

NHS TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES (CONTRACT VERSION)

The Authority	NHS England, Quarry House, Leeds, LS2 7UE
The Supplier	ARDEN & GEM CSU, St John's House, East Street, Leicester, LE1 6NB
Date	04.08.23
Type of Services	Clinical & Medical Support Services

This Contract is made on the date set out above subject to the terms set out in the schedules listed below ("**Schedules**"). The Authority and the Supplier undertake to comply with the provisions of the Schedules in the performance of this Contract.

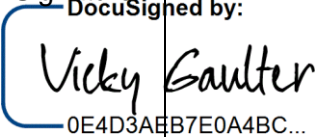
The Supplier shall supply to the Authority, and the Authority shall receive and pay for, the Services on the terms of this Contract.

The Definitions in Schedule 4 apply to the use of all capitalised terms in this Contract.


Schedules

Schedule 1	Key Provisions
Schedule 2	General Terms and Conditions
Schedule 3	Information and Data Provisions
Schedule 4	Definitions and Interpretations
Schedule 5	Specification and Tender Response Document
Schedule 6	Commercial Schedule
Schedule 7	Staff Transfer
Schedule 8	Expert Determination
Schedule 9	Change Control Process

Signed by the authorised representative of THE AUTHORITY

Name:	Vicky Gaulter	Authority Signature: DocuSigned by:  0E4D3AEB7E0A4BC... Full Name Vicky Gaulter	
Position:	Director of Financial Control	Job Title/Role: Director of Financial Control Date Signed: 4 August 2023	

Signed by the authorised representative of THE SUPPLIER

Name:	John Parkes	Supplier Signature: DocuSigned by:  97ECFC3EBE9246E... Full Name John Parkes	
Position:	Managing Director	Job Title/Role: Managing Director Date Signed: 04/08/2023	

Schedule 1

Key Provisions

Guidance: These Key Provisions enable the Authority to complete project specific details and to add any optional and/or extra provisions applicable to the relevant project.

Standard Key Provisions

1 Application of the Key Provisions

- 1.1 The standard Key Provisions at Clauses 1 to 8 of this Schedule 1 shall apply to this Contract.
- 1.2 The optional Key Provisions at Clauses 9 to 26 of this Schedule 1 shall only apply to this Contract where they have been checked and information completed as applicable.
- 1.3 Extra Key Provisions shall only apply to this Contract where such provisions are set out at the end of this Schedule 1.

2 Term

- 2.1 This Contract shall commence on the Commencement Date and the Term of this Contract shall expire on the 30/05/2026. The Term may be extended in accordance with Clause 15.2 of Schedule 2 provided that the duration of this Contract shall be no longer than 5 years in total.

Guidance: Insert the initial term in the second line and the maximum term including all extensions in the fourth line. Do remember that the initial term and maximum term must be consistent with the Find a Tender contract notice.

Note that the term runs from the date when the Services are actually provided. If there is an implementation plan over, for example, three months, the term runs from the date the Services are provided. In these circumstances, it will be important to include a process in the implementation plan for acknowledging this date to ensure the term is clear.

The above approach has been adopted as it will mean that any delay in implementation does not have the effect of shortening the contract term. However, it may be that for some projects you want the services to start and/or end on a particular date or event. Where this is the case, this Key Provision can be amended accordingly.

3 Contract Managers

- 3.1 The Contract Managers at the commencement of this Contract are:

- 3.1.1 for the Authority:

[Redacted]

- 3.1.2 for the Supplier:

[Redacted]

Guidance: This Clause sets out the name of the contract manager for each party. Insert the name and role of the Authority's contract manager. At the tender stage you will not know who the Supplier is so Clause 3.1.2 cannot be completed until preparation of the final contract for signature.

4 Names and addresses for notices

4.1 Notices served under this Contract are to be delivered to:

4.1.1 for the Authority:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

4.1.2 for the Supplier:

[REDACTED]
St John's House
East Street
Leicester
LE1 6NB

Guidance: This Clause sets out the name of each party's recipient of notices from the other party and is relevant to the issuing of formal communications under the Contract. Insert the name and address of the Authority's recipient of notices. At the tender stage you will not know who the Supplier is so Clause 4.1.2 cannot be completed until preparation of the final contract for signature. You may prefer to insert the role of the recipient (e.g. Finance Director) rather than an actual name.

5 Management levels for escalation and dispute resolution

5.1 The management levels at which a Dispute may be dealt with as referred to as part of the Dispute Resolution Procedure are as follows:

Level	Authority representative	Supplier representative
1	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

Guidance: The Dispute Resolution Procedure sets out an internal process for dealing with Disputes. In Clause 5.1 above you must insert the number of internal levels and the name and/or role of the person who will deal with a Dispute at each level. You may include as many levels as appropriate to the project. The purpose of having a number of levels is to ensure all internal avenues of resolution have been exhausted before a Dispute is dealt with by an external third party.

Under Authority representative insert the appropriate details. Also consider how many levels are appropriate to your individual project. At the tender stage you will not know who the Supplier is so the Supplier Representatives cannot be completed until preparation of the final contract for signature.

6 Order of precedence

- 6.1 Subject always to Clause 1.10 of Schedule 4, should there be a conflict between any other parts of this Contract the order of priority for construction purposes shall be:
- 6.1.1 the provisions on the front page of this NHS Contract for the Provision of Services (Contract Version);
 - 6.1.2 Schedule 1: Key Provisions;
 - 6.1.3 Schedule 5: Specification and Tender Response Document (but only in respect of the Authority's requirements);
 - 6.1.4 Schedule 2: General Terms and Conditions;
 - 6.1.5 Schedule 6: Commercial Schedule;
 - 6.1.6 Schedule 3: Information Governance Provisions;
 - 6.1.7 Schedule 7: Staff Transfer;
 - 6.1.8 Schedule 4: Definitions and Interpretations;
 - 6.1.9 the order in which all subsequent schedules, if any, appear; and
 - 6.1.10 any other documentation forming part of the Contract in the date order in which such documentation was created with the more recent documentation taking precedence over older documentation to the extent only of any conflict.
- 6.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the Specification and Tender Response Document shall include, without limitation, the Authority's requirements in the form of its specification and other statements and requirements, the Supplier's responses, proposals and/or method statements to meet those requirements, and any clarifications to the Supplier's responses, proposals and/or method statements as included as part of Schedule 5. Should there be a conflict between these parts of the Specification and Tender Response Document, the order of priority for construction purposes shall be (1) the Authority's requirements; (2) any clarification to the Supplier's responses, proposals and/or method statements, and (3) the Supplier's responses, proposals and/or method statements.

Guidance: Key Provision 6 addresses the order of precedence of various parts of the Contract for construction purposes. This should be carefully checked to confirm that it is appropriate for the particular Contract with any changes made accordingly.

7 Application of TUPE at the commencement of the provision of Services

- 7.1 The Parties agree that at the commencement of the provision of Services by the Supplier, TUPE and the Cabinet Office Statement shall not apply so as to transfer the employment of any employees of the Authority or a Third Party to the Supplier and the provisions of Schedule 7 shall apply. *Guidance: Key Provision 7 addresses whether any staff will transfer to the Supplier. There are alternative clauses and one of these needs to be adopted. If no staff will transfer on the commencement of the Services delete the second sentence in square brackets and remove the square brackets from the first sentence. If staff will transfer on the commencement of the Services delete the first sentence in square brackets and remove the square brackets from the second sentence. The notes at Schedule 7 then detail how to prepare that schedule accordingly.*

8 Net Zero and Social Value Commitments

Supplier carbon reduction plans and reporting

- 8.1 The Supplier shall put in place, maintain and implement a board approved, publicly available, carbon reduction plan in accordance with the requirements and timescales set out in the NHS Net Zero Supplier Roadmap (see [Greener NHS »Suppliers \(england.nhs.uk\)](https://www.england.nhs.uk/greener-nhs/suppliers/) (<https://www.england.nhs.uk/greener-nhs/get-involved/suppliers/>)), as may be updated from time to time.
- 8.2 A supplier assessment for benchmarking and reporting progress against the requirements detailed in the Net Zero Supplier Roadmap will be available in 2023 (“**Evergreen Supplier Assessment**”). The Supplier shall report its progress through published progress reports and continued carbon emissions reporting through the Evergreen Supplier Assessment once this becomes available and as may be updated from time to time.

Guidance: The Evergreen Supplier Assessment will be piloted in 2022 with a formal launch for suppliers in early 2023. The carbon reduction reporting requirements under the Evergreen Supplier Assessment will be consistent with the requirements in the Net Zero Supplier Roadmap and NHSE will liaise with the Sustainable Supplier Forum on the development of the Evergreen Supplier Assessment prior to launch. The Evergreen Supplier Assessment will be an online self-assessment process. This assessment is intended to serve as a single location for suppliers to the NHS to report progress against emissions reduction, modern slavery and other sustainability criteria. It will be integrated with other carbon transparency reporting that NHS suppliers may be asked to complete.

- 8.3 The Supplier has [REDACTED] who shall be responsible for overseeing the Supplier’s compliance with Clauses 8.1 and 8.2 of this Schedule 1 and any other net zero requirements forming part of this Contract. Without prejudice to the Authority’s other rights and remedies under this Contract, if the Supplier fails to comply with Clauses 8.1 and 8.2 of this Schedule 1, the Authority may escalate such failure to the Supplier Net Zero Corporate Champion who shall within ten (10) Business Days of such escalation confirm in writing to the Authority the steps (with associated timescales) that the Supplier will be taking to remedy such failure. The Supplier shall then remedy such failure by taking such confirmed steps by such timescales (and by taking any other reasonable additional steps that may become necessary) to ensure that such failure is remedied by the earliest date reasonably possible.

Net zero and social value in the delivery of the contract

- 8.4 The Supplier shall deliver its net zero and social value contract commitments in accordance with the requirements and timescales set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document forming part of this Framework Agreement and any Contracts (“**Net Zero and Social Value Contract Commitments**”).
- 8.5 The Supplier shall report its progress on delivering its Net Zero and Social Value Contract Commitments through progress reports, as set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document forming part of this Contract.

Guidance: Reporting timeframes for Contract specific net zero and social value requirements should be specified by the Authority in the Specification and Tender Response Document and should be reasonable and proportionate. Reporting for such requirements should be annual unless there are exceptional Contract specific reasons why more frequent reporting is justified and proportionate. As a general principle, reporting timeframes for such requirements should never be more frequent than 6-monthly.

- 8.6 The Supplier has appointed [REDACTED] who shall be responsible for overseeing the Supplier’s compliance with Clauses 8.4 and 8.5 of this Schedule 1. Without prejudice to the Authority’s other rights and remedies under this Contract, if

the Supplier fails to comply with Clauses 8.4 and 8.5 of this Schedule 1, the Authority may escalate such failure to the Supplier Net Zero and Social Value Contract Champion who shall within ten (10) Business Days of such escalation confirm in writing to the Authority the steps (with associated timescales) that the Supplier will be taking to remedy such failure. The Supplier shall then remedy such failure by taking such confirmed steps by such timescales (and by taking any other reasonable additional steps that may become necessary) to ensure that such failure is remedied by the earliest date reasonably possible.

Guidance: Key Provision 8 should be completed to reflect the Net Zero and Social Value Contract Commitments made by the Supplier.

Optional Key Provisions

Guidance: These optional Key Provisions enable the Authority to:

(a) vary some of the default provisions in Schedule 2 as appropriate to the particular project (e.g. Key Provision 12 allows for the insurance levels and/or types to be varied from the default position set out in Clause 14 of Schedule 2); and

(b) add provisions relevant to a particular project that are not part of the default provisions in Schedule 2 (e.g. there is an option to add further Authority obligations).

If any of the optional Key Provisions apply, this must be indicated in the draft contract issued at the tender stage by checking the boxes, completing the text in square brackets as appropriate and adding any required schedules. If a clause does not apply, leave the relevant box blank.

9 Implementation phase ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the Schedule inserted)

9.1 Prior to commencement of delivery of the Services, there is an implementation phase and therefore all references in Schedule 2 to the Implementation Plan shall apply and the Implementation Plan is set out in Schedule **[insert schedule number]**.

Guidance: For some projects there will be an implementation phase before delivery of the Services commences. If your project has an implementation phase check the box above and insert a Schedule number in this Clause and a corresponding numbered Schedule at the back of the Contract called "Implementation Plan". The actual plan will be inserted at contract signature although you may want to issue a provisional timetable with the tender documentation.

You must then refer to this Schedule in the Table of Schedules on the front page of this Contract.

10 Services Commencement Date (where the Services are to start at a date after the Commencement Date) ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the dates are inserted in Clause 10.1 of this Schedule 1)

10.1 The Services Commencement Date shall be **[insert date]** and the Long Stop Date referred to in Clause 15.5.1 of Schedule 2 shall be **[insert date]**.

Guidance: If provision of the Services is to start at a date after the date the Contract is signed, this must be stated in this Clause. This will apply, for example, if there is an implementation phase. If this applies, then check the box above and insert the date provision of the Services will commence.

Where provision of the Services commences after the date of the Contract, it is advisable to include a Long Stop Date. If the Supplier has not started to provide the Services by the Long Stop Date (which will be some weeks after the Services Commencement Date) it then entitles you to terminate the Services Contract (see Clause 15.5.1 of Schedule 2).

11 Induction training ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

11.1 The Supplier shall ensure that all Staff complete the Authority's induction training. All Staff shall complete the training prior to the Actual Services Commencement Date (or immediately following the Services Commencement Date where this date is the date

of this Contract) and all new Staff appointed throughout the Term shall also complete the training. The Supplier shall further ensure that all Staff complete any extra training that the Authority makes available to its own staff and notifies the Supplier in writing that it is appropriate for the Staff.

Guidance: If you require staff of the Supplier to undertake training provided by the NHS, check the box above. This may apply when the Services are provided on site and staff of the Supplier may require training in any site specific policies or procedures.

12 Quality assurance standards ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the standards are listed)

12.1 The following quality assurance standards shall apply, as appropriate, to the provision of the Services: **[insert standards]**.

Guidance: If you have any project specific quality assurance requirements, such as compliance with and maintenance of ISO 9001, check the box above and insert the requirements in the second line.

13 Different levels and/or types of insurance ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the table sets out the requirements)

13.1 The Supplier shall put in place and maintain in force the following insurances with the following minimum cover per claim:

Type of insurance required	Minimum cover
[Employer's Liability]	[]
[Public Liability]	[]
[Professional Indemnity]	[]
[Insert other types of insurance as appropriate]	[]

Guidance: This Clause relates to Clause 14 of Schedule 2. Clause 14.1 of Schedule 2 requires the Supplier to have in place a minimum level of cover per claim of the greater of five million pounds (£5,000,000) or any sum as required by law in respect of employer's liability, public liability, and professional indemnity insurance. If this default position is not appropriate in relation to the nature and risks of the particular project, you need to check the box above and insert in the table what different types and/or levels of insurance the Supplier must have in place.

14 Further Authority obligations ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the Schedule inserted)

14.1 The Authority's Obligations are set out in Schedule **[insert schedule number]**.

Guidance: For some procurements, for example large outsourcing projects, there will be specific responsibilities on and requirements of your own staff. These could include individuals working alongside the Supplier's staff to develop processes or to ensure the Supplier's staff have an understanding of current systems and processes. If there are specific responsibilities on your own staff it is important to include these in a Schedule. This will help to avoid arguments, if implementation is late, as to who is responsible for any delay.

If there will be specific responsibilities on your staff check the box above and insert a Schedule number in this Clause and a numbered Schedule at the back of the Contract called "Authority's Obligations". The detailed obligations may need to be inserted at contract signature although you may want to outline these at the time of issue of the tender documentation.

You must then refer to this Schedule in the Table of Schedules on the front page of this Contract.

15 Assignment of Intellectual Property Rights in deliverables, materials and outputs ☒ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 15.1 The Supplier confirms and agrees that all Intellectual Property Rights in and to the deliverables, material and any other output developed by the Supplier as part of the Services in accordance with the Specification and Tender Response Document, shall be owned by the Authority. The Supplier hereby assigns with full title guarantee by way of present and future assignment all Intellectual Property Rights in and to such deliverables, material and other outputs. The Supplier shall ensure that all Staff assign any Intellectual Property Rights they may have in and to such deliverables, material and other outputs to the Supplier to give effect to Clause 15 of this Schedule 1 and that such Staff absolutely and irrevocably waive their moral rights in relation to such deliverables, material and other outputs. Clause 15 of this Schedule 1 shall continue notwithstanding the expiry or earlier termination of this Contract.

Guidance: Schedule 2 is structured so that the Supplier owns any intellectual property rights in the output of the Services and the Authority is granted a licence of the necessary usage rights. For most projects this will be the approach that attracts the most suppliers to bid and provides best value for money.

In exceptional circumstances, it may be appropriate for your contracting authority to own the intellectual property rights in the outputs of the Services. For example, if the Supplier is developing a bespoke approach to service delivery based on your specification, you may wish to have the rights to commercially exploit the outputs of this work, and the price for the Services will reflect this position. If there will be intellectual property created as part of the Services and it is appropriate for you to own such rights, check the box above.

16 Inclusion of a Change Control Process ☒ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the Schedule inserted)

- 16.1 Any changes to this Contract, including to the Services, may only be agreed in accordance with the Change Control Process set out in Schedule 2 Clause 21.

Guidance: Clause 21 of Schedule 2 states that any changes to the Services or other parts of the Contract can only be implemented if agreed between the Authority and the Supplier. In large projects where complex changes may be required then a more detailed change control process might be appropriate. Where you require a detailed change control process, check the box above and insert a Schedule number in this Clause and a corresponding numbered Schedule at the back of the Services Contract called "Change Control Process".

You must then refer to this Schedule in the Table of Schedules on the front page of this Contract.

17 Authority step-in rights ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and the Schedule inserted)

- 17.1 If the Supplier is unable to provide the Services then the Authority shall be entitled to exercise Step In Rights set out in Schedule **[insert schedule number]**.

Guidance: Exceptionally, for certain types of business critical services, if the Supplier cannot provide the Services or fails to provide them to an acceptable standard, you may want the right to step into the position of the Supplier to provide the Services yourself or to appoint a third party to do so.

Before including this right in the Contract you need to consider if in practice it is possible to step into the shoes of the Supplier and provide the Services yourself or through a third party. If not, the inclusion of this right may attract a pricing premium from suppliers to account for the risk of step in being triggered, but with no corresponding benefit as the right is unlikely to be used.

Where step in rights are considered proportionate to the risks of critical service failure and are thought to be a realistic, practical and a value for money solution to mitigating these risks, check the box above and insert a Schedule number in this Clause and a numbered Schedule at the back of the Services

Contract called “Step in Rights”. This Schedule must include the rights required and set out how the step-in process will operate.

You must then refer to this Schedule in the Table of Schedules on the front page of this Contract.

18 Grant of lease or licence ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 18.1 Promptly following execution of this Contract, the Supplier shall enter into the **[lease/licence]**. Failure to comply with this Key Provision shall be an irremediable breach of this Contract.

Guidance: Clause 2 of Schedule 2 allows for the Supplier to have general access to the Authority’s premises and locations within such premises to provide the Services.

Depending on the type of services being provided, the Supplier may need to be granted rights to occupy certain premises and/or locations. If this is the case you will need to decide if this is by way of a lease or a licence (see Clause 2.4 of Schedule 2), check the box above and insert a Schedule number in this Clause and a numbered Schedule at the back of the Services Contract called “Form of [Lease/Licence]”.

You must then refer to this Schedule in the Table of Schedules on the front page of this Contract.

The lease or licence should be issued with the tender documentation.

19 Guarantee ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 19.1 Promptly following the execution of this Contract, the Supplier shall, if it has not already delivered an executed deed of guarantee to the Authority, deliver the executed deed of guarantee to the Authority as required by the procurement process followed by the Authority. Failure to comply with this Key Provision shall be an irremediable breach of this Contract.

Guidance: If you require that a third party guarantees the Supplier’s performance, this must be in the tender documentation and you should check the box above. This Clause then protects your NHS body should signature of the guarantee be delayed.

20 Data Protection Protocol ☒ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 20.1 The Parties shall comply with their respective obligations under the Data Protection Protocol.

Guidance: If the Personal Data is being processed by the Supplier and/or otherwise shared between the Parties in connection with this contract, an appropriate Data Protection Protocol should be completed and the above box checked accordingly. The agreed Data Protection Protocol can then be appended to Schedule 3 in the final Contract

21 Purchase Orders ☒ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 21.1 The Authority shall issue a Purchase Order to the Supplier in respect of any Services to be supplied to the Authority under this Contract. The Supplier shall comply with the terms of such Purchase Order as a term of this Contract. For the avoidance of doubt, any actions or work undertaken by the Supplier under this Contract prior to the receipt of a Purchase Order covering the relevant Services shall be undertaken at the Supplier’s risk and expense and the Supplier shall only be entitled to invoice for Services covered by a valid Purchase Order.

Guidance: If your financial systems and/or governance arrangements require you to issue a purchase order to the Supplier prior to the commencement of delivery of the Services as is good practice, then this Clause is needed to set out the timing and status of these purchase orders and the box above should be checked accordingly.

22 Monthly payment profile ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is

checked)

22.1 The payment profile for this Contract shall be monthly in arrears.

Guidance: If the payment profile for invoicing purposes is to be monthly in arrears, this Clause should be included for the purposes of Clause 9.3 of Schedule 2 and the box above checked accordingly. Otherwise, the Supplier may invoice either at any point following the supply of the Services in compliance with the Contract or as set out in the Commercial Schedule at Schedule 6.

23 **Termination for convenience ☒ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and Clause 23.1 of this Schedule 1 is completed)**

23.1 The Authority may terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier at any time on **6 months'** written notice. [Such notice shall not be served within one (1) year of the Actual Services Commencement Date].

Guidance: This Clause entitles you, as the Authority, to terminate the Contract for no reason on a given period of notice (e.g. 1 month, 3 months or 6 months), as proportionate to the particular Services. Where it is important for NHS bodies to have this flexibility in contracts, for example when you are anticipating potential business change, this Clause can be used and the box above checked accordingly. The Clause should not be used as a matter of course, but exceptionally where the contracting authority considers that such flexibility is reasonable and proportionate in the given circumstances.

You can provide that this right commences after the Services have been supplied for twelve months or a longer period where this is considered reasonable to give the Supplier at least some certainty at the start of the Contract. The relevant part of the highlighted text can be retained or deleted accordingly.

For some services, particularly where there is an initial investment from the Supplier which will be recovered in monthly charges over the contract term, Suppliers will expect to be able to recover some costs should you terminate without cause. This is reasonable and if this is not included you may find that the price of the Services is higher than anticipated to offset this risk.

*Where it is appropriate for the contracting authority to pay certain costs should you terminate without cause, you will need to include the highlighted text at Clause **Error! Reference source not found.** above (and remove the brackets) referring to this and set out in Schedule 6 what these costs will cover and how these costs will be calculated. If for your project it would not be appropriate to pay such costs, delete Clause **Error! Reference source not found.** from the Key Provisions, but retain Clause 23.1*

24 **Right to terminate following a specified number of material breaches ☒ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked and Clause 24.1 of this Schedule 1 is completed)**

24.1 Either Party may terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the other Party if such other Party commits a material breach of this Contract in circumstances where it is served with a valid Breach Notice having already been served with at least [two (2)] previous valid Breach Notices within the last twelve (12) calendar month rolling period as a result of any previous material breaches of this Contract which are capable of remedy (whether or not the Party in breach has remedied the breach in accordance with a Remedial Proposal). The twelve (12) month rolling period is the twelve (12) months immediately preceding the date of the [third] Breach Notice.

Guidance: This Clause is aimed at providing a termination right where one of the Parties has committed a number of material breaches whether or not they have been remedied. The aim of this Clause is to avoid a situation where one Party can keep breaching the Contract so long as it rectifies each material breach, as this can lead to nagging poor performance and additional time and resources being incurred by the non-breaching Party to manage such breaches. The numbers in square brackets can be changed to suit the requirements of the particular contract. The square brackets should then be removed prior to issue.

25 Expert Determination ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 25.1 Any Dispute between the Authority and the Supplier shall be dealt in accordance with the expert determination process as specified at Schedule 8.
- 25.2 For the avoidance of doubt, where Clause 25 of this Schedule 1 is checked, all Disputes shall be dealt in accordance with Clause 25.1 of this Schedule 1 above and the entirety of Clause 22 of Schedule 2 shall be deemed not to apply and deleted in its entirety from this Contract.

Guidance: This clause should be checked when the expert determination process at Schedule 8 is to be adopted in place of the dispute process set out at clause 22 of Schedule 2. Further guidance on the use of expert determination can be found at [INSERT LINK TO GUIDANCE NOTE].

26 COVID-19 related enhanced business continuity provisions ☐ (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 26.1 Subject to Clause 26.2 of this Schedule 1, the Supplier's Business Continuity Plan and, where required, its implementation must ensure the continuity of the provision of the Services under this Contract in all circumstances where there is a COVID-19 related Business Continuity Event and the text in Clause 6.6 of Schedule 2 to "use reasonable endeavours to" shall be deemed deleted for the purposes of any COVID-19 related Business Continuity Events. For the avoidance of doubt, to the extent that the Supplier fails to ensure such continuity, it shall be deemed not to have fulfilled its business continuity obligations pursuant to Clause 6 of Schedule 2 for the purposes of Clause 23.2.1 of Schedule 2.
- 26.2 To the extent only that the Supplier is prohibited from implementing its Business Continuity Plan (in full or part) due to any Laws or Guidance, it shall be relieved of its obligations under Clause 26.1 of this Schedule 1

Guidance: This Clause should only be used for Contracts where the Supplier is required to supply COVID-19 related Services in all circumstances during a pandemic and so needs to have in place appropriate enhanced business continuity plans to enable it to do so.

Extra Key Provisions

Guidance: Insert extra project specific Key Provisions (if any) as required. For example, you may have a project where the supplier is responsible for undertaking detailed pre-contract due diligence to verify any information provided by the Authority and/or any aspects of the Premises and Locations relevant to the provision of the Services. This will almost certainly require a project specific extra Key Provision to make clear the scope of the Supplier's due diligence responsibilities, any associated Supplier warranties and any consequent limitations / exclusions of the Authority's liability for information that it may have or may not have provided to the Supplier.

Where the detail of the issue will be dealt with in a Schedule, remember to cross reference the Schedule in the Key Provisions and refer to it in the Table of Schedules on the front page of this Contract. Also remember to draft and add to Schedule 4 any new definitions as required for any extra Key Provisions added.

Schedule 2

General Terms and Conditions

Contents

1. Provision of Services
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16. Consequences of expiry or early termination of this Contract
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20. Electronic services information
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23. Force majeure
24. Records retention and right of audit
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28. Assignment, novation and Sub-contracting
29. Prohibited Acts
30. General

1 Provision of Services

- 1.1 The Authority appoints the Supplier and the Supplier agrees to provide the Services:
 - 1.1.1 promptly and in any event within any time limits as may be set out in this Contract;
 - 1.1.2 in accordance with all other provisions of this Contract;
 - 1.1.3 with reasonable skill and care and in accordance with any quality assurance standards as set out in the Key Provisions and/or the Specification and Tender Response Document;
 - 1.1.4 in accordance with the Law and with Guidance;
 - 1.1.5 in accordance with Good Industry Practice;
 - 1.1.6 in accordance with the Policies; and
 - 1.1.7 in a professional and courteous manner.
 - 1.1.8 In complying with its obligations under this Contract, the Supplier shall, and shall procure that all Staff shall, act in accordance with the NHS values as set out in the NHS Constitution from time to time.
- 1.2 The Supplier shall comply with the Implementation Requirements (if any) in accordance with any timescales as may be set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document., Without limitation to the foregoing provisions of this Clause 1.2 of this Schedule 2, the Supplier shall, if specified in the Key Provisions, implement the Services fully in accordance with the Implementation Plan. If the Implementation Plan is an outline plan, the Supplier shall, as part of implementation, develop the outline plan into a full plan and agree this with the Authority. Once this is agreed, the Supplier shall comply with the full Implementation Plan.
- 1.3 The Supplier shall commence delivery of the Services on the Services Commencement Date.
- 1.4 The Supplier shall comply fully with its obligations set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document, including without limitation the KPIs.
- 1.5 The Supplier shall ensure that all relevant consents, authorisations, licences and accreditations required to provide the Services are in place at the Actual Services Commencement Date and are maintained throughout the Term.
- 1.6 If the Services, or any part of them, are regulated by any regulatory body, the Supplier shall ensure that at the Actual Services Commencement Date it has in place all relevant registrations and shall maintain such registrations during the Term. The Supplier shall notify the Authority forthwith in writing of any changes to such registration or any other matter relating to its registration that would affect the delivery or the quality of Services.
- 1.7 The Supplier shall notify the Authority forthwith in writing:
 - 1.7.1 of any pending inspection of the Services, or any part of them, by a regulatory body immediately upon the Supplier becoming aware of such inspection; and
 - 1.7.2 of any failure of the Services, or any part of them, to meet the quality standards required by a regulatory body, promptly and in any event within two (2) Business Days of the Supplier becoming aware of any such failure. This shall include without limitation any informal feedback received during or following an inspection raising concerns of any nature regarding the provision of the Services.

- 1.8 Following any inspection of the Services, or any part of them, by a regulatory body, the Supplier shall provide the Authority with a copy of any report or other communication published or provided by the relevant regulatory body in relation to the provision of the Services.
- 1.9 Upon receipt of notice pursuant to Clause 1.7 of this Schedule 2 or any report or communication pursuant to Clause 1.8 of this Schedule 2, the Authority shall be entitled to request further information from the Supplier and/or a meeting with the Supplier, and the Supplier shall cooperate fully with any such request.
- 1.10 Where applicable, the Supplier shall implement and comply with the Policies on reporting and responding to all incidents and accidents, including serious incidents requiring investigation, shall complete the Authority's incident and accident forms in accordance with the Policies and provide reasonable support and information as requested by the Authority to help the Authority deal with any incident or accident relevant to the Services. The Supplier shall ensure that its Contract Manager informs the Authority's Contract Manager in writing forthwith upon (a) becoming aware that any serious incidents requiring investigation and/or notifiable accidents have occurred; or (b) the Supplier's Contract Manager having reasonable cause to believe any serious incidents and/or notifiable accidents requiring investigation have occurred. The Supplier shall ensure that its Contract Manager informs the Authority's Contract Manager in writing within forty eight (48) hours of all other incidents and/or accidents that have or may have an impact on the Services.
- 1.11 Should the Authority be of the view, acting reasonably, that the Supplier can no longer provide the Services, then without prejudice to the Authority's rights and remedies under this Contract, the Authority shall be entitled to exercise its Step In Rights if the Key Provisions refer to the Authority having such rights under this Contract.
- 1.12 The Supplier shall be relieved from its obligations under this Contract to the extent that it is prevented from complying with any such obligations due to any acts, omissions or defaults of the Authority. To qualify for such relief, the Supplier must notify the Authority promptly (and in any event within five (5) Business Days) in writing of the occurrence of such act, omission, or default of the Authority together with the potential impact on the Supplier's obligations.

2 Premises, locations and access

- 2.1 The Services shall be provided at such Authority premises and at such locations within those premises, as may be set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document or as otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing ("**Premises and Locations**").
- 2.2 Subject to the Supplier and its Staff complying with all relevant Policies applicable to such Premises and Locations, the Authority shall grant reasonable access to the Supplier and its Staff to such Premises and Locations to enable the Supplier to provide the Services.
- 2.3 Subject to Clause 2.4 of this Schedule 2, any access granted to the Supplier and its Staff under Clause 2.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be non-exclusive and revocable. Such access shall not be deemed to create any greater rights or interest than so granted (to include, without limitation, any relationship of landlord and tenant) in the Premises and Locations. The Supplier warrants that it shall carry out all such reasonable further acts to give effect to this Clause 2.3 of this Schedule 2.
- 2.4 Where, in order to provide the Services, the Supplier requires any greater rights to use or occupy any specific Premises and Locations over and above such reasonable access rights granted in accordance with Clause 2.2 and Clause 2.3 of this Schedule

2, such further rights shall be limited to any rights granted to the Supplier by the Authority in accordance with any licence and/or lease entered into by the Supplier in accordance with the Key Provisions.

- 2.5 Where it is provided for by a specific mechanism set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document, the Authority may increase, reduce or otherwise vary the Premises and Locations in accordance with such mechanism subject to the provisions of any licence or lease entered into by the Parties as referred to at Clause 2.4 of this Schedule 2. Where there is no such specific mechanism set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document, any variations to the Premises and Locations where the Services are to be provided shall be agreed by the Parties in accordance with Clause 21 of this Schedule 2. If agreement cannot be reached the matter shall be referred to, and resolved in accordance with, the Dispute Resolution Procedure.

3 Cooperation with third parties

- 3.1 The Supplier shall, as reasonably required by the Authority, cooperate with any other service providers to the Authority and/or any other third parties as may be relevant in the provision of the Services.

4 Use of Authority equipment

- 4.1 Unless otherwise set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document or otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing, any equipment or other items provided by the Authority for use by the Supplier:
- 4.1.1 shall be provided at the Authority's sole discretion;
 - 4.1.2 shall be inspected by the Supplier in order that the Supplier can confirm to its reasonable satisfaction that such equipment and/or item is fit for its intended use and shall not be used by the Supplier until it has satisfied itself of this;
 - 4.1.3 must be returned to the Authority within any agreed timescales for such return or otherwise upon the request of the Authority; and
 - 4.1.4 shall be used by the Supplier at the Supplier's risk and the Supplier shall upon written request by the Authority reimburse the Authority for any loss or damage relating to such equipment or other items caused by the Supplier (fair wear and tear exempted).

5 Staff and Lifescience Industry Accredited Credentialing Register

- 5.1 Subject to the requirements of this Contract and any Law, the Supplier shall be entirely responsible for the employment and conditions of service of Staff. The Supplier shall ensure that such conditions of employment are consistent with its obligations under this Contract.
- 5.2 The Supplier will employ sufficient Staff to ensure that it complies with its obligations under this Contract. This will include, but not be limited to, the Supplier providing a sufficient reserve of trained and competent Staff to provide the Services during Staff holidays or absence.
- 5.3 The Supplier shall use reasonable endeavours to ensure the continuity of all Staff in the provision of the Services and, where any member of Staff is designated as key to the provision of the Services as set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document or as otherwise agreed between the Parties in writing, any redeployment and/or replacement of such member of Staff by the Supplier shall be subject to the prior written approval of the Authority, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

- 5.4 The Supplier shall ensure that all Staff are aware of, and at all times comply with, the Policies.
- 5.5 The Supplier shall:
- 5.5.1 employ only those Staff who are careful, skilled and experienced in the duties required of them;
 - 5.5.2 ensure that every member of Staff is properly and sufficiently trained and instructed;
 - 5.5.3 ensure all Staff have the qualifications to carry out their duties;
 - 5.5.4 maintain throughout the Term all appropriate licences and registrations with any relevant bodies (at the Supplier's expense) in respect of the Staff; and
 - 5.5.5 ensure all Staff comply with such registration, continuing professional development and training requirements or recommendations appropriate to their role including those from time to time issued by the Department of Health and Social Care or any relevant regulatory body or any industry body in relation to such Staff.
- 5.6 The Supplier shall not deploy in the provision of the Services any person who has suffered from, has signs of, is under treatment for, or who is suffering from any medical condition which is known to, or does potentially, place the health and safety of the Authority's staff, patients, service users or visitors at risk unless otherwise agreed in writing with the Authority.
- 5.7 The Supplier shall ensure that all potential Staff or persons performing any of the Services during the Term who may reasonably be expected in the course of performing any of the Services under this Contract to have access to or come into contact with children or other vulnerable persons and/or have access to or come into contact with persons receiving health care services:
- 5.7.1 are questioned concerning their Convictions; and
 - 5.7.2 obtain appropriate disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service (or other appropriate body) as required by Law and/or the Policies before the Supplier engages the potential staff or persons in the provision of the Services.
- 5.8 The Supplier shall take all necessary steps to ensure that such potential staff or persons obtain standard and enhanced disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service (or other appropriate body) and shall ensure all such disclosures are kept up to date. The obtaining of such disclosures shall be at the Supplier's cost and expense.
- 5.9 The Supplier shall ensure that no person is employed or otherwise engaged in the provision of the Services without the Authority's prior written consent if:
- 5.9.1 the person has disclosed any Convictions upon being questioned about their Convictions in accordance with Clause 5.7.1 of this Schedule 2;
 - 5.9.2 the person is found to have any Convictions following receipt of standard and/or enhanced disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service (or other appropriate body) in accordance with Clause 5.7.2 of this Schedule 2; or
 - 5.9.3 the person fails to obtain standard and/or enhanced disclosures from the Disclosure and Barring Service (or other appropriate body) upon request by the Supplier in accordance with Clause 5.7.2 of this Schedule 2.

- 5.10 In addition to the requirements of Clause 5.7 to Clause 5.9 of this Schedule 2, where the Services are or include regulated activities as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 the Supplier:
- 5.10.1 warrants that it shall comply with all requirements placed on it by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006;
 - 5.10.2 warrants that at all times it has and will have no reason to believe that any member of Staff is barred in accordance with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006; and
 - 5.10.3 shall ensure that no person is employed or otherwise engaged in the provision of the Services if that person is barred from carrying out, or whose previous conduct or records indicate that they would not be suitable to carry out, any regulated activities as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 or may present a risk to patients, service users or any other person.
- 5.11 The Supplier shall ensure that the Authority is kept advised at all times of any member of Staff who, subsequent to their commencement of employment as a member of Staff receives a Conviction or whose previous Convictions become known to the Supplier or whose conduct or records indicate that they are not suitable to carry out any regulated activities as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 or may present a risk to patients, service users or any other person. The Supplier shall only be entitled to continue to engage or employ such member of Staff with the Authority's written consent and with such safeguards being put in place as the Authority may reasonably request. Should the Authority withhold consent the Supplier shall remove such member of Staff from the provision of the Services forthwith.
- 5.12 The Supplier shall immediately provide to the Authority any information that the Authority reasonably requests to enable the Authority to satisfy itself that the obligations set out in Clause 5.7 to Clause 5.11 of this Schedule 2 have been met.
- 5.13 The Authority may at any time request that the Supplier remove and replace any member of Staff from the provision of the Services, provided always that the Authority will act reasonably in making such a request. Prior to making any such request the Authority shall raise with the Supplier the Authority's concerns regarding the member of Staff in question with the aim of seeking a mutually agreeable resolution. The Authority shall be under no obligation to have such prior discussion should the Authority have concerns regarding patient or service user safety.
- 5.14 Unless otherwise confirmed by the Authority in writing, the Supplier shall ensure full compliance (to include with any implementation timelines) with any Guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Care and/or any requirements and/or Policies issued by the Authority (to include as may be set out as part of any procurement documents leading to the award of this Contract) in relation to the adoption of, and compliance with, any scheme or schemes to verify the credentials of Supplier representatives that visit NHS premises (to include use of the Lifescience Industry Accredited Credentialing Register). Once compliance with any notified implementation timelines has been achieved by the Supplier, the Supplier shall, during the Term, maintain the required level of compliance in accordance with any such Guidance, requirements and Policies.
- 6 Business continuity**
- 6.1 The Supplier shall use reasonable endeavours to ensure its Business Continuity Plan operates effectively alongside the Authority's business continuity plan where relevant to the provision of the Services. The Supplier shall also ensure that its Business

Continuity Plan complies on an ongoing basis with any specific business continuity requirements, as may be set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document.

- 6.2 Throughout the Term, the Supplier will ensure its Business Continuity Plan provides for continuity during a Business Continuity Event. The Supplier confirms and agrees such Business Continuity Plan details and will continue to detail robust arrangements that are reasonable and proportionate to:

6.2.1 the criticality of this Contract to the Authority; and

6.2.2 the size and scope of the Supplier's business operations,

regarding continuity of the provision of the Services during and following a Business Continuity Event.

- 6.3 The Supplier shall test its Business Continuity Plan at reasonable intervals, and in any event no less than once every twelve (12) months or such other period as may be agreed between the Parties taking into account the criticality of this Contract to the Authority and the size and scope of the Supplier's business operations. The Supplier shall promptly provide to the Authority, at the Authority's written request, copies of its Business Continuity Plan, reasonable and proportionate documentary evidence that the Supplier tests its Business Continuity Plan in accordance with the requirements of this Clause 6.3 of this Schedule 2 and reasonable and proportionate information regarding the outcome of such tests. The Supplier shall provide to the Authority a copy of any updated or revised Business Continuity Plan within fourteen (14) Business Days of any material update or revision to the Business Continuity Plan.

- 6.4 The Authority may suggest reasonable and proportionate amendments to the Supplier regarding the Business Continuity Plan at any time. Where the Supplier, acting reasonably, deems such suggestions made by the Authority to be relevant and appropriate, the Supplier will incorporate into the Business Continuity Plan all such suggestions made by the Authority in respect of such Business Continuity Plan. Should the Supplier not incorporate any suggestion made by the Authority into such Business Continuity Plan it will explain the reasons for not doing so to the Authority.

- 6.5 Should a Business Continuity Event occur at any time, the Supplier shall implement and comply with its Business Continuity Plan and provide regular written reports to the Authority on such implementation.

- 6.6 During and following a Business Continuity Event, the Supplier shall use reasonable endeavours to continue to provide the Services in accordance with this Contract.

7 The Authority's obligations

- 7.1 Subject to the Supplier providing the Services in accordance with this Contract, the Authority will pay the Supplier for the Services in accordance with Clause 9 of this Schedule 2.

- 7.2 The Authority shall, as appropriate, provide copies of or give the Supplier access to such of the Policies that are relevant to the provision of the Services.

- 7.3 The Authority shall comply with the Authority's Obligations, as may be referred to in the Key Provisions.

- 7.4 The Authority shall provide the Supplier with any reasonable and proportionate cooperation necessary to enable the Supplier to comply with its obligations under this Contract. The Supplier shall at all times provide reasonable advance written notification to the Authority of any such cooperation necessary in circumstances where such cooperation will require the Authority to plan for and/or allocate specific resources in order to provide such cooperation.

8 Contract management

- 8.1 Each Party shall appoint and retain a Contract Manager who shall be the primary point of contact for the other Party in relation to matters arising from this Contract. Should the Contract Manager be replaced, the Party replacing the Contract Manager shall promptly inform the other Party in writing of the name and contact details for the new Contract Manager. Any Contract Manager appointed shall be of sufficient seniority and experience to be able to make decisions on the day to day operation of the Contract. The Supplier confirms and agrees that it will be expected to work closely and cooperate fully with the Authority's Contract Manager.
- 8.2 Each Party shall ensure that its representatives (to include, without limitation, its Contract Manager) shall attend review meetings on a regular basis to review the performance of the Supplier under this Contract and to discuss matters arising generally under this Contract. Each Party shall ensure that those attending such meetings have the authority to make decisions regarding the day to day operation of the Contract. Review meetings shall take place at the frequency specified in the Specification and Tender Response Document. Should the Specification and Tender Response Document not state the frequency, then the first such meeting shall take place on a date to be agreed on or around the end of the first month after the Commencement Date. Subsequent meetings shall take place at monthly intervals or as may otherwise be agreed in writing between the Parties.
- 8.3 Two weeks prior to each review meeting (or at such time and frequency as may be specified in the Specification and Tender Response Document) the Supplier shall provide a written contract management report to the Authority regarding the provision of the Services and the operation of this Contract. Unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing, such contract management report shall contain:
 - 8.3.1 details of the performance of the Supplier when assessed in accordance with the KPIs since the last such performance report;
 - 8.3.2 details of any complaints from or on behalf of patients or other service users, their nature and the way in which the Supplier has responded to such complaints since the last review meeting written report;
 - 8.3.3 the information specified in the Specification and Tender Response Document;
 - 8.3.4 a status report in relation to the implementation of any current Remedial Proposals by either Party; and
 - 8.3.5 such other information as reasonably required by the Authority.
- 8.4 Unless specified otherwise in the Specification and Tender Response Document, the Authority shall take minutes of each review meeting and shall circulate draft minutes to the Supplier within a reasonable time following such review meeting. The Supplier shall inform the Authority in writing of any suggested amendments to the minutes within five (5) Business Days of receipt of the draft minutes. If the Supplier does not respond to the Authority within such five (5) Business Days the minutes will be deemed to be approved. Where there are any differences in interpretation of the minutes, the Parties will use their reasonable endeavours to reach agreement. If agreement cannot be reached the matter shall be referred to, and resolved in accordance with, the Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 8.5 The Supplier shall provide such management information as the Authority may request from time to time within seven (7) Business Days of the date of the request. The Supplier shall supply the management information to the Authority in such form as may be specified by the Authority and, where requested to do so, the Supplier shall also

provide such management information to another Contracting Authority, whose role it is to analyse such management information in accordance with UK government policy (to include, without limitation, for the purposes of analysing public sector expenditure and planning future procurement activities) ("**Third Party Body**"). The Supplier confirms and agrees that the Authority may itself provide the Third Party Body with management information relating to the Services purchased, any payments made under this Contract, and any other information relevant to the operation of this Contract.

- 8.6 Upon receipt of management information supplied by the Supplier to the Authority and/or the Third Party Body, or by the Authority to the Third Party Body, the Parties hereby consent to the Third Party Body and the Authority:
- 8.6.1 storing and analysing the management information and producing statistics; and
 - 8.6.2 sharing the management information or any statistics produced using the management information with any other Contracting Authority.
- 8.7 If the Third Party Body and/or the Authority shares the management information or any other information provided under Clause 8.6 of this Schedule 2, any Contracting Authority receiving the management information shall, where such management information is subject to obligations of confidence under this Contract and such management information is provided direct by the Authority to such Contracting Authority, be informed of the confidential nature of that information by the Authority and shall be requested by the Authority not to disclose it to any body that is not a Contracting Authority (unless required to do so by Law).
- 8.8 The Authority may make changes to the type of management information which the Supplier is required to supply and shall give the Supplier at least one (1) month's written notice of any changes.

9 Price and payment

- 9.1 The Contract Price shall be calculated as set out in the Commercial Schedule.
- 9.2 Unless otherwise stated in the Commercial Schedule the Contract Price:
- 9.2.1 shall be payable from the Actual Services Commencement Date;
 - 9.2.2 shall remain fixed during the Term; and
 - 9.2.3 is the entire price payable by the Authority to the Supplier in respect of the Services and includes, without limitation, any royalties, licence fees, supplies and all consumables used by the Supplier, travel costs, accommodation expenses, the cost of Staff and all appropriate taxes (excluding VAT), duties and tariffs and any expenses arising from import and export administration.
- 9.3 Unless stated otherwise in the Commercial Schedule:
- 9.3.1 where the Key Provisions confirm that the payment profile for this Contract is monthly in arrears, the Supplier shall invoice the Authority, within fourteen (14) days of the end of each calendar month, the Contract Price in respect of the Services provided in compliance with this Contract in the preceding calendar month; or
 - 9.3.2 where Clause 9.3.1 of this Schedule 2 does not apply, the Supplier shall invoice the Authority for Services at any time following completion of the provision of the Services in compliance with this Contract.

- 9.3.3 Each invoice shall contain such information and be addressed to such individual as the Authority may inform the Supplier from time to time. Each invoice may be submitted electronically by the Supplier if it complies with the standard on electronic invoicing as set out in the European standard and any of the syntaxes published in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2017/2870.
- 9.4 The Contract Price is exclusive of VAT, which, if properly chargeable, the Authority shall pay at the prevailing rate subject to receipt from the Supplier of a valid and accurate VAT invoice. Such VAT invoices shall show the VAT calculations as a separate line item.
- 9.5 The Authority shall verify and pay each valid and undisputed invoice received in accordance with Clause 9.3 of this Schedule 2 within thirty (30) days of receipt of such invoice at the latest. However, the Authority shall use its reasonable endeavours to pay such undisputed invoices sooner in accordance with any applicable government prompt payment targets. If there is undue delay in verifying the invoice in accordance with this Clause 9.5 of this Schedule 2, the invoice shall be regarded as valid and undisputed for the purposes of this Clause 9.5 of this Schedule 2 after a reasonable time has passed.
- 9.6 Where the Authority raises a query with respect to an invoice the Parties shall liaise with each other and agree a resolution to such query within thirty (30) days of the query being raised. If the Parties are unable to agree a resolution within thirty (30) days the query shall be referred to dispute resolution in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure. For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority shall not be in breach of any of any of its payment obligations under this Contract in relation to any queried or disputed invoice sums unless the process referred to in this Clause 9.6 of this Schedule 2 has been followed and it has been determined that the queried or disputed invoice amount is properly due to the Supplier and the Authority has then failed to pay such sum within a reasonable period following such determination.
- 9.7 The Supplier shall pay to the Authority any service credits and/or other sums and/or deductions (to include, without limitation, deductions relating to a reduction in the Contract Price) that may become due in accordance with the provisions of the Specification and Tender Response Document. For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority may invoice the Supplier for such sums or deductions at any time in the event that they have not automatically been credited to the Authority in accordance with the provisions of the Specification and Tender Response Document. Such invoice shall be paid by the Supplier within 30 days of the date of such invoice.
- 9.8 The Authority reserves the right to set-off:
- 9.8.1 any monies due to the Supplier from the Authority as against any monies due to the Authority from the Supplier under this Contract; and
- 9.8.2 any monies due to the Authority from the Supplier as against any monies due to the Supplier from the Authority under this Contract.
- 9.9 Where the Authority is entitled to receive any sums (including, without limitation, any costs, charges or expenses) from the Supplier under this Contract, the Authority may invoice the Supplier for such sums. Such invoices shall be paid by the Supplier within 30 days of the date of such invoice.
- 9.10 If a Party fails to pay any undisputed sum properly due to the other Party under this Contract, the Party due such sum shall have the right to charge interest on the overdue amount at the applicable rate under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest)

Act 1998, accruing on a daily basis from the due date up to the date of actual payment, whether before or after judgment.

10 Warranties

10.1 The Supplier warrants and undertakes that:

- 10.1.1 it has, and shall ensure its Staff shall have, and shall maintain throughout the Term, all appropriate licences and registrations with the relevant bodies to fulfil its obligations under this Contract;
- 10.1.2 it has all rights, consents, authorisations, licences and accreditations required to provide the Services and shall maintain such consents, authorisations, licences and accreditations throughout the Term;
- 10.1.3 it has and shall maintain a properly documented system of quality controls and processes covering all aspects of its obligations under this Contract and/or under Law, Guidance and Good Industry Practice and shall at all times comply with such quality controls and processes;
- 10.1.4 it shall not make any significant changes to its system of quality controls and processes in relation to the Services without notifying the Authority in writing at least twenty one (21) days in advance of such change (such notice to include the details of the consequences which follow such change being implemented);
- 10.1.5 where any act of the Supplier requires the notification to and/or approval by any regulatory or other competent body in accordance with any Law, Guidance, and/or Good Industry Practice, the Supplier shall comply fully with such notification and/or approval requirements;
- 10.1.6 receipt of the Services by or on behalf of the Authority and use of the deliverables or of any other item or information supplied or made available to the Authority as part of the Services will not infringe any third party rights, to include without limitation any Intellectual Property Rights;
- 10.1.7 it will comply with all Law, Guidance, Good Industry Practice, Policies and the Supplier Code of Conduct in so far as is relevant to the provision of the Services;
- 10.1.8 it will provide the Services using reasonable skill and care and in accordance with Good Industry Practice and shall fulfil all requirements of this Contract using appropriately skilled, trained and experienced staff;
- 10.1.9 unless otherwise set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document and/or as otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties, it has and/or shall procure all resources, equipment, consumables and other items and facilities required to provide the Services;
- 10.1.10 without limitation to the generality of Clause 10.1.7 of this Schedule 2, it shall comply with all health and safety processes, requirements safeguards, controls, and training obligations in accordance with its own operational procedures, Law, Guidance, Policies, Good Industry Practice, the requirements of the Specification and Tender Response Document and any notices or instructions given to the Supplier by the Authority and/or any competent body, as relevant to the provision of the Services and the Supplier's access to the Premises and Locations in accordance with this Contract;

- 10.1.11 without prejudice to any specific notification requirements set out in this Contract, it will promptly notify the Authority of any health and safety hazard which has arisen, or the Supplier is aware may arise, in connection with the performance of the Services and take such steps as are reasonably necessary to ensure the health and safety of persons likely to be affected by such hazards;
- 10.1.12 any equipment it uses in the provision of the Services shall comply with all relevant Law, Guidance, and Good Industry Practice, be fit for its intended purpose and maintained fully in accordance with the manufacturer's specification and shall remain the Supplier's risk and responsibility at all times;
- 10.1.13 unless otherwise confirmed by the Authority in writing (to include, without limitation, as part of the Specification and Tender Response Document), it will ensure that any products purchased by the Supplier partially or wholly for the purposes of providing the Services will comply with requirements five (5) to eight (8), as set out in Annex 1 of the Cabinet Office Procurement Policy Note - Implementing Article 6 of the Energy Efficiency Directive (Action Note 07/14 3rd June 2014), to the extent such requirements apply to the relevant products being purchased;
- 10.1.14 it shall use Good Industry Practice to ensure that any information and communications technology systems and/or related hardware and/or software it uses are free from corrupt data, viruses, worms and any other computer programs or code which might cause harm or disruption to the Authority's information and communications technology systems;
- 10.1.15 it shall (comply with its Net Zero and Social Value Commitments;
- 10.1.16 it shall provide to the Authority any information that the Authority may request as evidence of the Supplier's compliance with Clause 10.1.15 of this Schedule 2;
- 10.1.17 it will fully and promptly respond to all requests for information and/or requests for answers to questions regarding this Contract, the provision of the Services, any complaints and any Disputes at the frequency, in the timeframes and in the format as requested by the Authority from time to time (acting reasonably);
- 10.1.18 all information included within the Supplier's responses to any documents issued by the Authority as part of the procurement relating to the award of this Contract (to include, without limitation, as referred to in the Specification and Tender Response Document and Commercial Schedule) and all accompanying materials is accurate;
- 10.1.19 it has the right and authority to enter into this Contract and that it has the capability and capacity to fulfil its obligations under this Contract;
- 10.1.20 it is a properly constituted entity and it is fully empowered by the terms of its constitutional documents to enter into and to carry out its obligations under this Contract and the documents referred to in this Contract;
- 10.1.21 all necessary actions to authorise the execution of and performance of its obligations under this Contract have been taken before such execution;
- 10.1.22 there are no pending or threatened actions or proceedings before any court or administrative agency which would materially adversely affect the financial condition, business or operations of the Supplier;

- 10.1.23 there are no material agreements existing to which the Supplier is a party which prevent the Supplier from entering into or complying with this Contract;
- 10.1.24 it has and will continue to have the capacity, funding and cash flow to meet all its obligations under this Contract; and
- 10.1.25 it has satisfied itself as to the nature and extent of the risks assumed by it under this Contract and has gathered all information necessary to perform its obligations under this Contract and all other obligations assumed by it.
- 10.2 The Supplier warrants that all information, data and other records and documents required by the Authority as set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document shall be submitted to the Authority in the format and in accordance with any timescales set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document.
- 10.3 Without prejudice to the generality of Clause 10.2 of this Schedule 2, the Supplier acknowledges that a failure by the Supplier following the Actual Services Commencement Date to submit accurate invoices and other information on time to the Authority may result in the commissioner of health services, or other entity responsible for reimbursing costs to the Authority, delaying or failing to make relevant payments to the Authority. Accordingly, the Supplier warrants that, from the Actual Services Commencement Date, it shall submit accurate invoices and other information on time to the Authority.
- 10.4 The Supplier warrants and undertakes to the Authority that it shall comply with any eProcurement Guidance as it may apply to the Supplier and shall carry out all reasonable acts required of the Supplier to enable the Authority to comply with such eProcurement Guidance.
- 10.5 The Supplier warrants and undertakes to the Authority that, as at the Commencement Date, 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. If, at any point during the Term, an Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance occurs, the Supplier shall:
 - 10.5.1 notify the Authority in writing of such fact within five (5) Business Days of its occurrence; and
 - 10.5.2 promptly provide to the Authority:
 - (i) details of the steps which the Supplier 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.
- 10.6 The Supplier further warrants and undertakes to the Authority that it will inform the Authority in writing immediately upon becoming aware that any of the warranties set out in Clause 10 of this Schedule 2 have been breached or there is a risk that any warranties may be breached.
- 10.7 Any warranties provided under this Contract are both independent and cumulative and may be enforced independently or collectively at the sole discretion of the enforcing Party.
- 11 Intellectual property**
- 11.1 The Supplier warrants and undertakes to the Authority that either it owns or is entitled to use and will continue to own or be entitled to use all Intellectual Property Rights

used in the development and provision of the Services and/or necessary to give effect to the Services and/or to use any deliverables, material or any other output supplied to the Authority as part of the Services.

- 11.2 Unless specified otherwise in the Key Provisions and/or in the Specification and Tender Response Document or elsewhere in this Contract, the Supplier hereby grants to the Authority, for the life of the use by the Authority of any deliverables, material or any other output supplied to the Authority in any format as part of the Services, an irrevocable, royalty-free, non-exclusive licence (with the right to sub-license to any supplier or other third party contracted by, engaged by and/or collaborating with the Authority) to use, modify, adapt or enhance such items in the course of the Authority's normal business operations. For the avoidance of doubt, unless specified otherwise in the Key Provisions and/or in the Specification and Tender Response Document and/or elsewhere in this Contract, the Authority shall have no rights to commercially exploit (e.g. by selling to third parties) any deliverables, material or any other output supplied to the Authority in any format as part of the Services.

12 Indemnity

- 12.1 The Supplier shall be liable to the Authority for, and shall indemnify and keep the Authority indemnified against, any loss, damages, costs, expenses (including without limitation legal costs and expenses), claims or proceedings in respect of:

- 12.1.1 any injury or allegation of injury to any person, including injury resulting in death;
- 12.1.2 any loss of or damage to property (whether real or personal);
- 12.1.3 any breach of Clause 10.1.6 and/or Clause 11 of this Schedule 2; and/or
- 12.1.4 any failure by the Supplier to commence the delivery of the Services by the Services Commencement Date;

that arise or result from the Supplier's negligent acts or omissions or breach of contract in connection with the performance of this Contract including the provision of the Services, except to the extent that such loss, damages, costs, expenses (including without limitation legal costs and expenses), claims or proceedings have been caused by any act or omission by, or on behalf of, or in accordance with the instructions of, the Authority.

- 12.2 Liability under Clauses 12.1.1, 12.1.3 and 17.13 of this Schedule 2 and Clause 2.6 of Schedule 3 shall be unlimited. Liability under Clauses 12.1.2 and 12.1.4 of this Schedule 2 shall be subject to the limitation of liability set out in Clause 13 of this Schedule 2.

- 12.3 In relation to all third party claims against the Authority, which are the subject of any indemnity given by the Supplier under this Contract, the Authority shall use its reasonable endeavours, upon a written request from the Supplier, to transfer the conduct of such claims to the Supplier unless restricted from doing so. Such restrictions may include, without limitation, any restrictions:

- 12.3.1 relating to any legal, regulatory, governance, information governance, or confidentiality obligations on the Authority; and/or
- 12.3.2 relating to the Authority's membership of any indemnity and/or risk pooling arrangements.

Such transfer shall be subject to the Parties agreeing appropriate terms for such conduct of the third party claim by the Supplier (to include, without limitation, the right of the Authority to be informed and consulted on the ongoing conduct of the claim

following such transfer and any reasonable cooperation required by the Supplier from the Authority).

13 Limitation of liability

13.1 Nothing in this Contract shall exclude or restrict the liability of either Party:

13.1.1 for death or personal injury resulting from its negligence;

13.1.2 for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation; or

13.1.3 in any other circumstances where liability may not be limited or excluded under any applicable law.

13.2 Subject to Clauses 12.2, 13.1, 13.3 and 13.5 of this Schedule 2, the total liability of each Party to the other under or in connection with this Contract whether arising in contract, tort, negligence, breach of statutory duty or otherwise shall be limited in aggregate to the greater of: (a) five million GBP (£5,000,000); or (b) one hundred and twenty five percent (125%) of the total Contract Price paid or payable by the Authority to the Supplier for the Services.

13.3 There shall be no right to claim losses, damages and/or other costs and expenses under or in connection with this Contract whether arising in contract (to include, without limitation, under any relevant indemnity), tort, negligence, breach of statutory duty or otherwise to the extent that any losses, damages and/or other costs and expenses claimed are in respect of loss of production, loss of business opportunity or are in respect of indirect loss of any nature suffered or alleged. For the avoidance of doubt, without limitation, the Parties agree that for the purposes of this Contract the following costs, expenses and/or loss of income shall be direct recoverable losses (to include under any relevant indemnity) provided such costs, expenses and/or loss of income are properly evidenced by the claiming Party:

13.3.1 extra costs incurred purchasing replacement or alternative services;

13.3.2 costs associated with advising, screening, testing, treating, retreating or otherwise providing healthcare to patients;

13.3.3 the costs of extra management time; and/or

13.3.4 loss of income due to an inability to provide health care services,

in each case to the extent to which such costs, expenses and/or loss of income arise or result from the other Party's breach of contract, negligent act or omission, breach of statutory duty, and/or other liability under or in connection with this Contract.

13.4 Each Party shall at all times take all reasonable steps to minimise and mitigate any loss for which that Party is entitled to bring a claim against the other pursuant to this Contract.

13.5 If the total Contract Price paid or payable by the Authority to the Supplier over the Term:

13.5.1 is less than or equal to one million pounds (£1,000,000), then the figure of five million pounds (£5,000,000) at Clause 13.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be replaced with one million pounds (£1,000,000);

13.5.2 is less than or equal to three million pounds (£3,000,000) but greater than one million pounds (£1,000,000), then the figure of five million pounds (£5,000,000) at Clause 13.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be replaced with three million pounds (£3,000,000);

- 13.5.3 is equal to, exceeds or will exceed ten million pounds (£10,000,000), but is less than fifty million pounds (£50,000,000), then the figure of five million pounds (£5,000,000) at Clause 13.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be replaced with ten million pounds (£10,000,000) and the figure of one hundred and twenty five percent (125%) at Clause 13.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be deemed to have been deleted and replaced with one hundred and fifteen percent (115%); and
- 13.5.4 is equal to, exceeds or will exceed fifty million pounds (£50,000,000), then the figure of five million pounds (£5,000,000) at Clause 13.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be replaced with fifty million pounds (£50,000,000) and the figure of one hundred and twenty five percent (125%) at Clause 13.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be deemed to have been deleted and replaced with one hundred and five percent (105%).
- 13.6 Clause 13 of this Schedule 2 shall survive the expiry of or earlier termination of this Contract for any reason.

14 Insurance

- 14.1 Subject to Clauses 14.2 and 14.3 of this Schedule 2 and unless otherwise confirmed in writing by the Authority, as a minimum level of protection, the Supplier shall put in place and/or maintain in force at its own cost with a reputable commercial insurer, insurance arrangements in respect of employer's liability, public liability and professional indemnity in accordance with Good Industry Practice with the minimum cover per claim of the greater of five million pounds (£5,000,000) or any sum as required by Law unless otherwise agreed with the Authority in writing. These requirements shall not apply to the extent that the Supplier is a member and maintains membership of each of the indemnity schemes run by the NHS Litigation Authority.
- 14.2 Without limitation to any insurance arrangements as required by Law, the Supplier shall put in place and/or maintain the different types and/or levels of indemnity arrangements explicitly required by the Authority, if specified in the Key Provisions.
- 14.3 Provided that the Supplier maintains all indemnity arrangements required by Law, the Supplier may self insure in order to meet other relevant requirements referred to at Clauses 14.1 and 14.2 of this Schedule 2 on condition that such self insurance arrangements offer the appropriate levels of protection and are approved by the Authority in writing prior to the Commencement Date.
- 14.4 The amount of any indemnity cover and/or self insurance arrangements shall not relieve the Supplier of any liabilities under this Contract. It shall be the responsibility of the Supplier to determine the amount of indemnity and/or self insurance cover that will be adequate to enable it to satisfy its potential liabilities under this Contract. Accordingly, the Supplier shall be liable to make good any deficiency if the proceeds of any indemnity cover and/or self insurance arrangement is insufficient to cover the settlement of any claim.
- 14.5 The Supplier warrants that it shall not take any action or fail to take any reasonable action or (in so far as it is reasonable and within its power) permit or allow others to take or fail to take any action, as a result of which its insurance cover may be rendered void, voidable, unenforceable, or be suspended or impaired in whole or in part, or which may otherwise render any sum paid out under such insurances repayable in whole or in part.
- 14.6 The Supplier shall from time to time and in any event within five (5) Business Days of written demand provide documentary evidence to the Authority that insurance arrangements taken out by the Supplier pursuant to Clause 14 of this Schedule 2 and

the Key Provisions are fully maintained and that any premiums on them and/or contributions in respect of them (if any) are fully paid.

- 14.7 Upon the expiry or earlier termination of this Contract, the Supplier shall ensure that any ongoing liability it has or may have arising out of this Contract shall continue to be the subject of appropriate indemnity arrangements for the period of twenty one (21) years from termination or expiry of this Contract or until such earlier date as that liability may reasonably be considered to have ceased to exist.

15 Term and termination

- 15.1 This Contract shall commence on the Commencement Date and, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the terms of this Contract or the general law, shall continue until the end of the Term.

- 15.2 The Authority shall be entitled to extend the Term on two occasions of 12 months by giving the Supplier written notice no less than three (3) months prior to the date on which this Contract would otherwise have expired, provided that the duration of this Contract shall be no longer than the total term specified in the Key Provisions.

- 15.3 In the case of a breach of any of the terms of this Contract by either Party that is capable of remedy (including, without limitation any breach of any KPI and, subject to Clause 9.6 of this Schedule 2, any breach of any payment obligations under this Contract), the non-breaching Party may, without prejudice to its other rights and remedies under this Contract, issue a Breach Notice and shall allow the Party in breach the opportunity to remedy such breach in the first instance via a remedial proposal put forward by the Party in breach ("**Remedial Proposal**") before exercising any right to terminate this Contract in accordance with Clause 15.4.2 of this Schedule 2. Such Remedial Proposal must be agreed with the non-breaching Party (such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed) and must be implemented by the Party in breach in accordance with the timescales referred to in the agreed Remedial Proposal. Once agreed, any changes to a Remedial Proposal must be approved by the Parties in writing. Any failure by the Party in breach to:

15.3.1 put forward and agree a Remedial Proposal with the non-breaching Party in relation to the relevant default or breach within a period of ten (10) Business Days (or such other period as the non-breaching Party may agree in writing) from written notification of the relevant default or breach from the non-breaching Party;

15.3.2 comply with such Remedial Proposal (including, without limitation, as to its timescales for implementation, which shall be thirty (30) days unless otherwise agreed between the Parties); and/or

15.3.3 remedy the default or breach notwithstanding the implementation of such Remedial Proposal in accordance with the agreed timescales for implementation,

shall be deemed, for the purposes of Clause 15.4.2 of this Schedule 2, a material breach of this Contract by the Party in breach not remedied in accordance with an agreed Remedial Proposal.

- 15.4 Either Party may terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the other Party if such other Party commits a material breach of any of the terms of this Contract which is:

15.4.1 not capable of remedy; or

15.4.2 in the case of a breach capable of remedy, which is not remedied in accordance with a Remedial Proposal.

- 15.5 The Authority may terminate this Contract forthwith by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier:
- 15.5.1 if the Supplier does not commence delivery of the Services by any Long Stop Date;
 - 15.5.2 if the Supplier, or any third party guaranteeing the obligations of the Supplier under this Contract, ceases or threatens to cease carrying on its business; suspends making payments on any of its debts or announces an intention to do so; is, or is deemed for the purposes of any Law to be, unable to pay its debts as they fall due or insolvent; enters into or proposes any composition, assignment or arrangement with its creditors generally; takes any step or suffers any step to be taken in relation to its winding-up, dissolution, administration (whether out of court or otherwise) or reorganisation (by way of voluntary arrangement, scheme of arrangement or otherwise) otherwise than as part of, and exclusively for the purpose of, a bona fide reconstruction or amalgamation; has a liquidator, trustee in bankruptcy, judicial custodian, compulsory manager, receiver, administrative receiver, administrator or similar officer appointed (in each case, whether out of court or otherwise) in respect of it or any of its assets; has any security over any of its assets enforced; or any analogous procedure or step is taken in any jurisdiction;
 - 15.5.3 if the Supplier undergoes a change of control within the meaning of sections 450 and 451 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 (other than for an intra-group change of control) without the prior written consent of the Authority and the Authority shall be entitled to withhold such consent if, in the reasonable opinion of the Authority, the proposed change of control will have a material impact on the performance of this Contract or the reputation of the Authority;
 - 15.5.4 if the Supplier purports to assign, Sub-contract, novate, create a trust in or otherwise transfer or dispose of this Contract in breach of Clause 28.1 of this Schedule 2;
 - 15.5.5 if the NHS Business Services Authority has notified the Authority that the Supplier or any Sub-contractor of the Supplier has, in the opinion of the NHS Business Services Authority, failed in any material respect to comply with its obligations in relation to the NHS Pension Scheme (including those under any Direction Letter) as assumed pursuant to the provisions of Part D of Schedule 7;
 - 15.5.6 pursuant to and in accordance with the Key Provisions and Clauses 15.6, 19.7.2, 23.8, 25.2, 25.4 and 29.2 of this Schedule 2;
 - 15.5.7 if the warranty given by the Supplier pursuant to Clause 10.5 of this Schedule 2 is materially untrue, the Supplier commits a material breach of its obligation to notify the Authority of any Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance as required by Clause 10.5 of this Schedule 2, or the Supplier fails to provide details of proposed mitigating factors as required by Clause 10.5 of this Schedule 2 that in the reasonable opinion of the Authority are acceptable; or
 - 15.5.8 pursuant to and in accordance with any termination rights set out in the Data Protection Protocol, as applicable to this Contract.
- 15.6 If the Authority, acting reasonably, has good cause to believe that there has been a material deterioration in the financial circumstances of the Supplier and/or any third party guaranteeing the obligations of the Supplier under this Contract and/or any material Sub-contractor of the Supplier when compared to any information provided to and/or assessed by the Authority as part of any procurement process or other due

diligence leading to the award of this Contract to the Supplier or the entering into a Sub-contract by the Supplier, the following process shall apply:

- 15.6.1 the Authority may (but shall not be obliged to) give notice to the Supplier requesting adequate financial or other security and/or assurances for due performance of its material obligations under this Contract on such reasonable and proportionate terms as the Authority may require within a reasonable time period as specified in such notice;
- 15.6.2 a failure or refusal by the Supplier to provide the financial or other security and/or assurances requested in accordance with Clause 15.6 of this Schedule 2 in accordance with any reasonable timescales specified in any such notice issued by the Authority shall be deemed a breach of this Contract by the Supplier and shall be referred to and resolved in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure; and
- 15.6.3 a failure to resolve such breach in accordance with such Dispute Resolution Procedure by the end of the escalation stage of such process shall entitle, but shall not compel, the Authority to terminate this Contract in accordance with Clause 15.4.1 of this Schedule 2.

In order that the Authority may act reasonably in exercising its discretion in accordance with Clause 15.6 of this Schedule 2, the Supplier shall provide the Authority with such reasonable and proportionate up-to-date financial or other information relating to the Supplier or any relevant third party entity upon request.

- 15.7 The Authority may terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier where:
 - 15.7.1 the Contract has been substantially amended to the extent that the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 require a new procurement procedure;
 - 15.7.2 the Authority has become aware that the Supplier should have been excluded under Regulation 57(1) or (2) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 from the procurement procedure leading to the award of this Contract; or
 - 15.7.3 there has been a failure by the Supplier and/or one its Sub-contractors to comply with legal obligations in the fields of environmental, social or labour Law. Where the failure to comply with legal obligations in the fields of environmental, social or labour Law is a failure by one of the Supplier's Sub-contractors, the Authority may request the replacement of such Sub-contractor and the Supplier shall comply with such request as an alternative to the Authority terminating this Contract under this Clause 15.7.3 of this Schedule 2.
- 15.8 If the Authority novates this Contract to any body that is not a Contracting Authority, from the effective date of such novation, the rights of the Authority to terminate this Contract in accordance with Clause 15.5.2 to Clause 15.5.4 of this Schedule 2 shall be deemed mutual termination rights and the Supplier may terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the entity assuming the position of the Authority if any of the circumstances referred to in such Clauses apply to the entity assuming the position of the Authority.
- 15.9 Within three (3) months of the Commencement Date the Supplier shall develop and agree an exit plan with the Authority consistent with the Exit Requirements, which shall ensure continuity of the Services on expiry or earlier termination of this Contract. The Supplier shall provide the Authority with the first draft of an exit plan within one (1) month of the Commencement Date. The Parties shall review and, as appropriate,

update the exit plan on each anniversary of the Commencement Date of this Contract. If the Parties cannot agree an exit plan in accordance with the timescales set out in this Clause 15.9 of this Schedule 2 (such agreement not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed), such failure to agree shall be deemed a Dispute, which shall be referred to and resolved in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure.

16 Consequences of expiry or early termination of this Contract

- 16.1 Upon expiry or earlier termination of this Contract, the Authority agrees to pay the Supplier for the Services which have been completed by the Supplier in accordance with this Contract prior to expiry or earlier termination of this Contract.
- 16.2 Immediately following expiry or earlier termination of this Contract and/or in accordance with any timescales as set out in the agreed exit plan:
 - 16.2.1 the Supplier shall comply with its obligations under any agreed exit plan;
 - 16.2.2 all data, excluding Personal Data, documents and records (whether stored electronically or otherwise) relating in whole or in part to the Services, including without limitation relating to patients or other service users, and all other items provided on loan or otherwise to the Supplier by the Authority shall be delivered by the Supplier to the Authority provided that the Supplier shall be entitled to keep copies to the extent that: (a) the content does not relate solely to the Services; (b) the Supplier is required by Law and/or Guidance to keep copies; or (c) the Supplier was in possession of such data, documents and records prior to the Commencement Date; and
 - 16.2.3 any Personal Data Processed by the Supplier on behalf of the Authority shall be returned to the Authority or destroyed in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Data Protection Protocol.
- 16.3 The Supplier shall retain all data relating to the provision of the Services that are not transferred or destroyed pursuant to Clause 16.2 of this Schedule 2 for the period set out in Clause 24.1 of this Schedule 2.
- 16.4 The Supplier shall cooperate fully with the Authority or, as the case may be, any replacement supplier during any re-procurement and handover period prior to and following the expiry or earlier termination of this Contract. This cooperation shall extend to providing access to all information relevant to the operation of this Contract, as reasonably required by the Authority to achieve a fair and transparent re-procurement and/or an effective transition without disruption to routine operational requirements.
- 16.5 Immediately upon expiry or earlier termination of this Contract any licence or lease entered into in accordance with the Key Provisions shall automatically terminate.
- 16.6 The expiry or earlier termination of this Contract for whatever reason shall not affect any rights or obligations of either Party which accrued prior to such expiry or earlier termination.
- 16.7 The expiry or earlier termination of this Contract shall not affect any obligations which expressly or by implication are intended to come into or continue in force on or after such expiry or earlier termination.

17 Staff information and the application of TUPE at the end of the Contract

- 17.1 Upon the day which is no greater than nine (9) months before the expiry of this Contract or as soon as the Supplier is aware of the proposed termination of the Contract, the Supplier shall, within twenty eight (28) days of receiving a written request from the Authority and to the extent permitted by Law, supply to the Authority and keep updated

all information required by the Authority as to the terms and conditions of employment and employment history of any Supplier Personnel (including all employee liability information identified in regulation 11 of TUPE) and the Supplier shall warrant such information is full, complete and accurate.

- 17.2 No later than twenty eight (28) days prior to the Subsequent Transfer Date, the Supplier shall or shall procure that any Sub-contractor shall provide a final list to the Successor and/or the Authority, as appropriate, containing the names of all the Subsequent Transferring Employees whom the Supplier or Sub-contractor expects will transfer to the Successor or the Authority and all employee liability information identified in regulation 11 of TUPE in relation to the Subsequent Transferring Employees.
- 17.3 If the Supplier shall, in the reasonable opinion of the Authority, deliberately not comply with its obligations under Clauses 17.1 and 17.2 of this Schedule 2, the Authority may withhold payment under Clause 9 of this Schedule 2.
- 17.4 The Supplier shall be liable to the Authority for, and shall indemnify and keep the Authority indemnified against, any loss, damages, costs, expenses (including without limitation legal costs and expenses), claims or proceedings that arise or result from any deficiency or inaccuracy in the information which the Supplier is required to provide under Clauses 17.1 and 17.2 of this Schedule 2.
- 17.5 Subject to Clauses 17.6 and 17.7 of this Schedule 2, during the period of nine (9) months preceding the expiry of this Contract or after notice of termination of this Contract has been served by either Party, the Supplier shall not, and shall procure that any Sub-contractor shall not, without the prior written consent of the Authority, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed:
 - 17.5.1 make, propose or permit any material changes to the terms and conditions of employment or other arrangements of any of the Supplier Personnel;
 - 17.5.2 increase or seek to increase the emoluments (excluding cost of living increases awarded in the ordinary course of business) payable to any of the Supplier Personnel;
 - 17.5.3 replace any of the Supplier Personnel or increase the total number of employees providing the Services;
 - 17.5.4 deploy any person other than the Supplier Personnel to perform the Services;
 - 17.5.5 terminate or give notice to terminate the employment or arrangements of any of the Supplier Personnel;
 - 17.5.6 increase the proportion of working time spent on the Services by any of the Supplier Personnel; or
 - 17.5.7 introduce any new contractual term or customary practice concerning the making of any lump sum payment on the termination of employment of any of the Supplier Personnel.
- 17.6 Clause 17.5 of this Schedule 2 shall not prevent the Supplier or any Sub-contractor from taking any of the steps prohibited in that Clause in circumstances where the Supplier or Sub-contractor is required to take such a step pursuant to any changes in legislation or pursuant to a collective agreement in force at that time.
- 17.7 Where the obligations on the Supplier under Clause 17 of this Schedule 2 are subject to the Data Protection Legislation, the Supplier will, and shall procure that any Sub-contractor will, use its best endeavours to seek the consent of the Supplier Personnel to disclose any information covered under the Data Protection Legislation and utilise

any other exemption or provision within the Data Protection Legislation which would allow such disclosure.

- 17.8 Having as appropriate gained permission from any Sub-contractor, the Supplier hereby permits the Authority to disclose information about the Supplier Personnel to any Interested Party provided that the Authority informs the Interested Party in writing of the confidential nature of the information.
- 17.9 The Parties agree that where a Successor or the Authority provides the Services or services which are fundamentally the same as the Services in the immediate or subsequent succession to the Supplier or Sub-contractor (in whole or in part) on expiry or early termination of this Contract (howsoever arising) TUPE, the Cabinet Office Statement and Fair Deal for Staff Pensions may apply in respect of the subsequent provision of the Services or services which are fundamentally the same as the Services. If TUPE, the Cabinet Office Statement and Fair Deal for Staff Pensions apply then Clause 17.11 to Clause 17.14 of this Schedule 2 and (where relevant) the provisions of Clause 1.15 of Part D of Schedule 7 shall apply.
- 17.10 If on the termination or at the end of the Contract TUPE does not apply, then all Employment Liabilities and any other liabilities in relation to the Supplier Personnel shall remain with the Supplier or Sub-contractor as appropriate. The Supplier will, and shall procure that any Sub-contractor shall, indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority in relation to any Employment Liabilities arising out of or in connection with any allegation or claim raised by any Supplier Personnel.
- 17.11 In accordance with TUPE, and any other policy or arrangement applicable, the Supplier shall, and will procure that any Sub-contractor shall, comply with its obligations to inform and consult with the appropriate representatives of any of its employees affected by the subsequent transfer of the Services or services which are fundamentally the same as the Services.
- 17.12 The Supplier will and shall procure that any Sub-contractor will on or before any Subsequent Transfer Date:
- 17.12.1 pay all wages, salaries and other benefits of the Subsequent Transferring Employees and discharge all other financial obligations (including reimbursement of any expenses and any contributions to retirement benefit schemes) in respect of the period between the Transfer Date and the Subsequent Transfer Date;
 - 17.12.2 account to the proper authority for all PAYE, tax deductions and national insurance contributions payable in respect of the Subsequent Transferring Employees in the period between the Transfer Date and the Subsequent Transfer Date;
 - 17.12.3 pay any Successor or the Authority, as appropriate, the amount which would be payable to each of the Subsequent Transferring Employees in lieu of accrued but untaken holiday entitlement as at the Subsequent Transfer Date;
 - 17.12.4 pay any Successor or the Authority, as appropriate, the amount which fairly reflects the progress of each of the Subsequent Transferring Employees towards achieving any commission, bonus, profit share or other incentive payment payable after the Subsequent Transfer Date wholly or partly in respect of a period prior to the Subsequent Transfer Date; and
 - 17.12.5 subject to any legal requirement, provide to the Successor or the Authority, as appropriate, all personnel records relating to the Subsequent Transferring Employees including, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, all records relating to national insurance, PAYE and income tax. The Supplier

shall for itself and any Sub-contractor warrant that such records are accurate and up to date.

- 17.13 The Supplier will and shall procure that any Sub-contractor will indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority and/or a Successor in relation to any Employment Liabilities arising out of or in connection with any claim arising from:
- 17.13.1 the Supplier's or Sub-contractor's failure to perform and discharge its obligations under Clause 17.12 of this Schedule 2;
 - 17.13.2 any act or omission by the Supplier or Sub-contractor in respect of the Subsequent Transferring Employees occurring on or before the Subsequent Transfer Date;
 - 17.13.3 any allegation or claim by any person who is not a Subsequent Transferring Employee but who alleges that their employment should transfer or has transferred to the Successor or the Authority, as appropriate;
 - 17.13.4 any emoluments payable to a person employed or engaged by the Supplier or Sub-contractor (including without limitation all wages, any accrued or unpaid holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, PAYE, national insurance contributions, pension contributions and other contributions) payable in respect of any period on or before the Subsequent Transfer Date;
 - 17.13.5 any allegation or claim by any of the Subsequent Transferring Employees on the grounds that the Successor or Authority, as appropriate, has failed to continue a benefit provided by the Supplier or Sub-contractor as a term of such Subsequent Transferring Employee's contract as at the Subsequent Transfer Date where it was not reasonably practicable for the Successor or Authority, as appropriate, to provide an identical benefit but where the Successor or Authority, as appropriate, has provided (or offered to provide where such benefit is not accepted by the Subsequent Transferring Employee) an alternative benefit which, taken as a whole, is no less favourable to such Subsequent Transferring Employee; and
 - 17.13.6 any act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-contractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of TUPE, or in respect of an award of compensation under regulation 15 of TUPE except to the extent that the liability arises from the Successor's or Authority's failure to comply with regulation 13(4) of TUPE.
- 17.14 The Supplier will, or shall procure that any Sub-contractor will, on request by the Authority provide a written and legally binding indemnity in the same terms as set out in Clause 17.13 of this Schedule 2 to any Successor in relation to any Employment Liabilities arising up to and including the Subsequent Transfer Date.
- 17.15 The Supplier will indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority and/or any Successor in respect of any Employment Liabilities arising from any act or omission of the Supplier or Sub-contractor in relation to any other Supplier Personnel who is not a Subsequent Transferring Employee arising during any period whether before, on or after the Subsequent Transfer Date.
- 17.16 If any person who is not a Subsequent Transferring Employee claims or it is determined that their contract of employment has been transferred from the Supplier or any Sub-contractor to the Authority or Successor pursuant to TUPE or claims that their employment would have so transferred had they not resigned, then:
- 17.16.1 the Authority will, or shall procure that the Successor will, within seven (7) days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Supplier;

- 17.16.2 the Supplier may offer (or may procure that a Sub-contractor may offer) employment to such person within twenty eight (28) days of the notification by the Authority or Successor;
- 17.16.3 if such offer of employment is accepted, the Authority will, or shall procure that the Successor will, immediately release the person from their employment; and
- 17.16.4 if after the period in Clause 17.16.2 of this Schedule 2 has elapsed, no such offer of employment has been made or such offer has been made but not accepted, the Authority will, or shall procure that the Successor will (whichever is the provider of the Services or services of the same or similar nature to the Services), employ that person in accordance with its obligations and duties under TUPE and shall be responsible for all liabilities arising in respect of any such person after the Subsequent Transfer Date.

18 Complaints

- 18.1 To the extent relevant to the Services, the Supplier shall have in place and operate a complaints procedure which complies with the requirements of the Local Authority Social Services and National Health Service Complaints (England) Regulations 2009.
- 18.2 Each Party shall inform the other of all complaints from or on behalf of patients or other service users arising out of or in connection with the provision of the Services within twenty four (24) hours of receipt of each complaint and shall keep the other Party updated on the manner of resolution of any such complaints.

19 Modern slavery and environmental, social, and labour laws

Environmental, social and labour law requirements

- 19.1 The Supplier shall comply in all material respects with applicable environmental and social and labour Law requirements in force from time to time in relation to the Services. Where the provisions of any such Law are implemented by the use of voluntary agreements, the Supplier shall comply with such agreements as if they were incorporated into English law subject to those voluntary agreements being cited in the Specification and Tender Response Document. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Supplier shall:
 - 19.1.1 comply with all Policies and/or procedures and requirements set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document in relation to any stated environmental and social and labour requirements, characteristics and impacts of the Services and the Supplier's supply chain;
 - 19.1.2 maintain relevant policy statements documenting the Supplier's significant labour, social and environmental aspects as relevant to the Services being provided and as proportionate to the nature and scale of the Supplier's business operations; and
 - 19.1.3 maintain plans and procedures that support the commitments made as part of the Supplier's significant labour, social and environmental policies, as referred to at Clause 19.1.2 of this Schedule 2.

Modern slavery

- 19.2 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each of its Sub-contractors shall, comply with:
 - 19.2.1 the Modern Slavery Act 2015 ("**Slavery Act**"); and

- 19.2.2 the Authority's anti-slavery policy as provided to the Supplier by the Authority from time to time ("**Anti-Slavery Policy**").
- 19.3 The Supplier shall:
- 19.3.1 implement due diligence procedures for its Sub-contractors and other participants in its supply chains in accordance with Good Industry Practice with the aim of avoiding slavery or trafficking in its supply chains;
 - 19.3.2 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;
 - 19.3.3 upon request from the Authority, 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;
 - 19.3.4 maintain a complete set of records to trace the supply chain of all goods and services purchased and/or supplied by the Supplier in connection with all contracts or framework agreements with the Authority;
 - 19.3.5 implement a system of training for its employees to ensure compliance with the Slavery Act; and
 - 19.3.6 ensure that any Sub-contracts contain anti-slavery provisions consistent with the Supplier's obligations under this 19 of this Schedule 2
- 19.4 The Supplier undertakes on an ongoing basis that:
- 19.4.1 it conducts its business in a manner consistent with all applicable Laws including the Slavery Act and all analogous legislation in place in any part of the world in which its supply chain operates;
 - 19.4.2 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
 - 19.4.3 neither the Supplier nor any of its Sub-contractors, nor any other persons associated with it (including any Staff):
 - (i) has been convicted of any offence involving slavery or trafficking; or
 - (ii) has been, or is currently, the subject of any investigation, inquiry or enforcement proceedings by any governmental, administrative or regulatory body relating to any offence committed regarding slavery or trafficking,
 not already notified to the Authority in writing in accordance with Clause 19.5 of this Schedule 2
- 19.5 The Supplier shall notify the Authority as soon as it becomes aware of:
- 19.5.1 any breach, or potential breach, of the Anti-Slavery Policy; or
 - 19.5.2 any actual or suspected slavery or trafficking in its supply chain.
- 19.6 If the Supplier notifies the Authority pursuant to Clause 19.5 of this Schedule 2, it shall respond promptly to the Authority's enquiries, co-operate with any investigation, and allow the Authority to audit any books, premises, facilities, records and/or any other relevant documentation in accordance with this Contract.

19.7 If the Supplier is in breach of Clause 19.3 of this Schedule 2 or the undertaking at Clause 19.4 of this Schedule 2 in addition to its other rights and remedies provided under this Contract, the Authority may:

19.7.1 by written notice require the Supplier to remove from performance of any contract or framework agreement with the Authority (including this Contract) any Sub-contractor, Staff or other persons associated with it whose acts or omissions have caused the breach; or

19.7.2 terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier.

Further corporate social responsibility requirements

19.8 The Supplier shall comply with any further corporate social responsibility requirements set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document.

Provision of further information

19.9 The Supplier shall meet reasonable requests by the Authority for information evidencing the Supplier's compliance with the provisions of Clause 19 of this Schedule 2. For the avoidance of doubt, the Authority may audit the Supplier's compliance with this Clause 19 of this Schedule 2 in accordance with Clause 24 of this Schedule 2.

20 Electronic services information

20.1 Where requested by the Authority, the Supplier shall provide the Authority the Services Information in such manner and upon such media as agreed between the Supplier and the Authority from time to time for the sole use by the Authority.

20.2 The Supplier warrants that the Services Information is complete and accurate as at the date upon which it is delivered to the Authority and that the Services Information shall not contain any data or statement which gives rise to any liability on the part of the Authority following publication of the same in accordance with Clause 20 of this Schedule 2.

20.3 If the Services Information ceases to be complete and accurate, the Supplier shall promptly notify the Authority in writing of any modification or addition to or any inaccuracy or omission in the Services Information.

20.4 The Supplier grants the Authority a perpetual, non-exclusive, royalty free licence to use and exploit the Services Information and any Intellectual Property Rights in the Services Information for the purpose of illustrating the range of goods and services (including, without limitation, the Services) available pursuant to the Authority's contracts from time to time. Subject to Clause 20.5 of this Schedule 2, no obligation to illustrate or advertise the Services Information is imposed on the Authority, as a consequence of the licence conferred by this Clause 20.4 of this Schedule 2.

20.5 The Authority may reproduce for its sole use the Services Information provided by the Supplier in the Authority's services catalogue from time to time which may be made available on any NHS communications networks in electronic format and/or made available on the Authority's external website and/or made available on other digital media from time to time.

20.6 Before any publication of the Services Information (electronic or otherwise) is made by the Authority, the Authority will submit a copy of the relevant sections of the Authority's services catalogue to the Supplier for approval, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. For the avoidance of doubt the Supplier shall have no right to compel the Authority to exhibit the Services Information in any services catalogue as a result of the approval given by it pursuant to this Clause 20.6 of this Schedule 2 or otherwise under the terms of this Contract.

- 20.7 If requested in writing by the Authority, and to the extent not already agreed as part of the Specification and Tender Response Document, the Supplier and the Authority shall discuss and seek to agree in good faith arrangements to use any Electronic Trading System.

21 Change management

- 21.1 The Supplier acknowledges to the Authority that the Authority's requirements for the Services may change during the Term and the Supplier shall not unreasonably withhold or delay its consent to any reasonable variation or addition to the Specification and Tender Response Document, as may be requested by the Authority from time to time.
- 21.2 Subject to Clause 21.3 of this Schedule 2, any change to the Services or other variation to this Contract shall only be binding once it has been agreed either: (a) in accordance with the Change Control Process if the Key Provisions specify that changes are subject to a formal change control process; or (b) if the Key Provisions make no such reference, in writing and signed by an authorised representative of both Parties.
- 21.3 Any change to the Data Protection Protocol shall be made in accordance with the relevant provisions of that protocol.
- 21.4 The Supplier shall neither be relieved of its obligations to provide the Services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract nor be entitled to an increase in the Contract Price as the result of:
- 21.4.1 a General Change in Law; or
 - 21.4.2 a Specific Change in Law where the effect of that Specific Change in Law on the Services is reasonably foreseeable at the Commencement Date.

22 Dispute resolution

- 22.1 During any Dispute, including a Dispute as to the validity of this Contract, it is agreed that the Supplier shall continue its performance of the provisions of the Contract (unless the Authority requests in writing that the Supplier does not do so).
- 22.2 In the case of a Dispute arising out of or in connection with this Contract the Supplier and the Authority shall make every reasonable effort to communicate and cooperate with each other with a view to resolving the Dispute and follow the procedure set out in Clause 22.3 of this Schedule 2 as the first stage in the Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 22.3 If any Dispute arises out of the Contract either Party may serve a notice on the other Party to commence formal resolution of the Dispute. The Parties shall first seek to resolve the Dispute by escalation in accordance with the management levels as set out in Clause 5 of the Key Provisions. Respective representatives at each level, as set out in Clause 5 of the Key Provisions, shall have five (5) Business Days at each level during which they will use their reasonable endeavours to resolve the Dispute before escalating the matter to the next levels until all level have been exhausted. Level 1 will commence on the date of service of the Dispute Notice. The final level of the escalation process shall be deemed exhausted on the expiry of five (5) Business Days following escalation to that level unless otherwise agreed by the Parties in writing.
- 22.4 If the procedure set out in Clause 22.3 of this Schedule 2 above has been exhausted and fails to resolve such Dispute, as part of the Dispute Resolution Procedure, the Parties will attempt to settle it by mediation. The Parties, shall acting reasonably, attempt to agree upon a mediator. In the event that the Parties fail to agree a mediator within five (5) Business Days following the exhaustion of all levels of the escalation procedure at Clause 22.3 of this Schedule 2, the mediator shall be nominated and confirmed by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, London.

- 22.5 The mediation shall commence within twenty eight (28) days of the confirmation of the mediator in accordance with Clause 22.4 of this Schedule 2 or at such other time as may be agreed by the Parties in writing. Neither Party will terminate such mediation process until each Party has made its opening presentation and the mediator has met each Party separately for at least one hour or one Party has failed to participate in the mediation process. After this time, either Party may terminate the mediation process by notification to the other Party (such notification may be verbal provided that it is followed up by written confirmation). The Authority and the Supplier will cooperate with any person appointed as mediator providing them with such information and other assistance as they shall require and will pay their costs, as they shall determine or in the absence of such determination such costs will be shared equally.
- 22.6 Nothing in this Contract shall prevent:
- 22.6.1 the Authority taking action in any court in relation to any death or personal injury arising or allegedly arising in connection with the provision of the Services; or
 - 22.6.2 either Party seeking from any court any interim or provisional relief that may be necessary to protect the rights or property of that Party or that relates to the safety of patients and other service users or the security of Confidential Information, pending resolution of the relevant Dispute in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 22.7 Clause 22 of this Schedule 2 shall survive the expiry of or earlier termination of this Contract for any reason.
- 23 Force majeure**
- 23.1 Subject to Clause 23.2 of this Schedule 2 neither Party shall be liable to the other for any failure to perform all or any of its obligations under this Contract nor liable to the other Party for any loss or damage arising out of the failure to perform its obligations to the extent only that such performance is rendered impossible by a Force Majeure Event.
- 23.2 The Supplier shall only be entitled to rely on a Force Majeure Event and the relief set out in Clause 23 of this Schedule 2 and will not be considered to be in default or liable for breach of any obligations under this Contract if:
- 23.2.1 the Supplier has fulfilled its obligations pursuant to Clause 6 of this Schedule 2;
 - 23.2.2 the Force Majeure Event does not arise directly or indirectly as a result of any wilful or negligent act or default of the Supplier; and
 - 23.2.3 the Supplier has complied with the procedural requirements set out in Clause 23 of this Schedule 2.
- 23.3 Where a Party is (or claims to be) affected by a Force Majeure Event it shall use reasonable endeavours to mitigate the consequences of such a Force Majeure Event upon the performance of its obligations under this Contract, and to resume the performance of its obligations affected by the Force Majeure Event as soon as practicable.
- 23.4 Where the Force Majeure Event affects the Supplier's ability to perform part of its obligations under the Contract the Supplier shall fulfil all such contractual obligations that are not so affected and shall not be relieved from its liability to do so.
- 23.5 If either Party is prevented or delayed in the performance of its obligations under this Contract by a Force Majeure Event, that Party shall as soon as reasonably practicable

serve notice in writing on the other Party specifying the nature and extent of the circumstances giving rise to its failure to perform or any anticipated delay in performance of its obligations.

- 23.6 Subject to service of such notice, the Party affected by such circumstances shall have no liability for its failure to perform or for any delay in performance of its obligations affected by the Force Majeure Event only for so long as such circumstances continue and for such time after they cease as is necessary for that Party, using its best endeavours, to recommence its affected operations in order for it to perform its obligations.
- 23.7 The Party claiming relief shall notify the other in writing as soon as the consequences of the Force Majeure Event have ceased and of when performance of its affected obligations can be resumed.
- 23.8 If the Supplier is prevented from performance of its obligations as a result of a Force Majeure Event, the Authority may at any time, if the Force Majeure Event subsists for thirty (30) days or more, terminate this Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier.
- 23.9 Following such termination in accordance with Clause 23.8 of this Schedule 2 and subject to Clause 23.10 of this Schedule 2, neither Party shall have any liability to the other.
- 23.10 Any rights and liabilities of either Party which have accrued prior to such termination in accordance with Clause 23.8 of this Schedule 2 shall continue in full force and effect unless otherwise specified in this Contract.

24 Records retention and right of audit

- 24.1 Subject to any statutory requirement and Clause 24.2 of this Schedule 2, the Supplier shall keep secure and maintain for the Term and six (6) years afterwards, or such longer period as may be agreed between the Parties, full and accurate records of all matters relating to this Contract.
- 24.2 Where any records could be relevant to a claim for personal injury such records shall be kept secure and maintained for a period of twenty one (21) years from the date of expiry or earlier termination of this Contract.
- 24.3 The Authority shall have the right to audit the Supplier's compliance with this Contract. The Supplier shall permit or procure permission for the Authority or its authorised representative during normal business hours having given advance written notice of no less than five (5) Business Days, access to any premises and facilities, books and records reasonably required to audit the Supplier's compliance with its obligations under this Contract.
- 24.4 Should the Supplier Sub-contract any of its obligations under this Contract, the Authority shall have the right to audit and inspect such third party. The Supplier shall procure permission for the Authority or its authorised representative during normal business hours no more than once in any twelve (12) months, having given advance written notice of no less than five (5) Business Days, access to any premises and facilities, books and records used in the performance of the Supplier's obligations under this Contract that are Sub-contracted to such third party. The Supplier shall cooperate with such audit and inspection and accompany the Authority or its authorised representative if requested.
- 24.5 The Supplier shall grant to the Authority or its authorised representative, such access to those records as they may reasonably require in order to check the Supplier's compliance with this Contract for the purposes of:

- 24.5.1 the examination and certification of the Authority's accounts; or
- 24.5.2 any examination pursuant to section 6(1) of the National Audit Act 1983 of the economic efficiency and effectiveness with which the Authority has used its resources.
- 24.6 The Comptroller and Auditor General may examine such documents as they may reasonably require which are owned, held or otherwise within the control of the Supplier and may require the Supplier to provide such oral and/or written explanations as they consider necessary. Clause 24 of this Schedule 2 does not constitute a requirement or agreement for the examination, certification or inspection of the accounts of the Supplier under sections 6(3)(d) and 6(5) of the National Audit Act 1983.
- 24.7 The Supplier shall provide reasonable cooperation to the Authority, its representatives and any regulatory body in relation to any audit, review, investigation or enquiry carried out in relation to the subject matter of this Contract.
- 24.8 The Supplier shall provide all reasonable information as may be reasonably requested by the Authority to evidence the Supplier's compliance with the requirements of this Contract.
- 25 Conflicts of interest and the prevention of fraud**
- 25.1 The Supplier shall take appropriate steps to ensure that neither the Supplier nor any Staff are placed in a position where, in the reasonable opinion of the Authority, there is or may be an actual conflict, or a potential conflict, between the pecuniary or personal interests of the Supplier and the duties owed to the Authority under the provisions of this Contract. The Supplier will disclose to the Authority full particulars of any such conflict of interest which may arise.
- 25.2 The Authority reserves the right to terminate this Contract immediately by notice in writing and/or to take such other steps it deems necessary where, in the reasonable opinion of the Authority, there is or may be an actual conflict, or a potential conflict, between the pecuniary or personal interests of the Supplier and the duties owed to the Authority under the provisions of this Contract. The actions of the Authority pursuant to this Clause 25.2 of this Schedule 2 shall not prejudice or affect any right of action or remedy which shall have accrued or shall subsequently accrue to the Authority.
- 25.3 The Supplier shall take all reasonable steps to prevent Fraud by Staff and the Supplier (including its owners, members and directors). The Supplier shall notify the Authority immediately if it has reason to suspect that any Fraud has occurred or is occurring or is likely to occur.
- 25.4 If the Supplier or its Staff commits Fraud the Authority may terminate this Contract and recover from the Supplier the amount of any direct loss suffered by the Authority resulting from the termination.

26 Equality and human rights

- 26.1 The Supplier shall:
 - 26.1.1 ensure that (a) it does not, whether as employer or as provider of the Services, engage in any act or omission that would contravene the Equality Legislation, and (b) it complies with all its obligations as an employer or provider of the Services as set out in the Equality Legislation and take reasonable endeavours to ensure its Staff do not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning of the Equality Legislation;
 - 26.1.2 in the management of its affairs and the development of its equality and diversity policies, cooperate with the Authority in light of the Authority's

obligations to comply with its statutory equality duties whether under the Equality Act 2010 or otherwise. The Supplier shall take such reasonable and proportionate steps as the Authority considers appropriate to promote equality and diversity, including race equality, equality of opportunity for disabled people, gender equality, and equality relating to religion and belief, sexual orientation and age; and

- 26.1.3 the Supplier shall impose on all its Sub-contractors and suppliers, obligations substantially similar to those imposed on the Supplier by Clause 26 of this Schedule 2.
- 26.2 The Supplier shall meet reasonable requests by the Authority for information evidencing the Supplier's compliance with the provisions of Clause 26 of this Schedule 2.

27 Notice

- 27.1 Subject to Clause 22.5 of Schedule 2, any notice required to be given by either Party under this Contract shall be in writing quoting the date of the Contract and shall be delivered by hand or sent by prepaid first class recorded delivery or by email to the person referred to in the Key Provisions or such other person as one Party may inform the other Party in writing from time to time.
- 27.2 A notice shall be treated as having been received:
- 27.2.1 if delivered by hand within normal business hours when so delivered or, if delivered by hand outside normal business hours, at the next start of normal business hours; or
 - 27.2.2 if sent by first class recorded delivery mail on a normal Business Day, at 9.00 am on the second Business Day subsequent to the day of posting, or, if the notice was not posted on a Business Day, at 9.00 am on the third Business Day subsequent to the day of posting; or
 - 27.2.3 if sent by email, if sent within normal business hours when so sent or, if sent outside normal business hours, at the next start of normal business hours provided the sender has either received an electronic confirmation of delivery or has telephoned the recipient to inform the recipient that the email has been sent.

28 Assignment, novation and Sub-contracting

- 28.1 The Supplier shall not, except where Clause 28.2 of this Schedule 2 applies, assign, Sub-contract, novate, create a trust in, or in any other way dispose of the whole or any part of this Contract without the prior consent in writing of the Authority such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. If the Supplier Sub-contracts any of its obligations under this Contract, every act or omission of the Sub-contractor shall for the purposes of this Contract be deemed to be the act or omission of the Supplier and the Supplier shall be liable to the Authority as if such act or omission had been committed or omitted by the Supplier itself.
- 28.2 Notwithstanding Clause 28.1 of this Schedule 2, the Supplier may assign to a third party ("**Assignee**") the right to receive payment of any sums due and owing to the Supplier under this Contract for which an invoice has been issued. Any assignment under this Clause 28.2 of this Schedule 2 shall be subject to:
- 28.2.1 the deduction of any sums in respect of which the Authority exercises its right of recovery under Clause 9.8 of this Schedule 2;

- 28.2.2 all related rights of the Authority in relation to the recovery of sums due but unpaid;
 - 28.2.3 the Authority receiving notification of the assignment and the date upon which the assignment becomes effective together with the Assignee's contact information and bank account details to which the Authority shall make payment;
 - 28.2.4 the provisions of Clause 9 of this Schedule 2 continuing to apply in all other respects after the assignment which shall not be amended without the prior written approval of the Authority; and
 - 28.2.5 payment to the Assignee being full and complete satisfaction of the Authority's obligation to pay the relevant sums in accordance with this Contract.
- 28.3 Any authority given by the Authority for the Supplier to Sub-contract any of its obligations under this Contract shall not impose any duty on the Authority to enquire as to the competency of any authorised Sub-contractor. The Supplier shall ensure that any authorised Sub-contractor has the appropriate capability and capacity to perform the relevant obligations and that the obligations carried out by such Sub-contractor are fully in accordance with this Contract.
- 28.4 Where the Supplier enters into a Sub-contract in respect of any of its obligations under this Contract relating to the provision of the Services, the Supplier shall include provisions in each such Sub-contract, unless otherwise agreed with the Authority in writing, which:
- 28.4.1 contain at least equivalent obligations as set out in this Contract in relation to the performance of the Services to the extent relevant to such Sub-contracting;
 - 28.4.2 contain at least equivalent obligations as set out in this Contract in respect of confidentiality, information security, data protection, Intellectual Property Rights, compliance with Law, Guidance, and Good Industry Practice, and record keeping;
 - 28.4.3 contain a prohibition on the Sub-contractor Sub-contracting, assigning or novating any of its rights or obligations under such Sub-contract without the prior written approval of the Authority (such approval not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed);
 - 28.4.4 contain a right for the Authority to take an assignment or novation of the Sub-contract (or part of it) upon expiry or earlier termination of this Contract;
 - 28.4.5 requires the Supplier or other party receiving services under the contract to consider and verify invoices under that contract in a timely fashion;
 - 28.4.6 provides that if the Supplier or other party fails to consider and verify an invoice in accordance with Clause 28.4.5 of this Schedule 2, the invoice shall be regarded as valid and undisputed for the purpose of Clause 28.4.7 of this Schedule 2 after a reasonable time has passed;
 - 28.4.7 requires the Supplier or other party to pay any undisputed sums which are due from it to the Sub-contractor within a specified period not exceeding thirty (30) days of verifying that the invoice is valid and undisputed;
 - 28.4.8 permitting the Supplier to terminate, or procure the termination of, the relevant Sub-contract in the event the Sub-contractor fails to comply in the performance of its Sub-contract with legal obligations in the fields of

- environmental, social or labour Law where the Supplier is required to replace such Sub-contractor in accordance with Clause 15.7.3 of this Schedule 2;
- 28.4.9 permitting the Supplier to terminate, or to procure the termination of, the relevant Sub-contract where the Supplier is required to replace such Sub-contractor in accordance with Clause 28.5 of this Schedule 2; and
- 28.4.10 requires the Sub-contractor to include a clause to the same effect as this Clause 28.4 of this Schedule 2 in any Sub-contract which it awards.
- 28.5 Where the Authority considers that the grounds for exclusion under Regulation 57 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 apply to any Sub-contractor, then:
- 28.5.1 if the Authority finds there are compulsory grounds for exclusion, the Supplier shall ensure, or shall procure, that such Sub-contractor is replaced or not appointed; or
- 28.5.2 if the Authority finds there are non-compulsory grounds for exclusion, the Authority may require the Supplier to ensure, or to procure, that such Sub-contractor is replaced or not appointed and the Supplier shall comply with such a requirement.
- 28.6 The Supplier shall pay any undisputed sums which are due from it to a Sub-contractor within thirty (30) days of verifying that the invoice is valid and undisputed. Where the Authority pays the Supplier's valid and undisputed invoices earlier than thirty (30) days from verification in accordance with any applicable government prompt payment targets, the Supplier shall use its reasonable endeavours to pay its relevant Sub-contractors within a comparable timeframe from verifying that an invoice is valid and undisputed.
- 28.7 The Authority shall upon written request have the right to review any Sub-contract entered into by the Supplier in respect of the provision of the Services and the Supplier shall provide a certified copy of any Sub-contract within five (5) Business Days of the date of a written request from the Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, the Supplier shall have the right to redact any confidential pricing information in relation to such copies of Sub-contracts.
- 28.8 The Authority may at any time transfer, assign, novate, sub-contract or otherwise dispose of its rights and obligations under this Contract or any part of this Contract and the Supplier warrants that it will carry out all such reasonable further acts required to effect such transfer, assignment, novation, sub-contracting or disposal. If the Authority novates this Contract to any body that is not a Contracting Authority, from the effective date of such novation, the party assuming the position of the Authority shall not further transfer, assign, novate, sub-contract or otherwise dispose of its rights and obligations under this Contract or any part of this Contract without the prior written consent of the Supplier, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed by the Supplier.

29 Prohibited Acts

- 29.1 The Supplier warrants and represents that:
- 29.1.1 it has not committed any offence under the Bribery Act 2010 or done any of the following ("**Prohibited Acts**"):
- (i) offered, given or agreed to give any officer or employee of the Authority any gift or consideration of any kind as an inducement or reward for doing or not doing or for having done or not having done any act in relation to the obtaining or performance of this or any other agreement with the Authority or for showing or not showing

- favour or disfavour to any person in relation to this or any other agreement with the Authority; or
- (ii) in connection with this Contract paid or agreed to pay any commission other than a payment, particulars of which (including the terms and conditions of the agreement for its payment) have been disclosed in writing to the Authority; and
- 29.1.2 it has in place adequate procedures to prevent bribery and corruption, as contemplated by section 7 of the Bribery Act 2010.
- 29.2 If the Supplier or its Staff (or anyone acting on its or their behalf) has done or does any of the Prohibited Acts or has committed or commits any offence under the Bribery Act 2010 with or without the knowledge of the Supplier in relation to this or any other agreement with the Authority:
- 29.2.1 the Authority shall be entitled:
- (i) to terminate this Contract and recover from the Supplier the amount of any loss resulting from the termination;
- (ii) to recover from the Supplier the amount or value of any gift, consideration or commission concerned; and
- (iii) to recover from the Supplier any other loss or expense sustained in consequence of the carrying out of the Prohibited Act or the commission of the offence under the Bribery Act 2010;
- 29.2.2 any termination under Clause 29.2.1 of this Schedule 2 shall be without prejudice to any right or remedy that has already accrued, or subsequently accrues, to the Authority; and
- 29.2.3 notwithstanding the Dispute Resolution Procedure, any Dispute relating to:
- (i) the interpretation of Clause 29 of this Schedule 2; or
- (ii) the amount or value of any gift, consideration or commission,
- shall be determined by the Authority, acting reasonably, and the decision shall be final and conclusive.

30 General

- 30.1 Each of the Parties is independent of the other and nothing contained in this Contract shall be construed to imply that there is any relationship between the Parties of partnership or of principal/agent or of employer/employee nor are the Parties hereby engaging in a joint venture and accordingly neither of the Parties shall have any right or authority to act on behalf of the other nor to bind the other by agreement or otherwise, unless expressly permitted by the terms of this Contract.
- 30.2 Failure or delay by either Party to exercise an option or right conferred by this Contract shall not of itself constitute a waiver of such option or right.
- 30.3 The delay or failure by either Party to insist upon the strict performance of any provision, term or condition of this Contract or to exercise any right or remedy consequent upon such breach shall not constitute a waiver of any such breach or any subsequent breach of such provision, term or condition.
- 30.4 Any provision of this Contract which is held to be invalid or unenforceable in any jurisdiction shall be ineffective to the extent of such invalidity or unenforceability without invalidating or rendering unenforceable the remaining provisions of this Contract and

any such invalidity or unenforceability in any jurisdiction shall not invalidate or render unenforceable such provisions in any other jurisdiction.

- 30.5 Each Party acknowledges and agrees that it has not relied on any representation, warranty or undertaking (whether written or oral) in relation to the subject matter of this Contract and therefore irrevocably and unconditionally waives any rights it may have to claim damages against the other Party for any misrepresentation or undertaking (whether made carelessly or not) or for breach of any warranty unless the representation, undertaking or warranty relied upon is set out in this Contract or unless such representation, undertaking or warranty was made fraudulently.
- 30.6 Each Party shall bear its own expenses in relation to the preparation and execution of this Contract including all costs, legal fees and other expenses so incurred.
- 30.7 The rights and remedies provided in this Contract are independent, cumulative and not exclusive of any rights or remedies provided by general law, any rights or remedies provided elsewhere under this Contract or by any other contract or document. In this Clause 30.7 of this Schedule 2, right includes any power, privilege, remedy, or proprietary or security interest.
- 30.8 Unless otherwise expressly stated in this Contract, a person who is not a party to this Contract shall have no right to enforce any terms of it which confer a benefit on such person except that a Successor and/or a Third Party may directly enforce any indemnities or other rights provided to it under this Contract. No such person shall be entitled to object to or be required to consent to any amendment to the provisions of this Contract.
- 30.9 This Contract, any variation in writing signed by an authorised representative of each Party and any document referred to (explicitly or by implication) in this Contract or any variation to this Contract, contain the entire understanding between the Supplier and the Authority relating to the Services to the exclusion of all previous agreements, confirmations and understandings and there are no promises, terms, conditions or obligations whether oral or written, express or implied other than those contained or referred to in this Contract. Nothing in this Contract seeks to exclude either Party's liability for Fraud. Any tender conditions and/or disclaimers set out in the Authority's procurement documentation leading to the award of this Contract shall form part of this Contract.
- 30.10 This Contract, and any Dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter (including any non-contractual claims), shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of England and Wales.
- 30.11 Subject to Clause 22 of this Schedule 2, the Parties irrevocably agree that the courts of England and Wales shall have non-exclusive jurisdiction to settle any Dispute or claim that arises out of or in connection with this Contract or its subject matter.
- 30.12 All written and oral communications and all written material referred to under this Contract shall be in English.

Schedule 3

Information and Data Provisions

1 Confidentiality

- 1.1 In respect of any Confidential Information it may receive directly or indirectly from the other Party ("**Discloser**") and subject always to the remainder of Clause 1 of this Schedule 3, each Party ("**Recipient**") undertakes to keep secret and strictly confidential and shall not disclose any such Confidential Information to any third party without the Discloser's prior written consent provided that:
 - 1.1.1 the Recipient shall not be prevented from using any general knowledge, experience or skills which were in its possession prior to the Commencement Date;
 - 1.1.2 the provisions of Clause 1 of this Schedule 3 shall not apply to any Confidential Information:
 - (i) which is in or enters the public domain other than by breach of this Contract or other act or omissions of the Recipient;
 - (ii) which is obtained from a third party who is lawfully authorised to disclose such information without any obligation of confidentiality;
 - (iii) which is authorised for disclosure by the prior written consent of the Discloser;
 - (iv) which the Recipient can demonstrate was in its possession without any obligation of confidentiality prior to receipt of the Confidential Information from the Discloser; or
 - (v) which the Recipient is required to disclose purely to the extent to comply with the requirements of any relevant stock exchange.
- 1.2 Nothing in Clause 1 of this Schedule 3 shall prevent the Recipient from disclosing Confidential Information where it is required to do so by judicial, administrative, governmental or regulatory process in connection with any action, suit, proceedings or claim or otherwise by applicable Law, including the Freedom of Information Act 2000 ("**FOIA**"), Codes of Practice on Access to Government Information, on the Discharge of Public Authorities' Functions or on the Management of Records ("**Codes of Practice**") or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 ("**Environmental Regulations**").
- 1.3 The Authority may disclose the Supplier's Confidential Information:
 - 1.3.1 on a confidential basis, to any Contracting Authority (the Parties agree that all Contracting Authorities receiving such Confidential Information shall be entitled to further disclose the Confidential Information to other Contracting Authorities on the basis that the information is confidential and is not to be disclosed to a third party which is not part of any Contracting Authority);
 - 1.3.2 on a confidential basis, to any consultant, contractor or other person engaged by the Authority and/or the Contracting Authority receiving such information;
 - 1.3.3 to any relevant party for the purpose of the examination and certification of the Authority's accounts;
 - 1.3.4 to any relevant party for any examination pursuant to section 6(1) of the National Audit Act 1983 of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Authority has used its resources;

- 1.3.5 to Parliament and Parliamentary Committees or if required by any Parliamentary reporting requirements; or
- 1.3.6 on a confidential basis to a proposed successor body in connection with any proposed or actual, assignment, novation or other disposal of rights, obligations, liabilities or property in connection with this Contract;

and for the purposes of this Contract, references to disclosure "on a confidential basis" shall mean the Authority making clear the confidential nature of such information and that it must not be further disclosed except in accordance with Law or this Clause 1.3 of this Schedule 3.

- 1.4 The Supplier may only disclose the Authority's Confidential Information, and any other information provided to the Supplier by the Authority in relation this Contract, to the Supplier's Staff or professional advisors who are directly involved in the performance of or advising on the Supplier's obligations under this Contract. The Supplier shall ensure that such Staff or professional advisors are aware of and shall comply with the obligations in Clause 1 of this Schedule 3 as to confidentiality and that all information, including Confidential Information, is held securely, protected against unauthorised use or loss and, at the Authority's written discretion, destroyed securely or returned to the Authority when it is no longer required. The Supplier shall not, and shall ensure that the Staff do not, use any of the Authority's Confidential Information received otherwise than for the purposes of performing the Supplier's obligations in this Contract.
- 1.5 For the avoidance of doubt, save as required by Law or as otherwise set out in this Schedule 3, the Supplier shall not, without the prior written consent of the Authority (such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed), announce that it has entered into this Contract and/or that it has been appointed as a Supplier to the Authority and/or make any other announcements about this Contract.
- 1.6 Clause 1 of this Schedule 3 shall remain in force:
 - 1.6.1 without limit in time in respect of Confidential Information which comprises Personal Data or which relates to national security; and
 - 1.6.2 for all other Confidential Information for a period of three (3) years after the expiry or earlier termination of this Contract unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Parties.

2 Data protection

- 2.1 The Parties acknowledge their respective duties under Data Protection Legislation and shall give each other all reasonable assistance as appropriate or necessary to enable each other to comply with those duties. For the avoidance of doubt, the Supplier shall take reasonable steps to ensure it is familiar with the Data Protection Legislation and any obligations it may have under such Data Protection Legislation and shall comply with such obligations.
- 2.2 Where the Supplier is Processing Personal Data and/or the Parties are otherwise sharing Personal Data under or in connection with this Contract, the Parties shall comply with the Data Protection Protocol in respect of such matters.
- 2.3 The Supplier and the Authority shall ensure that patient related Personal Data is safeguarded at all times in accordance with the Law, and this obligation will include (if transferred electronically) only transferring patient related Personal Data (a) if essential, having regard to the purpose for which the transfer is conducted; and (b) that is encrypted in accordance with any international data encryption standards for healthcare, and as otherwise required by those standards applicable to the Authority

- under any Law and Guidance (this includes, data transferred over wireless or wired networks, held on laptops, CDs, memory sticks and tapes).
- 2.4 Where, as a requirement of this Contract, the Supplier is Processing Personal Data relating to NHS patients and/or service users and/or has access to NHS systems as part of the Services, the Supplier shall:
- 2.4.1 complete and publish an annual information governance assessment using the Data Security and Protection toolkit;
 - 2.4.2 achieve all relevant requirements in the relevant Data Security and Protection toolkit;
 - 2.4.3 nominate an information governance lead able to communicate with the Supplier's board of directors or equivalent governance body, who will be responsible for information governance and from whom the Supplier's board of directors or equivalent governance body will receive regular reports on information governance matters including, but not limited to, details of all incidents of data loss and breach of confidence;
 - 2.4.4 report all incidents of data loss and breach of confidence in accordance with Department of Health and Social Care and/or the NHS England and/or Health and Social Care Information Centre guidelines;
 - 2.4.5 put in place and maintain policies that describe individual personal responsibilities for handling Personal Data and apply those policies vigorously;
 - 2.4.6 put in place and maintain a policy that supports its obligations under the NHS Care Records Guarantee (being the rules which govern information held in the NHS Care Records Service, which is the electronic patient/service user record management service providing authorised healthcare professionals access to a patient's integrated electronic care record);
 - 2.4.7 put in place and maintain agreed protocols for the lawful sharing of Personal Data with other NHS organisations and (as appropriate) with non-NHS organisations in circumstances in which sharing of that data is required under this Contract;
 - 2.4.8 where appropriate, have a system in place and a policy for the recording of any telephone calls in relation to the Services, including the retention and disposal of those recordings;
 - 2.4.9 at all times comply with any information governance requirements and/or processes as may be set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document; and
 - 2.4.10 comply with any new and/or updated requirements, Guidance and/or Policies notified to the Supplier by the Authority from time to time (acting reasonably) relating to the Processing and/or protection of Personal Data.
- 2.5 Where any Personal Data is Processed by any Sub-contractor of the Supplier in connection with this Contract, the Supplier shall procure that such Sub-contractor shall comply with the relevant obligations set out in Clause 2 of this Schedule 3, and any relevant Data Protection Protocol, as if such Sub-contractor were the Supplier.
- 2.6 The Supplier shall indemnify and keep the Authority indemnified against, any loss, damages, costs, expenses (including without limitation legal costs and expenses), claims or proceedings whatsoever or howsoever arising from the Supplier's unlawful

or unauthorised Processing, destruction and/or damage to Personal Data in connection with this Contract.

3 Freedom of Information and Transparency

- 3.1 The Parties acknowledge the duties of Contracting Authorities under the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations and shall give each other all reasonable assistance as appropriate or necessary to enable compliance with those duties.
- 3.2 The Supplier shall assist and cooperate with the Authority to enable it to comply with its disclosure obligations under the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations. The Supplier agrees:
 - 3.2.1 that this Contract and any recorded information held by the Supplier on the Authority's behalf for the purposes of this Contract are subject to the obligations and commitments of the Authority under the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations;
 - 3.2.2 that the decision on whether any exemption to the general obligations of public access to information applies to any request for information received under the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations is a decision solely for the Authority;
 - 3.2.3 that where the Supplier receives a request for information under the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations and the Supplier itself is subject to the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations it will liaise with the Authority as to the contents of any response before a response to a request is issued and will promptly (and in any event within two (2) Business Days) provide a copy of the request and any response to the Authority;
 - 3.2.4 that where the Supplier receives a request for information under the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations and the Supplier is not itself subject to the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations, it will not respond to that request (unless directed to do so by the Authority) and will promptly (and in any event within two (2) Business Days) transfer the request to the Authority;
 - 3.2.5 that the Authority, acting in accordance with the Codes of Practice issued and revised from time to time under both section 45 of FOIA, and regulation 16 of the Environmental Regulations, may disclose information concerning the Supplier and this Contract; and
 - 3.2.6 to assist the Authority in responding to a request for information, by processing information or environmental information (as the same are defined in FOIA and the Environmental Regulations) in accordance with a records management system that complies with all applicable records management recommendations and codes of conduct issued under section 46 of FOIA, and providing copies of all information requested by the Authority within five (5) Business Days of that request and without charge.
- 3.3 The Parties acknowledge that, except for any information which is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations, the content of this Contract is not Confidential Information.
- 3.4 Notwithstanding any other term of this Contract, the Supplier consents to the publication of this Contract in its entirety (including variations), subject only to the redaction of information that is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA, Codes of Practice and Environmental Regulations.

- 3.5 In preparing a copy of this Contract for publication under Clause 3.4 of this Schedule 3, the Authority may consult with the Supplier to inform decision making regarding any redactions but the final decision in relation to the redaction of information will be at the Authority's absolute discretion.
- 3.6 The Supplier shall assist and cooperate with the Authority to enable the Authority to publish this Contract.
- 3.7 Where any information is held by any Sub-contractor of the Supplier in connection with this Contract, the Supplier shall procure that such Sub-contractor shall comply with the relevant obligations set out in Clause 3 of this Schedule 3, as if such Sub-contractor were the Supplier.

4 Information Security

- 4.1 Without limitation to any other information governance requirements set out in this Schedule 3, the Supplier shall:
 - 4.1.1 notify the Authority forthwith of any information security breaches or near misses (including without limitation any potential or actual breaches of confidentiality or actual information security breaches) in line with the Authority's information governance Policies; and
 - 4.1.2 fully cooperate with any audits or investigations relating to information security and any privacy impact assessments undertaken by the Authority and shall provide full information as may be reasonably requested by the Authority in relation to such audits, investigations and assessments.
- 4.2 Where required in accordance with the Specification and Tender Response Document, the Supplier will ensure that it puts in place and maintains an information security management plan appropriate to this Contract, the type of Services being provided and the obligations placed on the Supplier. The Supplier shall ensure that such plan is consistent with any relevant Policies, Guidance, Good Industry Practice and with any relevant quality standards as may be set out in the Key Provisions and/or the Specification and Tender Response Document.
- 4.3 Where required in accordance with the Specification and Tender Response Document, the Supplier shall obtain and maintain certification under the HM Government Cyber Essentials Scheme at the level set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document.

Schedule 4

Definitions and Interpretations

1 Definitions

1.1 In this Contract the following words shall have the following meanings unless the context requires otherwise:

“Actual Services Commencement Date”	means the date the Supplier actually commences delivery of the Services;
“Actuary”	means a Fellow of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries;
“Anti-Slavery Policy”	has the meaning given under Clause 19.2.2 of Schedule 2;
“Authority”	means the authority named on the form of Contract on the first page;
“Authority’s Actuary”	means the Government Actuaries Department;
“Authority’s Obligations”	means the Authority’s further obligations, if any, referred to in the Key Provisions;
“Breach Notice”	means a written notice of breach given by one Party to the other, notifying the Party receiving the notice of its breach of this Contract;
“Broadly Comparable”	means certified by an Actuary as satisfying the condition that there are no identifiable Eligible Employees who would overall suffer material detriment in terms of their future accrual of Pension Benefits under the scheme compared with the NHS Pension Scheme assessed in accordance with Annex A of Fair Deal for Staff Pensions;
“Business Continuity Event”	means any event or issue that could impact on the operations of the Supplier and its ability to provide the Services including a pandemic and any Force Majeure Event;
“Business Continuity Plan”	means the Supplier’s business continuity plan which includes its plans for continuity of the Services during a Business Continuity Event;
“Business Day”	means any day other than Saturday, Sunday, Christmas Day, Good Friday or a statutory bank holiday in England and Wales;
“Cabinet Office Statement”	the Cabinet Office Statement of Practice – Staff Transfers in the Public Sector 2000 (as revised 2013) as may be amended or replaced;
“Change Control Process”	means the change control process, if any, referred to in the Key Provisions;

“Change in Law”	means any change in Law which impacts on the provision of the Services which comes into force after the Commencement Date;
“Codes of Practice”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 1.2 of Schedule 3;
“Commencement Date”	means the date of this Contract;
“Commercial Schedule”	means the document set out at Schedule 6;
“Comparable Supply”	means the supply of services to another customer of the Supplier that are the same or similar to any of the Services;
“Confidential Information”	<p>means information, data and material of any nature, which either Party may receive or obtain in connection with the conclusion and/or operation of the Contract including any procurement process which is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Personal Data including without limitation which relates to any patient or other service user or his or her treatment or clinical or care history; (b) designated as confidential by either party or that ought reasonably to be considered as confidential (however it is conveyed or on whatever media it is stored); and/or (c) Policies and such other documents which the Supplier may obtain or have access to through the Authority’s intranet;
“Contract”	means the form of contract at the front of this document and all schedules attached to the form of contract;
“Contracting Authority”	means any contracting authority as defined in Regulation 2 (1) of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/102) (as amended), other than the Authority;
“Contract Manager”	means for the Authority and for the Supplier the individuals specified in the Key Provisions; or such other person notified by a Party to the other Party from time to time in accordance with Clause 8.1 of Schedule 2;
“Contract Price”	means the price exclusive of VAT that is payable to the Supplier by the Authority under the Contract for the full and proper performance by the Supplier of its obligations under the Contract;
“Controller”	shall have the same meaning as set out in the UK GDPR;
“Convictions”	means, other than in relation to minor road traffic offences, any previous or pending prosecutions, convictions, cautions and

	binding-over orders (including any spent convictions as contemplated by section 1(1) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 or any replacement or amendment to that Act);
“Cost Increase”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 1.3.2 of Part D of Schedule 7;
“Cost Saving”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 1.3.4 of Part D of Schedule 7;
“Data Protection Legislation”	means the Data Protection Act 2018 and the UK GDPR and any other applicable laws of England and Wales relating to the protection of Personal Data and the privacy of individuals (all as amended, updated, replaced or re-enacted from time to time);
“Data Protection Protocol”	means any document of that name as provided to the Supplier by the Authority (as amended from time to time in accordance with its terms), which shall include, without limitation, any such document appended to Schedule 3 (Information and Data Provisions) of this Contract;
“Direction Letter”	means an NHS Pensions Direction letter issued by the Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred by section 7 of the Superannuation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1967 and issued to the Supplier or a Sub-contractor of the Supplier (as appropriate) relating to the terms of participation of the Supplier or Sub-contractor in the NHS Pension Scheme in respect of the Eligible Employees;
“Dispute(s)”	means any dispute, difference or question of interpretation or construction arising out of or in connection with this Contract, including any dispute, difference or question of interpretation relating to the Services, any matters of contractual construction and interpretation relating to the Contract, or any matter where this Contract directs the Parties to resolve an issue by reference to the Dispute Resolution Procedure;
“Dispute Notice”	means a written notice served by one Party to the other stating that the Party serving the notice believes there is a Dispute;
“Dispute Resolution Procedure”	means the process for resolving Disputes as set out in Clause 22 of Schedule 2 or, where Clause 25 of Schedule 1 of the Contract applies, the process for resolving Disputes as set out in Schedule 8. For the avoidance of doubt, the Dispute Resolution Procedure is subject to Clause 29.2.3 of Schedule 2;
“DOTAS”	means the Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes rules which require a promoter of tax schemes to tell HM Revenue and 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;
“Electronic Trading System(s)”	means such electronic data interchange system and/or world wide web application and/or other application with such message standards and protocols as the Authority may specify from time to time;
“Eligible Employees”	<p>means each of the Transferred Staff who immediately before the Employee Transfer Date was a member of, or was entitled to become a member of, or but for their compulsory transfer of employment would have been entitled to become a member of, either the NHS Pension Scheme or a Broadly Comparable scheme as a result of their employment or former employment with an NHS Body (or other employer which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme) and being continuously engaged for more than 50% of their employed time with the Authority (in the case of Transferring Employees) or a Third Party (in the case of Third Party Employees) in the delivery of services the same as or similar to the Services.</p> <p>For the avoidance of doubt a member of Staff who is or is entitled to become a member of the NHS Pension Scheme as a result of being engaged in the Services and being covered by an “open” Direction Letter or other NHS Pension Scheme “access” facility but who has never been employed directly by an NHS Body (or other body which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme) is not an Eligible Employee entitled to Fair Deal for Staff Pensions protection under Part D of Schedule 7;</p>
“Employee Transfer Date”	means the Transferred Staff’s first day of employment with the Supplier (or its Sub-contractor);
“Employment Liabilities”	means all claims, demands, actions, proceedings, damages, compensation, tribunal awards, fines, costs (including but not limited to reasonable legal costs), expenses and all other liabilities whatsoever;
“Environmental Regulations”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 1.2 of Schedule 3;
“eProcurement Guidance”	<p>means the NHS eProcurement Strategy available via:</p> <p>http://www.gov.uk/government/collections/nhs-procurement</p> <p>together with any further Guidance issued by the Department of Health and Social Care in connection with it;</p>
“Equality Legislation”	means any and all legislation, applicable guidance and statutory codes of practice relating to equality, diversity, non-discrimination and human rights as may be in force in England

	and Wales from time to time including, but not limited to, the Equality Act 2010, the Part-time Workers (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000 and the Fixed-term Employees (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/2034) and the Human Rights Act 1998;
“EU References”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 1.17 of this Schedule 4;
“Evergreen Supplier Assessment”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 8.1 of Schedule 1;
“Exit Day”	shall have the meaning in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018;
“Exit Requirements”	means the Authority’s exit requirements, as set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document and/or otherwise as part of this Contract, which the Supplier must comply with during the Term and/or in relation to any expiry or early termination of this Contract;
“Fair Deal for Staff Pensions”	means guidance issued by HM Treasury entitled “Fair Deal for staff pensions: staff transfer from central government” issued in October 2013 (as amended, supplemented or replaced);
“FOIA”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 1.2 of Schedule 3;
“Force Majeure Event”	<p>means any event beyond the reasonable control of the Party in question to include, without limitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) war including civil war (whether declared or undeclared), riot, civil commotion or armed conflict materially affecting either Party’s ability to perform its obligations under this Contract; (b) acts of terrorism; (c) flood, storm or other natural disasters; (d) fire; (e) unavailability of public utilities and/or access to transport networks to the extent no diligent supplier could reasonably have planned for such unavailability as part of its business continuity planning; (f) government requisition or impoundment to the extent such requisition or impoundment does not result from any failure by the Supplier to comply with any relevant regulations, laws or procedures (including such laws or regulations relating to the payment of any duties or taxes) and subject to the Supplier having used all reasonable legal means to resist such requisition or impoundment;

	<p>(g) compliance with any local law or governmental order, rule, regulation or direction applicable outside of England and Wales that could not have been reasonably foreseen;</p> <p>(h) industrial action which affects the ability of the Supplier to provide the Services, but which is not confined to the workforce of the Supplier or the workforce of any Sub-contractor of the Supplier; and</p> <p>(i) a failure in the Supplier's and/or Authority's supply chain to the extent that such failure is due to any event suffered by a member of such supply chain, which would also qualify as a Force Majeure Event in accordance with this definition had it been suffered by one of the Parties,</p> <p>but excluding, for the avoidance of doubt, any event or other consequence arising as a result of or in connection with the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union;</p>
"Fraud"	means any offence under any law in respect of fraud in relation to this Contract or defrauding or attempting to defraud or conspiring to defraud the government, parliament or any Contracting Authority;
"General Anti-Abuse Rule"	<p>means</p> <p>(a) the legislation in Part 5 of the Finance Act 2013; and</p> <p>(b) any future legislation introduced into parliament to counteract tax advantages arising from abusive arrangements to avoid national insurance contributions;</p>
"General Change in Law"	means a Change in Law where the change is of a general legislative nature (including taxation or duties of any sort affecting the Supplier) or which affects or relates to a Comparable Supply;
"Good Industry Practice"	means the exercise of that degree of skill, diligence, prudence, risk management, quality management and foresight which would reasonably and ordinarily be expected from a skilled and experienced service provider engaged in the provision of services similar to the Services under the same or similar circumstances as those applicable to this Contract, including in accordance with any codes of practice published by relevant trade associations;
"Guidance"	means any applicable guidance, supplier code of conduct, direction or determination and any policies, advice or industry alerts which apply to the Services, to the extent that the same are published and publicly available or the existence or contents of them have been notified to the Supplier by the Authority and/or have been published and/or notified to the Supplier by the Department of Health and Social Care, NHS England and NHS Improvement, the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency, the European Medicines Agency,

	the European Commission, the Care Quality Commission, the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence and/or any other regulator or competent body;
“Halifax Abuse Principle”	means the principle explained in the CJEU Case C-255/02 Halifax and others;
"HM Government Cyber Essentials Scheme"	means the HM Government Cyber Essentials Scheme as further defined in the documents relating to this scheme published at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cyber-essentials-scheme-overview ;
“Implementation Plan”	means the implementation plan, if any, referred to in the Key Provisions;
“Implementation Requirements”	means the Authority’s implementation and mobilisation requirements (if any), as may be set out in the Specification and Tender Response Document and/or otherwise as part of this Contract, which the Supplier must comply with as part of implementing the Services;
“Intellectual Property Rights”	means all patents, copyright, design rights, registered designs, trade marks, know-how, database rights, confidential formulae and any other intellectual property rights and the rights to apply for patents and trade marks and registered designs;
“Interested Party”	means any organisation which has a legitimate interest in providing services of the same or similar nature to the Services in immediate or proximate succession to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor and who had confirmed such interest in writing to the Authority;
“Key Provisions”	means the key provisions set out in Schedule 1;
“KPI”	means the key performance indicators as set out in Schedule 5;
“Law”	means any applicable legal requirements including, without limitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any applicable statute or proclamation, delegated or subordinate legislation, bye-law, order, regulation or instrument as applicable in England and Wales; (b) any applicable European Union obligation, directive, regulation, decision, law or right (including any such obligations, directives, regulations, decisions, laws or rights that are incorporated into the law of England and Wales or given effect in England and Wales by any applicable statute, proclamation, delegated or subordinate legislation, bye-law, order, regulation or instrument);

	<p>(c) any enforceable community right within the meaning of section 2(1) European Communities Act 1972;</p> <p>(d) any applicable judgment of a relevant court of law which is a binding precedent in England and Wales;</p> <p>(e) requirements set by any regulatory body as applicable in England and Wales;</p> <p>(f) any relevant code of practice as applicable in England and Wales; and</p> <p>(g) any relevant collective agreement and/or international law provisions (to include, without limitation, as referred to in (a) to (f) above);</p>
“Long Stop Date”	means the date, if any, specified in the Key Provisions;
“Losses”	all damage, loss, liabilities, claims, actions, costs, expenses (including the cost of legal and/or professional services) proceedings, demands and charges whether arising under statute, contract or at common law;
“Net Zero and Social Value Commitments”	means the Supplier’s net zero and social value commitments, each as set out in the Key Provisions and/or the Specification and Tender Response Document;
“Net Zero and Social Value Contract Commitments”	shall have the meaning given in Clause 8.4 of Schedule 1;
“Measures”	means any measures proposed by the Supplier or any Sub-contractor within the meaning of regulation 13(2)(d) of TUPE;
“NHS”	means the National Health Service;
“NHS Body”	has the meaning given to it in section 275 of the National Health Service Act 2006 as amended by section 138(2)(c) of Schedule 4 to the Health and Social Care Act 2012;
“NHS Pensions”	means NHS Pensions (being a division of the NHS Business Services Authority) acting on behalf of the Secretary of State as the administrators of the NHS Pension Scheme or such other body as may from time to time be responsible for relevant administrative functions of the NHS Pension Scheme, including the Pensions Division of the NHS Business Services Authority;
“NHS Pension Scheme”	means the National Health Service Pension Scheme for England and Wales, established pursuant to the Superannuation Act 1972 and governed by subsequent regulations under that Act including the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations;
“NHS Pension Scheme Arrears”	means any failure on the part of the Supplier or any Sub-contractor to pay employer’s contributions or deduct and pay across employee’s contributions to the NHS Pension Scheme or meet any other financial obligations under the NHS Pension

	Scheme or any Direction Letter in respect of the Eligible Employees;
"NHS Pension Scheme Regulations"	means, as appropriate, any or all of the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 1995 (SI 1995/300), the National Health Service Pension Scheme Regulations 2008 (SI 2008/653) and any subsequent regulations made in respect of the NHS Pension Scheme, each as amended from time to time;
"Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance"	means: (a) any tax return of the Supplier 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 Supplier 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 Supplier was involved in, and which was, or should have been, notified to a Relevant Tax Authority under the DOTAS or any equivalent or similar regime; and/or (b) any tax return of the Supplier 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 Effective Date or to a civil penalty for fraud or evasion;
"Party"	means the Authority or the Supplier as appropriate and Parties means both the Authority and the Supplier;
"Payment Date"	means twenty (20) Business Days after the last of the conditions in Clause 1.7 of Part D of Schedule 7 has been satisfied;
"Pension Benefits"	any benefits (including but not limited to pensions related allowances and lump sums) relating to old age, invalidity or survivor's benefits provided under an occupational pension scheme;
"Personal Data"	shall have the same meaning as set out in the UK GDPR;
"Policies"	means the policies, rules and procedures of the Authority as notified to the Supplier from time to time;
"Premature Retirement Rights"	rights to which any Transferred Staff (had they remained in the employment of an NHS Body or other employer which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme) would have been or is entitled under the NHS Pension Scheme Regulations, the NHS Compensation for Premature Retirement

	Regulations 2002 (SI 2002/1311), the NHS (Injury Benefits) Regulations 1995 (SI 1995/866) and section 45 of the General Whitley Council conditions of service, or any other legislative or contractual provision which replaces, amends, extends or consolidates the same from time to time;
“Premises and Locations”	has the meaning given under Clause 2.1 of Schedule 2;
“Process”	shall have the same meaning as set out in the UK GDPR. Processing and Processed shall be construed accordingly;
“Purchase Order”	means the purchase order required by the Authority’s financial systems, if a purchase order is referred to in the Key Provisions;
“Relevant Tax Authority”	means HM Revenue and Customs, or, if applicable, a tax authority in the jurisdiction in which the Supplier is established;
“Remedial Proposal”	has the meaning given under Clause 15.3 of Schedule 2;
“Services”	means the services set out in this Contract (including, without limitation, Schedule 5 which sets out the requirements of the Authority as issued to tenderers as part of the procurement process and the Supplier’s response to these requirements);
“Services Commencement Date”	means the date delivery of the Services shall commence as specified in the Key Provisions. If no date is specified in the Key Provisions this date shall be the Commencement Date;
“Services Information”	means information concerning the Services as may be reasonably requested by the Authority and supplied by the Supplier to the Authority in accordance with Clause 20.1 of Schedule 2 for inclusion in the Authority’s services catalogue from time to time;
“Slavery Act”	has the meaning given in Clause 19.2.1 of Schedule 2;
“Specification and Tender Response Document”	means the document set out in Schedule 5 as amended and/or updated in accordance with this Contract;
“Specific Change in Law”	means a Change in Law that relates specifically to the business of the Authority and which would not affect a Comparable Supply;
“Staff”	means all persons employed or engaged by the Supplier to perform its obligations under this Contract including any Sub-contractors and person employed or engaged by such Sub-contractors;
“Step In Rights”	means the step in rights, if any, referred to in the Key Provisions;

“Sub-contract”	means a contract between two or more suppliers, at any stage of remoteness from the Supplier in a sub-contracting chain, made wholly or substantially for the purpose of performing (or contributing to the performance of) the whole or any part of this Contract;
Sub-contractor	means a party to a Sub-contract other than the Supplier;
“Subsequent Transfer Date”	means the point in time, if any, at which services which are fundamentally the same as the Services (either in whole or in part) are first provided by a Successor or the Authority, as appropriate, giving rise to a relevant transfer under TUPE;
“Subsequent Transferring Employees”	means any employee, agent, consultant and/or contractor who, immediately prior to the Subsequent Transfer Date, is wholly or mainly engaged in the performance of services fundamentally the same as the Services (either in whole or in part) which are to be undertaken by the Successor or Authority, as appropriate;
“Successor”	means any third party who provides services fundamentally the same as the Services (either in whole or in part) in immediate or subsequent succession to the Supplier upon the expiry or earlier termination of this Contract;
“Supplier”	means the supplier named on the form of Contract on the first page;
“Supplier Code of Conduct”	means the code of that name published by the Government Commercial Function originally dated September 2017, as may be amended, restated, updated, re-issued or re-named from time to time;
“Supplier Net Zero Corporate Champion”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 8.3 of Schedule 1;
“Supplier Personnel”	means any employee, agent, consultant and/or contractor of the Supplier or Sub-contractor who is either partially or fully engaged in the performance of the Services;
“Supplier Net Zero and Social Value Contract Champion”	shall have the meaning given to the term in Clause 8.6 of Schedule 1;
“Term”	means the term as set out in the Key Provisions;
“Termination Notice”	means a written notice of termination given by one Party to the other notifying the Party receiving the notice of the intention of the Party giving the notice to terminate this Contract on a specified date and setting out the grounds for termination;
“Third Party”	means any supplier of services fundamentally the same as the Services (either in whole or in part) immediately before the Transfer Date;

“Third Party Body”	has the meaning given under Clause 8.5 of Schedule 2;
“Third Party Employees”	means all those employees, if any, assigned by a Third Party to the provision of a service that is fundamentally the same as the Services immediately before the Transfer Date;
“Transfer Amount”	an amount paid in accordance with Clause 1.7 of Part D of Schedule 7 and calculated in accordance with the assumptions, principles and timing adjustment referred to in Clause 1.6 of Part D of Schedule 7 in relation to those Eligible Employees who have accrued defined benefit rights in the NHS Pension Scheme or a Third Party’s Broadly Comparable scheme and elected to transfer them to the Supplier’s Broadly Comparable scheme or the NHS Pension Scheme under the Transfer Option;
“Transfer Date”	means the Actual Services Commencement Date;
“Transfer Option”	an option given to each Eligible Employee with either: (a) accrued rights in the NHS Pension Scheme; or (b) accrued rights in a Broadly Comparable scheme, as at the Employee Transfer Date, to transfer those rights to the Supplier’s (or its Sub-contractor’s) Broadly Comparable scheme or back into the NHS Pension Scheme (as appropriate), to be exercised by the Transfer Option Deadline, to secure year-for-year day-for-day service credits in the relevant scheme (or actuarial equivalent, where there are benefit differences between the two schemes);
“Transfer Option Deadline”	the first Business Day to fall at least three (3) months after the notice detailing the Transfer Option has been sent to each Eligible Employee;
“Transferred Staff”	means those employees (including Transferring Employees and any Third Party Employees) whose employment compulsorily transfers to the Supplier or to a Sub-contractor by operation of TUPE, the Cabinet Office Statement or for any other reasons, as a result of the award of this Contract;
“Transferring Employees”	means all those employees, if any, assigned by the Authority to the provision of a service that is fundamentally the same as the Services immediately before the Transfer Date;

"TUPE"	means the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (2006/246) and/or any other regulations or other legislation enacted for the purpose of implementing or transposing the Acquired Rights Directive (77/187/EEC, as amended by Directive 98/50 EC and consolidated in 2001/23/EC) into English law;
"UK GDPR"	has the meaning given to it in section 3(10) (as supplemented by section 205(4)) of the Data Protection Act 2018; and
"VAT"	means value added tax chargeable under the Value Added Tax Act 1994 or any similar, replacement or extra tax.

- 1.2 References to any Law shall be deemed to include a reference to that Law as amended, extended, consolidated, re-enacted, restated, implemented or transposed from time to time.
- 1.3 References to any legal entity shall include any body that takes over responsibility for the functions of such entity.
- 1.4 References in this Contract to a "Schedule", "Appendix", "Paragraph" or to a "Clause" are to schedules, appendices, paragraphs and clauses of this Contract.
- 1.5 References in this Contract to a day or to the calculation of time frames are references to a calendar day unless expressly specified as a Business Day.
- 1.6 Unless set out in the Commercial Schedule as a chargeable item and subject to Clause 30.6 of Schedule 2, the Supplier shall bear the cost of complying with its obligations under this Contract.
- 1.7 The headings are for convenience only and shall not affect the interpretation of this Contract.
- 1.8 Words denoting the singular shall include the plural and vice versa.
- 1.9 Where a term of this Contract provides for a list of one or more items following the word "including" or "includes" then such list is not to be interpreted as an exhaustive list. Any such list shall not be treated as excluding any item that might have been included in such list having regard to the context of the contractual term in question. General words are not to be given a restrictive meaning where they are followed by examples intended to be included within the general words.
- 1.10 Where there is a conflict between the Supplier's responses to the Authority's requirements (the Supplier's responses being set out in Schedule 5) and any other part of this Contract, such other part of this Contract shall prevail.
- 1.11 Where a document is required under this Contract, the Parties may agree in writing that this shall be in electronic format only.
- 1.12 Where there is an obligation on the Authority to procure any course of action from any third party, this shall mean that the Authority shall use its reasonable endeavours to procure such course of action from that third party.
- 1.13 Any guidance notes in grey text do not form part of this Contract.
- 1.14 Any Breach Notice issued by a Party in connection with this Contract shall not be invalid due to it containing insufficient information. A Party receiving a Breach Notice ("**Receiving Party**") may ask the Party that issued the Breach Notice ("**Issuing Party**") to provide any further information in relation to the subject matter of the Breach Notice

that it may reasonably require to enable it to understand the Breach Notice and/or to remedy the breach. The Issuing Party shall not unreasonably withhold or delay the provision of such further information as referred to above as may be requested by the Receiving Party but no such withholding or delay shall invalidate the Breach Notice.

- 1.15 Any terms defined as part of a Schedule or other document forming part of this Contract shall have the meaning as defined in such Schedule or document.
- 1.16 For the avoidance of doubt, and to the extent not prohibited by any Law, the term “expenses” (as referred to under any indemnity provisions forming part of this Contract) shall be deemed to include any fine and any related costs imposed by a commissioner, regulator or other competent body.
- 1.17 Any reference in this Contract which immediately before Exit Day was a reference to (as it has effect from time to time):
 - i. any EU regulation, EU decision, EU tertiary legislation or provision of the EEA agreement (“EU References”) which is to form part of domestic law by application of section 3 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 shall be read on and after Exit Day as a reference to the EU References as they form part of domestic law by virtue of section 3 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 as modified by domestic law from time to time; and
 - ii. any EU institution or EU authority or other such EU body shall be read on and after Exit Day as a reference to the UK institution, authority or body to which its functions were transferred.

Schedule 5

Specification and Tender Response Document

1 Background and Context

Provision of expert knowledge and capacity to undertake clinical evidence reviews, evidence summaries and analytical support for clinical commissioning policy, service specifications and commissioning products for the development of NHS England's specialised commissioning services.

2 Current arrangements

NHS England has held the direct commissioning responsibility for prescribed specialised services since April 2013. As part of these duties, NHS England is responsible for programme management of the development, testing and adoption of a range of clinical commissioning policies. These policies set out the nationally consistent commissioning position for specific treatments, technologies, and services to ensure equal access for defined groups of patients, for which NHS England has legislative responsibility. This procurement exercise seeks to source experts over the financial years 2023/24, 2024/25 and 2025/26 to provide expert knowledge and capacity to undertake clinical evidence reviews and evidence summaries for clinical commissioning policy, service specifications and commissioning products for the development of NHS England's specialised commissioning services. These are required elements for the development of NHS England specialised commissioning services. Delivery of these reviews supports the objectives outlined in this business case.

3 Scope of the procurement

The procurement will seek to source a provider to deliver specific reviews, as required, over a three-year period, until 30/05/2026. This will enable delivery of the programme objectives to be supported. There is a planned programme of work that delivers reviews, which are based on treatment topics, that are updated monthly (on-going). The nature of this programme planning makes it essential that a long-term contractual relationship with a specialist provider who can deliver this element of our programme requirement is put into place.

The programme of work underpins the development of the policies and specifications through providing the clinical evidence base on which the proposition is formed and will increase independent expert knowledge and capacity. This proposal supports the delivery of financial balance by commissioning specialised services within the resources available and NHS England's responsibility to set policy for specialised services. The proposal also supports NHS England's objectives to set nationally mandated clinical policy and ensure eligibility for patient care is based on available clinical evidence and with significant stakeholder and clinician involvement. It also ensures:

- Equitable access to effective treatments for patients in England in line with service specifications and clinical policies;
- A reduction in variation in clinical practice and patient outcomes;

• Delivers financial balance by commissioning specialised services within the resources available; and provides a timely development and consideration of clinical commissioning policies and service specifications within a robust governance process – enabling relative prioritisation against available funding and providing clarity to patients and clinicians on routinely funded and not routinely funded specialised care. The outputs of the proposal will be to increase the independent expert knowledge and capacity to undertake clinical evidence reviews and evidence summaries for clinical commissioning policy and service specification development for specialised commissioning. They support overall objectives by providing national equity and clarity on access to routinely NHS funded specialised care, providing timely access to new treatments and ensuring available funding is increasingly spent on the most clinically and cost-effective treatments.

NHS England may elect to extend or request additional deliverables, such as analytical support, related to this specification.

4 Mandatory and Minimum Requirements

Clinical evidence reviews

Deliverable 1 Delivery Timescale

Unless agreed otherwise with specific deliverables, the provider must submit the completed clinical evidence review templates within the agreed timescales– Submitted within the timescales specified:

Completed and finalised in ten working weeks from date a completed and signed off PICO template is submitted to the provider.

- Eight working weeks to complete the evidence review
- One working week for PWG to provide feedback
- One working week to make any amendments necessary

Deliverable 2 – Adherence to evidence review process guidelines.

The provider must reassure NHS England that all steps outlined in the evidence review guidance. This includes:

- Attendance teleconference for QA of PICO document
- Developing the search strategy
- Screening steps 1 & 2
- Data extraction
- Assessment of the quality of evidence
- Reporting the findings of the assessment
- Sharing the draft clinical evidence review with the PWG for comment
- Making any amendments based on PWG feedback and providing responses to PWG feedback

Include summary of steps followed in the methodology section of the clinical evidence review template.

Deliverable 3- Quality of evidence review report content

The provider must complete the clinical evidence review template (all sections including the tables) in a standardised manner using the notes provided

Reports which are:

- Well formatted and structured
- Written in clear and understandable language

Deliverable 4 – Audit information related to evidence reviews where requested

Unless agreed otherwise with specific deliverables, the provider must submit the audit information within the agreed timescales.

Submitted within the timescales specified:

5 working days from date requested.

Deliverable 5 – Completion of the CPAG summary report

The provider must complete 'The Benefits of the Proposition' and the 'outcome and evidence statement' sections of the CPAG summary report in plain language

As per deliverable 1

Three paper summaries

Deliverable 1 Delivery Timescale

Unless agreed otherwise with specific deliverables, the provider must submit the completed 3 paper summary templates within the agreed timescales–

Submitted within the timescales specified:

Completed and finalised in ten working days from date a completed referral form is submitted to the provider.

Deliverable 2- Quality of evidence review report content

The provider must complete the three paper summary template in a standardised manner using the notes provided

Reports which are:

- Well formatted and structured
- Written in clear and understandable language

Deliverable 3 – Adherence to three paper summary process.

The provider must reassure NHS England that PWG feedback has been incorporated:

- Sharing the draft three paper summary with the PWG for comment
- Making any amendments based on PWG feedback and providing responses to PWG feedback

Deliverable 4 – Completion of the CPAG summary report

Where requested, the provider must complete 'The Benefits of the Proposition' and the 'outcome and evidence statement' sections of the CPAG summary report in plain language

As per deliverable 1

5 Tender Evaluation & Scoring

Weighting	Sub Criteria	Evaluation	Word Count	Supporting Evidence	Evaluation Weighting
12%	Commercial Submission Part A - Day Rate Fees/Average Rates	As per Instructions in ITT			30%
18%	Commercial Submission Part B - Scenarios	As per Instructions in ITT			
60%	Technical	1. Understanding Requirements	750	2 Sides A4 PDF	5.00%
		2. Team Structure	750	CVs for SMEs Limited to 3 sides A4 PDF	5.00%
		3. Process for continuous Improvement	1000	2 Sides A4 PDF	10.00%
		4. Mobilisation model	1000	2 Sides A4 PDF	10.00%
		5. Requirements & Deliverables	1500	2 Sides A4 PDF	12.50%
		6. Governance	1500	2 Sides A4 PDF	12.50%
		7. Analysis & Project Management	750	1 Side A4 PDF per case study	5.00%
10%	Social Value & Fighting Climate Change	8. Net Zero	300	1 Side A4 PDF	4.00%
		9. Colleague Health & Well Being	300	1 Side A4 PDF	3.00%
		10. Training	300	1 Side A4 PDF	3.00%
100%					100%

Score	Interpretation
4 Excellent	The Bidder's response provides full confidence that the Bidder understands and can deliver the services and the Bidder's response addresses all of the requirements set out against the question.
3 Good	The Bidder's response provides a good level of confidence that the Bidder understands and can deliver the services and the Bidder's response addresses all or most of the requirements set out against the question.
2 Satisfactory	The Bidder's response provides a satisfactory level of confidence that the Bidder understands and can deliver the services and the Bidder's response addresses at least some of the requirements set out against the question. However, the response is lacking in some areas.
1 Poor	There are weaknesses (or inconsistency) in the Bidder's understanding of the services and the Bidder's response fails to address some or all of the requirements set out against the question.
0 Unacceptable	No response and/or information provided is deemed inadequate to merit a score.

6 **Tender Response**

Question 1

Weighting	5%
Max length of response	750 (Arial size 12) + 2 Sides A4 PDF Supporting Evidence

Please present an overview of your organisation’s understanding of NHS England’s requirements of evidence reviews to support its specialised services clinical commissioning policies and service specification programme.

Based on your organisation’s prior experience of undertaking similar requirements, please provide an overview of the following

Your response will be assessed against the extent to which it demonstrates the following requirements:

- Capability of your organisation to meet NHS England’s requirements of evidence reviews to support its clinical commissioning policies and service specification development programme;
- Experience of the organisation in undertaking clinical evidence reviews on health technologies for the NHS and/or commercial and /or third sector organisation; and
- Key risks and issues related to undertaking evidence reviews to support the policy and specification programme that will need to be considered.

Understanding NHS England's requirements

We understand NHS England requires evidence reviews to support development of its specialised services clinical commissioning policies and service specifications. These need to be produced in a transparent and systematic manner strictly adhering to specified methodology. NHS England require an independent, reliable and experienced evidence review provider that will ensure explicit, reproducible and high-quality analytical approaches are utilised.

The NHS England evidence review methodology is divided into three distinct stages:

- Stage A: **Scoping**
- Stage B: **Appraisal**
- Stage C: **Translation**

If appointed, our involvement will begin during Scoping, supporting Policy Working Group development of the PICO document, where clearly defining the research questions and scope is crucial to commissioning a 'fit for purpose' evidence review. Review of the evidence and production of an evidence review, or 3 paper summary, and a CPAG summary report are key activities of Appraisal.

We understand the provider must have the capacity and capability to plan and deliver a variable programme of work, updated monthly, to NHS England standards at short notice and within tight timescales, using experienced staff and robust project management techniques to ensure that risks and issues are identified and mitigated.

Organisational capability

Solutions for Public Health's (SPH's), part of NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU), ability to deliver high quality evidence reviews is based on our people, skills and experience. Our public health training and experience of NHS commissioning and provider organisations means we understand the need for commissioning policy development to be transparent and founded on the best available evidence. Our independence from industry and NHS commissioning budget responsibility means our reviews are objective and unbiased, meaning we have no links with single specialty or pressure groups.

Our previous experience of delivering NHS England evidence reviews within 10 weeks informs our detailed work plan and supporting information. This clearly sets out the tasks for reviewers, Quality Assurance (QA) assessors, information scientists, programme support and other team members. For every task, we identify what is involved, the sequencing and dependencies and time required. We carefully select reviewers and QA assessors, employ comprehensive programme management, provide thorough training to evidence review teams, provide clear instructions via standard operating procedures (SOPs) and apply our 5-step QA model. This provides assurance to NHS England that all steps outlined in the evidence review guidance are followed for every review and delivery timescales are met.

Organisational experience

The SPH review team has unrivalled experience in undertaking clinical evidence reviews. We have provided over 600 health technology evidence reviews since 2005 for national, regional and local NHS organisations. The team has built considerable expertise in systematically identifying, appraising and synthesising evidence of clinical and cost-effectiveness and safety for healthcare treatments and interventions. We provide a sound critical appraisal of the research, based on an understanding of the statistical and epidemiological approaches used, and accurately interpret evidence from different study designs. Our experience of conducting numerous evidence reviews for policy development purposes means we are skilled in translating evidence from published studies into reports suitable for both expert clinicians and lay/public audiences.

We regularly engage with specialist clinicians to confirm research questions, consult on draft evidence reviews, seek external quality assurance and valuable clinical insight.

We work with an experienced team of information scientists at the Bodleian Health Care Library, University of Oxford, who have an excellent track record in identifying all the relevant studies in assigned evidence reviews.

We regularly produce evidence reviews for proposed new service developments including radiotherapy, devices, pharmacological, surgical interventions and screening programmes. Examples of recent SPH reviews include transcatheter edge to edge repair for secondary mitral regurgitation (for NHS England), screening for lung cancer (for the DHSC) and understanding diagnostic delays (for Crohn's and Colitis UK).

Key risks and issues in undertaking evidence reviews to support the policy and specification programme fall into two main groups:

Programme/project:

- Non-availability of key team members
- Insufficient resources to deliver high volumes of evidence reviews
- Unexpected delays to planned timelines and activities

Clinical/technical:

- A PICO/search leading to unmanageable volume of papers
- A key paper not identified
- Inconsistent approach to conducting evidence reviews across reviewers

Further examples are given in the appendix.

Our programme and resourcing plans are proven to flex to accommodate varying volume of deliverables throughout the annual cycle. Our experienced staff and complete package of programme documentation, including organisation structure, high level programme plan, detailed activity plans, work packages, methodology guidance and instruction, together with centralised, standardised reporting and controls, allows SPH to manage these risks and identify and resolve issues.

Word count: 750/750

Appendix / supporting evidence:

- NHS England requirements of evidence reviews
- SPH capability and capacity
- Examples of risks and issues from SPH NHS England Evidence Review Programme risks and issue logs

Question 2

Weighting	5%
Max length of response	750 (Arial size 12) (CVs for relevant SMEs limited to 3 sides A4 PDF.)

Provide an overview of the team structure and the business process that will be set up to deliver evidence reviews.

Provide details of the key staff team who will be delivering the evidence reviews and provide CVs with a summary of key staff member's skills and expertise and any potential conflicts of interest.

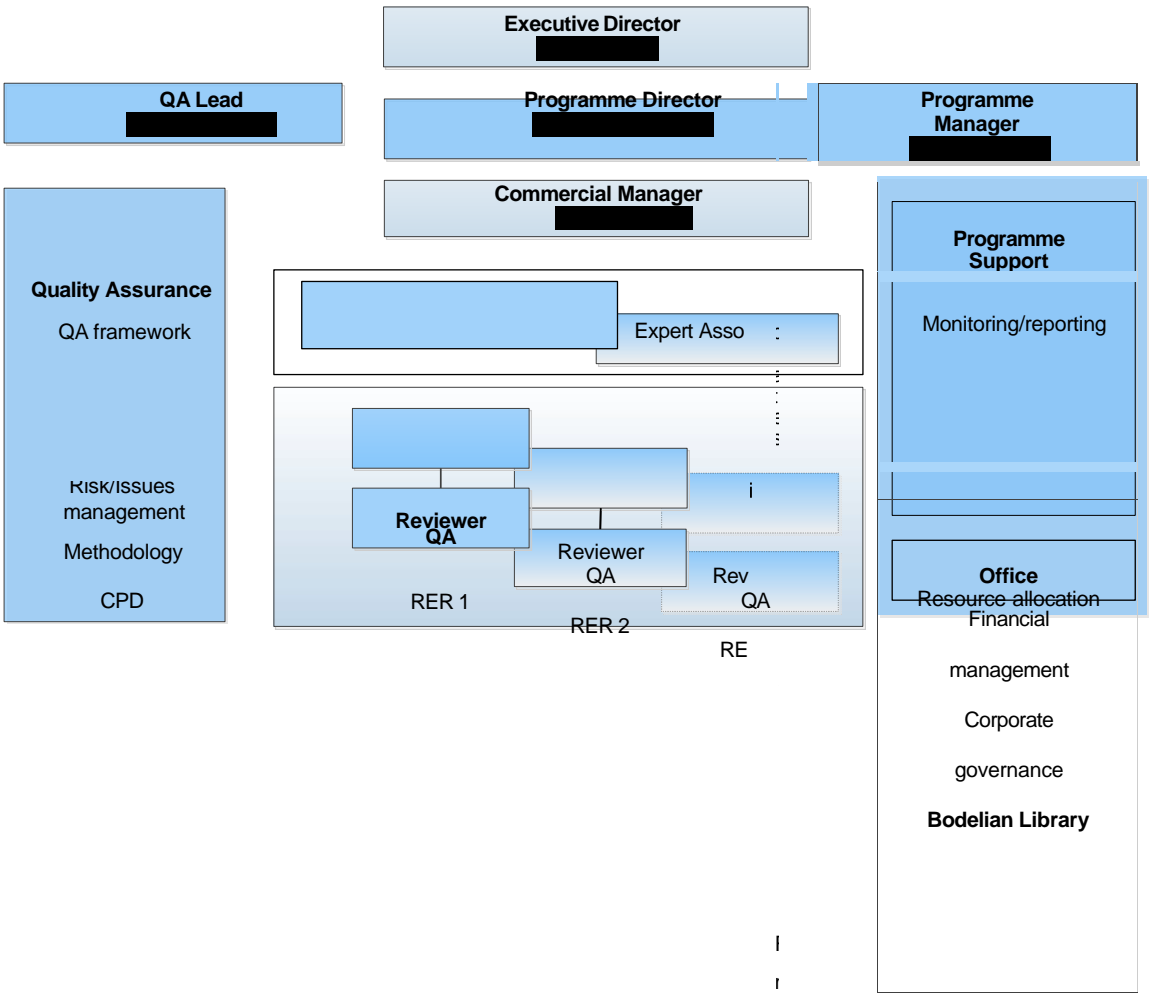
Your response will be assessed against the extent to which it demonstrates the following requirements:

- Expertise in research methods particularly in undertaking clinical evidence reviews.
- Expertise in knowledge and information management with access to clinical library resources.
- Expertise in analysis and interpretation of clinical research evidence.
- Expertise needed to provide the evidence summary, clearly lay out what the evidence 'means, and then translate this into technical documents.
- Expertise in the interpretation and reporting of the clinical evidence review so that the key outcomes of the studies are clear to the public.
- Expertise in applied epidemiology.
- Project management skills to ensure the work is delivered in timely, consistent and robust manner; and
- Explain how the Supplier will ensure any conflicts of interests are appropriately managed.

PLEASE NOTE: CVs included as an appendix to this question will not count towards the word limit.

Structure

Solutions for Public Health (SPH), part of NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU), are a highly-experienced provider of rapid evidence reviews (RERs) that are delivered on time to an exceptionally high-standard. Our delivery and support team (shown below) has supplied 176 evidence reviews to NHSE since 2012. Our delivery team includes medical and non-medical Consultants in Public Health, researchers and information scientists experienced in conducting evidence reviews across different interventions (e.g. devices/surgery/pharmacological), robust programme management and access to clinical library services. Detailed experience is evidenced in the appended CVs.



Our **business support process** includes:

- Flexible, collaborative approach to respond to requirements including variation in volumes of RERs and ad-hoc deliverables

- Standard operating procedures applied to meet specification and ensure consistency
- Capacity management process supporting effective resource allocation
- Centralised PSO, weekly tracking and reporting
- For every deliverable:
 - clear scope, detailed plan to agreed timeline
 - comprehensive, documented QA to ensure quality
 - decision trail maintained for audit.

Research methods, knowledge and information management and library services

Our evidence searches are conducted by information scientists at the Bodleian Health Care Library, University of Oxford, experts in conducting methodologically robust searches using narrative questions and PICOs.

All study abstracts and full papers are recorded in BiblioTRACK (audit system) with decisions and rationale about whether they meet the inclusion criteria. This audit trail enables rapid track-back to decision criteria and information sources for validation queries.

All our reviewers are:

- Experienced in applying hierarchy of evidence principles to select the best available evidence
- Experienced in applying tools and checklists to appraise study quality and risk of bias
- Able to accurately analyse and interpret the evidence of clinical and cost-effectiveness from different study designs.

We have expertise in making best use of existing evidence, always delineating the limits to what can be securely concluded from low validity studies. We are highly-skilled at understanding and describing the impact of different research designs on the value of research to commissioners, clinicians and patients, and detecting when authors claim more than their study design and results permit.

Analysis/interpretation of clinical research evidence, providing evidence summaries, translation into technical/public facing documents

Evidence is often difficult to interpret or contradictory. Lower quality research is often biased, with limited, misleading or unreliable results, which can lead to inappropriate decisions. Our highly-developed critical appraisal skills enable us to assess the reliability of a study's findings, to interpret the results and to assess their applicability to real-life NHS commissioning/clinical practice.

Our analysis includes consideration of:

- Methodological quality (e.g., heterogeneity, power, confounders, and bias)
- Validity of clinical outcome measures (e.g. effect sizes/clinically important differences versus statistical significance)
- The degree of uncertainty expressed using p-values, confidence intervals and sensitivity analysis.

We routinely summarise key outcomes in plain English for audiences unfamiliar with research study design, statistical detail, or disease specific outcome measures. We translate quantitative/statistical technical findings into the context of real-life NHS practice adding high-value insightful interpretation and contextualisation of the evidence.

Applied epidemiology

We are experienced in including and referencing epidemiological context in evidence reviews including estimating the number of people affected per population size, how many fall within scope of the evidence identified, and the implications for commissioning. We examine the alignment of the populations covered by the evidence with people presenting to the NHS. We have produced RERs for NHS organisations with extensive modelling, citing epidemiological, clinical outcome and economic studies to inform organisations of likely clinical need, resource utilisation and financial impact. Examples include trastuzumab for HER-2 positive breast cancer, infertility service modelling and tier 4 bariatric surgery modelling.

Project Management

Project planning, control, and reporting are undertaken by our Prince 2 qualified Programme Support Office. Our Programme Manager manages issues and challenges, finding pragmatic solutions. On receipt of a review request we quickly initiate the RER and schedule resources against the agreed timescale. Progress is routinely tracked and regularly communicated to CET to drive delivery and deadlines.

Conflicts-of-Interest (COI)

For each RER, we have a formal process using the ICMJE Form for Disclosure of Potential COIs (<http://www.icmje.org/conflicts-of-interest>) for identifying COI. If a team member declares a potential conflict of interest, then SPH has sufficient capacity to re-allocate that RER.



Word count: 750/750 (Including words in team structure diagram)

Appendix/supporting evidence: AGCSU's SPH Delivery Team- Biographies of Key Team Members

Question 3

Evidence of resolving problems and responding to queries
NHS

- **Refractory and Progressive Sarcoidosis.** We engaged with the CET lead and the Policy Working Group (PWG) clinical lead to agree how to differentiate and clarify the definitions of refractory and progressive sarcoidosis in the two PICOs by providing written explanation and definitions used in the literature, comparing these with the needs of the PWG lead clinician, considering consequences and policy application and proposing solutions for discussion.
- **Pectus surgery for pectus deformities.**
 - We engaged in joint problem solving with CET regarding the scope of the evidence review and the expected outcomes for policy making if a pooled population was considered. This resulted in four clearly defined populations being proposed and agreed by PWG/CET.
 - We developed and agreed revised timelines with the CET Project lead to accommodate a request to extend the PWG testing period due to four concurrent evidence reviews for pectus surgery
- **Deferiprone and Deferasirox for iron overload in anaemias.** Although a departure from the methodology, we accommodated a request from CET to include an additional paper to cover a population not specified in the PICO
- **Proton beam therapy (PBT) for childhood cancers;** the PWG suggested that 280 references were missing from the review. Our audit records showed that 29 were published before or after the search date; the remaining abstracts had been considered and excluded correctly
- **Rituximab for systemic lupus erythematosus** (7 months post-delivery); we resolved a request from a manufacturer to reconsider the wording of our review
- **Stereotactic radiosurgery following resection of cerebral metastases** (5 months post-delivery); we resolved a query about 9 potentially missing papers. None had been excluded in error

Evidence of CPD: Critical Appraisal & Evidence Synthesis

Objective: To refine evidence review skills within the SPH/Associate delivery team and provide a foundation in epidemiology, statistics and critical appraisal for potential new reviewers

2022 Sessions

7 x half day workshops

SPH Reviewers & Associate Reviewers

QA Assessors

New Reviewers

Programme Director: Dr Amanda Burts, Professor of Public Health, City, University of London

1. **Introductory session** on SR methodology including defining a research question and PICO, why we need SRs and the difference between SRs and RERs, followed by an introduction to the different study designs and the concepts of bias, chance, and confounding
2. **RCT session** on the internal validity of RCTs, how to how to make sense of their results focussing on p-values and confidence intervals and a Critical Appraisal Skills Programme (CASP) workshop in small breakout rooms of an RCT on the effectiveness of Semaglutide vs Liraglutide (JAMA. 2022 Jan 11;327(2):138-150)
3. **Systematic Reviews session** exploring SR methodology and biases in more depth, an introduction to meta-analysis, heterogeneity, funnel plots and indirect comparisons and a CASP workshop on a SR of advanced life support vs basic life support for patients with trauma in prehospital settings
4. **Observational studies session** on design and biases of case reports, case-series, case-control studies and cohort studies, making sense of ORs, RR, HRs and time to event data and a CASP workshop on a retrospective cohort study on post covid syndrome in individuals admitted to hospital with covid
5. **Diagnostic test session** on calculating and interpreting sensitivity, specificity, predictive values, likelihood ratios, ROC curves and diagnostic ORs using covid tests as an example
6. **Economic evaluation session** on basic concepts of economic evaluation including different designs, QALYs, ICERs, discounting, sensitivity analysis and a CASP workshop on a cost-effectiveness analysis of Semaglutide for overweight and obese adults
7. **NHSE specialised services session** delivered by SPH providing an overview of the NHSE specialised services RER programme, methodology and template, and adapted GRADE table

Examples extracted from SPH NHS England Evidence Review Programme issues log

Ref	Date identified	Raised by	Description	Category	POA/notes	Next steps	Agreed Resolution	Status
N1	dd/mm/yy	COL	Refractory and Progressive Sarcoidosis. There is an issue about the application of the PICO definition of progressive sarcoidosis (acute, severe). The published literature does not use the term progressive. Most study populations seem to be refractory and it is not possible to differentiate between refractory and progressive disease in the studies.	PICO/ Evidence selection	Meeting with reviewers and QA assessors to fully understand why the term 'progressive' used in the PICO definition cannot be applied to the literature search and selection	Written explanation of the problem to CET, with follow up meeting and full papers available if needed. Also agreement that the progressive review should be paused until the definition of the population of interest can be clearly defined. Further meeting with CET and PWG lead clinician to discuss options and clarify the population of interest.		New
N2	dd/mm/yy	GP	Deferriprone and Deferraliron for iron overload in anaemias. Although the review has been through PWG testing and final version delivered there is a request from CET for additional papers to be included.	PICO/ Evidence selection	Reviewer/QA assessor to check all papers/QA documentation to confirm if the studies are incorrectly excluded and liaise with CET about the motivation for including them.	Respond to CET that studies were correctly excluded (including written evidence from Bibliotrack). They are lower quality studies. The PICO population is all ages. Including lower quality studies because they included children as well as adults is a departure from the selection methodology.	SPH will include the Farnham at all study as an additional ad hoc task and update the paper to reflect the departure from specified methodology due to NHS England request.	Open
N3	dd/mm/yy	COL	To maintain independence of evidence selection the PWG should not be involved in paper inclusion/exclusion once the search criteria have been agreed.	Evidence selection	Clarify for PWG members that the search criteria apply to the SEARCH and that the usual hierarchy of evidence approach will be applied to the paper selection.	Discuss with CET at contract review meeting	SPH will inform CET of any thresholds for exclusion of papers so that CET can explain paper exclusion (if challenged (PWG, CET approval not required)). The paper selection strategy including explanation will be routinely included in the RER under Methodology (section 3).	Closed
N4	dd/mm/yy	VDS	There are potentially multiple interventions (insulins, 1st line or 2nd line, as monotherapy or combination therapy)	PICO/ Scope	This is potentially more than one intervention and may require more than one evidence review. PICO tables are not clear and cannot be conducted as a single evidence review if there are multiple populations/indications, interventions, comparators and outcomes.	SPH to provide written commentary to the PICO to explain the confounding of the populations and how this might not answer the commissioning questions of interest.	CET/PWG to revise PICO	Closed
N5	dd/mm/yy	RB	PWG unable to meet timescales for PWG testing - Clinical Lead unavailable at planned time.	Delivery/ plan	This will impact on ability to deliver the RER within the 10 week timeline.	CET to identify PWG availability SPH to propose a revised timeline for approval by CET	Revised dates proposed to support PWG review and feedback. CET to approve change to delivery timeline as a result of new PWG testing dates	Open
N6	dd/mm/yy	VDS	PICO inclusions state 'cohort studies' with inclusion of 'case series if no higher level evidence available'. Some researchers use the two terms (cohort study and case series) interchangeably. Need clarification.	PICO	Clarification of terms or perhaps inclusion of 'comparative' before cohort studies	Discuss with CET	CET have clarified that it should be 'comparative cohort studies' and this is now included as standard text in a revised PICO template.	Closed

Question 4

Weighting	10%
Max length of response	1000(Arial size 12) 2 Sides A4 PDF for Mobilisation & Implementation Plan

Please outline the proposed service delivery model that your organisation would deploy should it be appointed.

Suppliers are required to explain how it will deploy resource flexibility to meet NHS England's requirements, particularly at times where a large number of clinical evidence reviews will need to be undertaken simultaneously.

Your response will be assessed against the extent to which it demonstrates the following requirements:

- Presentation of an effective approach to mobilising, implementing, and delivering the requirements with appropriate levels of resources. This should include the proposed steps and activities that will be undertaken to ensure resources are appropriately in place to deliver the requirements during peak periods, offering the Authority sufficient flexibility.
- Presentation of a Mobilisation and Delivery Plan that is unambiguous, concise, and deliverable within the timescales specified by the Authority; and

A robust approach to ensuring that all members of the Service Delivery Team are fully briefed on the contract and Authority requirements.

PLEASE NOTE: The Mobilisation and Implementation Plan, will not be included in the word limit for this question.

Proposed service delivery model

The Solutions for Public Health (SPH), who are part of NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU), service delivery model has been developed over many years of successfully delivering evidence reviews for NHS England. The model utilises core research and clinical staff and strong programme management practices to provide a flexible, reliable team of experts who will fully deliver your requirements at all times.

The model enables our Programme Manager to swiftly deploy teams to deliver a wide range of rapid evidence reviews (RERs) at any one time, including high volumes during peak periods. Current service provision has varied from 0 to 9 RERs in progress per month since January 2020 (see chart in appendix).

Our approach involves planning realistic, achievable activities based on our detailed experience of the deliverables and selecting and assigning suitably qualified resources who can flex capacity at short notice. We have the resources, processes and tools to manage operational delivery issues without disruption or recourse to the Clinical Effectiveness Team (CET), and to rapidly consider and address questions from CET directly relating to evidence reviews and wider NHS England policy development.

Mobilisation, implementation and delivery

A high level programme plan is provided in the appendix, illustrating how we will successfully deliver the programme as a whole.

As your current supplier, we do not require a mobilisation period to ensure that we continue to seamlessly deliver the current service. Enhanced by lessons learned, all structures and processes already exist, including standard operating procedures (SOPs), methodology guidance, examples and templates, risk and issue logs, project progress reports, tracking and audit tools.

Our plan for delivering the contract is built upon a clear understanding and detailed knowledge of the work programme including context, deliverables and timeframes. Within the overall programme each RER is delivered as an individual project to an individual plan and timeframe (see appendix). A preliminary phase starts when a topic is notified to SPH following a Clinical Panel. During this phase SPH will:

- Add RERs approved at Clinical Panel to the programme schedule, assess the number and type of RERs requested and determine the resources required to deliver within the timeframe
- Immediately allocate QA assessors to the task of reviewing and commenting on the draft PICOs and attending the PICO teleconferences
- Contact the library team at the Bodleian Health Care Library to mobilise their resources and dedicate a team to our requirements
- Allocate a reviewer to each RER. If a capacity constraint exists, we rapidly identify suitable resources from our extensive associate pool and deploy the resource to maintain delivery.

Delivery of an RER begins once the final PICO is agreed. The plan identifies individual tasks, prioritised and scheduled, according to pre-requisites and dependencies, to ensure RERs and associated deliverables are delivered within the 10-week timescale required. The specific dates for each RER are agreed with CET at the start to ensure that any constraints, such as availability for the Policy Working Group (PWG) testing week, are planned for. Progress on each RER is tracked on a weekly basis to ensure any deviations from the timeline (e.g. changes to PWG availability, late testing comments), or issues needing clarification (e.g. study inclusion/exclusion) are identified and resolved quickly. A comprehensive audit trail is maintained including use of BiblioTRACK (bespoke SPH tool for recording search results and inclusion/exclusion decisions) enabling us to retrieve information and answer queries related to the clinical evidence reviews both during the RER development and subsequently following stakeholder and public consultation.

Our detailed plan for the 10 week delivery of an RER together with a comprehensive QA framework with QA steps ensures that any issues are identified quickly for resolution ensuring delivery of evidence reviews remains on track.

The high level plan also shows that programme management (control and reporting, risks and issues management), continuous learning and financial management are consistently undertaken throughout the contract. Standardised file structure, document management and governance also support efficient delivery and the ability to respond to queries at later stages in policy development.

Service delivery team enablement

All our reviewers and QA assessors are fully experienced in delivering RERs for NHS England Specialised Services using the required methodology.

All members of our delivery team are required to attend training that covers the specific NHS England evidence review methodology and outputs and the SPH delivery process before commencing work on the programme. Training includes the supply of an instruction handbook covering production of evidence reviews and associated deliverables such as PICOs, Clinical Priorities Advisory Group (CPAG) summary forms and audit documentation. The SOPs in the handbook describe all steps of the evidence review production process including key timelines, quality assurance steps, and guidance on completion of all sections of the evidence review template. In addition, training includes consideration of evidence reviews previously delivered, identifying common pitfalls to be aware of and how to address these.

When assigned a new review, the delivery team receive a detailed delivery plan, together with a complete package of programme documentation. This enables us to provide a fully co-ordinated brief and work package for each team member outlining their role, responsibilities, reporting lines and delivery dates for individual outputs.

All documentation used in training and delivery is reviewed and updated to reflect any changes in programme methodology or processes agreed with NHSE. When changes occur, all members of the delivery team are alerted to the changes, and supplied with the updated versions of the SOP and other documents.

All new associates are required to provide evidence of experience and capability and undergo a quality assessment. Only those passing the quality assessment are employed to deliver against these requirements.

The existing structures that we have in place to deliver RERs and other deliverables ensure high levels of quality and consistency are maintained at all times. We have a demonstrable track record of delivery to NHS England to specification and timelines.

The delivery model and associated programme and project management approach has recently been successfully audited for ISO9001 and is fully compliant.

999/1000 words

Appendix/supporting evidence:

- NHS England RER programme – pattern of activity Jan 2020 to Dec 2022
- High level annual programme plan
- Detailed Delivery Plan – individual RER with associated PICO development and CPAG Summary Report
- Detailed Delivery Plan – individual 3 paper summary and CPAG Summary Report

Question 5

Weighting	12.5%
Max length of response	1500 Words (Arial size 12, 2 sides A4 PDF of supporting Evidence.

Please explain the processes that will be deployed to ensure that all of the requirements and deliverables outlined in the Service Requirements will be achieved on time and in the most cost-effective way as possible.

Your response will be assessed against the extent to which it demonstrates the following requirements:

- A concise overview of the processes that will be adopted to ensure that deliverables will be achieved on time;

- A prudent yet realistic approach will be adopted to resourcing this contract to ensure that costs and risks are controlled, ensuring the proposed approach is fully reflective of those costs quoted;
- A robust project management plan and dedicated resource to:
 - (a) Ensure the clinical evidence reviews (deliverable 1) are completed within ten weeks. The plan should include time required to agree the search strategy with the policy working groups (PWG) for each proposal based on the PICO submitted.
 - (b) Provide the clinical evidence review to the PWG so that there is one week to feedback on the final draft and one week to make any amendments if required.
 - (c) Complete the 'Benefits of the Proposition' and 'Other health metrics determined by the evidence review' sections of the CPAG summary report in plain language.
 - (d) Report progress to the clinical effectiveness team on a weekly basis.
- Explanation of how the Supplier will provide audit information (deliverable 2) within 5 working days when requested by NHS England.

Process Overview

Solutions for Public Health (SPH), part of NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU), confirm that all requirements and deliverables specified in your Service Requirements will be achieved on time and in the most cost-effective way.

Delivery to time, cost and specification is achieved using comprehensive project management processes monitored by our Programme Support Office (PSO). Our PSO draws on the experience and competence of the experienced SPH programme leads: Associate Director (AD), Quality Assurance (QA) Lead, Programme Manager (PM) and the delivery team of Reviewers, QA Assessors and Information Scientists. Each rapid evidence review (RER) and three paper summary is thoroughly planned, monitored and managed. Risks are proactively identified, with issues logged and addressed and escalation via weekly SPH and Clinical Effectiveness Team (CET) progress meetings. Our evidence review processes and 5-step QA framework have enabled us to deliver 176 evidence reviews since 2012 to NHS England to a consistent high-standard within the contracted completion time.

Resourcing the contract - managing cost/risk

We have a full appreciation of the service requirements through delivering 37 reviews to the current NHS England methodology, and 11 three paper summaries since January 2020 and are able to anticipate and mitigate likely risks to cost and delivery by:

- Applying programme management and QA processes (including weekly meetings, issues log, structured audit documentation and ad-hoc feedback from reviewers and QA assessors to identify issues as they arise, minimising risk of major rework, timeframe or cost overrun
- Supplementing the core SPH evidence review team with trained, experienced associate reviewers to provide cost options, flexible capacity to cover peaks in demand and mitigation for unexpected resource issues such as sickness.

Our cost model takes account of our current experience in delivering products that already meet your service requirements. Our pricing is inclusive of NHS inflation, reflects AGCSU's 'not for profit' pricing, incorporates highly experienced resources, continuous improvement and offers a substantial discount for higher RER volumes. An additional benefit is that, as your current supplier, we do not need to incorporate the costs of project initiation, initial training and mobilisation as the existing SPH team are already fully experienced in delivering the prescribed RER and three paper summary methodologies. Uniquely VAT is not chargeable on our services as AGCSU is a member of the same VAT family as NHSE.

Duplication of skills and experience in delivering RERs and three paper summaries enables the SPH delivery team to be resilient to unexpected demands such as absence of staff or need to extract and synthesise an unusually large volume of data from selected evidence. It also minimises cost by ensuring experienced resources are available when, and only when, required. We have robust processes in place for the training and mentoring of new team members in addition to a continuous improvement programme supporting all reviewers and QA assessors. All team members receive instruction in:

- NHSE review methodology
- BiblioTRACK
- Timescales
- Templates
- Delivery checklists
- Monitoring processes.

Training is provided at regular intervals to ensure consistency and quality is maintained. All reviewers and QA assessors have rapid access to ad-hoc advice and mentoring from experienced reviewer and QA colleagues within SPH.

Risks are managed via a clear risk management process. Individual risks are logged and monitored in a risk register (see appendix). For each risk, we consider the likelihood/severity and identify mitigation actions. Risk registers are reviewed monthly to ensure mitigation actions remain valid and emerging risks are identified and assessed. Any risks that exceed acceptable thresholds post mitigation will be discussed with CET together with a recommended course of action.

Detailed Project Management ensures RER delivery within 10 weeks

Each RER is managed as a project in its own right using tightly controlled reporting and support tools (including timeline, delivery/QA checklists, standard report templates) to monitor progress from early notification of a potential RER through to delivery of the completed review.

Each RER delivery plan includes a GANTT chart (see appendix) which identifies agreed timelines, resources and dependencies. The QA assessor time required to undertake the 5-stage QA process is scheduled at the start of each review, which provides a shared understanding of the requirement, sequencing, dependencies and time allocated to each task. Progress against the agreed timeline is monitored weekly by the PSO, which enables quick identification and resolution of issues, minimising any impact on delivery deadlines. The timely and efficient production of all RERs is made possible by our delivery team's extensive experience of delivering clinical evidence reviews for specialised services.

Our PM oversees the delivery of the RER programme through scheduled reporting and communication points with delivery teams. Any resourcing issues or slippage for individual reviews is addressed immediately, increasing resource levels, if necessary, to ensure agreed timescales are not compromised. A recent example is the current review, *2254 TEER for SMR*, where the complex and voluminous evidence base required us to allocate two reviewers to work together to deliver the review on plan.

PWG testing

We have an unrivalled track record of working with NHS England and PWGs - even when the published evidence base is controversial or unwelcome. During week 1 of each RER, the SPH PM sends a timeline to the CET PM for approval, including the dates for Policy Working Group (PWG) testing in week 9. This enables PWG members to reserve time for the consultation and mitigate for potential delays to the review timeline. We have accommodated requests at short notice to extend PWG testing periods or have accommodated late responses from PWG, with the agreement of CET. During week 10, the reviewer considers both the CET and PWG feedback. They respond to each comment, amend the review if necessary and finalise the Clinical Priorities Advisory Group (CPAG) summary report before final QA. The report and associated documents are delivered to the CET PM at the end of week 10.

CPAG completion

Our Standard Operating Procedure includes instruction on the completion of CPAG summary reports, including examples using plain language. Following PWG testing, the lead reviewer produces the CPAG summary report in plain English, based on the content of section 5 of the RER, the 'Results'. We also ensure it contains sufficient information about the outcome measures used and their interpretation (e.g. minimal clinically important differences) to act as a standalone product.

The QA assessor assures the content of the CPAG summary report, ensuring it takes account of responses to PWG and CET comments and any changes made to the evidence review.

Three Paper Summaries

Request forms are picked up via our dedicated specialised services inbox (checked daily). The SPH team is resilient enough to accommodate rapid turnaround within 10 working days. Key steps include

- Confirming receipt of the commissioned summary and published papers
- Rapidly identifying the reviewer and QA assessor
- Agreeing the timeline with CET (start date, reviewer dates, SPH QA, CET/PWG review, receipt of CET/PWG comments, final editing, completion of the CPAG summary report (if required) and final delivery date)

Three paper summaries are subject to SPH QA prior to the draft summary being sent to CET/PWG for comments and before final delivery.

Weekly reporting to CET

The PSO will conduct a weekly check of progress against plan of pending and in progress evidence reviews and summaries. and update the weekly project progress report (including the content specified in 3.2 of the Statement of Requirements) showing work progress and financial status. This is sent to CET via email on an agreed day each week prior to our scheduled weekly meeting, with the CET PM to discuss any details.

Providing audit information within 5 working days

SPH has a proven track record of responding promptly and efficiently to requests from NHS England for audit information relating to the delivery of evidence reviews. Recent examples included “*2109b Deferiprone and Deferasirox combination therapy ... for iron overload*” and “*1903 Catheter Ablation for AF*” (delivered June 2019, paper exclusion queries answered in February and in November 2020). No papers were excluded incorrectly. This demonstrates our ability to respond within five working days with information relating to reviews undertaken both recently and more than 12 months previously.

For RERs, all key decisions (e.g. inclusion/exclusion of studies) including rationale are recorded by the information scientist, lead reviewer and QA assessor as they are undertaken using our bespoke tool (BiblioTRACK) for recording and retrieving study selection decisions. All evidence reviews are subject to our 5-step QA process. This formally and systematically documents the review process and decisions and provides audit information for each evidence review. All RER documentation is stored centrally so they can be retrieved quickly and provided to NHS England, on request, in a readily accessible format. These include logs, search terms and strategies, literature search results, references, study selection decisions with rationale, QA documents, PWG comments and responses/actions arising.

On completion of each RER or three paper summary the QA assessor checks that all documentation is complete and saved appropriately for future retrieval. All information resides on AGCSU servers which are subject to full NHS information governance and disaster recovery standards.

Question 6

Weighting	12.5%
Max length of response	1500 Words (Arial size 12 + 2 sides A4 PDF of supporting Evidence.

In relation to the Service Requirements provided in Document 2 please explain the methodology and processes that will be adopted by your organisation to:

- Adhere to all relevant guidance, standards and best practice;
- Assure the quality of the services your organisation will undertake; and
- Assure accountability of your Services.

Your response will be assessed against the extent to which it demonstrates the following requirements:

A robust approach to ensuring compliance with all relevant guidance, standards and best practice;

- A robust approach in working with the PWGs when undertaking clinical evidence reviews;
- An effective approach to quality management and assurance;
- An effective approach to performance management to ensure delivery in accordance with the Service Requirements;
- A rigorous approach to internal governance arrangements demonstrating how the organisation will internally hold itself to account; and
- Provide an audit trail of the clinical evidence review process if required by NHS England, in order to respond to challenges or respond to comments received through public consultation or other sources.

Overview:

Solutions for Public Health (SPH), part of NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU), has supplied 176 rapid evidence reviews (RER) for NHS England since 2012.

Our existing processes have enabled us to successfully deliver 37 RERs and 11 three paper summaries, address queries and respond to challenge on request since 2020.

Adherence to all relevant guidance, standards/best practice

Established processes already exist to deliver against the nine deliverables (D1 to D9) specified in your Service Requirements for both clinical evidence reviews (D1-D5) and

three paper summaries (D6-D9). Delivery to timescale (D1, D6), adherence to process guidelines (D2/D8) and completion of the CPAG summary report (D5/D9) are supported by the following: (see below for D3/D4/D7).

- **Skilled and experienced staff.** Highly experienced and qualified individuals with a proven ability to deliver evidence summaries, RERs and CPAG summary reports using plain English to the required standard from the SPH team. Our capacity to flex resources ensures we can cover unexpected absence, delivery of multiple RERs with overlapping timelines or an unusual volume of complex data in our evidence review delivery service, with no single point of failure
- **Careful staff selection.** We consider staff strengths in allocating topics such as professional qualifications and experience and will not allocate where there is a potential conflict of interest (COI)
- **Specialised training.** All reviewers and QA assessors receive initial and ongoing training
- **Mentors.** All specific new reviewers are allocated a mentor in addition to the QA assessor
- **Standard operating procedures (SOP).** SPH provide all reviewers and QA assessors with an SOP instruction manual encompassing all contract deliverables including bespoke guidance, templates and a model RER and 3-paper summary. This ensures standardisation and a consistently high quality of all deliverables. The manual has been continually updated during the current 3-year contract to reflect agreed resolutions for any issues
- **BiblioTRACK.** SPH developed this bespoke bibliographic tool specifically to support these reviews after finding commercial tools inadequate in providing audit information within 5 working days
- **Robust programme management.** Clear definition of tasks for all staff that includes specification of what is involved, sequencing, dependencies and time required
- **Quality assurance.** Our 5-step QA model (described below) provides detailed documented audit trail assurance that all steps outlined in the methodology and guidance are implemented for every RER.
- **Monitoring to promote continuous improvement.** Our Associate Director (AD) [Claire Cheong-Leen] and SPH Programme Manager (PM) [Rachael Barker] meet weekly to monitor progress of each RER, review feedback from weekly calls between SPH and the CET and update the issues log to quickly identify issues. This ensures prompt corrective action, minimising adverse impact on delivery quality or timescales and feeds into updated methods guidance, project audit and the SPH/reviewer CPD programme (Appendix attached)

Robust approach to working with the Policy Working Groups (PWGs)

We will work collaboratively with CET to ensure the effective production of high quality deliverables within the agreed timeline. This includes working constructively with the PWGs throughout the RER process:

- **PICO protocol development.** SPH will routinely provide written feedback on draft protocols in advance of PICO meetings, engaging with CET and PWG members in a positive, constructive and professional manner and supporting them to reaching consensus on implementable PICO protocols that address the questions of interest

- **Scheduling PWG testing.** We will continue to request contact details for PWG consultees from the CET PM, in parallel with confirming the delivery timeline (and dates for PWG testing) with CET at RER mobilisation
- **PWG testing.** As per the timeline set out at RER mobilisation, the SPH PM emails the draft RER to PWG and CET, along with a PWG feedback form, requesting written feedback within one week. We also send a reminder to PWG contacts 3 working days before the deadline.
- **PWG feedback.** On receipt of PWG feedback, the reviewer considers and drafts written responses to each comment and records actions taken (amending the RER if warranted). The reviewer responses are checked by the QA assessor for factual correctness and tone, ensuring that we are always respectful to the author of the PWG comment. Alongside the finalised RER and CPAG summary report, this document forms part of the suite of deliverables to CET.

We will continue to use a standardised, objective approach to communicating and liaising with PWGs during the development of each RER to ensure that communication with PWG members is always polite, factual and reasoned. This is important to promote equity of approach across PWGs, to reinforce our impartiality and independence for all specialties and interventions and support strict, consistent adherence to methodology and process.

We strive to accommodate requests from PWG to deviate from the prescribed RER process (e.g. longer or delayed PWG testing periods) subject to CET authorisation and impact on delivery timeline. We have on several occasions, with CET agreement, accommodated late feedback from PWG outside the process by re-prioritising reviewer and QA assessor job plan commitments.

Quality assurance/performance management to ensure delivery in accordance with Service Requirements

Our QA team is led by a Senior Consultant in Public Health Medicine, with responsibility for QA processes including our 5-step QA framework and use of the BiblioTRACK tool (Appendix attached).

The QA framework sets out standards to be achieved and records actions required of the reviewer following QA. Every RER QA report is a 'living' document with each section completed at the end of each QA step.

This assures the quality of RER content and associated documents (D3, D7) to the specified methodology. Our documented QA process ensures that all reviews and associated deliverables are produced to the same high standard and that any deviation from guidance, standards or best practice is identified early, with time to agree remedial action without compromising standards or timelines. We apply an abbreviated, tailored QA process to 3-paper summaries.

To support QA stages 1 and 2, SPH developed the BiblioTRACK audit tool for this contract. A new BiblioTRACK document is created for each RER to record all abstract, paper selection decisions and rationale by the reviewer and QA assessor. Disagreement or uncertainty about selection decisions is referred to a second member of the QA team for further opinion.

This ensures that any issues/concerns are identified and addressed as they arise, with escalation to the QA lead, if required. Embedded into all individual job objectives is a

requirement for staff to escalate potential delivery issues to the AD at the earliest opportunity so that these can be addressed and resolved prior to potential impact on timeline or delivery of a high quality product to NHS England.

QA issues with implications for the wider programme (e.g. issues resulting in the need to review existing processes) are recorded on the issues log, and where appropriate, the QA framework is amended to ensure routine compliance. We also proactively look for issues that recur repeatedly through internal quality improvement discussions or programme review meetings and make changes to the SOP and the QA framework. Changes to the SOP are circulated to all reviewers/QA assessors. Changes which require consideration by NHS England will be escalated to CET in writing for discussion and resolution. Each QA step is recorded in a standardised electronic format, enabling a retrievable, clear audit trail.

Rigorously assuring accountability through internal governance arrangements

Reviewers/QA assessors and PM are accountable to AD [Claire Cheong-Leen] for quality and timely delivery of all deliverables associated with this contract. Claire is responsible to the CET via Donna Hakes. Claire is directly accountable to the Executive Director of HCS (Rose Taylor) for overall contract performance including reporting delivery, financial and risk status. In addition to project and QA processes described above, we routinely review risks (project and corporate including resourcing), lessons learnt from completed projects (Spratt-Pendleton audit including client feedback), mandatory training status including information governance and all SPH staff have annual appraisals and agreed personal development plans.

SPH complies with quarterly NHS England Assurance Certification requirements (Financial Resources, Recruitment, Competency of People, Risk Control Environment, Risk Management, Business Plan, Contracts and Grants and Reputation) which examine all aspects of internal governance. In addition, the SPH Specialised Services evidence review programme was found to achieve excellent standards when externally audited in December 2022 as part of our ISO 9001 accreditation.

Providing an audit trail to respond to challenges and comments received

SPH's QA Framework and BiblioTRACK enable us to rapidly provide audit information related to evidence reviews within 5 working days (D4). This includes checking that all documentation, COI declarations, search strategies, study selection decisions and rationale, papers, risk logs, QA checks, PWG comments and responses, are stored centrally on AGCSU servers. These are subject to full NHS IG and disaster recovery standards. On completion of each RER, the QA assessor checks that the QA records are complete and that documents have been saved appropriately for future retrieval.

Together, our QA processes and administration (file structure, standardised approach to recording decisions, file naming convention and electronic records) will continue to facilitate efficient retrieval of audit information to accurately respond to all comments or challenges from PWG, public consultation or other sources.

Word count:1499/1500

Question 7

Weighting	5%
Max length of response	750 Words (Arial size 12, plus 1 Side A4 of supporting evidence)

Please provide an overview of your approach to undertaking other analytical or project management work relating to evidence reviewing, but not directly conducting the reviews themselves.

- Please provide examples of previous work

Our approach to undertaking other analytical or project work relating to evidence reviewing

The Solutions for Public Health (SPH) team, which is part of NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU), is exceptionally well placed to undertake other evidence-related, analytical or project management work relating to evidence reviewing on behalf of NHS England. The core SPH team includes Public Health Consultants, Researchers, Health Intelligence and Programme Management specialists augmented by specialist Public Health Associates who, combined, bring in-depth proven skills with a successful delivery track record.

Supplementing this is considerable expertise of the wider AGCSU team who have experience in health intelligence/analytics, finance/performance, organisational development, system redesign and operational clinical services.

Combining SPH's specialist public health skills, detailed knowledge and practical experience of developing and implementing evidence-based policy with the wider AGCSU team creates relevant and bespoke solutions that could be used by NHS England. It also provides an efficient and flexible use of resources whilst maximising health outcomes for patients.

Our approach to delivering your requirements will be to continue to proactively engage with you to clearly identify and understand the specific issue(s) or problem(s) to be solved before proposing a solution/range of options for joint discussion. In doing this, we will consider both the nature and context of the requirement and practical elements such as timescale and budget to ensure our proposal is customised to meet your needs. Our proposals also specify key delivery team members, quality assurance mechanisms, key dependencies and delivery dates. Once agreed, the delivery team is fully briefed, progress against plan is closely monitored and risks and issues are proactively identified and resolved.

Our unrivalled expertise of evidence-based policy development includes experience of delivering health needs assessments, variation in activity, outcomes and access, health inequalities analysis, modelling demand/uptake and clinical audit design and analysis. Specific examples of other projects we have successfully delivered over the current and previous contracts include

- Developing a working methodology for applying IDEAL assessments to rapid evidence reviews and supporting the IDEAL pilot by delivering two assessments and providing feedback
- Developing a novel detailed methodology for conducting Scoping reviews and piloting this with Robotic Assisted Surgery for two different cancers
- Contributing to NHS England methodological discussion by providing written advice and insight on the plausibility of generating an ICER estimate for all interventions commissioned by Specialised Services
- Streamlining the system for routine IFR activity reporting, reducing the time needed to produce reports, reducing scope for errors and testing the new system by producing a sub-set of routine IFR reports for NHS Trusts with the highest IFR activity rates. A full set of monthly reports were produced for a six-month period to support the CET during a period of temporary staff absence
- Quality assuring and refining a 'Capability Index' created by the Specialised Services analyst to measure NHS Trust performance against IFR targets, so it more accurately reflected the performance of Trusts and met the IFR team's needs
- Operational responsibility for the management of teleconferences to review draft PICOs provided by the Policy Working Group including scheduling, recording and communicating all agreed actions and ensuring final drafts were produced and signed off
- Obtaining and analysing a dataset from the UK Cystic Fibrosis Trust and arranging a workshop with commissioners, providers and the Cystic Fibrosis Trust to assist future service planning around the transition between paediatric and adult care
- Designing a framework for Clinical Reference Groups (CRGs) to hold and record discussions about future activity planning and tackling variation in outcomes, and piloting this with two CRGs
- Analysing available data on activity and spend for the top 10 highest spending specialised services service lines and producing slide packs for each service line presenting factors likely to impact on future activity/spending, to inform future budget setting

Our experience of undertaking other analytical or project management work relating to evidence reviewing has taught us that the key risk is to ensure there is no disruption to core evidence review activities. Our demonstrable ability to flex resources at will through our associate pool and access to the wider AGCSU team, as evidenced by smooth delivery of the

RER programmes in parallel with all the above examples of additional work, illustrates our ability to mitigate this risk. There is a small risk of a conflict of interest (COI) arising with existing evidence review activity from accepting other work, mitigated by careful and transparent consideration of any COI issues and access to a wider range of staff to undertake other non-RER work under the contract.

Word count: 748/750

Appendix/Supporting evidence: Evidence of evidence-related support to NHS England.

Social Value & Fighting Climate Change
Question 8

Weighting	4%
Max length of response	300 Words (Arial size 12, 1 side A4 PDF of supporting evidence.

Please describe how you will aim to achieve net zero carbon emissions, describing what carbon reduction measures and procedures you have in place/propose to put in place through the life of the contract.

NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU) are ISO14001 (Environmental Management) accredited (the only CSU to have achieved this). We strive to support the Greening Government Commitments and meet our carbon reduction targets. We are working towards:

- The NHS target of net-zero carbon by 2040 for the emissions we control
- For emissions the NHS influences (the NHS Footprint Plus), AGCSU will be net-zero carbon by 2045
- We will minimise carbon emissions associated with the delivery of this contract through virtual meetings and using public transport where possible.

We are also working towards meeting/exceeding targets for:

- The Government Fleet Commitment for 25% of the Government car fleet to be ultra-low emission vehicles by 31/12/22, and 100% of the fleet to be fully zero emission at the tailpipe by 31/12/27
- Before 2050 and measured from 2017/18 baseline:
 - Reducing the distance travelled of business flights by at least 20%
 - Reducing water usage by 8%
 - Reducing the amount of waste produced by 15%
 - Reduce the amount of waste going to landfill to <5% of overall waste
 - Increase the proportion of waste which is recycled to at least 70% of overall waste
 - Remove consumer single use plastic from our estate
 - Report on the introduction/implementation of reuse schemes
 - Reduce paper use by at least 50%
 - 100% of ICT waste to be diverted from landfill.

AGCSU use 'Green champions' at all sites to drive/promote our environmental objectives, ensuring that measures are in place to meet targets and reduce our carbon footprint.

A Sustainability/Environmental update is provided to our Governing Body on a quarterly basis and, in turn, to NHSE. This report provides a starting point for management controls and procedures to be implemented across the footprint of our estate and to work towards reducing our Carbon Footprint.

300/300 words

Appendix/supporting evidence: Progress against the targets mentioned in the response and Completed Carbon Reduction Initiatives

Social Value & Fighting Climate Change – Support for health and wellbeing

Question 9

Weighting	3%
Max length of response	300 Words (Arial size 12, 1 side A4 PDF of supporting evidence.

Please demonstrate how you support health and wellbeing, including physical and mental health, for your colleagues and how you identify and tackle inequality in employment, skills and pay within your workforce

NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU) has been awarded the prestigious '**Investors in People' Gold** accreditation in overall recognition for how we invest in our workforce. Only 23% of organisations who gain IIP achieve this exceptionally high standard. AGCSU has also been awarded the **Investors in People Gold accreditation for Wellbeing**.

Employee health & wellbeing:

Our Health & Wellbeing lead, Katrina Darwent, and her team engage with our staff through a variety of channels as detailed in the enclosed supporting evidence. Examples include:

- **Employee Assistance Programmes (EAP):** The employee assistance helpline is our confidential support service, providing practical information, legal advice and professional counselling that can help with a variety of personal, family or workplace issues
- **Occupational Health:** Sugarman Occupational Health Services provide health and wellbeing services to AGCSU
- *Easy Change: We have partnered with ChangeTech, the creator of EasyChange to provide staff with access to a unique, free, confidential and personalised self-help tool*
- **Menopause Awareness:** Hosted a series of bitesize webinars to raise awareness of the menopause and support those who are currently affected.

Tackling inequality in employment, skills & pay within the workforce:

AGCSU has a skills and equalities policy and a committee that is focussed on increasing the average level of skills of the workforce and tackling economic inequalities.

We pay all our staff the National Minimum Wage (as a minimum) and have employment practices that promote fair pay, participation, and progression.

All employees and their families have access to our Employee Assistance Program that includes financial wellbeing/support. AGCSU were part of the team that delivered education and awareness sessions to the 1.3m NHS staff. The team are experts in wellbeing delivery and conducted Wellbeing webinars with a focus on financial health.

Our equalities committee reports quarterly on:

- WRES
- Workforce Disability standard
- Gender Pay-Gap
- Staff EDI characteristics/demographics

300/300 words

Appendix/supporting evidence: Workforce health and wellbeing programmes

NHS Terms and Conditions for the Provision of Services (Contract Version) (August 2022)

Social Value & Fighting Climate Change – Educational attainment
Question 10

Weighting	3%
Max length of response	300 Words (Arial size 12, 1 side A4 PDF of supporting evidence.

Please describe how you support educational attainment relevant to the contract, including training schemes that address skills gaps and result in recognised qualifications for your colleagues

NHS Arden & GEM CSU (AGCSU) recruit people using approaches/processes aligned to NHS standard pre-employment checks, which will ensure all people delivering work through this contract are suitably qualified. Our job evaluation/matching process is built upon an unambiguous job description, which ensures that only candidates with the right professional and practical backgrounds are selected.

All staff are appraised annually. Our annual skills-gap-analysis builds a plan to address any knowledge or training gaps, which feeds into service line/contract objectives and individuals' appraisals. We undertake regular talent mapping exercises to understand skills/abilities, gaps and potential high-performing people ., importantly, which dovetails with our equalities review/workforce planning. Staff induction/training is developed and aligned to our Competency Framework.

Succession plans are developed to identify key-roles, ensuring that no single points of failure exist. This protects AGCSU/customers and ensures we have the right people with the best skill sets to deliver your requirements.

Entrusting employees with more complex tasks and investing in their growth supports development and retention.

Our approach has been recognised by our attainment of the Investors in People Gold accreditation, something achieved by just 23% of IIP accredited organisations.

We recently provided a programme of critical appraisal and evidence synthesis training (bespoke to this ITT specification) to refresh the skills of existing evidence reviewers and provide a foundation for wider CSU colleagues interested in contributing to evidence reviews in the future.

SPH is an accredited training placement for Specialist Registrar trainees and practitioners. We offer:

- Placements for specialist public health trainees with Faculty accredited educational supervision
- Tailored programmes of training and development for public health practitioners, for example in evidence-based policy development, evaluation and need assessments
- Formal public health project delivery placements for CSU apprentices
- Work experience placements for students and graduates interested in a career in public health.

297/300 words

Schedule 6

Commercial Schedule

Please note that budget is capped at £2,130,000

Schedule 7

Staff transfer

The optional parts of this Schedule 7 below shall only apply to this Contract where such parts have been checked.

Guidance: Four different scenarios could apply regarding staff transfer at the start of service delivery:

1. No staff transfer;
2. Staff transfer from the Authority;
3. Staff transfer from a third party supplier providing services which are fundamentally the same as the Services immediately before start of service delivery under this Contract; or
4. Staff transfer both from the Authority and from a third party supplier.

This Schedule contains wording depending on which circumstances apply and the notes below explain which wording to use for which scenarios.

If no staff transfer to the Supplier under TUPE check the box at Part A only.

If staff transfer from the Authority under TUPE check the boxes at Parts B and D.

If staff transfer from a current provider under TUPE (i.e. this is a second or third generation TUPE transfer) check the boxes at Parts C and D.

If staff transfer both from the Authority under TUPE and from a current provider under TUPE: check the boxes at Parts B, C and D.

Part A ☐ No staff transfer to the Supplier under TUPE (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 1.1 The Parties agree that at the commencement of the provision of Services by the Supplier TUPE, the Cabinet Office Statement and Fair Deal for Staff Pensions shall not apply so as to transfer the employment of any employees of the Authority or a Third Party to the Supplier.
- 1.2 If any person who is an employee of the Authority or a Third Party claims, or it is determined, that their contract of employment has been transferred from the Authority or Third Party to the Supplier or a Sub-contractor pursuant to TUPE, or claims that their employment would have so transferred had they not resigned, then:
 - 1.2.1 the Supplier will, within seven (7) days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Authority;
 - 1.2.2 the Authority or Third Party may offer employment to such person within twenty-eight (28) days of the notification by the Supplier;
 - 1.2.3 if such offer of employment is accepted, the Supplier or a Sub-contractor shall immediately release the person from their employment;
 - 1.2.4 if after that period specified in Clause 1.2.2 of Part A of this Schedule 7 has elapsed, no offer of employment has been made by the Authority or Third Party, or such offer has been made by the Authority or Third Party but not accepted within a reasonable time, the Supplier or Sub-contractor shall employ that person in accordance with its obligations and duties under TUPE and shall be responsible for all liabilities arising in respect of any such person and shall (where relevant) be bound to apply Fair Deal for Staff Pensions in respect of any such person in accordance with the provisions of Part D of this Schedule 7.

Part B ☐ Staff transfer from the Authority under TUPE (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 1.1 The Parties agree that the commencement of the provision of Services under this Contract shall give rise to a relevant transfer as defined in TUPE. Accordingly the contracts of employment of the Transferring Employees will transfer on the Transfer Date to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor pursuant to TUPE, the Cabinet Office Statement and Fair Deal for Staff Pensions.
- 1.2 The Supplier agrees, or shall ensure by written agreement that any Sub-contractor shall agree, to accept the Transferring Employees into its employment on the Transfer Date upon their then current terms and conditions of employment (including the right to continued access to the NHS Pension Scheme or access to a Broadly Comparable pension scheme which shall be dealt with in accordance with Part D of this Schedule 7) and with full continuity of employment.
- 1.3 The Supplier's agreement in Clause 1.2 of Part B of this Schedule 7 (and any subsequent agreement by any Sub-contractor), is subject to the right of any employee identified as a Transferring Employee to object to being transferred to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor.
- 1.4 The Supplier will, or shall ensure by written agreement that any Sub-contractor will:
 - 1.4.1 not later than twenty eight (28) days after issue of a written notice in writing to it from the Authority, provide the Authority with the information required under regulation 13(4) of TUPE. The Supplier shall be liable to the Authority for, and shall indemnify and keep the Authority indemnified against, any loss, damages, costs, expenses (including without limitation legal costs and expenses), claims or proceedings that arise or result from any breach of this obligation;
 - 1.4.2 provide such assistance and information to the Authority as it may reasonably request to facilitate a smooth and efficient handover of the Transferring Employees to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor (including attendance at any meetings with Transferring Employees, trade unions and employee representatives);
 - 1.4.3 comply with its obligations to inform and, if necessary, consult with the appropriate representatives of any employees who are affected by the relevant transfer in accordance with regulation 13 of TUPE; and
 - 1.4.4 immediately following the Transfer Date comply with its obligation to consult with the appropriate representatives of the Transferring Employees about any Measures in accordance with regulation 13(6) of TUPE.
- 1.5 The Authority will on or before the Transfer Date:
 - 1.5.1 pay all wages, salaries and other benefits of the Transferring Employees (including any contributions to retirement benefit schemes) and discharge all other financial obligations (including reimbursement of any expenses) owing to the Transferring Employees in respect of the period before the Transfer Date;
 - 1.5.2 procure that any loans or advances made to the Transferring Employees before the Transfer Date are repaid to it;

- 1.5.3 account to the proper authority for all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions payable in respect of the Transferring Employees in the period before the Transfer Date; and
- 1.5.4 pay the Supplier the amount which would be payable to each of the Transferring Employees in lieu of accrued but untaken holiday entitlement as at the Transfer Date.
- 1.6 The Authority will:
 - 1.6.1 provide such assistance and information to the Supplier as it may reasonably request to facilitate a smooth and efficient handover of the Transferring Employees to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor, including the provision of all employee liability information identified in regulation 11 of TUPE in relation to the Transferring Employees; and
 - 1.6.2 comply with its obligations to inform and, if necessary, consult with the appropriate representatives of any employees who are affected by the relevant transfer in accordance with regulation 13 of TUPE.
- 1.7 The Authority shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Supplier in relation to any Employment Liabilities arising out of or in connection with any claim which arises as a result of any act or omission of the Authority in relation to the Transferring Employees prior to the Transfer Date save for where such act or omission results from complying with the instructions of the Supplier or Sub-contractor, including the Supplier or Sub-contractor failing to comply with its obligations under regulation 13 of TUPE, but only to the extent that such claim is brought by:
 - 1.7.1 any of the Transferring Employees (whether on their own behalf or in their capacity as employee representatives); or
 - 1.7.2 any trade union, staff association or staff body recognised by the Authority in respect of any of the Transferring Employees or any employee representatives acting on behalf of any of the Transferring Employees.
- 1.8 The Supplier shall be responsible for or shall procure that any relevant Sub-contractor shall be responsible from the Transfer Date for all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings in respect of the Transferring Employees and other Staff.
- 1.9 The Supplier shall indemnify and will keep indemnified the Authority in relation to any Employment Liabilities arising out of or in connection with:
 - 1.9.1 any act or omission of the Supplier or Sub-contractor on or after the Transfer Date (or any other event or occurrence after the Transfer Date) in respect of any Transferring Employee or Staff (including but not limited to any liability which arises because a Transferring Employee's employment with the Supplier or Sub-contractor is deemed to include their previous continuous employment with the Authority);
 - 1.9.2 any act or omission of the Supplier or Sub-contractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of TUPE, or in respect of an award of compensation under regulation 15 of TUPE except to the extent that the

liability arises from the Authority's failure to comply with regulation 13 of TUPE;

- 1.9.3 any allegation or claim by a Transferring Employee or any other employee of the Authority that in consequence of the transfer of Services to the Supplier or Sub-contractor there has or will be a substantial change in such Transferring Employee's working conditions to their detriment within regulation 4(9) of TUPE; and
 - 1.9.4 any allegation or claim that the termination of employment of any of the Transferring Employees or any other employee of the Authority whether on or before the Transfer Date which arises as a result of any act or omission by the Supplier or Sub-contractor save for where such act or omission results from complying with the instructions of the Authority.
- 1.10 If any person who is an employee of the Authority who is not a Transferring Employee claims or it is determined that their contract of employment has been transferred from the Authority to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor pursuant to TUPE, or claims that their employment would have so transferred had they not resigned:
- 1.10.1 the Supplier will, within seven (7) days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Authority;
 - 1.10.2 the Authority may offer employment to such person within twenty eight (28) days of the notification by the Supplier;
 - 1.10.3 if such offer of employment is accepted, the Supplier or Sub-contractor shall immediately release the person from their employment; and
 - 1.10.4 if after the period specified in Clause 1.10.2 of Part B of this Schedule 7 has elapsed, no offer of employment has been made by the Authority or such offer has been made by the Authority but not accepted within a reasonable time, the Supplier or Sub-contractor shall employ that person in accordance with its obligations and duties under TUPE and shall be responsible for all liabilities arising in respect of any such person from the Transfer Date.

Part C ☐ Staff transfer from a current provider under TUPE (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked)

- 1.1 The Parties agree that the commencement of the provision of Services under this Contract shall give rise to a relevant transfer as defined in TUPE. Accordingly the contracts of employment of the Third Party Employees will transfer on the Transfer Date to the Supplier or a Sub-contractor pursuant to TUPE, the Cabinet Office Statement and (where relevant) Fair Deal for Staff Pensions.
- 1.2 The Supplier agrees, or shall ensure by written agreement that any Sub-contractor shall agree, to accept the Third Party Employees into its employment on the Transfer Date upon their then current terms and conditions of employment (and including (where relevant) the right to secure access or continued access to the NHS Pension Scheme or access or continued access to a Broadly Comparable pension scheme in accordance with Fair Deal for Staff Pensions (which shall be dealt with in accordance with Part D of this Schedule 7) and with full continuity of employment.
- 1.3 The Supplier's agreement in Clause 1.2 of Part C of this Schedule 7 (and any subsequent agreement by any Sub-contractor), is subject to the right of any Third Party Employee to object to being transferred to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor.
- 1.4 The Supplier will, or shall ensure by written agreement that any Sub-contractor will:
 - 1.4.1 not later than twenty eight (28) days after issue of a written notice in writing to it from the Authority, provide the Third Party with the information required under regulation 13(4) of TUPE. The Supplier shall be liable to the Authority for, and shall indemnify and keep the Authority and any Third Party indemnified against, any loss, damages, costs, expenses (including without limitation legal costs and expenses), claims or proceedings that arise or result from any breach of this obligation;
 - 1.4.2 provide such assistance and information to the Third Party as it may reasonably request to facilitate a smooth and efficient handover of the Third Party Employees to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor (including attendance at any meetings with Third Party Employees, trade unions and employee representatives);
 - 1.4.3 comply with its obligations to inform and, if necessary, consult with the appropriate representatives of any employees who are affected by the relevant transfer in accordance with regulation 13 of TUPE; and
 - 1.4.4 immediately following the Transfer Date comply with its obligation to consult with the appropriate representatives of the Third Party Employees about any Measures in accordance with regulation 13(6) of TUPE.
- 1.5 The Supplier shall be responsible for, or shall procure that any relevant Sub-contractor shall be responsible from the Transfer Date, for all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings in respect of the Third Party Employees and other Staff.
- 1.6 The Supplier shall indemnify and will keep indemnified the Authority and any Third Party in relation to any Employment Liabilities arising out of or in connection with:
 - 1.6.1 any act or omission of the Supplier or a Sub-contractor on or after the Transfer Date (or any other event or occurrence after the Transfer Date) in respect of any Third Party Employee or Staff (including but not limited to any liability which arises because a Third Party Employee's employment with the Supplier or a Sub-contractor is deemed to include their previous continuous employment with the Third Party);

- 1.6.2 any act or omission of the Supplier or a Sub-contractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of TUPE, or in respect of an award of compensation under regulation 15 of TUPE except to the extent that the liability arises from the Third Party's failure to comply with regulation 13 of TUPE;
 - 1.6.3 any claim or allegation by a Third Party Employee or any other employee of the Authority or Third Party that in consequence of the transfer of Services to the Supplier or a Sub-contractor there has or will be a substantial change in their working conditions to their detriment within regulation 4(9) of TUPE; and
 - 1.6.4 any claim or allegation that the termination of employment of any of the Third Party Employees or any other employee of the Third Party whether on or before the Transfer Date or not which arise as a result of any act or omission by the Supplier or a Sub-contractor save for where such act or omission results from complying with the instructions of the Authority.
- 1.7 The Authority shall use reasonable endeavours to transfer to the Supplier or any Sub-contractor the benefit of any indemnity it has from the Third Party.

Part D ☐ Provisions regarding pensions (only applicable to the Contract if this box is checked or Clause 1.2.4 of Part A of this Schedule 7 applies)

This Part D is designed to protect any Transferred Staff who before the transfer were either (a) employed by an NHS Body or other employer which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme or (b) who transferred from the public sector under the old Fair Deal policy and who remain employed in connection with outsourced public services for more than 50% of their employed time with their new employer. These staff may have been through several changes of employer but they have been and remain continuously employed for more than 50% of their employed time in connection with the Services. These protected staff (who are often referred to as having 'Fair Deal' rights) are referred to in Part D as "Eligible Employees".

If the staff being transferred is thought not include any "Eligible Employees", Part D may not be relevant but should be included in case any such persons actually transfer. Note that staff recruited to work on the Services but who did not originate from an NHS Body or other employer which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme, may be offered "access" to the NHS Pension Scheme by way of separate negotiation between the Authority, the Supplier and NHS Pensions. However, those staff do not enjoy the protection conferred by Fair Deal for Staff Pensions which Part D of this Schedule is intended to implement.

Further explanation of the provisions of Part D can be found in the Department of Health's Guidance on New Fair Deal, which can be accessed [here](#).

Broadly comparable pension benefits ☐ (Clause 1.4 of this Part D of this Schedule 7 only applies to the Contract if this box is checked or 1.2.4 of Part A of this Schedule 7 applies. For the avoidance of doubt, where this box is not checked, but the Part D box above is checked all of the provisions of this Part D of this Schedule 7 shall apply to this Contract except Clause 1.4 of this Part D of this Schedule 7)

Guidance: Clause 1.4 (Broadly Comparable Pension Benefits) will not be relevant to most contracts. In the vast majority of cases the Supplier and/or any relevant Sub-contractor(s) will either participate in the NHS Pension Scheme in respect of all Eligible Employees by securing a Direction Letter or be eligible to participate automatically in the scheme where they are an NHS Body by the time the Contract is entered into. Clause 1.4 will apply in the exceptional circumstances where the Authority permits the Supplier to enable relevant staff to have access or continued access to a Broadly Comparable pension scheme.

1 Pension protection for Eligible Employees

1.1 General

- 1.1.1 The Supplier shall procure that, if relevant, each of its Sub-contractors shall comply with the provisions in this Schedule 7 as if references to the Supplier were to the Sub-contractor.

1.2 Membership of the NHS Pension Scheme

- 1.2.1 In accordance with Fair Deal for Staff Pensions, the Supplier to which the employment of any Eligible Employee compulsorily transfers as a result of the award of this Contract, if not an NHS Body or other employer which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme, shall on or before the Employee Transfer Date, each secure a Direction Letter to enable the Eligible Employees to retain either continuous active membership of or eligibility for, the NHS Pension Scheme, or as appropriate rejoin or secure eligibility for the NHS Pension Scheme for so long as they remain employed in connection with the delivery of the Services under this Contract.
- 1.2.2 The Supplier must supply to the Authority a complete copy of the Direction Letter as soon as reasonably practicable after the Employee Transfer Date.

- 1.2.3 The Supplier shall comply with the terms of the Direction Letter (including any terms which change as a result of changes in Law) for so long as it remains bound by the terms of the Direction Letter.
- 1.2.4 Where any Staff (including any Transferred Staff) omitted from the Direction Letter supplied in accordance with Part D of this Schedule 7 is subsequently found to be an Eligible Employee, the Supplier (or its Sub-contractor if relevant) will ensure that that person is treated as an Eligible Employee from the Employee Transfer Date so that their Pension Benefits and Premature Retirement Rights are not adversely affected.
- 1.2.5 The Supplier shall ensure that all data relating to the Eligible Employees and the NHS Pension Scheme is up to date and is provided to the Authority as requested from time to time.
- 1.3 Contributions payable
 - 1.3.1 The Supplier shall pay to the NHS Pension Scheme all such amounts as are due under the Direction Letter and shall deduct and pay to the NHS Pension Scheme such employee contributions as are required by the NHS Pension Scheme.
 - 1.3.2 Where during the Term the standard employer contribution rate which the Supplier is required to pay into the NHS Pension Scheme pursuant to the terms of its Direction Letter is increased to a rate which is over and above the rate which was applicable to the Supplier as at the date of this Contract and such rate increase results in an increased cost to the Supplier overall in relation to the provision of the Services ("Cost Increase"), the Supplier shall (subject to Clause 1.3.3 of Part D of this Schedule 7 and the provision of supporting information) be entitled to recharge a sum equal to the Cost Increase to the Authority. The Supplier shall only be entitled to recharge any Cost Increase to the Authority pursuant to this Clause 1.3.2 of Part D of this Schedule 7 in circumstances where the Cost Increase arises solely as a direct result of a general increase in the employer contribution rate applicable to all employers participating in the NHS Pension Scheme and not in circumstances where the employer contribution rate applicable to the Supplier is increased for any other reason, including as a result of any acts or omissions of the Supplier which give rise to any costs or additional charges (including interest) being charged to the Supplier which are over and above the minimum employer contributions payable by an employer in the NHS Pension Scheme (including as a result of a failure by the Supplier to comply with the terms of its Direction Letter or to meet its obligations to the NHS Pension Scheme).
 - 1.3.3 The Supplier must supply all such information as the Authority may reasonably request from time to time in order to support any claim made by the Supplier pursuant to Clause 1.3.2 of Part D of this Schedule 7 in relation to a Cost Increase.
 - 1.3.4 Where during the Term the standard employer contribution rate which the Supplier is required to pay in relation to the NHS Pension Scheme pursuant to the terms of its Direction Letter is decreased as part of a general reduction in the standard employer contribution rate applicable to all employers participating in the NHS Pension Scheme to a rate which is lower than that

which was applicable as at the date of this Contract and such decrease results in a cost saving for the Supplier (a “Cost Saving”), the Authority shall be entitled to reduce the amounts payable to the Supplier under this Contract by an amount equal to the Cost Saving. The Authority shall be entitled to deduct any Cost Saving from sums otherwise payable by the Authority to the Supplier under this Contract.

1.4 Broadly Comparable Pension Benefits

1.4.1 If the Authority in its sole discretion agrees that the Supplier or Sub-contractor need not provide the Eligible Employees with access to the NHS Pension Scheme, the Supplier must ensure that, with effect from the Employee Transfer Date until the day before the Subsequent Transfer Date, the Eligible Employees are offered access to a scheme under which the Pension Benefits are Broadly Comparable to those provided under the NHS Pension Scheme.

1.4.2 The Supplier must supply to the Authority details of its Broadly Comparable scheme and provide a full copy of the valid certificate of Broad Comparability covering all Eligible Employees, as soon as it is able to do so and in any event no later than twenty eight (28) days before the Employee Transfer Date.

1.5 Transfer Option where Broadly Comparable Pension Benefits are provided

1.5.1 As soon as reasonably practicable and in any event no later than twenty (20) Business Days after the Employee Transfer Date, the Supplier must provide the Eligible Employees with the Transfer Option, where a Third Party offered, or the Supplier offers, a Broadly Comparable scheme.

1.6 Calculation of Transfer Amount

1.6.1 The Authority shall use reasonable endeavours to procure that twenty (20) Business Days after the Transfer Option Deadline, the Transfer Amount is calculated by the Third Party's Actuary or the Authority's Actuary (as appropriate) on the following basis and notified to the Supplier along with any appropriate underlying methodology.

1.6.2 If the Third Party offers a Broadly Comparable scheme to Eligible Employees:

- (i) the part of the Transfer Amount which relates to benefits accrued in that Broadly Comparable scheme other than those in Clause (ii) of Part D of this Schedule 7 below must be aligned to the funding requirements of that scheme; and
- (ii) the part of the Transfer Amount which relates to benefits accrued in the NHS Pension Scheme (having been previously bulk transferred into the Third Party's Broadly Comparable scheme), must be aligned to whichever of:
 - (A) the funding requirements of the Third Party's Broadly Comparable scheme; or
 - (B) the principles under which the Third Party's Broadly Comparable scheme received a bulk transfer payment from the NHS Pension Scheme (together with any shortfall payment),

gives the higher figure, provided that where the principles require the assumptions to be determined as at a particular date, that date shall be the Employee Transfer Date.

1.6.3 In the case of Transferring Employees or any Third Party Employees who have access to the NHS Pension Scheme (and who are classed as Eligible Employees), the Transfer Amount shall be calculated by the NHS Pension Scheme's Actuary on the basis applicable for bulk transfer terms from the NHS Pension Scheme set by the Department of Health from time to time.

1.6.4 Each Party shall promptly provide to the Actuary calculating or verifying the Transfer Amount any documentation and information which that Actuary may reasonably require.

1.7 Payment of Transfer Amount

Subject to:

1.7.1 the period for acceptance of the Transfer Option having expired; and

1.7.2 the Supplier having provided the trustees or managers of the Third Party's pension scheme (or NHS Pensions, as appropriate) with completed and signed forms of consent in a form acceptable to the Third Party's pension scheme (or NHS Pensions) from each Eligible Employee in respect of the Transfer Option; and

1.7.3 the calculation of the Transfer Amount in accordance with Clause 1.6 of Part D of this Schedule 7; and

1.7.4 the trustees or managers of the Supplier's (or any Sub-contractor's) Broadly Comparable scheme (or NHS Pensions, as appropriate) having confirmed in writing to the trustees or managers of the Third Party's pension scheme (or NHS Pensions, as appropriate) that they are ready, willing and able to receive the Transfer Amount and the bank details of where the Transfer Amount should be sent, and not having revoked that confirmation,

the Authority will use reasonable endeavours to procure that the Third Party's pension scheme (or the NHS Pension Scheme, as appropriate) shall, on or before the Payment Date, transfer to the Supplier's Broadly Comparable scheme (or NHS Pension Scheme) the Transfer Amount in cash, together with any cash or other assets which are referable to additional voluntary contributions (if any) paid by the Eligible Employees which do not give rise to salary-related benefits.

1.8 Credit for Transfer Amount

1.8.1 Subject to prior receipt of the Transfer Amount, by the trustees or managers of the Supplier's Broadly Comparable scheme (or NHS Pensions, as appropriate), the Supplier must procure that year-for-year day-for-day service credits are granted in the Supplier's (Broadly Comparable scheme (or NHS Pension Scheme), or an actuarial equivalent agreed by the Authority's Actuary (and NHS Pension Scheme Actuary) in accordance with Fair Deal for Staff Pensions as a suitable reflection of the differences in benefit structure between the NHS Pension Scheme and the Supplier's pension scheme.

1.8.2 To the extent that the Transfer Amount is or shall be insufficient to provide benefits in the receiving scheme on the basis set out in Clause 1.8.1 above,

the Supplier shall be liable to make a top-up payment into the receiving scheme such that benefits shall be provided by the receiving scheme on the basis set out in Clause 1.8.1 above.

1.9 Premature Retirement Rights

- 1.9.1 From the Employee Transfer Date until the day before the Subsequent Transfer Date, the Supplier must provide Premature Retirement Rights in respect of the Eligible Employees that are identical to the benefits they would have received had they remained employees of an NHS Body or other employer which participates automatically in the NHS Pension Scheme.

1.10 Breach and Cancellation of any Direction Letter(s) and Right of Set-Off

- 1.10.1 The Supplier agrees that it shall notify the Authority if it breaches the terms of the Direction Letter. The Supplier also agrees that the Authority is entitled to make arrangements with NHS Pensions for the Authority to be notified if the Supplier breaches the terms of this Direction Letter.
- 1.10.2 If the Authority is entitled to terminate this Contract pursuant to Clause 15.5.5 of Schedule 2, the Authority may in its sole discretion instead of exercising its right under Clause 15.5.5 of Schedule 2 permit the Supplier to offer Broadly Comparable Pension Benefits, on such terms as decided by the Authority.
- 1.10.3 If the Authority is notified by NHS Pensions of any NHS Pension Scheme Arrears, the Authority shall be entitled to deduct all or part of those arrears from any amount due to be paid by the Authority to the Supplier having given the Supplier five (5) Business Days' notice of its intention to do so, and to pay any sum deducted to NHS Pensions in full or partial settlement of the NHS Pension Scheme Arrears. This set-off right is in addition to and not instead of the Authority's right to terminate the Contract under Clause 15.5.5 of Schedule 2.

1.11 Compensation

- 1.11.1 If the Supplier is unable to provide the Eligible Employees with either:
- (i) membership of the NHS Pension Scheme (having used its best endeavours to secure a Direction Letter); or
 - (ii) a Broadly Comparable scheme,
- the Authority may in its sole discretion permit the Supplier to compensate the Eligible Employees in a manner that is Broadly Comparable or equivalent in cash terms, the Supplier having consulted with a view to reaching agreement any recognised trade union or, in the absence of such body, the Eligible Employees. The Supplier must meet the costs of the Authority in determining whether the level of compensation offered is reasonable in the circumstances.
- 1.11.2 This flexibility for the Authority to allow compensation in place of Pension Benefits is in addition to and not instead of the Authority's right to terminate the Contract under Clause 15.5.5 of Schedule 2.

1.12 Supplier Indemnities Regarding Pension Benefits and Premature Retirement Rights

- 1.12.1 The Supplier must indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority and any Successor against all Losses arising out of any claim by any Eligible Employee that the provision of (or failure to provide) Pension Benefits and Premature Retirement Rights from the Employee Transfer Date, or the level of such benefit provided, constitutes a breach of his or her employment rights.
- 1.12.2 The Supplier must indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority, NHS Pensions and any Successor against all Losses arising out of the Supplier (or its Sub-contractor) allowing anyone who is not an Eligible Employee to join or claim membership of the NHS Pension Scheme at any time during the Term.
- 1.12.3 The Supplier must indemnify the Authority, NHS Pensions and any Successor against all Losses arising out of its breach of this Part D of this Schedule 7 or the terms of the Direction Letter.

1.13 Sub-contractors

- 1.13.1 If the Supplier enters or has at the Commencement Date entered into a Sub-contract for delivery of all or part of the Services it shall impose obligations on its Sub-contractor in the same terms as those imposed on the Supplier in relation to Pension Benefits and Premature Retirement Benefits by this Part D of this Schedule 7, including requiring that:
 - (i) if the Supplier has secured a Direction Letter, the Sub-contractor also secures a Direction Letter in respect of the Eligible Employees for their future service with the Sub-contractor as a condition of being awarded the Sub-contract; or
 - (ii) if the Supplier has offered the Eligible Employees access to a pension scheme under which the benefits are Broadly Comparable to those provided under the NHS Pension Scheme, the Sub-contractor either secures a Direction Letter in respect of the Eligible Employees or provides Eligible Employees with access to a scheme with Pension Benefits which are Broadly Comparable to those provided under the NHS Pension Scheme and in either case the option for Eligible Employees to transfer their accrued rights in the Supplier's pension scheme into the Sub-contractor's Broadly Comparable scheme (or where a Direction Letter is secured by the Sub-contractor, the NHS Pension Scheme) on the basis set out in Clause 1.8 of Part D of this Schedule 7, except that the Supplier or the Sub-contractor as agreed between them, must make up any shortfall in the transfer amount received from the Supplier's pension scheme.

1.14 Direct Enforceability by the Eligible Employees

- 1.14.1 Notwithstanding Clause 30.8 of Schedule 2, the provisions of this Part D of this Schedule 7 may be directly enforced by an Eligible Employee against the Supplier and the Parties agree that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 shall apply to the extent necessary to ensure that any Eligible Employee shall have the right to enforce any obligation owed to him or her by the Supplier under this Part D of this Schedule 7 in his or her own right under section 1(1) of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

- 1.14.2 Further, the Supplier must ensure that the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 shall apply to any Sub-contract to the extent necessary to ensure that any Eligible Employee shall have the right to enforce any obligation owed to them by the Sub-contractor in his or her own right under section 1(1) of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

1.15 Pensions on Transfer of Employment on Exit

- 1.15.1 In the event of any termination or expiry or partial termination or expiry of this Contract which results in a transfer of the Eligible Employees, the Supplier must (and if offering a Broadly Comparable scheme, must use all reasonable efforts to procure that the trustees or managers of that pension scheme must):
- (i) not adversely affect pension rights accrued by the Eligible Employees in the period ending on the Subsequent Transfer Date;
 - (ii) within thirty (30) Business Days of being requested to do so by the Authority or Successor, (or if the Successor is offering Eligible Employees access to the NHS Pension Scheme, by NHS Pensions), provide a transfer amount calculated in accordance with Clause 1.6 of this Part D of this Schedule 7; and
 - (iii) do all acts and things, and provide all information and access to the Eligible Employees, as may in the reasonable opinion of the Authority be necessary or desirable and to enable the Authority and/or the Successor to achieve the objectives of Fair Deal for Staff Pensions.

Schedule 8

Expert Determination

1 Dispute Process

- 1.1 During any Dispute, including a Dispute as to the validity of the Contract, it is agreed that the Supplier shall continue its performance of the provisions of the Contract (unless the Authority requests in writing that the Supplier does not do so).
- 1.2 In the case of a Dispute the Supplier and the Authority shall make every reasonable effort to communicate and cooperate with each other with a view to resolving the Dispute and shall follow the procedure set out in this Schedule 8.
- 1.3 In the event of a Dispute either Party may serve a Dispute Notice on the other Party to commence formal resolution of the Dispute. The Dispute Notice shall set out:
 - 1.3.1 the material particulars of the Dispute; and
 - 1.3.2 the reasons why the Party serving the Dispute Notice believes the Dispute has arisen.
- 1.4 Following the service of a Dispute Notice the Parties shall first seek to resolve the Dispute by convening a meeting between the Authority's Contract Manager and the Supplier's Contract Manager (together the **"Contract Managers"**).
 - 1.4.1 The meeting of the Contract Managers must take place within five (5) Business Days of the date of the Dispute Notice (the **"Dispute Meeting"**).
 - 1.4.2 The Contract Managers shall be given ten (10) Business Days following the date of the Dispute Meeting to resolve the Dispute.
 - 1.4.3 The Contract Managers can agree to further meetings at levels 2 and/or 3, as referred to at Clause 5.1 of the Key Provisions in Schedule 1, in addition to the Dispute Meeting, but such meetings must be held within the ten (10) Business Day timetable set out in Clause 1.4.2 of this Schedule 8.
 - 1.4.4 If at any point it becomes clear that the timetable set out cannot be met or has passed, the Parties may (but shall be under no obligation to) agree in writing to extend the timetable. Any agreed extension to the timetable shall have the effect of delaying the start of the subsequent stages by the period agreed in the extension.
- 1.5 If the procedure set out in Clause 1.4 of this Schedule 8 has been exhausted and fails to resolve the Dispute either Party may request the Dispute be resolved by way of a binding expert determination (pursuant to Clause 1.6 of this Schedule 8). For the avoidance of doubt, the Expert shall determine all matters (including, without limitation, matters of contractual construction and interpretation) in connection with any Dispute referred to binding expert determination pursuant to Clause 1.6 of this Schedule 8.
- 1.6 Where the Dispute is referred to binding expert determination the following process will apply:
 - 1.6.1 The Party wishing to refer the Dispute to expert determination shall give notice in writing to the other Party informing it of its wish to refer the Dispute to expert determination and giving brief details of its position in the Dispute.
 - 1.6.2 The Parties shall attempt to agree upon a single expert (who must have no connection with the Dispute unless both Parties have consented in writing) (an **"Expert"**). For the avoidance of doubt, where the Dispute relates to contractual interpretation and construction, the Expert may be Queen's Counsel. In the event that the Parties fail to agree upon an Expert within five

(5) Business Days following the date of the notice referred to in Clause 1.6.1 of this Schedule 8 (or if the person agreed upon is unable or unwilling to act), the Parties agree that the Expert will be nominated and confirmed to be appointed by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution.

- 1.6.3 The Expert must be willing and able to complete the expert determination process within thirty (30) Business Days of the Date of Final Representations (as defined in Clause 1.6.5 of this Schedule 8).
- 1.6.4 The Expert shall act as an expert not as an arbitrator or legal advisor. There will be no formal hearing and the Expert shall regulate the procedure as he sees fit.
- 1.6.5 The Parties shall each have the right to make written representations to the Expert and will, with reasonable promptness, provide the Expert with such assistance and documents as the Expert reasonably requires for the purpose of reaching a decision. Such representations must be made within twenty eight (28) Business Days of the Expert being appointed, or fourteen (14) Business Days after the last documents requested by the Expert have been provided to the Expert, whichever is the later ("**Date of Final Representations**"). Any documents provided to the Expert and any correspondence to or from the Expert, including email exchanges, shall be copied to the other Party simultaneously.
- 1.6.6 The Expert shall have the power to open up, review and revise any certificate, opinion, requisition or notice and to determine all matters in Dispute (including his jurisdiction to determine matters that have been referred to him).
- 1.6.7 The Expert may take such advice and assistance from professional advisers or other third parties as he reasonably considers appropriate to enable him to reach a determination of the Dispute and may issue orders that one or both of the Parties are to pay such third party costs, stating the proportion. For the avoidance of doubt, where the Expert is not Queen's Counsel, and the Expert requires advice or assistance on matters of contractual interpretation and construction, the expert may take such advice and assistance from a third party Queen's Counsel of their choosing under this Clause 1.6.7 of this Schedule 8. The Parties will pay any such third party costs incurred pursuant to this Clause 1.6.7 of this Schedule 8 in such proportions as the Expert shall order. In the absence of such order such third party costs will be paid equally.
- 1.6.8 The Expert shall provide the Parties with a written determination of the Dispute (the "**Expert's Decision**") within thirty (30) Business Days of the Date of Final Representations, which shall, in the absence of fraud or manifest error, be final and binding on the Parties.
- 1.6.9 The Expert's Decision shall include reasons.
- 1.6.10 The Parties agree to implement the Expert's Decision within five (5) Business Days of the Expert's Decision being provided to them or as otherwise specified as part of the Expert's Decision.
- 1.6.11 The Parties agree that the Expert shall be entitled to proceed to give his binding determination should one or both Parties fail to act in accordance with the procedural timetable set out above.

- 1.6.12 The Parties will pay the Expert's costs in such proportions as the Expert shall determine. In the absence of such determination such costs will be shared equally.
- 1.6.13 The Parties agree to keep confidential all information arising out of or in connection with the expert determination, including details of the underlying Dispute, except where disclosure is required by Law.
- 1.7 Nothing in this Contract shall prevent:
 - 1.7.1 the Authority taking action in any court in relation to any death or personal injury arising or allegedly arising in connection with the provision of the Services; or
 - 1.7.2 either Party seeking from any court any interim or provisional relief that may be necessary to protect the rights or property of that Party (including Intellectual Property Rights) or which relates to the safety of patients and other service users or the security of Confidential Information, pending the resolution of the relevant Dispute in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 1.8 Subject to Clause 1.7 of this Schedule 8 neither Party may commence legal proceedings in relation to a Dispute until the dispute resolution procedures set out in this Schedule 8 have been exhausted. For the avoidance of doubt, either Party may commence legal proceedings to enforce the Expert's Decision.
- 1.9 This Schedule 8 shall survive the expiry of or earlier termination of this Contract for any reason.

Schedule 9 – Change Control Proces

1. Definitions

1.1. Capitalised words or terms used in this Schedule 9 have the meaning given below, or as defined elsewhere in this Contract.

Change	Any change to this Contract including to any of the Services.
Change Control Note	The written record of a Change agreed or to be agreed by the parties pursuant to the Change Control Procedure.
Change Control Procedure	The procedure for changing this Contract, as set out in this Schedule 9.
Change Request	a written request (in the case of the Authority) or a recommendation (in the case of the Supplier) for a Change which is submitted by one party to the other pursuant to the Change Control Procedure.

2. Principles

2.1. Where the Authority or the Supplier sees a need to change this Contract, the Authority may at any time request, and the Supplier may at any time recommend, such Change only in accordance with the Change Control Procedure set out in this Schedule 9.

2.2. Until such time as a Change is made in accordance with the Change Control Procedure, the Authority and the Supplier shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing, continue to perform this Contract in compliance with its terms prior to such Change.

2.3. Any discussions which may take place between the Authority and the Supplier in connection with a request or recommendation before the authorisation of a resultant Change shall be without prejudice to the rights of either party.

2.4. Any work undertaken by the Supplier or a Sub-contractor which has not been authorised in advance by a Change, and which has not been otherwise agreed in accordance with the provisions of this Schedule 9, shall be undertaken entirely at the expense and liability of the Supplier.

3. Procedures

3.1. Discussion between the Authority and the Supplier concerning a Change shall result in any one of the following:

3.1.1. no further action being taken; or

3.1.2. a request to change this Contract by the Authority; or

3.1.3. a recommendation to change this Contract by the Supplier.

3.2. Where a written request for an amendment is received from the Authority, the Supplier shall, unless otherwise agreed, submit a Change Control Note signed by the Supplier to the Authority within three weeks of the date of the request.

3.3. A recommendation to amend this Contract by the Supplier shall be submitted directly to the Authority in the form of a Change Control Note signed by the Supplier at the time of such recommendation. The Authority shall give its response to the Change Control Note within three weeks.

3.4. Each Change Control Note shall contain:

3.4.1. the title of the Change;

3.4.2. the originator and date of the request or recommendation for the Change;

3.4.3. the reason for the Change;

3.4.4. full details of the Change, including any specifications;

3.4.5. the price, if any, of the Change;

3.4.6. a timetable for implementation, together with any proposals for acceptance of the Change;

3.4.7. a schedule of payments if appropriate;

3.4.8. details of the likely impact, if any, of the Change on other aspects of this Contract including:

3.4.8.1. the timetable for the provision of the Change;

3.4.8.2. the personnel to be provided

3.4.8.3. the documentation to be provided;

3.4.8.4. working arrangements; and

3.4.8.5. other contractual issues;

3.4.9. the date of expiry of validity of the Change Control Note; and

3.4.10. provision for signature by the Authority and the Supplier.

3.5. For each Change Control Note submitted by the Supplier the Authority shall, within the period of the validity of the Change Control Note:

3.5.1. allocate a sequential number to the Change Control Note; and

3.5.2. evaluate the Change Control Note and, as appropriate:

3.5.2.1. request further information; or

3.5.2.2. arrange for the Change Control Note to be signed by or on behalf of the Authority and return to the Supplier; or

3.5.2.3. notify the Supplier of the rejection of the Change Control Note.

3.6. A Change Control Note signed by the Authority and by the Supplier shall constitute an amendment to this Contract.