

- on a confidential basis to the employees, agents, consultants and contractors of CCS or the Buyer
- on a confidential basis to any other Central Government Body, any successor body to a Central Government Body or any company that CCS or the Buyer transfers or proposes to transfer all or any part of its business to
- if CCS or the Buyer (acting reasonably) considers disclosure necessary or appropriate to carry out its public functions
- where requested by Parliament
- under Clauses 4.7 and 16

15.5 For the purposes of Clauses 15.2 to 15.4 references to disclosure on a confidential basis means disclosure under a confidentiality agreement or arrangement including terms as strict as those required in Clause 15.

15.6 Transparency Information is not Confidential Information.

15.7 The Supplier must not make any press announcement or publicise the Contracts or any part of them in any way, without the prior written consent of the Relevant Authority and must take all reasonable steps to ensure that Supplier Staff do not either.

16. When you can share information

16.1 The Supplier must tell the Relevant Authority within 48 hours if it receives a Request For Information.

16.2 Within the required timescales the Supplier must give CCS and each Buyer full co-operation and information needed so the Buyer can:

- publish the Transparency Information
- comply with any Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request
- comply with any Environmental Information Regulations (EIR) request

16.3 The Relevant Authority may talk to the Supplier to help it decide whether to publish information under Clause 16. However, the extent, content and format of the disclosure is the Relevant Authority's decision, which does not need to be reasonable.

17. Invalid parts of the contract

If any part of a Contract is prohibited by Law or judged by a court to be unlawful, void or unenforceable, it must be read as if it was removed from that Contract as much as required and rendered ineffective as far as possible without affecting the rest of the Contract, whether it's valid or enforceable.

18. No other terms apply

The provisions incorporated into each Contract are the entire agreement between the Parties.

The Contract replaces all previous statements and agreements whether written or oral. No other provisions apply.

19. Other people's rights in a contract

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

20. Circumstances beyond your control

20.1 Any Party affected by a Force Majeure Event is excused from performing its obligations under a Contract while the inability to perform continues, if it both:

- provides a Force Majeure Notice to the other Party
- uses all reasonable measures practical to reduce the impact of the Force Majeure Event

20.2 Either party can partially or fully terminate the affected Contract if the provision of the Deliverables is materially affected by a Force Majeure Event which lasts for 90 days continuously.

20.3 Where a Party terminates under Clause 20.2:

- each party must cover its own Losses
- Clause 10.5.2 to 10.5.7 applies

21. Relationships created by the contract

No Contract creates a partnership, joint venture or employment relationship. The Supplier must represent themselves accordingly and ensure others do so.

22. Giving up contract rights

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

23. Transferring responsibilities

23.1 The Supplier can not assign a Contract without the Relevant Authority's written consent.

23.2 The Relevant Authority can assign, novate or transfer its Contract or any part of it to any Crown Body, public or private sector body which performs the functions of the Relevant

Authority.

- 23.3 When CCS or the Buyer uses its rights under Clause 23.2 the Supplier must enter into a novation agreement in the form that CCS or the Buyer specifies.
- 23.4 The Supplier can terminate a Contract novated under Clause 23.2 to a private sector body that is experiencing an Insolvency Event.
- 23.5 The Supplier remains responsible for all acts and omissions of the Supplier Staff as if they were its own.
- 23.6 If CCS or the Buyer asks the Supplier for details about Subcontractors, the Supplier must provide details of Subcontractors at all levels of the supply chain including:
- their name
 - the scope of their appointment
 - the duration of their appointment

24. Changing the contract

- 24.1 Either Party can request a Variation to a Contract which is only effective if agreed in writing and signed by both Parties
- 24.2 The Supplier must provide an Impact Assessment either:
- with the Variation Form, where the Supplier requests the Variation
 - within the time limits included in a Variation Form requested by CCS or the Buyer
- 24.3 If the Variation to a Contract cannot be agreed or resolved by the Parties, CCS or the Buyer can either:
- agree that the Contract continues without the Variation
 - terminate the affected Contract, unless in the case of a Call-Off Contract, the Supplier has already provided part or all of the provision of the Deliverables, or where the Supplier can show evidence of substantial work being carried out to provide them
 - refer the Dispute to be resolved using Clause 34 (Resolving Disputes)
- 24.4 CCS and the Buyer are not required to accept a Variation request made by the Supplier.
- 24.5 If there is a General Change in Law, the Supplier must bear the risk of the change and is

not entitled to ask for an increase to the Framework Prices or the Charges.

24.6 If there is a Specific Change in Law or one is likely to happen during the Contract Period the Supplier must give CCS and the Buyer notice of the likely effects of the changes as soon as reasonably practical. They must also say if they think any Variation is needed either to the Deliverables, Framework Prices or a Contract and provide evidence:

- that the Supplier has kept costs as low as possible, including in Subcontractor costs
- of how it has affected the Supplier's costs

24.7 Any change in the Framework Prices or relief from the Supplier's obligations because of a Specific Change in Law must be implemented using Clauses 24.1 to 24.4.

25. How to communicate about the contract

25.1 All notices under the Contract must be in writing and are considered effective on the Working Day of delivery as long as they're delivered before 5:00pm on a Working Day. Otherwise the notice is effective on the next Working Day. An email is effective when sent unless an error message is received.

25.2 Notices to CCS must be sent to the CCS Authorised Representative's address or email address in the Framework Award Form.

25.3 Notices to the Buyer must be sent to the Buyer Authorised Representative's address or email address in the Order Form.

25.4 This Clause does not apply to the service of legal proceedings or any documents in any legal action, arbitration or dispute resolution.

26. Dealing with claims

26.1 If a Beneficiary is notified of a Claim then it must notify the Indemnifier as soon as reasonably practical and no later than 10 Working Days.

26.2 At the Indemnifier's cost the Beneficiary must both:

- allow the Indemnifier to conduct all negotiations and proceedings to do with a Claim
- give the Indemnifier reasonable assistance with the claim if requested

26.3 The Beneficiary must not make admissions about the Claim without the prior written consent of the Indemnifier which can not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.

26.4 The Indemnifier must consider and defend the Claim diligently using competent legal advisors and in a way that doesn't damage the Beneficiary's reputation.

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

27. Preventing fraud, bribery and corruption

- 27.1 The Supplier must not during any Contract Period:
- commit a Prohibited Act or any other criminal offence in the Regulations 57(1) and 57(2)
 - do or allow anything which would cause CCS or the Buyer, including any of their employees, consultants, contractors, Subcontractors or agents to breach any of the Relevant Requirements or incur any liability under them
- 27.2 The Supplier must during the Contract Period:
- create, maintain and enforce adequate policies and procedures to ensure it complies with the Relevant Requirements to prevent a Prohibited Act and require its Subcontractors to do the same
 - keep full records to show it has complied with its obligations under Clause 27 and give copies to CCS or the Buyer on request
 - if required by the Relevant Authority, within 20 Working Days of the Start Date of the relevant Contract, and then annually, certify in writing to the Relevant Authority, that they have complied with Clause 27, including compliance of Supplier Staff, and provide reasonable supporting evidence of this on request, including its policies and procedures
- 27.3 The Supplier must immediately notify CCS and the Buyer if it becomes aware of any breach of Clauses 27.1 or 27.2 or has any reason to think that it, or any of the Supplier Staff, has either:
- been investigated or prosecuted for an alleged Prohibited Act
 - been debarred, suspended, proposed for suspension or debarment, or is otherwise ineligible to take part in procurement programmes or contracts because of a Prohibited Act by any

government department or agency

- received a request or demand for any undue financial or other advantage of any kind related to a Contract
- suspected that any person or Party directly or indirectly related to a Contract has committed or attempted to commit a Prohibited Act

27.4 If the Supplier notifies CCS or the Buyer as required by Clause 27.3, the Supplier must respond promptly to their further enquiries, co-operate with any investigation and allow the Audit of any books, records and relevant documentation.

27.5 In any notice the Supplier gives under Clause 27.4 it must specify the:

- Prohibited Act
- identity of the Party who it thinks has committed the Prohibited Act
- action it has decided to take

28. Equality, diversity and human rights

28.1 The Supplier must follow all applicable equality Law when they perform their obligations under the Contract, including:

- protections against discrimination on the grounds of race, sex, gender reassignment, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy, maternity, age or otherwise
- any other requirements and instructions which CCS or the Buyer reasonably imposes related to equality Law

28.2 The Supplier must take all necessary steps, and inform CCS or the Buyer of the steps taken, to prevent anything that is considered to be unlawful discrimination by any court or tribunal, or the Equality and Human Rights Commission (or any successor organisation) when working on a Contract.

29. Health and safety

29.1 The Supplier must perform its obligations meeting the requirements of:

- all applicable Law regarding health and safety
- the Buyer's current health and safety policy while at the Buyer's Premises, as provided to the Supplier

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

30. Environment

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

31. Tax

- 31.1 The Supplier must not breach any tax or social security obligations and must enter into a binding agreement to pay any late contributions due, including where applicable, any interest or any fines. CCS and the Buyer cannot terminate a Contract where the Supplier has not paid a minor tax or social security contribution.
- 31.2 Where the Charges payable under a Contract with the Buyer are or are likely to exceed £5 million at any point during the relevant Contract Period, and an Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance occurs, the Supplier must notify CCS and the Buyer of it within 5 Working Days including:
- the steps that the Supplier is taking to address the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance and any mitigating factors that it considers relevant
 - other information relating to the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance that CCS and the Buyer may reasonably need
- 31.3 Where the Supplier or any Supplier Staff are liable to be taxed or to pay National Insurance contributions in the UK relating to payment received under a Call-Off Contract, the Supplier must both:
- comply with the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax, the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 (including IR35) and National Insurance contributions
 - indemnify the Buyer against any Income Tax, National Insurance and social security contributions and any other liability, deduction, contribution, assessment or claim arising from or made during or after the Contract Period in connection with the provision of the Deliverables by the Supplier or any of the Supplier Staff
- 31.4 If any of the Supplier Staff are Workers who receive payment relating to the Deliverables, then the Supplier must ensure that its contract with the Worker contains the following requirements:
- the Buyer may, at any time during the Contract Period, request that the Worker provides information which demonstrates they comply with Clause 31.3, or why those requirements do not apply, the Buyer can specify the information the Worker must provide and the deadline for responding

- the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker fails to provide the information requested by the Buyer within the time specified by the Buyer
- the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker provides information which the Buyer considers isn't good enough to demonstrate how it complies with Clause 31.3 or confirms that the Worker is not complying with those requirements
- the Buyer may supply any information they receive from the Worker to HMRC for revenue collection and management

32. Conflict of interest

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

33. Reporting a breach of the contract

- 33.1 As soon as it is aware of it the Supplier and Supplier Staff must report to CCS or the Buyer any actual or suspected breach of:
- Law
 - Clause 12.1
 - Clauses 27 to 32
- 33.2 The Supplier must not retaliate against any of the Supplier Staff who in good faith reports a breach listed in Clause 33.1 to the Buyer or a Prescribed Person.

34. Resolving disputes

- 34.1 If there is a Dispute, the senior representatives of the Parties who have authority to settle the Dispute will, within 28 days of a written request from the other Party, meet in good faith to resolve the Dispute.
- 34.2 If the Dispute is not resolved at that meeting, the Parties can attempt to settle it by mediation using the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) Model Mediation Procedure current at the time of the Dispute. If the Parties cannot agree on a mediator, the mediator will be nominated by CEDR. If either Party does not wish to use, or continue to use mediation, or mediation does not resolve the Dispute, the Dispute must be resolved using