

DPS SCHEDULE 4: LETTER OF APPOINTMENT AND CONTRACT TERMS

Part 1: Letter of Appointment

Contract for **Evaluation of the national extension of Virtual School Heads to all children with a social worker and Pupil Premium Plus post-16 pilot**

Project Reference No. **DFERPPU 21-22/012**

Dear Sirs/Madams

Letter of Appointment

This letter of Appointment dated 11th October 2021, is issued in accordance with the provisions of the DPS Agreement (RM6018) between CCS and the Supplier.

Capitalised terms and expressions used in this letter have the same meanings as in the Contract Terms unless the context otherwise requires.

Order Number:	[To be confirmed by finance team, when raised]
From:	Department for Education (the "Customer")
To:	Rees Centre, University of Oxford (the "Supplier")

Effective Date:	11/10/2021
Expiry Date:	End date of Initial Period: 31/03/2022 End date of Maximum Extension Period (if applicable): 31/03/2025

Services required:	Set out in Part A -Specification of the DPS Agreement and refined by all of the following: Annex A - the Statement of Requirements Annex B - the Supplier's Proposal Annex C - the Price Schedule Annex D - the Terms & Conditions
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Key Individuals:	<u>For the Customer:</u>
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Contract Charges (excluding VAT, but including all other expenses related to Contract delivery):	£450,000 Payment milestones detailed in Annex D, Schedule 6.
Insurance Requirements	See RM6018 Research Marketplace Contract Terms.
Liability Requirements	See RM6018 Research Marketplace Contract Terms.
Customer billing address for invoicing:	Department for Education, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BT Invoice must be submitted in pdf format and sent via email to AccountsPayable.OCR@education.gov.uk

GDPR	See Contract Terms (Annex D), Schedule 7
Alternative and/or additional provisions (including Schedule 8 (Additional clauses)):	Contract Terms Schedule 8 (Additional Clauses): 1 Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults 2 Project Outputs 3 Departmental Security Standards for Business Services and ICT Contracts

FORMATION OF CONTRACT

BY SIGNING AND RETURNING THIS LETTER OF APPOINTMENT (which may be done by electronic means) the Supplier agrees to enter a Contract with the Customer to provide the Services in accordance with the terms of this letter and the Contract Terms.

The Parties hereby acknowledge and agree that they have read this letter and the Contract Terms.

The Parties hereby acknowledge and agree that this Contract shall be formed when the Customer acknowledges (which may be done by electronic means) the receipt of the signed copy of this letter from the Supplier within two (2) Working Days from such receipt

For and on behalf of the Supplier:

For and on behalf of the Customer:

Name and Title:

██████████

Name and Title:

██████████

Signature:

██████████

Signature:

██████████

Date:

██████████

Date:

██████████

ANNEX A

Statement of Requirements

Bid Pack for Call-off Competition

Attachment 3 – Statement of Requirements

Evaluation of the national extension of Virtual School Heads to all children with a social worker and Pupil Premium Plus post-16 pilot

Contract Reference: DFERPPU 21-22/012

**FURTHER COMPETITION FROM THE CROWN COMMERCIAL SERVICE
RM6018 RESEARCH MARKETPLACE**

1. Purpose

- 1.1. The Department for Education (DfE), referred to as 'The Authority' hereafter is looking for a supplier to evaluate two related new policy proposals: first, the national extension of Virtual School Heads (VSH) to all children with a social worker in school; and second, the extension of Pupil Premium Plus (PP+) funding to looked-after children and care leavers in further education (the PP+ post-16 pilot).
- 1.2. The evaluation is critical to the delivery of the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 pilot. This study will inform an important and high-profile policy agenda, with significant political interest from DfE, senior Government ministers and the wider children's social care sector. There is also a need to build the evidence base on the funding, commissioning and delivery of these services and to inform future policy development in this space.

2. Background to the Contracting Authority

- 2.1. Child Protection and Safeguarding Division in the Department for Education.

3. Scope of Requirement

- 3.1. The primary focus is the national extension of VSHs to all children with a social worker in school. For the purposes of this study children with a social worker includes: Children in Need (CiN); children on a Child Protection Plan (CPP); and children who have ever had a social worker¹. Local Authorities (LAs) have recently been awarded funding to extend the VSH role and activity is scheduled to start from September 2021. The secondary part of the study will look at a pilot of post-16 PP+ funding for looked-after children and care leavers in FE. This funding will be awarded to a selected number of local authorities following a bidding process (that is currently underway) and activity will begin in October 2021.
- 3.2. The proposed study includes two stages and the contract will include a break clause after Stage 1. **Stage 1** will be look at implementation, any early impacts or effects and develop the approach and method for a more rigorous longer term impact study (a *feasibility* study). It will last approximately 6 months, from September 2021 to March 2022, and will include both the VSH extension and the PP+ post-16 pilot. The Department is currently looking to agree further funding for the VSH extension; if successful we will continue with the project and evaluation from April 2022 until March 2025 – this will be **Stage 2**.
- 3.3. The appointed contractor is expected to work with VSHs in the design and delivery of the study approach and findings.

4. Background

- 4.1. The educational outcomes of vulnerable children such as those with a social worker are a significant policy interest within DfE and among senior Government ministers. Each LA is required to appoint a VSH to promote the educational attainment of Looked after Children (LAC); this was made statutory in the Children and Families Act

¹ Further detail on children with a social worker is available here: [Promoting the education of children with a social worker \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/614441/Promoting_the_education_of_children_with_a_social_worker.pdf)

2014. VSHs are responsible for a range of educational activities, including the quality and delivery of individual Personal Education Plans (PEPs). The role also includes managing Pupil Premium Plus funding (PP+) for LAC up to the age of 16 in schools.

- 4.2. Since September 2018 VSHs have also had responsibility to promote the educational achievement of Previously Looked After Children (PLAC), through the provision of advice and information to designated teachers, parents and others (as appropriate). This gives schools access to VSH expert advice on supporting PLAC, including on how best to use PP+ funding to support them.
- 4.3. The Children in Need review² published in June 2019 found that at least 1.6 million children needed a social worker between 2012/13 and 2017/18. In 2018, this equated to around 1 in 10 children overall or an average of 3 children in every classroom that have (or had) a social worker in the last 6 years.
- 4.4. CIN and those on a CPP have poorer outcomes at every stage of their education, even after social worker involvement has ended. For instance, they are 25-50% less likely to achieve a strong pass in Maths or English GCSEs. However, the educational disadvantage of having been CIN or CPP is not well recognised and targeted support is not in place as it is for other groups, such as children eligible for Free School Meals (FSM), children with Special Educational Needs (SEND) and LAC.
- 4.5. On 16th June 2021 it was announced³ that the role of VSH would be extended further to include all children who have or have had a social worker - our CIN and CPP children. This funding is for the VSH extension role and is different to the PP+ post-16 funding for LAC and PLAC.
- 4.6. At the same time further funding was also announced for VSHs to pilot PP+ funding in FE in selected local authorities for post-16 LAC and care leavers – the PP+ post-16 pilot. VSHs currently receive PP+ funding of £2,345 per child in care aged 4-15. This is used to provide individual support that a child needs, as identified in their Personal Education Plan (PEP), as well as support for the cohort as a whole. This funding ceases when the child reaches the age of 16, but VSH duties and the need for bespoke support continue for as long as the child is in care.
- 4.7. The PP+ post-16 pilot will provide funding for VSHs to continue to support looked-after children and care leavers in FE. This pilot will run for two terms, from 4 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, and aims to test the delivery and use of the additional financial support for looked-after children and care leavers in FE colleges.

4.8. Further background reading relevant to VSHs and PP+ is available at:

- [Press release: £16 million to support young people with a social worker](#)
- [Promoting the education of children with a social worker](#) (guidance on the VSH extension)
- [Grant determination letter and Memorandum of Understanding for the VSH](#)

² [Review of children in need - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

³

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/16-million-to-support-young-people-with-a-social-worker>

- [extension](#)
- [Pupil Premium Plus \(PP+\) post-16 pilot: information on how to submit an expression of interest](#)
- [Evaluation of the Virtual School Head pilot \(University of Bristol, 2009\)](#)
- [The impact of virtual schools on the educational progress of looked after children \(Ofsted, 2012\)](#)

5. The Requirement

- 5.1. This study has a combined requirement to look at both the extended VSH role and the PP+ post-16 pilot. We wish to understand how the additional funding for the extended VSH role and PP+ post-16 pilot has been used and the activities VSHs are delivering. We are interested in any early impacts or effects of the funding, such as changes in education participation or aspirations. Finally, we want the contractor to work with us to develop an approach and methodology to measure the longer-term impact of the extended VSH role.
- 5.2. Stage 1 will look at the process by which the extension of the VSH is developed and implemented nationally. We would like to understand the differences across local authorities, their aims and challenges. We would also like to understand how VSHs intend to assess the short- and longer-term impact and success of their expanded role.
- 5.3. Local authorities are currently in the process of submitting expressions of interest to pilot post-16 PP+ funding for looked-after children and care leavers in FE. These bids comprise of what they want to do and costs. They have been asked to focus on raising the profile of looked after children and care leavers in FE; improve the attendance of this group of children in FE; better support the delivery of Personal Education Plans, pathway plans or equivalent; and developing good practice models for use across the country. Successful bids will be confirmed prior to the start of the pilot in October 2021 and will vary in aims, scope and design.
- 5.4. We would like to look at how PP+ post-16 pilot activities are implemented and understand the differences across the LAs in terms of their aims and challenges.
- 5.5. The aims and objectives are:

Aims

- Understand how the funding is being used for both the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 pilot
- To understand any early effects or impacts of the extended VSH role and the PP+ post-16 pilot
- To develop an approach and methodology to measure the longer-term impact of the VSH role extension
- To use the learning to help understand what conditions need to be in place for the VSH extension to be successful and have most impact, and to inform policy thinking on whether the extended VSH role should be made statutory.

Objectives:

- To understand how the extended VSH role and the PP+ post-16 pilot have been implemented and how local authorities and education providers have responded to it.
- Understand if VSHs have encountered any difficulties in setting up and delivering their extended responsibilities.
- To explore how selected local authorities have used PP+ post-16 pilot funding and begin to review early impacts or effects of this funding, comparing it to local authorities that did not receive it.
- To understand if the extended VSH role is any different to the current role, and if so, how?
- To explore the feasibility and potential options for continuation of the VSH extension and assessing long-term impact in Stage 2.

6. Target participant group

- 6.1. The primary participant group for this research are VSHs, who are based in every local authority in England. In addition, the research is likely to involve other local authority staff; teachers and education provider staff; social workers; children and young people; and other stakeholders the VSH may work with.
- 6.2. The majority of VSHs are members of the National Association of Virtual School Heads (NAVSH). We have access to contact details for VSHs. Subject to securing internal DfE data protection clearance, we aim to be able to share these contact details with the appointed contractor.

7. Suggested Approach

- 7.1. While we have set out some ideas below, tenderers can suggest the most robust and cost-effective methodologies to meet the aims of the study within the budget and should include costed options where appropriate.
- 7.2. We anticipate that both Stage 1 and Stage 2 will use a mixed-method approach, involving both quantitative and qualitative components. We anticipate the research will include the following elements to answer the aims and objectives.

Stage 1, September 2021 – March 2022

- 7.3. We envisage a combination of desk research; design, collection and analysis of metrics and monitoring data; qualitative case studies and measurement of effects across the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 pilot. We provide further detail of each component below.

Desk research

- 7.4. We suggest the appointed contractor undertakes initial desk research to gather an understanding of who the VSHs are and the work that they do. This might include a review of the EOIs for the PP+ post-16 funding pilot; any documentation VSHs are able to provide on their role and activities so far; and any relevant academic literature on VSHs.

Metrics and monitoring information

7.5. We want to develop a set of key metrics to monitor implementation of the extended VSH role and the PP+ post-16 pilot. We have agreement with the LAs to provide data at two time points – September 2021 and February 2022. The metrics should be developed in partnership with the VSHs and we anticipate likely data required would be:

- Size of eligible child and young people population;
- Demographics, such as age and ethnicity, of children and young people they are supporting
- Number of schools or education providers the VSH has worked with or visited
- Attendance rates of eligible child population
- Number of eligible child population undergoing formal attendance or disciplinary procedures
- If they have received PP+ post-16 pilot funding
- How they used the funding they have received

7.6. Bidders should also consider how the design and collection of metrics in Stage 1 can contribute to the Stage 2 evaluation.

Qualitative research

7.7. We suggest qualitative research takes place with a sample of around 15 VSHs. This would include both the VSH extended role and the PP+ post-16 pilot. We would like the appointed contractor to consider an appropriate sampling frame and size for this component of Stage 1. We anticipate the sample needs to reflect the range of settings and the sampling might include factors such as:

- Local authority size
- Region/geographical location
- Number of CiN/CPP/ ever had a social worker
- Ofsted rating
- VSH approach in each LA
- Receipt of PP+ post-16 funding
- Number of looked after children/care leavers in local authority

7.8. The interviews will inform a series of approximately 15 case studies to be included in final reporting. The case studies should reflect the range of activities undertaken by VSHs as part of the national extension and the PP+ pilot. We suggest the case studies are divided to around 10 focusing on VSH's extended activities and around 5 looking at the PP post-16 pilot. We are open to suggestions on an alternative division of case studies between the VSH and PP+ post-16 pilot.

Reflection events

7.9. We would like the appointed contractor to hold up to 3 Reflection Events to work with VSHs on the design and delivery of the study approach and its findings. We would like to involve VSHs in listening

to early feedback from the study, hear from each other's experiences and share learning and identified good practice amongst the network on activities undertaken.

7.10. Given current circumstances and the wide geographical spread of VSHs, bidders should consider holding such events virtually. We have suggested dates in Section 8, however, we are flexible in when such events should take place.

7.11. We suggest the events take place at around a similar period, to give all VSHs equal opportunity to hear early findings and share learning. We would like the appointed contractor to facilitate such events and share early findings with participants.

Early impacts and effects

7.12. A key element of the research is to understand the performance of the VSH role extension and PP+ post-16 pilot, how young people are affected and any early impact of the changes within Stage 1. We recognise that this is likely to be challenging due to the way the programmes are implemented and tight timescales. As the PP+ post-16 pilot is only running in Stage 1, it is especially important to capture any early impacts or effects of the pilot.

7.13. We welcome ideas on how we can measure impact within the timescales available for Stage 1. This may include;

- Changes in attendance and participation in education among children with a social worker
- Changes in education disciplinary actions or procedures among children with a social worker
- Reductions or changes in levels of expulsions from education among children with a social worker
- Differences in behaviour, particularly in education settings, among children with a social worker
- Changes to children with a social worker attending alternative provision, such as pupil referral units

7.14. We are looking for robust approaches to measuring impact that involve qualitative and quantitative techniques. We are particularly keen to make use of existing data sets for schools, FE colleges and children in the care system. Gaining access to some datasets can take time and may be more appropriate for Stage 2 of this evaluation. Existing DfE evidence and datasets that are relevant to this study include:

- [Outcomes for children in need data](#)
- [Outcomes for children looked after data](#)
- [Children looked after in England including adoptions data](#)
- [Post-16 education and labour market activities and outcomes for looked-after children \(LEO\)](#)
- [Children in need of help and protection review](#)
- [National pupil database](#)
- [Individualised learner record \(ILR\)](#)

7.15. Bidders are asked to consider the possibility of identifying a comparison group, with whom to compare the progress and outcomes of the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 pilot with a group of children receiving business as usual support. Given the differences in set up between the VSH extension and the PP+ post-16 pilot, separate approaches may be necessary. Bidders are asked to identify approaches on how this can be achieved, and how any specific challenges will be addressed.

VSH

7.16. Given the VSH extended role will be in place in all local authorities, it will not be possible to use a counterfactual. However, alternative, robust comparison options to explore effects of the VSH extended role are available. These may involve building on the metrics discussed in 7.5 and using propensity score matching, exploring effects on a cohort who are not eligible for extended VSH support or historical comparison groups.

PP+ post-16 pilot

7.17. As the PP+ post-16 pilot is only available to selected LAs, there is an opportunity to use a robust a counter-factual to explore impact of the pilot. One approach might be to consider comparing outcomes of young people in LAs who have received the PP+ post-16 funding with those who have not.

Understanding longer-term effects

7.18. The final component of the Stage 1 study is to help develop an approach and method for assessing the longer-term impacts of the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 pilot (a feasibility study). We recognise the challenges of assessing impact within the Stage 1 timescale and this element of the work will help set out what might be achievable to a longer timeframe. The primary interest is currently in a longer-term impact evaluation of the VSH extension; however, we are also interested in ideas for a longer-term PP+ post-16 evaluation too.

7.19. This stage of the work will:

- Draw on the implementation study to develop a better understanding of the delivery of the two policy areas - the inputs, outputs and outcomes;
- Explore the availability of relevant and robust data;
- Develop an approach to longer-term monitoring;
- Propose a suitable method for measuring impact of the VSH extension, including:
 - a viable and appropriate sampling frame
 - data collection and use of existing data
 - key measures and opportunities for data matching
- establishing an appropriate counterfactual (given the VSH role extension will be in place in all LAs)
- timescales
- analysis of costs and benefits

7.20. The feasibility stage will take place between November 2021 and March 2022. A draft report discussing all aspects of Stage 1 is required in late February 2022. The successful contractor will provide a report of 40-50 pages outlining the findings from the work and a proposal for the approach and method for stage 2 evaluation design.

Stage 2 – Impact evaluation of VSH extension April 2022 – 2025

7.21. Stage 2 is likely to focus on the VSH role extension only; bidders should assume that the VSH extension will continue to be funded for another 3 years. We recognise that this approach is likely to need to be adapted following the development work from Stage 1.

7.22. Our initial thoughts around particular components for the Stage 2 impact evaluation include:

- Qualitative and quantitative data collection and analysis
- Robust comparison groups or counter-factual, including quasi-experimental techniques
- Primary research with key participants
- In-depth quantitative analysis using publicly available datasets to explore different approaches and what works to deliver longer-term outcomes for children and young people
- Cost-benefit analysis

7.23. The DfE expects all impact evaluations to be robust and completed to a high standard. As such, we would like this impact evaluation to meet a Level 4 on the Scientific Maryland Scale 4.

7.24. Depending on outcomes of internal decisions, the appointed contractor will be asked to prepare a full proposal for discussion and agreement with the DfE before they proceed with Stage 2.

8. Key Milestones and Deliverables

8.1. The following contract milestones/deliverables shall apply:

Milestone	Timeframe
Contract signed	<i>End of September 2021</i>
Inception meeting	<i>End of September 2021</i>
Commencement of work	<i>Early October 2021</i>
Design data collection proforma	<i>Early October 2021</i>

⁴ [The Maryland Scientific Methods Scale \(SMS\) | What Works Centre for Local Economic Growth \(whatworksgrowth.org\)](#)

Milestone	Timeframe
Attend VSH extension Working Group (to introduce and outline research plan and get feedback on proforma)	<i>Mid - October 2021</i>
Issue data collection proforma to all VSHs	<i>October 2021</i>
Design primary research tools	<i>October 2021</i>
Qualitative primary with VSHs	<i>Mid-October 2021 – January 2022</i>
Steering group meeting: Study progress update	<i>November 2021</i>
Feedback on early findings from data collection to VSH extension Working Group	<i>December 2021</i>
Issue 2 nd data collection to all VSHs	<i>January - February 2022</i>
Reflection events x 3	<i>February 2022</i>
Submit draft report	<i>Early March 2022</i>
Feedback on early findings from 2 nd data collection to VSH extension Working Group	<i>March 2022</i>
Steering group meeting (verbal presentation of findings)	<i>March 2022</i>
Submit final report	<i>31st March 2022</i>
Year 1 of contract	<i>September 2021 – 31st March 2022</i>
Potential BREAK CLAUSE	<i>March 2022</i>
<i>Longer-term study (if agreed) The key dates and deliverables below are provisional and will be agreed with the appointed contractor upon submission of their detailed Stage 2 proposal</i>	
Detailed proposal for Stage 2 impact evaluation submitted to DfE	<i>May 2022</i>

Milestone	Timeframe
Inception meeting (to run through longer-term study approach)	<i>August/September 2022</i>
Agree deliverables for Stage 2	<i>September 2022</i>
Quantitative data collection for Stage 2	<i>September 2022</i>
Primary, qualitative research for Stage 2	<i>October 2022 – January 2023</i>
Analysis and reporting	<i>January – March 2023</i>
Interim report (not for publication)	<i>March – April 2023</i>
Year 2, quantitative data collection, Stage 2	<i>September – October 2023</i>
Year 2, primary qualitative research, Stage 2	<i>October 2023 – January 2024</i>
Analysis and reporting	<i>January – March 2024</i>
Year 2, interim report (not for publication)	<i>March 2024</i>
Year 3, quantitative data collection, Stage 2	<i>September – October 2024</i>
Year 3, primary qualitative research	<i>October 2024 – January 2025</i>
Analysis and reporting	<i>January 2025 – February 2025</i>
Draft final report	<i>February 2025</i>
Final report (suitable for publication)	<i>March 2025</i>

8.2. Further deliverables for the longer-term study will be agreed at inception in 2022.

8.3. The contract will be let for 4 years in total, with a break clause which is exercisable in March 2022.

9. OUTPUTS

9.1. We would like the appointed contractor to produce the following outputs for Stage 1:

- Monitoring data collection proforma to be distributed to VSHs, for data on extended VSH role and PP+
- Early analysis and summary of findings from the two data collection proforma rounds, to be presented to the VSH extension Working Group.
- Anonymised tables detailing data from monitoring collection
- Primary data collection tools, including semi-structured interview guides for use with VSHs, local authority staff, schools, other education providers, social workers and stakeholders.
- Early thinking and measuring of initial impact of post-16 PP+ funding
- Draft report detailing findings from implementation and feasibility study, covering findings on VSH extension and the PP+ post-16 pilot and an outline of Stage 2 evaluation approach
- Full report detailing findings from implementation and feasibility study, covering findings on VSH extension and the PP+ post-16 pilot, in a format that meets DfE accessibility and publication standards.
- Verbal presentation and engaging slidepack, suitable for use with analytical and non-analytical colleagues

9.2. The appointed contractor is required to clear all outputs with the DfE project manager before use.

9.3. The outputs for Stage 2 will be decided upon receipt of the full proposal and when the DfE is able to confirm that Stage 2 will go ahead. We anticipate Stage 2 outputs are likely to include:

- Primary qualitative and quantitative data collection tools, including semi-structured interview guides for use with VSHs, local authority staff, schools, other education providers, social workers and stakeholders.
- Draft report detailing findings from the impact evaluation
- Full report detailing findings from the impact evaluation, in a format that meets DfE accessibility and publication standards.
- Verbal presentation and engaging slidepack, suitable for use with analytical and non-analytical colleagues

10. FORMAT OF WRITTEN PROPOSAL

10.1. Your proposal should be in the following format:

- **Format:** Microsoft Word or PDF
- **Font:** Min. font size 11pt
- **Page Limit:** 20 A4 Pages

10.2. Your proposal should contain the following:

- **Section 1:** Table of Contents
- **Section 2:** Summary of Proposal
- **Section 3:** Meeting the Statement of Requirements:
 - Aims and objectives; Technical expertise;

- Stage 1 – implementation and feasibility study;
- Reflection events;
- Stage 2 – high-level outline of impact evaluation design
- Project management, collaborative working and communication with DfE;
- Staffing, including relevance of expertise and experience and application to the role in this project;
- Outputs, and any proposed/additional communication activity; and
- Timetable of activities and allocation of time per activity
- **Section 4: Risk Management**
- **Section 5: References and Experience**

5.6. Your written proposal should clearly demonstrate how you will deliver the requirements, including whether the services will be delivered solely by your 'in-house' capability or whether you intend to Sub-Contract any element(s) of the Services delivering the proposal. Details of sub-contractors should also be provided as part of your response to Qualification Criteria 4 – Further Information within **Attachment 2 Instructions to Bidders**.

11. PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND ADVISORY GROUP

11.1. As is usual with DfE research, a research advisory group will be specifically set up prior to the Contract being awarded to oversee the development and reporting of this research project. The group will consist of officials from the Department, including analytical and policy colleagues; the Contractor/s; and potentially representatives from other government departments. The group will also consist of stakeholders including methodological and policy academics/ experts in the field of children's social care.

11.2. The group will meet at regular intervals to discuss progress and direction of the study. Members will be given the opportunity to provide advice and comment on: the design of the study; fieldwork documents and draft products; technicalities and topic coverage relating to questionnaire content; use of incentives; methods of keeping in touch with respondents; and interpretation of findings. The Department will have the final decision on outputs and agree all final questionnaire drafts. The Department's project manager will arrange these meetings which may be held either in London or Sheffield or remotely. Day to day management will be the responsibility of the Department's project manager.

11. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

11.1. Management Levy and Management Information in the DPS Agreement applies here, but if your organisation has any additional requirements please include them here. These should also be included in Annex A of DPS schedule 4: Letter of Appointment and Contract Terms.

12. CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

12.1. The Supplier shall maintain open channels of communication with the Authority to resolve issues, share lessons learned and present new ways of working during the DPS Agreement review meetings. Any proposed new ways of delivering the Services shall be brought to the Authority's attention and formally agreed prior to any changes being implemented.

13. PRICE

13.1. The guideline budget to undertake ALL components of the project is up to £450k over 4 years, excluding VAT. Please note, spend beyond March 2022 is subject to further internal decisions. For 2021-2022, the budget available is , [REDACTED] excluding VAT. Subject to agreement, the VSH extension will continue over the longer-term with a remaining guideline budget of [REDACTED]. The proposed package of activity and reporting must be proportionate (not excessive) and be based on sound rationale, and demonstrate how it meets the aims and objectives, and where it adds value. Please provide your costing for the budget of £450,000 for the full 4 years within Attachment 4 Price Schedule.

13.2. Your bid should provide a detailed breakdown of costs (in Attachment 4) on the basis of:

- Project management and professional time (number of days) and day rates across the project as a whole;
- Data collection and research tool development;
- Analysis and reporting;
- Engagement and events;
- Travel and subsistence;
- Stationery, postage and telephone; and
- Dissemination of findings.

13.3. Costs should be shown separately by DfE financial year (1st April – 31st March).

13.4. The profile below is indicative and will be confirmed during post-tender negotiations with the preferred bidder:

Financial years covered	Value of contract (£)
September 2021 – March 2022 (financial years 2021/2022)	[REDACTED]

Depending on internal decisions on the continuation of the VSH extended role and the Stage 2 evaluation, the indicative budget is subject to post-tender negotiations with the preferred bidder. It is estimated to be:

Financial years covered	Value of contract (£)
May 2022 – March 2023 (financial year 2022/2023)	[REDACTED] (Subject to agreement)
April 2023 – March 2024 (financial year 2023/2024)	[REDACTED] (Subject to agreement)
March 2024 – March 2025 (financial year 2024-2025)	[REDACTED] (Subject to agreement)

Please provide your costing for the budget of £450,00 for the full 4 years within Attachment 4 Price Schedule.

13.5. All costs should be quoted exclusive of VAT but please indicate if the project will attract VAT.

13.6. If your proposal includes costs for sub-contractors these costs must be shown inclusive of any VAT element (e.g. sub-contractor's costs to you are £10,000 plus VAT, your proposal should show sub-contractors costs as £12,000 inclusive of VAT @ 20%).

13.7. Prices are to be submitted via Attachment 4 Price Schedule excluding VAT and including all other expenses relating to Contract delivery.

13.8. Prices must not exceed the agreed thresholds for RM6018 Research Marketplace.

14. STAFF AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

14.1. The Supplier shall provide a sufficient level of resource throughout the duration of the Contract in order to consistently deliver a quality service.

14.2. The Supplier's staff assigned to the Contract shall have the relevant qualifications and experience to deliver the Contract to the required standard.

14.3. The Supplier shall ensure that staff understand the Authority's vision and objectives and will provide excellent customer service to the Authority throughout the duration of the Contract.

14.4. The Potential Provider shall communicate all changes to the Key Personnel as defined in the Call Off Contract throughout the Term.

15. Security and Confidentiality Requirements

Risk Management

15.1. Bidders should submit as part of their proposal a one-page summary on what they believe will be the key risks to delivering the project and what contingencies they will put in place to deal with them.

15.2. A risk is any factor that may delay, disrupt or prevent the full achievement of a project objective. All risks should be identified. For each risk, the one-page summary should assess its likelihood (high, medium or low) and specify its possible impact on the project objectives (again rated high, medium or low). The assessment should also identify appropriate actions that would reduce or eliminate each risk or its impact.

15.3. Typical areas of risk for a research project might include staffing, resource constraints, technical constraints, data access, timing, management and operational issues, but this is not an exhaustive list.

Dependencies

15.4. You should indicate if you are reliant on any third party with any information, data or undertaking any of the work specified.

Monitoring Techniques

- 15.5. You should indicate how you will monitor the project to ensure it is delivered in terms of quality, timeliness and cost.

Data Collection

- 15.6. Researchers will be expected to clear any data collection tools with the Department before engaging in field work. Researchers should include Data Privacy Notices for research participants via respondent documentation and/or interviewer briefing notes, and clearly state what the data is being collected for and on behalf of the Department and that no reference is made, implied or otherwise, to the data being used solely by or available only to the Contractor. The Researchers should establish with the Department the legal basis for data processing under the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 15.7. The respondent documentation and/or interviewer shall ensure that the respondent clearly understands (before they give their consent to be interviewed) the purpose of the interview, that the information they provide will only be used for research purposes and, in the case of interviews (telephone or face-to-face), that they have the right to withdraw from the interview at any time. Where consent is used as the legal basis for data processing, consent procedures should ensure compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018.
- 15.8. The Department seeks to minimise the burdens on schools and Local Authorities (LAs) taking part in surveys. It is therefore important that bids should set out how the proposed methodology will minimise the burden on schools and/or LAs and a justification for the proposed sample size.
- 15.9. When assessing the relative merits of data collection methods the following issues should be considered:
- only data essential to the project shall be collected;
 - data should be collected electronically where appropriate and where schools and/or LAs prefer this;
 - questionnaires should be pre-populated wherever possible and appropriate;
 - schools must be given at least four working weeks to respond to the exercise from the date they receive the request; and
 - LAs should receive at least two weeks, unless they need to approach schools in which case they too should receive 4 weeks to respond.
- 15.10. The Contractor shall clear any data collection tools with the Department before engaging in field work.
- 15.11. Researchers shall check with the Department whether any of the information that they are requesting from schools can be provided centrally from information already held.

Consent Arrangements

- 15.12. The Department and the successful contractor shall agree in advance of any survey activity taking place the consent arrangements that shall apply for each of the participant groups. All participants

should be informed of the purpose of the research, that the Contractor is acting on behalf of the Department and that they have the option to refuse to participate (opt out). Where opt-in consent is used, the approach should be compliant with the General Data Protection Regulation and Data Protection Act 2018. Contact details should be provided including a contact person at the Department. Children who are 16 or over will usually be able to give their own consent but even where this is so, the Contractor, in consultation with the Department, should consider whether it is also appropriate for parents, guardians or other appropriate gatekeepers (e.g. schools, Local Authorities) to be informed when a child has been invited to participate in research.

The Use of Incentives

15.13. With some important exceptions, the Department believes that the routine use of respondent incentives in surveys is, in general, not justified as they are rarely cost effective in either increasing participation or reducing non-response biases. If you are proposing the use of respondent incentives in your bid you must set out why you feel they are necessary, why it is not possible to achieve the required sample sizes or response rates without the use of incentives, how and to what extent they will raise the overall response rate, how you will mitigate any specific biases that could be introduced, and provide a cost comparison with non-incentive methods. Your arguments should be supported by empirical evidence from past use. The exceptions are payment for participation in group discussions or in-depth qualitative interviews, payment to cover respondent expenses e.g. travel and childcare costs, and compensation for excessive demand on respondents, e.g. taking basic skills tests, diary keeping, panel maintenance and compensating schools for the respondent's time. If you wish to use a prize draw incentive then you must also set out in your bid how you will comply with all relevant legislation and codes of practice (e.g. the British Code of Advertising and Sales Promotion), state that you shall be solely liable for any breach of these and that you shall indemnify the Department against any claims that may be made under them.

16. Departmental Security Standards for Business Services and ICT Contracts

<p>"BPSS"</p> <p>"Baseline Personnel Security Standard"</p>	<p>means the Government's HMG Baseline Personal Security Standard . Further information can be found at:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-baseline-personnel-security-standard</p>
<p>"CCSC"</p> <p>"Certified Cyber Security Consultancy"</p>	<p>is the National Cyber Security Centre's (NCSC) approach to assessing the services provided by consultancies and confirming that they meet NCSC's standards.</p> <p>See website:</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/scheme/certified-cyber-consultancy</p>
<p>"CCP"</p> <p>"Certified Professional"</p>	<p>is a NCSC scheme in consultation with government, industry and academia to address the growing need for specialists in the cyber security profession. See website:</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/about-certified-professional-scheme</p>

<p>“CPA”</p> <p>“Commercial Product Assurance”</p> <p>[formerly called “CESG Product Assurance”]</p>	<p>is an ‘information assurance scheme’ which evaluates commercial off the shelf (COTS) products and their developers against published security and development standards.. See website: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/scheme/commercial-product-assurance-cpa</p>
<p>“Cyber Essentials”</p> <p>“Cyber Essentials Plus”</p>	<p>Cyber Essentials is the government backed, industry supported scheme to help organisations protect themselves against common cyber-attacks. Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus are levels within the scheme.</p> <p>There are a number of certification bodies that can be approached for further advice on the scheme; the link below points to these providers:</p> <p>https://www.cyberessentials.ncsc.gov.uk/getting-certified/#what-is-an-accreditation-body</p>
<p>“Data”</p> <p>“Data Controller”</p> <p>“Data Protection Officer”</p> <p>“Data Processor”</p> <p>“Personal Data”</p> <p>“Personal Data requiring Sensitive Processing”</p> <p>“Data Subject”, “Process” and “Processing”</p>	<p>shall have the meanings given to those terms by the Data Protection Act 2018</p>
<p>“Department’s Data”</p> <p>“Department’s Information”</p>	<p>is any data or information owned or retained in order to meet departmental business objectives and tasks, including:</p> <p>(a) any data, text, drawings, diagrams, images or sounds (together with any repository or database made up of any of these components) which are embodied in any electronic, magnetic, optical or tangible media, and which are:</p> <p>(i) supplied to the Contractor by or on behalf of the Department; or</p> <p>(ii) which the Contractor is required to generate, process, store or transmit pursuant to this Contract; or</p> <p>(b) any Personal Data for which the Department is the Data Controller;</p>
<p>“DfE”</p> <p>“Department”</p>	<p>means the Department for Education</p>
<p>“Departmental Security Standards”</p>	<p>means the Department’s security policy or any standards, procedures, process or specification for security that the Contractor is required to deliver.</p>
<p>“Digital Marketplace / G-Cloud”</p>	<p>means the Digital Marketplace is the online framework for identifying and procuring cloud technology and people for digital projects.</p>

End User Devices	means the personal computer or consumer devices that store or process information.
“Good Industry Practice” “Industry Good Practice”	means the exercise of that degree of skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness as would be expected from a leading company within the relevant industry or business sector.
“Good Industry Standard” “Industry Good Standard”	means the implementation of products and solutions, and the exercise of that degree of skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness as would be expected from a leading company within the relevant industry or business sector.
“GSC” “GSCP”	means the Government Security Classification Policy which establishes the rules for classifying HMG information. The policy is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications
“HMG”	means Her Majesty’s Government
“ICT”	means Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and is used as an extended synonym for information technology (IT), used to describe the bringing together of enabling technologies used to deliver the end-to-end solution
“ISO/IEC 27001” “ISO 27001”	is the International Standard for Information Security Management Systems Requirements
“ISO/IEC 27002” “ISO 27002”	is the International Standard describing the Code of Practice for Information Security Controls.
“ISO 22301”	is the International Standard describing for Business Continuity
“IT Security Health Check (ITSHC)” “IT Health Check (ITHC)” “Penetration Testing”	means an assessment to identify risks and vulnerabilities in systems, applications and networks which may compromise the confidentiality, integrity or availability of information held on that IT system.
“Need-to-Know”	means the Need-to-Know principle employed within HMG to limit the distribution of classified information to those people with a clear ‘need to know’ in order to carry out their duties.
“NCSC”	The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) is the UK government’s National Technical Authority for Information Assurance. The NCSC website is https://www.ncsc.gov.uk

<p>“OFFICIAL”</p> <p>“OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE”</p>	<p>the term ‘OFFICIAL’ is used to describe the baseline level of ‘security classification’ described within the Government Security Classification Policy (GSCP).</p> <p>the term ‘OFFICIAL–SENSITIVE is used to identify a limited subset of OFFICIAL information that could have more damaging consequences (for individuals, an organisation or government generally) if it were lost, stolen or published in the media, as described in the GSCP.</p>
<p>“RBAC”</p> <p>“Role Based Access Control”</p>	<p>means Role Based Access Control. A method of restricting a person’s or process’ access to information depending on the role or functions assigned to them.</p>
<p>“Storage Area Network”</p> <p>“SAN”</p>	<p>means an information storage system typically presenting block based storage (i.e. disks or virtual disks) over a network interface rather than using physically connected storage.</p>
<p>“Secure Sanitisation”</p>	<p>means the process of treating data held on storage media to reduce the likelihood of retrieval and reconstruction to an acceptable level.</p> <p>NCSC Guidance can be found at: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/secure-sanitisation-storage-media</p> <p>The disposal of physical documents and hardcopy materials advice can be found at: https://www.cpni.gov.uk/secure-destruction</p>
<p>“Security and Information Risk Advisor”</p> <p>“CCP SIRA”</p> <p>“SIRA”</p>	<p>means the Security and Information Risk Advisor (SIRA) is a role defined under the NCSC Certified Professional (CCP) Scheme. See also: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/articles/about-certified-professional-scheme</p>
<p>“Senior Information Risk Owner”</p> <p>“SIRO”</p>	<p>means the Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) responsible on behalf of the DfE Accounting Officer for overseeing the management of information risk across the organisation. This includes its executive agencies, arms length bodies (ALBs), non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs) and devolved information held by third parties.</p>
<p>“SPF”</p> <p>“HMG Security Policy Framework”</p>	<p>means the definitive HMG Security Policy which describes the expectations of the Cabinet Secretary and Government’s Official Committee on Security on how HMG organisations and third parties handling HMG information and other assets will apply protective security to ensure HMG can function effectively, efficiently and securely. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/security-policy-framework</p>

- 16.1. The Contractor shall be aware of and comply the relevant HMG security policy framework, NCSC guidelines and where applicable DfE Departmental Security Standards for Contractors which include but are not constrained to the following clauses.
- 16.2. Where the Contractor will provide products or services or otherwise handle information at OFFICIAL for the Department, the requirements of Cabinet Office Procurement Policy Note – Use of Cyber Essentials Scheme certification - Action Note 09/14 dated 25 May 2016, or any subsequent updated document, are mandated, namely that contractors supplying products or services to HMG shall have achieved, and will be expected to retain Cyber Essentials certification at the appropriate level for the duration of the contract. The certification scope shall be relevant to the services supplied to, or on behalf of, the Department.
- 16.3. Where clause 12.2 above has not been met, the Contractor shall have achieved, and be able to maintain, independent certification to ISO/IEC 27001 (Information Security Management Systems Requirements).
- 16.4. The ISO/IEC 27001 certification must have a scope relevant to the services supplied to, or on behalf of, the Department. The scope of certification and the statement of applicability must be acceptable, following review, to the Department, including the application of controls from ISO/IEC 27002 (Code of Practice for Information Security Controls).
- 16.5. The Contractor shall follow the UK Government Security Classification Policy (GSCP) in respect of any Departmental Data being handled in the course of providing this service and will handle all data in accordance with its security classification. (In the event where the Contractor has an existing Protective Marking Scheme then the Contractor may continue to use this but must map the HMG security classifications against it to ensure the correct controls are applied to the Departmental Data).
- 16.6. Departmental Data being handled in the course of providing an ICT solution or service must be separated from all other data on the Contractor's or sub-contractor's own IT equipment to protect the Departmental Data and enable the data to be identified and securely deleted when required in line with clause 12.14.
- 16.7. The Contractor shall have in place and maintain physical security to premises and sensitive areas in line with ISO/IEC 27002 including, but not limited to, entry control mechanisms (e.g. door access), CCTV, alarm systems, etc.
- 16.8. The Contractor shall have in place and maintain an appropriate user access control policy for all ICT systems to ensure only authorised personnel have access to Departmental Data. This policy should include appropriate segregation of duties and if applicable role based access controls (RBAC). User credentials that give access to Departmental Data or systems shall be considered to be sensitive data and must be protected accordingly.
- 16.9. The Contractor shall have in place and shall maintain procedural, personnel, physical and technical safeguards to protect Departmental Data, including but not limited to:

- physical security controls;
- good industry standard policies and processes;
- malware protection;
- boundary access controls including firewalls, application gateways, etc;
- maintenance and use of fully supported software packages in accordance with vendor recommendations;
- use of secure device configuration and builds;
- software updates and patching regimes including malware signatures, for operating systems, network devices, applications and services;
- user identity and access controls, including the use of multi-factor authentication for sensitive data and privileged account accesses;
- any services provided to the department must capture audit logs for security events in an electronic format at the application, service and system level to meet the department's logging and auditing requirements, plus logs shall be:
 - retained and protected from tampering for a minimum period of six months;
 - made available to the department on request.

16.10. The contractor shall ensure that any departmental data (including email) transmitted over any public network (including the Internet, mobile networks or un-protected enterprise network) or to a mobile device shall be encrypted when transmitted.

16.11. The contractor shall ensure that any departmental data which resides on a mobile, removable or physically uncontrolled device is stored encrypted using a product or system component which has been formally assured through a recognised certification process agreed with the department except where the department has given its prior written consent to an alternative arrangement.

16.12. The contractor shall ensure that any device which is used to process departmental data meets all of the security requirements set out in the NCSC End User Devices Platform Security Guidance, a copy of which can be found at: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/end-user-device-security> and <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/end-user-device-security/eud-overview/eud-security-principles>.

16.13. Whilst in the Contractor's care all removable media and hardcopy paper documents containing Departmental Data must be handled securely and secured under lock and key when not in use and shall be securely destroyed when no longer required, using either a cross-cut shredder or a professional secure disposal organisation.

16.14. The term 'lock and key' is defined as: "securing information in a lockable desk drawer, cupboard or filing cabinet which is under the user's sole control and to which they hold the keys".

- 16.15. When necessary to hand carry removable media and/or hardcopy paper documents containing Departmental Data, the media or documents being carried shall be kept under cover and transported in such a way as to ensure that no unauthorised person has either visual or physical access to the material being carried. This clause shall apply equally regardless of whether the material is being carried inside or outside of company premises. The term 'under cover' means that the information is carried within an opaque folder or envelope within official premises and buildings and within a closed briefcase or other similar bag or container when outside official premises or buildings.
- 16.16. In the event of termination of contract due to expiry, liquidation or non-performance, all information assets provided, created or resulting from the service shall not be considered as the supplier's assets and must be returned to the department and written assurance obtained from an appropriate officer of the supplying organisation that these assets regardless of location and format have been fully sanitised throughout the organisation in line with clause 12.15.
- 16.17. In the event of termination, equipment failure or obsolescence, all Departmental information and data, in either hardcopy or electronic format, that is physically held or logically stored by the Contractor must be accounted for and either physically returned or securely sanitised or destroyed in accordance with the current HMG policy using an NCSC approved product or method.
- 16.18. Where sanitisation or destruction is not possible for legal, regulatory or technical reasons, such as data stored in a cloud system, Storage Area Network (SAN) or on shared backup tapes, then the Contractor or sub-contractor shall protect the Department's information and data until such time, which may be long after the end of the contract, when it can be securely cleansed or destroyed. Evidence of secure destruction will be required in all cases.
- 16.19. Access by Contractor or sub-contractor staff to Departmental Data, including user credentials, shall be confined to those individuals who have a "need-to-know" in order to carry out their role; and have undergone mandatory pre-employment screening, to a minimum of HMG Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS); or hold an appropriate National Security Vetting clearance as required by the Department. All Contractor or sub-contractor staff must complete this process before access to Departmental Data is permitted. Any Contractor or sub-contractor staff who will be in contact with children or vulnerable adults must, in addition to any security clearance, have successfully undergone an Enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check prior to any contact.
- 16.20. All Contractor or sub-contractor employees who handle Departmental Data shall have annual awareness training in protecting information.
- 16.21. The Contractor shall, as a minimum, have in place robust Business Continuity arrangements and processes including IT disaster recovery plans and procedures that conform to ISO 22301 to ensure that the delivery of the contract is not adversely affected in the event of an incident. An incident shall be defined as any situation that might, or could lead to, a disruption, loss, emergency or crisis to the services delivered. If a ISO 22301 certificate is not available the supplier will provide evidence of the effectiveness of their ISO 22301 conformant Business Continuity arrangements and processes including IT disaster recovery plans and procedures. This should include evidence that the Contractor has tested or exercised these plans within the last 12 months and produced a written report of the outcome, including required actions.

- 16.22. Any suspected or actual breach of the confidentiality, integrity or availability of Departmental Data, including user credentials, used or handled in the course of providing this service shall be recorded as an incident. This includes any non-compliance with these Departmental Security Standards for Contractors, or other Security Standards pertaining to the solution.
- 16.23. Incidents shall be reported to the department immediately, wherever practical, even if unconfirmed or when full details are not known, but always within 24 hours of discovery. If incident reporting has been delayed by more than 24 hours, the contractor should provide an explanation about the delay. Incidents shall be reported through the department's nominated system or service owner. Incidents shall be investigated by the contractor with outcomes being notified to the Department.
- 16.24. The Contractor shall ensure that any IT systems and hosting environments that are used to handle, store or process Departmental Data shall be subject to independent IT Health Checks (ITHC) using an NCSC CHECK Scheme ITHC provider before go-live and periodically (at least annually) thereafter. The findings of the ITHC relevant to the service being provided are to be shared with the Department and all necessary remedial work carried out. In the event of significant security issues being identified, a follow up remediation test may be required.
- 16.25. The Contractor or sub-contractors providing the service will provide the Department with full details of any actual or future intent to develop, manage, support, process or store Departmental Data outside of the UK mainland. The Contractor or sub-contractor shall not go ahead with any such proposal without the prior written agreement from the Department.
- 16.26. The Department reserves the right to audit the Contractor or sub-contractors providing the service within a mutually agreed timeframe but always within seven days of notice of a request to audit being given. The audit shall cover the overall scope of the service being supplied and the Contractor's, and any sub-contractors', compliance with the clauses contained in this Section.
- 16.27. The Contractor and sub-contractors shall undergo appropriate security assurance activities and shall provide appropriate evidence including the production of the necessary security documentation as determined by the department. This will include obtaining any necessary professional security resources required to support the Contractor's and sub-contractor's security assurance activities such as: a Security and Information Risk Advisor (SIRA) certified to NCSC Certified Cyber Security Consultancy (CCSC) or NCSC Certified Cyber Professional (CCP) schemes.
- 16.28. Where the Contractor is delivering an ICT solution to the Department they shall design and deliver solutions and services that are compliant with the HMG Security Policy Framework in conjunction with current NCSC Information Assurance Guidance and Departmental Policy. The Contractor will provide the Department with evidence of compliance for the solutions and services to be delivered. The Department's expectation is that the Contractor shall provide written evidence of:
1. Compliance with HMG Minimum Cyber Security Standard.
 2. Any existing security assurance for the services to be delivered, such as: ISO/IEC 27001 / 27002 or an equivalent industry level certification.
 3. Any existing HMG security accreditations or assurance that are still valid including: details of the awarding body; the scope of the accreditation; any caveats or

restrictions to the accreditation; the date awarded, plus a copy of the residual risk statement.

4. Documented progress in achieving any security assurance or accreditation activities including whether documentation has been produced and submitted. The Contractor shall provide details of who the awarding body or organisation will be and date expected.

- 16.29. The Contractor shall contractually enforce all these Departmental Security Standards for Contractors onto any third-party suppliers, sub-contractors or partners who could potentially access Departmental Data in the course of providing this service.

17. PAYMENT AND INVOICING

- 17.1. The Contractor shall maintain full and accurate accounts for the Project against the expenditure headings in the Table. Such accounts shall be retained for at least 6 years after the end of the financial year in which the last payment was made under this Contract. Input and output VAT shall be included as separate items in such accounts.
- 17.2. The Contractor shall permit duly authorised staff or agents of the Department or the National Audit Office to examine the accounts at any reasonable time and shall furnish oral or written explanations of the accounts if required. The Department reserves the right to have such staff or agents carry out examinations into the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Contractor has used the Department's resources in the performance of this Contract.
- 17.3. Invoices shall be submitted on the invoice dates specified in the Contract, be detailed against the task headings set out in the Table and must quote the Department's Order Number. The Purchase order reference number shall be provided by the department when both parties have signed the paperwork. The Contractor or his or her nominated representative or accountant shall certify on the invoice that the amounts claimed were expended wholly and necessarily by the Contractor on the Projects in accordance with the Contract and that the invoice does not include any costs being claimed from any other body or individual or from the Department within the terms of another contract.
- 17.4. Invoices shall be sent to AccountsPayable.OCR@education.gov.uk. Invoices submitted by email must be in PDF format, with one PDF file per invoice including any supporting documentation in the same file. Multiple invoices may be submitted in a single email but each invoice must be in a separate PDF file. The Department undertakes to pay correctly submitted invoices within 10 days of receipt. The Department is obliged to pay invoices within 30 days of receipt from the day of physical or electronic arrival at the nominated address of the Department. Any correctly submitted invoices that are not paid within 30 days may be subject to the provisions of the Late Payment of Commercial Debt (Interest) Act 1998. A correct invoice is one that: is delivered in timing in accordance with the contract; is for the correct sum; in respect of goods/services supplied or delivered to the required quality (or are expected to be at the required quality); includes the date, supplier name, contact details and bank details; quotes the relevant purchase order/contract reference and has been delivered to the nominated address. If any problems arise, contact the Department's Project Manager. The Department aims to reply to complaints within 10 working days. The Department shall not be responsible for any delay in payment caused by incomplete or illegible invoices.

- 17.5. The Contractor shall have regard to the need for economy in all expenditure. Where any expenditure in an invoice, in the Department's reasonable opinion, is excessive having due regard to the purpose for which it was incurred, the Department shall only be liable to reimburse so much (if any) of the expenditure disallowed as, in the Department's reasonable opinion after consultation with the Contractor, would reasonably have been required for that purpose.
- 17.6. If the Contract is terminated by the Department due to the Contractor's insolvency or default at any time before completion of the Projects, the Department shall only be liable under paragraph 1 to reimburse eligible payments made by, or due to, the Contractor before the date of termination.
- 17.7. On completion of the Project or on termination of the Contract, the Contractor shall promptly draw-up a final invoice, which shall cover all outstanding expenditure incurred for the Project. The final invoice shall be submitted not later than 30 days after the date of completion of the Projects.
- 17.8. Before payment can be considered, each invoice must include a detailed elemental breakdown of work completed and the associated costs.
- 17.9. It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that the final invoice covers all outstanding expenditure for which reimbursement may be claimed. Provided that all previous invoices have been duly paid, on due payment of the final invoice by the Department all amounts due to be reimbursed under this Contract shall be deemed to have been paid and the Department shall have no further liability to make reimbursement of any kind.

ANNEX B

Supplier Proposal



ANNEX C
Price Schedule

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ANNEX D
Terms & Conditions



**Crown
Commercial
Service**

CONTRACT TERMS

**RESEARCH MARKETPLACE
DYNAMIC PURCHASING SYSTEM**

REFERENCE NUMBER

RM6018

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Contract Terms

This Contract is made on the **11th day of October 2021** between:

The Department for Education with offices at Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT ("**the Customer**"); and

The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford a company registered in England under Company Number GB 125 5067 30 whose registered office is at University of Oxford Department of Education, 15 Norham Gardens, Oxford OX2 6PY ("**the Supplier**"),

Both the Customer and the Supplier can be referred to as a "Party" or together the "Parties".

INTRODUCTION

- (1) The Supplier is one of a number of organisations appointed by Crown Commercial Service (**CCS**) to the Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) and is therefore able to enter into this Contract to provide the Project(s) to the Customer.
- (2) This Contract, made between the Customer and the Supplier, sets out the terms of the Supplier's appointment as a provider of the Project to the Customer. The Project will be delivered according to the terms of this Contract, any agreed Statement of Work, and the DPS Agreement.
- (3) The Supplier's appointment has been confirmed in the Letter of Appointment.
- (4) The Parties agree that the Project and associated Deliverables shall be supplied in accordance with the terms of the DPS Agreement and this Contract.

1. **APPOINTMENT & STATEMENTS OF WORK**

- 1.1. Throughout the Term of this Contract, the Supplier will perform Projects in accordance with agreed Statements of Work.
- 1.2. Subject to Clause 1.4 the Parties may agree new Projects to be delivered under this Contract by agreeing a new Statement of Work. This must be done in writing and using the form set out at Schedule 2 (Statement of Work). Once both Parties have signed a Statement of Work, it shall form part of this Contract.
- 1.3. Any schedule attached to a Statement of Work will describe in detail the different types of Services to be provided under that Statement of Work. A schedule attached to a Statement of Work only applies to the relevant Project to be delivered under that Statement of Work, and not to any other Statement of Work, or to the provision of the Project as a whole.
- 1.4. Where a Customer requires changes to the Project being provided this shall be dealt with as a proposed Variation to this Contract in accordance with the Variation procedure set out in Clause 9.

2. **TERM**

- 2.1. This Contract starts on the **Effective Date** and ends on the **Expiry Date**, as stated in the Letter of Appointment unless changed in accordance with the terms of this Contract.
- 2.2. The Customer may extend this Contract for any period up to the Extension Expiry Date by giving the Supplier notice in writing before the Expiry Date. The minimum notice which must be given in order to amend the Expiry Date is specified in the Letter of Appointment.
- 2.3. The revised date the contract will end (the **New Expiry Date**) will be set out in the notice given under Clause 2.2 above.
- 2.4. The terms and conditions of this Contract will apply throughout any extended period.
- 2.5. Each Project starts on the Project Commencement Date and ends on the Project Completion Date, unless it is terminated earlier in accordance with Clause 23.

3. **CONTRACT GUARANTEE**

- 3.1. Where the Customer has stated in the Letter of Appointment that this Contract is conditional on receipt of a Guarantee, then, on or prior to the Effective Date (or on any other date specified by the Customer), the Supplier must provide:
 - 3.1.1. an executed Guarantee from a Guarantor; and
 - 3.1.2. a certified copy extract of the board minutes and/or resolution of the Guarantor approving the execution of the Guarantee.
- 3.2. The Customer may at any time agree to waive compliance with the requirement in Clause 3.1 by giving the Supplier notice in writing.

4. **CUSTOMER'S OBLIGATIONS**

- 4.1. The Customer will give the Supplier instructions as to its requirements for the Project. These will be included in a Statement of Work and may include start and

end dates for each stage of the proposed Project.

5. SERVICE DELAY, DELIVERY & RECTIFICATION

Service Delivery

- 5.1. The Supplier will give the Customer full and clear instructions as to what, if any, Customer Materials it reasonably requires to perform the Project.
 - 5.1.1 comply with all Law;
 - 5.1.2 use all reasonable and proper skill and care in its performance of Project;
 - 5.1.3 comply with all reasonable Customer instructions regarding the Project, as long as these instructions do not materially amend the Statement of Work (unless the amendment has been agreed in accordance with Clause 9.1);
 - 5.1.4 keep Customer Materials under its control safe and secure and in accordance with any security policy provided by the Customer; and
 - 5.1.5 provide all Deliverables by any dates set out in the applicable Statement of Work or any other date(s) agreed by the parties in writing.

Delay

- 5.2. If the Customer materially breaches its obligations in connection with this Contract (including its payment obligations), and consequently delays or prevents the Supplier from performing any of the agreed Services or providing any of the agreed Deliverables this will be a “**Customer Cause**”. In the event of a Customer Cause, the Supplier will be granted an appropriate extension of time (to be approved by the Customer, acting reasonably) to perform the agreed Services or provide the agreed Deliverables. The Supplier will not be liable for any Losses incurred by the Customer as a result of Customer Cause, provided the Supplier complies with its obligations set out at Clause 5.4.
- 5.3. The Supplier must notify the Customer within two (2) Working Days of the Supplier becoming aware that the Customer has breached, or is likely to breach, its obligations in connection with this Contract. This notice must detail:
 - 5.3.1 the Customer Cause and its actual or potential effect on the Supplier’s ability to meet its obligations under this Contract, and
 - 5.3.2 any steps which the Customer can take to eliminate or mitigate the consequences and impact of such Customer Cause.

- 5.4. The Supplier must use all reasonable endeavours to eliminate or mitigate the consequences and impact of a Customer Cause. The Supplier must try to mitigate against any Losses that the Customer or the Supplier may incur, and the duration and consequences of any delay or anticipated delay.
- 5.5. If at any time the Supplier becomes aware that it may not be able to deliver the Project by any date set out in the applicable Statement of Work (or any other deadline agreed by the Parties in writing), this will constitute a Default and the Supplier will immediately notify the Customer of the Default and the reasons for the Default.
- 5.6. If the Default described in Clause 5.5 above is in the Customer's opinion capable of remedy the Customer may, up to 10 Working Days from being notified of the Default, instruct the Supplier to comply with the Rectification Plan Process.

Rectification Plan Process

- 5.7. If instructed to comply with the Rectification Plan Process by the Customer under Clause 5.6 above, the Supplier will submit a draft Rectification Plan to the Customer to review as soon as possible and in any event within ten (10) Working Days (or such other period as may be agreed between the Parties) from being instructed to do so. The Supplier shall submit a draft Rectification Plan even if the Supplier does not agree that the Default is capable of remedy.
- 5.8. The draft Rectification Plan shall set out:
 - 5.8.1 full details of the Default that has occurred, including the underlying reasons for it;
 - 5.8.2 the actual or anticipated effect of the Default; and
 - 5.8.3 the steps which the Supplier proposes to take to rectify or mitigate the Default and to prevent any recurrence of the Default, including timescales for such steps and for the rectification of the Default (where applicable).
- 5.9. The Supplier shall promptly provide to the Customer any further documentation that the Customer requires to assess the Supplier's reasoning behind the default. If the Parties do not agree on the root cause set out in the draft Rectification Plan, either Party may refer the matter to be determined in accordance with paragraph 5 of Schedule 4 (Dispute Resolution Procedure).
- 5.10. The Customer may reject the draft Rectification Plan by notice to the Supplier if, acting reasonably, it considers that the draft Rectification Plan is inadequate. An example of an inadequate draft Rectification Plan is one which:
 - 5.10.1 is insufficiently detailed to be capable of proper evaluation;
 - 5.10.2 will take too long to complete;
 - 5.10.3 will not prevent reoccurrence of the Default;
 - 5.10.4 will rectify the Default but in a manner which is unacceptable to the Customer;or

5.10.5 will not rectify the Default.

5.11 The Customer will tell the Supplier as soon as reasonably practicable if it agrees to or rejects the draft Rectification Plan.

5.12 If the customer rejects the draft Rectification Plan, the customer will give reasons for its decision in its rejection notice. The Supplier must take these reasons into account in the preparation of a revised Rectification Plan. The Supplier shall submit a revised draft of the Rectification Plan to the Customer for review within five (5) Working Days (or such other period as agreed between the Parties) of the Customer's rejection notice.

5.13 If the Customer agrees the draft Rectification Plan, or any revised draft Rectification Plan, the Supplier shall immediately start work on the actions set out in the Rectification Plan.

6. SUPPLIER: OTHER APPOINTMENTS

6.1 Adverse public perception could have a detrimental impact on the Customers desired outcomes for the Project. To minimise this risk, the Supplier must not, without the Customer's Approval (not to be unreasonably withheld), provide research services to a third party during the Term of this Contract where the provision of such services (in the reasonable opinion of the Customer):

6.1.1 has the potential to adversely affect the Customer's desired outcome of the Project or diminish the trust that the public places in the Customer; or

6.1.2 is likely to cause embarrassment to the Customer or bring the Customer into disrepute or may result in a conflict of interest for the Customer.

6.2 Where the Supplier is already providing research services to a third party in the situations set out in 6.1 prior to the Effective Date, the Supplier warrants that it has informed the Customer of this before entering into this Contract.

6.3 If the Supplier becomes aware of a breach, or potential breach, of its obligations under Clause 6.1, the Supplier must notify the Customer immediately, providing full details of the nature of the breach and the likely impact on any Projects

6.4 If the Supplier breaches Clause 6.1, the Customer may terminate this Contract, a Project, or any part of a Project with immediate effect in accordance with Clause 23.3.

7. CUSTOMER: OTHER APPOINTMENTS

- 7.1 Subject to Clause 6 the relationship between the Parties is non-exclusive. The Customer is entitled to appoint any other Supplier to perform the Project which are the same or similar to the Project.

8. PERSONNEL

- 8.1 The Supplier must ensure that Supplier personnel who provide the Project:
- 8.1.1 are appropriately experienced, qualified and trained to provide the Project in accordance with this Contract;
 - 8.1.2 apply all reasonable skill, care and diligence in providing the Project;
 - 8.1.3 obey all lawful instructions and reasonable directions of the Customer and provide the Project to the reasonable satisfaction of the Customer, and
 - 8.1.4 are vetted in accordance with Good Industry Practice and where applicable, the security requirements of the Customer and the Standards.
- 8.2 The Supplier will be liable for all acts or omissions of the Supplier personnel. Any act or omission of a member of any Supplier personnel which results in a breach of this Contract is a breach by the Supplier.
- 8.3 The Customer acknowledges and agrees that it may be necessary for the Supplier to replace the personnel providing the Project with alternative personnel with similar levels of seniority and experience.
- 8.4 The Supplier will seek to ensure that any Key Individual responsible for the provision of the Project will remain involved in the Project. If any Key Individual leaves the Supplier, or ceases to be involved in the provision of the Project for any reason (for example, if they are promoted to a different role within the Supplier), the Supplier will consult with the Customer and, subject to the Customer's Approval, appoint a suitable replacement.
- 8.5 If the Customer reasonably believes that any of the Supplier personnel are unsuitable to undertake work on this Contract, it will notify the Supplier who will then end the person's involvement in providing the Project.

9. VARIATIONS AND CANCELLATIONS

- 9.1 Either Party may request a change to this Contract, a Project or a Statement of Work. Any requested change must not amount to a material change of this Contract (within the meaning of the Regulations and the Law). A change, once implemented, is called a "**Variation**".
- 9.2 A Party may request a Variation by completing, signing and sending the Variation Form to the other Party. The requesting Party must give sufficient information for the receiving Party to assess the extent of the proposed Variation and any additional cost that may be incurred by it.
- 9.3 Subject to Clause 9.5, the receiving Party must respond to the request within the time limits specified in the Variation Form. The time limits shall be reasonable and ultimately at the discretion of the Customer, having regard to the nature of the Project and the proposed Variation.
- 9.4 If the Supplier requests a Variation, the Customer can ask the Supplier to carry out an assessment of the effects of the proposed Variation (an **Impact Assessment**). The Impact Assessment must consider:
- 9.4.1 the impact of the proposed Variation on the Project and Supplier's ability to meet its other obligations under this Contract (including in relation to other Statements of Work);
 - 9.4.2 the initial cost of implementing the proposed Variation and any ongoing costs post- implementation;
 - 9.4.3 any increase or decrease in the Contract Charges, any alteration in the resources or expenditure required by either Party and any alteration to the working practices of either Party;
 - 9.4.4 a timetable for the implementation, together with any proposals for the testing of the Variation; and
 - 9.4.5 any other information the Customer reasonably asks for in response to the Variation request.
- 9.5 The Parties may agree to adjust the time limits specified in the Variation Form so the Impact Assessment can be carried out.

- 9.6 If the Parties agree the Variation, the Supplier will implement it, and be bound by it as if it was part of this Contract.
- 9.7 Until a Variation is agreed, the Supplier must continue to perform and be paid for the Project as originally agreed, unless otherwise notified by the Customer.
- 9.8 Subject to Clauses 9.9 and 23.1 the Customer can require the Supplier to suspend or cancel any Project or Statement of Work, or any part of a Project, including any plans, schedules or work in progress at any time, regardless of whether a Variation has been requested. Any request shall be made by an Authorised Customer Approver in writing. The Supplier will take all reasonable steps to comply with any such request as soon as possible.
- 9.9 In the event of any cancellation under Clause 9.8, the Customer will pay the Supplier all Contract Charges reasonably and properly incurred by the Supplier during the Project Notice Period, provided that the Supplier uses all reasonable endeavours to mitigate any charges or expenses.

10. APPROVALS AND AUTHORITY

- 10.1 For the purposes of this Contract, any reference to Customer Approval means written approval in one of the following ways:
- 10.1.1 the Customer issuing a purchase order bearing the signature of an Authorised Customer Approver, or
 - 10.1.2 e-mail from the individual business e-mail address of an Authorised Customer Approver, or
 - 10.1.3 the signature of an Authorised Customer Approver on the Supplier's documentation
- 10.2 Any reference to Supplier Approval means written approval in one of the following ways:
- 10.2.1 e-mail from the individual business e-mail address of an Authorised Supplier Approver, or
 - 10.2.2 the signature of an Authorised Supplier Approver on the Customer's documentation

- 10.3 The Supplier will seek the Customer's Approval of:
- 10.3.1 any estimates or quotations for any costs to be paid by the Customer that are not agreed in a Statement of Work.
- 10.4 The Supplier will seek the Customer's Approval of any draft Deliverables. The Customer's Approval will be the Supplier's authority to proceed with the use of the relevant Deliverables.
- 10.5 If the Customer does not approve of any matter requiring Approval, it must notify the Supplier of its reasons for disapproval within fourteen (14) days of the Supplier's request.
- 10.6 If the Customer delays giving Approval or notifying the Supplier as to its disapproval, the Supplier will not be liable for any resulting delays or adverse impact caused to the delivery of the Project.

11. PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- 11.1 During the Term of this Contract, the Supplier will:
- 11.1.1 keep the Customer fully informed as to the progress and status of all Services and Deliverables, by preparing and submitting written reports at such intervals and in such format as is agreed by the Parties.
- 11.1.2 promptly inform the Customer of any actual or anticipated problems relating to provision of the Deliverables.
- 11.2 During the Term, the Parties' respective project managers will arrange and attend meetings to review the status and progress of the Project(s) and to seek to resolve any issues that have arisen. These meetings will be held at locations and intervals as agreed by the parties.
- 11.3 Unless otherwise agreed in the Statement of Work, the Supplier will produce contact reports providing each Party with a written record of matters of substance discussed at meetings or in telephone conversations between the parties within three (3) Working Days of such discussions. If the Customer does not question any of the subject matter of a contact report within seven (7) Working Days of its receipt, it will be taken to be a correct record of the meeting or telephone conversation.

12. FEES AND INVOICING

- 12.1. The Contract Charges for the Project will be the full and exclusive remuneration of

the Supplier for supplying the Project. Unless expressly agreed in writing by the Customer in the Statements of Work, the Contract Charges will include every cost and expense of the Supplier directly or indirectly incurred in connection with the performance of the Project.

- 12.2. All amounts stated are exclusive of VAT which will be charged at the prevailing rate. The Customer shall, following the receipt of a valid VAT invoice, pay to the Supplier a sum equal to the VAT chargeable in respect of the Project.
- 12.3. The Supplier will invoice the Customer in accordance with the payment profile agreed in the Statements of Work. Each invoice will include all supporting information required by the Customer to verify the accuracy of the invoice, including the relevant Purchase Order Number and a breakdown of the Project supplied in the invoice period.
- 12.4. The Customer will pay the Supplier the invoiced amounts no later than thirty (30) days after verifying that the invoice is valid and undisputed and includes a valid Purchase Order Number. The Customer may, without prejudice to any other rights and remedies under this Contract, withhold or reduce payments in the event of unsatisfactory performance.
- 12.5. If the Customer does not pay an undisputed amount properly invoiced by the due date, the Supplier has the right to charge interest on the overdue amount at the interest rate specified in the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.
- 12.6. The Customer is entitled to deduct from any sum due any money that the Supplier owes the Customer. This includes any sum which the Supplier is liable to pay to the Customer in respect of breach of this Contract. In these circumstances, the Supplier may not assert any credit, set-off or counterclaim against the Customer.
- 12.7. The Supplier will indemnify the Customer on a continuing basis against any liability (to include any interest, penalties or costs incurred, levied, demanded or assessed) on the Customer at any time in respect of the Supplier's failure to account for or to pay any VAT on payments made to the Supplier under this Contract. Any amounts due under Clause 12.2 will be paid by the Supplier to the Customer not less than five (5) Working Days before the date upon which the tax or other liability is payable by the Customer.
- 12.8. If there is a dispute between the Parties about an amount invoiced, the Customer will pay the undisputed amount by the due date. The Supplier will not suspend the supply of the Project in any Project, unless the Supplier is entitled to terminate that Project for a failure to pay undisputed sums in accordance with Clause 23.7.7.

13. THIRD PARTY AGENCIES: ASSIGNMENT AND SUB-

CONTRACTING Assignment and Sub-Contracting

- 13.1. Other than where a Sub-Contractor is agreed in the Letter of Appointment or a Statement of Work, the Supplier will not, without the Approval of the Customer,

assign, sub-contract, novate or in any way dispose of the benefit or the burden of this Contract or any part of it.

- 13.2. In requesting Approval to sub-contract, the Supplier will:
 - 13.2.1 use reasonable care and skill in the selection of proposed Sub-Contractors;
 - 13.2.2 if the Customer requests, the Supplier will obtain more than one quote for a particular sub-contracted service; and
 - 13.2.3 provide the Customer with a business case for sub-contracting all or part of the Project, identifying the reasons for the Supplier to sub-contract to its proposed Sub-Contractor. The Customer may reject the Supplier's request to appoint a proposed Sub-Contractor if it considers the proposed Sub-Contractor does not provide value for money.
- 13.3. If the Customer consents to the Supplier's proposed Sub-Contractor, it shall be a Sub- Contractor as the term is defined in Schedule 1 (Definitions).
- 13.4. In granting consent to any assignment, novation sub-contracting or disposal, the Customer may set additional terms and conditions it considers necessary.
- 13.5. The Supplier shall ensure that its Sub-Contractor does not further sub-contract all or part of the Project or Deliverables without the Customer's Approval.
- 13.6. Any contracts the Supplier enters into with third party suppliers for Services and Deliverables ("**Sub-Contracts**") must be on terms that are in line with the Supplier's standard contractual terms and conditions, must not permit further sub-contracting, and must not conflict with the terms of this Contract.
- 13.7. Provided that the Supplier has notified the Customer of any significant restrictions or contract terms contained in any Sub-Contracts, the Customer hereby acknowledges that:
 - 13.7.1. its right to use or otherwise benefit from any Services or Deliverables acquired under Sub-Contracts will be as set out in the Sub-Contracts; and
 - 13.7.2. it will be responsible for any reasonable and proper charges or liabilities (including cancellation payments) that the Supplier is directly liable for under Sub-Contracts only to the extent that that these are caused by an act or omission of the Customer or its Affiliates.
- 13.8. The Supplier will promptly provide the Customer with a copy of any Sub-Contract if requested to do so.
- 13.9. The Supplier will be responsible for the acts and omissions of its sub-contractors as though those acts and omissions were its own.
- 13.10. The Supplier will obtain the Customer's Approval before commissioning services from any Supplier Affiliate.

Supply Chain Protection

13.11. The Supplier will ensure that all Sub-Contracts contain provisions:

- 13.11.1 Requiring the Supplier to pay any undisputed sums which are due from it to the Sub-Contractor within a specified period not exceeding thirty (30) days from the receipt of a Valid Invoice;
- 13.11.2. requiring the Supplier to verify any invoices submitted by a Sub-Contractor in a timely manner;
- 13.11.3. giving the Customer the right to publish the Supplier's compliance with its obligation to pay undisputed invoices to the Sub-Contractor within the specified payment period;
- 13.11.4. giving the Supplier a right to terminate the Sub-Contract if the Sub-Contractor fails to comply with legal obligations in the fields of environmental, social or labour law; and
- 13.11.5. requiring the Sub-Contractor to include in any Sub-Contract which it in turn awards provisions to the same effect as those required by this Clause 13.11.

14. DISCOUNTS AND REBATES

- 14.1. The Supplier will disclose to the Customer any commission, discount or rebate earned by the Supplier arising in respect of third party costs directly related to the Projects. The Customer will receive the full benefit of such commission, discount or rebate.

15. CONFIDENTIALITY, TRANSPARENCY AND FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

CONFIDENTIALITY

- 15.1. For the purposes of the Clauses below, a Party which receives or obtains, directly or indirectly, Confidential Information is a **"Recipient"**. A Party which discloses or makes available Confidential Information is a **"Disclosing Party"**.
- 15.2. Unless a Recipient has express permission to disclose Confidential Information, it must:
 - 15.2.1. treat the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information as confidential and store it securely;
 - 15.2.2. not disclose the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information to any other person except as expressly set out in this Contract or with the owner's prior written consent;
 - 15.2.3. not use or exploit the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information in any way except for the purposes anticipated under this Contract, and
 - 15.2.4. immediately notify the Disclosing Party if it suspects or becomes aware of any unauthorised access, copying, use or disclosure in any form of

any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information.

- 15.3 A Recipient is entitled to disclose Confidential Information if:
- 15.3.1. where disclosure is required by applicable Law or by a court with the required jurisdiction if the Recipient Party notifies the Disclosing Party of the full circumstances, the affected Confidential Information Contract and extent of the disclosure;
 - 15.3.2. if the Recipient already had the information without obligation of confidentiality before it was disclosed by the Disclosing Party;
 - 15.3.3. if the information was given to it by a third party without obligation of confidentiality;
 - 15.3.4. if the information was in the public domain at the time of the disclosure;
 - 15.3.5. if the information was independently developed without access to the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information;
 - 15.3.6. to its auditors or for the purposes of regulatory requirements;
 - 15.3.7. on a confidential basis, to its professional advisers on a need-to-know basis; and/or
 - 15.3.8. to the Serious Fraud Office where the Recipient has reasonable grounds to believe that the Disclosing Party is involved in activity that may be a criminal offence under the Bribery Act 2010.
- 15.4 If the Recipient is required by Law to disclose Confidential Information, it should notify the Disclosing Party as soon as reasonably practicable and to the extent permitted by Law. It may advise the Disclosing Party of what Law or regulatory body requires such disclosure and what Confidential Information it will be required to disclose.
- 15.5 Subject to Clauses 15.3 the Supplier may disclose Confidential Information, on a confidential basis, to:
- 15.5.1. Supplier personnel or Sub-Contractors who are directly involved in the provision of the Project and need to know the Confidential Information to enable performance under this Contract, and
 - 15.5.2. its professional advisers for the purposes of obtaining advice in relation to this Contract.
- 15.6 Where the Supplier discloses Confidential Information in such circumstances, it remains responsible for ensuring the persons to whom the information was disclosed comply with the confidentiality obligations set out in this Contract.
- 15.7 The Customer may disclose the Confidential Information of the Supplier:
- 15.7.1. to any Central Government Body, on the basis that the information may only be further disclosed to Central Government Bodies
 - 15.7.2. to Parliament, including any Parliamentary committees, or if required by any British Parliamentary reporting requirement
 - 15.7.3. if disclosure is necessary or appropriate in the course of carrying out its public functions
 - 15.7.4. on a confidential basis to a professional adviser, consultant, supplier or other person engaged by a Central Government Body or Contracting Body

(including any benchmarking organisation) for any purpose relating to or connected with this Contract

- 15.7.5. on a confidential basis for the purpose of the exercise of its rights under this Contract, or
- 15.7.6. to a proposed successor in title (transferee, assignee or novatee) of the Customer.
- 15.8 Any references to disclosure on a confidential basis means disclosure subject to a confidentiality agreement or arrangement containing terms no less stringent than those placed on the Customer under this clause 15.
- 15.9 Nothing in this Clause 15 will prevent a Recipient from using any techniques, ideas or know-how gained during the performance of this Contract in the course of its normal business, as long as this use does not result in a disclosure of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information or an infringement of Intellectual Property Rights.
- 15.10 If the Supplier fails to comply with this Clause 15, the Customer can terminate this Contract.

TRANSPARENCY

- 15.11 Except for any information which is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA, the content of this Contract (and any Transparency Reports submitted by the Supplier under it) is not Confidential Information. This will be made available in accordance with the procurement policy note 13/15 www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/458554/Procurement_Policy_Note_13_15.pdf and the Transparency Principles referred to therein.
- 15.12 The Customer will determine whether any of the content of this Contract is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA. The Customer may consult with the Supplier to inform its decision regarding any redactions but will have absolute discretion over the final decision.
- 15.13 Notwithstanding any other provision of this Contract, the Supplier consents to the Customer publishing this Contract in its entirety (including any agreed changes). Any information which is exempt from disclosure in accordance with the provisions of the FOIA will be redacted).
- 15.14 The Supplier will cooperate with the Customer to enable publication of this Contract.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- 15.15 The Customer is subject to the requirements of the FOIA and the EIRs. The Supplier will:
 - 15.15.1. provide all necessary assistance to the Customer to enable it to comply with its Information disclosure obligations.
 - 15.15.2. send all Requests for Information it receives relating to this Contract to the Customer as soon as practicable and within a maximum of two (2) Working Days from receipt.
 - 15.15.3. provide the Customer with a copy of all Information belonging to the Customer requested in the Request for Information which is in its possession or control in the form that the Customer requires within five (5) Working Days of the

Customer's request.

- 15.16 The Supplier must not respond directly to a Request for Information without the Customer's Approval.
- 15.17 The Customer may be required under the FOIA and EIRs to disclose Information (including Commercially Sensitive Information) without consulting or obtaining consent from the Supplier. The Customer will take reasonable steps to notify the Supplier of a Request for Information where it is permissible and reasonably practical for it to do so. However, the Customer will be responsible for determining in its absolute discretion whether any Commercially Sensitive Information and/or any other information are exempt from disclosure in accordance with the FOIA and/or the EIRs.

16. SUPPLIER WARRANTIES

- 16.1. The Supplier warrants that:
 - 16.1.1 it has full capacity and authority to enter into this Contract and that by doing so it will not be in breach of any obligation to a third party;
 - 16.1.2 the personnel who perform the Project are competent and suitable do so;
- 16.2. The Supplier undertakes that:
 - 16.2.1. the use of the Deliverables by the Customer in accordance with this Contract and for the purposes set out in the Statement of Work will not infringe the copyright of any third party; and
 - 16.2.2. as at the date they are delivered, the Deliverables of this Contract may be used for the purposes set out in the Statement of Work and comply with all relevant regulations and standards stipulated within the Statement of Work.
- 16.3. The Supplier hereby indemnifies the Customer against any Losses incurred by the Customer as a result of breach by the Supplier of its warranty and undertaking in Clauses 16.1 and 16.2.

17. CUSTOMER WARRANTIES

- 17.1. The Customer warrants that:
 - 17.1.1 it has full capacity and authority to enter into this Contract and that by doing so it will not be in breach of any obligation to a third party; and
 - 17.1.2 the Customer Materials will not, when used in accordance with this Contract and any written instructions given by the Customer, infringe third party copyright.

18. LIABILITY

- 18.1. Nothing in this Contract will exclude or in any way limit either Party's liability for fraud, death or personal injury caused by its negligence.
- 18.2. Subject always to Clauses 18.1 and 18.3, the maximum amount the Supplier can

be liable for in respect of all Defaults shall in no event exceed:

- 18.2.1. in relation to any Defaults occurring from the Effective Date to the end of the first Contract Year, the higher of the figure specified in the Letter of Appointment or a sum equal to 125% of the Contract Charges estimated by the Customer for the first Contract Year;
 - 18.2.2. in relation to any Defaults occurring in each subsequent Contract Year that commences during the remainder of the Term, the higher of the figure specified in the Letter of Appointment or a sum equal to 125% of the Contract Charges payable to the Supplier under this Contract in the previous Contract Year; and
 - 18.2.3. in relation to any Defaults occurring in each Contract year that commences after the end of the Initial Term, the higher of the figure specified in the Letter of Appointment or a sum equal to 125% of the Contract charges payable to the Supplier under this Contract in the last Contract Year commencing during the Term.
- 18.3. Subject to Clause 18.1 and except for any claims arising under Clause 20.12, neither Party will be liable to the other in any situation for any:
- 18.3.1. loss of profits
 - 18.3.2. loss of goodwill or reputation
 - 18.3.3. loss of revenue
 - 18.3.4. loss of savings whether anticipated or otherwise; or
 - 18.3.5. indirect or consequential loss or damage of any kind
- 18.4. Without prejudice to its obligation to pay the undisputed Contract Charges as and when they fall due for payment, the Customer's total aggregate liability in respect of all defaults, claims, losses or damages howsoever caused will in no event exceed the figure specified in the Letter of Appointment.

19. INSURANCE

- 19.1. The Supplier will hold insurance policies to the value sufficient to meet its liabilities in connection with this Contract (including any specific insurance requirements as are set out in the Statements of Work). The Supplier will provide the Customer with evidence that such insurance is in place at the Customer's request.
- 19.2. The Supplier will effect and maintain the policy or policies of insurance as stipulated in the Letter of Appointment.
- 19.3. If, for whatever reason, the Supplier fails to comply with the provisions of this Clause 19 the Customer may make alternative arrangements to protect its interests. If the Customer does so, it may recover the premium and other costs of such arrangements as a debt due from the Supplier.
- 19.4. Any insurance effected by the Supplier will not relieve it of any liability under this Contract. It is the Supplier's responsibility to determine the amount of insurance

cover that will be adequate to enable the Supplier to satisfy any liability in relation to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

- 19.5. The Supplier must ensure that the policies of insurance it holds pursuant to this Clause 19 are not cancelled, suspended or vitiated. The Supplier will use all reasonable endeavours to notify the Customer (subject to third party confidentiality obligations) as soon as practicable when it becomes aware of any circumstance whereby the relevant insurer could give notice to cancel, rescind, suspend or void any insurance, or any cover or claim under any insurance in whole or in part.

20. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS (IPR)

- 20.1. The Supplier acknowledges that the Customer retains ownership of Customer Materials and all Intellectual Property Rights in them. This includes any modifications or adaptations of Customer Materials produced by the Supplier in the course of delivering the Project. The Customer hereby grants to the Supplier a non-exclusive license to use the Customer Materials during the applicable Project Term solely for the purposes of delivering the Project.
- 20.2. The Supplier hereby:
- 20.2.1. assigns to the Customer all of the Intellectual Property Rights other than copyright and database rights in the Supplier Materials which are capable of being assigned, together with the right to sue for past infringement of such Intellectual Property Rights in the Supplier Materials; and
 - 20.2.2. assigns to the Crown all of the copyright and database rights in the Supplier Materials which are capable of being assigned, together with the right to sue for past infringement of such copyright and database rights in the Supplier Materials.
- 20.3. All Intellectual Property Rights in the Supplier Proprietary Materials remain the property of the Supplier. The Supplier grants to the Customer a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use any Supplier Proprietary Materials as are included in the Deliverables, in the Territory, for the period of time and for the purposes set out in the Statement of Work.
- 20.4. All Intellectual Property Rights in Project Specific Materials shall be owned by the Customer and the Customer hereby grants a non-exclusive, royalty-free license to use any Project Specific Materials for the purposes of providing the Project throughout the Term.
- 20.5. Prior to delivery of the Deliverables to the Customer, the Supplier will obtain all licenses or consents in respect of Third Party Materials that are required so the Customer can use these Third Party Materials for the purposes set out in the Statement of Work. The Supplier will notify the Customer of any restrictions on usage and any other contractual restrictions arising in respect of such Third Party Materials.
- 20.6. The Supplier agrees:

- 20.6.1. at the Customer's request and expense, to take all such actions and execute all such documents as are necessary (in the Customer's reasonable opinion) to enable the Customer to obtain, defend or enforce its rights in the Supplier Materials and Deliverables; and
 - 20.6.2. neither to do nor fail to do any act which would or might prejudice the Customer's rights under this Clause 20.
- 20.7. To the extent permitted by law, the Supplier shall ensure that all Moral Rights in the Supplier Materials are waived. Where it is not lawfully possible to waive Moral Rights, the Supplier agrees not to assert any Moral Rights in respect of the Supplier Materials.
- 20.8. The Supplier will use its reasonable endeavours to ensure that all Moral Rights in Third Party Materials are waived. Where it is not lawfully possible to waive Moral Rights, the Supplier will work with the owner or creator of the Third Party Materials to procure that Moral Rights are not asserted in respect of Third Party Materials. If the Supplier cannot obtain such waiver of (or agreement not to assert) such Moral Rights in respect of any Third Party Materials, the Supplier will notify the Customer and will obtain the Customer's Approval prior to incorporating such Third Party Materials into the Deliverables.
- 20.9. During the Term, if the Supplier is asked to take part in a competitive pitch or other similar process for the Customer, then notwithstanding any of the previous provisions of this Clause 20, the Supplier will retain ownership of all Intellectual Property Rights in any Materials forming part of the pitch process. If the Supplier is successful in such pitch and the Parties agree that such Materials will be used in a Project the Supplier will assign all such Intellectual Property Rights to the Customer.
- 20.10. The Supplier is not liable in connection with this Contract for any modifications, adaptations or amendments to any Deliverables made by the Customer or by a third party on the Customer's behalf after the Supplier has handed them over. The Supplier is also not liable if any fault, error, destruction or other degradation in the quality and/or quantity of the Deliverables arises due to the acts or omissions of the Customer or its Affiliates.
- 20.11. The terms of and obligations imposed by this Clause 20 continue after the termination of this Contract.
- 20.12. The Supplier will indemnify the Customer in full against all Losses (whether direct or indirect) in connection with any claim made against the Customer for actual or alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property rights in connection with the supply or use of the Project, if the claim is attributable to the acts or omission of the Supplier any of its Associates. This indemnity extends to any interest, penalties, and reasonable legal and other professional fees awarded against or incurred or paid by the Customer.

21. AUDIT

- 21.1. The Supplier will keep and maintain full and accurate records and accounts of the operation of this Contract, the Project provided under it, any Sub-Contracts and the amounts paid by the Customer for at least seven (7) years after the Expiry Date or New Expiry Date, or such longer period as the Parties agree.
- 21.2. The Supplier will:
- 21.2.1. keep the records and accounts referred to in Clause 21.1 in accordance with Good Industry Practice and Law, and
- 21.2.2. afford any Auditor access to the records and accounts referred to in Clause 21.1 at the Supplier's premises and/or provide records and accounts (including copies of the Supplier's published accounts) or copies of the same to Auditors throughout the Term and the period specified in Clause 21.1. This is so the Auditor(s) can assess compliance by the Supplier and/or its Sub-Contractors with the Supplier's obligations under this Contract, and in particular to:
- a) verify the accuracy of the Contract Charges and any other amounts payable by the Customer under this Contract (and proposed or actual variations to them in accordance with this Contract);
 - b) verify the costs of the Supplier (including the costs of all Sub-Contractors and any third party suppliers) in connection with the provision of the Project;
 - c) verify the Supplier's and each Sub-Contractor's compliance with the applicable Laws;
 - d) identify or investigate an actual or suspected act of fraud or bribery, impropriety or accounting mistakes or any breach or threatened breach of security. In these circumstances, the Customer is not obliged to inform the Supplier of the purpose or objective of its investigations;
 - e) identify or investigate any circumstances which may impact upon the financial stability of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractors or their ability to perform the Project;
 - f) obtain such information as is necessary to fulfil the Customer's obligations to supply information for parliamentary, ministerial, judicial or administrative purposes, including the supply of information to the Comptroller and Auditor General;
 - g) review any books of account and the internal contract management accounts kept by the Supplier in connection with this Contract;
 - h) carry out the Customer's internal and statutory audits and to prepare, examine and/or certify the Customer's annual and interim reports and accounts

- i) enable the National Audit Office to carry out an examination under Section 6(1) of the National Audit Act 1983;
- j) review any records relating to the Supplier's performance of the provision of the Project and to verify that these reflect the Supplier's own internal reports and records;
- k) verify the accuracy and completeness of any information delivered or required by this Contract;
- l) inspect the Customer Materials, including the Customer's Intellectual Property Rights, equipment and facilities, for the purposes of ensuring that the Customer Materials are secure; and
- m) review the integrity, confidentiality and security of any Customer data.

21.2.3. audit does not unreasonably disrupt the Supplier or delay the provision of the Project (although the Supplier accepts and acknowledges that control over the conduct of audits carried out by the Auditor(s) is outside of the control of the Customer.)

21.3. Subject to the Supplier's rights in respect of Confidential Information, the Supplier will on demand, provide the Auditor(s) with all reasonable co-operation and assistance in providing:

21.3.1. all reasonable information requested by the Customer within the scope of the audit;

21.3.2. reasonable access to sites controlled by the Supplier and to any equipment used in the provision of the Project; and

21.3.3. access to the Supplier personnel.

21.4. The Parties agree that they will bear their own respective costs and expenses incurred during any Audit, unless the Audit reveals a default by the Supplier, whereby the Supplier will reimburse the Customer for the Customer's reasonable costs incurred in relation to the Audit.

21.5. If an Audit reveals that the Customer has been overcharged, the Supplier will reimburse to the Customer the amount of the overcharge within thirty (30) days. If an Audit reveals the Supplier has been underpaid, the Customer shall pay to the Supplier the amount of the underpayment within thirty (30) days.

22. NOT USED

23. TERMINATION

Customer Rights of Termination

23.1. The Customer may, by giving no less than three (3) month's written notice to the Supplier, terminate this Contract without cause.

23.2. The Customer may terminate or cancel a Project at any time subject to Clause 9.8 and

payment of all Contract Charges specifically set out at Clause 9.9 of Clause 9 (Variations and Cancellations).

23.3. The Customer may terminate this Contract or a Project by written notice to the Supplier with immediate effect if the Supplier:

23.3.1. commits a material Default which cannot be remedied;

23.3.2. repeatedly breaches any of the terms and conditions of this Contract in such a manner as to indicate that it does not have the intention or ability to adhere to the terms and conditions;

23.3.3. commits a Default, including a material Default, which in the opinion of the Customer is remediable but has not remedied such Default to the satisfaction of the Customer within thirty (30) days of receiving notice specifying the Default and requiring it to be remedied or in accordance with the Rectification Plan Process;

23.3.4. breaches any of the provisions of Clauses 6.1 (Supplier: Other Appointments), 10 (Approvals and Authority), 15 (Confidentiality, Transparency and Freedom of Information), and 32 (Prevention of Fraud and Bribery);

23.3.5. is subject to an Insolvency Event; or

23.3.6. fails to comply with legal obligations.

23.4. The Supplier must notify the Customer as soon as practicable of any Change of Control or any potential Change of Control.

23.5. The Customer may terminate this Contract with immediate effect by written notice to the Supplier within six (6) Months of:

23.5.1. being notified in writing that a Change of Control is anticipated or in contemplation or has occurred; or

23.5.2. where no notification has been made, the date that the Customer becomes aware that a Change of Control is anticipated or is in contemplation or has occurred,

but shall not be permitted to terminate where an Approval was granted prior to the Change of Control.

23.6. The Customer may terminate this Contract or a Project by giving the Supplier at least fourteen (14) days' notice if:

23.6.1. the DPS Agreement is terminated for any reason;

23.6.2. the Parties fail to agree a Variation under Clause 9; or

23.6.3. the Supplier fails to implement an agreed Variation.

23.7. Where this Contract is conditional upon the Supplier procuring a Guarantee pursuant to Clause 3 (Contract Guarantee), the Customer may terminate this Contract by

issuing a notice of termination Notice to the Supplier where:

- 23.7.1. the Guarantor withdraws the Guarantee for any reason;
- 23.7.2. the Guarantor is in breach or anticipatory breach of Guarantee;
- 23.7.3. an Insolvency Event occurs in respect of the Guarantor; or
- 23.7.4. the Guarantee becomes invalid or unenforceable for any reason whatsoever,
- 23.7.5. and in each case the Guarantee (as applicable) is not replaced by an alternative guarantee agreement acceptable to the Customer; or
- 23.7.6. the Supplier fails to provide the documentation required by Clause 3.1 by the date so specified by the Customer.

Supplier Rights to Terminate

- 23.8. The Supplier may terminate a Project by written notice to the Customer if:
- 23.9. the Customer has not paid any undisputed amounts falling due under that Project, and
- 23.10. the undisputed sum due remains outstanding for forty (40) Working Days after the Customer has received a written notice of non-payment from the Supplier specifying:
 - a) the Customer's failure to pay;
 - b) the correct overdue and undisputed sum;
 - c) the reasons why the undisputed sum is due; and
 - d) the requirement on the Customer to remedy the failure to pay

This right of termination does not apply where the failure to pay is due to the Customer exercising its rights under this Contract (including the right to set off under Clause 29). This Contract shall then terminate on the date specified in the Termination Notice (which shall not be less than twenty (20) Working Days from the date of the issue of the Termination Notice), save that such right of termination shall not apply where the failure to pay is due to the Customer exercising its rights under this Contract including Clause 30 (Retention and Set off).

- 23.11. The Supplier shall not suspend the supply of the Goods and/or Services for failure of the Customer to pay undisputed sums of money (whether in whole or in part).

24. CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION

- 24.1. Termination of a Project in accordance with the terms of this Contract by either Party shall not serve to terminate this Contract, which will continue in full force and effect.
- 24.2. If this Contract is terminated, all ongoing and outstanding Projects will also terminate on the same date as this Contract.
- 24.3. Upon termination of this Contract or a Project for any reason:
 - 24.3.1. the Expiry Date or New Expiry Date shall be the date this Contract terminates;

- 24.3.2. the Customer will pay the Supplier all Contract Charges falling properly due and payable to the Supplier prior to the date of termination (including in accordance with Clause 9 where relevant);
- 24.3.3. each Party will, following a reasonable request by the other Party, promptly deliver or dispose of any and all materials and property belonging or relating to the other Party (including all Confidential Information) and all copies of the same, which are then in its possession, custody or control and which relate to all affected Projects. On the request of the other Party, each will certify in writing that the same has been done; and
- 24.3.4. the Supplier and its staff will vacate any premises of the Customer occupied for any purpose of providing the Project or Deliverables.
- 24.4. Any provisions of this Contract which are to continue after termination will remain in full force and effect after this Contract is terminated. Such provisions may include (but are not limited to):
 - 24.4.1. Clause 15 (Confidentiality, Transparency and Freedom of Information)
 - 24.4.2. Clause 16 (Supplier warranties) Clause 17 (Customer warranties)
 - 24.4.3. Clause 18 (Liability)
 - 24.4.4. Clause 19 (Insurance)
 - 24.4.5. Clause 20 (Intellectual Property Rights)
 - 24.4.6. Clause 21 (Audit)
 - 24.4.7. Clause 23 (Termination)
 - 24.4.8. Clause 26 (Notices)
 - 24.4.9. Clause 27 (Staff Transfer)
 - 24.4.10. Clause 28 (Third Party Rights)
 - 24.4.11. Clause 29 (GDPR, Security & Publicity)
 - 24.4.12. Clause 32 (General) and
 - 24.4.13. Clause 34 (Governing law and jurisdiction)
 - 24.4.14. Contract Schedule 1 (Definitions and Interpretation), Contract Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer), Contract Schedule 4 (Dispute Resolution Procedure).

25. **FORCE MAJEURE**

- 25.1. Neither Party will have any liability under or be in breach of this Contract for any delays or failures in performance which result from circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Party seeking to claim relief (a **Force Majeure Event** and the **Affected Party**).
- 25.2. Following a Force Majeure Event, the Affected Party must promptly notify the other Party in writing, both when the event causes a delay or failure in performance, and

when the event has ended. If a Force Majeure Event continues for sixty (60) consecutive Working Days, the Party not affected by the Force Majeure Event can suspend or terminate this DPS Agreement. They must do so in writing, and state the date from which the suspension or termination will come into effect.

- 25.3. If a Force Majeure event occurs, the Parties will use all reasonable endeavours to prevent and mitigate the impact, and continue to perform their obligations under this Contract as far as is possible. Where the Supplier is the Affected Party, it will take all steps in accordance with Good Industry Practice to overcome or minimise the consequences of the Force Majeure Event.

26. NOTICES

- 26.1. Any notices sent under this Contract must be in writing and sent by hand, by post or by email. The table below sets out deemed time of delivery and proof of service for each.

Notice delivered	Deemed time of delivery	Proof of service
In person	At the time of delivery	Proof that delivery was made (e.g. a signature is obtained)
By first class post, special delivery or other recorded delivery	2 Working Days from the date of posting	Proof that the envelope was addressed and delivered into the custody of the postal authorities
Email	09:00 hours on the first Working Day after sending	Dispatched in an emailed pdf to the correct email address without any error message

- 26.2. The address and email address of each Party will be:

26.2.1. Supplier:

26.2.2. Customer:

- 26.3. For the purpose of this Clause and calculating receipt all references to time are to local time in the place of receipt.

27. STAFF TRANSFER

27.1. The Parties agree that

27.1.1. if providing the Project means staff must be transferred from the Customer to the Supplier, where the commencement of the provision of the Project or any part of the Project results in one or more Relevant Transfers, Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will apply as follows:

- a) where the Relevant Transfer involves the transfer of Transferring Customer Employees, Part A of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will apply
- b) where the Relevant Transfer involves the transfer of Transferring Former Supplier Employees, Part B of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will apply
- c) where the Relevant Transfer involves the transfer of Transferring Customer Employees and Transferring Former Supplier Employees, Parts A and B of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will apply, and
- d) Part C of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will not apply

27.2. Where providing the Project does not result in a Relevant Transfer, Part C of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will apply and Parts A and B of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) shall not apply; and

27.3. Part D of Schedule 3 (Staff Transfer) will apply on the expiry or termination of the Services or any part of the Project.

27.4. Both during and after the Term, the Supplier will indemnify the Customer against all Employee Liabilities that may arise as a result of any claims brought against the Customer due to any act or omission of the Supplier or any Supplier personnel.

28. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS

28.1. Except for CCS and the persons that the provisions of Schedule 3 of this Contract confer benefits on, a person who is not a Party to this Contract has no right to enforce any of its provisions which, expressly or by implication, confer a benefit on him, without the prior written agreement of the Parties.

29. DATA PROTECTION, SECURITY AND PUBLICITY

29.1. In addition to its general security obligations under this Contract, the Supplier shall comply with any security requirements specifically set out in the Statement of Work.

Data Protection

29.2. The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Customer is the Controller and the Supplier is the Processor. The only processing that the Supplier is authorised to do is listed in Contract Schedule 7

(Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects) by the Customer and may not be determined by the Supplier.

- 29.3. The Supplier shall notify the Customer immediately if it considers that any of the Customer's instructions infringe the Data Protection Legislation.
- 29.4. The Supplier shall provide all reasonable assistance to the Customer in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to commencing any processing. Such assistance may, at the discretion of the Customer, include:
 - 29.4.1. a systematic description of the envisaged processing operations and the purpose of the processing;
 - 29.4.2. an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the Project;
 - 29.4.3. an assessment of the risks to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects; and
 - 29.4.4. the measures envisaged to address the risks, including safeguards, security measures and mechanisms to ensure the protection of Personal Data.
- 29.5. The Supplier shall, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Agreement:
 - 29.5.1. process that Personal Data only in accordance with Schedule 7 (Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects), unless the Supplier is required to do otherwise by Law. If it is so required the Supplier shall promptly notify the Customer before processing the Personal Data unless prohibited by Law;
 - 29.5.2. ensure that it has in place Protective Measures, which have been reviewed and approved by the Customer as appropriate to protect against a Data Loss Event having taken account of the:
 - (i) nature of the data to be protected;
 - (ii) harm that might result from a Data Loss Event;
 - (iii) state of technological development; and
 - (iv) cost of implementing any measures;
 - 29.5.3. ensure that :
 - (i) the Supplier Personnel do not process Personal Data except in accordance with this Agreement (and in particular Contract Schedule 7 (Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects));
 - (ii) it takes all reasonable steps to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Contractor Personnel who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:
 - (A) are aware of and comply with the Supplier's duties under this clause;
 - (B) are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Supplier or any Sub-processor;

- (C) are informed of the confidential nature of the Personal Data and do not publish, disclose or divulge any of the Personal Data to any third Party unless directed in writing to do so by the Customer or as otherwise permitted by this Agreement; and
 - (D) have undergone adequate training in the use , care, protection and handling of Personal Data; and
- 29.5.4. not transfer Personal Data outside of the EU unless the prior written consent of the Customer has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:
 - (i) the Customer or the Supplier has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer (whether in accordance with GDPR Article 46 or LED Article 37) as determined by the Customer;
 - (ii) the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
 - (iii) the Supplier complies with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred (or, if it is not so bound, uses its best endeavours to assist the Customer in meeting its obligations); and
 - (iv) the Supplier complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Customer with respect to the processing of the Personal Data;
- 29.5.5. at the written direction of the Customer, delete or return Personal Data (and any copies of it) to the Customer on termination of the Agreement unless the Supplier is required by Law to retain the Personal Data.
- 29.6. Subject to Clause 29.7, the Supplier shall notify the Customer immediately if it:
 - 29.6.1. notify the Customer promptly if the Supplier receives a Data Subject Access Request (or purported Data Subject Access Request);
 - 29.6.2. receives a request to rectify, block or erase any Personal Data;
 - 29.6.3. receives any other request, any complaint, notice or communication relating to either Party's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;
 - 29.6.4. receives any communication from the Information Commissioner or any other regulatory authority in connection with Personal Data processed under this Agreement;
 - 29.6.5. receives a request from any third Party for disclosure of Personal Data where that relates directly to its compliance with such request is required or purported to be required by Law; or Data Protection Legislation and/or the processing of personal data under or in connection with this Contract;
 - 29.6.6. becomes aware of a Data Loss Event.
- 29.7. The Supplier's obligation to notify under Clause 29.6 shall include the provision of further information to the Customer in phases, as details become available.

- 29.8. Taking into account the nature of the processing, the Supplier shall provide the Customer with full cooperation and assistance in relation to either Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation and any complaint, communication or request made under Clause 29.6 (and insofar as possible (within the timescales reasonably required by the Customer) including by promptly providing:
- 29.8.1. the Customer with full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;
 - 29.8.2. the Customer) in relation to any such assistance as is reasonably requested by the Customer to enable the Customer to comply with a Data Subject Access Request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation; complaint, communication or request;
 - 29.8.3. the Customer, at its request, with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject;
 - 29.8.4. assistance as if requested by the Customer following any Data Loss Event;
 - 29.8.5. assistance as requested by the Customer with respect to any request from the Information Commissioner's Office, or any consultation by the Customer with Customer, provide a written description of the Information Commissioner's Office.
- 29.9. The Supplier shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this Clause. This requirement does not apply where the Supplier employs fewer than 250 staff, unless:
- 29.9.1. the Customer determines that the processing is not occasional;
 - 29.9.2. the Customer determines the processing includes special categories of data as referred to in Article 9(1) of the GDPR or Personal Data relating to criminal convictions and offences referred to in Article 10 of the GDPR; and
 - 29.9.3. the Customer determines that the processing is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.
- 29.10. The Supplier shall allow for audits of its Data Processing activity by the Customer or the Customer's designated auditor.
- 29.11. The Supplier shall designate a data protection officer if required and use its reasonable endeavours to assist the Customer to comply with any obligations under the Data Protection Legislation.
- 29.12. Before allowing any Sub-processor to process any Personal Data related to this Agreement, the Supplier must:
- 29.12.1. notify the Customer in writing of the intended Sub-processor and processing;
 - 29.12.2. obtain the written consent of the Customer;

- 29.12.3. enter into a written agreement with the Sub-processor which give effect to the terms set out in this Clause 29.12 such that they apply to the Sub-processor; and
- 29.12.4. provide the Customer with such information regarding the Sub-processor as the Customer may reasonably require.
- 29.13. The Supplier shall remain fully liable for all acts or omissions of any Sub-processor.
- 29.14. The Customer may, at any time on not less than 30 Working Days' notice, revise this clause by replacing it with any applicable controller to processor standard clauses or similar terms forming part of an applicable certification scheme (which shall apply when incorporated by attachment to this Agreement).
- 29.15. The Parties agree to take account of any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office. The Customer may on not less than 30 Working Days' notice to the Supplier amend this agreement to ensure that it complies with any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office.
- 29.16. The Supplier will not cause the Customer to breach any of the Customer's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation, to the extent the Supplier is aware (or ought reasonably to have been aware), that the same would be a breach of such obligations. It will not Process or otherwise transfer any Personal Data in or to any country outside the European Economic Area or any country which is not determined to be adequate by the European Commission under Article 25(6) of Directive 95/46/EC without Approval from the Customer.
- 29.17. The Supplier will use the latest versions of anti-virus definitions and software available from an industry accepted anti-virus software vendor (unless otherwise agreed in writing between the Parties) to check for, contain the spread of, and minimise the impact of Malicious Software (or as otherwise agreed between the Parties).
- 29.18. Notwithstanding Clause 28.6, if Malicious Software is found, the Parties will co-operate to reduce its impact. If Malicious Software causes loss of operational efficiency or loss or corruption of Customer Data, the Parties will assist each other to mitigate any losses and to restore the provision of the Project.

Customer Data

- 29.19. The Supplier will not store, copy, disclose, or use the Customer Data except as necessary to perform its obligations under this Contract or where the Customer has given Approval.
- 29.20. If any Customer Data is held and/or Processed by the Supplier, the Supplier must supply that Customer Data to the Customer, at the time and in the format the Customer requests.
- 29.21. The Supplier is responsible for preserving the integrity of any Customer Data it holds or processes, and preventing its corruption or loss.
- 29.22. The Supplier will perform secure back-ups of all customer data and shall ensure that such back-ups are available to the Customer (or to such other person as the

Customer may direct) on request.

- 29.23. The Supplier will ensure that any system it uses to holds any Customer Data, including back-up data, is secure. This system must comply with any security requirements and any government security requirement policy relating to this Customer Data.
- 29.24. If any time the Supplier suspects or has any reason to believe that the Customer Data is corrupted, lost or sufficiently degraded in any way, then the Supplier must notify the Customer immediately. This notification must contain information detailing the remedial action the Supplier proposes to take.

Publicity and Branding

- 29.25. The Supplier may not make any press announcements or publicise this Contract or use the Customer's name or brand in any promotion or marketing or announcement of orders without Approval from the Customer.
- 29.26. The Supplier will seek the Customer's Approval before marketing their involvement in any Deliverable or draft Deliverable or entering into any industry awards or competition which will involve the disclosure of all or any part of any Deliverable or draft Deliverable.

30. RETENTION AND SET OFF

- 30.1. If the Supplier owes the Customer any money, the Customer may retain or set off this money against any amount owed to the Supplier under this Contract or any other agreement between the Supplier and the Customer. In order to exercise this right, the Customer will, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the relevant invoice, notify the Supplier of its reasons for retaining or setting off the relevant Contract Charges.
- 30.2. The Supplier will make any payments due to the Customer without any deduction. Deductions, whether by way of set-off, counterclaim, discount, abatement or otherwise, are not permitted unless the Supplier has obtained a sealed court order requiring an amount equal to such deduction to be paid by the Customer.

31. INCOME TAX AND NATIONAL INSURANCE CONTRIBUTIONS

- 31.1. Where the Supplier or any Supplier personnel are liable to be taxed in the UK or to pay national insurance contributions in respect of consideration received under this Contract, the Supplier will:
 - 31.1.1. comply with the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax, and the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and all other statutes and regulations relating to national insurance contributions, and
 - 31.1.2. indemnify the Customer against any income tax, national insurance and social security contributions and any other liability, deduction, contribution, assessment or claim arising from or made in connection with the provision of the Project by the Supplier or any Supplier Personnel.

- 31.2. If any of the Supplier Personnel is a Worker as defined in Contract Schedule 1 (Definitions) who receives consideration relating to the Project, then, in addition to its obligations under Clause 31.1, the Supplier must ensure that its contract with the Worker contains the following requirements:
- 31.2.1. that the Customer may, at any time during the Term, request that the Worker provides information to demonstrate how the Worker complies with the requirements of Clause 31.1, or why those requirements do not apply to it. In such case, the Customer may specify the information which the Worker must provide and the period within which that information must be provided
 - 31.2.2. that the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Customer's request if:
 - a) the Worker fails to provide the information requested by the Customer within the time specified by the Customer under Clause 31.2.1 and/or
 - b) the Worker provides information which the Customer considers is inadequate to demonstrate how the Worker complies with Clause 31.2.1, or confirms that the Worker is not complying with those requirements
 - 31.2.3. that the Customer may supply any information it receives from the Worker to HMRC for the purpose of the collection and management of revenue for which they are responsible.

32. PREVENTION OF FRAUD AND BRIBERY

- 32.1. The Supplier represents and warrants that neither it, nor to the best of its knowledge any of its staff or Sub-Contractors, have at any time prior to the Effective Date:
- 32.1.1. committed a Prohibited Act or been formally notified that it is subject to an investigation or prosecution which relates to an alleged Prohibited Act; or
 - 32.1.2. been listed by any government department or Supplier as being debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or otherwise ineligible for participation in government procurement programmes or contracts on the grounds of a Prohibited Act.
- 32.2. The Supplier must not:
- 32.2.1. commit a Prohibited Act; or
 - 32.2.2. do or suffer anything to be done which would cause the Customer or any of the Customer's employees, consultants, contractors, sub-contractors or agents to contravene any of the Relevant Requirements or otherwise incur any liability in relation to the Relevant Requirements.
- 32.3. The Supplier shall during the Term:
- 32.3.1. establish, maintain and enforce, and require that its Sub-Contractors

- establish, maintain and enforce, policies and procedures which are adequate to ensure compliance with the Relevant Requirements and prevent the occurrence of a Prohibited Act;
- 32.3.2. keep appropriate records of its compliance with its obligations under 32.3.1 and make such records available to the Customer on request;
- 32.3.3. if so required by the Customer, within 20 days of the Effective Date, and annually thereafter, certify to the Customer in writing that the Supplier and all persons associated with it or its Sub-Contractors or other persons who are supplying the Project in connection with this Contract are compliant with the Relevant Requirements. The Supplier shall provide such supporting evidence of compliance as the Customer may reasonably request; and
- 32.4. have, maintain and (where appropriate) enforce an anti-bribery policy to prevent it and any Supplier staff or Sub-Contractors or any person acting on the Supplier's behalf from committing a Prohibited Act. This anti-bribery policy must be disclosed to the Customer on request.
- 32.5. The Supplier shall immediately notify the Customer in writing if it becomes aware of any breach of Clause 32.1, or has reason to believe that it has or any of the Supplier staff or Sub-Contractors have:
 - 32.5.1. been subject to an investigation or prosecution which relates to an alleged Prohibited Act;
 - 32.5.2. been listed by any government department or Supplier as being debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or otherwise ineligible for participation in government procurement programmes or contracts on the grounds of a Prohibited Act;
 - 32.5.3. received a request or demand for any undue financial or other advantage of any kind in connection with the performance of this Contract; or
 - 32.5.4. otherwise suspects that any person or Party directly or indirectly connected with this Contract has committed or attempted to commit a Prohibited Act.
- 32.6. If the Supplier makes a notification to the Customer under to Clause 32.5, the Supplier shall respond promptly to the Customer's enquiries, co-operate with any investigation, and allow the Customer to audit any books, records and/or any other relevant documentation in accordance with Clause 21 (Audit).
- 32.7. If the Supplier breaches Clause 32.5, the Customer may by notice:
 - 32.7.1. require the Supplier to remove any Supplier Personnel whose acts or omissions have caused the Supplier's breach from any Project; or
 - 32.7.2. immediately terminate this Contract for material Default.
- 32.8. Any notice served by the Customer under Clause 32.5 shall set out:
 - 32.8.1. the nature of the Prohibited Act;

- 32.8.2. the identity of the Party who the Customer believes has committed the Prohibited Act;
- 32.8.3. the action that the Customer has elected to take; and
- 32.8.4. if relevant, the date on which this Contract shall terminate.

33. GENERAL

- 33.1. Each of the Parties represents and warrants to the other that it has full capacity and authority, and all necessary consents, licenses and permissions to enter into and perform
- 33.2. its obligations under this Contract, and that this Contract is executed by its duly authorised representative.
- 33.3. This Contract contains the whole agreement between the Parties and supersedes and replaces any prior written or oral agreements, representations or understandings between them. The Parties confirm that they have not entered into this Contract on the basis of any representation that is not expressly incorporated into this Contract.
- 33.4. Nothing in this Clause excludes liability for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.
- 33.5. Any entire or partial waiver or relaxation of any of the terms and conditions of this Contract will be valid only if it is communicated to the other Party in writing, and expressly stated to be a waiver. A waiver of any right or remedy arising from a particular breach of this Contract will not constitute a waiver of any right or remedy arising from any other breach of the same Contract.
- 33.6. This Contract does not constitute or imply any partnership, joint venture, Supplier, fiduciary relationship between the Parties other than the contractual relationship expressly provided for in this Contract. Neither Party has, or has represented, any authority to make any commitments on the other Party's behalf.
- 33.7. Unless expressly stated in this Contract, all remedies available to either Party for breach of this Contract are cumulative and may be exercised concurrently or separately. The exercise of one remedy does not mean it has been selected to the exclusion of other remedies.
- 33.8. If any provision of this Contract is prohibited by law or judged by a court to be unlawful, void or unenforceable, the provision will, to the extent required, be severed from this Contract. Any severance will not, so far as is possible, modify the remaining provisions. It will not in any way affect any other circumstances of or the validity or enforcement of this Contract.

34. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 34.1. The Parties shall resolve Disputes in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure.
- 34.2. The Supplier shall continue to provide the Project in accordance with the terms of this Contract until a Dispute has been resolved.

35. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

- 35.1. This Agreement will be governed by the laws of England and Wales.
- 35.2. Each Party submits to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales and agrees that all disputes shall be conducted within England and Wales.

36. Additional Clauses

- 36.1. Where the Customer has so specified in the Letter of Appointment, the Supplier shall comply with the provisions of set out (Additional Clauses).

SCHEDULE 1

Definitions and Interpretation

1. INTERPRETATION

- 1.1. In this Contract, any references to numbered Clauses and schedules refer to those within this Contract unless specifically stated otherwise. If there is any conflict between this Contract, the Letter of Appointment, the provisions of the DPS Agreement and the Statements of Work(s), the conflict shall be resolved in accordance with the following order of precedence:
 - 1.1.1. the Letter of Appointment (except the Supplier Proposal)
 - 1.1.2. the Statement of Work
 - 1.1.3. the Contract Terms
 - 1.1.4. the Supplier Proposal, and
- 1.2. The definitions and interpretations used in this Contract are set out in this Schedule 1 (Definitions).
- 1.3. Definitions which are relevant and used only within a particular Clause or Schedule are defined in that Clause or Schedule.
- 1.4. Unless the context otherwise requires:
 - 1.4.1. words importing the singular meaning include where the context so admits the plural meaning and vice versa
 - 1.4.2. words importing the masculine include the feminine and the neuter and vice versa
 - 1.4.3. the words 'include', 'includes' 'including' 'for example' and 'in particular' and words of similar effect will not limit the general effect of the words which precede them
 - 1.4.4. references to any person will include natural persons and partnerships, firms and other incorporated bodies and all other legal persons of whatever kind
 - 1.4.5. references to any statute, regulation or other similar instrument mean a reference to the statute, regulation or instrument as amended by any subsequent enactment, modification, order, regulation or instrument as subsequently amended or re-enacted
 - 1.4.6. headings are included in this Contract for ease of reference only and will not affect the interpretation or construction of this Contract
- 1.5. If a capitalised expression does not have an interpretation in Contract Schedule 1 (Definitions) or relevant Schedule, it shall have the meaning given to it in the DPS Agreement. If no meaning is given to it in the DPS Agreement, it shall be interpreted in accordance with the relevant market sector/ industry meaning. Otherwise it shall be interpreted in accordance with the dictionary.
- 1.6. In this contract the following terms have the following meaning:

Agreement	means this Contract;
Approval	means the Approval given in accordance with Clause 10.1 or 10.2 as the context requires and " Approve ", " Approving " and " Approved " shall be construed accordingly.
Affected Party	means the Customer or the Supplier affected by the event
Associates	A Party's employees, officers, agents, sub-contractors or authorised representatives.
Authorised Supplier Approver	Any personnel of the Supplier who have the authority to contractually bind the Supplier in all matters relating to Contract. They must be named in the applicable Statement of Work, and the Customer must be notified if they change.
Authorised Customer Approver	Any personnel of the Customer who have the authority to contractually bind the Customer in all matters relating to this Contract. They must be named in the applicable Statement of Work, and the Supplier must be notified if they change.
Contract	This contract between the Customer and the Supplier (entered into under the provisions of the DPS Agreement), which consists of the terms set out in the Letter of Appointment, the Contract Terms, the Schedules and any Statement of Work.
Contract Terms	The terms and conditions set out in this Contract including this Schedule 1 but not including any other Schedules or Statement of Work.
Central Government Body	A body listed in one of the following sub-categories of the Central Government classification of the Public Sector Classification Guide, as published and amended from time to time by the Office for National Statistics: Government Department; Non- Departmental Public Body or Assembly Sponsored Public Body (advisory, executive, or tribunal); Non-Ministerial Department; or Executive Supplier.
Change of Control	Change of Control has the same meaning as in section 416 of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.
Customer Affiliates	Any organisation associated with the Customer that will directly receive the benefit of the Project. Customer Affiliates must be named in a Statement of Work, or subsequently notified to the Supplier.
Customer Project Specification	The document containing the Customer's requirements issued either as part of the Call For Competition Process set out in Section 3 of the DPS Agreement or as set out in a Statement of Work from time to time.
Customer Cause	A situation where the Customer does not fulfil its obligations in connection with this Contract (including its payment obligations), and as a consequence the Supplier is prevented from performing any of the agreed Project.
Customer Confidential Information	All Customer Data and any information that the Customer or CCS gives to Agencies that is designated as being confidential, or which ought to be reasonably be considered to be confidential (whether or not it is marked "confidential"). This may include information, however conveyed, that is politically or security sensitive and/or relates to the Customer's business, affairs, developments, trade secrets, Know-How, personnel and suppliers.

Customer Data	Data, text, drawings, diagrams, images or sounds (together with any database made up of any of these), including any Customer's Confidential Information, supplied to the Supplier by or on behalf of the Customer, or which the Supplier is required to generate, process, store or transmit in connection this Contract, and any Personal Data for which the Customer is the Data Controller.
Customer Materials	Any Customer Data, Customer equipment, computer systems, software, documents, copy, Intellectual Property Rights, artwork, logos and any other materials or information owned by or licensed to the Customer which are provided to the Supplier or its Associates by or on behalf of the Customer.
Contracting Body	CCS, the Customer and any other bodies listed in the OJEU Notice.
Contract Charges	All charges payable by the Customer for the Project provided under this Contract calculated in accordance with DPS Schedule 3 (Charging Structure) and the Letter of Appointment including all Approved costs properly incurred by the Customer including but not limited to all Expenses, disbursement, taxes, sub-contractor or third party costs, and fees.
Confidential Information	The Customers Confidential Information and/or the Supplier Confidential Information.
Contractor Personnel	means all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Contractor and/or of any Sub-Contractor engaged in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.
Controller, Processor, Data Subject, Personal Data, Personal Data Breach, Data Protection Officer	The meaning given in the GDPR.
Contract Year	A consecutive 12- month period during the Term commencing on the Effective Date or each anniversary thereof.
Data Loss Event	any event that results, or may result, in unauthorised access to Personal Data held by the Contractor under this Agreement, and/or actual or potential loss and/or destruction of Personal Data in breach of this Agreement, including any Personal Data Breach.
DPA 2018	Data Protection Act 2018
Data Protection Impact Assessment	an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data.
Data Subject Access Request	a request made by, or on behalf of, a Data Subject in accordance with rights granted pursuant to the Data Protection Legislation to access their Personal Data.
Data Protection Legislation or DPA	(i) the GDPR, the LED and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time (ii) the DPA 2018 [subject to Royal Assent] to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy; (iii) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy;
Default	Any breach of the obligations of the Supplier (including but not limited failing to provide any Deliverables by any date set out in the applicable Statement of Work (or any other deadline agreed by the Parties in writing), and abandonment

	of this Contract in breach of its terms) or any other default (including material Default), act, omission, negligence or statement of the Supplier, of its Sub-Contractors or any of its staff howsoever arising in connection with or in relation to the subject-matter of this Contract and in respect of which the Supplier is liable to the Customer.
Deliverables	The applied research services from Section 2 of the DPS Agreement that are to be provided as specified in a Statement of Work.
Dispute	Any dispute, difference or question of interpretation arising out of or in connection with this Contract, including any dispute, difference or question of interpretation relating to the Project, failure to agree in accordance with the Variation Procedure or any matter where this Contract directs the Parties to resolve an issue by reference to the Dispute Resolution Procedure.
Dispute Resolution Procedure	The dispute resolution procedure set out in Contract Schedule 4 (Dispute Resolution Procedure).
DPS Agreement	The DPS Agreement between CCS and the Supplier reference number: RM6018 referred to in the Letter of Appointment
DPS	Means the dynamic purchasing system established by CCS for the provision of Research Services which are to be provided by the Supplier under the DPS Agreement.
Effective Date	The date this Contract starts, as set out in the Letter of Appointment.
Environmental Information Regulations or EIRs	The Environmental Information Regulations 2004 together with any related guidance and/or codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant Government department.
Expenses	Reasonable travelling, hotel, subsistence and other expenses incurred by the Supplier in connection with the supply Services of and Deliverables, provided that such Expenses have either received the Customers Approval or are in accordance with any expenses policies which have been supplied to the Supplier and set out in the agreed Statement of Work.
Expiry Date	The date this Contract ends, as set out in the Letter of Appointment.
Extension Expiry Date	The latest date this Contract can end, as set out in the Letter of Appointment.
FOIA	The Freedom of Information Act 2000 as amended from time to time and any subordinate legislation made under that Act from time to time together with any guidance and/or codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant Government department in relation to such legislation.
Force Majeure	Means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • acts, events, omissions, happenings or non-happenings beyond the reasonable control of the Affected Party • riots, war or armed conflict, acts of terrorism, nuclear, biological or chemical warfare • fire, flood, any disaster and any failure or shortage of power or fuel

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an industrial dispute affecting a third party for which a substitute third party is not reasonably available but does not mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any industrial dispute relating to the Supplier, its staff, or any other failure in the Supplier's (or a subcontractor's) supply chain • any event or occurrence which is attributable to the wilful act, neglect or failure to take reasonable precautions against the event or occurrence by the Party concerned, and any failure of delay caused by a lack of funds
Further Competition Procedure	The process of a Customer issuing a Project Specification and the Supplier submitting a proposal in response to such Project Specification, as set out in DPS Clause 3.10.
GDPR	Means the General Data Protection Regulation (<i>Regulation (EU) 2016/679</i>)
Good Industry Practice	Standards, practices, methods and procedures conforming to the Law and the exercise of the degree of skill and care, diligence, prudence and foresight which would reasonably and ordinarily be expected from a skilled and experienced person or body engaged within the relevant industry or business sector.
Guarantee	A deed of guarantee that may be required under this Contract in favour of the Customer in the form set out in DPS Schedule 9 (Guarantee) granted pursuant to Clause 3 (Contract Guarantee).
Guarantor	The person, in the event that a Guarantee is required under this Contract, acceptable to the Customer to give a Guarantee.
Impact Assessment	The assessment to be carried out by a Party requesting a Variation in accordance with Clause 9.4.
Information	The same meaning given under section 84 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 as amended from time to time
Insolvency Event	Means, in respect of the Supplier [or DPS Guarantor (as applicable)]: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) a proposal is made for a voluntary arrangement within Part I of the Insolvency Act 1986; or b) a winding-up resolution is considered or passed (other than as part of, and exclusively for the purpose of, a bona fide reconstruction or amalgamation); or c) a petition is presented for its winding up (which is not dismissed within fourteen (14) Working Days of its service) or an application is made for the appointment of a provisional liquidator or a creditors' meeting is convened pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or d) a receiver, administrative receiver or similar officer is appointed over the whole or any part of its business or assets; or e) an application order is made either for the appointment of an administrator or for an administration order, an administrator is appointed, or notice of intention to appoint an administrator is given; or f) it is or becomes insolvent within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or

	<p>g) being a "small company" within the meaning of section 382(3) of the Companies Act 2006, a moratorium comes into force pursuant to Schedule A1 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</p> <p>h) where the Supplier is an individual or partnership, any event analogous to these listed in this definition occurs in relation to that individual or partnership; or</p> <p>d) any event analogous to these listed in this definition occurs under the law of any other jurisdiction</p>
Intellectual Property Rights or IPR	<p>The following rights, wherever in the world enforceable, or such similar rights, which have equivalent effect, including all reversions and renewals and all applications for registration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • any patents or patent applications • any trade marks (whether or not registered) • inventions, discoveries, utility models and improvements whether or not capable of protection by patent or registration • copyright or design rights (whether registered or unregistered) • database rights • performer's property rights as described in Part II of the Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988 and any similar rights of performers anywhere in the world • any goodwill in any trade or service name, trading style or get-up and • any and all other intellectual or proprietary rights
Key Individuals	Individuals named by the Supplier in the Letter or Appointment or Statement of Work as having a major responsibility for delivering the Project.
Law	means any law, subordinate legislation within the meaning of Section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, enforceable right within the meaning of Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements with which the Contractor is bound to comply;
LCIA	means London Court of International Arbitration
LED	means Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680)
Letter of Appointment	The Letter of Appointment, substantially in the form set out in DPS Schedule 4, signed by both Parties and dated on the Effective Date.
Losses	Any losses, damages, liabilities, claims, demands, actions, penalties, fines, awards, costs and expenses (including reasonable legal and other professional expenses) to either Party subject to Clause 18.1 and 18.2.
Malicious Software	Any software program or code intended to destroy, interfere with, corrupt, or cause undesired effects on program files, data or other information, executable code or application software macros, whether or not its operation is immediate or delayed, and whether the malicious software is introduced wilfully, negligently or without knowledge of its existence.

Materials	Any questionnaires, discussion guides, transcripts, tables, data files, reports, pre-notifications, stimulus materials or any other material protected by Intellectual Property Rights or produced as part of a Project.
Moral Rights	All rights described in Part I, Chapter IV of the Copyright Designs and Patents act 1988 and any similar rights of authors anywhere in the world.
New Expiry Date	Has the meaning given to it in Clause 2.3
Party	Means a Party to this Agreement.
Personal Data	Personal Data has the same meaning as set out in the Data Protection Act 2018
Prohibited Act	<p>To directly or indirectly offer, promise or give any person working for or engaged by a Customer or CCS a financial or other advantage to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) induce that person to perform improperly a relevant function or activity b) reward that person for improper performance of a relevant function or activity c) to directly or indirectly request, agree to receive or accept any financial or other advantage as an inducement or a reward for improper performance of a relevant function or activity in connection with this Agreement; d) commit any offence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • under the Bribery Act 2010 (or any legislation repealed or revoked by such Act); or • under legislation or common law concerning fraudulent acts; or • defrauding, attempting to defraud or conspiring to defraud the Customer ; or • any activity, practice or conduct which would constitute one of the offences listed above if such activity, practice or conduct had been carried out in the UK;
Project	Any project(s) agreed between the Parties from time to time whereby the Supplier performs the Project which are the subject of this Contract and supplies Deliverables to the Customer as more fully described in the applicable Statement of Work;
Project Commencement Date	The date a Project will start, as set out in the relevant Statement of Work.
Project Completion Date	The date by which a Project is to be completed, as set out in the relevant Statement of Work.
Project Notice Period	The period of notice for cancellation of a Project as set out in the Statement of Work.
Project Specific Materials	<p>Means:</p> <p>Intellectual Property Rights in items created by the Supplier (or by a third party on behalf of the Supplier) specifically for the purposes of this Contract and updates and amendments of these items including (but not limited to) database schema; and/or</p> <p>Intellectual Property Rights in or arising as a result of the performance of the Supplier's obligations under this Contract and all updates and amendments to the same.</p>
Project Term	The period during which the Project for each Project will be provided as specified in the applicable Statement of Work.

Protective Measures	means appropriate technical and organisational measures which may include: pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of such measures adopted by it.
Purchase Order Number	The order number set out in the Letter of Appointment.
Records	The accounts and information maintained by the Supplier related to the operation and delivery of this Contract, including all expenditure which is reimbursable by the Customer, as are necessary for the provision of management information and to enable the Customer to conduct an audit as set out in Clause 21.
Rectification Plan	The rectification plan pursuant to the Rectification Plan Process.
Rectification Plan Process	The process set out in Clauses 5.8 to 5.14.
Regulations	The Public Contracts Regulations 2015.
Relevant Requirements	All applicable Law relating to bribery, corruption and fraud, including the Bribery Act 2010 and any guidance issued by the Secretary of State for Justice pursuant to section 9 of the Bribery Act 2010;
Request for Information	A request for information or an apparent request relating to this Contract or the provision of the Project or an apparent request for such information under the FOIA or the EIRs.
Schedule	Any Schedule attached to this Contract.
Services	The Project to be supplied by the Supplier under this Contract and in accordance with Section 2 of the DPS Agreement, as set out in the relevant Statement of Work. This includes the provision of Deliverables.
Special Terms	Any terms specifically designated as varying these Contract Terms or the terms of any schedule, as set out in the applicable Statement of Work.
Standards	Any: standards published by BSI British Standards, the National Standards Body of the United Kingdom, the International Organisation for Standardisation or other reputable or equivalent bodies (and their successor bodies) that a skilled and experienced operator in the same type of industry or business sector as the Supplier would reasonably and ordinarily be expected to comply with; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> standards detailed in the specification in DPS Section 2 (Services and Key Performance Indicators); standards detailed by the Customer in the Letter of Appointment and any Statement of Work or agreed between the Parties from time to time; relevant Government codes of practice and guidance applicable from time to time i.e. including but not limited to Market Research Society (MRS) Code of Conduct and Social Research Association (SRA).
Statement of Work	One or more documents describing the relevant Project(s) as agreed and signed by the parties and which shall comprise both the Customer Project Specification and the Supplier's Proposal (whether agreed as part of a Call for Competition or during the Term of this Contract).

Sub-Contract	A contract entered into between the Supplier and a Sub-Contractor.
Sub-Contractor	Any person or Supplier appointed by the Supplier to provide elements of the Project on behalf of the Supplier to the Customer.
Sub-Processor	Means any third Party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of the Contractor related to this Agreement
Supplier Affiliate	Any company, partnership or other entity which at any time directly or indirectly controls, is controlled by or is under common control with the Supplier, including as a subsidiary, parent or holding company.
Supplier Confidential Information	Any information that the Supplier gives to CCS or to Customer's that is designated as being confidential, or which ought to be reasonably be considered to be confidential (whether or not it is marked "confidential"). This may include information, however it is conveyed, that relates to the Supplier's business, affairs, developments, trade secrets, Know-How, personnel and suppliers including all Intellectual Property Rights.
Supplier Materials	Those Materials specifically created by any officers, employees, sub-contractors or freelancers of the Supplier for the purposes of a Project, whether or not these materials are incorporated into Deliverables during the Term. (Includes any Materials adapted, modified or derived from the Customer Materials).
Supplier Proprietary Materials	Software (including all programming code in object and source code form), methodology, know-how and processes and Materials in relation to which the Intellectual Property Rights are owned by (or licensed to) the Supplier and which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - were in existence prior to the date on which it is intended to use them for a Project, or are created by or for the Supplier outside of a Project and which are intended to be reused across its business
Supplier Proposal	The Supplier's solution in response to the Customer's Project Specification, as set out in the Letter of Appointment or in any Statement of Work.
Tender	The tender submitted by the Supplier in response to the Invitation to Tender.
Term	The period from the Effective Date to the earlier of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Expiry Date or New Expiry Date; and • any date of termination
Territory	The United Kingdom, unless specified otherwise in the applicable Statement of Work. Publication and marketing on globally accessible mediums such as the internet shall not mean that the Territory is deemed to be worldwide.
Third Party Materials	Any Materials used in the Deliverables which are either commissioned by the Supplier from third parties or which have already been created by a third party and the Supplier proposes to use. Excludes software which is owned or licensed by a third party.
Transparency Principles	The principles set out at www.gov.uk/government/publications/transparency-of-suppliers-and-government-to-the-public detailing the requirement for the proactive release of contract information under the Government's transparency commitment.

Transparency Reports	The information relating to the Project and performance of this Contract which the Supplier is required to provide to the CCS in accordance with its reporting requirements.
Variation	A change in this Contract that is formally agreed by both Parties, as detailed in Clause 10.2.
Variation Form	The template form to process and record variations to this Contract as set out at Schedule 5.
Worker	Any Supplier personnel to whom the Customer considers Procurement Policy Note 08/15 (Tax Arrangements of Public Appointees) applies See https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/procurement-policy-note-0815-tax-arrangements-of-appointees
Working Day	Any day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday in England and Wales.

SCHEDULE 2

Statement of Work-

This Statement of Work is issued under and in accordance with the Contract entered into between the parties dated 6th October 2021

Project:	Evaluation of the national extension of Virtual School Heads to all children with a social worker and Pupil Premium Plus post-16 pilot
Project start Date	6 th October 2021
Notice period for cancellation	3 months (or as per RM6018 DPS agreement)
Services & Deliverables:	Detailed in 'Service & Deliverables' below
Inclusion of Additional Schedules	n/a
Project Plan:	See 'Services and Deliverables' timeline below

Customer Materials:	n/a
International locations	n/a
Customer Affiliates:	n/a

Special Terms:

n/a

**Key Individuals for
the supplier:**

[Redacted]

**Authorised Supplier
Approver:**

[Redacted]

**Authorised
Customer Approver**

[Redacted]

Services & Deliverables:

1. TASKS

[illegible]

Analysis of interview data including checking transcripts (35 days)														
Steering Group progress update (2 days)														
Feedback on early findings to VSH extension group (2 days)														
Revising data collection proformas reflecting feedback (DfE and VSH Ext Group) and experience of first data collection (6 days)														
Survey 2: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier (9 days)														
Analysis of Survey 2 data (30 days)														
Reflection workshops (8 days including prep & analyse feedback)														
Draft report and case studies Stage 1, submit to DfE (15 days)														
Feedback on Survey 2 data to VSH extension Group (2 days)														
Steering Group to discuss draft report (2 days)														
Submit final report on Stage 1 (4 days)														
BREAK CLAUSE														

Stage 2: Activity 2022/23 then repeats for 2023/24 and 2024/25 with last 2 months Feb-March 2025 specified	Apr 2022	May 2022	June 2022	July 2022	Aug 2022	Sept 2022	Oct 2022	Nov 2022	Dec 2022	Jan 2023	Feb 2023	Mar 2023	Feb 2025	Mar 2025
Detailed proposal for Stage 2 developed in collaboration with NAVSH and submitted to DfE (Yr 2 - 12 days)														

Draft data collection proformas and interview schedules for Stage 2 (Yr2 - 12 days, Yr3 – 9 days, Yr4 – 1 day) _													
Inception meeting/agree deliverables for Stage 2 (Yr2 - 6 days, Yr3 – 6 days, Yr4 - 4 days)													
Surveys 3, 4 & 5: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier (8 days/yr)													
Analysis of e-PEPs provided with survey responses (10 days/yr)													
Analysis of surveys 3, 4 & 5 data including CBA (Yr2 - 32 days, Yr3 – 40 days, Yr4 - 32 days)													
Select LAs case studies (3 days/yr)													
Case study interviews (Yr2 - 60 days, Yr3 – 37 days, Yr4 – 18 days)													
Analysis interview data (Yr2 – 20 days, Yr3- 17 days, Yr4 – 8 days)													
Secondary dataset analysis (Yr2 – 33 days, Yr3 – 60 days, Yr4 – 40 days)													
Draft interim reports, draft case studies, submit to DfE (Yr2 & 3 - 16 days/yr)													
Finalise interim report following feedback (Yr2 & 3 - 6 days)													
Project management/team meetings will be involved throughout the contract. We have allocated approx. 8% of the overall staffing resource to this which is not included here.													

Repeat data collection, analysis and interim reporting in same months in April 2023 - March 2024 and April 2024 - March 2025 with the following changes Feb-March 2025

Draft final report and case studies Stage 2 (26 days)														
Draft self-audit tool for LAs & consult with VSHs on draft (8 days)														
Final report on Stage 2 - publication quality (10 days)														
Submission of longitudinal case studies from Stage 2 (8 days)														
Timing of presentations, webinars, short outputs e.g. Children & Young People Now and social media to be agreed with the DfE														

2. METHODOLOGY

Stage 1 – Implementation and feasibility study October 2021-March 2022

VSH Theory of Change Workshops:

At the start of the evaluation, the contractor will carry out two online theory of change workshops (one focused on the extended role and one on the post-16 pilot). The contractor will invite one VSH from each Government region to each workshop.

Desk Research, documentary analysis and understanding of the issues:

As part of this, the contractor will review:

- the academic literature pertaining to VSHs including the role of the VSH with PLAC
- relevant documentation including the e-PEPs, transition plans and VSHs peer-to-peer reviews
- the Expressions of Interest for the PP+ post-16 current practice and future plans

Metric development:

The contractor will finalise the proposed list of metrics in discussions with DfE and the VSH extension Group in October. The list of metrics will be finalised prior to the first data collection. The contractor will consult a specialist in CBA about what might be practicable in order to assess value for money of the PP+ post-16 [and VSH].

Surveys of all VSHs:

The contractor will carry out Qualtrics surveys of all VSHs in October 2021 (to measure the baseline) and February 2022 (to measure implementation and where possible early impact). VSHs will be contacted by the contractor to enhance the response rate.

The contractor will work NAVSH to attempt to add questions to their annual survey of all VSHs in the Autumn. If this is not possible the contractor will minimise the overlap between the two surveys.

For the Autumn 2021 survey, the contractor will ask VSHs to provide data from the previous year (timescale to coincide with NAVSH survey data). For the February 2022 survey, the contractor will ask VSHs to focus on the half year from October 2021 to February 2022. The February survey will focus on implementation and early impact. The contractor will compare the aggregate data from VSHs in October 2021 and February 2022 and, to provide a historical comparison the contractor will use the aggregated data in previous Nuffield Foundation-funded projects (e.g. LEO post-16 work).

Potential list of metrics:

Quantitative data – the agreed list of metrics for the VSH extension on CIN will include the following, aggregated at the LA level:

- Eligible CIN child, age, SEND and SES (FSM eligibility)
- Ethnicity, proportion with English as an Additional Language
- Moves from CIN to care status or vice versa between October 2021 – February 2022
- Numbers of children who have been on a CIN plan for over 6 months and those with a CPP
- Attendance, formal procedures (attendance or disciplinary),
- Suspensions and expulsions (likely to be small at LA level) of each of the eligible populations (relevant to post-16 as will we start looking at them in Year 11)

- Staff time incurred through VSH extension activities to feed into the cost benefit analysis (CBA)
- Number of schools/education providers with whom the Virtual School has been in contact
- Types of school/AP attended and school moves (where recorded since our research has shown that these impact on outcomes)

Additionally, from all VSHs to assess the LAs in the PP+ post-16 pilot and provide potential comparisons with those not in the pilot:

- Eligible PP+ post-16 population (LAC & PLAC), age, SEND and SES (FSM)
- Type of PLAC – adopted, SGO, CAO (where these latter children have been in care)
- Ethnicity, EAL, UASC
- School/college moves (where recorded)
- Access of LAC and PLAC to higher level courses, admissions to FE, completion rates
- Accommodation status
- Attendance, formal procedures (attendance or disciplinary)
- Spending on PP+ to feed into CBA

Qualitative data – the surveys will include open-ended questions on current policy and practices:

- The position/relationship of the VSH in the LA – hierarchy/access to DCS, relationship to children’s social work teams, leaving care teams and independent reviewing teams
- Relationship with designated teachers and mental health leads in schools and regional adoption agencies
- The VSH approach to the national extension for children who have ever had a social worker i.e. the deployment of the extra resources for staffing
- Current post-16 support and in February, changes to that support in the pilot LAs
- In pilot LAs, approach to implementation of the PP+, other budget use/cuts, possible early impacts, perceived barriers and facilitators to implementation
- Relationships with further education colleges, higher education and employers
- Use of personal advisors to support transition and engagement post-16
- Perceived barriers and facilitators to attainment
- VSH view of the value for money of the extension of the VSH role/PP+ (in pilot LAs).

Case studies:

15 case-study LAs will be achieved. The sample will include a mixture of: LA size, number and outcomes of children who have ever had a social worker, VSH approach (this will be assessed from the October 2021 survey), Ofsted ratings, at least 7 LAs that are participating in the PP+ post-16 pilot, LAs that are rolling out the Social Workers in Schools Pilot. In each of the 15 LAs the contractor will aim to interview the following:

Interviewees in each LA	Total across 15 LAs
VSH	15
Another senior manager from that LA – DCS, Deputy Director, Director of Education, etc.	15
Social workers (including from SWs in schools in the 21 LAs piloting this scheme since Sept 2020 where relevant), designated teachers (schools) and FE leads for young people in care (10 in total, two group interviews/LA)	30 interviews to cover 150 interviewees

3 Parents of CIN, and 3 foster carers, special guardians/adoptive parents	60 interviews to cover 90 interviewees (parents of CIN individual, foster carers in groups)
Total	Approx 120 interviews covering 270 people

In stage 1, the contractor will include the views of children and young by: drawing on existing surveys and interviews of CIN, LAC and PLAC and by posing questions to Children in Care Councils in each of the 15 case-study LAs.

The contractor will audio record all interviews and use automated transcription. Transcripts will be checked, corrected and anonymised by all the contractor. The contractor will use a deductive 'framework analysis' approach, using NVivo for coding.

Reflection events:

The contractor will hold three reflection events for VSHs in February 2022. During these events, the contractor will include a presentation of early findings delivered through Microsoft Teams and facilitate online breakout rooms for discussions and reporting back. The contractor will seek feedback on interpretations of the findings and give VSHs a chance to revise their plans.

Outputs Stage 1:

The evaluation activities in stage 1 will provide the following outputs. All of the outputs will be cleared by DfE:

- Updated literature review
- Theory of change for each of the two programmes
- List of measures for (a) mechanisms of change (b) short-term and (c) longer-term outcomes for young people
- List of metrics (prior to the first data collection)
- Research tools including questionnaires, data collection proforma and interview schedules
- A stage 2 proposal and feasibility report. This will cover the longer-term evaluation of both the VSH extension and the PP+ post-16 pilot
- A plan and proforma for the application for access to the relevant datasets needed for Stage 2.
- presentation of the stage 1 survey findings and the wider stage 1 findings for the VSH Extension Working Group and Project Steering Group
- A clear and concise final report with free-standing executive summary (for use by LAs and DfE) on Stage 1 with clear findings on implementation, early impact, cost benefit analysis, barriers and facilitators. Recommendations for ways of improving and rolling out of the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 and for the longer-term evaluation
- 15 short individual case studies of LAs in Stage 1 to illustrate the implementation and early impact and the range of approach (or these will be presented thematically within the report)

Stage 2 – High-level outline of impact evaluation design April 2022-March 2025

National datasets:

The contractor will start the application process for the national datasets in April 2022. A quasi-experimental approach will be deployed. The contractor will use the NPD to undertake comparisons with children eligible

for FSM (Ever 6). The main approach will be an interrupted time series design involving the comparison of data (e.g. KS2 and KS4 attainment and attendance/exclusion in KS3/4) from the relevant datasets for the four years prior to the extension of the VSH role with two (and possibly three) years post-intervention. The post-intervention comparison will use data collected from 2021/22, 2022/23 and potentially 2023/24 (if published early enough). The pre-intervention comparison data will be drawn from 2017/18 to 2020/21, this will allow the contractor to navigate the disruption to data collection arising from Covid-related school closures, absence from school due to isolation or illness and changes in the assessments of outcomes, which will all have contributed to incomplete or incomparable data. A regression model will be built with some of the control variables from our previous Nuffield Foundation-funded CIN study to put as much focus on the policy change as possible. The full list of metrics that the contractor will use will be determined by the Stage 1 work with the VSHs and meetings with the DfE Steering Group.

In the event that there is agreement for the continuation of the PP+ post-16 evaluation into Stage 2, the contractor will adopt an additional quasi-experimental analysis using an interrupted time series approach, with non-participating LAs as a control group. A cross-sectional regression model could be used with the NPD, CLA, ILR and LEO 2022/23 data, to give enough time for the pilot to have embedded. The contractor will make full use of the DfE Steering Group to consider the most relevant and consistent outcome measures, useful comparisons and any caveats that should accompany the findings.

Surveys of all VSHs:

The VSH surveys will capture important metrics not present in the national datasets, including spend on the programmes and any issues with the change of census date for allocating PP+. The surveys will take place in September/October 2022, 2023 and 2024. If possible, these will be merged with the annual NAVSH survey or if this is not possible, overlap and burden will be minimised by negotiating with NAVSH. These surveys will collect the metrics listed in Stage 1, with any modifications agreed with VSHs and DfE during the Stage 1 reporting process. They would be informed by, in 2022 the report from Stage 1, and in 2023 and 2024 the interim reports from the previous years' collections.

Open-ended questions on implementation and impacts will also be included in the three annual surveys and will include questions on:

- any changes in the position/relationship of the VSH in the LA – hierarchy/access to DCS, relationship to children's social work teams, leaving care and independent reviewing teams
- any changes in relationship with designated teachers, mental health leads in schools, personal advisors supporting transition
- changes to the VSH approach to the national extension for children who have ever had a social worker i.e. how extra resources for staffing were used and to what effect
- details of costs involved to feed into the CBA
- perceived barriers and facilitators to attainment

In the event that there is agreement for the continuation of the PP+ post-16 evaluation into Stage 2, the contractor will also include questions on:

- introduction/changes to post-16 support including role of personal advisors
- introduction/changes to approach to implementation of the PP+, other budget use/cuts
- relationships with further education colleges, higher education and employers
- engagement and attainment of the post-16 population receiving PP+
- costs involved to feed into the CBA
- perceived barriers and facilitators in implementation

Case studies:

The contractor will carry out case-studies during October – January 2022-23, 2023-24 and 2024-25. As in stage 1, the sample will include a mixture of: LA size, number and outcomes of children who have ever had a social worker, VSH approach (this will be assessed from the October 2021 survey), Ofsted ratings, LAs that are participating in the PP+ post-16 pilot and some LAs that are rolling out the Social Workers in Schools Pilot. Case-studies with some of the same LAs (and same people if possible) as in Stage 1 will be repeated. Any replacements that are required will be agreed with DfE. The contractor will interview all the VSHs that were interviewed in Stage 1. The contractor will aim to interview the following:

Interviewees in each LA Stage 2:	Year 2 2022-23	Year 3: 2023-24	Year 4: 2024-25	Total interviews/ interviewees
VSH	15	10	6	31
No of case study LAs	10	5	3	NA
Social workers (including from SWs in schools), DTs, FE leads for young people in care (10 in total)	20 group interviews/ 100 interviewees	10 group interviews/ 50 interviewees	6 group interviews/ 30 interviewees	36 group interviews/180 interviewees
3 Parents of CIN	30 individual interviews	15 individual interviews	9 individual interviews	54 individual interviews
Total	65 interviews/ 145 interviewees	35 interviews/ 75 interviewees	21 interviews/ 45 interviewees	121 interviews/ 265 interviewees

Recording, transcribing and analysis will be undertaken in the same way as in Stage 1 making any necessary adjustments.

In stage 2, the contractor will include the views of children and young by: drawing on existing surveys and interviews of CIN, LAC and PLAC and by posing questions to Children in Care Councils in each of the chosen case-study LAs.

The contractor will audio record all interviews and use automated transcription. Transcripts will be checked, corrected and anonymised by all the contractor. The contractor will use a deductive ‘framework analysis’ approach, using NVivo for coding.

Outputs Stage 2:

The evaluation activities in stage 2 will provide the following outputs. All of the outputs will be cleared by DfE:

- Research tools including questionnaires, data collection proforma and interview schedules
- Requests to access national datasets
- Annual interim reports in year 2,3 and 4 on implementation, early impacts, value for money, barriers and facilitators. (with case studies in Stage 2). These are ‘not for publication’ but each report will be clear and concise with free-standing executive summaries be fed back to both DfE and VSHs)
- A self-audit tool for local authorities, co-produced with VSHs, to encourage reflection on current practice and next steps
- Ad hoc presentations to NAVSH, ADCS and Ofsted

- a clear and concise final report with free-standing executive summary (for use by LAs and DfE) on Stage 2 with clear findings on implementation, early impact, value for money, barriers and facilitators. Recommendations for ways of improving and rolling out of the VSH extension and PP+ post-16 and for the longer-term evaluation
- Ad hoc webinars hosted by Rees Centre for wider audiences of care leavers, foster carers/parents, social workers, DTs in schools and colleges and other stakeholders (these will be cleared with DfE)
- Short articles on the findings for ADCS Bulletin, etc. (these will be cleared with DfE)

3. STAFFING AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Project management:

██████████ will provide direction and quality assurance supported by a Project Support Officer and Data Manager ██████████.

The Project Support Officer will ensure deliverables are on time. They will be responsible for financial management including managing expenditure to ensure the contract remains within the available budget and creating and keeping clear and accurate records of all aspects of the finance. They will also provide operational management including acting as the interface for contact with the participating LAs/VSHs, designated teachers, FE leads for young people in care, parents/foster carers and special guardians/adoptive parents, social workers and DfE (contact with whom will usually be undertaken by ██████████ in Stage 1 and ██████████ in Stage 2). The Rees Centre Data Manager will manage the applications for access to the relevant databases.

The Project Support Officer will monitor and report on targets, tasks, outputs and budget against a project management plan agreed with the DfE in order to confirm next steps. They will track milestones, ongoing participation in the research and barriers experienced, in order to enable early mitigation of these. They will provide regular progress reports and updates which once cleared by DfE, will be available on the Rees Centre website. Additional administrative support through the Rees Centre will provide organisation and take minutes at meetings and support travel, interviews and the reflection workshops. The University of Oxford Finance Team will provide additional support and monitoring. The DfE Steering Group will provide additional quality assurance.

The Contractor will provide the Department with brief fortnightly oral or written progress updates throughout the project. These will typically include a summary of project activities and a breakdown of fieldwork progress, as well as flagging next steps (including any upcoming actions for the Department) and reviewing risks/mitigations. Updates will be weekly during fieldwork, so that the Department can keep track of response rates / recruitment.

Staffing:

██████████ will Co-lead with ██████████ throughout, will take a lead on post-16 access issues in Stage 1 and will be first contact for Stage 2 Yrs 2-3.

██████████ will lead Stage 1 of the evaluation involving negotiating the surveys with NAVSH and DfE, selecting the case study LAs and completing the interviewing and analysis with the Grade 7 researcher.

██████████ will be the main contact throughout the evaluation for all secondary data analysis including negotiating the metrics with VSHs and DfE, supported by the Data Manager. She will also lead Stage 2 Yr 4, though ██████████ will work with her on the reporting and dissemination.

██████████ will lead on the PLAC issues in the PP+ post-16 evaluation supporting ██████████ on this strand in Stage 1.

██████████ consultant VSH will provide [add details]

Two Grade 7 research officers [REDACTED] (one full-time, one 20% will be drawn from existing departmental staff to enable immediate start) will work on Stage 1 assisting with the online surveys, undertaking interviews and analysis under the direction of the lead staff.

Grade 8 research fellow [REDACTED] (August 2022-March 2025, to be appointed) will focus on the qualitative data collection and analyses in Stage 2, as well as taking a lead on report writing.

[REDACTED] (April 2023-March 2025) will focus on the quantitative analysis, in particular of the national administrative datasets.

Grade 6 Project Support Officer [REDACTED] (drawn from existing staff all of whom have this expertise) will send out the online surveys and monitor responses, monitor and report on targets, tasks, outputs, milestones and budget, provide regular progress reports, update the website, organise and minute meetings, the reflection workshops (though these will be recorded with automated transcription provided participants consent) organise travel and set up interviews.

Grade 6 Data Manager [REDACTED] (currently being appointed to the Rees Centre) will manage the applications for access to the relevant databases, Data Protection Impact Assessments, Data Sharing Agreements, maintain a data registry and handle data destruction.

Consultant on cost benefit analysis (CBA) the contractor will appoint an organisation to provide CBA, they will provide to advice us on this.

6. STEERING COMMITTEE

The Project Manager shall set up a Steering Committee for the Project, consisting of representatives from the Department, the Contractor, and any other key organisations whom the project will impact on, to be agreed between the parties. The function of the Steering Committee shall be to review the scope and direction of the Project against its aims and objectives, monitor progress and efficiency, and assess, manage and review expected impact and use of the findings from the Project against an agreed Project Communication Plan, through the standard Department Communication Plan Template. The Committee shall meet at times and dates agreed by the parties, or in the absence of agreement, specified by the Department. The Contractor's representatives on the Steering Committee shall report their views on the progress of the Project to the Steering Committee in writing if requested by the Department. The Contractor's representatives on the Steering Committee shall attend all meetings of the Steering Committee unless otherwise agreed by the Department.

The Steering Committee will meet at least twice per year (up to a maximum of 10 times over the project). Exact timings to be agreed by both parties.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Likelihood of risk	Impact on project	Mitigating Actions	Recovery Plan
Difficulties attributing findings to the implementation of the extension/pilot.	High	High	Collect multiple sources of data to enable triangulation of findings.	PI/NAVSH/ADCS clarify benefits to LA in securing robust evidence.
Difficulty engaging and sustaining participants (e.g. parents, social workers)	Medium	High	Clarify purposes and benefits, provide assurances of confidentiality and anonymity and minimise burdens.	Prepare substitute list in order to select alternative participants if required.
Access to data on CIN listed in the metrics	Medium	Medium	Ensure VSHs fully understand quality of data (metrics) required and link with LA's data support if needed.	Take account in analysis and present findings with appropriate caution.
Low response rates on surveys or low agreement to participate from interviewees	Medium	Medium	Negotiate merge with annual NAVSH survey. Ensure evaluation addresses VSHs priorities. Use contacts to achieve as near to intended sample as possible on interviews.	Triangulate data to strengthen trust in findings.
Delays in accessing national datasets, incomplete data provided.	Medium	Medium	Data Manager will start applications for access during Stage 1. Researchers will build in time to 'clean' data.	Analyses will be undertaken once access achieved and limitations of missing data reported upon.
Unforeseen changes in research team (e.g. illness).	Low	Medium	Project Support Officer ensures clear project records are maintained to enable staff substitution. Identify other researchers to assist.	Use alternative staff capacity at Oxford.

IT security breach/threats	Low	High	Oxford Department of Education IT support completed security questions in Bid Pack and will advise on all procedures.	University of Oxford IT support to advise on actions.
Budget insufficient to cover costs.	Very Low	Medium	Project Support Officer to track expenditure weekly and review with Pls on monthly basis. Finance Officer provides monthly accounts and notes spending patterns.	Make funder aware of any difficulties and their implications.

SCHEDULE 3: STAFF TRANSFER

1. DEFINITIONS

“Admission Agreement”	The agreement to be entered into by which the Supplier agrees to participate in the Schemes as amended from time to time;
“Eligible Employee”	any Fair Deal Employee who at the relevant time is an eligible employee as defined in the Admission Agreement;
“Employee Liabilities”	<p>all claims, actions, proceedings, orders, demands, complaints, investigations (save for any claims for personal injury which are covered by insurance) and any award, compensation, damages, tribunal awards, fine, loss, order, penalty, disbursement, payment made by way of settlement and costs, expenses and legal costs reasonably incurred in connection with a claim or investigation related to employment including in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) redundancy payments including contractual or enhanced redundancy costs, termination costs and notice payments;(b) unfair, wrongful or constructive dismissal compensation;(c) compensation for discrimination on grounds of sex, race, disability, age, religion or belief, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation or claims for equal pay;(d) compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed term employees;(e) outstanding employment debts and unlawful deduction of wages including any PAYE and national insurance contributions;(f) employment claims whether in tort, contract or statute or otherwise; <p>any investigation relating to employment matters by the Equality and Human Rights Commission or other enforcement, regulatory or supervisory body and of implementing any requirements which may arise from such investigation;</p>

“Fair Deal Employees”	those Transferring Customer Employees who are on the Relevant Transfer Date entitled to the protection of New Fair Deal and any Transferring Former Supplier Employees who originally transferred pursuant to a Relevant Transfer under the Employment Regulations (or the predecessor legislation to the Employment Regulations), from employment with a public sector employer and who were once eligible to participate in the Schemes and who at the Relevant Transfer Date become entitled to the protection of New Fair Deal;
“Former Supplier”	any Supplier supplying services to the Customer before the Relevant Transfer Date that are the same as or substantially similar to the Project (or any part of the Project) and shall include any sub-contractor of such Supplier (or any sub-contractor of any such sub-contractor);
“New Fair Deal”	the revised Fair Deal position set out in the HM Treasury guidance: <i>“Fair Deal for staff pensions: staff transfer from central government”</i> issued in October 2013;
“Notified Sub-Contractor”	a Sub-Contractor identified in the Annex to this Contract Schedule 3 to whom Transferring Customer Employees and/or Transferring Former Supplier Employees will transfer on a Relevant Transfer Date;
“Replacement Sub-Contractor”	a sub-contractor of the Replacement Supplier to whom Transferring Supplier Employees will transfer on a Service Transfer Date (or any sub-contractor of any such sub-contractor);
“Relevant Transfer”	a transfer of employment to which the Employment Regulations applies;
“Relevant Transfer Date”	in relation to a Relevant Transfer, the date upon which the Relevant Transfer takes place;
“Schemes”	the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme available to employees of the civil service and employees of bodies under the Superannuation Act 1972, as governed by rules adopted by Parliament; the Partnership Pension Account and its (i) Ill health Benefits Scheme and (ii) Death Benefits Scheme; the Civil Service Additional Voluntary Contribution Scheme; and the 2015 New Scheme (with effect from a date to be notified to the Supplier by the Minister for the Cabinet Office);
“Service Transfer”	any transfer of the Project (or any part of the Project), for whatever reason, from the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to a Replacement Supplier or a Replacement Sub-Contractor;
“Service Transfer Date”	the date of a Service Transfer;
“Staffing Information”	in relation to all persons identified on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List or Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, as the case may be, such information as the Customer may reasonably request (subject to all

applicable provisions of the DPA), but including in an anonymised format:

- (a) their ages, dates of commencement of employment or engagement and gender;
- (b) details of whether they are employed, self-employed contractors or consultants, Supplier workers or otherwise;
- (c) the identity of the employer or relevant contracting party;
- (d) their relevant contractual notice periods and any other terms relating to termination of employment, including redundancy procedures, and redundancy payments;
- (e) their wages, salaries and profit sharing arrangements as applicable;
- (f) details of other employment-related benefits, including (without limitation) medical insurance, life assurance, pension or other retirement benefit schemes, share option schemes and company car schedules applicable to them;
- (g) any outstanding or potential contractual, statutory or other liabilities in respect of such individuals (including in respect of personal injury claims);
- (h) details of any such individuals on long term sickness absence, parental leave, maternity leave or other authorised long term absence;
- (i) copies of all relevant documents and materials relating to such information, including copies of relevant contracts of employment (or relevant standard contracts if applied generally in respect of such employees); and
- (j) any other “employee liability information” as such term is defined in regulation 11 of the Employment Regulations;

“Supplier’s Final Supplier Personnel List”

a list provided by the Supplier of all Supplier Personnel who will transfer under the Employment Regulations on the Relevant Transfer Date;

“Supplier’s Provisional Supplier Personnel List”

a list prepared and updated by the Supplier of all Supplier Personnel who are engaged in or wholly or mainly assigned to the provision of the Project or any relevant part of the Project which it is envisaged as at the date of such list will no longer be provided by the Supplier;

“Transferring Customer Employees”

those employees of the Customer to whom the Employment Regulations will apply on the Relevant Transfer Date;

2. Where a provision in this Contract Schedule 3 imposes an obligation on the Supplier to provide an indemnity, undertaking or warranty, the Supplier shall procure that each of its Sub-Contractors shall comply with such obligation and provide such indemnity, undertaking or warranty to the Customer, Former Supplier, Replacement Supplier or Replacement Sub-Contractor, as the case may be.

PART A

TRANSFERRING CUSTOMER EMPLOYEES AT COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICES

3. RELEVANT TRANSFERS

3.1 The Customer and the Supplier agree that:

the commencement of the provision of the Project or of each relevant part of the Project will be a Relevant Transfer in relation to the Transferring Customer Employees; and

as a result of the operation of the Employment Regulations, the contracts of employment between the Customer and the Transferring Customer Employees (except in relation to any terms disapplied through operation of regulation 10(2) of the Employment Regulations) will have effect on and from the Relevant Transfer Date as if originally made between the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor and each such Transferring Customer Employee.

3.2 The Customer shall comply with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations and shall perform and discharge all its obligations in respect of the Transferring Customer Employees in respect of the period arising up to (but not including) the Relevant Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part to the period up to (but not including) the Relevant Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between: (i) the Customer ; and (ii) the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor (as appropriate).

4. CUSTOMER INDEMNITIES

4.1 Subject to Paragraph 4.2, the Customer shall indemnify the Supplier and any Notified Sub-Contractor against any Employee Liabilities in respect of any Transferring Customer Employee (or, where applicable any employee representative as defined in the Employment Regulations) arising from or as a result of:

4.1.1 any act or omission by the Customer occurring before the Relevant Transfer Date;

4.1.2 the breach or non-observance by the Customer before the Relevant Transfer Date of:

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

b) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Customer Employees which the Customer is contractually bound to honour;

4.1.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing the Transferring Customer Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Customer to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising before the Relevant Transfer Date;

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

- a) in relation to any Transferring Customer Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising before the Relevant Transfer Date; and
 - b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Customer Employee and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Customer to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor as appropriate, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by the HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising before the Relevant Transfer Date.
- 4.1.5 a failure of the Customer to discharge, or procure the discharge of, all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Customer Employees arising before the Relevant Transfer Date;
- 4.1.6 any claim made by or in respect of any person employed or formerly employed by the Customer other than a Transferring Customer Employee for whom it is alleged the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor as appropriate may be liable by virtue of the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive; and
- 4.1.7 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Customer Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Customer Employee relating to any act or omission of the Customer in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the failure by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to comply with regulation 13(4) of the Employment Regulations.
- 4.2 The indemnities in Paragraph 4.1 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor (whether or not a Notified Sub-Contractor) whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date including any Employee Liabilities:
 - 4.2.1 arising out of the resignation of any Transferring Customer Employee before the Relevant Transfer Date on account of substantial detrimental changes to his/her working conditions proposed by the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor to occur in the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date; or
 - 4.2.2 arising from the failure by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.
- 4.3 If any person who is not identified by the Customer as a Transferring Customer Employee claims, or it is determined in relation to any person who is not identified by the Customer as a Transferring Customer Employee, that his/her contract of employment has been transferred from the Customer to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive then:
 - 4.3.1 the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor shall, within 5 Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Customer; and
 - 4.3.2 the Customer may offer (or may procure that a third party may offer) employment to such person within 15 Working Days of receipt of the notification by the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor, or take such

other reasonable steps as the Customer considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with Law.

- 4.4 If an offer referred to in Paragraph 4.3.2 is accepted, or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Customer, the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor shall, immediately release the person from his/her employment or alleged employment.
- 4.5 If by the end of the 15 Working Day period specified in Paragraph 4.3.2:
- 4.5.1 no such offer of employment has been made;
 - 4.5.2 such offer has been made but not accepted; or
 - 4.5.3 the situation has not otherwise been resolved,
 - 4.5.4 the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor may within 5 Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.
- 4.6 Subject to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 4.3 to 4.5 and in accordance with all applicable proper employment procedures set out in applicable Law, the Customer shall indemnify the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor (as appropriate) against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 4.5 provided that the Supplier takes, or procures that the Notified Sub-Contractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.
- 4.7 The indemnity in Paragraph 4.6:
- 4.7.1 shall not apply to:
 - a) any claim for:
 - discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or
 - equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,
 - in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor; or
 - any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Supplier and/or Notified Sub-Contractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and
 - b) shall apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 4.3.1 is made by the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor (as appropriate) to the Customer within 6 months of the Contract Commencement Date.
- 4.8 If any such person as is referred to in Paragraph 4.3 is neither re-employed by the Customer nor dismissed by the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor within the time scales set out in Paragraph 4.5 such person shall be treated as having transferred to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor and the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor shall, comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under applicable Law.

5. SUPPLIER INDEMNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- 5.1 Subject to Paragraph 3.2 the Supplier shall indemnify the Customer against any Employee Liabilities in respect of any Transferring Customer Employee (or, where applicable any employee representative as defined in the Employment Regulations) arising from or as a result of:
- 5.1.1 any act or omission by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor whether occurring before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
 - 5.1.2 the breach or non-observance by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor on or after the Relevant Transfer Date of:
 - a) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Customer Employees; and/or
 - b) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Customer Employees which the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor is contractually bound to honour;
 - 5.1.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Customer Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
 - 5.1.4 any proposal by the Supplier or a Sub-contractor made before the Relevant Transfer Date to make changes to the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any Transferring Customer Employees to their material detriment on or after their transfer to the Supplier or the relevant Sub-Contractor (as the case may be) on the Relevant Transfer Date, or to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any person who would have been a Transferring Customer Employee but for their resignation (or decision to treat their employment as terminated under regulation 4(9) of the Employment Regulations) before the Relevant Transfer Date as a result of or for a reason connected to such proposed changes;
 - 5.1.5 any statement communicated to or action undertaken by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to, or in respect of, any Transferring Customer Employee before the Relevant Transfer Date regarding the Relevant Transfer which has not been agreed in advance with the Customer in writing;
 - 5.1.6 any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
 - a) in relation to any Transferring Customer Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date; and
 - b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Customer Employee, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Customer to the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
 - 5.1.7

a failure of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Customer Employees in respect of the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date; and

- 5.1.8 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Customer Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Customer Employee relating to any act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor in relation to their obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the Customer's failure to comply with its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.
- 5.2 The indemnities in Paragraph 5.1 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Customer whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date including, without limitation, any Employee Liabilities arising from the Customer's failure to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.
- 5.3 The Supplier shall comply, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall comply, with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations (including its obligation to inform and consult in accordance with regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations) and shall perform and discharge, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of the Transferring Customer Employees, from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part to the period from and including the Relevant Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between the Customer and the Supplier.

6. INFORMATION

The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, promptly provide to the Customer in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Customer to carry out its duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations. The Customer shall promptly provide to the Supplier and each Notified Sub-Contractor in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Supplier and each Notified Sub-Contractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

7. PRINCIPLES OF GOOD EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

- 7.1 The Parties agree that the Principles of Good Employment Practice issued by the Cabinet Office in December 2010 apply to the treatment by the Supplier of employees whose employment begins after the Relevant Transfer Date, and the Supplier undertakes to treat such employees in accordance with the provisions of the Principles of Good Employment Practice.
- 7.2 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, comply with any requirement notified to it by the Customer relating to pensions in respect of any Transferring Customer Employee as set down in:
 - 7.2.1 the Cabinet Office Statement of Practice on Staff Transfers in the Public Sector of January 2000, revised 2007;
 - 7.2.2 HM Treasury's guidance "Staff Transfers from Central Government: A Fair Deal for Staff Pensions of 1999;

7.2.3 HM Treasury's guidance "Fair deal for staff pensions: procurement of Bulk Transfer Agreements and Related Issues" of June 2004; and/or

7.3 Any changes embodied in any statement of practice, paper or other guidance that replaces any of the documentation referred to in Paragraphs 7.1 or 7.2 shall be agreed in accordance with the Variation Procedure.

8. PENSIONS

The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each of its Sub-Contractors shall, comply with the pensions provisions in the following Annex to PART A (PENSIONS).

ANNEX TO PART A: PENSIONS

9. PARTICIPATION

- 9.1 The Supplier undertakes to enter into the Admission Agreement.
- 9.2.1 undertake to do all such things and execute any documents (including the Admission Agreement) as may be required to enable the Supplier to participate in the Schemes in respect of the Fair Deal Employees;
- 9.2.2 agree that the Customer is entitled to make arrangements with the body responsible for the Schemes for the Customer to be notified if the Supplier breaches the Admission Agreement;
- 9.2.3 notwithstanding Paragraph 9.2.2 of this Annex, the Supplier shall notify the Customer in the event that it breaches the Admission Agreement; and
- 9.2.4 agree that the Customer may terminate this Contract for material default in the event that the Supplier breaches the Admission Agreement.
- 9.3 The Supplier shall bear its own costs and all costs that the Customer reasonably incurs in connection with the negotiation, preparation and execution of documents to facilitate the Supplier participating in the Schemes.

10. FUTURE SERVICE BENEFITS

- 10.1 The Supplier shall procure that the Fair Deal Employees, shall be either admitted into, or offered continued membership of, the relevant section of the Schemes that they currently contribute to, or were eligible to join immediately prior to the Relevant Transfer Date and the Supplier shall procure that the Fair Deal Employees continue to accrue benefits in accordance with the provisions governing the relevant section of Schemes for service from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date.
- 10.2 The Supplier undertakes that should it cease to participate in the Schemes for whatever reason at a time when it has Eligible Employees, that it will, at no extra cost to the Customer, provide to any Fair Deal Employee who immediately prior to such cessation remained an Eligible Employee with access to an occupational pension scheme certified by the Government Actuary's Department or any actuary nominated by the Customer in accordance with relevant guidance produced by the Government Actuary's Department as providing benefits which are broadly comparable to those provided by the Schemes at the relevant date.
- 10.3 The Parties acknowledge that the Civil Service Compensation Scheme and the Civil Service Injury Benefit Scheme (established pursuant to section 1 of the Superannuation Act 1972) are not covered by the protection of New Fair Deal.

11. FUNDING

- 11.1 The Supplier undertakes to pay to the Schemes all such amounts as are due under the Admission Agreement and shall deduct and pay to the Schemes such employee contributions as are required by the Schemes.
- 11.2 The Supplier shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Customer on demand against any claim by, payment to, or loss incurred by, the Schemes in respect of the failure to account to the Schemes for payments received and the non-payment or the late payment

12. PROVISION OF INFORMATION

The Supplier and the Customer respectively undertake to each other:

- 12.1 to provide all information which the other party may reasonably request concerning matters referred to in this Annex and set out in the Admission Agreement, and to supply the information as expeditiously as possible; and
- 12.2 not to issue any announcements to the Fair Deal Employees prior to the Relevant Transfer Date concerning the matters stated in this Annex without the consent in writing of the other Party (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed).

13. INDEMNITY

The Supplier undertakes to the Customer to indemnify and keep indemnified the Customer on demand from and against all and any Losses whatsoever arising out of or in connection with any liability towards the Fair Deal Employees arising in respect of service on or after the Relevant Transfer Date which relate to the payment of benefits under an occupational pension scheme (within the meaning provided for in section 1 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993) or the Schemes.

14. EMPLOYER OBLIGATION

The Supplier shall comply with the requirements of the Pensions Act 2008 and the Transfer of Employment (Pension Protection) Regulations 2005.

15. SUBSEQUENT TRANSFERS

The Supplier shall:

- 15.1 not adversely affect pension rights accrued by any Fair Deal Employee in the period ending on the date of the relevant future transfer;
- 15.2 provide all such co-operation and assistance as the Schemes and the Replacement Supplier and/or the Customer may reasonably require to enable the Replacement Supplier to participate in the Schemes in respect of any Eligible Employee and to give effect to any transfer of accrued rights required as part of participation under New Fair Deal; and
- 15.3 for the period either:
 - 15.3.1 after notice (for whatever reason) is given, in accordance with the other provisions of this Contract, to terminate the Agreement or any part of the Project; or
 - 15.3.2 after the date which is two (2) years prior to the date of expiry of this Contract, ensure that no change is made to pension, retirement and death benefits provided for or in respect of any person who will transfer to the Replacement Supplier or the Customer, no category of earnings which were not previously pensionable are made pensionable and the contributions (if any) payable by such employees are not reduced without (in any case) the Approval of the Customer (such Approval not to be unreasonably withheld). Save that this sub-paragraph shall not apply to any change made as a consequence of participation in an Admission Agreement.

PART B

TRANSFERRING FORMER SUPPLIER EMPLOYEES AT COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICES

16. RELEVANT TRANSFERS

16.1 The Customer and the Supplier agree that:

16.1.1 the commencement of the provision of the Project or of any relevant part of the Project will be a Relevant Transfer in relation to the Transferring Former Supplier Employees; and

16.1.2 as a result of the operation of the Employment Regulations, the contracts of employment between each Former Supplier and the Transferring Former Supplier Employees (except in relation to any terms disapplied through the operation of regulation 10(2) of the Employment Regulations) shall have effect on and from the Relevant Transfer Date as if originally made between the Supplier and/or Notified Sub-Contractor and each such Transferring Former Supplier Employee.

16.2 Subject to Paragraph 6, the Customer shall procure that each Former Supplier shall comply with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations and shall perform and discharge all its obligations in respect of all the Transferring Former Supplier Employees in respect of the period up to (but not including) the Relevant Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part in respect of the period up to (but not including) the Relevant Transfer Date) and the Supplier shall make, and the Customer shall procure that each Former Supplier makes, any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments.

17. FORMER SUPPLIER INDEMNITIES

17.1 Subject to Paragraphs 17.2 and 21, the Customer shall procure that each Former Supplier shall indemnify the Supplier and any Notified Sub-Contractor against any Employee Liabilities in respect of any Transferring Former Supplier Employee (or, where applicable any employee representative as defined in the Employment Regulations) arising from or as a result of:

17.1.1 any act or omission by the Former Supplier arising before the Relevant Transfer Date;

17.1.2 the breach or non-observance by the Former Supplier arising before the Relevant Transfer Date of:

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

b) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Former Supplier Employees which the Former Supplier is contractually bound to honour;

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

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

- b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Former Supplier Employee and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Former Supplier to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor as appropriate, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations in respect of the period to (but excluding) the Relevant Transfer Date;
- 17.1.4 a failure of the Former Supplier to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Former Supplier Employees in respect of the period to (but excluding) the Relevant Transfer Date;
- 17.1.5 any claim made by or in respect of any person employed or formerly employed by the Former Supplier other than a Transferring Former Supplier Employee for whom it is alleged the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor as appropriate may be liable by virtue of this Contract and/or the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive;
- 17.1.6 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Former Supplier Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Former Supplier to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising before the Relevant Transfer Date; and
- 17.1.7 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Former Supplier Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Former Supplier Employee relating to any act or omission of the Former Supplier in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the failure by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to comply with regulation 13(4) of the Employment Regulations.
- 17.2 The indemnities in Paragraph 17.1 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date including, without limitation, any Employee Liabilities:
 - 17.2.1 arising out of the resignation of any Transferring Former Supplier Employee before the Relevant Transfer Date on account of substantial detrimental changes to his/her working conditions proposed by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to occur in the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date; or
 - 17.2.2 arising from the failure by the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.
- 17.3 If any person who is not identified by the Customer as a Transferring Former Supplier Employee claims, or it is determined in relation to any person who is not identified by the Customer as a Transferring Former Supplier Employee, that his/her contract of employment has been transferred from a Former Supplier to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive then:
 - 17.3.1 the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor shall, within 5 Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Customer and, where required by the Customer, to the Former Supplier; and

17.3.2 the Former Supplier may offer (or may procure that a third party may offer) employment to such person within fifteen (15) Working Days of the notification by the Supplier and/or the Notified Sub-Contractor or take such other reasonable steps as the Former Supplier considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with applicable Law.

17.4 If an offer referred to in Paragraph 17.3.2 is accepted, or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Former Supplier and/or the Customer, the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor shall, immediately release the person from his/her employment or alleged employment.

17.4.1 If by the end of the fifteen (15) Working Day period specified in Paragraph 17.3.2:

17.4.2 no such offer of employment has been made;

17.4.3 such offer has been made but not accepted; or

17.4.4 the situation has not otherwise been resolved,

the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor may within five (5) Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.

17.5 Subject to the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 17.3 to 17.5 and in accordance with all applicable proper employment procedures set out in Law, the Customer shall procure that the Former Supplier indemnifies the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor (as appropriate) against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 17.5 provided that the Supplier takes, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.

17.6 The indemnity in Paragraph 17.6:

17.6.1 shall not apply to:

a) any claim for:

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

in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor; or

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

17.6.2 shall apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 17.3.1 is made by the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor (as appropriate) to the Customer and, if applicable, the Former Supplier, within 6 months of the

Contract Commencement Date.

- 17.7 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 17.3 is neither re-employed by the Former Supplier nor dismissed by the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor within the time scales set out in Paragraph 17.5, such person shall be treated as having transferred to the Supplier or Notified Sub-Contractor and the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor shall, comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under the Law.

18. SUPPLIER INDEMNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS

- 18.1 Subject to Paragraph 18.2, the Supplier shall indemnify the Customer and/or the Former Supplier against any Employee Liabilities in respect of any Transferring Former Supplier.
- 18.2 Employee (or, where applicable any employee representative as defined in the Employment Regulations) arising from or as a result of:
- 18.2.1 any act or omission by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor whether occurring before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
 - 18.2.2 the breach or non-observance by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor on or after the Relevant Transfer Date of:
 - a) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Former Supplier Employee; and/or
 - b) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Former Supplier Employees which the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor is contractually bound to honour;
 - 18.2.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Former Supplier Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
 - 18.2.4 any proposal by the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor prior to the Relevant Transfer Date to make changes to the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any Transferring Former Supplier Employees to their material detriment on or after their transfer to the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor (as the case may be) on the Relevant Transfer Date, or to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any person who would have been a Transferring Former Supplier Employee but for their resignation (or decision to treat their employment as terminated under regulation 4(9) of the Employment Regulations) before the Relevant Transfer Date as a result of or for a reason connected to such proposed changes;
 - 18.2.5 any statement communicated to or action undertaken by the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor to, or in respect of, any Transferring Former Supplier Employee before the Relevant Transfer Date regarding the Relevant Transfer which has not been agreed in advance with the Customer and/or the Former Supplier in writing;
 - 18.2.6 any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
 - a) in relation to any Transferring Former Supplier Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory

authority relates to financial obligations arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date; and

- b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Former Supplier Employee, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Former Supplier to the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by the HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
- c) a failure of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Former Supplier Employees in respect of the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date; and;
- d) any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Former Supplier Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Former Supplier Employee relating to any act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor in relation to obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the Former Supplier's failure to comply with its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

18.3 The indemnities in Paragraph 18.1 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Former Supplier whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date including, without limitation, any Employee Liabilities arising from the Former Supplier's failure to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.

18.4 The Supplier shall comply, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall comply, with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations (including without limitation its obligation to inform and consult in accordance with regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations) and shall perform and discharge, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of all the Transferring Former Supplier Employees, on and from the Relevant Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part to the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between the Supplier and the Former Supplier.

19. INFORMATION

The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, promptly provide to the Customer and/or at the Customer's direction, the Former Supplier, in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Customer and/or the Former Supplier to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations. Subject to Paragraph 21, the Customer shall procure that the Former Supplier shall promptly provide to the Supplier and each Notified Sub-Contractor in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Supplier and each Notified Sub-Contractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

20. PRINCIPLES OF GOOD EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE

20.1 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, comply with any requirement notified to it by the Customer relating to pensions in respect of any Transferring Former Supplier Employee as set down in:

- 20.1.1 the Cabinet Office Statement of Practice on Staff Transfers in the Public Sector of January 2000, revised 2007;
- 20.1.2 HM Treasury's guidance "Staff Transfers from Central Government: A Fair Deal for Staff Pensions of 1999;
- 20.1.3 HM Treasury's guidance: "Fair deal for staff pensions: procurement of Bulk Transfer Agreements and Related Issues" of June 2004; and/or
- 20.1.4 the New Fair Deal

20.2 Any changes embodied in any statement of practice, paper or other guidance that replaces any of the documentation referred to in Paragraph 20.1 shall be agreed in accordance with the Variation Procedure.

21. PROCUREMENT OBLIGATIONS

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

22. PENSIONS

The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, comply with the pensions provisions in the following Annex in respect of any Transferring Former Supplier Employees who transfer from the Former Supplier to the Supplier.

ANNEX to PART B: PENSIONS

23. PARTICIPATION

- 23.1 The Supplier undertakes to enter into the Admission Agreement.
- 23.2 The Supplier and the Customer :
 - 23.2.1 undertake to do all such things and execute any documents (including the Admission Agreement) as may be required to enable the Supplier to participate in the Schemes in respect of the Fair Deal Employees;
 - 23.2.2 agree that the Customer is entitled to make arrangements with the body responsible for the Schemes for the Customer to be notified if the Supplier breaches the Admission Agreement;
 - 23.2.3 notwithstanding Paragraph 23.2.2 of this Annex, the Supplier shall notify the Customer in the event that it breaches the Admission Agreement; and
 - 23.2.4 agree that the Customer may terminate this Contract for material default in the event that the Supplier breaches the Admission Agreement.
- 23.3 The Supplier shall bear its own costs and all costs that the Customer reasonably incurs in connection with the negotiation, preparation and execution of documents to facilitate the Supplier participating in the Schemes.

24. 24. FUTURE SERVICE BENEFITS

- 24.1 If the Supplier is rejoining the Schemes for the first time, the Supplier shall procure that the Fair Deal Employees shall be either admitted to or offered continued membership of the relevant section of the Schemes that they became eligible to join on the Relevant Transfer Date and shall continue to accrue or accrue benefits in accordance with the provisions governing the relevant section of the Schemes for service from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date.
- 24.2 If staff have already been readmitted to the Schemes, the Supplier shall procure that the Fair Deal Employees, shall be either admitted into, or offered continued membership of, the relevant section of the Schemes that they currently contribute to, or were eligible to join immediately prior to the Relevant Transfer Date and the Supplier shall procure that the Fair Deal Employees continue to accrue benefits in accordance with the provisions governing the relevant section of the Schemes for service from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date.
- 24.3 The Supplier undertakes that should it cease to participate in the Schemes for whatever reason at a time when it has Eligible Employees, that it will, at no extra cost to the Customer, provide to any Fair Deal Employee who immediately prior to such cessation remained an Eligible Employee with access to an occupational pension scheme certified by the Government Actuary's Department or any actuary nominated by the Customer in accordance with relevant guidance produced by the Government Actuary's Department as providing benefits which are broadly comparable to those provided by the Schemes at the relevant date.
- 24.4 The Parties acknowledge that the Civil Service Compensation Scheme and the Civil Service Injury Benefit Scheme (established pursuant to section 1 of the Superannuation Act 1972) are not covered by the protection of New Fair Deal.

25. 25. FUNDING

- 25.1 The Supplier undertakes to pay to the Schemes all such amounts as are due under the Admission Agreement and shall deduct and pay to the Schemes such employee contributions as are required by the Schemes.
- 25.2 The Supplier shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Customer on demand against any claim by, claim to, or loss incurred by the Schemes in respect of the failure to account to the Schemes for payments received and the non-payment or the late payment of any sum payable by the Supplier to or in respect of the Schemes.

26. 26. PROVISION OF INFORMATION

The Supplier and the Customer respectively undertake to each other:

- 26.1 to provide all information which the other Party may reasonably request concerning matters (i) referred to in this Annex and (ii) set out in the Admission Agreement, and to supply the information as expeditiously as possible; and
- 26.2 not to issue any announcements to the Fair Deal Employees prior to the Relevant Transfer Date concerning the matters stated in this Annex without the consent in writing of the other Party (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed).

27. 27. INDEMNITY

The Supplier undertakes to the Customer to indemnify and keep indemnified the Customer on demand from and against all and any Losses whatsoever arising out of or in connection with any liability towards the Fair Deal Employees arising in respect of service on or after the Relevant Transfer Date which relate to the payment of benefits under an occupational pension scheme (within the meaning provided for in section 1 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993) or the Schemes.

28. 28. EMPLOYER OBLIGATION

The Supplier shall comply with the requirements of the Pensions Act 2008 and the Transfer of Employment (Pension Protection) Regulations 2005.

29. 29. SUBSEQUENT TRANSFERS

The Supplier shall:

- 29.1 not adversely affect pension rights accrued by any Fair Deal Employee in the period ending on the date of the relevant future transfer;
- 29.2 provide all such co-operation and assistance as the Schemes and the Replacement Supplier and/or the Customer may reasonably require to enable the Replacement Supplier to participate in the Schemes in respect of any Eligible Employee and to give effect to any transfer of accrued rights required as part of participation under the New Fair Deal; and
- 29.3 for the period either
- 29.3.1 after notice (for whatever reason) is given, in accordance with the other provisions of this Contract, to terminate the Agreement or any part of the Project; or
 - 29.3.2 after the date which is two (2) years prior to the date of expiry of this Contract, ensure that no change is made to pension, retirement and death benefits provided for or in respect of any person who will transfer to the Replacement Supplier or the Customer, no category of earnings which were not previously pensionable are made pensionable and the contributions (if

any) payable by such employees are not reduced without (in any case) the Approval of the Customer (such Approval not to be unreasonably withheld). Save that this sub-paragraph shall not apply to any change made as a consequence of participation in an Admission Agreement.

PART C:

**NO TRANSFER OF EMPLOYEES AT COMMENCEMENT
OF SERVICES**

30. 30. PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF TRANSFER

- 30.1 The Customer and the Supplier agree that the commencement of the provision of the Project or of any part of the Project will not be a Relevant Transfer in relation to any employees of the Customer and/or any Former Supplier.
- 30.2 If any employee of the Customer and/or a Former Supplier claims, or it is determined in relation to any employee of the Customer and/or a Former Supplier, that his/her contract of employment has been transferred from the Customer and/or the Former Supplier to the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive then:
 - 30.2.1 the Supplier shall, and shall procure that the relevant Sub-Contractor shall, within five (5) Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Customer and, where required by the Customer, give notice to the Former Supplier; and
 - 30.2.2 the Customer and/or the Former Supplier may offer (or may procure that a third party may offer) employment to such person within fifteen (15) Working Days of the notification by the Supplier or the Sub-Contractor (as appropriate) or take such other reasonable steps as the Customer or Former Supplier (as the case may be) considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with applicable Law.
- 30.3 If an offer referred to in Paragraph 30.2.2 is accepted (or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Customer and/or the Former Supplier), the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Sub-Contractor shall, immediately release the person from his/her employment or alleged employment.
- 30.4 If by the end of the fifteen (15) Working Day period specified in Paragraph 30.2.2:
 - 30.4.1 no such offer of employment has been made;
 - 30.4.2 such offer has been made but not accepted; or
 - 30.4.3 the situation has not otherwise been resolved,the Supplier and/or the Sub-Contractor may within five (5) Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.

31. 31. INDEMNITIES

- 31.1 Subject to the Supplier and/or the relevant Sub-Contractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 30.2 to 30.4 and in accordance with all applicable employment procedures set out in applicable Law and subject also to Paragraph 31.4, the Customer shall:
 - 31.1.1 indemnify the Supplier and/or the relevant Sub-Contractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination of the employment of any employees of the Customer referred to in Paragraph 30.2 made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 30.4 provided that the Supplier takes, or shall procure that the Notified Sub-Contractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such

Employee Liabilities; and

- 31.1.2 subject to paragraph 32, procure that the Former Supplier indemnifies the Supplier and/or any Notified Sub-Contractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of termination of the employment of the employees of the former Supplier made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 30.4 provided that the Supplier takes, or shall procure that the relevant Sub-Contractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.
- 31.2 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 30.2 is neither re employed by the Customer and/or the Former Supplier as appropriate nor dismissed by the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor within the fifteen (15) Working Day period referred to in Paragraph 30.4 such person shall be treated as having transferred to the Supplier and/or the Sub-Contractor (as appropriate) and the Supplier shall, or shall procure that the Sub-Contractor shall, comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under Law.
- 31.3 Where any person remains employed by the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contract pursuant to Paragraph 30.2, all Employee Liabilities in relation to such employee shall remain with the Supplier and/or the Sub-Contractor and the Supplier shall indemnify the Customer and any Former Supplier, and shall procure that the Sub-Contractor shall indemnify the Customer and any Former Supplier, against any Employee Liabilities that either of them may incur in respect of any such employees of the Supplier and/or employees of the Sub-Contractor.
- 31.4 The indemnities in Paragraph 31.1:
- 31.4.1 shall not apply to:
- a) any claim for:
- discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or
 - equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,
- in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor; or
- b) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and
- 31.4.2 shall apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 30.2.1 is made by the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor to the Customer and, if applicable, Former Supplier within 6 months of the Contract Commencement Date.

32. 32. PROCUREMENT OBLIGATIONS

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

PART D: EMPLOYMENT EXIT PROVISIONS

33. 33. PRE-SERVICE TRANSFER OBLIGATIONS

- 33.1 The Supplier agrees that within twenty (20) Working Days of the earliest of:
- 33.1.1 receipt of a notification from the Customer of a Service Transfer or intended Service Transfer;
 - 33.1.2 receipt of the giving of notice of early termination or any Partial Termination of this Contract;
 - 33.1.3 the date which is twelve (12) months before the end of the Term; and
 - 33.1.4 receipt of a written request of the Customer at any time (provided that the Customer shall only be entitled to make one such request in any six (6) month period),
- it shall provide in a suitably anonymised format so as to comply with the DPA, the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List, together with the Staffing Information in relation to the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List and it shall provide an updated Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List at such intervals as are reasonably requested by the Customer.
- 33.2 At least thirty (30) Working Days prior to the Service Transfer Date, the Supplier shall provide to the Customer or at the direction of the Customer to any Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor:
- 33.2.1 the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List, which shall identify which of the Supplier Personnel are Transferring Supplier Employees; and
 - 33.2.2 the Staffing Information in relation to the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List (insofar as such information has not previously been provided).
- 33.3 The Customer shall be permitted to use and disclose information provided by the Supplier under Paragraphs 33.1 and 33.2 for the purpose of informing any prospective Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor.
- 33.4 The Supplier warrants, for the benefit of the Customer, any Replacement Supplier, and any Replacement Sub-Contractor that all information provided pursuant to Paragraphs 33.1 and 33.2 shall be true and accurate in all material respects at the time of providing the information.
- 33.5 From the date of the earliest event referred to in Paragraph 33.1, the Supplier agrees, that it shall not, and agrees to procure that each Sub-Contractor shall not, assign any person to the provision of the Project who is not listed on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List and shall not without the Approval of the Customer (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed):
- 33.5.1 replace or re-deploy any Supplier Personnel listed on the Supplier Provisional Supplier Personnel List other than where any replacement is of equivalent grade, skills, experience and expertise and is employed on the same terms and conditions of employment as the person he/she replaces;
 - 33.5.2 make, promise, propose or permit any material changes to the terms and conditions of employment of the Supplier Personnel (including any payments connected with the termination of employment);

- 33.5.3 increase the proportion of working time spent on the Project (or the relevant part of the Services) by any of the Supplier Personnel save for fulfilling assignments and projects previously scheduled and agreed;
- 33.5.4 introduce any new contractual or customary practice concerning the making of any lump sum payment on the termination of employment of any employees listed on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List;
- 33.5.5 increase or reduce the total number of employees so engaged, or deploy any other person to perform the Project (or the relevant part of the Project); or
- 33.5.6 terminate or give notice to terminate the employment or contracts of any persons on the Supplier's Provisional Supplier Personnel List save by due disciplinary process,

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

- 33.6 During the Term, the Supplier shall provide, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall provide, to the Customer any information the Customer may reasonably require relating to the manner in which the Project are organised, which shall include:

- 33.6.1 the numbers of employees engaged in providing the Project;
- 33.6.2 the percentage of time spent by each employee engaged in providing the Project; and
- 33.6.3 a description of the nature of the work undertaken by each employee by location.

- 33.7 The Supplier shall provide, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall provide, all reasonable cooperation and assistance to the Customer, any Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor to ensure the smooth transfer of the Transferring Supplier Employees on the Service Transfer Date including providing sufficient information in advance of the Service Transfer Date to ensure that all necessary payroll arrangements can be made to enable the Transferring Supplier Employees to be paid as appropriate. Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, within five (5) Working Days following the Service Transfer Date, the Supplier shall provide, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall provide, to the Customer or, at the direction of the Customer, to any Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor (as appropriate), in respect of each person on the Supplier's Final Supplier Personnel List who is a Transferring Supplier Employee:

- 33.7.1 the most recent month's copy pay slip data;
- 33.7.2 details of cumulative pay for tax and pension purposes;
- 33.7.3 details of cumulative tax paid;
- 33.7.4 tax code;
- 33.7.5 details of any voluntary deductions from pay; and
- 33.7.6 bank/building society account details for payroll purposes.

34. 34 . EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS EXIT PROVISIONS

- 34.1 The Customer and the Supplier acknowledge that subsequent to the commencement of the provision of the Project, the identity of the Supplier of the Project (or any part of

this Contract or otherwise) resulting in the Project being undertaken by a Replacement Supplier and/or a Replacement Sub-Contractor. Such change in the identity of the Supplier of such Services may constitute a Relevant Transfer to which the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive will apply. The Customer and the Supplier further agree that, as a result of the operation of the Employment Regulations, where a Relevant Transfer occurs, the contracts of employment between the Supplier and the Transferring Supplier Employees (except in relation to any Contract Terms disapplied through operation of regulation 10(2) of the Employment Regulations) will have effect on and from the Service Transfer Date as if originally made between the Replacement Supplier and/or a Replacement Sub-Contractor (as the case may be) and each such Transferring Supplier Employee.

- 34.2 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, comply with all its obligations in respect of the Transferring Supplier Employees arising under the Employment Regulations in respect of the period up to (but not including) the Service Transfer Date and shall perform and discharge, and procure that each Sub-Contractor shall perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of all the Transferring Supplier Employees arising in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part to the period ending on (and including) the Service Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between: (i) the Supplier and/or the Sub-Contractor (as appropriate); and (ii) the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor.
- 34.3 Subject to Paragraph 34.4, where a Relevant Transfer occurs the Supplier shall indemnify the Customer and/or the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor against any Employee Liabilities in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employee (or, where applicable any employee representative as defined in the Employment Regulations) arising from or as a result of:
- 34.3.1 any act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor whether occurring before, on or after the Service Transfer Date;
 - 34.3.2 the breach or non-observance by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor occurring on or before the Service Transfer Date of:
 - a) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Supplier Employees; and/or
 - b) any other custom or practice with a trade union or staff association in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employees which the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor is contractually bound to honour;
 - 34.3.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Supplier Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or before the Service Transfer Date;
 - 34.3.4 any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
 - a) in relation to any Transferring Supplier Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority

Date; and

- b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Supplier Employee, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Supplier to the Customer and/or Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising on or before the Service Transfer Date;
- 34.3.5 a failure of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Supplier Employees in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date);
- 34.3.6 any claim made by or in respect of any person employed or formerly employed by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor other than a Transferring Supplier Employee for whom it is alleged the Customer and/or the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor may be liable by virtue of this Contract and/or the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive; and
- 34.3.7 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Supplier Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Supplier Employee relating to any act or omission of the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the failure by the Customer and/or Replacement Supplier to comply with regulation 13(4) of the Employment Regulations.
- 34.4 The indemnities in Paragraph 34.3 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Service Transfer Date, including any Employee Liabilities:
- 34.4.1 arising out of the resignation of any Transferring Supplier Employee before the Service Transfer Date on account of substantial detrimental changes to his/her working conditions proposed by the Replacement Supplier and/or any Replacement Sub-Contractor to occur in the period on or after the Service Transfer Date; or
 - 34.4.2 arising from the Replacement Supplier's failure, and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor's failure, to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.
- 34.5 If any person who is not a Transferring Supplier Employee claims, or it is determined in relation to any person who is not a Transferring Supplier Employee, that his/her contract of employment has been transferred from the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor to the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive, then:
- 34.5.1 the Customer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier shall, or any Replacement Sub-Contractor shall, within five (5) Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Supplier; and

- 34.5.2 the Supplier may offer (or may procure that a Sub-Contractor may offer) employment to such person within fifteen (15) Working Days of the notification by the Replacement Supplier and/or any and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor or take such other reasonable steps as it considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with Law.
- 34.6 If such offer is accepted, or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Supplier or a Sub-Contractor, the Customer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier shall, or procure that the Replacement Sub-Contractor shall, immediately release or procure the release of the person from his/her employment or alleged employment.
- 34.7 If after the fifteen (15) Working Day period specified in Paragraph 34.5.2 has elapsed:
- 34.7.1 no such offer of employment has been made;
- 34.7.2 such offer has been made but not accepted; or
- 34.7.3 the situation has not otherwise been resolved
- the Customer shall advise the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor, as appropriate that it may within five (5) Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.
- 34.8 Subject to the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 34.5 to 34.7, and in accordance with all applicable proper employment procedures set out in applicable Law, the Supplier shall indemnify the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 34.7 provided that the Replacement Supplier takes, or shall procure that the Replacement Sub-Contractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.
- 34.9 The indemnity in Paragraph 34.8:
- 34.9.1 shall not apply to:
- a) any claim for:
- discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or
 - equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,
- in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor; or
- b) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and
- 34.9.2 shall apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 34.5.1 is made by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor to the Supplier within six (6) months of the Service Transfer Date.
- 34.10 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 34.5 is neither re-employed by the Supplier or any Sub-Contractor nor dismissed by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor within the time scales set out in Paragraphs 34.5 to 34.7, such person shall be treated as a Transferring Supplier Employee and the Replacement

Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor shall comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under applicable Law.

34.11 The Supplier shall comply, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall comply, with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations and shall perform and discharge, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of the Transferring Supplier Employees before and on the Service Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments shall be made between:

34.11.1 the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor; and

34.11.2 the Replacement Supplier and/or the Replacement Sub-Contractor.

34.12 The Supplier shall, and shall procure that each Sub-Contractor shall, promptly provide to the Customer and any Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor, in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Customer, the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations. The Customer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor shall promptly provide to the Supplier and each Sub-Contractor in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Supplier and each Sub-Contractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

34.13 Subject to Paragraph 34.14, where a Relevant Transfer occurs the Customer shall procure that the Replacement Supplier indemnifies the Supplier on its own behalf and on behalf of any Replacement Sub-contractor and its sub-contractors against any Employee Liabilities in respect of each Transferring Supplier Employee (or, where applicable any employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Supplier Employee) arising from or as a result of:

34.13.1 any act or omission of the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor;

34.13.2 the breach or non-observance by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor on or after the Service Transfer Date of:

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

b) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Supplier Employees which the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor is contractually bound to honour;

34.13.3 any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Supplier Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;

34.13.4 any proposal by the Replacement Supplier and/or Replacement Sub-Contractor to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any Transferring Supplier Employees on or after their transfer to the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Sub-Contractor (as the case may be) on the Relevant Transfer Date, or to change the terms and conditions of employment or working

conditions of any person who would have been a Transferring Supplier Employee but for their resignation (or decision to treat their employment as terminated under regulation 4(9) of the Employment Regulations) before the Relevant Transfer Date as a result of or for a reason connected to such proposed changes;

34.13.5 any statement communicated to or action undertaken by the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Sub-Contractor to, or in respect of, any Transferring Supplier Employee on or before the Relevant Transfer Date regarding the Relevant Transfer which has not been agreed in advance with the Supplier in writing;

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

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

b) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Supplier Employee, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer his/her employment from the Supplier or Sub-Contractor, to the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Sub-Contractor to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory authority relates to financial obligations arising after the Service Transfer Date;

34.13.7 a failure of the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Sub-Contractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Supplier Employees in respect of the period from (and including) the Service Transfer Date; and

34.13.8 any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Supplier Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Supplier Employee relating to any act or omission of the Replacement Supplier or Replacement Sub-Contractor in relation to obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

34.14 The indemnities in Paragraph 34.13 shall not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor (as applicable) whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date, including any Employee Liabilities arising from the failure by the Supplier and/or any Sub-Contractor (as applicable) to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.

SCHEDULE 4:

DISPUTE RESOLUTION PROCEDURE

1. Nothing in this dispute resolution procedure will prevent the Parties from seeking an interim court order restraining the other Party from doing any act or compelling the other Party to do any act.
2. The obligations of the Parties under this Contract will not be suspended, cease or be delayed during a dispute.
3. If any dispute arises between the Parties in connection with this Contract or any Project, they must try to settle it within 20 Working Days of either Party notifying the other of the dispute.
4. If the Parties have not settled the Dispute in accordance with paragraph 3 above, they must notify CCS of the details of the Dispute and escalate the dispute to the Customer Representative, the Supplier Representative and CCS who will have a further 10 Working Days from the date of escalation to settle the dispute.
5. If the dispute cannot be resolved by the Parties within 30 Working Days of the notice given under paragraph 3 above, they must refer it to mediation, unless the Customer considers that the dispute is not suitable for resolution by mediation.
6. If a dispute is referred to mediation, the Parties must:
 - appoint a neutral adviser or mediator (the “**Mediator**”). Ideally, Parties will agree on this appointment. If they are unable to agree upon a Mediator within 10 Working Days of the proposal to appoint a mediator, or the chosen Mediator is unable or unwilling to act, either Party may apply to the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution to appoint a Mediator
 - meet with the Mediator within 10 Working Days of the appointment, to agree how negotiations will take place and relevant information will be exchanged
7. Unless otherwise agreed, all negotiations connected with the dispute and any settlement agreement relating to it will be conducted in confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the Parties in any future proceedings.
8. If the Parties reach a resolution, a written agreement may be produced for both Parties to sign. Once signed, this agreement will be binding on both Parties.
9. If the Parties fail to reach a resolution, either Party may invite the Mediator to provide a non-binding but informative opinion in writing. This opinion will be provided without prejudice and cannot be used in evidence in any proceedings relating to this Contract without the prior written consent of both Parties.
10. If the Parties fail to reach a resolution within 90 Working Days of the Mediator being appointed, or such longer period as may be agreed by the Parties, then the dispute may be referred to arbitration, unless the Customer considers that it is not suitable for resolution by arbitration.
11. If a dispute is referred to arbitration, the Parties must comply with the following provisions:
 - the arbitration will be governed by the provisions of the Arbitration Act 1996

deemed to be incorporated into this Contract. It however there is any conflict between the LCIA procedural rules and this Contract, this Contract will prevail

- the decision of the arbitrator shall be binding on the Parties (in the absence of any material failure by the arbitrator to comply with the LCIA procedural rules)
- the tribunal shall consist of a sole arbitrator to be agreed by the Parties
- if the Parties fail to agree on the appointment of the arbitrator within 10 Working Days or, if the person appointed is unable or unwilling to act, LCIA will appoint an arbitrator, and
- the arbitration proceedings shall take place in a location to be agreed between the Parties.

SCHEDULE 5: VARIATION FORM

No of Letter of Appointment being varied:

.....

Variation Form No:

.....

BETWEEN:

[insert name of Customer] ("**the Customer** ") and

[insert name of Supplier] ("**the Supplier**")

1. This Contract is varied as follows and shall take effect on the date signed by both Parties:

[Insert details of the Variation]

2. Words and expressions in this Variation shall have the meanings given to them in this Contract.
3. This Contract, including any previous Variations, shall remain effective and unaltered except as amended by this Variation.

Signed by an authorised signatory for and on behalf of the Customer

Signature

Date

Name (in Capitals)

Address

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

Signature

Date

Name (in Capitals)

Address

SCHEDULE 6: CONTRACT CHARGES

1. General provisions

1.1 This Contract Schedule 6 details:

- 1.1.1 the Contract Charges for the Project under this Contract ; and
- 1.1.2 the procedure applicable to any adjustments of the Contract Charges.

2. Contract Charges

2.1 The Contract Charges which are applicable to this Contract are set out in Annex 1 of this Contract Schedule 6.

2.2 The Supplier acknowledges and agrees that:

- 2.2.1 in accordance with paragraph 1 (General Provisions) and of this Contract Schedule 6 (Contract Charges), the Contract Charges can in no event exceed the Contract Charges set out in Annex 1 to Contract Schedule 6 (Contract Charges); and
- 2.2.2 The Contract Charges comprise of the maximum daily rates for each category of the Supplier staff and (in each case exclusive of VAT) are as set out in Annex 1 of this Contract Schedule 6.
- 2.2.3 Daily rates are based on a Working Day consisting of eight (8) hours (excluding break).
- 2.2.4 Unless a Customer agrees otherwise under the terms of a specific Contract, the Supplier cannot charge for any more than eight (8) working hours in one (1) day.
- 2.2.5 All daily rates are inclusive of travel, subsistence, lodging and related expenses. Any additional Charges shall be calculated as detailed in the Letter of Appointment as detailed in DPS Schedule 4 (Letter of Appointment) and agreed with the Customer. The Supplier shall provide invoices detailing additional Charges to the Customer.

3. Adjustment of Contract Charges

3.1 The Contract Charges shall only be varied:

- 3.1.1 due to a specific change in Law in relation to which the Parties agrees that a change is required to all of part of the Contract Charges in accordance with Clause 11.4 of the DPS Agreement, or
- 3.1.2 where a review of the Contract Charges is agreed by the Parties, in accordance with the provisions of Section 4 of this Contract Schedule 6.

4. Review of the Contract Charges

4.1 If the Supplier determines that some or all of the Contract Charges need to be increased, the Supplier shall notify the Customer in writing of its request to increase some or all of the Contract Charges. It must provide the Customer with a list of the Contract Charges it wishes to vary together with written evidence of the justification for the requested increase. This should include:

- 4.1.1 a breakdown of the profit and cost components that comprise the relevant rate
- 4.1.2 details of the movement in the different identified cost components of the relevant rate
- 4.1.3 reasons for the movement in the different identified cost components of the relevant rate
- 4.1.4 evidence that the Supplier has attempted to mitigate against the increase in the relevant cost components, and

4.1.5 the date on which the Supplier wants the Variation to come into force

4.2 The Customer may in its absolute discretion, grant or refuse the Supplier's request (in whole or in part).

5. Implementation of adjusted Contract Charges

5.1 Variations to the Contract Charges will take effect on a date determined by the Customer.

5.2 Variations do not affect the Charges payable to a Customer under a Contract which had already been agreed before the variation takes effect.

5.3 Any variation to the Charges payable under a Contract must be agreed in writing between the Supplier and the relevant Customer and implemented in accordance with the provisions applicable to the Contract.

6 E-commerce transactions with central government bodies

6.1 The Supplier accepts e-commerce as the preferred transacting model for all Government's purchasing transactions.

ANNEX 1 – CONTRACT CHARGES

Table of payments

Project Milestone	Payment Amount £ excluding VAT	Payment Date
<div>Conduct two VSH theory of change online workshops to inform data collection</div> <div>Carry out discussion with NAVSH re exploring merging their annual survey with proposed survey</div> <div>Draft data collection proformas and interview schedules</div> <div>Present data collection plan to VSH Working Group</div> <div>Desk research, doc analysis, analysis of EoI PP+ pilot</div> <div>Survey 1: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier</div> <div>Analysis of e-PEPs provided with survey responses</div> <div>Analysis of survey 1 data</div> <div>Select LAs case studies</div> <div>Commence case study interviews</div>		31 st December 2021
<div>Carry out remaining case study interviews</div> <div>Analysis of interview data including checking transcripts</div> <div>Steering Group progress update</div> <div>Feedback on early findings to VSH extension group</div> <div>Revising data collection proformas reflecting feedback (DfE and VSH Ext Group) and experience of first data collection</div> <div>Survey 2: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier</div> <div>Analysis of Survey 2 data</div> <div>Reflection workshops</div> <div>Draft report and case studies Stage 1, submit to DfE</div>		31 st March 2022

Feedback on Survey 2 data to VSH extension Group		
Steering Group to discuss draft report		
Submit final report on Stage 1		
Detailed proposal for Stage 2 developed in collaboration with NAVSH and submitted to DfE		30 th September 2022
Draft data collection proformas and interview schedules for Stage 2		
Inception meeting/agree deliverables for Stage 2		
Surveys 3, 4 & 5: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier		
Analysis of e-PEPs provided with survey responses		31 st March 2023
Detailed proposal for Stage 2 developed in collaboration with NAVSH and submitted to DfE		30 th September 2023
Draft data collection proformas and interview schedules for Stage 2		
Inception meeting/agree deliverables for Stage 2		
Surveys 3, 4 & 5: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier		
Analysis of e-PEPs provided with survey responses		31 st March 2024
Analysis of surveys 3, 4 & 5 data including CBA		
Select LAs case studies		
Case study interviews		
Analysis interview data		
Secondary dataset analysis		
Draft interim reports, draft case studies, submit to DfE		
Finalise interim report following feedback		
Detailed proposal for Stage 2 developed in collaboration with NAVSH and submitted to DfE		30 th September 2024
Draft data collection proformas and interview schedules for Stage 2		
Inception meeting/agree deliverables for Stage 2		

Surveys 3, 4 & 5: VSHs, having notified LAs 2 weeks earlier		
Analysis of e-PEPs provided with survey responses		31 st March 2025
Analysis of surveys 3, 4 & 5 data including CBA		
Select LAs case studies		
Case study interviews		
Analysis interview data		
Secondary dataset analysis		
Draft final report and case studies Stage 2		
Draft self-audit tool for LAs & consult with VSHs on draft		
Final report on Stage 2 - publication quality		
Submission of longitudinal case studies from Stage 2		

Expenditure for the financial year 2021-2022 shall not exceed [REDACTED] exclusive of VAT.
Expenditure for the financial year 2022-2023 shall not exceed [REDACTED] exclusive of VAT.
Expenditure for the financial year 2023-2024 shall not exceed [REDACTED] exclusive of VAT.
Expenditure for the financial year 2024-2025 shall not exceed [REDACTED] exclusive of VAT.

Total Project expenditure shall not exceed **£450,000** exclusive of VAT.

SCHEDULE 7: PROCESSING, PERSONAL DATA AND DATA SUBJECTS

1. The Supplier shall comply with any further written instructions with respect to processing by the Customer.
2. Any such further instructions shall be incorporated into this Schedule.

Description	Details
Subject matter of the processing	Surveys of Virtual School Headteachers Interviews with various stakeholders in local authorities will be carried out to gather evidence on the implementation and impacts of the Virtual Schools Head and Pupil Premium Plus programme extensions.
Duration of the processing	<p>Two surveys will be undertaken during Stage 1 Oct 2021 and Feb 2022. In Stage 2 the surveys will be repeated in Oct 2022, 2023 and 2024. Contact details of Virtual School Heads will be used to send out the surveys but the responses for analysis will be identified with a unique code. Stage 1 interviews and analysis of them will take place between 1st November 2021 and 31st January 2022. The Stage 2 interviews and analysis of them will take place between 1st November 2022 and 31st January 2023 and at that time each year subsequently (2023-2024 and 2024-2025).</p> <p>To enable these interviews to be arranged this will require the participating local authorities to provide the personal contact details of the participating stakeholders to the research organisation.</p> <p>The qualitative data from the interviews will be anonymised for analysis purposes (each interview will retain a unique case identifier [this will aid longitudinal case-study analysis] but the data-file itself will not contain names, addresses or other contact details).</p>
Nature and purposes of the processing	<p>The purpose of the processing is to conduct research on behalf of the Department to explore the implementation and impacts of the Virtual Schools Head and Pupil Premium Plus programme extensions.</p> <p>The nature of the processing will involve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. collecting and storing data (personal contact details) for the purpose of contacting those stakeholders who are sent the survey and those who agree to participate in a stage one interview;2. collecting and storing data (personal contact details) for the purpose of contacting those stakeholders who are sent the survey and those who agree to

	<p>participate in a stage one and two interview. Participants will only be re-contacted if they have explicitly agreed to this and have provided their contact details for this purpose.</p> <p>3. collecting and storing data (qualitative data from the interviews) for analysis purposes.</p> <p>Data collated as part of interviews will be digitally recorded if permission is given to do so, transcribed (automatically), corrected and anonymised and the digital recording destroyed as soon as the transcription is completed.</p> <p>The qualitative data collected during fieldwork will be anonymised in the analysis file (i.e. names, addresses and other contact information removed). Sample contact details (names, addresses, email, phone number) will be stored separately from the survey responses.</p> <p>Datasets that are constructed will be held on university computer systems, backed up by their hard drive and are password protected.</p> <p>All data will be anonymised data in any outputs, including the removal of any potentially disclosive details. Quantitative outputs will follow the ONS 'five safes' guidelines, including rounding and suppression and the avoidance of disclosure through accumulation. Outputs will be provided in formats, styles and mechanisms that are accessible and user friendly and that reflect user involvement in the research process.</p> <p>All researchers will have undergone the University's pre-requisite training in ethics and data protection and will hold appropriate enhanced DBS checks if handling young people's data.</p>
Type of Personal Data	<p>Name, address, telephone number(s), email address(es)</p> <p>The above will be collected in order to send out surveys online and invite participants to take part in the case-study interviews. Personal contact details will be stored by the Contractor separately from the qualitative data file in a secure job folder to which only the project team and IT staff will have access.</p>

Categories of Data Subject	A range of key stakeholders, for example virtual school staff, DCSs, social workers, designated teachers, FE leads for young people in care, parents, carers, or representatives from other participatory forums.
Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete UNLESS requirement under union or member state law to preserve that type of data	The personal data will be securely destroyed at the end of the project using Blancco File Eraser. Anonymised research data will be retained for three years after the end of the project (in keeping with the University of Oxford retention policy) and securely destroyed using Blancco File Eraser.

SCHEDULE 8: ADDITIONAL CLAUSES

1. Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults

“Regulated Activity”	<p>In relation to children as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 4 to the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.</p> <p>In relation to vulnerable adults as defined in Part 2 of Schedule 4 to the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.</p>
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- 1.1 The Contractor will put in place safeguards to protect children and vulnerable adults from a risk of significant harm which could arise from the performance of this Contract. The Contractor will agree these safeguards with the Department before commencing work on the Contract.
- 1.2 In addition, the Contractor will carry out checks with the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS checks) on all staff employed on the Contract in a Regulated Activity. Contractors must have a DBS check done every three years for each relevant member of staff for as long as this Contract applies. The DBS check must be completed before any of the Contractor’s employees work with children in Regulated Activity.
- 1.3 The Contractor shall immediately notify the Department of any information that it reasonably requests to enable it to be satisfied that the obligations of this Clause [insert the clause number] have been met.
- 1.4 The Contractor shall not employ or use the services of any person who is barred from, or whose previous conduct or records indicate that he or she would not be suitable to carry out Regulated Activity or who may otherwise present a risk to children or vulnerable adults.

2. Project outputs

- 2.1 Unless otherwise agreed between the Contractor and the Project Manager, all outputs from the Project shall be published by the Department on the Department’s research website.
- 2.2 The Contractor shall ensure that all outputs for publication by the Department adhere to the Department’s Style Guide and MS Word Template, available to download from:
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-reports-guide-and-template>.
- 2.3 Unless otherwise agreed between the Contractor and Project Manager, the Contractor shall supply the Project Manager with a draft for comment at least eight weeks before the intended publication date, for interim reports, and eight weeks before the contracted end date, for final reports.

- 2.4 The Contractor shall consider revisions to the drafts with the Project Manager in the light of the Department's comments. The Contractor shall provide final, signed off interim reports and other outputs planned within the lifetime of the Project to the Department by no later than four weeks before the intended publication date, and final, signed off reports and other outputs at the end of the Project to the Department by no later than the contracted end date for the Project.
- 2.5 Until the date of publication, findings from all Project outputs shall be treated as confidential, as set out in the Clause 13 above. The Contractor shall not release findings to the press or disseminate them in any way or at any time prior to publication without approval of the Department.
- 2.6 Where the Contractor wishes to issue a Press Notice or other publicity material containing findings from the Project, notification of plans, including timing and drafts of planned releases shall be submitted by the Contractor to the Project Manager at least three weeks before the intended date of release and before any agreement is made with press or other external audiences, to allow the Department time to comment. All Press Notices released by the Department or the Contractor shall state the full title of the research report, and include a hyperlink to the Department's research web pages, and any other web pages as relevant, to access the publication/s. This clause applies at all times prior to publication of the final report.
- 2.7 Where the Contractor wishes to present findings from the Project in the public domain, for example at conferences, seminars, or in journal articles, the Contractor shall notify the Project Manager before any agreement is made with external audiences, to allow the Department time to consider the request. The Contractor shall only present findings that will already be in the public domain at the time of presentation, unless otherwise agreed with the Department. This clause applies at all times prior to publication of the final report.

3. Departmental Security Standards for Business Services and ICT Contracts

<p>"BPSS"</p> <p>"Baseline Personnel Security Standard"</p>	<p>means the Government's HMG Baseline Personal Security Standard . Further information can be found at:</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-baseline-personnel-security-standard</p>
<p>"CCSC"</p> <p>"Certified Cyber Security Consultancy"</p>	<p>is the National Cyber Security Centre's (NCSC) approach to assessing the services provided by consultancies and confirming that they meet NCSC's standards.</p> <p>See website:</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/scheme/certified-cyber-consultancy</p>

<p>“CCP”</p> <p>“Certified Professional”</p>	<p>is a NCSC scheme in consultation with government, industry and academia to address the growing need for specialists in the cyber security profession. See website:</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/information/about-certified-professional-scheme</p>
<p>“CPA”</p> <p>“Commercial Product Assurance”</p> <p>[formerly called “CESG Product Assurance”]</p>	<p>is an ‘information assurance scheme’ which evaluates commercial off the shelf (COTS) products and their developers against published security and development standards.. See website:</p> <p>https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/scheme/commercial-product-assurance-cpa</p>
<p>“Cyber Essentials”</p> <p>“Cyber Essentials Plus”</p>	<p>Cyber Essentials is the government backed, industry supported scheme to help organisations protect themselves against common cyber-attacks. Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus are levels within the scheme.</p> <p>There are a number of certification bodies that can be approached for further advice on the scheme; the link below points to these providers:</p> <p>https://www.cyberessentials.ncsc.gov.uk/getting-certified/#what-is-an-accreditation-body</p>
<p>“Data”</p> <p>“Data Controller”</p> <p>“Data Protection Officer”</p> <p>“Data Processor”</p> <p>“Personal Data”</p> <p>“Personal Data requiring Sensitive Processing”</p> <p>“Data Subject”, “Process” and “Processing”</p>	<p>shall have the meanings given to those terms by the Data Protection Act 2018</p>
<p>“Department’s Data”</p> <p>“Department’s Information”</p>	<p>is any data or information owned or retained in order to meet departmental business objectives and tasks, including:</p> <p>(a) any data, text, drawings, diagrams, images or sounds (together with any repository or database made up of any of these components) which are embodied in any electronic, magnetic, optical or tangible media, and which are:</p> <p>(i) supplied to the Contractor by or on behalf of the Department; or</p> <p>(ii) which the Contractor is required to generate, process, store or transmit pursuant to this Contract; or</p> <p>(b) any Personal Data for which the Department is the Data Controller;</p>
<p>“DfE”</p> <p>“Department”</p>	<p>means the Department for Education</p>
<p>“Departmental Security Standards”</p>	<p>means the Department’s security policy or any standards, procedures, process or specification for security that the Contractor is required to deliver.</p>

“Digital Marketplace / G-Cloud”	means the Digital Marketplace is the online framework for identifying and procuring cloud technology and people for digital projects.
End User Devices	means the personal computer or consumer devices that store or process information.
“Good Industry Practice” “Industry Good Practice”	means the exercise of that degree of skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness as would be expected from a leading company within the relevant industry or business sector.
“Good Industry Standard” “Industry Good Standard”	means the implementation of products and solutions, and the exercise of that degree of skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness as would be expected from a leading company within the relevant industry or business sector.
“GSC” “GSCP”	means the Government Security Classification Policy which establishes the rules for classifying HMG information. The policy is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/government-security-classifications
“HMG”	means Her Majesty’s Government
“ICT”	means Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and is used as an extended synonym for information technology (IT), used to describe the bringing together of enabling technologies used to deliver the end-to-end solution
“ISO/IEC 27001” “ISO 27001”	is the International Standard for Information Security Management Systems Requirements
“ISO/IEC 27002” “ISO 27002”	is the International Standard describing the Code of Practice for Information Security Controls.
“ISO 22301”	is the International Standard describing for Business Continuity
“IT Security Health Check (ITSHC)” “IT Health Check (ITHC)” “Penetration Testing”	means an assessment to identify risks and vulnerabilities in systems, applications and networks which may compromise the confidentiality, integrity or availability of information held on that IT system.
“Need-to-Know”	means the Need-to-Know principle employed within HMG to limit the distribution of classified information to those people with a clear ‘need to know’ in order to carry out their duties.
“NCSC”	The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) is the UK government’s National Technical Authority for Information Assurance. The NCSC website is https://www.ncsc.gov.uk

<p>“OFFICIAL”</p> <p>“OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE”</p>	<p>the term ‘OFFICIAL’ is used to describe the baseline level of ‘security classification’ described within the Government Security Classification Policy (GSCP).</p> <p>the term ‘OFFICIAL–SENSITIVE is used to identify a limited subset of OFFICIAL information that could have more damaging consequences (for individuals, an organisation or government generally) if it were lost, stolen or published in the media, as described in the GSCP.</p>
<p>“RBAC”</p> <p>“Role Based Access Control”</p>	<p>means Role Based Access Control. A method of restricting a person’s or process’ access to information depending on the role or functions assigned to them.</p>
<p>“Storage Area Network”</p> <p>“SAN”</p>	<p>means an information storage system typically presenting block based storage (i.e. disks or virtual disks) over a network interface rather than using physically connected storage.</p>
<p>“Secure Sanitisation”</p>	<p>means the process of treating data held on storage media to reduce the likelihood of retrieval and reconstruction to an acceptable level.</p> <p>NCSC Guidance can be found at: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/secure-sanitisation-storage-media</p> <p>The disposal of physical documents and hardcopy materials advice can be found at: https://www.cpni.gov.uk/secure-destruction</p>
<p>“Security and Information Risk Advisor”</p> <p>“CCP SIRA”</p> <p>“SIRA”</p>	<p>means the Security and Information Risk Advisor (SIRA) is a role defined under the NCSC Certified Professional (CCP) Scheme. See also: https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/articles/about-certified-professional-scheme</p>
<p>“Senior Information Risk Owner”</p> <p>“SIRO”</p>	<p>means the Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) responsible on behalf of the DfE Accounting Officer for overseeing the management of information risk across the organisation. This includes its executive agencies, arms length bodies (ALBs), non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs) and devolved information held by third parties.</p>
<p>“SPF”</p> <p>“HMG Security Policy Framework”</p>	<p>means the definitive HMG Security Policy which describes the expectations of the Cabinet Secretary and Government’s Official Committee on Security on how HMG organisations and third parties handling HMG information and other assets will apply protective security to ensure HMG can function effectively, efficiently and securely.</p>

The Contractor shall be aware of and comply the relevant [HMG security policy framework](#), [NCSC guidelines](#) and where applicable DfE Departmental Security Standards for Contractors which include but are not constrained to the following clauses.

- 3.1. Where the Contractor will provide products or services or otherwise handle information at OFFICIAL for the Department, the requirements of [Cabinet Office Procurement Policy Note – Use of Cyber Essentials Scheme certification](#) - [Action Note 09/14](#) dated 25 May 2016, or any subsequent updated document, are mandated, namely that contractors supplying products or services to HMG shall have achieved, and will be expected to retain Cyber Essentials certification at the appropriate level for the duration of the contract. The certification scope shall be relevant to the services supplied to, or on behalf of, the Department.
- 3.2. Where clause 12.2 above has not been met, the Contractor shall have achieved, and be able to maintain, independent certification to ISO/IEC 27001 (Information Security Management Systems Requirements).

The ISO/IEC 27001 certification must have a scope relevant to the services supplied to, or on behalf of, the Department. The scope of certification and the statement of applicability must be acceptable, following review, to the Department, including the application of controls from ISO/IEC 27002 (Code of Practice for Information Security Controls).
- 3.3. The Contractor shall follow the UK Government Security Classification Policy (GSCP) in respect of any Departmental Data being handled in the course of providing this service and will handle all data in accordance with its security classification. (In the event where the Contractor has an existing Protective Marking Scheme then the Contractor may continue to use this but must map the HMG security classifications against it to ensure the correct controls are applied to the Departmental Data).
- 3.4. Departmental Data being handled in the course of providing an ICT solution or service must be separated from all other data on the Contractor's or sub-contractor's own IT equipment to protect the Departmental Data and enable the data to be identified and securely deleted when required in line with clause 12.14.
- 3.5. The Contractor shall have in place and maintain physical security to premises and sensitive areas in line with ISO/IEC 27002 including, but not limited to, entry control mechanisms (e.g. door access), CCTV, alarm systems, etc.
- 3.6. The Contractor shall have in place and maintain an appropriate user access control policy for all ICT systems to ensure only authorised personnel have access to Departmental Data. This policy should include appropriate segregation of duties and if applicable role based access controls (RBAC). User credentials that give access to Departmental Data or systems shall be considered to be sensitive data and must be protected accordingly.
- 3.7. The Contractor shall have in place and shall maintain procedural, personnel, physical and technical safeguards to protect Departmental Data, including but not limited to:
 - physical security controls;
 - good industry standard policies and processes;
 - malware protection;

- boundary access controls including firewalls, application gateways, etc;
- maintenance and use of fully supported software packages in accordance with vendor recommendations;
- use of secure device configuration and builds;
- software updates and patching regimes including malware signatures, for operating systems, network devices, applications and services;
- user identity and access controls, including the use of multi-factor authentication for sensitive data and privileged account accesses;
- any services provided to the department must capture audit logs for security events in an electronic format at the application, service and system level to meet the department's logging and auditing requirements, plus logs shall be:
 - retained and protected from tampering for a minimum period of six months;
 - made available to the department on request.

3.8. The contractor shall ensure that any departmental data (including email) transmitted over any public network (including the Internet, mobile networks or un-protected enterprise network) or to a mobile device shall be encrypted when transmitted. The contractor shall ensure that any departmental data which resides on a mobile, removable or physically uncontrolled device is stored encrypted using a product or system component which has been formally assured through a recognised certification process agreed with the department except where the department has given its prior written consent to an alternative arrangement. The contractor shall ensure that any device which is used to process departmental data meets all of the security requirements set out in the NCSC End User Devices Platform Security Guidance, a copy of which can be found at: <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/guidance/end-user-device-security> and <https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/collection/end-user-device-security/eud-overview/eud-security-principles>.

3.9. Whilst in the Contractor's care all removable media and hardcopy paper documents containing Departmental Data must be handled securely and secured under lock and key when not in use and shall be securely destroyed when no longer required, using either a cross-cut shredder or a professional secure disposal organisation.

The term 'lock and key' is defined as: "securing information in a lockable desk drawer, cupboard or filing cabinet which is under the user's sole control and to which they hold the keys".

3.10. When necessary to hand carry removable media and/or hardcopy paper documents containing Departmental Data, the media or documents being carried shall be kept under cover and transported in such a way as to ensure that no unauthorised person has either visual or physical access to the material being carried. This clause shall apply equally regardless of whether the material is being carried inside or outside of company premises.

The term 'under cover' means that the information is carried within an opaque folder or envelope within official premises and buildings and within a closed briefcase or other similar bag or container when outside official premises or buildings.

- 3.11. In the event of termination of contract due to expiry, liquidation or non-performance, all information assets provided, created or resulting from the service shall not be considered as the supplier's assets and must be returned to the department and written assurance obtained from an appropriate officer of the supplying organisation that these assets regardless of location and format have been fully sanitised throughout the organisation in line with clause 12.15.
- 3.12. In the event of termination, equipment failure or obsolescence, all Departmental information and data, in either hardcopy or electronic format, that is physically held or logically stored by the Contractor must be accounted for and either physically returned or securely sanitised or destroyed in accordance with the current HMG policy using an NCSC approved product or method.

Where sanitisation or destruction is not possible for legal, regulatory or technical reasons, such as data stored in a cloud system, Storage Area Network (SAN) or on shared backup tapes, then the Contractor or sub-contractor shall protect the Department's information and data until such time, which may be long after the end of the contract, when it can be securely cleansed or destroyed.

Evidence of secure destruction will be required in all cases.

- 3.13. Access by Contractor or sub-contractor staff to Departmental Data, including user credentials, shall be confined to those individuals who have a "need-to-know" in order to carry out their role; and have undergone mandatory pre-employment screening, to a minimum of HMG Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS); or hold an appropriate National Security Vetting clearance as required by the Department. All Contractor or sub-contractor staff must complete this process before access to Departmental Data is permitted. Any Contractor or sub-contractor staff who will be in contact with children or vulnerable adults must, in addition to any security clearance, have successfully undergone an Enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check prior to any contact.
- 3.14. All Contractor or sub-contractor employees who handle Departmental Data shall have annual awareness training in protecting information.
- 3.15. The Contractor shall, as a minimum, have in place robust Business Continuity arrangements and processes including IT disaster recovery plans and procedures that conform to ISO 22301 to ensure that the delivery of the contract is not adversely affected in the event of an incident. An incident shall be defined as any situation that might, or could lead to, a disruption, loss, emergency or crisis to the services delivered. If a ISO 22301 certificate is not available the supplier will provide evidence of the effectiveness of their ISO 22301 conformant Business Continuity arrangements and processes including IT disaster recovery plans and procedures. This should include evidence that the Contractor has tested or exercised these plans within the last 12 months and produced a written report of the outcome, including required actions.
- 3.16. Any suspected or actual breach of the confidentiality, integrity or availability of Departmental Data, including user credentials, used or handled in the course of providing this service shall be recorded as an incident. This includes any non-compliance with these Departmental Security Standards for Contractors, or other Security Standards pertaining to the solution.

Incidents shall be reported to the department immediately, wherever practical, even if unconfirmed or when full details are not known, but always within 24 hours of discovery. If

incident reporting has been delayed by more than 24 hours, the contractor should provide an explanation about the delay.

Incidents shall be reported through the department's nominated system or service owner.

Incidents shall be investigated by the contractor with outcomes being notified to the Department.

- 3.17. The Contractor shall ensure that any IT systems and hosting environments that are used to handle, store or process Departmental Data shall be subject to independent IT Health Checks (ITHC) using an NCSC CHECK Scheme ITHC provider before go-live and periodically (at least annually) thereafter. The findings of the ITHC relevant to the service being provided are to be shared with the Department and all necessary remedial work carried out. In the event of significant security issues being identified, a follow up remediation test may be required.
- 3.18. The Contractor or sub-contractors providing the service will provide the Department with full details of any actual or future intent to develop, manage, support, process or store Departmental Data outside of the EU mainland. The Contractor or sub-contractor shall not go ahead with any such proposal without the prior written agreement from the Department.
- 3.19. The Department reserves the right to audit the Contractor or sub-contractors providing the service within a mutually agreed timeframe but always within seven days of notice of a request to audit being given. The audit shall cover the overall scope of the service being supplied and the Contractor's, and any sub-contractors', compliance with the clauses contained in this Section.
- 3.20. The Contractor and sub-contractors shall undergo appropriate security assurance activities and shall provide appropriate evidence including the production of the necessary security documentation as determined by the department. This will include obtaining any necessary professional security resources required to support the Contractor's and sub-contractor's security assurance activities such as: a Security and Information Risk Advisor (SIRA) certified to NCSC Certified Cyber Security Consultancy (CCSC) or NCSC Certified Cyber Professional (CCP) schemes.
- 3.21. Where the Contractor is delivering an ICT solution to the Department they shall design and deliver solutions and services that are compliant with the HMG Security Policy Framework in conjunction with current NCSC Information Assurance Guidance and Departmental Policy. The Contractor will provide the Department with evidence of compliance for the solutions and services to be delivered. The Department's expectation is that the Contractor shall provide written evidence of:
 - Compliance with HMG Minimum Cyber Security Standard.
 - Any existing security assurance for the services to be delivered, such as: ISO/IEC 27001 / 27002 or an equivalent industry level certification.
 - Any existing HMG security accreditations or assurance that are still valid including: details of the awarding body; the scope of the accreditation; any caveats or restrictions to the accreditation; the date awarded, plus a copy of the residual risk statement.
 - Documented progress in achieving any security assurance or accreditation activities including whether documentation has been produced and submitted. The

Contractor shall provide details of who the awarding body or organisation will be and date expected.

- 3.22. The Contractor shall contractually enforce all these Departmental Security Standards for Contractors onto any third-party suppliers, sub-contractors or partners who could potentially access Departmental Data in the course of providing this service.