programme in response to contract reviews and the needs of the programme and with the agreement of the Supplier.

#### **Contract Key Performance Indicators**

Service Level		Key Performance Indicator	Service Level Performance Measure	Service Level Threshold						Financial
	Ref. No.			Target	Target: Green	Target: Amber	Target: Red	Frequenc y	Notes	penalties apply (Yes/No)
Social Value	SV1	Diverse and collaborative supply chain	At least half of CASA Phase Two technical partners are from national or regional organisations based in the Global South - with organisations being formally contracted as technical partners or as part of a consortium with Global North organisations	At least half of all CASA Phase Two technical partners formally contracted to the programme are from national or regional organisations based in the Global South	≥50%	50-30%	<30%	Quarterly	The service level RAG may change following consultation with beneficiary groups during inception	No
Social Value	SV2	Reducing dependency on Suppliers in the Global North	Involvement of Global South suppliers in delivery of Opportunity Fund activities as lead organisation or in partnership and collaboration with Global North partner	At least 95% of Opportunity Fund activities to be delivered by, or in partnership with, a Global South organisation	≥95%	>80% - <95%	<80%	Quarterly	This KPI will be assessed during inception once further work is completed on the scope and approach for the Opportunity Fund.	No
Social Value	SV3.1	Development opportunities for disadvantaged groups (1)	Increased percentage of female participants in activities sponsored by CASA	50% of participants in activities sponsored by CASA who are female.	>50%	>40% - <50%	<40%	Quarterly		No

Service Level	Ref. No.	Key Performance Indicator	Service Level Performance Measure	Service Level Threshold						Financial
Performance Criterion (KPI Category)				Target	Target: Green	Target: Amber	Target: Red	Frequenc y	Notes	penalties apply (Yes/No)
Social Value	SV3.2	Development opportunities for disadvantaged groups (2)	Increased percentage of individuals from indigenous groups in activities sponsored by CASA	[X]% of participants in activities sponsored by CASA who identify as being from indigenous groups.	TBC during inception	TBC during inception	TBC during inception	Quarterly		No
Social Value	SV3.3	Development opportunities for disadvantaged groups (3)	Increased percentage of young participants from disadvantaged groups in activities sponsored by CASA	[X]% of participants in activities sponsored by CASA who are young and from disadvantaged groups	TBC during inception	TBC during inception	TBC during inception	Annual	'Young' refers to 18-35, as per definition by YOUNGO. A definition and scope for 'Disadvantaged ' will be finalised as part of the work during the inception period.	No
Finance	F1	Forecasting accuracy	% variance between actual invoiced amounts and forecasted amounts.	Invoiced amount within 10% of forecast	<10%	>10% - <15%	>15%	Quarterly		No

Service Level	Ref. No.	Key Performance Indicator	Service Level Performance Measure	Service Level Threshold						Financial
Performance Criterion (KPI Category)				Target	Target: Green	Target: Amber	Target: Red	Frequenc y	Notes	penalties apply (Yes/No)
Finance	F2	Accurate and timely invoicing	% of accurate and compliant invoices and bi- monthly financial reports submitted on time	Financial reports/invoices submitted on time	Within 15 working days of the end of the reporting period	Within 17 working days of the end of the reporting period	Within >17 working days of the end of the reporting period	Bi-monthly		No
Reporting	R1	Reporting - provided in a timely, accurate and concise manner	Quarterly narrative/risk/performance management reports submitted on time as agreed with BEIS	Reports submitted on time with respect to agreed deadlines	On time	5 working days after agreed deadline	>5 working days after agreed deadline	Quarterly		No
Reporting	R2	Data to inform Annual MEL report	Comprehensive and high- quality programme data, as judged by BEIS, is submitted on time, as agreed with BEIS to inform the annual MEL report	Reports submitted on time with respect to agreed deadlines	On time	5 working days after agreed deadline	>5 working days after agreed deadline	Annually		No
Reporting	R3	Logframe	An updated logframe is issued and signed off within the timeline agreed with BEIS	Logframe submitted on time with respect to agreed deadlines	On time	Up to 5 working days after greed deadline	>5 working days after agreed deadline	Annually		No
Communicati ons	C1	Relevant programme outputs and resources published on CASA website	CASA beneficiaries rate online resources as useful for raising their profile and overall engagement	% of beneficiaries rate online resources as useful	>80%	60-80%	<60% feedback positive	Annually		No

Service Level	Def	Key Performance Indicator	Service Level Performance Measure	Service Level Threshold				_		Financial
Performance Criterion (KPI Category)	Ref. No.			Target	Target: Green	Target: Amber	Target: Red	Frequenc y	Notes	penalties apply (Yes/No)
Delivery	D1	Agility of Opportunity Fund	Opportunity Fund responds to identified needs within agreed timeframes	Opportunity Fund projects are contracted within one month of all Parties agreeing to proceed with the project	90% contracted within one month	70-90% contracte d within one month	<70% contracte d within one month	Quarterly		No
Delivery	D2	Positive feedback from negotiating groups on the advisory support provided by Technical Partners	Feedback from supported negotiating groups demonstrates that support provided is useful to CASA beneficiaries	Evidence of positive feedback from negotiating groups through annual beneficiary survey	>90% of feedback positive	80 – 90% feedback positive	<80% feedback positive	Annually		No
Delivery	D3	Positive feedback from beneficiaries on capacity building activities	Feedback from capacity building beneficiaries demonstrates that support provided had enhanced their skills and knowledge	Evidence of positive feedback from negotiating groups	>75% of feedback positive	75 – 60% feedback positive	<60% feedback positive	Annually		No

#### Supplier due diligence

- 1.14. As per the Invitation to Tender, the Contractor will need to undergo a delivery partner review (DPR) undertaken by a third party contractor (contracted by BEIS). The results of this DPR may highlight actions to be taken by the Contractor in order to comply with BEIS's due diligence requirements. The results of the DPR will be discussed with BEIS and a plan to address any agreed actions will be developed and reported against at agreed intervals by the Contractor. This plan will include actions to be taken and the timeline for those actions.
- 1.15. The action plan will be developed within 30 calendar days of the agreement of required actions unless otherwise agreed with BEIS.
- 1.16. In the event that the DPR highlights substantial issues or matters which cannot be remedied or that in the opinion of BEIS are at odds with the terms and conditions of contract such that the Contractor is considered in breach of this contract, BEIS reserves the right to terminate this agreement with immediate effect in line with clause 30 of the standard terms and conditions.

# Schedule 8 – Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects

The Contractor will be compliant with the Data Protection Legislation as defined in the terms and conditions applying to this Invitation to Tender. A guide to the UK General Data Protection Regulation published by the Information Commissioner's Office, can be found <u>here.</u>

The only processing that the Contractor is authorised to do is listed in Annex 1 by BEIS, "the Authority" and may not be determined by the Contractor.

#### Annex 1: Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects

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

BEIS Data Protection Officer Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy 1 Victoria Street London SW1H 0ET Email: <u>dataprotection@beis.gov.uk</u>

- 2. The contact details of the Contractor's Data Protection Officer (or if not applicable, details of the person responsible for data protection in the organisation) are: REDACTED
- 3. The nature of the service will require the Contractor to collect personal data directly from data subjects. The Contractor will use the agreed BEIS privacy notice as instructed by the Authority.
- 4. BEIS will be relying on consent as the relevant legal basis of processing. The Contractor will ensure that all communications requesting the provision on personal data allow for the data subject to provide clear, affirmative, informed, freely given and unambiguous consent, which requires a positive 'opt-in.' The Contractor will have mechanisms in place to ensure that consent is recorded and shown through an audit trail.
- 5. The Contractor shall comply with any further written instructions with respect to processing by the Authority.
- 6. Any such further instructions shall be incorporated into this Annex 1.

Description	Details
Data Protection Legislation	The UK GDPR and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time;
	or

	the DPA 2018 to the extent that it relates to Processing of personal data and privacy; or
	all applicable Law about the Processing of personal data and privacy
UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)	The retained EU law version of the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) as transposed into UK Law by the Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.
Subject matter of the	
processing	The processing of names and business contact details of staff of both the Authority and the Contractor will be necessary to deliver the services exchanged during the course of the Contract, and to undertake contract and performance management.
	The Contract itself will include the names and business contact details of staff of both the Authority and the Contractor involved in managing the Contract.
Duration of the processing	Processing will take place from the start date of the contract for the duration of the Contract. The Contract will end on 31 March 2025 but may be extended until 31 March 2027.
Nature and purposes of the	
processing	The nature of the processing will include collection, recording, and use of personal data.
	Processing takes place for the purposes of coordinating and delivering the project.
	The nature of processing will include the storage and use of names and business contact details of staff of both the Authority and the Contractor 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 Authority and the Contractor involved in managing the Contract.
Type of Personal Data	Names, business telephone numbers and email addresses, office location and position of staff of both the Authority and the Contractor 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 Authority and the Contractor involved in managing the Contract.
Categories of Data Subject	Staff of the Authority and the Contractor, including where those employees are named within the Contract itself or involved within contract management.
Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete UNLESS requirement under UK GDPR to preserve that type of data	The Contractor 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 Contractor after the expiry of the Contract. The Contractor will certify to the 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 Invitation to Tender.

#### Schedule 9 – Variation Template

#### VARIATION TO CONTRACT FORM

CONTRACT TITLE:

FOR THE PROVISION OF:

CONTRACT REF:

VARIATION No:

DATE:

BETWEEN:

- (1) The Secretary of State for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (herein after called "the Authority"); and
- (2) [ ] (hereinafter called "the Contractor")
- 1. This Contract is varied as follows and shall take effect on the date signed by both Parties:
  - i) [ ]
- 2. Words and expressions in this Variation shall have the meanings given to them in this Call Off Contract.
- 3. The Contract, including any previous Variations, shall remain effective and unaltered except as amended by this Variation.

Signed for and on behalf of the **Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)** 

Signature:	
Full Name:	
Date:	
Signed for and on behalf of [	1

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

#### OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE: COMMERCIAL

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_