



## Contract

**709418450**

# Provision of EPA for RN Apprenticeship Network Engineer L4

**5 December 2023 – 4 December 2027 (with optional extension to 4  
December 2028)**

<p><b>Between the Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ("The Authority")</b></p>	<p><b>And Notebook Assessment Services Ltd  ("The Contractor")</b></p>
<p>Team Name and Address: Navy Commercial 4 Deck, NCHQ Leach Building Whale Island Portsmouth PO2 8BY</p>	<p>Contractor Address:  C/O Wiltshire College, College Road Trowbridge BA14 OES</p>

Issued: 5 December 2023  
Version: Contract Commencement

**1 Definitions - In the Contract:**

**Article** means, in relation to Clause 9 only, an object which during production is given a special shape, surface or design which determines its function to a greater degree than does its chemical composition;

**The Authority** means the Secretary of State for Defence of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, (referred to in this document as "the Authority"), acting as part of the Crown;

**Business Day** means 09:00 to 17:00 Monday to Friday, excluding public and statutory holidays;

**Contract** means the agreement concluded between the Authority and the Contractor, including all terms and conditions, associated purchase order, specifications, plans, drawings, schedules and other documentation, expressly made part of the agreement in accordance with Clause 2.c;

**Contractor** means the person, firm or company specified as such in the purchase order. Where the Contractor is an individual or a partnership, the expression shall include the personal representatives of the individual or of the partners, as the case may be;

**Contractor Deliverables** means the goods and / or services including packaging (and supplied in accordance with any QA requirements if specified) which the Contractor is required to provide under the Contract in accordance with the schedule to the purchase order;

**Effective Date of Contract** means the date stated on the purchase order or, if there is no such date stated, the date upon which both Parties have signed the purchase order;

**Firm Price** means a price excluding Value Added Tax (VAT) which is not subject to variation;

**Government Furnished Assets (GFA)** is a generic term for any MOD asset such as equipment, information or resources issued or made available to the Contractor in connection with the Contract by or on behalf of the Authority;

**Hazardous Contractor Deliverable** means a Contractor Deliverable or a component of a Contractor Deliverable that is itself a hazardous material or substance or that may in the course of its use, maintenance, disposal, or in the event of an accident, release one or more hazardous materials or substances and each material or substance that may be so released;

**Issued Property** means any item of Government Furnished Assets (GFA), including any materiel issued or otherwise furnished to the Contractor in connection with the Contract by or on behalf of the Authority;

**Legislation** means in relation to the United Kingdom any Act of Parliament, any subordinate legislation within the meaning of section 21 of the Interpretation Act 1978, any exercise of Royal Prerogative or any enforceable community right within the meaning of Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972.

**Mixture** means a mixture or solution composed of two or more substances;

**Notices** means all notices, orders, or other forms of communication required to be given in writing under or in connection with the Contract;

**Parties** means the Contractor and the Authority, and Party shall be construed accordingly;

**PPT** means a tax called "plastic packaging tax" charged in accordance with Part 2 of the Finance Act 2021;

**PPT Legislation** means the legislative provisions set out in Part 2 and Schedule 9-15 of the Finance Act 2021 together with any secondary legislation made under powers contained in Part 2 of the Finance Act 2021. This includes, but not limited to, The Plastic Packaging Tax (Descriptions of Products) Regulations 2021 and The Plastic Packaging Tax (General) Regulations 2022;

**Plastic Packaging Component(s)** shall have the same meaning as set out in Part 2 of the Finance Act 2021 together with any associated secondary legislation;

**Sensitive Information** means the information listed as such in the purchase order, being information notified by the Contractor to the Authority, which is acknowledged by the Authority as being sensitive, at the point at which the Contract is entered into or amended (as relevant) and remains sensitive information at the time of publication;

**Substance** means a chemical element and its compounds in the natural state or obtained by any manufacturing process, including any additive necessary to preserve its stability and any impurity deriving from the process used, but excluding any solvent which may be separated without affecting the stability of the substance or changing its composition;

**Transparency Information** means the content of this Contract in its entirety, including from time to time agreed changes to the Contract, except for (i) any information which is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA) or the Environmental Information Regulations Act 2004 (EIR), which shall be determined by the Authority, and (ii) any Sensitive Information.

**2 General**

- a. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable Legislation, whether specifically referenced in this Contract or not.
- b. Any variation to the Contract shall have no effect unless expressly agreed in writing and signed by both Parties.
- c. If there is any inconsistency between these terms and conditions and the purchase order or the documents expressly referred to therein, the conflict shall be resolved according to the following descending order of priority:
  - (1) the terms and conditions;
  - (2) the purchase order; and
  - (3) the documents expressly referred to in the purchase order.
- d. Neither Party shall be entitled to assign the Contract (or any part thereof) without the prior written consent of the other Party.
- e. Failure or delay by either Party in enforcing or partially enforcing any provision of the Contract shall not be construed as a waiver of its rights or remedies. No waiver in respect of any right or remedy shall operate as a waiver in respect of any other right or remedy.
- f. The Parties to the Contract do not intend that any term of the Contract shall be enforceable by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 by any person that is not a Party to it.
- g. The Contract and any non-contractual obligations arising out of or in connection with it shall be governed by and construed in accordance with English Law, and subject to Clause 16 and without prejudice to the dispute resolution procedure set out therein, the Parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts. Other jurisdictions may apply solely for the purpose of giving effect to this Clause 2.g and for enforcement of any judgement, order or award given

under English jurisdiction.

### 3 Application of Conditions

- a. The purchase order, these terms and conditions and the specification govern the Contract to the entire exclusion of all other terms and conditions. No other terms or conditions are implied.
- b. The Contract constitutes the entire agreement and understanding and supersedes any previous agreement between the Parties relating to the subject matter of the Contract.

### 4 Disclosure of Information

Disclosure of information under the Contract shall be managed in accordance with DEFCON 531 (SC1).

### 5 Transparency

- a. Notwithstanding any other condition of this Contract, and in particular Clause 4, the Contractor understands that the Authority may publish the Transparency Information to the general public.
- b. Subject to Clause 5.c, the Authority shall publish and maintain an up-to-date version of the Transparency Information in a format readily accessible and reusable by the general public under an open licence where applicable.
- c. If, in the Authority's reasonable opinion, publication of any element of the Transparency Information would be contrary to the public interest, the Authority shall be entitled to exclude such information from publication. The Authority acknowledges that it would expect the public interest by default to be best served by publication of the Transparency Information in its entirety. Accordingly, the Authority acknowledges that it shall only exclude Transparency Information from publication in exceptional circumstances and agrees that where it decides to exclude information from publication on that basis, it will provide a clear statement to the general public explaining the categories of information that have been excluded from publication and reasons for withholding that information.
- d. The Contractor shall assist and co-operate with the Authority as reasonably required to enable the Authority to publish the Transparency Information, in accordance with the principles set out above. Where the Authority publishes Transparency Information, it shall:
  - (1) before publishing redact any information that would be exempt from disclosure if it was the subject of a request for information under the FOIA and/or the EIR, for the avoidance of doubt, including Sensitive Information;
  - (2) taking into account the Sensitive Information set out in the purchase order, consult with the Contractor where the Authority intends to publish information which has been identified as Sensitive Information. For the avoidance of doubt the Authority, acting reasonably, shall have absolute discretion to decide what information shall be published or be exempt from disclosure in accordance with the FOIA and/or EIR; and
  - (3) present information in a format that assists the general public in understanding the relevance and completeness of the information being published to ensure the public obtain a fair view on how this Contract is being performed.

### 6 Notices

- a. A Notice served under the Contract shall be:
  - (1) in writing in the English Language;
  - (2) authenticated by signature or such other method as may be agreed between the Parties;
  - (3) sent for the attention of the other Party's representative, and to the address set out in the purchase order;
  - (4) marked with the number of the Contract; and
  - (5) delivered by hand, prepaid post (or airmail), facsimile transmission or, if agreed in the purchase order, by electronic mail.
- b. Notices shall be deemed to have been received:
  - (1) if delivered by hand, on the day of delivery if it is the recipient's Business Day and otherwise on the first Business Day of the recipient immediately following the day of delivery;
  - (2) if sent by prepaid post, on the fourth Business Day (or the tenth Business Day in the case of airmail) after the day of posting;
  - (3) if sent by facsimile or electronic means:
    - (a) if transmitted between 09:00 and 17:00 hours on a Business Day (recipient's time) on completion of receipt by the sender of verification of the transmission from the receiving instrument; or
    - (b) if transmitted at any other time, at 09:00 on the first Business Day (recipient's time) following the completion of receipt by the sender of verification of transmission from the receiving instrument.

### 7 Intellectual Property

- a. The Contractor shall as its sole liability keep the Authority fully indemnified against an infringement or alleged infringement of any intellectual property rights or a claim for Crown use of a UK patent or registered design caused by the use, manufacture or supply of the Contractor Deliverables.
- b. The Authority shall promptly notify the Contractor of any infringement claim made against it relating to any Contractor Deliverable and, subject to any statutory obligation requiring the Authority to respond, shall permit the Contractor to have the right, at its sole discretion to assume, defend, settle or otherwise dispose of such claim. The Authority shall give the Contractor such assistance as it may reasonably require to dispose of the claim and will not make any statement which might be prejudicial to the settlement or defence of the claim
- c. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the Contract and for the avoidance of doubt, award of the Contract by the Authority and placement of any contract task under it does not constitute an authorisation by the Crown under Sections 55 and 56 of the Patents Act 1977 or Section 12 of the Registered Designs Act 1949. The Contractor acknowledges that any such authorisation by the Authority under its statutory powers must be expressly provided in writing, with reference to the acts authorised and the specific intellectual property involved.

### Notification of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Restrictions

- d. Where any of the Conditions listed below (1 to 3) have been added to these Conditions of the Contract as Project

Specific DEFCONs at Clause 21, the Contractor warrants and confirms that all Intellectual Property Rights restrictions and associated export restrictions relating to the use or disclosure of the Contractor Deliverables that are notifiable under those Conditions, or of which the Contractor is or should reasonably be aware as at Effective Date of Contract, are disclosed in Schedule 5 (Notification of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Restrictions):

- (1) DEFCON 15 - including notification of any self-standing background Intellectual Property;
  - (2) DEFCON 90 - including copyright material supplied under clause 5;
  - (3) DEFCON 91 - limitations of Deliverable Software under clause 3b;
- e. The Contractor shall promptly notify the Authority in writing if they become aware during the performance of the Contract of any required additions, inaccuracies or omissions in Schedule 5.  
Any amendment to Schedule 5 shall be made in accordance with DEFCON 503 (SC1).

#### **8 Supply of Contractor Deliverables and Quality Assurance**

- a. This Contract comes into effect on the Effective Date of Contract.
- b. The Contractor shall supply the Contractor Deliverables to the Authority at the Firm Price stated in the Schedule to the purchase order.
- c. The Contractor shall ensure that the Contractor Deliverables:
  - (1) correspond with the specification;
  - (2) are of satisfactory quality (within the meaning of the Sale of Goods Act 1979, as amended) except that fitness for purpose shall be limited to the goods being fit for the particular purpose held out expressly by or made known expressly to the Contractor and in this respect the Authority relies on the Contractor's skill and judgement; and
  - (3) comply with any applicable Quality Assurance Requirements specified in the purchase order.
- d. The Contractor shall apply for and obtain any licences required to import any material required for the performance of the Contract in the UK. The Authority shall provide to the Contractor reasonable assistance with regard to any relevant defence or security matter arising in the application for any such licence.

#### **9 Supply of Data for Hazardous Substances, Mixtures and Articles in Contractor Deliverables**

- a. Nothing in this Clause 9 shall reduce or limit any statutory duty or legal obligation of the Authority or the Contractor.
- b. As soon as possible and in any event within the period specified in the purchase order (or if no such period is specified no later than one month prior to the delivery date), the Contractor shall provide to the Authority's representatives in the manner and format prescribed in the purchase order:
  - (1) confirmation as to whether or not to the best of its knowledge any of the Contractor Deliverables contain Hazardous Substances, Mixtures or Articles; and
  - (2) for each Substance, Mixture or Article supplied in meeting the criteria of classification as hazardous in accordance with the GB Classification, Labelling and Packaging (GB CLP) a UK REACH compliant Safety Data Sheet (SDS);
  - (3) where Mixtures supplied do not meet the criteria for classification as hazardous according to GB CLP but contain a hazardous Substance an SDS is to be made available on request; and
  - (4) for each Article whether supplied on its own or part of an assembly that contains a Substance on the UK REACH Authorisation List, Restriction List and / or the Candidate List of Substances of Very High Concern (SVHC) in a proportion greater than 0.1% w/w of the Article, sufficient information, available to the supplier, to allow safe use of the Article including, as a minimum, the name of that Substance.
- c. For substances, Mixtures or Articles that meet the criteria list in clause 9.b above:
  - (1) if the Contractor becomes aware of new information which may affect the risk management measures or new information on the hazard, the Contractor shall update the SDS/safety Information and forward it to the Authority and to the address listed in the purchase order; and
  - (2) if the Authority becomes aware of new information that might call into question the appropriateness of the risk management measures identified in the safety information supplied, shall report this information in writing to the Contractor.
- d. If the Substances, Mixtures or Articles in Contractor Deliverables are Ordnance, Munitions or Explosives (OME), in addition to the requirements of the GB CLP and UK REACH the Contractor shall comply with hazard reporting requirements of DEF STAN 07-085 Design Requirements for Weapons and Associated Systems.
- e. If the Substances, Mixtures or Articles in Contractor Deliverables, are or contain or embody a radioactive substance as defined in the Ionising Radiation Regulations SI 2017/1075, the Contractor shall additionally provide details on DEFFORM 68 of:
  - (1) activity; and
  - (2) the substance and form (including any isotope).
- f. If the Substances, Mixtures and Articles in Contractor Deliverables have magnetic properties which emit a magnetic field, the Contractor shall additionally provide details on DEFFORM 68 of the magnetic flux density at a defined distance, for the condition in which it is packed.
- g. Failure by the Contractor to comply with the requirements of this Condition shall be grounds for rejecting the affected Substances, Mixtures and Articles in Contractor Deliverables. Any withholding of information concerning hazardous Substance, Mixtures or Articles in Contractor Deliverables shall be regarded as a material breach of Contract under Condition 18 (Material Breach) for which the Authority reserves the right to require the Contractor to rectify the breach immediately at no additional cost to the Authority or to terminate the Contract in accordance with Condition 18.
- h. Where delivery is made to the Defence Fulfilment Centre (DFC) and / or other Team Leidos location / building, the Contractor must comply with the Logistic Commodities and Services Transformation (LCST) Supplier Manual.

#### **10 Delivery / Collection**

- a. The purchase order shall specify whether the Contractor Deliverables are to be delivered to the consignee by the Contractor or collected from the consignor by the Authority.
- b. Title and risk in the Contractor Deliverables shall pass from the Contractor to the Authority on delivery or on collection

in accordance with Clause 10.a.

c. The Authority shall be deemed to have accepted the Contractor Deliverables within a reasonable time after title and risk has passed to the Authority unless it has rejected the Contractor Deliverables within the same period.

#### **11 Marking of Contractor Deliverables**

a. Each Contractor Deliverable shall be marked in accordance with the requirements specified in the purchase order. or if no such requirement is specified, the Contractor shall mark each Contractor Deliverable clearly and indelibly in accordance with the requirements of the relevant DEF-STAN 05-132 as specified in the contract or specification. In the absence of such requirements, the Contractor Deliverables shall be marked with the MOD stock reference, NATO Stock Number (NSN) or alternative reference number shown in the Contract.

b. Any marking method used shall not have a detrimental effect on the strength, serviceability or corrosion resistance of the Contractor Deliverables.

c. The marking shall include any serial numbers allocated to the Contractor Deliverable.

d. Where because of its size or nature it is not possible to mark a Contractor Deliverable with the required particulars, the required information should be included on the package or carton in which the Contractor Deliverable is packed, in accordance with condition 12 (Packaging and Labelling (excluding Contractor Deliverables containing Ammunition or Explosives)).

#### **12 Packaging and Labelling of Contractor Deliverables (Excluding Contractor Deliverables Containing Ammunition or Explosives)**

a. The Contractor shall pack or have packed the Contractor Deliverables in accordance with any requirements specified in the purchase order and Def Stan 81-041 (Part 1 and Part 6).

b. The Contractor shall establish if the Contractor Deliverables are, or contain, Dangerous Goods as defined in the Regulations set out in this Clause 12. Any that do shall be packaged for UK or worldwide shipment by all modes of transport in accordance with the following unless otherwise specified in the Schedule to the purchase order: (1) the Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods by Air (ICAO), IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations; (2) the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code;

(3) the Regulations Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Rail (RID); and

(4) the European Agreement Concerning the International Carriage of Dangerous Goods by Road (ADR).

c. Certification markings, incorporating the UN logo, the package code and other prescribed information indicating that the package corresponds to the successfully designed type shall be marked on the packaging in accordance with the relevant regulation.

#### **13 Plastic Packaging Tax**

a. The Contractor shall ensure that any PPT due in relation to this Contract is paid in accordance with the PPT Legislation.

b. The Contract Price includes any PPT that may be payable by the Contractor in relation to the Contract.

c. On reasonable notice being provided by the Authority, the Contractor shall provide and make available to the Authority details of any PPT they have paid that relates to the Contract.

d. The Contractor shall notify the Authority, in writing, in the event that there is any adjustment required to the Contract Price in accordance with section 70 of the Finance Act 2021 and, on reasonable notice being provided by the Authority, the Contractor shall provide any such information that the Authority requires in relation to any such adjustment.

e. In accordance with DEFCON 609 (SC1) the Contractor (and their sub-contractors) shall maintain all records relating to PPT and make them available to the Authority when requested on reasonable notice for reasons related to the Contract.

f. Where the Contractor manufactures, purchases or imports into the UK any Plastic Packaging Component in relation to the Contract the Contractor shall, on reasonable notice being given, provide the Authority with such information and documentation that it requires to enable the Authority to carry out due diligence checks and satisfy itself that the Contractor has complied with the requirements of the PPT Legislation. This shall include, but is not limited to the Contractor providing:

(1) confirmation of the tax status of any Plastic Packaging Component;

(2) documents to confirm that PPT has been properly accounted for;

(3) product specifications for the packaging components, including, but not limited to, the weight and composition of the products and any other product specifications that may be required; and

(4) copies of any certifications or audits that have been obtained or conducted in relation to the provision of Plastic Packaging Components.

g. The Authority shall have the right, on providing reasonable notice, to physically inspect or conduct an audit on the Contractor, to ensure any information that has been provided in accordance with clause 13.f above is accurate.

h. In the event the Contractor is not required to register for PPT they (and to the extent applicable, their sub-contractors) shall provide the Authority with a statement to this effect and, to the extent reasonably required by the Authority on reasonable notice, supporting evidence for that statement.

i. The Contractor shall provide, on the Authority providing reasonable notice, any information that the Authority may require from the Contractor for the Authority to comply with any obligations it may have under the PPT Legislation.

#### **14 Progress Monitoring, Meetings and Reports**

The Contractor shall attend progress meetings and deliver reports at the frequency or times (if any) specified in the purchase order and shall ensure that its Contractor's representatives are suitably qualified to attend such meetings. Any additional meetings reasonably required shall be at no cost to the Authority.

#### **15 Payment**

a. Payment for Contractor Deliverables will be made by electronic transfer and prior to submitting any claims for payment under clause 15b the Contractor will be required to register their details (Supplier on-boarding) on the Contracting, Purchasing and Finance (CP&F) electronic procurement tool.

b. Where the Contractor submits an invoice to the Authority in accordance with clause 15a, the Authority will consider and

verify that invoice in a timely fashion.

- c. The Authority shall pay the Contractor any sums due under such an invoice no later than a period of 30 days from the date on which the Authority has determined that the invoice is valid and undisputed.
- d. Where the Authority fails to comply with clause 15b and there is undue delay in considering and verifying the invoice, the invoice shall be regarded as valid and undisputed for the purpose of clause 15c after a reasonable time has passed.
- e. The approval for payment of a valid and undisputed invoice by the Authority shall not be construed as acceptance by the Authority of the performance of the Contractor's obligations nor as a waiver of its rights and remedies under this Contract.
- f. Without prejudice to any other right or remedy, the Authority reserves the right to set off any amount owing at any time from the Contractor to the Authority against any amount payable by the Authority to the Contractor under the Contract or under any other contract with the Authority, or with any other Government Department.

#### **16 Dispute Resolution**

- a. The Parties will attempt in good faith to resolve any dispute or claim arising out of or relating to the Contract through negotiations between the respective representatives of the Parties having authority to settle the matter, which attempts may include the use of any alternative dispute resolution procedure on which the Parties may agree.
- b. In the event that the dispute or claim is not resolved pursuant to Clause 16.a the dispute shall be referred to arbitration and shall be governed by the Arbitration Act 1996. For the purposes of the arbitration, the arbitrator shall have the power to make provisional awards pursuant to Section 39 of the Arbitration Act 1996.
- c. For the avoidance of doubt it is agreed between the Parties that the arbitration process and anything said, done or produced in or in relation to the arbitration process (including any awards) shall be confidential as between the Parties, except as may be lawfully required in judicial proceedings relating to the arbitration or otherwise. No report relating to anything said, done or produced in or in relation to the arbitration process may be made beyond the tribunal, the Parties, their legal representatives and any person necessary to the conduct of the proceedings, without the concurrence of all the Parties to the arbitration.

#### **17 Termination for Corrupt Gifts**

The Authority may terminate the Contract with immediate effect, without compensation, by giving written notice to the Contractor at any time after any of the following events:

- a. where the Authority becomes aware that the Contractor, its employees, agents or any sub-contractor (or anyone acting on its behalf or any of its or their employees):
  - (1) has offered, promised or given to any Crown servant any gift or financial or other advantage of any kind as an inducement or reward;
  - (2) commits or has committed any prohibited act or any offence under the Bribery Act 2010 with or without the knowledge or authority of the Contractor in relation to this Contract or any other contract with the Crown;
  - (3) has entered into this or any other contract with the Crown in connection with which commission has been paid or has been agreed to be paid by it or on its behalf, or to its knowledge, unless before the contract is made particulars of any such commission and of the terms and conditions of any such agreement for the payment thereof have been disclosed in writing to the Authority.
- b. In exercising its rights or remedies to terminate the Contract under Clause 17.a. the Authority shall:
  - (1) act in a reasonable and proportionate manner having regard to such matters as the gravity of, and the identity of the person committing the prohibited act;
  - (2) give due consideration, where appropriate, to action other than termination of the Contract, including (without being limited to):
    - (a) requiring the Contractor to procure the termination of a subcontract where the prohibited act is that of a Subcontractor or anyone acting on its or their behalf;
    - (b) requiring the Contractor to procure the dismissal of an employee (whether its own or that of a Subcontractor or anyone acting on its behalf) where the prohibited act is that of such employee.
- c. Where the Contract has been terminated under Clause 17.a. the Authority shall be entitled to purchase substitute Contractor Deliverables from elsewhere and recover from the Contractor any costs and expenses incurred by the Authority in obtaining the Contractor Deliverables in substitution from another supplier.

#### **18 Material Breach**

In addition to any other rights and remedies, the Authority shall have the right to terminate the Contract (in whole or in part) with immediate effect by giving written notice to the Contractor where the Contractor is in material breach of their obligations under the Contract. Where the Authority has terminated the Contract under Clause 18 the Authority shall have the right to claim such damages as may have been sustained as a result of the Contractor's material breach of the Contract.

#### **19 Insolvency**

The Authority shall have the right to terminate the contract if the Contractor is declared bankrupt or goes into liquidation or administration. This is without prejudice to any other rights or remedies under this Contract.

#### **20 Limitation of Contractor's Liability**

- a. Subject to Clause 20.b the Contractor's liability to the Authority in connection with this Contract shall be limited to £5m (five million pounds).
- b. Nothing in this Contract shall operate to limit or exclude the Contractor's liability:
  - (1) for:
    - a. any liquidated damages (to the extent expressly provided for under this Contract);
    - b. any amount(s) which the Authority is entitled to claim, retain or withhold in relation to the Contractor's failure to perform or under-perform its obligations under this Contract, including service credits or other

deductions (to the extent expressly provided for under this Contract);

c. any interest payable in relation to the late payment of any sum due and payable by the Contractor to the Authority under this Contract;

d. any amount payable by the Contractor to the Authority in relation to TUPE or pensions to the extent expressly provided for under this Contract;

(2) under Condition 7 of the Contract (Intellectual Property), and DEFCONs 91 or 638 (SC1) where specified in the contract;

(3) for death or personal injury caused by the Contractor's negligence or the negligence of any of its personnel, agents, consultants or sub-contractors;

(4) for fraud, fraudulent misrepresentation, wilful misconduct or negligence;

(5) in relation to the termination of this Contract on the basis of abandonment by the Contractor;

(6) for breach of the terms implied by Section 2 of the Supply of Goods and Services Act 1982; or

(7) for any other liability which cannot be limited or excluded under general (including statute and common) law.

c. The rights of the Authority under this Contract are in addition to, and not exclusive of, any rights or remedies provided by general (including statute and common) law.

## **21 The Project Specific DEFCONs and SC Variants that apply to this Contract are:**

DEFCON 5J (Edn 11/16) - Unique Identifiers

DEFCON 129J SC1 (Edn 06/17) – The Use of the Electronic Business Delivery Form

DEFCON 503 SC1 (Edn 06/22) – Formal Amendments to Contract

DEFCON 531 SC1 (Edn.09/21) - Disclosure of Information

DEFCON 532B (Edn 09/21) - Protection of Personal Data

(Where Personal Data is being processed on behalf of the Authority)

DEFCON 534 (Edn 06/21) – Subcontracting and Prompt Payment

DEFCON 538 (Edn 06/02) - Severability

DEFCON 540 SC1 (Edn 05/23) – Conflicts of Interest

DEFCON 566 (Edn 10/20) - Change of Control of Contractor

DEFCON 609 SC1 (Edn 08/18) - Contractor's Records

DEFCON 620 SC1 (Edn 06/22) – Contract Change Control Procedure

DEFCON 656A (Edn 08/16) - Termination for Convenience Under £5m

DEFCON 658 SC1 (Edn 10/22) - Cyber

Further to DEFCON 658 the Cyber Risk Level of the Contract is Low, as defined in Def Stan 05-138

## **22 The special conditions that apply to this Contract are:**

22.1 The Contractor shall, and shall procure that their Sub-contractors shall, notify the Authority in writing as soon as they become aware that:

a. the Contract Deliverables and/or Services contain any Russian/Belarussian products and/or services; or

b. that the Contractor or any part of the Contractor's supply chain is linked to entities who are constituted or organised under the law of Russia or Belarus, or under the control (full or partial) of a Russian/Belarusian person or entity. Please note that this does not include companies:

(1) registered in the UK or in a country with which the UK has a relevant international agreement providing reciprocal rights of access in the relevant field of public procurement; and/or

(2) which have significant business operations in the UK or in a country with which the UK has a relevant international agreement providing reciprocal rights of access in the relevant field of public procurement.

22.2 The Contractor shall, and shall procure that their Sub-contractors shall, include in such notification (or as soon as reasonably practicable following the notification) full details of the Russian products, services and/or entities and shall provide all reasonable assistance to the Authority to understand the nature, scope and impact of any such products, services and/or entities on the provision of the Contract Deliverables and/or Services.

22.3 The Authority shall consider the notification and information provided by the Contractor and advise the Contractor in writing of any concerns the Authority may have and/or any action which the Authority will require the Contractor to take. The Contractor shall be required to submit a response to the concerns raised by the Authority, including any plans to mitigate those concerns, within 14 business days of receipt of the Authority's written concerns, for the Authority's consideration.

22.4 The Contractor shall include provisions equivalent to those set out in this clause in all relevant Sub-contracts.

### **22.5 Security**

The Contractor shall ensure that they arrange for any relevant security clearances (including BPSS or SC) to be in place when their personnel are required deliver any goods or services on Authority sites.

If Contractor personnel are required to access any classified information at MOD sites or on a MOD provided laptop, they must ensure that this information remains at those sites or on that laptop, unless otherwise agreed and detailed on a Security Aspects Letter. If Contractor personnel are working with any sensitive information they may be required to sign a Non-Disclosure Agreement and/or a Conflicts of Interest statement.

### **22.6 Publicity and Communications with the Media**

The Contractor shall not and shall ensure that any employee or Subcontractor shall not communicate with representatives of the press, television, radio or other media on any matter concerning the Contract unless the Authority has given its prior

written consent.

**22.7 Options**

In addition to the requirements detailed at Item 1 to 4 of the Schedule of Requirements, the Contractor hereby grants to the Authority the following irrevocable options to purchase the requirements detailed at Item 5 of the Schedule of Requirements, in accordance with the terms and conditions set out in this contract or any such subsequent contract or contracts where such options are taken up, it being agreed that the Authority has no obligation to exercise such options.

Option 1: EPA optional year 2027-2028 at the firm price stated, in accordance with the delivery schedule at Schedule of Requirements line 5, provided that the Authority exercises such an option by no later than 4 November 2027.

The Authority shall have the right to exercise the options by the specified dates or within such further period as corresponds to the aggregate of any period(s):

- a. of delay in the delivery programme whether constituting any breach of the Contract or resulting from any force majeure event, or
- b. for the duration of which the Authority is prevented from exercising any such option due to any other breach of the Contract by the Contractor.

The Authority shall not be obliged to exercise the options.

The option prices detailed are firm prices.

**22.8 Variation of Price**

a. The prices stated in the Schedule of Requirements are FIXED at 1 January 2023 price levels. The prices do not include provision beyond this date for increases or decreases in the market price of the Articles being purchased. Any such variation shall be calculated in accordance with the following formula:

$$V = P (a+b (O_i/O_0)) - P$$

Where:

V represents the variation of price

P represents the FIXED price as stated in the Schedule of Requirements

O represents the index Top Level SPPI, Sections H to U excl. Section K

O<sub>0</sub> represents the average OUTPUT Price Index figure for the base period

O<sub>i</sub> represents the average OUTPUT Price Index figure for the period in which variation is being made

a represents the Non- Variable Element (NVE)

b represents the Variable Element

$$a+b=1$$

b. The Index referred to in Clause 1 above shall be taken from the following Tables:

ONS - Top Level SPPI, Sections H to U excl. Section K

c. Indices published with a 'B' or 'F' marker, or a suppressed value, in the last 3 years are not valid for Variation of Price clauses and shall not be used. Where the price index has an 'F' marker or suppression applied to it during the term of the Contract, the Authority and the Contractor shall agree an appropriate replacement index or indices. The replacement index or indices shall cover, to the maximum extent possible, the same economic activities as the original index or indices.

d. In the event that any material changes are made to the indices (e.g. a revised statistical base date) during the period of the contract and before final adjustment of the final contract price, then the re-basing methodology outlined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS, the series providers) to match the original index to the new series shall be applied.

e. In the event the agreed index or indices cease to be published (e.g. because of a change in the Standard Industrial Classification) the Authority and the Contractor shall agree an appropriate replacement index or indices, which shall cover to the maximum extent possible the same economic activities as the original index or indices. The methodology outlined by the Office for National Statistics used for rebasing indices (as in Clause d above) shall then be applied.

f. Notwithstanding the above, any extant index / indices agreed in the Contract shall continue to be used as long as it is / they are available and subject to ONS revisions policy. Payments calculated using the extant index / indices during its / their currency shall not be amended retrospectively as a result of any change to the index or indices.

g. The Contractor shall notify the Authority of any significant changes in the purchasing / manufacturing plan on the basis of which these provisions were drawn up and agreed, or of any other factor having a material bearing on the operation of these provisions such as to cause a significant divergence from their intended purpose, in order that both parties may consider whether any change in this provision would be appropriate.

h. Prices shall be adjusted taking into account the effect of the above formula as soon as possible after publication of the relevant indices or at a later date if so agreed between the Authority and the Contractor. Where an index value is subsequently amended, the Authority and the Contractor shall agree a fair and reasonable adjustment to the price, as necessary.

i. Claims under this Condition shall be submitted to the Bill Paying Branch, certified to the effect that the "requirements of this Clause [insert the VOP clause number]" have been met.

**23 The processes that apply to this Contract are:**

**Contractor Representative**

Name: Notebook Assessment Services Ltd

Email: Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information

The Contractor shall notify the Authority if their representative changes to allow any requests from the Authority to be dealt with promptly.

**Key Subcontractors**

The Contractor has advised that the following key sub-contractors will be used in delivery of this contract:



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Name	Work Undertaken	Approximate Value
Not Applicable		

The Contractor shall notify the Authority before engaging any further Sub-Contractors.

If the Contractor is using a Sub-Contractor in order to meet any deliverables and they cease working with that Sub-Contractor, for any reason, the Contractor will still be responsible for meeting those deliverables.

**Payment**

In relation to previous clauses regarding payment, Supplier on-boarding for CP&F shall include completing the full MOD registration process in Exostar and an invoice shall only be valid if it has been submitted for the correct amount and tax treatment in Exostar.

The Contractor shall confirm the amount they consider to be due for payment, for any month or period, within 31 calendar days of the end of that month or period and shall submit invoices through CP&F/Exostar no later than 7 calendar days after that payment amount has been confirmed, unless otherwise agreed. All final amounts due under the contract must be confirmed by the Supplier within 31 calendar days of the end date of the contract, unless otherwise agreed.

The Contractor shall provide a full breakdown of any amounts invoiced, to show how the invoices have been calculated in accordance with the agreed prices, should the Authority request this at any time.

**Impediments**

The Contractor shall notify the Authority as soon as they become aware of any circumstance which will impact on their ability to deliver any of the requirements or meet any of the stated timescales.

**Tender Proposal**

Requirements to be delivered in accordance with this contract and, where it does not conflict with this contract, in line with proposal included in tender.

**Performance Management**

A date for delivery of goods or completion of each service will be stated in the contract or agreed between the Authority and the Contractor. Where this is not met by the Contractor, goods are not delivered or services are not completed, until after any stated or agreed date (unless the Authority accepts that circumstances were outside of the control of the Contractor), the Authority reserves the right to deduct 10% of the payment due for those services for each week or portion of a week that passes before the services are completed.

Where the Contractor is required to provide information, reports or attend meetings in order to support delivery and management of the contract but does not meet those requirements by any required dates (unless the Authority accepts that circumstances were outside of the control of the Contractor), the Authority reserves the right to deduct 5% of the next payment that becomes due for each week or portion of a week that passes before the supplier meets those requirements.

If, at any time, any of the goods or services provided under the Contract do not meet the required delivery timescales, standards or quality, then the Authority will not be obligated to buy any more goods or services unless it is satisfied that the required timescale, standard or quality will be met. Where these are not met on multiple occasions the Authority shall be entitled to terminate the contract as Material Breach.

**Social Value**

The Contractor has stated they will deliver the following Social Value Commitments through the duration of the Contract:

Contractor Commitments:	Numeric Value
Commitment for MAC 3.5	5
Commitment for MAC 4.2	5
Commitment for MAC 6.2	5

The Authority shall be able to request that the supplier provide evidence that they are meeting these commitments. The Contractor shall provide evidence of this within 10 working days. If the Contractor is unable to provide sufficient evidence or is not meeting their commitments, the Authority reserves the right to deduct 5% of the next payment that becomes due for each week or portion of a week that passes before the Contractor can evidence that those commitments are being met.

## **Schedule 1 – Additional Definitions of Contract**

As detailed in Statement of Requirements.

## Schedule 2 - Schedule of Requirements

Deliverables in accordance with Statement of Requirements								
Item Number	Description	Delivery Date	Unit of Measurement	Quantity	Individual Price (£) Ex VAT	Price Type	VOP Review Date	Total Price (£) Ex VAT
1	EPIA	Year 1 – 1 December 2023 – 30 November 2024	Per EPA	36	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests	Firm	Not Applicable	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests
2	EPA	Year 2 – 1 December 2024 to 30 November 2025	Per EPA	36	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests	Firm	Not Applicable	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests
3	EPA	Year 3 – 1 December 2025 to 30 November 2026	Per EPA	36	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests	Firm	Not Applicable	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests
4	EPA	Year 4 – 1 December 2026 to 30 November 2027	Per EPA	36	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests	Fixed to VOP calculation	1 December 2026	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests
					Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests	<b>Total Price for Core Requirements</b>		Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests
5	EPA (Optional Year)	Year 5 – 1 December 2027 to 30 November 2028	Per EPA	36	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests	Fixed to VOP calculation	1 December 2027	Redacted under FOIA Section 43, Commercial interests
Re-sits and Re-takes are to be provided, if required, from within the maximum limit of liability. Prices for re-sits and re-takes are to be agreed as they arise, dependent on what is required within them. Re-sit and Re-take prices shall not exceed the price for an EPA.						<b>Maximum price if all options invoked by The Authority</b>		£204,840.00

Item Number	Consignee Address (XY code only)
1-5	HMS Collingwood
Item Number	Payment Schedule
1-5	Payments to be made following successful completion of each service

All prices stated are firm prices, to be paid in £ (GBP/Pounding Sterling), not subject to any increase or exchange rates.

The Prices set for each item shall be the total maximum price the Contractor shall charge for the delivery of the goods and/or services covered within that item (prior to any VOP adjustment, where adjustment date has not yet passed). No further costs shall be claimed by the Contractor and all prices quoted shall include as a minimum, but not be limited to:

- Any direct or indirect costs
- Any labour costs or personnel salaries, pensions or contributions
- Any costs for manufacture or provision of goods and/or services
- Any costs for delivery to the Authority
- Any fuel costs
- Any related travel and subsistence
- Any packaging
- Any import costs or charges
- Any implementation or exit costs
- Any installation or setup costs
- Any costs to deliver training or guidance
- Any sub-contractor costs
- Any IT or system related costs
- Any costs required to provide Authority access to systems or accounts

#### **Variation of Price (VOP)**

All Prices for goods and/or services with delivery dates in Contract Periods 1, 2 or 3 are firm prices which are not subject to any adjustment.

All Prices for goods and/or services with delivery dates in Contract Periods 4 and 5 are firm prices which shall be the subject to a VOP adjustment in accordance with the following calculation:

$$V = P (a+b(O_i/O_0)) - P$$

where;

P is the firm price for goods and/or services delivered in Contract Period 1

a is 0.1, which is the non-variable element of prices

b is 0.9, which is the variable element of prices

$O_i$  is the 12-month index average for the four quarters prior to the quarter in which the variation calculation is being made

$O_0$  is the 12-month index average for the four quarters prior to the quarter in which the contract commenced

Prior to any VOP adjustment, the prices for goods and/or services with delivery dates in Contract Periods 4 and 5 shall be the same as the prices stated for those goods and/or services in Contract Period 1.

VOP adjustments shall be made on the VOP Review Date and the new prices, calculated in accordance with above, shall be incorporated into the contract through a formal contract amendment. The new prices shall remain in place for 12 months until any subsequent adjustment is made at the next VOP Review Date.

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When a VOP adjustment calculation is made, the Contractor shall be obliged to provide the goods and/or services at the prices calculated.

VOP will apply also apply to any optional requirements or periods, should those optional requirements or periods have delivery dates in in Contract Periods 4 and 5. Any optional requirements or periods with delivery dates in Contract Periods 1, 2 or 3 shall be at the firm prices.

The Index to be used for the VOP calculation shall be the "Top Level SPPI, Sections H to U excl. Section K" produced by the Office of National Statistics.

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**Schedule 3 - Contract Data Sheet**

<b>Contract Period</b>	<p>Effective date of Contract: 5 December 2023</p> <p>The Contract expiry date shall be: 04 December 2027</p>
<b>Clause 6 - Notices</b>	<p>Notices served under the Contract can be transmitted by electronic mail</p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Notices served under the Contract shall be sent to the following address:</p> <p>Authority: Commercial Officer</p> <p>Contractor: Contract Manager</p>
<b>Clause 8 – Supply of Contractor Deliverables and Quality Assurance</b>	<p>Is a Deliverable Quality Plan required for this Contract? (delete as appropriate)</p> <p>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes: (delete as appropriate)</p> <p>A Deliverable Quality Plan is required in accordance with DEFCON 602A (SC1) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Or</p> <p>A Deliverable Quality Plan with additional Quality Assurance Information is required in accordance with DEFCON 602C (SC1) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If required, the Deliverable Quality Plan and/or Deliverable Quality Plan with Assurance Information must be delivered to the Authority (Quality) within 10 Business Days of Contract Award.</p> <p>Other Quality Requirements:</p>

<p><b>Clause 9 – Supply of Data for Hazardous Substance, Mixtures and Articles in Contractor Deliverables</b></p>	<p>A completed DEFFORM 68 (Hazardous and Non-Hazardous Substances, Mixtures or Articles Statement), and if applicable, UK REACH Article 31 compliant Safety Data Sheet(s) (SDS) including any related information to be supplied in compliance with the Contractor’s statutory duties under Clauses 9.b, and any information arising from the provisions of Clause 9 are to be provided by e-mail with attachments in Adobe PDF or MS WORD format to:</p> <p>The Authority’s Representative (Commercial)</p> <p>by the following date: With tender submission</p> <p>So that the safety information can reach users without delay, the Authority shall send a copy preferably as an email with attachment(s) in Adobe PDF or MS WORD format.</p> <p>(1) Hard copies to be sent to:</p> <p>Hazardous Stores Information System (HSIS)          Spruce 2C, #1260          MOD Abbey Wood (South)          Bristol, BS34 8JH</p> <p>(2) Emails to be sent to:</p> <p><u><a href="mailto:DESEngSfty-QSEPSEP-HSISMulti@mod.gov.uk">DESEngSfty-QSEPSEP-HSISMulti@mod.gov.uk</a></u></p> <p>SDS which are classified above OFFICIAL including Explosive Hazard Data Sheets (EHDS) for Ordnance, Munitions or Explosives (OME) are not to be sent to HSIS and must be held by the respective Authority Delivery Team.</p>
<p><b>Clause 10 – Delivery/Collection</b></p>	<p>Contract Deliverables are to be:</p> <p>Delivered by the Contractor <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Special Instructions:</p> <p>Collected by the Authority <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Special Instructions (including consignor address if different from Contractor’s registered address)</p>
<p><b>Clause 12 – Packaging and Labelling of Contractor Deliverables</b></p>	<p>Additional packaging requirements:</p> <p>N/A</p>
<p><b>Clause 13 – Progress Meetings</b></p>	<p>The Contractor shall be required to attend the following meetings:</p> <p>To be arranged if and when required unless already detailed in Statement of Requirements.</p>

<b>Clause 13 – Progress Reports</b>	The Contractor is required to submit the following Reports:  To be arranged if and when required unless already detailed in Statement of Requirements.
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## Appendix - Addresses and Other Information

**1. Commercial Officer:**

Name: Lynne Nazer

Address: 4 Deck, NCHQ, Whale Island, Portsmouth, PO2 8Y

Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information

**2. Project Manager, Equipment Support Manager or PT Leader (from whom technical information is available):**

Name: Mark Thomas

Address: HMS Collingwood

Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information

**3. Packaging Design Authority:**

Organisation and point of contact:

(where no address is shown please contact the Project Team in Box 2)

**4. (a) Supply/Support Management Branch or Order Manager Branch/Name:**

As per box 2



(b) U.I.N.

**5. Drawings/Specifications are available from:****6. Intentionally Left Blank****7. Quality Assurance Representative:**

Commercial staff are reminded that all Quality Assurance requirements should be listed under the General Contract Conditions.

AQAPS and DEF STANs are available from UK Defence Standardization, for access to the documents and details of the helpdesk visit <http://dstan.gateway.isg-r.r.mil.uk/index.html> [intranet] or <https://www.dstan.mod.uk/> [extranet, registration needed]**8. Public Accounting Authority:**1. Returns under DEFCON 694 (or SC equivalent) should be sent to DBS Finance ADMT – Assets In Industry 1, Level 4 Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD  
☎ 44 (0) 161 233 53972. For all other enquiries contact DES Fin FA-AMET Policy, Level 4 Piccadilly Gate, Store Street, Manchester, M1 2WD  
☎ 44 (0) 161 233 5394**9. Consignment Instructions:**

The items are to be consigned as follows:

As detailed in Schedule of Requirements

**10. Transport.** The appropriate Ministry of Defence Transport Offices are:A. **DSCOM**, DE&S, DSCOM, MoD Abbey Wood, Cedar 3c, Mail Point 3351, BRISTOL BS34 8JHAir Freight CentreIMPORTS ☎ 030 679 81113 / 81114 Fax 0117 913 8943  
EXPORTS ☎ 030 679 81113 / 81114 Fax 0117 913 8943Surface Freight CentreIMPORTS ☎ 030 679 81129 / 81133 / 81138 Fax 0117 913 8946  
EXPORTS ☎ 030 679 81129 / 81133 / 81138 Fax 0117 913 8946B. **JSCS**

JSCS Helpdesk ☎ 01869 256052 (option 2, then option 3); JSCS Fax No 01869 256837

Users requiring an account to use the MOD Freight Collection Service should contact UKStratCom-DefSp-RAMP@mod.gov.uk in the first instance

**11. The Invoice Paying Authority:**Ministry of Defence ☎ 0151-242-2000  
DBS FinanceWalker House, Exchange Flags Fax: 0151-242-2809  
Liverpool, L2 3YL**Website is:**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ministry-of-defence/about/procurement#invoice-processing>**12. Forms and Documentation are available through \*:**Ministry of Defence, Forms and Pubs Commodity Management  
PO Box 2, Building C16, C Site  
Lower Arncott

Bicester, OX25 1LP (Tel. 01869 256197 Fax: 01869 256824)

**Applications via fax or email:** [Leidos-FormsPublications@teamleidos.mod.uk](mailto:Leidos-FormsPublications@teamleidos.mod.uk)**\* NOTE**1. Many **DEFCONs** and **DEFFORMs** can be obtained from the MOD Internet Site:  
<https://www.kid.mod.uk/maincontent/business/commercial/index.htm>

2. If the required forms or documentation are not available on the MOD Intranet site requests should be submitted through the Commercial Officer named in Section 1.

## Schedule 4 - Contractor's Sensitive Information (i.a.w. Clause

**5)**

This list shall be agreed in consultation with the Authority and the Contractor and may be reviewed and amended by agreement. The Authority shall review the list before publication of any information.

<p>Description of Contractor's Sensitive Information:  Notebook Assessment Services Ltd Tender Repsonse Document and Appendices inclusive of pricing schedule in support of the Digital Tender for EPA in its' entirity is commercially sensitive.</p>
<p>Cross reference to location of sensitive information:  All tender submission and supporting evidence.</p>
<p>Explanation of Sensitivity:  Notebook pricing, delivery and quality systems are detailed in the Tender which is subject to Tender scoring.</p>
<p>Details of potential harm resulting from disclosure:  Compromise future tendering activity</p>
<p>Period of Confidence (if Applicable):  25 years</p>
<p>Contact Details for Transparency / Freedom of Information matters:  Name: Monique Heron  Position: Business Support Manager  Address: C/O 14 B Sunrise Business Park, Higher Shaftsbury Road, Blandford DT11 8ST  Telephone Number:  E-Mail Address: monique.heron@tcpartnership.ac.uk</p>

## Schedule 5 – Notification of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) Restrictions (i.a.w. Clause 7)

### Part A – Notification of IPR Restrictions

1.				
2. ID #	3. Unique Technical Data Reference Number / Label	4. Unique Article(s)* Identification Number / Label	5. Statement Describing IPR Restriction	6. Ownership of the Intellectual Property Rights
1	Not Applicable			
2				
3				
4				
5				
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				

\* Article(s), for the purpose of this form only, means part or the whole of any item, component or process which the Contractor is required under the Contract to supply or in connection with which it is required under the Contract to carry out any service and any other article or part thereof to the same design as that article.

## **Part B – System / Product Breakdown Structure (PBS)**

Insert PBS here or Modular Breakdown Structure or Not Applicable

## **Schedule 6 - Statement of Requirements**

### **THE PROVISION OF END POINT ASSESSMENT TO SERVICE PERSONNEL OF THE ROYAL NAVY UNDERTAKING THE LEVEL 4 NETWORK ENGINEER (ST0127)**

#### **Introduction**

All Apprenticeship Standards require an Apprentice to complete an End Point Assessment (EPA) in order to prove they possess the required Knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSBs) of the apprenticeship they are undertaking. In order to comply with government funding rules, this must be conducted by an independent assessor working on behalf of an End Point Assessment Organisation (EPAO) who is registered on the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register (APAR). The Royal Navy (RN) undertakes Apprenticeships at all levels and are required to have a signed agreement with an EPAO in order to assess our Apprentices. The Communication Information Systems (CIS) Specialist branch currently undertake the L4 Network Engineer Standard (ST0127) and require to be assessed by an independent assessor on the APAR.

#### **Governance**

1. The Royal Navy Apprenticeship Programme (RNAP) is managed by the Training Management Group (TMG) based in HMS Collingwood, Fareham, Hampshire. The RN delivers 16 standards to 2,500 Apprentices every year with up to 7000 on programme at any one time. Delivery of these apprenticeship programmes is supported by a contracted Supporting Provider (SP), currently Team Fisher.
  
2. It is the Authority's policy that EPA delivery will be required within 3 months of Gateway Assessment and the EPA requirement forecast will be refined by the Authority on a monthly basis. The authority, or a nominated representative, will liaise with the EPAO to book apprentices for EPA once Gateway is completed.

#### **Detailed SOR**

3. This SOR comprises 4 further elements:
  - a. Section 1A – General Requirements for the Delivery of EPA to the Royal Navy.
  
  - b. Section 1A – Specific Requirements for the Delivery of EPA to the Royal Navy.

- c. Section 2 – Specific Programme Information.
- d. Section 3 – Compliance with ESFA Sub Contracting Requirements.

**SECTION 1A – GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DELIVERY OF EPA TO THE ROYAL NAVY.**

Requirements for delivery include, but are not limited to:

Ser	Requirement
1.	<p><b>Assessment Design and Delivery:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Provide the RN with practice papers and mock assessments to prepare apprentices for Gateway and EPA.</li> <li>b. In accordance with the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education (IfATE) EPA requirements, assessments must be designed to be accurate, valid, reliable, consistent, fair and manageable.</li> <li>c. Enable online assessments where appropriate. Where online assessment is used, this must be web-based and not platform-based.</li> <li>d. Liaise with the RN to ensure that assessors have a clear understanding of Defence terminologies and protocols, noting that there may be minor differences between the Services and Industry. This is to ensure that Service learners are not disadvantaged during EPA.</li> <li>e. Ensure that the number of staff is sufficient to deliver the requirement, and that all staff involved in the delivery of EPA are fully occupationally competent and qualified to deliver EPA in accordance with the requirements of the Standard.</li> <li>f. Be prepared to cater for reasonable adjustments in accordance with IfATE policy and Joint Service Publication 822 (available online).</li> <li>g. Have in place a business continuity plan to ensure that apprentices can access timely EPA.</li> <li>h. Be prepared to adapt EPA delivery to meet future amendments to the EPA plan.</li> </ul>
2.	<p><b>Governance, Compliance and Quality Assurance:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The EPAO shall deliver and internally quality assure the EPA in accordance with the regulations laid down by the IfATE for Standards and in accordance with current (as periodically amended) Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) guidelines and EQA Provider requirements.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Quality assure assessments to ensure accuracy, validity, reliability, consistency, fairness and manageability.</li> <li>c. Inform the RN and address quality, and quality assurance issues with the RN as they arise. Provide the RN with copies of all EQA Provider reports and Action Plans upon request.</li> <li>d. Maintain all records in accordance with ESFA requirements for audit.</li> <li>e. Provide the ESFA audit team and the RN with learner records on demand and within the timeframe set.</li> <li>f. Ensure that the assessment programme is compliant with current Government regulations and requirements, and that it adopts national best practice in all aspects of quality of delivery.</li> <li>g. Ensure that EPAO personnel have appropriate insurance in place in order to visit and work at MOD establishments, if required and using any equipment or vehicles which may be required for EPAs.</li> <li>h. Assist the RN in preparations for and execution of ESFA, Ofsted, National Audit Office, Defence Internal Audit and other internal audits and inspections and the provision of statistics/reports relating to the Contract where required.</li> </ul>
3.	<p><b>Communications with Stakeholders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Maintain communications with the RN and their SP on EPA and provide a nominated point of contact.</li> <li>b. Maintain communications with apprentices (keeping the RN informed of all relevant communications) from EPA registration to completion.</li> <li>c. Provide detailed performance feedback for the apprentices undertaking EPA (irrespective of outcome) to the RN.</li> <li>d. Support the RN, or its SP, in scheduling EPA for apprentices. Ensure that the RN, or its SP, is informed of any changes to EPA scheduling.</li> <li>e. Provide the RN with a bi-monthly feedback report on the EPA process. To include, but not be limited to, information and analysis against all elements of EPA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Numbers registered for EPA.</li> <li>(2) Numbers attempted EPA.</li> <li>(3) Numbers failed EPA.</li> <li>(4) Numbers successful at EPA.</li> <li>(5) Numbers awaiting Resit/Retake (cumulative).</li> <li>(6) Issues identified.</li> <li>(7) Recommendations/improvements.</li> <li>(8) Analysis of the RN's performance.</li> </ul> </li> <li>f. Attend RN Apprenticeship Programme strategic level meetings as required.</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b>Learner Management:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. On successful completion of the EPA, notify the RN or its SP.</li> </ul>

	<p>b. Maintain all learner documentation in accordance with IfATE and EQA Provider requirements and make this available to IfATE, the EQA Provider and the Authority as required.</p> <p>c. Claim apprenticeship certificates and send them via secure delivery to the RNs nominated Point of Contact for distribution.</p>
5.	<p><b>Data Handling:</b></p> <p>a. The EPAO shall achieve and maintain Cyber Essentials accreditation as a minimum level. The Authority reserves the right to require the EPAO to achieve and maintain Cyber Essentials Plus.</p> <p>b. Ensure that any transfer of data between the EPAO, IfATE, EQA Provider, Learning Records Service, ESFA and the Authority shall be fully compliant with the requirements of these bodies.</p> <p>c. Ensure that any transfer of data between the EPAO and other stakeholders shall be encrypted using Secure File Transfer Protocol (data storage and transfer must be UK-based). If data must be sent by e-mail, it must be encrypted using Winzip 10 or above.</p> <p>d. The EPAO shall be fully compliant with requirements of GDPR and the UK Data Protection Act 2018.</p> <p>e. The EPAO shall make available, on request, all records/processes for data handling audits by the RN or Information Commissioner’s Office.</p>
6.	<p><b>Contract End and Transition:</b></p> <p>a. Ensure at the contract end date, that all learner records are handed to the RN to enable continuity for all learners awaiting an EPA to an incoming contractor.</p> <p>b. Work with the RN to produce a workable transition plan when the EPA contract ends.</p>
7.	<p><b>Appeals, Re-sits and Re-takes:</b></p> <p>a. Process appeals.</p> <p>b. Deliver re-sits and re-takes in line with the EPA plan, at the RN’s request.  <b>Note:</b> The RN defines a re-sit as repeating one or more elements of the EPA assessments without the need for further learning, a re-take requires further learning before re-testing.</p>
8.	<p><b>Cancellation Terms:</b> The RN shall have the right to reschedule or cancel EPA at no extra cost by giving a minimum of 10 working days’ notice.</p>

**SECTION 1A – SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DELIVERY OF EPA TO THE ROYAL NAVY**

Requirements for delivery include, but are not limited to:

<i>Ser</i>	<i>Requirement</i>
1.	<p><b>Delivery Location:</b></p> <p>a. <i>RN personnel work worldwide and have access to online facilities in which to conduct EPAs remotely at multiple locations. Any EPA delivery requires to be web based in order for the assessments to be conducted remotely.</i></p>



2.	<p><b><i>EPA Delivery:</i></b></p> <p><i>a. Deliver all assessment elements virtually (online) and in accordance with the L4 Network Engineer Assessment Plan.</i></p> <p><i>b. Deliver up to 36 EPA assessments search year.</i></p> <p><i>c. Be ready to deliver first EPA by December 2023.</i></p>
3.	<p><b><i>EPA Pricing:</i></b></p> <p><i>a. Provide a bespoke price per EPA.</i></p> <p><i>b. Deliver a 4 year contract with option to extend for 1 year.</i></p> <p><i>c. Price to include any costs incurred for the use of End Point Assessment Platforms (e.g. ACE360 tokens)</i></p>
4.	<p><b><i>Security:</i></b></p> <p><i>a. Whilst it is not envisaged that assessors would be required to enter military establishments, if required, assessors would have to comply with the following:</i></p> <p><i>i. Assessors entering military training establishments to carry out EPA, must be a UK citizen in order to comply with security regulations.</i></p> <p><i>ii. All assessors will be escorted at all times whilst on military establishments.</i></p>

#### **1.1.1.1.1 SECTION 2 – SPECIFIC PROGRAMME INFORMATION – RN LEVEL 4 NETWORK ENGINEER (ST0127)**

Link to L4 Network Engineer Standard: [Network engineer / Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education](#)

1. The EPAO shall deliver EPA for the L4 Network Engineer Standard (ST0127) in accordance with ESFA regulations as detailed in Section 3 of this Schedule and in line with the EQA Provider’s regulations.

2. The Communication Information Systems (CIS) Specialist branch are signed up to the the L4 Network Engineer Standard (ST0127) by the RN Apprenticeship Management Team whilst in HMS Collingwood and complete any required Functional Skills (FS). Training takes place over 31 weeks where the majority of the knowledge, Skills and Behaviours (KSBs) of the apprenticeship standard are delivered. The remainder of the apprenticeship is completed in the Sailor’s first assignment. On completion of their work-place journals (portfolio of evidence) and FS, apprentices are deemed competent and at Gateway, and therefore ready to complete EPA. Currently, competency is confirmed by means of ongoing assessment by their line manager/training co-ordinator.

3. The RN requires an EPAO to deliver remote, web-based EPAs for assessment methods, over a secure platform.

4. Any information given below on demographics for this requirement is based upon the current occupancy and forecast future recruitment. Future recruitment, occupancy, levels of

suspension and successful Gateway achievement cannot be guaranteed by the Authority and any data provided below in respect of these aspects is strictly indicative only. <sup>1</sup>

### Details of EPA to be delivered

5. The learner throughput for EPA in this contract is anticipated at approximately 36 ( $\pm$  10%) apprentices *per annum*. This figure is expected to remain constant for the next 5 years. An average of 3 EPA per month is envisaged, however grouping of learners will be strongly encouraged as commonly programme lengths of stay would usually culminate around the same time. This should be used by tendering companies as an indicative guide for costing purposes and cannot be guaranteed by the Authority. Continual liaison is required with the RN Apprenticeship Management Team during the EPA process.
6. The average typical duration for this apprenticeship Standard as 24 months. Apprentices will typically be at gateway at this point.
7. The EPA comprises:
  - a) **Assessment method 1: Simulation Assessment and Questioning:** Apprentices must complete 2 simulation assessments in a virtual lab environment online where they will demonstrate the KSBs mapped to this assessment method. Questioning will occur on a separate day after the completion of the simulated assessment tasks to enable the Independent Assessor sufficient time to assess the outputs of each simulation task and generate appropriate questioning.
  - b) **Assessment method 2: Professional discussion underpinned by portfolio:** This assessment will take the form of a professional discussion which must be appropriately structured to draw out the best of the apprentice's competence and cover the KSBs assigned to this assessment method

Details of the assessment can be found at:

[https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/media/6976/st0127\\_network-engineer\\_14\\_ap-for-publication\\_20210527.pdf](https://www.instituteforapprenticeships.org/media/6976/st0127_network-engineer_14_ap-for-publication_20210527.pdf)

8. **EPA locations and timings.** a. RN personnel work worldwide and have access to online facilities in which to conduct EPAs remotely at multiple locations. Any EPA delivery requires to be web-based in order for the assessments to be conducted remotely. EPAs for individual apprentices will be confirmed at least 6 weeks in advance and grouped together where practicable. A selection of dates will be agreed between the RN and EPAO for each booking or group of bookings.

### Provision of Infrastructure/Facilities for EPA.

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<sup>1</sup> The data is accurate as at July 23 and is not anticipated for radical change.

9. The RN will ensure adequate facilities are available at the RN apprentice to conduct remote assessments.

### **External Quality Assurance**

10. The EQA Provider for the L4 Network Engineer Standard (ST0127) is Ofqual.

### **SECTION 3 – COMPLIANCE WITH ESFA SUB-CONTRACTING REQUIREMENTS**

**1. In accordance with the ESFA Apprenticeship Funding: Rules for Employer-Providers<sup>2</sup>, the EPAO must:**

**a. Adhere to ESFA Funding Rules.**

**b. Provide the Authority with ILR data so that their data returns to the ESFA accurately reflect delivery information.**

**c. Provide the ESFA and any other person nominated by the ESFA access to EPAO premises and to all documents related to the EPAO delivery of apprenticeships.**

**d. The EPAO must always have suitably qualified and experienced (SQEP) staff to provide assessment.**

**e. The EPAO must co-operate with the Authority to ensure that there is continuity of end point assessment if the contract ends for any reason.**

**g. The EPAO must inform the Authority if evidence of irregular financial or delivery issues arise. This could include, but is not limited to, non-delivery of assessment when funds have been paid, sanctions imposed by an awarding organisation, allegations of fraud, allegations or complaints by apprentices, employers, staff members, or other relevant parties.**

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<sup>2</sup> ESFA regulations are subject to periodic amendment and the EPAO is required to be compliant with the latest version.

This Contract shall come into effect on the date of signature by both parties.

**For and on behalf of the Contractor:**

Name and Title	Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information
Signature	Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information
Date	06/12/23

**For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Defence:**

Name and Title	Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information
Signature	Redacted under FOIA Section 40, Personal Information
Date	05/12/23