

# Core Terms

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## 1. Definitions used in the contract

Interpret this Contract using Schedule 1 (Definitions).

## 2. How the contract works

- 2.1 If the Buyer decides to buy Deliverables under the Contract it must state its requirements using the Award Form. If allowed by the Regulations, the Buyer can:
  - 2.1.1 make changes to the Award Form;
  - 2.1.2 create new Schedules;
  - 2.1.3 exclude optional template Schedules; and
  - 2.1.4 use Special Terms in the Award Form to add or change terms.
- 2.2 The Contract:
  - 2.2.1 is between the Supplier and the Buyer; and
  - 2.2.2 includes Core Terms, Schedules and any other changes or items in the completed Award Form.
- 2.3 The Supplier acknowledges it has all the information required to perform its obligations under the Contract before entering into it. When information is provided by the Buyer no warranty of its accuracy is given to the Supplier.
- 2.4 The Supplier acknowledges that, subject to the Allowable Assumptions set out in Annex 2 of Schedule 3 (Charges) (if any), it has satisfied itself of all details relating to:
  - 2.4.1 the Buyer's requirements for the Deliverables;
  - 2.4.2 the Buyer's operating processes and working methods; and
  - 2.4.3 the ownership and fitness for purpose of the Buyer Assets.
- 2.5 The Supplier won't be excused from any obligation, or be entitled to additional Costs or Charges because it failed to either:
  - 2.5.1 verify the accuracy of the Due Diligence Information; and
  - 2.5.2 properly perform its own adequate checks and enquiries.
- 2.6 The Buyer will not be liable for errors, omissions or misrepresentation of any information.
- 2.7 The Supplier warrants and represents that all statements made and documents submitted as part of the procurement of Deliverables are and remain true and accurate.

### 3. What needs to be delivered

#### 3.1 All deliverables

##### 3.1.1 The Supplier must provide Deliverables:

- a) that comply with the Specification, the Tender Response and the Contract;
- b) to a professional standard;
- c) using reasonable skill and care;
- d) using Good Industry Practice;
- e) using its own policies, processes and internal quality control measures as long as they don't conflict with the Contract;
- f) on the dates agreed; and
- g) that comply with Law.

##### 3.1.2 The Supplier must provide Deliverables with a warranty of at least 90 days from Delivery against all obvious defects or for such other period as specified in the Award Form.

##### 3.1.3 Where the Award Form states that the Collaborative Working Principles will apply, the Supplier must co-operate and provide reasonable assistance to any Buyer Third Party and act at all times in accordance with the following principles:

- a) proactively leading on, mitigating and contributing to the resolution of problems or issues irrespective of its contractual obligations, acting in accordance with the principle of "fix first, settle later";
- b) being open, transparent and responsive in sharing relevant and accurate information with Buyer Third Parties;
- c) adopting common working practices, terminology, standards and technology and a collaborative approach to service development and resourcing with Buyer Third Parties;
- d) providing cooperation, support, information and assistance to Buyer Third Parties in a proactive, transparent and open way and in a spirit of trust and mutual confidence; and
- e) identifying, implementing and capitalising on opportunities to improve deliverables and deliver better solutions and performance throughout the relationship lifecycle.

#### 3.2 Goods clauses

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

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

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

### 3.3 **Services clauses**

- 3.3.1 Late Delivery of the Services will be a Default of the Contract.
- 3.3.2 The Supplier must co-operate with the Buyer and third party suppliers on all aspects connected with the Delivery of the Services and ensure that Supplier Staff comply with any reasonable instructions of the Buyer or third party suppliers.
- 3.3.3 The Supplier must at its own risk and expense provide all Supplier Equipment required to Deliver the Services.
- 3.3.4 The Supplier must allocate sufficient resources and appropriate expertise to the Contract.

- 3.3.5 The Supplier must take all reasonable care to ensure performance does not disrupt the Buyer's operations, employees or other contractors.
- 3.3.6 The Supplier must ensure all Services, and anything used to Deliver the Services, are of good quality and free from defects.
- 3.3.7 The Buyer is entitled to withhold payment for partially or undelivered Services, but doing so does not stop it from using its other rights under the Contract.

## **4. Pricing and payments**

- 4.1 In exchange for the Deliverables, the Supplier must invoice the Buyer for the Charges in the Award Form.
- 4.2 All Charges:
  - 4.2.1 exclude VAT, which is payable on provision of a valid VAT invoice; and
  - 4.2.2 include all costs connected with the Supply of Deliverables.
- 4.3 The Buyer must pay the Supplier the Charges within 30 days of receipt by the Buyer of a valid, undisputed invoice, in cleared funds using the payment method and details stated in the Award Form.
- 4.4 A Supplier invoice is only valid if it:
  - 4.4.1 includes all appropriate references including the Contract reference number and other details reasonably requested by the Buyer; and
  - 4.4.2 includes a detailed breakdown of Delivered Deliverables and Milestone(s) (if any).
- 4.5 The Buyer may retain or set-off payment of any amount owed to it by the Supplier if notice and reasons are provided.
- 4.6 The Supplier has no right of set-off, counterclaim, discount or abatement unless they're ordered to do so by a court.

## **5. The buyer's obligations to the supplier**

- 5.1 If Supplier Non-Performance arises from a Buyer Cause:
  - 5.1.1 the Buyer cannot terminate the Contract under Clause 14.4.1;
  - 5.1.2 the Supplier is entitled to reasonable and proven additional expenses and to relief from Delay Payments, liability and Deduction under this Contract;
  - 5.1.3 the Supplier is entitled to additional time needed to make the Delivery;
  - 5.1.4 the Supplier cannot suspend the ongoing supply of Deliverables.

- 5.2 Clause 5.1 only applies if the Supplier:
  - 5.2.1 gives notice to the Buyer of the Buyer Cause within 10 Working Days of becoming aware;
  - 5.2.2 demonstrates that the Supplier Non-Performance only happened because of the Buyer Cause; and
  - 5.2.3 mitigated the impact of the Buyer Cause.

## **6. Record keeping and reporting**

- 6.1 The Supplier must attend Progress Meetings with the Buyer and provide Progress Reports when specified in the Award Form.
- 6.2 The Supplier must keep and maintain full and accurate records and accounts in respect of the Contract during the Contract Period and for 7 years after the End Date and in accordance with the GDPR, including the records and accounts which the Buyer has a right to Audit.
- 6.3 Where the Award Form states that the Financial Transparency Objectives apply, the Supplier must co-operate with the Buyer to achieve the Financial Transparency Objectives and, to this end, will provide a Financial Report to the Buyer:
  - 6.3.1 on or before the Start Date;
  - 6.3.2 at the end of each Contract Year; and
  - 6.3.3 within 6 Months of the end of the Contract Period,and the Supplier must meet with the Buyer if requested within 10 Working Days of the Buyer receiving a Financial Report.
- 6.4 If the Supplier becomes aware of an event that has occurred or is likely to occur in the future which will have a material effect on the:
  - 6.4.1 Supplier's currently incurred or forecast future Costs; and
  - 6.4.2 forecast Charges for the remainder of the Contract,then the Supplier must notify the Buyer in writing as soon as practicable setting out the actual or anticipated effect of the event.
- 6.5 The Supplier must allow any Auditor access to their premises and the Buyer will use reasonable endeavours to ensure that any Auditor:
  - 6.5.1 complies with the Supplier's operating procedures; and
  - 6.5.2 does not unreasonably disrupt the Supplier or its provision of the Deliverables.



- 6.6 During an Audit, the Supplier must provide information to the Auditor and reasonable co-operation at their request, including access to:
  - 6.6.1 all information within the permitted scope of the Audit;
  - 6.6.2 any Sites, equipment and the Supplier's ICT system used in the performance of the Contract; and
  - 6.6.3 the Supplier Staff.
- 6.7 The Parties will bear their own costs when an Audit is undertaken unless the Audit identifies a material Default by the Supplier, in which case the Supplier will repay the Buyer's reasonable costs in connection with the Audit.
- 6.8 The Supplier must comply with the Buyer's reasonable instructions following an Audit, including:
  - 6.8.1 correcting any identified Default;
  - 6.8.2 rectifying any error identified in a Financial Report; and
  - 6.8.3 repaying any Charges that the Buyer has overpaid.
- 6.9 If the Supplier is not providing any of the Deliverables, or is unable to provide them, it must immediately:
  - 6.9.1 tell the Buyer and give reasons;
  - 6.9.2 propose corrective action; and
  - 6.9.3 provide a deadline for completing the corrective action.

## **7. Supplier staff**

- 7.1 The Supplier Staff involved in the performance of the Contract must:
  - 7.1.1 be appropriately trained and qualified;
  - 7.1.2 be vetted using Good Industry Practice and the Security Policy; and
  - 7.1.3 comply with all conduct requirements when on the Buyer's Premises.
- 7.2 Where the Buyer decides one of the Supplier's Staff is not suitable to work on the Contract, the Supplier must replace them with a suitably qualified alternative.
- 7.3 If requested, the Supplier must replace any person whose acts or omissions have caused the Supplier to breach Clauses 31.1 to 31.4.
- 7.4 The Supplier must provide a list of Supplier Staff needing to access the Buyer's Premises and say why access is required.
- 7.5 The Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against all claims brought by any person employed by the Supplier caused by an act or omission of the Supplier or any Supplier Staff.

## 8. Supply chain

### 8.1 Appointing Subcontractors

- 8.1.1 The Supplier must exercise due skill and care when it selects and appoints Subcontractors to ensure that the Supplier is able to:
- 8.1.2 manage Subcontractors in accordance with Good Industry Practice;
- 8.1.3 comply with its obligations under this Contract; and
- 8.1.4 assign, novate or transfer its rights and/or obligations under the Sub-Contract to the Buyer or a Replacement Supplier.

### 8.2 Mandatory provisions in Sub-Contracts

- 8.2.1 The Supplier will ensure that all Sub-Contracts contain provisions that:
  - a) allow the Supplier to terminate the Sub-Contract if the Subcontractor fails to comply with its obligations in respect of environmental, social, equality or employment Law;
  - b) require the Supplier to pay all Subcontractors in full, within 30 days of receiving a valid, undisputed invoice; and
  - c) allow the Buyer to publish the details of the late payment or non-payment if this 30-day limit is exceeded.

### 8.3 When Sub-Contracts can be ended

- 8.3.1 At the Buyer's request, the Supplier must terminate any Sub-Contracts in any of the following events:
  - a) there is a Change of Control of a Subcontractor which isn't pre-approved by the Buyer in writing;
  - b) the acts or omissions of the Subcontractor have caused or materially contributed to a right of termination under Clause 14.4;
  - c) a Subcontractor or its Affiliates embarrasses or brings into disrepute or diminishes the public trust in the Buyer;
  - d) the Subcontractor fails to comply with its obligations in respect of environmental, social, equality or employment Law; and/or
  - e) the Buyer has found grounds to exclude the Subcontractor in accordance with Regulation 57 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

### 8.4 Competitive terms

- 8.4.1 If the Buyer can get more favourable commercial terms for the supply at cost of any materials, goods or services used by the Supplier to provide the Deliverables and that cost is reimbursable by the Buyer, then the Buyer may either:

- a) require the Supplier to replace its existing commercial terms with the more favourable terms offered for the relevant items; or
  - b) enter into a direct agreement with the Subcontractor or third party for the relevant item.
- 8.4.2 If the Buyer uses Clause 8.4.1 then the Charges must be reduced by an agreed amount by using the Variation Procedure.
- 8.4.3 The Buyer's right to enter into a direct agreement for the supply of the relevant items is subject to both:
  - a) the relevant item being made available to the Supplier if required to provide the Deliverables; and
  - b) any reduction in the Charges excludes any unavoidable costs that must be paid by the Supplier for the substituted item, including any licence fees or early termination charges.
- 8.5 **Ongoing responsibility of the Supplier**
  - 8.5.1 The Supplier is responsible for all acts and omissions of its Subcontractors and those employed or engaged by them as if they were its own.

## 9. Rights and protection

- 9.1 The Supplier warrants and represents that:
  - 9.1.1 it has full capacity and authority to enter into and to perform the Contract;
  - 9.1.2 the Contract is executed by its authorised representative;
  - 9.1.3 it is a legally valid and existing organisation incorporated in the place it was formed;
  - 9.1.4 there are no known legal or regulatory actions or investigations before any court, administrative body or arbitration tribunal pending or threatened against it or its Affiliates that might affect its ability to perform the Contract;
  - 9.1.5 all necessary rights, authorisations, licences and consents (including in relation to IPRs) are in place to enable the Supplier to perform its obligations under the Contract and for the Buyer to receive the Deliverables;
  - 9.1.6 all written statements and representations that it has made as part of the procurement process remain true and accurate except to the extent that these have been superseded or varied by this Contract;
  - 9.1.7 it doesn't have any contractual obligations which are likely to have a material adverse effect on its ability to perform the Contract;

- 9.1.8 it is not impacted by an Insolvency Event or a Financial Distress Event;  
and
- 9.1.9 neither it nor, to the best of its knowledge the Supplier Staff, have committed a Prohibited Act prior to the Start Date or been subject to an investigation relating to a Prohibited Act.
- 9.2 The warranties and representations in Clauses 2.7 and 9.1 are repeated each time the Supplier provides Deliverables under the Contract.
- 9.3 The Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against each of the following:
  - 9.3.1 wilful misconduct of the Supplier, Subcontractor and Supplier Staff that impacts the Contract; and
  - 9.3.2 non-payment by the Supplier of any tax or National Insurance.
- 9.4 All claims indemnified under this Contract must use Clause 30.
- 9.5 The Buyer can terminate the Contract for breach of any warranty or indemnity where they are entitled to do so.
- 9.6 If the Supplier becomes aware of a representation or warranty that becomes untrue or misleading, it must immediately notify the Buyer.
- 9.7 All third party warranties and indemnities covering the Deliverables must be assigned for the Buyer's benefit by the Supplier.

## 10. Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)

- 10.1 Each Party keeps ownership of its own Existing IPRs. The Supplier gives the Buyer a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty-free, irrevocable, transferable worldwide licence to use, change and sub-license the Supplier's Existing IPR to enable it to both:
  - 10.1.1 receive and use the Deliverables; and
  - 10.1.2 make use of the deliverables provided by a Replacement Supplier.
- 10.2 Any New IPR created under the Contract is owned by the Buyer. The Buyer gives the Supplier a licence to use any Existing IPRs and New IPRs for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations during the Contract Period.
- 10.3 Where a Party acquires ownership of IPRs incorrectly under this Contract it must do everything reasonably necessary to complete a transfer assigning them in writing to the other Party on request and at its own cost.
- 10.4 Neither Party has the right to use the other Party's IPRs, including any use of the other Party's names, logos or trademarks, except as provided in Clause 9.1.5 or otherwise agreed in writing.
- 10.5 If there is an IPR Claim, the Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against all losses, damages, costs or expenses (including professional fees and fines) incurred as a result.

- 10.6 If an IPR Claim is made or anticipated the Supplier must at its own expense and the Buyer's sole option, either:
  - 10.6.1 obtain for the Buyer the rights in Clause 10.1 and 10.2 without infringing any third party IPR; and
  - 10.6.2 replace or modify the relevant item with substitutes that don't infringe IPR without adversely affecting the functionality or performance of the Deliverables.

## 11. Rectifying issues

- 11.1 If there is a Notifiable Default, the Supplier must notify the Buyer within 3 Working Days and the Buyer may request that the Supplier provide a Rectification Plan within 10 Working Days alongside any additional documentation that the Buyer requires.
- 11.2 When the Buyer receives a requested Rectification Plan it can either:
  - 11.2.1 reject the Rectification Plan or revised Rectification Plan, giving reasons; or
  - 11.2.2 accept the Rectification Plan or revised Rectification Plan (without limiting its rights) in which case the Supplier must immediately start work on the actions in the Rectification Plan at its own cost.
- 11.3 Where the Rectification Plan or revised Rectification Plan is rejected, the Buyer:
  - 11.3.1 will give reasonable grounds for its decision; and
  - 11.3.2 may request that the Supplier provides a revised Rectification Plan within 5 Working Days.

## 12. Escalating issues

- 12.1 If the Supplier fails to:
  - 12.1.1 submit a Rectification Plan or a revised Rectification Plan within the timescales set out in Clauses 11.1 or 11.3; and
  - 12.1.2 adhere to the timescales set out in an accepted Rectification Plan to resolve the Notifiable Default.or if the Buyer otherwise rejects a Rectification Plan, the Buyer can require the Supplier to attend an Escalation Meeting on not less than 5 Working Days' notice. The Buyer will determine the location, time and duration of the Escalation Meeting(s) and the Supplier must ensure that the Supplier Authorised Representative is available to attend.
- 12.2 The Escalation Meeting(s) will continue until the Buyer is satisfied that the Notifiable Default has been resolved, however, where an Escalation Meeting(s)

has continued for more than 5 Working Days, either Party may treat the matter as a Dispute to be handled through the Dispute Resolution Procedure.

- 12.3 If the Supplier is in Default of any of its obligations under this Clause 12, the Buyer shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement under Clause 14.4.1.

## 13. Step-in rights

- 13.1 If a Step-In Trigger Event occurs, the Buyer may give notice to the Supplier that it will be taking action in accordance with this Clause 13 and setting out:
- 13.1.1 whether it will be taking action itself or with the assistance of a third party;
  - 13.1.2 what Required Action the Buyer will take during the Step-In Process;
  - 13.1.3 when the Required Action will begin and how long it will continue for
  - 13.1.4 whether the Buyer will require access to the Sites; and
  - 13.1.5 what impact the Buyer anticipates that the Required Action will have on the Supplier's obligations to provide the Deliverables.
- 13.2 For as long as the Required Action is taking place:
- 13.2.1 the Supplier will not have to provide the Deliverables that are the subject of the Required Action;
  - 13.2.2 no Deductions will be applicable in respect of Charges relating to the Deliverables that are the subject of the Required Action; and
  - 13.2.3 the Buyer will pay the Charges to the Supplier after subtracting any applicable Deductions and the Buyer's costs of taking the Required Action.
- 13.3 The Buyer will give notice to the Supplier before it ceases to exercise its rights under the Step-In Process and within 20 Working Days of this notice the Supplier will develop a draft Step-Out Plan for the Buyer to approve.
- 13.4 If the Buyer does not approve the draft Step-Out Plan, the Buyer will give reasons and the Supplier will revise the draft Step-Out Plan and re-submit it for approval.

## 14. Ending the contract

- 14.1 The Contract takes effect on the Start Date and ends on the End Date or earlier if terminated under this Clause 14 or if required by Law.
- 14.2 The Buyer can extend the Contract for the Extension Period by giving the Supplier written notice before the Contract expires as described in the Award Form.

### 14.3 Ending the contract without a reason

The Buyer has the right to terminate the Contract at any time without reason or (unless the Award Form states something different) liability by giving the Supplier not less than 90 days' notice (unless a different notice period is set out in the Award Form) and if it's terminated Clauses 14.5.1b) to 14.5.1h) applies.

### 14.4 When the Buyer can end the Contract

14.4.1 If any of the following events happen, the Buyer has the right to immediately terminate the Contract by issuing a Termination Notice to the Supplier:

- a) there's a Supplier Insolvency Event or if the Supplier fails to notify the Buyer of a Financial Distress Event;
- b) the Supplier fails to notify the Buyer in writing of any Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance there's a Default that is not corrected in line with an accepted Rectification Plan;
- c) the Buyer rejects a Rectification Plan or the Supplier does not provide it within 10 days of the request;
- d) there's any material Default of the Contract;
- e) a Default that occurs and then continues to occur on one or more occasions within 6 Months following the Buyer serving a warning notice on the Supplier that it may terminate for persistent breach of the Contract;
- f) there's any material Default of any Joint Controller Agreement relating to the Contract;
- g) there's a Default of Clauses 2.7, 10, 12, 18, 19, 31, 36 or Schedule 19 (Cyber Essentials) (where applicable) relating to the Contract;
- h) the performance of the Supplier causes a Critical Service Level Failure to occur;
- i) there's a consistent repeated failure to meet the Service Levels in Schedule 10 (Service Levels);
- j) there's a Change of Control of the Supplier which isn't pre-approved by the Buyer in writing;
- k) there's a Variation to the Contract which cannot be agreed using Clause 28 (Changing the contract) or resolved using Clause 39 (Resolving disputes);
- l) the Buyer discovers that the Supplier was in one of the situations in 57 (1) or 57(2) of the Regulations at the time the Contract was awarded;
- m) the Court of Justice of the European Union uses Article 258 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) to declare that the Contract should not have been awarded to the Supplier because of a serious breach of the TFEU or the Regulations;
- n) the Supplier or its Affiliates embarrass or bring the Buyer into disrepute or diminish the public trust in them; or

- o) the Supplier fails to comply with its legal obligations in the fields of environmental, social, equality or employment Law when providing the Deliverables.

14.4.2 The Buyer also has the right to terminate the Contract in accordance with Clauses 9.5, 24.3 and 28.3.2.

14.4.3 If any of the events in 73 (1) (a) to (c) of the Regulations happen, the Buyer has the right to immediately terminate the Contract and Clauses 14.5.1b) to 14.5.1h) applies.

#### 14.5 What happens if the contract ends

14.5.1 Where the Buyer terminates the Contract under Clauses 14.4.1, 9.5 and 28.3.2 all of the following apply:

- a) The Supplier is responsible for the Buyer's reasonable costs of procuring Replacement Deliverables for the rest of the Contract Period.
- b) The Buyer's payment obligations under the terminated Contract stop immediately.
- c) Accumulated rights of the Parties are not affected.
- d) The Supplier must promptly delete or return the Government Data except where required to retain copies by Law.
- e) The Supplier must promptly return any of the Buyer's property provided under the terminated Contract.
- f) The Supplier must, at no cost to the Buyer, co-operate fully in the handover and re-procurement (including to a Replacement Supplier).
- g) The Supplier must repay to the Buyer all the Charges that it has been paid in advance for Deliverables that it has not provided as at the date of termination or expiry.
- h) The following Clauses survive the termination of the Contract: 3.2.10, 6, 7.2, 10, 15, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 38, 40 and any Clauses and Schedules which are expressly or by implication intended to continue.

14.5.2 If either Party terminates the Contract under Clause 24.3:

- a) each party must cover its own Losses; and
- b) Clauses 14.5.1b) to 14.5.1h) applies.

#### 14.6 When the Supplier can end the contract

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



14.6.2 The Supplier also has the right to terminate the Contract in accordance with Clauses 24.3 and 27.4.

14.6.3 If the Supplier terminates the Contract under Clause 14.6.1 or 27.4:

- a) the Buyer must promptly pay all outstanding Charges incurred to the Supplier;
- b) the Buyer must pay the Supplier reasonable committed and unavoidable Losses as long as the Supplier provides a fully itemised and costed schedule with evidence – the maximum value of this payment is limited to the total sum payable to the Supplier if the Contract had not been terminated; and
- c) Clauses 14.5.1d) to 14.5.1h) apply.

#### **14.7 Partially ending and suspending the contract**

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

14.7.2 The Buyer can only partially terminate or suspend the Contract if the remaining parts of the Contract can still be used to effectively deliver the intended purpose.

14.7.3 The Parties must agree any necessary Variation required by this Clause 14.7 using the Variation Procedure, but the Supplier may not either:

- a) reject the Variation; or
- b) increase the Charges, except where the right to partial termination is under Clause 14.3.

14.7.4 The Buyer can still use other rights available, or subsequently available to it if it acts on its rights under this Clause 14.7.

## **15. How much you can be held responsible for**

15.1 Each Party's total aggregate liability in each Contract Year under the Contract (whether in tort, contract or otherwise) is no more than the greater of £5 million or 150% of the Estimated Yearly Charges unless specified in the Award Form.

15.2 No Party is liable to the other for:

15.2.1 any indirect Losses; and

15.2.2 Loss of profits, turnover, savings, business opportunities or damage to goodwill (in each case whether direct or indirect).

15.3 In spite of Clause 15.1, neither Party limits or excludes any of the following:

15.3.1 its liability for death or personal injury caused by its negligence, or that of its employees, agents or Subcontractors;

- 15.3.2 its liability for bribery or fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation by it or its employees; and
  - 15.3.3 any liability that cannot be excluded or limited by Law.
- 15.4 In spite of Clause 15.1, the Supplier does not limit or exclude its liability for any indemnity given under Clauses 7.5, 9.3, 10.5, 16.3 or 18.8.5 or Schedule 7 (Staff Transfer) of the Contract.
- 15.5 Each Party must use all reasonable endeavours to mitigate any Loss or damage which it suffers under or in connection with the Contract, including any indemnities.
- 15.6 When calculating the Supplier's liability under Clause 15.1 the following items will not be taken into consideration:
  - 15.6.1 Deductions; and
  - 15.6.2 any items specified in Clause 15.4.
- 15.7 If more than one Supplier is party to the Contract, each Supplier Party is fully responsible for both their own liabilities and the liabilities of the other Suppliers.

## **16. Obeying the law**

- 16.1 The Supplier shall comply with the provisions of Schedule 26 (Corporate Social Responsibility).
- 16.2 The Supplier shall comply with the provisions of:
  - 16.2.1 the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989; and
  - 16.2.2 section 182 of the Finance Act 1989.
- 16.3 The Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against any costs resulting from any Default by the Supplier relating to any applicable Law.
- 16.4 The Supplier must appoint a Compliance Officer who must be responsible for ensuring that the Supplier complies with Law, Clause 16.1 and Clauses 31 to 36.

## **17. Insurance**

The Supplier must, at its own cost, obtain and maintain the Required Insurances in Schedule 22 (Insurance Requirements).

## **18. Data protection**

- 18.1 The Supplier must process Personal Data and ensure that Supplier Staff process Personal Data only in accordance with Schedule 20 (Processing Data).
- 18.2 The Supplier must not remove any ownership or security notices in or relating to the Government Data.

- 18.3 The Supplier must make accessible back-ups of all Government Data, stored in an agreed off-site location and send the Buyer copies every 6 Months.
- 18.4 The Supplier must ensure that any Supplier system holding any Government Data, including back-up data, is a secure system that complies with the Security Policy and any applicable Security Management Plan.
- 18.5 If at any time the Supplier suspects or has reason to believe that the Government Data provided under the Contract is corrupted, lost or sufficiently degraded, then the Supplier must notify the Buyer and immediately suggest remedial action.
- 18.6 If the Government Data is corrupted, lost or sufficiently degraded so as to be unusable the Buyer may either or both:
  - 18.6.1 tell the Supplier to restore or get restored Government Data as soon as practical but no later than 5 Working Days from the date that the Buyer receives notice, or the Supplier finds out about the issue, whichever is earlier; and
  - 18.6.2 restore the Government Data itself or using a third party.
- 18.7 The Supplier must pay each Party's reasonable costs of complying with Clause 18.6 unless the Buyer is at fault.
- 18.8 The Supplier:
  - 18.8.1 must provide the Buyer with all Government Data in an agreed open format within 10 Working Days of a written request;
  - 18.8.2 must have documented processes to guarantee prompt availability of Government Data if the Supplier stops trading;
  - 18.8.3 must securely destroy all Storage Media that has held Government Data at the end of life of that media using Good Industry Practice;
  - 18.8.4 securely erase all Government Data and any copies it holds when asked to do so by the Buyer unless required by Law to retain it; and
  - 18.8.5 indemnifies the Buyer against any and all Losses incurred if the Supplier breaches Clause 18 and any Data Protection Legislation.

## 19. What you must keep confidential

- 19.1 Each Party must:
  - 19.1.1 keep all Confidential Information it receives confidential and secure;
  - 19.1.2 not disclose, use or exploit the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information without the Disclosing Party's prior written consent, except for the purposes anticipated under the Contract; and
  - 19.1.3 immediately notify the Disclosing Party if it suspects unauthorised access, copying, use or disclosure of the Confidential Information.

- 19.2 In spite of Clause 19.1, a Party may disclose Confidential Information which it receives from the Disclosing Party in any of the following instances:
- 19.2.1 where disclosure is required by applicable Law, a regulatory body or a court with the relevant jurisdiction if the Recipient Party notifies the Disclosing Party of the full circumstances, the affected Confidential Information and extent of the disclosure;
  - 19.2.2 if the Recipient Party already had the information without obligation of confidentiality before it was disclosed by the Disclosing Party;
  - 19.2.3 if the information was given to it by a third party without obligation of confidentiality;
  - 19.2.4 if the information was in the public domain at the time of the disclosure;
  - 19.2.5 if the information was independently developed without access to the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information;
  - 19.2.6 on a confidential basis, to its auditors;
  - 19.2.7 on a confidential basis, to its professional advisers on a need-to-know basis; and
  - 19.2.8 to the Serious Fraud Office where the Recipient Party has reasonable grounds to believe that the Disclosing Party is involved in activity that may be a criminal offence under the Bribery Act 2010.
- 19.3 The Supplier may disclose Confidential Information on a confidential basis to Supplier Staff on a need-to-know basis to allow the Supplier to meet its obligations under the Contract. The Supplier Staff must enter into a direct confidentiality agreement with the Buyer at its request.
- 19.4 The Buyer may disclose Confidential Information in any of the following cases:
- 19.4.1 on a confidential basis to the employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Buyer;
  - 19.4.2 on a confidential basis to any other Central Government Body, any successor body to a Central Government Body or any company that the Buyer transfers or proposes to transfer all or any part of its business to;
  - 19.4.3 if the Buyer (acting reasonably) considers disclosure necessary or appropriate to carry out its public functions;
  - 19.4.4 where requested by Parliament; and
  - 19.4.5 under Clauses 8.4.1 and 20.
- 19.5 For the purposes of Clauses 19.2 to 19.4 references to disclosure on a confidential basis means disclosure under a confidentiality agreement or arrangement including terms as strict as those required in Clause 19.
- 19.6 Transparency Information and any Information which is exempt from disclosure by Clause 20 is not Confidential Information.

- 19.7 The Supplier must not make any press announcement or publicise the Contracts or any part of them in any way, without the prior written consent of the Buyer and must use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that Supplier Staff do not either.

## **20. When you can share information**

- 20.1 The Supplier must tell the Buyer within 48 hours if it receives a Request For Information.
- 20.2 In accordance with a reasonable timetable and in any event within 5 Working Days of a request from the Buyer, the Supplier must give the Buyer full co-operation and information needed so the Buyer can:
- 20.2.1 publish the Transparency Information;
  - 20.2.2 comply with any Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request; and
  - 20.2.3 comply with any Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) request.
- 20.3 To the extent that it is allowed and practical to do so, the Buyer will use reasonable endeavours to notify the Supplier of a FOIA request and may talk to the Supplier to help it decide whether to publish information under Clause 20.1. However, the extent, content and format of the disclosure is the Buyer's decision, which does not need to be reasonable.

## **21. Invalid parts of the contract**

- 21.1 If any part of the Contract is prohibited by Law or judged by a court to be unlawful, void or unenforceable, it must be read as if it was removed from the Contract as much as required and rendered ineffective as far as possible without affecting the rest of the Contract, whether it's valid or enforceable.
- 21.2 If any removal under Clause 21.1 is so fundamental that it prevents the purpose of the Contract from being achieved or it materially changes the balance of risk and rewards between the Parties, either Party may give notice that it wishes to negotiate in good faith to rectify these issues and to amend the Contract accordingly.
- 21.3 If the Parties cannot agree on what amendments are required within 5 Working Days, the matter will be dealt with via commercial negotiation as set out in Clause 39.2 and, if there is no resolution within 30 Working Days of the matter being referred, the Contract will terminate automatically and immediately with costs lying where they fall.

## **22. No other terms apply**

The provisions incorporated into the Contract are the entire agreement between the Parties. The Contract replaces all previous negotiations, arrangements, statements,

understandings, course of dealings or agreements made between the Parties in relation to its subject matter whether written or oral. No other provisions apply and neither Party has entered into this Contract in reliance on any warranty, statement, promise or representation other than the ones set out in this Contract.

## **23. Other people's rights in the Contract**

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

## **24. Circumstances beyond your control**

- 24.1 Any Party affected by a Force Majeure Event is excused from performing its obligations under the Contract while the inability to perform continues, if it both:
  - 24.1.1 provides a Force Majeure Notice to the other Party; and
  - 24.1.2 uses all reasonable measures practical to reduce the impact of the Force Majeure Event.
- 24.2 Any failure or delay by the Supplier to perform its obligations under this Contract that is due to a failure or delay by an agent, Subcontractor or supplier will only be considered a Force Majeure Event if that third party is itself prevented from complying with an obligation to the Supplier due to a Force Majeure Event.
- 24.3 Either party can partially or fully terminate the Contract if the provision of the Deliverables is materially affected by a Force Majeure Event which lasts for 90 days continuously.

## **25. Relationships created by the contract**

The Contract does not create a partnership, joint venture or employment relationship. The Supplier must represent themselves accordingly and ensure others do so.

## **26. Giving up contract rights**

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

## **27. Transferring responsibilities**

- 27.1 The Supplier cannot assign, novate, sub-contract or in any other way dispose of the Contract or any part of it without the Buyer's written consent.
- 27.2 The Buyer can assign, novate or transfer its Contract or any part of it to any Crown Body, public or private sector body which performs the functions of the Buyer.

- 27.3 When the Buyer uses its rights under Clause 27.2 the Supplier must enter into a novation agreement in the form that the Buyer specifies.
- 27.4 The Supplier can terminate the Contract novated under Clause 27.2 to a private sector body that is experiencing an Insolvency Event.
- 27.5 The Supplier remains responsible for all acts and omissions of the Supplier Staff as if they were its own.
- 27.6 If the Buyer asks the Supplier for details about Subcontractors, the Supplier must provide details of Subcontractors at all levels of the supply chain including:
  - 27.6.1 their name;
  - 27.6.2 the scope of their appointment;
  - 27.6.3 the duration of their appointment; and
  - 27.6.4 a copy of the Sub-Contract.

## **28. Changing the contract**

- 28.1 Either Party can request a Variation to the Contract which is only effective if set out in the Variation Form and agreed in writing and signed by both Parties.
- 28.2 The Supplier must provide an Impact Assessment either:
  - 28.2.1 with the Variation Form, where the Supplier requests the Variation; and
  - 28.2.2 within the time limits included in a Variation Form requested by the Buyer.
- 28.3 If the Variation to the Contract cannot be agreed or resolved by the Parties, the Buyer can either:
  - 28.3.1 agree that the Contract continues without the Variation;
  - 28.3.2 terminate the Contract, unless the Supplier has already provided part or all of the provision of the Deliverables, or where the Supplier can show evidence of substantial work being carried out to provide them; and
  - 28.3.3 refer the Dispute to be resolved using Clause 39 (Resolving Disputes).
- 28.4 The Buyer is not required to accept a Variation request made by the Supplier.
- 28.5 The Supplier may only reject a Variation requested by the Buyer if the Supplier:
  - 28.5.1 reasonably believes that the Variation would materially and adversely affect the risks to the health and safety of any person or that it would result in the Deliverables being provided in a way that infringes any Law; or
  - 28.5.2 demonstrates to the Buyer's reasonable satisfaction that the Variation is technically impossible to implement and that neither the Tender nor the

Specification state that the Supplier has the required technical capacity or flexibility to implement the Variation.

- 28.6 If there is a General Change in Law, the Supplier must bear the risk of the change and is not entitled to ask for an increase to the Charges.
- 28.7 If there is a Specific Change in Law or one is likely to happen during the Contract Period the Supplier must give the Buyer notice of the likely effects of the changes as soon as reasonably practical. They must also say if they think any Variation is needed either to the Deliverables, the Charges or the Contract and provide evidence:
  - 28.7.1 that the Supplier has kept costs as low as possible, including in Subcontractor costs; and
  - 28.7.2 of how it has affected the Supplier's costs.
- 28.8 Any change in the Charges or relief from the Supplier's obligations because of a Specific Change in Law must be implemented using Clauses 28.1 to 28.4.

## **29. How to communicate about the contract**

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

## **30. Dealing with claims**

- 30.1 If a Beneficiary is notified of a Claim then it must notify the Indemnifier as soon as reasonably practical and no later than 10 Working Days.
- 30.2 At the Indemnifier's cost the Beneficiary must both:
  - 30.2.1 allow the Indemnifier to conduct all negotiations and proceedings to do with a Claim; and
  - 30.2.2 give the Indemnifier reasonable assistance with the claim if requested.
- 30.3 The Beneficiary must not make admissions about the Claim without the prior written consent of the Indemnifier which cannot be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
- 30.4 The Indemnifier must consider and defend the Claim diligently using competent legal advisors and in a way that doesn't damage the Beneficiary's reputation.



- 30.5 The Indemnifier must not settle or compromise any Claim without the Beneficiary's prior written consent which it must not unreasonably withhold or delay.
- 30.6 Each Beneficiary must use all reasonable endeavours to minimise and mitigate any losses that it suffers because of the Claim.
- 30.7 If the Indemnifier pays the Beneficiary money under an indemnity and the Beneficiary later recovers money which is directly related to the Claim, the Beneficiary must immediately repay the Indemnifier the lesser of either:
  - 30.7.1 the sum recovered minus any legitimate amount spent by the Beneficiary when recovering this money; and
  - 30.7.2 the amount the Indemnifier paid the Beneficiary for the Claim.

## **31. Preventing fraud, bribery and corruption**

- 31.1 The Supplier must not during the Contract Period:
  - 31.1.1 commit a Prohibited Act or any other criminal offence in the Regulations 57(1) and 57(2); and
  - 31.1.2 do or allow anything which would cause the Buyer, including any of their employees, consultants, contractors, Subcontractors or agents to breach any of the Relevant Requirements or incur any liability under them.
- 31.2 The Supplier must during the Contract Period:
  - 31.2.1 create, maintain and enforce adequate policies and procedures to ensure it complies with the Relevant Requirements to prevent a Prohibited Act and require its Subcontractors to do the same;
  - 31.2.2 keep full records to show it has complied with its obligations under this Clause 31 and give copies to the Buyer on request; and
  - 31.2.3 if required by the Buyer, within 20 Working Days of the Start Date of the Contract, and then annually, certify in writing to the Buyer, that they have complied with this Clause 31, including compliance of Supplier Staff, and provide reasonable supporting evidence of this on request, including its policies and procedures.
- 31.3 The Supplier must immediately notify the Buyer if it becomes aware of any breach of Clauses 31.1 or 31.2 or has any reason to think that it, or any of the Supplier Staff, have either:
  - 31.3.1 been investigated or prosecuted for an alleged Prohibited Act;
  - 31.3.2 been debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or are otherwise ineligible to take part in procurement programmes or contracts because of a Prohibited Act by any government department or agency;

- 31.3.3 received a request or demand for any undue financial or other advantage of any kind related to the Contract; and
  - 31.3.4 suspected that any person or Party directly or indirectly related to the Contract has committed or attempted to commit a Prohibited Act.
- 31.4 If the Supplier notifies the Buyer as required by Clause 31.3, the Supplier must respond promptly to their further enquiries, co-operate with any investigation and allow the Audit of any books, records and relevant documentation.
- 31.5 If the Supplier is in Default under Clauses 31.1 or 31.2, the Buyer may:
  - 31.5.1 require the Supplier to remove any Supplier Staff from providing the Deliverables if their acts or omissions have caused the Default; and
  - 31.5.2 immediately terminate this agreement.
- 31.6 In any notice the Supplier gives under Clause 31.4 it must specify the:
  - 31.6.1 Prohibited Act;
  - 31.6.2 identity of the Party who it thinks has committed the Prohibited Act; and
  - 31.6.3 action it has decided to take.

## **32. Equality, diversity and human rights**

- 32.1 The Supplier must follow all applicable equality Law when they perform their obligations under the Contract, including:
  - 32.1.1 protections against discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, gender reassignment, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, maternity, age or otherwise; and
  - 32.1.2 any other requirements and instructions which the Buyer reasonably imposes related to equality Law.
- 32.2 The Supplier must use all reasonable endeavours, and inform the Buyer of the steps taken, to prevent anything that is considered to be unlawful discrimination by any court or tribunal, or the Equality and Human Rights Commission (or any successor organisation) when working on the Contract.

## **33. Health and safety**

- 33.1 The Supplier must perform its obligations meeting the requirements of:
  - 33.1.1 all applicable Law regarding health and safety; and
  - 33.1.2 the Buyer's current health and safety policy while at the Buyer's Premises, as provided to the Supplier.

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

## 34. Environment

- 34.1 When working on Site the Supplier must perform its obligations under the Buyer's current Environmental Policy, which the Buyer must provide.
- 34.2 The Supplier must ensure that Supplier Staff are aware of the Buyer's Environmental Policy.

## 35. Tax

- 35.1 The Supplier must not breach any tax or social security obligations and must enter into a binding agreement to pay any late contributions due, including where applicable, any interest or any fines. The Buyer cannot terminate the Contract where the Supplier has not paid a minor tax or social security contribution.
- 35.2 Where the Charges payable under the Contract are or are likely to exceed £5 million at any point during the relevant Contract Period, and an Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance occurs, the Supplier must notify the Buyer of it within 5 Working Days including:
  - 35.2.1 the steps that the Supplier is taking to address the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance and any mitigating factors that it considers relevant; and
  - 35.2.2 other information relating to the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance that the Buyer may reasonably need.
- 35.3 Where the Supplier or any Supplier Staff are liable to be taxed or to pay National Insurance contributions in the UK relating to payment received under the Contract, the Supplier must both:
  - 35.3.1 comply with the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax, the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (including IR35) and National Insurance contributions; and
  - 35.3.2 indemnify the Buyer against any Income Tax, National Insurance and social security contributions and any other liability, deduction, contribution, assessment or claim arising from or made during or after the Contract Period in connection with the provision of the Deliverables by the Supplier or any of the Supplier Staff.

- 35.4 If any of the Supplier Staff are Workers who receive payment relating to the Deliverables, then the Supplier must ensure that its contract with the Worker contains the following requirements:
- 35.4.1 the Buyer may, at any time during the Contract Period, request that the Worker provides information which demonstrates they comply with Clause 35.3.1, or why those requirements do not apply, the Buyer can specify the information the Worker must provide and the deadline for responding;
  - 35.4.2 the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker fails to provide the information requested by the Buyer within the time specified by the Buyer;
  - 35.4.3 the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker provides information which the Buyer considers isn't good enough to demonstrate how it complies with Clause 35.3.1 or confirms that the Worker is not complying with those requirements; and
  - 35.4.4 the Buyer may supply any information they receive from the Worker to HMRC for revenue collection and management.

## **36. Conflict of interest**

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

## **37. Reporting a breach of the contract**

- 37.1 As soon as it is aware of it the Supplier and Supplier Staff must report to the Buyer any actual or suspected breach of:
  - 37.1.1 Law;
  - 37.1.2 Clause 16.1; and
  - 37.1.3 Clauses 31 to 36.
- 37.2 The Supplier must not retaliate against any of the Supplier Staff who in good faith reports a breach listed in Clause 37.1 to the Buyer or a Prescribed Person.

## 38. Further Assurances

Each Party will, at the request and cost of the other Party, do all things which may be reasonably necessary to give effect to the meaning of this Contract.

## 39. Resolving disputes

- 39.1 If there is a Dispute, the Buyer Authorised Representative and the Supplier Authorised Representative will, within 28 days of a written request from the other Party, meet in good faith to resolve the Dispute.
- 39.2 If the Dispute is not resolved at that meeting either Party can send a notice to the other explaining why it thinks the Dispute has arisen and within 28 days the Parties will seek to resolve the Dispute by commercial negotiation, led by senior representatives who have authority to settle it.
- 39.3 If the Parties cannot resolve the Dispute via commercial negotiation, they can attempt to settle it by mediation using the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) Model Mediation Procedure current at the time of the Dispute. If the Parties cannot agree on a mediator, the mediator will be nominated by CEDR. If either Party does not wish to use, or continue to use mediation, or mediation does not resolve the Dispute, the Dispute must be resolved using Clauses 39.4 to 39.6.
- 39.4 Unless the Buyer refers the Dispute to arbitration using Clause 39.5, the Parties irrevocably agree that the courts of England and Wales have the exclusive jurisdiction to:
  - 39.4.1 determine the Dispute;
  - 39.4.2 grant interim remedies; and
  - 39.4.3 grant any other provisional or protective relief.
- 39.5 The Supplier agrees that the Buyer has the exclusive right to refer any Dispute to be finally resolved by arbitration under the London Court of International Arbitration Rules current at the time of the Dispute. There will be only one arbitrator. The seat or legal place of the arbitration will be London and the proceedings will be in English.
- 39.6 The Buyer has the right to refer a Dispute to arbitration even if the Supplier has started or has attempted to start court proceedings under Clause 39.4, unless the Buyer has agreed to the court proceedings or participated in them. Even if court proceedings have started, the Parties must do everything necessary to ensure that the court proceedings are stayed in favour of any arbitration proceedings if they are started under Clause 39.5.
- 39.7 The Supplier cannot suspend the performance of the Contract during any Dispute.

## **40. Which law applies**

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