

Call-Off Schedule 23 (HMRC Terms)

Call-Off Ref:

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HMRC specific terms

[Buyers guidance: Call-Off Schedule 23 is only for use by HMRC and/or its subsidiary organisations.]

1. Definitions

1.1. In this Schedule, the following words have the following meanings and they shall supplement Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions):

“Connected Company” in relation to a company, entity or other person, the Affiliates of that company, entity or other person or any other person associated with such company, entity or other person;

“Control” the possession by a person, directly or indirectly, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the other person (whether through the ownership of voting shares, by contract or otherwise) and “Controls” and “Controlled” shall be interpreted accordingly;

“Prohibited Transaction” a) any arrangements involving the use of off-shore companies or other off-shore entities the main purpose, or one of the main purposes, of which is to achieve a reduction in United Kingdom Tax of any description otherwise payable by the Supplier or a Connected Company on or in connection with the Charges; or

b) which would be payable by any Key Subcontractor and its Connected Companies on or in connection with payments made by or on behalf of the Supplier under or pursuant to the applicable Key Subcontract,

other than transactions made between the Supplier and its Connected Companies or a Key Subcontractor and its Connected Companies on terms which are at arms-length and are entered into in the ordinary course of the transacting parties’ business;

“Purchase Order Number” the Buyer’s unique number relating to the supply of the Deliverables;

“Supporting Documentation” sufficient information in writing to enable the Buyer to reasonably verify the accuracy of any invoice; and

“Tax Compliance Failure” where an entity or person under consideration meets all 3 conditions contained in the relevant excerpt from HMRC’s “Test for Tax Non-Compliance”, as set out in Annex 1 (as amended and updated from time to time), where:

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(a) the “Economic Operator” means the Supplier or any agent, supplier or Subcontractor of the Supplier requested to be replaced pursuant to Paragraph 5.3; and

(b) any “Essential Subcontractor” means any Key Subcontractor.

2. Exclusion of certain Core Terms and terms of Schedules

2.1. When the Parties have entered into a Call-Off Contract which incorporates the terms of this Call-Off Schedule 23, the following Core Terms are modified in respect of that Call-Off Contract (but are not modified in respect of the Framework Contract):

2.1.1. Clauses 31.1, 31.2, 31.3 and 31.4(d) of the Core Terms do not apply to that Call-Off Contract, but for the avoidance of doubt, the remainder of Clause 31.4 of the Core Terms shall continue to apply to the Call-Off Contract; and

2.1.2. Clause 7.2 of the Core Terms does not apply to that Call-Off Contract.

2.2. When the Parties have entered into a Call-Off Contract which incorporates the terms of this Call-Off Schedule 23, the following Joint Schedules are modified in respect of that Call-Off Contract (but are not disapplied in respect of the Framework Contract):

2.2.1. The definition of “Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance” contained in Joint Schedule 1 (Definitions) does not apply to that Call-Off Contract; and

2.2.2. paragraph 5(d) of Joint Schedule 11 (Processing Data) does not apply to that Call-Off Contract.

3. Charges, Payment and Recovery of Sums Due

3.1. The Supplier shall invoice the Buyer as specified in Clause 4 of the Core Terms as modified by any Framework Special Terms or any Call-Off Special Terms.

3.2. In addition to the provisions of Clause 4 of the Core Terms and any applicable Framework Special Term or Call-Off Special Term, the Supplier shall procure a Purchase Order Number from the Buyer before any Deliverables are supplied. Should the Supplier supply Deliverables without a Purchase Order Number:

3.2.1. the Supplier does so at its own risk; and

3.2.2. the Buyer shall not be obliged to pay any invoice without a valid Purchase Order Number having been provided to the Supplier.

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3.3. The Supplier shall submit each invoice and any Supporting Documentation required in accordance with Clause 4 of the Core Terms and any applicable Framework Special Term or Call-Off Special Term, as directed by the Buyer from time to time, either:

3.3.1. via the Buyer 's electronic transaction system as an Electronic Invoice;
or

3.3.2. to the [specify who the contact in HMRC is] (or such other person notified to the Supplier in writing by the Buyer) by email in pdf format or, if agreed with the Buyer, in hard copy by post.

4. Warranties

4.1. The Supplier represents and warrants that:

4.1.1. in the three years prior to the Effective Date, it has complied with all applicable Law related to Tax in the United Kingdom and in the jurisdiction in which it is established;

4.1.2. it has notified the Buyer in writing of any Tax Compliance Failure it is involved in; and

4.1.3. no proceedings or other steps have been taken (nor, to the best of the Supplier's knowledge, are threatened) for:

4.1.3.1. the winding up of the Supplier;

4.1.3.2. the Supplier's dissolution; or

4.1.3.3. the appointment of a receiver, administrative receiver, liquidator, manager, administrator or similar officer in relation to any of the Supplier's assets or revenue,

and the Supplier has notified the Buyer of any profit warnings it has issued in the three years prior to the Effective Date.

4.2. If the Supplier becomes aware that any of the representations or warranties under Paragraphs 4.1.1, 4.1.2 and/or 4.1.3 have been breached, are untrue or misleading, it shall immediately notify the Buyer in sufficient detail to enable the Buyer to make an accurate assessment of the situation.

4.3. In the event that the warranty given by the Supplier in Paragraph 4.1.2 is materially untrue, this shall be deemed to be an event to which Clause 10.4.1

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of the Core Terms applies and Clauses 10.6.1 and 10.6.2 of the Core Terms shall apply as if the Contract had been terminated under Clause 10.4.1.

5. Promoting Tax Compliance

5.1. The Supplier shall comply with all Law relating to Tax and with the equivalent legal provisions of the country in which the Supplier is established.

5.2. The Supplier shall provide to the Buyer the name and, as applicable, the Value Added Tax registration number, PAYE collection number and either the Corporation Tax or self-assessment reference of any agent, supplier or Subcontractor of the Supplier prior to that person supplying any material Deliverables under the Contract.

5.3. Upon a request by the Buyer, the Supplier shall not contract, or will cease to contract, with any agent, supplier or Subcontractor of the Supplier engaged in supplying Deliverables under the Contract.

5.4. If, at any point during the Call-Off Contract Period, there is a Tax Compliance Failure, the Supplier shall:

5.4.1. notify the Buyer in writing within five (5) Working Days of its occurrence; and

5.4.2. promptly provide to the Buyer:

5.4.2.1. details of the steps which the Supplier is taking to resolve the Tax Compliance Failure and to prevent it from recurring, together with any mitigating factors that it considers relevant; and

5.4.2.2. such other information in relation to the Tax Compliance Failure as the Buyer may reasonably require.

5.5. The Supplier shall indemnify the Buyer against any liability for Tax (including any interest, penalties or costs incurred) of the Buyer in respect of the Supplier's failure to account for or to pay any Tax relating to payments made to the Supplier under this Contract.

5.6. Any amounts due under Paragraph 5.5 shall be paid not less than five (5) Working Days before the date upon which the Tax or other liability is payable by the Buyer. Any amounts due under Paragraph 5.5 shall not be subject to clause 11.2 of the Core Terms.

5.7. Upon the Buyer's request, the Supplier shall promptly provide information which demonstrates how the Supplier complies with its Tax obligations.

5.8. If the Supplier:

5.8.1. fails to comply with Paragraphs 5.1, 5.4.1 and/or 5.7 this may be a material breach of the Contract;

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5.8.2. fails to comply with a reasonable request by the Buyer that it must not contract, or must cease to contract, with any agent, supplier or Subcontractor of the Supplier as required by Paragraph 5.23 on the grounds that the agent, supplier or Subcontractor of the Supplier is involved in a Tax Compliance Failure this shall be a material breach of the Contract; and/or

5.8.3. fails to provide acceptable details of steps being taken and mitigating factors pursuant to Paragraph 5.4.2 this shall be a material breach of the Contract;

and any such material breach shall be deemed to be an event to which clause 10.4.1 of the Core Terms applies and Clauses 10.6.1 and 10.6.2 of the Core Terms shall apply as if the Contract had been terminated under Clause 10.4.1.

5.9. In addition to those circumstances listed in clause 15.2 to 15.4 of the Core Terms, the Buyer may internally share any information, including Confidential Information, which it receives under Paragraphs 5.2 to 5.4 (inclusive) and 5.7.

6. Use of Off-shore Tax Structures

6.1. The Supplier shall not, and shall ensure that its Connected Companies, Key Subcontractors (and their respective Connected Companies) shall not, have or put in place any Prohibited Transactions, unless the Buyer otherwise agrees to that Prohibited Transaction.

6.2. The Supplier shall notify the Buyer in writing (with reasonable supporting detail) of any proposal for the Supplier, its Connected Companies, or a Key Subcontractor (or any of its Connected Companies), to enter into any Prohibited Transaction. The Supplier shall include reasonable supporting detail and make the notification within a reasonable time before the Prohibited Transaction is due to be put in place.

6.3. If a Prohibited Transaction is entered into in breach of Paragraph 6.1, or circumstances arise which may result in such a breach, the Supplier and/or the Key Subcontractor (as applicable) shall discuss the situation with the Buyer. The Parties shall agree (at no cost to the Buyer) any necessary changes to any such arrangements by the undertakings concerned (and the Supplier shall ensure that the Key Subcontractor shall agree, where applicable). The matter will be resolved using clause 34 of the Core Terms if necessary.

6.4. Failure by the Supplier (or a Key Subcontractor) to comply with the obligations set out in Paragraphs 6.2 and 6.3 shall be deemed to be an event to which clause 10.4.1 of the Core Terms applies and Clauses 10.6.1 and 10.6.2 of the Core Terms shall apply as if the Contract had been terminated under Clause 10.4.1.

7. Data Protection and off-shoring

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7.1. The Processor shall, in relation to any Personal Data Processed in connection with its obligations under the Contract:

7.1.1. not transfer Personal Data outside of the United Kingdom unless the prior written consent of the Controller has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:

7.1.1.1. the Controller or the Processor has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer (whether in accordance with GDPR Article 46 or LED Article 37) as determined by the Controller;

7.1.1.2. the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;

7.1.1.3. the Processor 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 Controller in meeting its obligations); and

7.1.1.4. the Processor complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Controller with respect to the Processing of the Personal Data;

7.2. Failure by the Processor to comply with the obligations set out in Paragraph 7.1 shall be deemed to be an event to which clause 10.4.1 of the Core Terms applies and Clauses 10.6.1 and 10.6.2 of the Core Terms shall apply as if the Contract had been terminated under Clause 10.4.1.

8. Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 and related Legislation

8.1. The Supplier shall comply with, and shall ensure that all Supplier Staff who will have access to, or are provided with, Government Data comply with the obligations set out in Section 18 of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 ("**CRCA**") to maintain the confidentiality of Government Data. Further, the Supplier acknowledges that (without prejudice to any other rights and remedies of the Buyer) a breach of those obligations may lead to a prosecution under Section 19 of CRCA.

8.2. The Supplier shall comply with, and shall ensure that all Supplier Staff who will have access to, or are provided with, Government Data comply with the obligations set out in the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989 and the obligations set out in Section 182 of the Finance Act 1989. Further, the Supplier acknowledges that (without prejudice to any other rights and remedies of the Buyer) a breach of those obligations may lead to prosecution under those Acts.

8.3. The Supplier shall comply with, and shall ensure that all Supplier Staff who will have access to, or are provided with, Government Data comply with the obligations set out in Section 123 of the Social Security Administration Act

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1992, which may apply to the fulfilment of some or all of the Deliverables. The Supplier acknowledges that (without prejudice to any other rights and remedies of the Buyer) a breach of the Supplier's obligations under Section 123 of the Social Security Administration Act 1992 may lead to a prosecution under that Act.

- 8.4. The Supplier shall regularly (not less than once every six (6) months) remind all Supplier Staff who will have access to, or are provided with, Government Data in writing of the obligations upon Supplier Staff set out in Paragraphs 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3. The Supplier shall monitor the compliance by Supplier Staff with such obligations.
- 8.5. The Supplier shall ensure that all Supplier Staff who will have access to, or are provided with, Government Data sign (or have previously signed) a Confidentiality Declaration, in the form provided at Annex 2. The Supplier shall provide a copy of each such signed declaration to the Buyer upon demand.
- 8.6. In the event that the Supplier or the Supplier Staff fail to comply with this Paragraph 8, the Buyer reserves the right to terminate the Contract as if that failure to comply were an event to which clause 10.4.1 of the Core Terms applies.

Annex 1

Excerpt from HMRC's "Test for Tax Non-Compliance"

Condition one (An in-scope entity or person)

1. There is a person or entity which is either: ("X")
 - 1) The Economic Operator or Essential Subcontractor (EOS)
 - 2) Part of the same Group of companies of EOS. An entity will be treated as within the same Group of EOS where that entities' financial statements would be required to be consolidated with those of EOS if prepared in accordance with *IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Accounts*¹;
 - 3) Any director, shareholder or other person (P) which exercises control over EOS. 'Control' means P can secure, through holding of shares or powers under articles of association or other document that EOS's affairs are conducted in accordance with P's wishes.

Condition two (Arrangements involving evasion, abuse or tax avoidance)

2. X has been engaged in one or more of the following:
 - a. Fraudulent evasion²;
 - b. Conduct caught by the General Anti-Abuse Rule³;
 - c. Conduct caught by the Halifax Abuse principle⁴;
 - d. Entered into arrangements caught by a DOTAS or VADR scheme⁵;

¹ <https://www.iasplus.com/en/standards/ifrs/ifrs10>

² 'Fraudulent evasion' means any 'UK tax evasion offence' or 'UK tax evasion facilitation offence' as defined by section 52 of the Criminal Finances Act 2017 or a failure to prevent facilitation of tax evasion under section 45 of the same Act.

³ "General Anti-Abuse Rule" means (a) the legislation in Part 5 of the Finance Act 2013; and (b) any future legislation introduced into Parliament to counteract tax advantages arising from abusive arrangements to avoid national insurance contributions

⁴ "Halifax Abuse Principle" means the principle explained in the CJEU Case C-255/02 Halifax and others

⁵ A Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Scheme (DOTAS) or VAT Disclosure Regime (VADR) scheme caught by rules which require a promoter of tax schemes to tell HM Revenue & Customs of any specified notifiable arrangements or proposals and to provide prescribed information on those arrangements or proposals within set time limits as

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- e. Conduct caught by a recognised 'anti-avoidance rule'⁶ being a statutory provision which targets arrangements where either a main purpose, or an expected benefit, is to obtain a tax advantage or where the arrangement is not effected for commercial purposes. 'Targeted Anti-Avoidance Rules' (TAARs). It may be useful to confirm that the Diverted Profits Tax is a TAAR for these purposes;
- f. Entered into an avoidance scheme identified by HMRC's published Spotlights list⁷;
- g. Engaged in conduct which falls under rules in other jurisdictions which are equivalent or similar to (a) to (f) above.

Condition three (Arrangements are admitted, or subject to litigation/prosecution or identified in a published list (Spotlights))

- 3. X's activity in *Condition 2* is, where applicable, subject to dispute and/or litigation as follows:

- 1. In respect of (a), either X:

- 1. Has accepted the terms of an offer made under a Contractual Disclosure Facility (CDF) pursuant to the Code of Practice 9 (COP9) procedure⁸; or,
- 2. Has been charged with an offence of fraudulent evasion.

- 2. In respect of (b) to (e), once X has commenced the statutory appeal process by filing a Notice of Appeal and the appeal process is ongoing including where the appeal is stayed or listed behind a lead case (either formally or informally). NB Judicial reviews are not part of the statutory appeal process and no supplier would be excluded merely because they are applying for judicial review of an HMRC or HMT decision relating to tax or national insurance.

- 3. In respect of (b) to (e), during an HMRC enquiry, if it has been agreed between HMRC and X that there is a pause with the enquiry in order to await the outcome of related litigation.

contained in Section 19 and Part 7 of the Finance Act 2004 and in secondary legislation made under vires contained in Section 19 and Part 7 of the Finance Act 2004 and as extended to National Insurance Contributions by the National Insurance Contributions (Application of Part 7 of the Finance Act 2004) Regulations 2012, SI 2012/1868 made under s.132A Social Security Administration Act 1992.

⁶ The full definition of 'Anti-avoidance rule' can be found at Paragraph 25(1) of Schedule 18 to the Finance Act 2016 and Condition 2 (a) above shall be construed accordingly.

⁷ Targeted list of tax avoidance schemes that HMRC believes are being used to avoid paying tax due and which are listed on the Spotlight website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/tax-avoidance-schemes-currently-in-the-spotlight>

⁸ The Code of Practice 9 (COP9) is an investigation of fraud procedure, where X agrees to make a complete and accurate disclosure of all their deliberate and non-deliberate conduct that has led to irregularities in their tax affairs following which HMRC will not pursue a criminal investigation into the conduct disclosed.

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4. In respect of (f) this condition is satisfied without any further steps being taken.
5. In respect of (g) the foreign equivalent to each of the corresponding steps set out above in (i) to (iii).

For the avoidance of doubt, any reference in this Annex 1 to any Law includes a reference to that Law as amended, extended, consolidated or re-enacted from time to time including any implementing or successor legislation.

Annex 2 Form

CONFIDENTIALITY DECLARATION

CONTRACT REFERENCE: [for Supplier to insert Contract reference number and contract date] (('the Agreement')

DECLARATION:

I solemnly declare that:

1. I am aware that the duty of confidentiality imposed by section 18 of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 applies to Government Data (as defined in the Agreement) that has been or will be provided to me in accordance with the Agreement.
2. I understand and acknowledge that under Section 19 of the Commissioners for Revenue and Customs Act 2005 it may be a criminal offence to disclose any Government Data provided to me.

SIGNED:
FULL NAME:
POSITION:
COMPANY:
DATE OF SIGNATURE: