

SHORT FORM CONTRACT FOR THE SUPPLY OF GOODS AND/OR SERVICES

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II. Cover Letter



Department for Education

Skuuudle

1st Floor Cotton House, Queen Street, Manchester, England, M2 5HS

Attn: [REDACTED]

By email to: [REDACTED]

Date: 13th November 2025

Our ref: proj_10130

Dear [REDACTED]

Following your tender/proposal for the supply of **Benchmarking tool for Schools Pilot** to **Department for Education** we are pleased to confirm our intention to award this Contract to you.

The attached [REDACTED], contract Conditions and the Annexes set out the terms of the Contract between **Department for Education** and Skuuudle for the provision of the Deliverables set out in the [REDACTED] and Annexes.

We thank you for your co-operation to date, and look forward to forging a successful working relationship resulting in a smooth and successful Delivery of the Deliverables. Please confirm your acceptance of this Contract by contacting [REDACTED] at the following email address **within 7 days** from the date of this letter: [REDACTED] No other form of acknowledgement will be accepted. Please remember to include the reference number(s) above in any future communications relating to this Contract.

We will then arrange for the [REDACTED] to be countersigned via Adobe e-Sign which will create a binding contract between us.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Department for Education

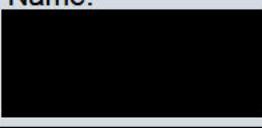
III. Order Form

1. Contract Reference	tbc– Benchmarking for [REDACTED]
2. Buyer	<p>Department for Education at Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 3BT.</p> <p>In entering into this Contract, the Buyer is acting as part of the Crown and the Supplier shall be treated as contracting with the Crown as a whole.</p>
3. Supplier	TCM Technology Ltd, trading as Skuuudle , 1st Floor Cotton House, Queen Street, Manchester, England, M2 5HS, company number 08354086.
4. The Contract	<p>This Contract between the Buyer and the Supplier is for the supply of Deliverables.</p> <p>The Supplier shall supply the Deliverables described below on the terms set out in this Order Form and the attached contract conditions ("Conditions") and Annexes.</p> <p>Unless the context otherwise requires, capitalised expressions used in this Order Form have the same meanings as in the Conditions.</p>
5. Deliverables	<p>Services Description: as set out</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supplier's tender as set out in [Annex 4 – Supplier Tender] <p>The Services are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be performed at the Supplier's premises at 1st Floor Cotton House, Queen Street, Manchester, England, M2 5HS. Delivery Milestones: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Day 0 – 90 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Run 2x half-day design workshops with beta program school and DfE stakeholders. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Monthly update calls with DfE (3x). Quarterly business review with DfE. Day 90 – 180 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release application to beta program participants. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED] Monthly update calls with DfE (3x). Quarterly business review with DfE. Day 180 – 360 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release v1 application to larger batch of schools. Deliver 4x 90-minute training webinars to school users, with up to a further 4x as necessary. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ [REDACTED] ○ Monthly update calls with DfE (6x). ○ Quarterly business review with DfE (2x).
6. Specification	The specification of the Deliverables is as set out in Annex 2 – Specification	
7. Start Date	17 November 2025	
8. Expiry Date	16 November 2026 (12 months after start date)	
9. Extension Period	The Buyer may extend the Contract for a period of up to 6 Months by giving not less than 20 Working Days' notice in writing to the Supplier prior to the Expiry Date. The Conditions of the Contract shall apply throughout any such extended period.	
10. Buyer Cause	Any Material Breach of the obligations of the Buyer or any other default, act, omission, negligence or statement of the Buyer, of its employees, servants, agents in connection with or in relation to the subject-matter of the Contract and in respect of which the Buyer is liable to the Supplier.	
11. Optional Intellectual Property Rights ("IPR") Clauses	<p>Annex 5, Part B - Supplier ownership of New IPR with Buyer rights for the current Contract and broader public sector functions.</p> <p>This has been inserted into the Conditions at Clause 10.</p>	
12. Charges	<p>The Charges for the Deliverables shall be as set out following (inclusive of VAT):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion of first quarter (90 days) up to [REDACTED] • Completion of second quarter (90-180 days) up to [REDACTED] • Completion of third quarter (180-270 days) up to [REDACTED] • Completion of fourth quarter (270-360 days) up to [REDACTED] 	
13. Payment	<p>Payment of valid and undisputed invoices will be made within 30 days of receipt of the invoice or, if later, the date by which the payment falls due in accordance with the invoice, which must be submitted promptly by the Supplier.</p> <p>All invoices must be sent, quoting a valid Purchase Order Number (PO Number) and any other relevant details including the minimum required information set out in Section 68(9) of the Procurement Act 2023, to:</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p> <p>Within 30 Working Days of receipt of your countersigned copy of this Order Form, we will send you a unique PO Number. You must be in receipt of a valid PO Number before submitting an invoice.</p> <p>To avoid delay in payment it is important that the invoice is compliant and that it includes a valid PO Number, item number (if applicable) and the details (name, email, and telephone number) of your Buyer contact (i.e., Buyer Authorised Representative). Non-compliant invoices may be sent back to you, which may lead to a delay in payment.</p> <p>Payments will be made to the Supplier's provided bank account details via BACS.</p> <p>If you have a query regarding an outstanding payment please contact our Accounts Payable team by email to:</p> <p>[REDACTED]</p>	

14. Data Protection Liability Cap	In accordance with clause 12.6 of the Conditions, the Supplier's total aggregate liability under clause 14.6.4 of the Conditions is no more than the Data Protection Liability Cap, being £1,000,000.
15. Progress Meetings and Progress Reports	<p>The Supplier shall attend formal review meetings with the Buyer every 90 days (once a quarter) as a minimum.</p> <p>The Supplier shall attend a monthly call with DfE to discuss progress and operational successes and/or issues.</p>
16. Buyer Authorised Representative(s)	<p>For general liaison your contact will continue to be: [REDACTED]</p> <p>or, in their absence: [REDACTED]</p>
17. Supplier Authorised Representative(s)	<p>For general liaison your contact will continue to be [REDACTED]</p> <p>or, in their absence, [REDACTED]</p>
18. Address for notices	<p>Commercial Directorate (Floor 5) Skuuudle Department for Education, 2 St Paul's Attention: [REDACTED] Place, Sheffield, S1 2FJre Street, Address: [REDACTED] Manchester</p> <p>Attention: [REDACTED]</p> <p>Email: [REDACTED]</p> <p>In accordance with clause 26.1, all notices under the Contract shall be in writing and will be served by e-mail unless it is not practicable to do so.</p>
19. Key Staff	<p>Key Staff Role: [REDACTED]</p> <p>Executive Sponsor</p> <p>Executive Sponsor</p> <p>Account Manager</p> <p>Key Staff Name: [REDACTED]</p> <p>Contact Details: [REDACTED]</p>
20. Procedures and Policies	The Buyer's additional sustainability requirements are: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sustainability-and-climate-change-strategy .
21. Optional Security Requirements	N/A
22. Special Terms	N/A

<p>23. Incorporated Terms</p>	<p>The following documents are incorporated into the Contract. If there is any conflict, the following order of precedence applies:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) The cover letter from the Buyer to the Supplier dated above (b) This Order Form (c) Conditions (d) order of precedence: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data ii. Annex 2- Specification iii. [Annex 3 – iv. [Annex 4 – Supplier Tender], unless any part of the Tender offers a better commercial position for the Buyer (as decided by the Buyer, in its absolute discretion), in which case that part of the Tender will take precedence over the documents above. v. [Annex Security Management]
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<p>Signed for and on behalf of the Supplier</p>	<p>Signed for and on behalf of the Buyer acting on behalf of the Crown</p>
<p>Name:</p> 	<p>Name:</p> 
<p>Date:</p>	<p>Date:</p>
<p>Signature:</p>	<p>Signature:</p>

IV. Short form Terms ("Conditions")

1 DEFINITIONS USED IN THE CONTRACT

1.1 In this Contract, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words shall have the following meanings:

"Affiliates"	in relation to a body corporate, any other entity which directly or indirectly Controls (in either of the senses defined in sections 450 and 1124 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 and "Controlled" shall be construed accordingly), is Controlled by, or is under direct or indirect common Control of that body corporate from time to time;
"Audit"	<p>the Buyer's right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) verify the accuracy of the Charges and any other amounts payable by the Buyer under the Contract (including proposed or actual variations to them in accordance with the Contract); (b) verify the costs of the Supplier (including the costs of all Subcontractors and any third party suppliers) in connection with the provision of the Deliverables; (c) verify the Supplier's and each Subcontractor's compliance with the applicable Law; (d) identify or investigate actual or suspected breach of clauses 4 to 33 (inclusive), impropriety or accounting mistakes or any breach or threatened breach of security and in these circumstances the Buyer shall have no obligation 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 and/or any Subcontractors or their ability to provide the Deliverables; (f) obtain such information as is necessary to fulfil the Buyer'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 the Contract; (h) carry out the Buyer's internal and statutory audits and to prepare, examine and/or certify the Buyer's annual and interim reports and accounts; (i) enable the National Audit Office to carry out an examination pursuant to Section 6(1) of the National Audit Act 1983 of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Buyer has used its resources;
"Beneficiary"	a Party having (or claiming to have) the benefit of an indemnity under this Contract;
"Buyer Cause"	has the meaning given to it in the Order Form;
"Buyer"	the person named as Buyer in the Order Form. Where the Buyer is a Crown Body the Supplier shall be treated as contracting with the Crown as a whole;
"Charges"	the charges for the Deliverables as specified in the Order Form;
"Claim"	any claim which it appears that the Buyer is, or may become, entitled to indemnification under this Contract;
"Conditions"	these short form terms and conditions of contract;

"Confidential Information"	<p>all information, whether written or oral (however recorded), provided by the disclosing Party to the receiving Party and which</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) is known by the receiving Party to be confidential; (b) is marked as or stated to be confidential; or (c) ought reasonably to be considered by the receiving Party to be confidential;
"Conflict of Interest"	a direct or indirect conflict between the financial, professional or personal interests of the Supplier or the Supplier Staff and the duties owed to the Buyer under the Contract, in the reasonable opinion of the Buyer;
"Contract"	the contract between the Buyer and the Supplier which is created by the Supplier's counter signing the Order Form and includes the cover letter (if used), Order Form, these Conditions and the Annexes;
"Contract Year"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) a period of 12 months commencing on the Start Date; and (b) thereafter a period of 12 months commencing on each anniversary of the Start Date, <p>with the final Contract Year ending on the expiry or termination of the Term;</p>
"Controller"	has the meaning given to it in the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires;
"Crown Body"	the government of the United Kingdom (including the Northern Ireland Assembly and Executive Committee, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government), including, but not limited to, government ministers and government departments and particular bodies, persons, commissions or agencies from time to time carrying out functions on its behalf;
"Data Loss Event"	any event that results, or may result, in unauthorised access to Personal Data held by the Processor under this Contract, and/or actual or potential loss and/or destruction of Personal Data in breach of this Contract, including any Personal Data Breach;
"Data Protection Impact Assessment"	an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data;
"Data Protection Legislation"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the UK GDPR, (b) the DPA 2018; (c) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy and guidance issued by the Information Commissioner and other regulatory authority; and (d) (to the extent that it applies) the EU GDPR (and in the event of conflict, the UK GDPR shall apply);
"Data Protection Liability Cap"	has the meaning given to it in row 14 of the Order Form;
"Data Protection Officer"	has the meaning given to it in the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires;
"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 Subject"	has the meaning given to it in the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires;

"Deliver"	hand over of the Deliverables to the Buyer at the address and on the date specified in the Order Form, which shall include unloading and stacking and any other specific arrangements agreed in accordance with clause 4.2. "Delivered" and "Delivery" shall be construed accordingly;
"Deliverables"	the Goods, Services, and/or software to be supplied under the Contract as set out in the Order Form;
"Developed System"	the software or system that the Supplier is required to develop under this Contract;
"DPA 2018"	the Data Protection Act 2018;
"EU GDPR"	Regulation (EU) 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 April 2016 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data (General Data Protection Regulation) as it has effect in EU law;
"Existing IPR"	any and all intellectual property rights that are owned by or licensed to either Party and which have been developed independently of the Contract (whether prior to the date of the Contract or otherwise);
"Expiry Date"	the date for expiry of the Contract as set out in the Order Form;
"FOIA"	the Freedom of Information Act 2000 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 Event"	<p>any event, circumstance, matter or cause affecting the performance by either the Buyer or the Supplier of its obligations arising from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) acts, events, omissions, happenings or non-happenings beyond the reasonable control of the Party seeking to claim relief in respect of a Force Majeure Event (the "Affected Party") which prevent or materially delay the Affected Party from performing its obligations under the Contract; (b) riots, civil commotion, war or armed conflict, acts of terrorism, nuclear, biological or chemical warfare; (c) acts of a Crown Body, local government or regulatory bodies; (d) fire, flood or any disaster; or (e) an industrial dispute affecting a third party for which a substitute third party is not reasonably available <p>but excluding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any industrial dispute relating to the Supplier, the Supplier Staff (including any subsets of them) or any other failure in the Supplier or the Subcontractor's supply chain; (b) any event, occurrence, circumstance, matter or cause which is attributable to the wilful act, neglect or failure to take reasonable precautions against it by the Party concerned; and (c) any failure of delay caused by a lack of funds, <p>and which is not attributable to any wilful act, neglect or failure to take reasonable preventative action by that Party;</p>
"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;

"Goods"	the goods to be supplied by the Supplier to the Buyer under the Contract;
"Government Data"	<p>any:</p> <p>(a) data, text, drawings, diagrams, images or sounds (together with any database made up of any of these) which are embodied in any electronic, magnetic, optical or tangible media;</p> <p>(b) Personal Data for which the Buyer is a, or the, Data Controller; or</p> <p>(c) any meta-data relating to categories of data referred to in (a) or (b) that:</p> <p>(i) is supplied to the Supplier by or on behalf of the Buyer; and/or</p> <p>(ii) that the Supplier is required to generate, Process, Handle, store or transmit under this Contract;</p>
"Indemnifier"	a Party from whom an indemnity is sought under this Contract;
"Independent Controller"	a party which is Controller of the same Personal Data as the other Party and there is no element of joint control with regards to that Personal Data;
"Information Commissioner"	the UK's independent authority which deals with ensuring information relating to rights in the public interest and data privacy for individuals is met, whilst promoting openness by public bodies;
"Insolvency Event"	<p>in respect of a person:</p> <p>(a) if that person is insolvent;</p> <p>(b) where that person is a company, LLP or a partnership, if an order is made or a resolution is passed for the winding up of the person (other than voluntarily for the purpose of solvent amalgamation or reconstruction);</p> <p>(c) if an administrator or administrative receiver is appointed in respect of the whole or any part of the person's assets or business;</p> <p>(d) if the person makes any composition with its creditors; or</p> <p>(e) takes or suffers any similar or analogous action to any of the actions detailed in this definition as a result of debt in any jurisdiction;</p>
"IP Completion Day"	has the meaning given to it in the European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020;
"IR35"	Chapter 8 and Chapter 10 of Part 2 of Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and the Social Security Contributions (Intermediaries) Regulations 2000;
"Joint Controller Agreement"	the agreement (if any) entered into between the Buyer and the Supplier substantially in the form set out in Part B Joint Controller Agreement of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data;
"Joint Controllers"	where two or more Controllers jointly determine the purposes and means of processing;
"Key Staff"	any persons specified as such in the Order Form or otherwise notified as such by the Buyer to the Supplier in writing, following agreement to the same by the Supplier;
"Law"	any law, subordinate legislation within the meaning of section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, right within the meaning of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 as amended by European Union (Withdrawal Agreement) Act 2020, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of

	practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements of any regulatory body with which the Supplier is bound to comply;
"Material Breach"	a single serious breach or a number of breaches or repeated breaches (whether of the same or different obligations and regardless of whether such breaches are remedied)
"National Insurance"	contributions required by the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and made in accordance with the Social Security (Contributions) Regulations 2001 (SI 2001/1004);
"New IPR Items"	a deliverable, document, product or other item within which New IPR subsists;
"New IPR"	all and intellectual property rights in any materials created or developed by or on behalf of the Supplier pursuant to the Contract but shall not include the Supplier's Existing IPR;
"Open Licence"	any material that is published for use, with rights to access and modify, by any person for free, under a generally recognised open licence including Open Government Licence as set out at http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/ as updated from time to time and the Open Standards Principles documented at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/open-standards-principles/open-standards-principles as updated from time to time;
"Order Form"	the order form signed by the Buyer and the Supplier printed above these Conditions;
"Party"	the Supplier or the Buyer (as appropriate) and "Parties" shall mean both of them;
"Personal Data Breach"	has the meaning given to it in the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires and includes any breach of Data Protection Legislation relevant to Personal Data processed pursuant to the Contract;
"Personal Data"	has the meaning given to it in the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires;
"Prescribed Person"	a legal adviser, an MP or an appropriate body which a whistle-blower may make a disclosure to as detailed in 'Whistleblowing: list of prescribed people and bodies', 24 November 2016, available online at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/blowing-the-whistle-list-of-prescribed-people-and-bodies--2/blowthe-whistle-list-of-prescribed-people-and-bodies as updated from time to time;
"Processor Personnel"	all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and suppliers of the Processor and/or of any Sub-processor engaged in the performance of its obligations under the Contract;
"Processor"	has the meaning given to it in the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires;
"Protective Measures"	technical and organisational measures which must take account of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the nature of the data to be protected; (b) harm that might result from Data Loss Event; (c) state of technological development; (d) the cost of implementing any measures; including 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 the

	such measures adopted by it, including those outlined in Annex 1 (<i>Processing Personal Data</i>) and Annex 6 (<i>Security Management</i>) (if used);
"Purchase Order Number" or "PO Number"	the Buyer's unique number relating to the order for Deliverables to be supplied by the Supplier to the Buyer in accordance with the Contract;
"Rectification Plan"	<p>the Supplier's plan (or revised plan) to rectify its Material Breach which shall include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) full details of the Material Breach that has occurred, including a root cause analysis; (b) the actual or anticipated effect of the Material Breach; and (c) the steps which the Supplier proposes to take to rectify the Material Breach (if applicable) and to prevent such Material Breach from recurring, including timescales for such steps and for the rectification of the Material Breach (where applicable);
"Request For Information"	has the meaning set out in the FOIA or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 as relevant (where the meaning set out for the term "request" shall apply);
"Security Requirements"	the security requirements set out in the Order Form or in Annex 6 (<i>Security Management</i>) (if used);
"Services"	the services to be supplied by the Supplier to the Buyer under the Contract;
"Specification"	the specification for the Deliverables to be supplied by the Supplier to the Buyer (including as to quantity, description and quality) as specified in the Order Form;
"Start Date"	the start date of the Contract set out in the Order Form;
"Sub-Contract"	<p>any contract or agreement (or proposed contract or agreement), other than the Contract, pursuant to which a third party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) provides the Deliverables (or any part of them); (b) provides facilities or services necessary for the provision of the Deliverables (or any part of them); and/or (c) is responsible for the management, direction or control of the provision of the Deliverables (or any part of them);
"Subcontractor"	any person other than the Supplier, who is a party to a Sub-Contract and the servants or agents of that person;
"Subprocessor"	any third party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of the Processor related to the Contract;
"Supplier Staff"	any individual engaged, directly or indirectly, or employed by the Supplier or any Subcontractor, in the management or performance of the Supplier's obligations under this Contract;
"Supplier"	the person named as Supplier in the Order Form;
"Supply Chain Intermediary"	any entity (including any company or partnership) in an arrangement with a Worker, where the Worker performs or is under an obligation personally to perform, services for the Buyer;
"Term"	the period from the Start Date to the Expiry Date as such period may be extended in accordance with clause 11.2 or terminated in accordance with the Contract;

"Third Party IPR"	intellectual property rights owned by a third party which is or will be used by the Supplier for the purpose of providing the Deliverables;
"Transparency Information"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) any information which is published in accordance with guidance issued by His Majesty's Government, from time to time; (b) any information or notices, permitted or required to be published by the Procurement Act 2023, any Regulations published under it, and any PPNs, subject to any exemptions set out in sections 94 and 99 of the Procurement Act 2023, which shall be determined by the Buyer, taking into consideration any information which is Confidential Information; and (c) any information about the Contract, including the content of the Contract, and any changes to this Contract agreed from time to time, as well as any information relating to the Deliverables and performance pursuant to the Contract required to be disclosed under FOIA or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004, subject to any exemptions, which shall be determined by the Buyer, taking into consideration any information which is Confidential Information;
"US Data Privacy Framework"	as applicable: (a) the UK Extension to the EU-US Data Privacy Framework; and/or (b) the EU-US Data Privacy Framework;
"UK GDPR"	has the meaning as set out in section 3(10) of the DPA 2018, supplemented by section 205(4);
"VAT"	value added tax in accordance with the provisions of the Value Added Tax Act 1994;
"Worker"	any individual that personally performs, or is under an obligation personally to perform services for the Buyer; and
"Working Day"	a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which banks are open for business in the City of London.

2 UNDERSTANDING THE CONTRACT

2.1 In the Contract, unless the context otherwise requires:

- 2.1.1 references to numbered clauses are references to the relevant clause in these Conditions;
- 2.1.2 any obligation on any Party not to do or omit to do anything shall include an obligation not to allow that thing to be done or omitted to be done;
- 2.1.3 references to "writing" include printing, display on a screen and electronic transmission and other modes of representing or reproducing words in a visible form;
- 2.1.4 a reference to a Law includes a reference to that Law as modified, amended, extended, consolidated, replaced or re-enacted (including as a consequence of the Retained EU Law (Revocation and Reform) Act 2023) from time to time before or after the date of this Contract and any prior or subsequent legislation under it;
- 2.1.5 the word "including", "for example" and similar words shall be understood as if they were immediately followed by the words "without limitation";
- 2.1.6 any reference which, immediately before IP Completion Day (or such later date when relevant EU law ceases to have effect pursuant to section 1A of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018), is a reference to (as it has effect from time to time) any EU regulation, EU decision, EU tertiary legislation or provision of the EEA agreement ("**EU References**") which is to form part of domestic law by application of section 3 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 and which shall be read on and after IP Completion Day as a reference to the EU References as they form part of domestic law

by virtue of section 3 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 as modified by domestic law from time to time; and

2.1.7 a reference to a document (including this Contract) is to that document as varied, amended, novated, ratified or replaced from time to time.

3 HOW THE CONTRACT WORKS

3.1 The Order Form is an offer by the Buyer to purchase the Deliverables subject to and in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract.

3.2 The Supplier is deemed to accept the offer in the Order Form when the Buyer receives a copy of the Order Form signed by the Supplier.

3.3 The Supplier warrants and represents that its tender (if any) and all statements made and documents submitted as part of the procurement of Deliverables are and remain true and accurate.

4 WHAT NEEDS TO BE DELIVERED

4.1 All Deliverables

4.1.1 The Supplier must provide Deliverables:

4.1.1.1 in accordance with the Specification, the tender in Annex 4 – Supplier Tender and the Contract;

4.1.1.2 using reasonable skill and care;

4.1.1.3 using Good Industry Practice;

4.1.1.4 using its own policies, processes and internal quality control measures as long as they don't conflict with the Contract;

4.1.1.5 on the dates agreed; and

4.1.1.6 that comply with all Law.

4.1.2 The Supplier must provide Deliverables with a warranty of at least 90 days (or longer where the Supplier offers a longer warranty period to its Buyers) from Delivery against all obvious defects.

4.2 Goods clauses: Not Used

4.3 Services clauses

4.3.1 Late Delivery of the Services will be a default of the Contract.

4.3.2 The Supplier must co-operate with the Buyer and third party suppliers on all aspects connected with the delivery of the Services and ensure that Supplier Staff comply with any reasonable instructions including the Security Requirements (where any such requirements have been provided).

4.3.3 The Buyer must provide the Supplier with reasonable access to its premises at reasonable times for the purpose of supplying the Services

4.3.4 The Supplier must at its own risk and expense provide all equipment required to deliver the Services. Any equipment provided by the Buyer to the Supplier for supplying the Services remains the property of the Buyer and is to be returned to the Buyer on expiry or termination of the Contract.

4.3.5 The Supplier must allocate sufficient resources and appropriate expertise to the Contract.

4.3.6 The Supplier must take all reasonable care to ensure performance does not disrupt the Buyer's operations, employees or other contractors.

4.3.7 On completion of the Services, the Supplier is responsible for leaving the Buyer's premises in a clean, safe and tidy condition and making good any damage that it has caused to the Buyer's premises or property, other than fair wear and tear.

4.3.8 The Supplier must ensure all Services, and anything used to deliver the Services, are of good quality and free from defects.

4.3.9 The Buyer is entitled to withhold payment for partially or undelivered Services, but doing so does not stop it from using its other rights under the Contract.

5 PRICING AND PAYMENTS

5.1 In exchange for the Deliverables, the Supplier must invoice the Buyer for the charges in the Order Form.

5.2 All Charges:

5.2.1 exclude VAT, which is payable on provision of a valid VAT invoice; and

5.2.2 include all costs and expenses connected with the supply of Deliverables.

5.3 The Buyer must pay the Supplier the charges:

5.3.1 within 30 days beginning with the day on which an invoice is received by the Buyer in respect of the sum, or

5.3.2 if later, the day by which the payment falls due in accordance with the invoice, subject to the invoice being verified as valid and undisputed.

5.4 A Supplier invoice is only valid if it:

5.4.1 includes the minimum required information set out in Section 88(7) of the Procurement Act 2023;

5.4.2 includes all appropriate references including the Purchase Order Number and other details reasonably requested by the Buyer; and

5.4.3 includes a detailed breakdown of Deliverables which have been delivered.

5.5 If there is a dispute between the Parties as to the amount invoiced, the Buyer shall pay the undisputed amount. The Supplier shall not suspend the provision of the Deliverables unless the Supplier is entitled to terminate the Contract for a failure to pay undisputed sums in accordance with clause 11.6. Any disputed amounts shall be resolved through the dispute resolution procedure detailed in clause 35.

5.6 The Buyer may retain or set-off payment of any amount owed to it by the Supplier under this Contract or any other agreement between the Supplier and the Buyer if notice and reasons are provided.

5.7 The Supplier must ensure that all Subcontractors are paid, in full:

5.7.1 within 30 days beginning with the day on which an invoice is received by the Buyer in respect of the sum; or

5.7.2 if later, the date by which the payment falls due in accordance with the invoice, subject to the invoice being verified as valid and undisputed.

5.8 If the invoice is not paid in accordance with the timescales in clause 5.7, the Buyer can publish the details of the late payment or non-payment.

5.9 Where any invoice does not conform to the Buyer's requirements set out in clause 5.4, or the Buyer disputes the invoice, the Buyer shall notify the Supplier without undue delay and the Supplier shall promptly issue a replacement invoice which shall comply with such requirements.

6 THE BUYER'S OBLIGATIONS TO THE SUPPLIER

6.1 If Supplier fails to comply with the Contract as a result of a Buyer Cause:

6.1.1 the Buyer cannot terminate the Contract under clause 11;

6.1.2 the Supplier is entitled to reasonable and proven additional expenses and to relief from liability under this Contract;

6.1.3 the Supplier is entitled to additional time needed to deliver the Deliverables; and

6.1.4 the Supplier cannot suspend the ongoing supply of Deliverables.

6.2 Clause 6.1 only applies if the Supplier:

6.2.1 gives notice to the Buyer within 10 Working Days of becoming aware;

- 6.2.2 demonstrates that the failure only happened because of the Buyer Cause; and
- 6.2.3 mitigated the impact of the Buyer Cause.

7 RECORD KEEPING AND REPORTING

- 7.1 The Supplier must ensure that suitably qualified representatives attend progress meetings with the Buyer and provide progress reports when specified in the Order Form.
- 7.2 The Supplier must keep and maintain full and accurate records and accounts on everything to do with the Contract for 7 years after the date of expiry or termination of the Contract and in accordance with the UK GDPR or the EU GDPR as the context requires.
- 7.3 The Supplier must allow any auditor appointed by the Buyer access to its premises to verify all contract accounts and records of everything to do with the Contract and provide copies for the Audit.
- 7.4 The Buyer or an auditor can Audit the Supplier.
- 7.5 During an Audit, the Supplier must provide information to the auditor and reasonable co-operation at their request.
- 7.6 The Parties will bear their own costs when an Audit is undertaken unless the Audit identifies a Material Breach by the Supplier, in which case the Supplier will repay the Buyer's reasonable costs in connection with the Audit.
- 7.7 If the Supplier is not providing any of the Deliverables, or is unable to provide them, it must immediately:
 - 7.7.1 tell the Buyer and give reasons;
 - 7.7.2 propose corrective action; and
 - 7.7.3 provide a deadline for completing the corrective action.
- 7.8 If the Buyer, acting reasonably, is concerned as to the financial stability of the Supplier such that it may impact on the continued performance of the Contract then the Buyer may:
 - 7.8.1 require that the Supplier provide to the Buyer (for its approval) a plan setting out how the Supplier will ensure continued performance of the Contract and the Supplier will make changes to such plan as reasonably required by the Buyer and once it is agreed then the Supplier shall act in accordance with such plan and report to the Buyer on demand; and
 - 7.8.2 if the Supplier fails to provide a plan or fails to agree any changes which are requested by the Buyer or fails to implement or provide updates on progress with the plan, terminate the Contract immediately for Material Breach (or on such date as the Buyer notifies) and the consequences of termination in clause 11.5.1 shall apply.
- 7.9 If there is a Material Breach, the Supplier must notify the Buyer within 3 Working Days of the Supplier becoming aware of the Material Breach. The Buyer may request that the Supplier provide a Rectification Plan within 10 Working Days of the Buyer's request alongside any additional documentation that the Buyer requires. Once such Rectification Plan is agreed between the Parties (without the Buyer limiting its rights) the Supplier must immediately start work on the actions in the Rectification Plan at its own cost.
- 7.10 At the end of each Contract Year, at its own expense, the Supplier will provide a report to the Buyer setting out a summary of its compliance with clause 5.7, such report to be certified by the Supplier's Authorised Representative as being accurate and not misleading.

8 SUPPLIER STAFF

- 8.1 The Supplier Staff involved in the performance of the Contract must:
 - 8.1.1 be appropriately trained and qualified;
 - 8.1.2 be vetted in accordance with the Buyer's staff vetting procedures as specified in the Order Form or in Annex 6 (*Security Requirements*) (if used); and
 - 8.1.3 comply with all conduct requirements when on the Buyer's premises.
- 8.2 Where the Buyer decides one of the Supplier's Staff isn't suitable to work on the Contract, the Supplier must replace them with a suitably qualified alternative.

- 8.3 The Supplier must provide a list of Supplier Staff needing to access the Buyer's premises and say why access is required.
- 8.4 The Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against all claims brought by any person employed or engaged by the Supplier caused by an act or omission of the Supplier or any Supplier Staff.
- 8.5 The Buyer indemnifies the Supplier against all claims brought by any person employed or engaged by the Buyer caused by an act or omission of the Buyer or any of the Buyer's employees, agents, consultants and contractors.
- 8.6 The Supplier shall use those persons nominated (if any) as Key Staff in the Order Form or otherwise notified as such by the Buyer to the Supplier in writing, following agreement to the same by the Supplier to provide the Deliverables and shall not remove or replace any of them unless:
 - 8.6.1 requested to do so by the Buyer or the Buyer approves such removal or replacement (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed);
 - 8.6.2 the person concerned resigns, retires or dies or is on parental or long-term sick leave; or
 - 8.6.3 the person's employment or contractual arrangement with the Supplier or any Subcontractor is terminated for material breach of contract by the employee.
- 8.7 The Supplier shall ensure that no person who discloses that they have a conviction that is relevant to the nature of the Contract, relevant to the work of the Buyer, or is of a type otherwise advised by the Buyer (each such conviction a "**Relevant Conviction**"), or is found by the Supplier to have a Relevant Conviction (whether as a result of a police check, a disclosure and barring service check or otherwise) is employed or engaged in the provision of any part of the Deliverables.

9 RIGHTS AND PROTECTION

- 9.1 The Supplier warrants and represents that:
 - 9.1.1 it has full capacity and authority to enter into and to perform the Contract;
 - 9.1.2 the Contract is entered into by its authorised representative;
 - 9.1.3 it is a legally valid and existing organisation incorporated in the place it was formed;
 - 9.1.4 there are no known legal or regulatory actions or investigations before any court, administrative body or arbitration tribunal pending or threatened against it or its affiliates that might affect its ability to perform the Contract;
 - 9.1.5 all necessary rights, authorisations, licences and consents (including in relation to IPRs) are in place to enable the Supplier to perform its obligations under the Contract and the Buyer to receive the Deliverables;
 - 9.1.6 it doesn't have any contractual obligations which are likely to have a material adverse effect on its ability to perform the Contract; and
 - 9.1.7 it is not impacted by an Insolvency Event.
- 9.2 The warranties and representations in clause 3.3 and clause 9.1 are repeated each time the Supplier provides Deliverables under the Contract.
- 9.3 The Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against each of the following:
 - 9.3.1 wilful misconduct of the Supplier, any of its Subcontractor and/or Supplier Staff that impacts the Contract; and
 - 9.3.2 non-payment by the Supplier of any tax or National Insurance.
- 9.4 If the Supplier becomes aware of a representation or warranty made in relation to the Contract that becomes untrue or misleading, it must immediately notify the Buyer.
- 9.5 All third party warranties and indemnities covering the Deliverables must be assigned for the Buyer's benefit by the Supplier for free.

10 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ("IPRS")

- 10.1 Each Party keeps ownership of its own Existing IPRs (including but not limited to for the Supplier: web scraping, product matching, and price comparison technology and publicly accessible data aggregated thereby). Any New IPR created under the Contract is owned by the Supplier. The

Supplier gives the Buyer a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty-free, irrevocable, transferable, sub-licensable worldwide licence to use, copy and adapt the New IPR to enable the Buyer and its sub-licensees to receive and use the Deliverables and the New IPR for any purpose relating to the exercise of the Buyer's (or, if the Buyer is a Public Sector Body, any other Public Sector Body's) business or function. For the purposes of this clause "**Public Sector Body**" means a formally established organisation that is (at least in part) publicly funded to deliver a public or government service.

- 10.2 The termination or expiry of the Contract does not terminate any licence granted under this clause 1.
- 10.3 The Buyer gives the Supplier a royalty-free, non-exclusive, non-transferable licence to use, copy, and adapt any Existing IPRs for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations during the Term and commercially exploiting the New IPR developed under the Contract. This licence is sub-licensable to a Subcontractor for the purpose of enabling the Supplier to fulfil its obligations under the Contract, and in that case the Subcontractor must enter into a confidentiality undertaking with the Supplier on the same terms as set out in clause 15 (What you must keep confidential).
- 10.4 Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Supplier and the Buyer will record any New IPR and keep this record updated throughout the Term.
- 10.5 Where a Party acquires ownership of intellectual property rights incorrectly under this Contract it must do everything reasonably necessary to complete a transfer assigning them in writing to the other Party on request and at its own cost.
- 10.6 Neither Party has the right to use the other Party's intellectual property rights, including any use of the other Party's names, logos or trademarks, except as provided in this clause 1 or otherwise agreed in writing.
- 10.7 If any claim is made against the Buyer for actual or alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property arising out of, or in connection with, the supply or use of the Deliverables (an "**IPR Claim**"), then the Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against all losses, damages, costs or expenses (including professional fees and fines) incurred as a result of the IPR Claim.
- 10.8 If an IPR Claim is made or anticipated, the Supplier must at its own option and expense, either:
 - 10.8.1 obtain for the Buyer the rights in clause 1.1 without infringing any third party intellectual property rights; and
 - 10.8.2 replace or modify the relevant item with substitutes that don't infringe intellectual property rights without adversely affecting the functionality or performance of the Deliverables.
- 10.9 If the Supplier is not able to resolve the IPR Claim to the Buyer's reasonable satisfaction within a reasonable time, the Buyer may give written notice that it terminates the Contract from the date set out in the notice, or where no date is given in the notice, the date of the notice. On termination, the consequences of termination in clause 11.5.1 shall apply.
- 10.10 The Supplier shall not use in the Delivery of the Deliverables any Third Party IPR unless:
 - 10.10.1 the Buyer gives its approval to do so; and
 - 10.10.2 one of the following conditions applies:
 - 10.10.2.1 the owner or an authorised licensor of the relevant Third Party IPR has granted the Buyer a direct licence that provides the Buyer with the rights in clause 1.1; or
 - 10.10.2.2 if the Supplier cannot, after commercially reasonable endeavours, obtain for the Buyer a direct licence to the Third Party IPR as set out in clause 1.10.2.1:
 - (a) the Supplier provides the Buyer with details of the licence terms it can obtain and the identity of those licensors;
 - (b) the Buyer agrees to those licence terms; and
 - (c) the owner or authorised licensor of the Third Party IPR grants a direct licence to the Buyer on those terms; or
 - 10.10.2.3 the Buyer approves in writing, with reference to the acts authorised and the specific intellectual property rights involved.

10.11 In spite of any other provisions of the Contract and for the avoidance of doubt, award of this Contract by the Buyer and the ordering of any Deliverable under it, does not constitute an authorisation by the Crown under Sections 55 and 56 of the Patents Act 1977, Section 12 of the Registered Designs Act 1949 or Sections 240 – 243 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

10.12 Use of Open-Source Software.
The Supplier may incorporate into the Deliverables software or components that are distributed under an Open-Source Licence (being a licence approved by the Open Source Initiative or the Free Software Foundation, including the MIT, BSD, Apache 2.0 and GPL licences), provided that:
(a) the Supplier will make schedule available to the Buyer if such components are identified;
(b) the use of such components does not require the Buyer to disclose or license its proprietary code under an open-source licence; and
(c) the Supplier remains responsible for compliance with the relevant Open-Source Licence terms.
For clarity, any Open-Source Software remains governed by its respective licence terms and is not subject to the ownership or licensing provisions of clause 10.

11 ENDING THE CONTRACT

11.1 The Contract takes effect on the Start Date and ends on the earlier of the Expiry Date or termination of the Contract, or earlier if required by Law.

11.2 The Buyer can extend the Contract where set out in the Order Form in accordance with the terms in the Order Form.

11.3 **Ending the Contract without a reason**
The Buyer has the right to terminate the Contract at any time without reason or liability by giving the Supplier not less than 30 days' written notice, and if it's terminated clause 11.6.2 applies.

11.4 **When the Buyer can end the Contract**

11.4.1 If any of the following events happen, the Buyer has the right to immediately terminate its Contract by issuing a termination notice in writing to the Supplier and the consequences of termination in clause 11.5.1 shall apply:

- 11.4.1.1 there's a Supplier Insolvency Event;
- 11.4.1.2 the Supplier is in Material Breach of the Contract;
- 11.4.1.3 there's a change of control (within the meaning of section 450 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010) of the Supplier which isn't pre-approved by the Buyer in writing;
- 11.4.1.4 the Supplier or its affiliates embarrass or bring the Buyer into disrepute or diminish the public trust in them; or
- 11.4.1.5 the Supplier fails to comply with its legal obligations in the fields of environmental, social or employment Law when providing the Deliverables.

11.5 **What happens if the Contract ends**

11.5.1 Where the Buyer terminates the Contract under clause 10.7.3, 11.4, 7.8.2, or 32.4, all of the following apply:

- 11.5.1.1 the Supplier is responsible for the Buyer's reasonable costs of procuring replacement Deliverables for the rest of the term of the Contract;
- 11.5.1.2 the Buyer's payment obligations under the terminated Contract stop immediately;
- 11.5.1.3 accumulated rights of the Parties are not affected;
- 11.5.1.4 the Supplier must promptly delete or return the Government Data other than Government Data (i) that is Personal Data in respect of which the Supplier is a Controller; (ii) in respect of which the Supplier has rights to hold the Government Data independently of this Contract; and (iii) where required to retain copies by Law;
- 11.5.1.5 the Supplier must promptly return any of the Buyer's property provided under the Contract;

11.5.1.6 the Supplier must, at no cost to the Buyer, give all reasonable assistance to the Buyer and any incoming supplier and co-operate fully in the handover and re-procurement; and

11.5.1.7 the Supplier must repay to the Buyer all the Charges that it has been paid in advance for Deliverables that it has not provided as at the date of termination or expiry.

11.5.2 The following clauses survive the expiry or termination of the Contract: 1, **Error! Reference source not found.**, 5, 7, 8.4, 10, 11.5, 11.6.2, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 22, 31.2.2, 35 and 36 and any clauses which are expressly or by implication intended to continue.

11.6 **When the Supplier can end the Contract and what happens when the contract ends (Buyer and Supplier termination)**

11.6.1 The Supplier can issue a reminder notice if the Buyer does not pay an undisputed invoice on time. The Supplier can terminate the Contract if the Buyer fails to pay an undisputed invoiced sum due and worth over 10% of the total Contract value or £1,000, whichever is the lower, within 30 days of the date of the reminder notice.

11.6.2 Where the Buyer terminates the Contract in accordance with clause 11.3 or the Supplier terminates the Contract under clause 11.6 or 23.4:

11.6.2.1 the Buyer must promptly pay all outstanding charges incurred by the Supplier;

11.6.2.2 the Buyer must pay the Supplier reasonable committed and unavoidable losses as long as the Supplier provides a fully itemised and costed schedule with evidence - the maximum value of this payment is limited to the total sum payable to the Supplier if the Contract had not been terminated; and

11.6.2.3 clauses 11.5.1.2 to 11.5.1.7 apply.

11.6.3 The Supplier also has the right to terminate the Contract in accordance with clauses 20.3 and 23.4.

11.7 **Partially ending and suspending the Contract**

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

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

11.7.3 The Parties must agree (in accordance with clause 25) any necessary variation required by clause 11.7, but the Supplier may not either:

11.7.3.1 reject the variation; or

11.7.3.2 increase the Charges, except where the right to partial termination is under clause 11.3.

11.7.4 The Buyer can still use other rights available, or subsequently available to it if it acts on its rights under clause 11.7.

12 **HOW MUCH YOU CAN BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR**

12.1 Each Party's total aggregate liability under or in connection with the Contract (whether in tort, contract or otherwise) is no more than 125% of the Charges paid or payable to the Supplier.

12.2 No Party is liable to the other for:

12.2.1 any indirect losses; and/or

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

12.3 In spite of clause 12.1, neither Party limits or excludes any of the following:

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

- 12.3.2 its liability for bribery or fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation by it or its employees; or
- 12.3.3 any liability that cannot be excluded or limited by Law.

12.4 In spite of clause 12.1, the Supplier does not limit or exclude its liability for any indemnity given under clauses 8.4, 9.3.2, **Error! Reference source not found.**, or 31.2.2.

12.5 In spite of clause 12.1, the Buyer does not limit or exclude its liability for any indemnity given under clause 8.5.

12.6 In spite of clause 12.1, but subject to clauses 12.2 and 12.3, the Supplier's total aggregate liability in each Contract Year under clause 14.6.4 is no more than the Data Protection Liability Cap.

12.7 Each Party must use all reasonable endeavours to mitigate any loss or damage which it suffers under or in connection with the Contract, including any indemnities.

12.8 If more than one Supplier is party to the Contract, each Supplier Party is fully responsible for both their own liabilities and the liabilities of the other Suppliers.

13 OBEYING THE LAW

13.1 The Supplier, in connection with provision of the Deliverables:

- 13.1.1 is expected to meet and have its Subcontractors meet the standards set out in the Supplier Code of Conduct:
(https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1163536/Supplier_Code_of_Conduct_v3.pdf) as such Code of Conduct may be updated from time to time, and such other sustainability requirements as set out in the Order Form. The Buyer also expects to meet this Code of Conduct;
- 13.1.2 must comply with the provisions of the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989 and section 182 of the Finance Act 1989;
- 13.1.3 must support the Buyer in fulfilling its Public Sector Equality duty under section 149 of the Equality Act 2010;
- 13.1.4 must comply with the model contract terms contained in (a) to (l) of Annex C of the guidance to PPN 009 (Tackling Modern Slavery in Government Supply Chains), as such clauses may be amended or updated from time to time; and
- 13.1.5 meet the applicable Government Buying Standards applicable to Deliverables which can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sustainable-procurement-the-government-buying-standards-gbs>, as updated from time to time.

13.2 The Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against any costs resulting from any default by the Supplier relating to any applicable Law to do with the Contract.

13.3 The Supplier must appoint a compliance officer who must be responsible for ensuring that the Supplier complies with Law, clause 13.1 and clauses 27 to 33.

14 DATA PROTECTION AND SECURITY

14.1 The Supplier must not remove any ownership or security notices in or relating to the Government Data.

14.2 The Supplier must ensure that any Supplier, Subcontractor, or Sub-processor system holding any Government Data, including back-up data, is a secure system that complies with the Security Requirements (including Annex **Error! Reference source not found. (Security Management)** (if used)) or as otherwise provided in writing by the Buyer (where any such requirements have been provided).

14.3 The Supplier must not store, copy, disclose, or use the Government Data except as necessary for the performance by the Supplier of its obligations under this Contract or as otherwise expressly authorised in writing by the Buyer, other than Government Data which is Personal Data in respect of which the Supplier is a Controller, or the Supplier has rights to hold the Government Data independently of the Contract.

14.4 If at any time the Supplier suspects or has reason to believe that the Government Data is corrupted, lost or sufficiently degraded, then the Supplier must immediately notify the Buyer and suggest remedial action.

14.5 If the Government Data is any of (i) corrupted, (ii) lost or (iii) sufficiently degraded, in each case as a result of the Supplier's Default, so as to be unusable the Buyer may either or both:

- 14.5.1 tell the Supplier (at the Supplier's expense) to restore or get restored Government Data as soon as practical but no later than 5 Working Days from the date that the Buyer receives notice, or the Supplier finds out about the issue, whichever is earlier; and/or
- 14.5.2 restore the Government Data itself or using a third party and shall be repaid by the Supplier any reasonable expenses incurred in doing so.

14.6 The Supplier:

- 14.6.1 must, subject to the Security Requirements (if any), provide the Buyer with all Government Data in an agreed format (provided it is secure and readable) within 10 Working Days of a written request;
- 14.6.2 must have documented processes to guarantee prompt availability of Government Data if the Supplier stops trading;
- 14.6.3 must, subject to the Security Requirements (if any), securely erase (using a deletion method that ensures that even a determined expert using specialist techniques can recover only a small fraction of the data deleted) all Government Data and any copies it or a Subcontractor holds when asked to do so by the Buyer unless required by Law to retain it, other than in relation to Government Data in respect of which the Supplier is a Controller or which the Supplier has rights to hold the Government Data independently of this Contract; and
- 14.6.4 indemnifies the Buyer against any and all losses incurred if the Supplier breaches clause 14 or any Data Protection Legislation.

14.7 The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the nature of the activity carried out by each of them in relation to their respective obligations under the Contract dictates the status of each party under the DPA 2018. A Party may act as:

- 14.7.1 "Controller" in respect of the other Party who is "Processor";
- 14.7.2 "Processor" in respect of the other Party who is "Controller";
- 14.7.3 "Joint Controller" with the other Party;
- 14.7.4 "Independent Controller" of the Personal Data where the other Party is also "Controller",

in respect of certain Personal Data under the Contract and shall specify in Part A Authorised Processing Template of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data which scenario they think shall apply in each situation.

14.8 **Where one Party is Controller and the other Party its Processor**

- 14.8.1 Where a Party is a Processor, the only processing that the Processor is authorised to do is listed in Part A Authorised Processing Template of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data by the Controller and may not be determined by the Processor. The term "processing" and any associated terms are to be read in accordance with Article 4 of the UK GDPR and EU GDPR (as applicable).
- 14.8.2 The Processor must notify the Controller immediately if it thinks the Controller's instructions breach the Data Protection Legislation.
- 14.8.3 The Processor must give all reasonable assistance to the Controller in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment before starting any processing, which may include, at the discretion of the Controller:
 - 14.8.3.1 a systematic description of the expected processing and its purpose;
 - 14.8.3.2 the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations;
 - 14.8.3.3 the risks to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects; and
 - 14.8.3.4 the intended measures to address the risks, including safeguards, security measures and mechanisms to protect Personal Data and assurance that those measures comply with any Security Requirements.
- 14.8.4 The Processor must, in relation to any Personal Data processed under this Contract:

14.8.4.1 process that Personal Data only in accordance with this clause 14, Part A Authorised Processing Template of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data and Annex **Error! Reference source not found. (Security Management)** (if used), unless the Processor is required to do otherwise by Law. If lawful to notify the Controller, the Processor must promptly notify the Controller if the Processor is otherwise required to process Personal Data by Law before processing it.

14.8.4.2 put in place appropriate Protective Measures to protect against a Data Loss Event which must be approved by the Controller.

14.8.4.3 ensure that:

- (a) the Processor Personnel do not process Personal Data except in accordance with clause 14, Part A Authorised Processing Template of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data and Annex 6 (*Security Management*) (if used);
- (b) it uses the Buyer's staff vetting procedures to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Processor Personnel who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:
 - (i) are aware of and comply with the Processor's duties under this clause 14 and Annex **Error! Reference source not found. (Security Management)** (if used);
 - (ii) are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Processor or any Sub-processor;
 - (iii) are informed of the confidential nature of the Personal Data and do not provide any of the Personal Data to any third party unless directed in writing to do so by the Controller or as otherwise allowed by the Contract; and
 - (iv) have undergone adequate training in the use, care, protection and handling of Personal Data.
- (c) the Processor must not transfer Personal Data outside of the UK and/or the EEA unless the prior written consent of the Controller has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:
 - (i) the transfer is in accordance with Article 45 of the UK GDPR (or section 74A of DPA 2018) and/or the transfer is in accordance with Article 45 of the EU GDPR (where applicable), provided that if the destination country of a transfer is the United States:
 - (A) the Supplier shall ensure that prior to the transfer of any Personal Data to the United States relying on this adequacy (including to any United States-based Subcontractors and/or Subprocessors), the Supplier (and/or the applicable Subcontractor and/or Subprocessor) must be self-certified and continue to be self-certified on the US Data Privacy Framework;
 - (B) the Supplier shall notify the Buyer immediately if there are any, or there are reasonable grounds to believe there may be any, changes in respect of their and/or their Subcontractor's or Subprocessor's position on the US Data Privacy Framework (for example if that entity ceases to be certified or is at risk of being so, or there is a strong likelihood of a competent court finding the US Data Privacy Framework unlawful), and the Supplier must then take all appropriate steps to remedy the certification and/or put in place alternative data transfer mechanisms in compliance with this Paragraph 14.7.4.3(c)(i); and
 - (C) in the event that the Supplier (and/or the applicable Subcontractor or Subprocessor):

- (1) ceases to be certified on the US Data Privacy Framework and the Supplier does not put in place the alternative data transfer mechanisms required for compliance with this Paragraph 14.7.4.3(c)(i);
- (2) the US Data Privacy Framework is no longer available and the Supplier does not put in place the alternative data transfer mechanisms required for compliance with this Paragraph 14.7.4.3(c)(i); and/or
- (3) fails to notify the Buyer of any changes to its certification status in accordance with Paragraph 14.7.4.3(c)(i)(B) above,

the Buyer shall have the right to terminate this Contract with immediate effect; or

- (d) the Controller or the Processor has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer (whether in accordance with UK GDPR Article 46 or section 75 of the DPA 2018) and/or the transfer is in accordance with Article 46 of the EU GDPR (where applicable) as determined by the Controller which could include relevant parties entering into:
 - (i) where the transfer is subject to UK GDPR:
 - (A) the International Data Transfer Agreement (the "IDTA"), as published by the Information Commissioner's Office from time to time under section 119A(1) of the DPA 2018 as well as any additional measures determined by the Controller;
 - (B) the European Commission's Standard Contractual Clauses per decision 2021/914/EU or such updated version of such Standard Contractual Clauses as are published by the European Commission from time to time ("EU SCCs"), together with the UK International Data Transfer Agreement Addendum to the EU SCCs (the "Addendum") as published by the Information Commissioner's Office from time to time; and/or
 - (ii) where the transfer is subject to EU GDPR, the EU SCCs, as well as any additional measures determined by the Controller being implemented by the importing party;
- (e) the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies when transferred;
- (f) the Processor meets its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred; and
- (g) the Processor complies with the Controller's reasonable prior instructions about the processing of the Personal Data.

14.8.5 The Processor must at the written direction of the Controller, delete or return Personal Data (and any copies of it) to the Controller on termination of the Contract unless the Processor is required by Law to retain the Personal Data.

14.8.6 The Processor must notify the Controller immediately if it:

- 14.8.6.1 receives a Data Subject Access Request (or purported Data Subject Access Request);
- 14.8.6.2 receives a request to rectify, block or erase any Personal Data;
- 14.8.6.3 receives any other request, complaint or communication relating to either Party's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;

- 14.8.6.4 receives any communication from the Information Commissioner or any other regulatory authority in connection with Personal Data processed under this Contract;
- 14.8.6.5 receives a request from any third Party for disclosure of Personal Data where compliance with the request is required or claims to be required by Law; and
- 14.8.6.6 becomes aware of a Data Loss Event.

14.8.7 Any requirement to notify under clause 14.8.6 includes the provision of further information to the Controller in stages as details become available.

14.8.8 The Processor must promptly provide the Controller with full assistance in relation to any Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation and any complaint, communication or request made under clause 14.8.6. This includes giving the Controller:

- 14.8.8.1 full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;
- 14.8.8.2 reasonably requested assistance so that it can comply with a Data Subject Access Request within the relevant timescales in the Data Protection Legislation;
- 14.8.8.3 any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject on request;
- 14.8.8.4 assistance that it requests following any Data Loss Event; and
- 14.8.8.5 assistance that it requests relating to a consultation with, or request from, the Information Commissioner's Office or any other regulatory authority.

14.8.9 The Processor must maintain full, accurate records and information to show it complies with this clause 14. This requirement does not apply where the Processor employs fewer than 250 staff, unless either the Controller determines that the processing:

- 14.8.9.1 is not occasional;
- 14.8.9.2 includes special categories of data as referred to in Article 9(1) of the UK GDPR or Personal Data relating to criminal convictions and offences referred to in Article 10 of the UK GDPR; or
- 14.8.9.3 is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.

14.8.10 The Parties shall designate a Data Protection Officer if required by the Data Protection Legislation.

14.8.11 Before allowing any Subprocessor to process any Personal Data, the Processor must:

- 14.8.11.1 notify the Controller in writing of the intended Subprocessor and processing;
- 14.8.11.2 obtain the written consent of the Controller;
- 14.8.11.3 enter into a written contract with the Sub-processor so that this clause 14 applies to the Sub-processor; and
- 14.8.11.4 provide the Controller with any information about the Sub-processor that the Controller reasonably requires.

14.8.12 The Processor remains fully liable for all acts or omissions of any Sub-processor.

14.8.13 The Parties agree to take account of any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office or any other regulatory authority.

14.9 Joint Controllers of Personal Data

In the event that the Parties are Joint Controllers in respect of Personal Data under the Contract, the Parties shall implement paragraphs that are necessary to comply with UK GDPR Article 26 based on the terms set out in Part B Joint Controller Agreement of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data.

14.10 Independent Controllers of Personal Data

In the event that the Parties are Independent Controllers in respect of Personal Data under the Contract, the terms set out in **Error! Reference source not found. Error! Reference source not found.** of Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data shall apply to this Contract.

15 WHAT YOU MUST KEEP CONFIDENTIAL

15.1 Each Party must:

- 15.1.1 keep all Confidential Information it receives confidential and secure;
- 15.1.2 not disclose, use or exploit the disclosing Party's Confidential Information without the disclosing Party's prior written consent, except for the purposes anticipated under the Contract; and
- 15.1.3 immediately notify the disclosing Party if it suspects unauthorised access, copying, use or disclosure of the Confidential Information.

15.2 In spite of clause 15.1, a Party may disclose Confidential Information which it receives from the disclosing Party in any of the following instances:

- 15.2.1 where disclosure is required by applicable Law if the recipient Party notifies the disclosing Party of the full circumstances, the affected Confidential Information and extent of the disclosure;
- 15.2.2 if the recipient Party already had the information without obligation of confidentiality before it was disclosed by the disclosing Party;
- 15.2.3 if the information was given to it by a third party without obligation of confidentiality;
- 15.2.4 if the information was in the public domain at the time of the disclosure;
- 15.2.5 if the information was independently developed without access to the disclosing Party's Confidential Information;
- 15.2.6 on a confidential basis, to its auditors or for the purposes of regulatory requirements;
- 15.2.7 on a confidential basis, to its professional advisers on a need-to-know basis; and
- 15.2.8 to the Serious Fraud Office where the recipient Party has reasonable grounds to believe that the disclosing Party is involved in activity that may be a criminal offence under the Bribery Act 2010.

15.3 The Supplier may disclose Confidential Information on a confidential basis to Supplier Staff on a need-to-know basis to allow the Supplier to meet its obligations under the Contract. The Supplier shall remain responsible at all times for compliance with the confidentiality obligations set out in this Contract by the persons to whom disclosure has been made.

15.4 The Buyer may disclose Confidential Information in any of the following cases:

- 15.4.1 on a confidential basis to the employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Buyer;
- 15.4.2 on a confidential basis to any Crown Body, any successor body to a Crown Body or any company that the Buyer transfers or proposes to transfer all or any part of its business to;
- 15.4.3 if the Buyer (acting reasonably) considers disclosure necessary or appropriate to carry out its public functions;
- 15.4.4 where requested by Parliament; and
- 15.4.5 under clauses 5.8 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 and any information which is disclosed under clause 16 is not Confidential Information.

15.7 The Supplier must not make any press announcement or publicise the Contract or any part of it in any way, without the prior written consent of the Buyer and must take all reasonable endeavours to ensure that Supplier Staff do not either.

16 WHEN YOU CAN SHARE INFORMATION

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

16.2 In accordance with a reasonable timetable and in any event within 5 Working Days of a request from the Buyer, at no additional cost, the Supplier must give the Buyer full co-operation and information needed so the Buyer can:

- 16.2.1 comply with any Request For Information; and
- 16.2.2 comply with any of its obligations in relation to publishing Transparency Information.

16.3 Any such co-operation and/or information from the Supplier shall be provided at no additional cost.

16.4 To the extent that it is allowed and practical to do so, the Buyer will use reasonable endeavours to notify the Supplier of a Request For Information and 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 shall be decided by the Buyer, in its sole discretion.

17 INSURANCE

17.1 The Supplier shall ensure it has adequate insurance cover for this Contract.

18 INVALID PARTS OF THE CONTRACT

18.1 If any provision or part-provision of this Contract is or becomes invalid, illegal or unenforceable for any reason, such provision or part-provision shall be deemed deleted, but that shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the rest of this Contract. The provisions incorporated into the Contract are the entire agreement between the Parties. The Contract replaces all previous statements, or agreements whether written or oral. No other provisions apply.

19 OTHER PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN THE CONTRACT

19.1 Subject to clause 19.2, 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.

19.2 Clauses 5.7, 24.4 and 24.5 confer benefits on persons named or identified in such provisions other than the Parties (each such person a "**Third Party Beneficiary**") and are intended to be enforceable by Third Parties Beneficiaries by virtue of the CRTPA.

20 CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND YOUR CONTROL

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

- 20.1.1 provides written notice to the other Party; and
- 20.1.2 uses all reasonable measures practical to reduce the impact of the Force Majeure Event.

20.2 Any failure or delay by the Supplier to perform its obligations under the Contract that is due to a failure or delay by an agent, Subcontractor and/or Supplier Staff will only be considered a Force Majeure Event if that third party is itself prevented from complying with an obligation to the Supplier due to a Force Majeure Event.

20.3 Either Party can partially or fully terminate the Contract if the provision of the Deliverables is materially affected by a Force Majeure Event which lasts for 90 days continuously and the consequences of termination in clauses 11.5.1.2 to 11.5.1.7 shall apply.

20.4 Where a Party terminates under clause 20.3:

- 20.4.1 each Party must cover its own losses; and
- 20.4.2 clauses 11.5.1.2 to 11.5.1.7 apply.

21 RELATIONSHIPS CREATED BY THE CONTRACT

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

22 GIVING UP CONTRACT RIGHTS

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

23 TRANSFERRING RESPONSIBILITIES

23.1 The Supplier cannot assign, novate or in any other way dispose of the Contract or any part of it without the Buyer's written consent.

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

23.3 When the Buyer uses its rights under clause 23.2 the Supplier must enter into a novation agreement in the form that the Buyer specifies.

23.4 The Supplier can terminate the 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.

24 SUPPLY CHAIN

24.1 The Supplier cannot sub-contract the Contract or any part of it without the Buyer's prior written consent. The Supplier shall provide the Buyer with the name of any Subcontractor the Supplier proposes to engage for the purposes of the Contract. The decision of the Buyer to consent or not will not be unreasonably withheld or delayed. If the Buyer does not communicate a decision to the Supplier within 10 Working Days of the request for consent then its consent will be deemed to have been given. The Buyer may reasonably withhold its consent to the appointment of a Subcontractor if it considers that:

- 24.1.1 the appointment of a proposed Subcontractor may prejudice the provision of the Deliverables or may be contrary to its interests;
- 24.1.2 the proposed Subcontractor is unreliable and/or has not provided reliable goods and or reasonable services to its other customers; and/or
- 24.1.3 the proposed Subcontractor employs unfit persons.

24.2 If the Buyer asks the Supplier for details about Subcontractors, the Supplier must provide details of all such Subcontractors at all levels of the supply chain including:

- 24.2.1 their name;
- 24.2.2 the scope of their appointment; and
- 24.2.3 the duration of their appointment.

24.3 The Supplier must exercise due skill and care when it selects and appoints Subcontractors.

24.4 For Sub-Contracts in the Supplier's supply chain entered into wholly or substantially for the purpose of performing or contributing to the performance of the whole or any part of this Contract:

- i. after the Start Date, the Supplier will ensure that they all contain provisions that; or
- ii. on or before the Start Date, the Supplier will take all reasonable endeavours to ensure that they all contain provisions that:

- 24.4.1 allow the Supplier to terminate the Sub-Contract if the Subcontractor fails to comply with its obligations in respect of environmental, social or employment Law; and
- 24.4.2 require that all Subcontractors are paid:
 - 24.4.2.1 before the end of the period of 30 days beginning with the day on which an invoice is received by the Supplier or other party in respect of the sum; or
 - 24.4.2.2 if later, the date by which the payment falls due in accordance with the invoice,
subject to the invoice being verified by the party making payment as valid and undisputed;

- 24.4.3 require the party receiving goods or services under the contract to consider and verify invoices under that contract in a timely fashion and notify the Subcontractor without undue delay if it considers the invoice invalid or it disputes the invoice; and
- 24.4.4 allow the Buyer to publish the details of the late payment or non-payment if this 30 day limit is exceeded.

24.5 The Supplier must ensure that a term equivalent to Clause 24.4 is included in each Sub-Contract in its supply chain, such that each Subcontractor is obliged to include those terms in any of its own Sub-Contracts in the supply chain for the delivery of this Contract. References to the "Supplier" and "Subcontractor", in clause 15.14(i) are to be replaced with references to the respective Subcontractors who are parties to the relevant contract.

24.6 At the Buyer's request, the Supplier must terminate any Sub-Contracts in any of the following events:

- 24.6.1 there is a change of control within the meaning of Section 450 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 of a Subcontractor which isn't pre-approved by the Buyer in writing;
- 24.6.2 the acts or omissions of the Subcontractor have caused or materially contributed to a right of termination under clause 11.4;
- 24.6.3 a Subcontractor or its Affiliates embarrasses or brings into disrepute or diminishes the public trust in the Buyer; and/or
- 24.6.4 the Subcontractor fails to comply with its obligations in respect of environmental, social or employment Law.

24.7 The Supplier is responsible for all acts and omissions of its Subcontractors and those employed or engaged by them as if they were its own.

25 CHANGING THE CONTRACT

25.1 Either Party can request a variation to the Contract which is only effective if agreed in writing and signed by both Parties. The Buyer is not required to accept a variation request made by the Supplier.

26 HOW TO COMMUNICATE ABOUT THE CONTRACT

- 26.1 All notices under the Contract shall be in writing and be served by e-mail unless it is not practicable to do so. An e-mail is effective at 9am on the first Working Day after sending unless an error message is received.
- 26.2 If it is not practicable for a notice to be served by e-mail in accordance with clause 26.1, notices can be served by means of personal delivery or Prepaid, Royal Mail Signed For™ 1st Class or other prepaid, next Working Day service providing proof of delivery. If either of these options are used to serve a notice, such notices 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.
- 26.3 Notices to the Buyer or Supplier must be sent to their e-mail address (or address, where e-mail is not practicable) in the Order Form.
- 26.4 This clause does not apply to the service of legal proceedings or any documents in any legal action, arbitration or dispute resolution.

27 DEALING WITH CLAIMS

- 27.1 If a Beneficiary becomes aware of any Claim, then it must notify the Indemnifier as soon as reasonably practical.
- 27.2 at the Indemnifier's cost the Beneficiary must:
 - 27.2.1 allow the Indemnifier to conduct all negotiations and proceedings to do with a Claim;
 - 27.2.2 give the Indemnifier reasonable assistance with the Claim if requested; and
 - 27.2.3 not make admissions about the Claim without the prior written consent of the Indemnifier which cannot be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
- 27.3 The Indemnifier must:

- 27.3.1 consider and defend the Claim diligently and in a way that does not damage the Beneficiary's reputation; and
- 27.3.2 not settle or compromise any Claim without the Beneficiary's prior written consent which it must not unreasonably withhold or delay.

28 EQUALITY, DIVERSITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

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

29 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 29.1 The Supplier must perform its obligations meeting the requirements of:
 - 29.1.1 all applicable Law regarding health and safety; and
 - 29.1.2 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 the Contract.

30 ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY

- 30.1 In performing its obligations under the Contract, the Supplier shall, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Buyer:
 - 30.1.1 meet, in all material respects, the requirements of all applicable Laws regarding the environment; and
 - 30.1.2 comply with its obligations under the Buyer's current environmental policy, which the Buyer must provide, and make Supplier Staff aware of such 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. The Buyer cannot terminate the Contract where the Supplier has not paid a minor tax or social security contribution.
- 31.2 Where the Supplier or any Supplier Staff are liable to be taxed or to pay National Insurance contributions in the UK relating to payment received under the Contract, the Supplier must both:
 - 31.2.1 comply with the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003, the Social Security Contributions and Benefits Act 1992 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax and National Insurance contributions (including IR35); and
 - 31.2.2 indemnify the Buyer against any Income Tax, National Insurance and social security contributions and any other liability, deduction, contribution, assessment or claim arising from or made during or after the Term in connection with the provision of the Deliverables by the Supplier or any of the Supplier Staff.
- 31.3 At any time during the Term, the Buyer may specify information that the Supplier must provide with regard to the Supplier, the Supplier Staff, the Workers, or the Supply Chain Intermediaries and set a deadline for responding, which:

- 31.3.1 demonstrates that the Supplier, Supplier Staff, Workers, or Supply Chain Intermediaries comply with the legislation specified in Clause 31.2.1, or why those requirements do not apply; and
- 31.3.2 assists with the Buyer's due diligence, compliance, reporting, or demonstrating its compliance with any of the legislation in Clause 31.2.1.

31.4 The Buyer may supply any information they receive from the Supplier under Clause 31.3 to HMRC for revenue collection and management and for audit purposes.

31.5 The Supplier must inform the Buyer as soon as reasonably practicable if there are any Workers or Supplier Staff providing services to the Buyer who are contracting, begin contracting, or stop contracting via an intermediary which meets one of conditions A-C set out in section 61N of the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and/or Regulation 14 of the Social Security Contributions (Intermediaries) Regulations 2000.

31.6 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 requirements that:

- 31.6.1 the Buyer may, at any time during the term of the Contract, request that the Worker provides information which demonstrates they comply with clause 31.2, or why those requirements do not apply, the Buyer can specify the information the Worker must provide and the deadline for responding;
- 31.6.2 the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker fails to provide the information requested by the Buyer within the time specified by the Buyer;
- 31.6.3 the Worker's contract may be terminated at the Buyer's request if the Worker provides information which the Buyer considers isn't good enough to demonstrate how it complies with clause 31.2 or confirms that the Worker is not complying with those requirements; and
- 31.6.4 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 the Buyer if an actual, perceived or potential Conflict of Interest happens or is expected to happen.
- 32.3 The Buyer will consider whether there are any reasonable steps that can be put in place to mitigate an actual, perceived or potential Conflict of Interest. If, in the reasonable opinion of the Buyer, such steps do not or will not resolve an actual or potential Conflict of Interest, the Buyer may terminate the Contract immediately by giving notice in writing to the Supplier where there is or may be an actual or potential Conflict of Interest and, subject to clause 32.4, where the reason for the unresolvable actual or potential Conflict of Interest is in the reasonable opinion of the Buyer
 - 32.3.1 outside of the control of the Supplier, clauses 11.5.1.2 to 11.5.1.7 shall apply
 - 32.3.2 within the control of the Supplier, the whole of clause 11.5.1 shall apply.
- 32.4 Where the Supplier has failed to notify the Buyer about an actual or potential Conflict of Interest and the Buyer terminates under clause 32.3, the whole of clause 11.5.1 shall apply.

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 the Buyer any actual or suspected breach of Law, clause 13.1, or 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 FURTHER ASSURANCES

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

35 RESOLVING DISPUTES

- 35.1 If there is a dispute between the Parties, their senior representatives 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 by commercial negotiation.
- 35.2 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 clauses 35.3 to 35.5.
- 35.3 Unless the Buyer refers the dispute to arbitration using clause 35.4, the Parties irrevocably agree that the courts of England and Wales have exclusive jurisdiction.
- 35.4 The Supplier agrees that the Buyer has the exclusive right to refer any dispute to be finally resolved by arbitration under the London Court of International Arbitration Rules current at the time of the dispute. There will be only one arbitrator. The seat or legal place of the arbitration will be London and the proceedings will be in English.
- 35.5 The Buyer has the right to refer a dispute to arbitration even if the Supplier has started or has attempted to start court proceedings under clause 35.3, unless the Buyer has agreed to the court proceedings or participated in them. Even if court proceedings have started, the Parties must do everything necessary to ensure that the court proceedings are stayed in favour of any arbitration proceedings if they are started under clause 35.4.
- 35.6 The Supplier cannot suspend the performance of the Contract during any dispute.

36 WHICH LAW APPLIES

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

V. Annex 1 – Processing Personal Data

Part A Authorised Processing Template

This Annex shall be completed by the Controller, who may take account of the view of the Processor, however the final decision as to the content of this Annex shall be with the Controller at its absolute discretion.

The contact details of the Controller's Data Protection Officer are:

[REDACTED]

The contact details of the Processor's Data Protection Officer are:

The Processor shall comply with any further written instructions with respect to processing by the Controller.

Any such further instructions shall be incorporated into this Annex.

Description of authorised processing	Details
Identity of Controller and Processor / Independent Controllers / Joint Controllers for each category of Personal Data	[REDACTED]
Subject matter of the processing	Processing of limited personal data (school contact names and email addresses) to provide access to, manage participation in, and support use of the DfE pilot platform that enables schools to compare prices of commonly purchased supplies.
Duration of the processing	Processing will take place for the duration of the pilot programme and any agreed evaluation period. Upon completion of the pilot and evaluation, all personal data will be securely deleted or returned, unless retention is required by law or expressly agreed with the DfE.
Nature and purposes of the processing	<p>The processing involves collecting, storing, and using limited personal data (contact names and email addresses) for the purposes of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing access credentials for the pilot platform.• Managing participation and communications with participating schools.• Supporting user engagement, feedback, and troubleshooting.• Generating anonymised usage insights for evaluation of the pilot's effectiveness. <p>No automated decision-making or profiling is undertaken.</p>
Type of Personal Data being processed	<p>Name (optional; may be limited to a school contact point). Email address (for account management, access, and communication).</p> <p>No sensitive or special category personal data is collected or processed.</p>
Categories of Data Subject	Staff members from participating schools (e.g., business managers, procurement leads, or other nominated users).

	Alternatively, data may be linked at the school level only, rather than to an individual.
Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete UNLESS requirement under law to preserve that type of data	<p>At the conclusion of the pilot:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All personal data will be securely deleted from active systems and backups within 60 days of project completion, unless otherwise directed by the DfE or required by law. • On request, a confirmation of deletion or a return of data (in a secure, machine-readable format) will be provided to the DfE. • No data will be retained for commercial or marketing purposes.
Locations at which the Supplier and/or its Subcontractors process Personal Data under this Contract and International transfers and legal gateway	All data will be processed and stored within the United Kingdom. No international transfers will occur.
Protective Measures that the Supplier and, where applicable, its Subcontractors have implemented to protect Personal Data processed under this Contract against a breach of security (insofar as that breach of security relates to data) or a Data Loss Event (noting that any Protective Measures are to be in accordance with Annex 6 (<i>Security Management</i>), if used)	<p>Protective measures include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data encryption in transit (TLS 1.2+) and at rest (AES-256). • Access controls based on the principle of least privilege. • Multi-factor authentication for administrative access. • Secure hosting in a UK-based ISO 27001-certified data centre. • Regular vulnerability assessments and patch management. • Data minimisation and anonymisation wherever possible. • Staff training on data protection and incident reporting.

Part B Joint Controller Agreement

Not Used.

Part C Independent Controllers

Not Used.

VI. [Annex 2 – Specification (Optional)]

Introduction:

The Department for Education (DfE) is the UK government department responsible for children's services and education, including early years, schools, further education, apprenticeships and wider skills in England. It is the lead department for the Government's mission to break down the barriers to opportunity.

In practice, this means breaking the link between young people's background and their chance of success through high-quality education, training, and care. Every child and young person should have every opportunity to succeed, no matter who they are, where they come from, or how much their parents earn.

The DfE Schools Commercial Team, operating under the banner of [Buying for Schools](#), provides resources and services to help schools and trusts achieve the best value for money when buying goods and services. Our team are specifically geared towards helping schools save money on a variety of non-staff expenditure, supporting the teacher pay award.

Background:

In 2024, DfE commissioned a benchmarking service featuring reporting on a basket of key items sold by suppliers of educational equipment and materials. This initial work has verified DfE's hypothesis that there is a large spread of prices between comparable products.

There are several issues we would like to improve through having a Benchmarking application for Schools to pilot as well as other initiatives. These include but not limited to:

- High and variable prices for educational supplies
- Limited product standardisation
- Limited ways to validate offers or discounts easily for schools, or quick ways of them being able to compare multiple supplier offerings
- Loyalty to branded / premium-priced products
- Delivery charges
- Frequent unplanned frequent purchases (e.g. "we've run out of...")
- Large range of products
- Large number of schools/delivery points and individual staff buyers
- Frequent low value orders, not leveraging economies of scale
- Large number of suppliers/ ordering platforms used
- Regional/geographic spread and delivery considerations
- Poor local spend data
- Compliance with procurement regulations (supplier spend thresholds)

The objective of this pilot activity is to enable a selection of schools to access a benchmarking application to drive better purchasing behaviours and data to enhance decision-making capabilities and planning. It will give schools visibility of prices to make informed purchases.

This will enable schools to save money and stretch their budgets further. The data we gather can be used to influence the market, helping us to identify trends and opportunities. This may also allow us to work with suppliers to build spot deals, creating win-win situations.

Additionally, the benchmarking application will help us monitor price fluctuations in real-time, enabling us to respond quickly to changes in the market.

Description of requirement:

DfE are seeking a Supplier to develop a benchmarking application that can be accessed directly by schools. This should allow schools to easily access price comparison across a key basket of school supply goods from a subset of key suppliers.

The supplier panel should include:

- Yorkshire Purchasing Organisation (YPO)
- East Shires Purchasing Organisation (ESPO)
- Unite (previously Mercateo)
- Amazon
- Paragon Business Essentials (previously Office Depot)
- Findel
- TTS-Group

The successful Supplier will work with DfE and the initial batch of participating schools to define their basket of goods. Please see the attached example Basket of Goods (MS Excel). This basket was used in DfE's 2024 Benchmarking pilot and will provide a sample of the types of goods under consideration.

Products should be benchmarked on a weekly basis. Products should be matched on a "good, better and best" matching method to ensure, where possible, value items and brand names are captured. The application should indicate the best value option.

The first iteration of the application should be available to the first wave of participating schools by the end of the first quarterly period (by approximately February 2026). The application will be free at the point of use for participating schools.

The successful Supplier will hold monthly update calls with DfE and attend quarterly contract management meetings (virtual unless otherwise arranged).

Outputs and deliverables:

- Price comparison web-based application for participating schools
- Usage data from participating schools

- Model of cost savings from participating schools
- Pricing data from featured suppliers from the time that the application launches to the end of the pilot
-

Scope:

This is a pilot programme. The successful Supplier will be required to design, build, test and deploy a **web-based application** for an initial group of at least 10 schools. We expect the number of participating schools to increase to at least 200 by the end of the pilot programme.

All schools will be recruited by DfE.

Contract value and duration:

DfE expects to cap costs for this pilot at £100,000 for the initial 12-month term (**exclusive** of any applicable VAT).

The contract will be for an initial term of 12 months, plus an extension option of up to six months.

We expect that the contract will be milestone-based, in quarterly (three-monthly) increments. We will set milestones for each quarter with the successful Supplier.

Service Levels / Key Performance Indicators:

Service Levels and KPIs will be negotiated with the successful Supplier. They will be tailored to the successful Supplier's proposal and proportionate to the value and scale of the contract.

Exit strategy for end of contract:

The Supplier will be expected to create an Exit Plan within 30 days of contract commencement and share this with DfE for sign-off. The plan will be subject to regular review and update, at intervals no greater than once every three months (quarterly).

Supplier proposals:

Your proposal should have two parts – a written response to our requirements and a pricing schedule.

I. Written response:

This should be provided in either MS Word or MS PowerPoint format (we will accept either format submitted as a PDF file).

Your proposal should clearly demonstrate how you plan to:

1. Platform Build, Release and Scale-up
 - a. Develop the application and common basket of goods, including gathering input from the initial batch of at least 10 participating schools (Quarter 1).

- b. Release the first version of the application to the initial batch of participating schools and refine the design/build/operation of the application (Quarter 2).
- c. Scale up the application and number of participating schools to at least 200 by the end of the pilot programme (Quarters 3 and 4).

2. User Training, Support and Feedback

- a. Train users from participating schools in how to use the application, including benefits.
- b. Provide support to users from participating schools.
- c. Gather feedback from users from participating schools.
- d. Provide insights from data and feedback to DfE.

You should also outline your data gathering methodology and product matching basis.

II. Pricing Schedule:

This should be provided in MS Excel format.

Please provide a detailed breakdown of costs for each quarter (three-month period) as well as the overall cost. The costs should be broken down to a degree where DfE are able to identify which line items apply to each part of your written response. Overheads may be listed separately as we do not expect these will be attributable to a specific part of the response.

In addition, please provide costs for an additional extension period of up to six months (in two quarterly increments) to continue the pilot on an as-is basis beyond the initial 12-month term.

The Pricing Schedule must include **all costs**, including all application hosting/maintenance fees, and indicate whether costs are subject to VAT.

Costs should not exceed £100,000 (including any applicable VAT) for the initial 12-month term.

VII. Annex 3 – Charges

Fees

[REDACTED]

VIII. Annex 4 – Supplier Tender

Introduction

Since June 2024, Skuuudle has provided the Department for Education with reporting on a basket of key items sold by suppliers of educational equipment and materials. This initial work has verified, by way of the spread of prices between the most and least competitive supplier for each item, the DfE's hypothesis that schools are overpaying for their supplies.

This proposal relates to the development and provision of a price comparison application directly to schools, initially to make "price shopping" easier, and ultimately to make purchasing the right goods at the best price trivially easy as compared to the manual effort currently required to optimise purchasing.

Proposal

Skuuudle proposes to design, build, test, iterate upon and ultimately deploy a web application for a subset of 200 schools, providing easy access to price comparison across key categories of educational supplies from the key suppliers.

Fees

[REDACTED]. See attached spreadsheet for details.

Duration

12 months.

Schools Participating

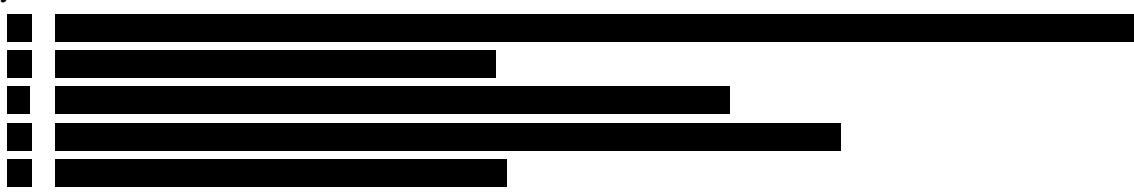
10 initially growing to 200 in months 9 to 12.

Deliverables

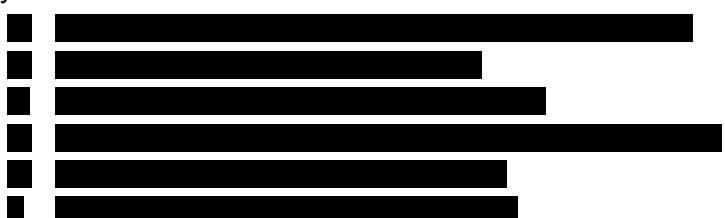
1. Price comparison web application.
2. Twelve months' pricing data from 7 key suppliers.
3. Usage data from participating schools.
4. Model of cost savings from participating schools.

Timeline

1. Day 0 – 90



2. Day 90 – 180



3. Day 180 – 360



Specification

1. Supplier panel:
 - a. YPO
 - b. ESPO
 - c. Mercateo/Unite
 - d. Amazon
 - e. Paragon Business Essentials
 - f. Findel
 - g. TTS
2. Data acquisition model:
 - a. Web scraping via Skuuudle's proprietary platform.
 - b. Daily pricing/assortment/stock refresh.
3. Product matching basis:
 - a. Exact branded items in the same quantity.
4. User experience:
 - a. Fast, intuitive, modern web-application.
 - b. Ability to search for products.
 - c. Ability to build and save baskets.
 - d. Automatically highlights best-priced supplier for chosen products.
 - e. Ticket-based support system.
 - f. Thorough self-help documentation.

Methodology

Skuuudle will leverage its existing technology and expertise in web scraping and product matching to procure the pricing and product intelligence necessary to power the platform, and its existing technology and expertise in building front-end price comparison platforms to develop and maintain the web application for end users. Skuuudle is the UK's largest eCommerce pricing intelligence supplier by revenue, and is the market leader in providing this service to educational suppliers and office suppliers. We propose to use this position to the DfE's advantage.

Prerequisites

Skuuudle will require introduction to 10 keenly engaged participating schools for the beta program. The DfE will be responsible for marketing the solution to schools in order to reach the terminal 200 active schools target.

Extension

As detailed in the attached spreadsheet, quarterly extensions after the initial 12-month term are available at [REDACTED]. VAT per quarter. Depending on the specific nature and requirements of an requested extension, there may also be lower cost alternatives available.

IX. Annex 5 – Optional IPR Clauses

Part A Buyer ownership with limited Supplier rights to exploit New IPR for the purposes of the current Contract

Not Used.

Part B Supplier ownership of New IPR with Buyer rights for the current Contract and broader public sector functions

Note: this has been inserted into the Conditions.

1 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS ("IPRS")

- 1.1 Each Party keeps ownership of its own Existing IPRs. Any New IPR created under the Contract is owned by the Supplier. The Supplier gives the Buyer a non-exclusive, perpetual, royalty-free, irrevocable, transferable, sub-licensable worldwide licence to use, copy and adapt the Supplier's Existing IPR and the New IPR to enable the Buyer and its sub-licensees to receive and use the Deliverables and the New IPR for any purpose relating to the exercise of the Buyer's (or, if the Buyer is a Public Sector Body, any other Public Sector Body's) business or function. For the purposes of this clause **"Public Sector Body"** means a formally established organisation that is (at least in part) publicly funded to deliver a public or government service.
- 1.2 The termination or expiry of the Contract does not terminate any licence granted under this clause 1.
- 1.3 The Buyer gives the Supplier a royalty-free, non-exclusive, non-transferable licence to use, copy, and adapt any Existing IPRs for the purpose of fulfilling its obligations during the Term and commercially exploiting the New IPR developed under the Contract. This licence is sub-licensable to a Subcontractor for the purpose of enabling the Supplier to fulfil its obligations under the Contract, and in that case the Subcontractor must enter into a confidentiality undertaking with the Supplier on the same terms as set out in clause 15 (What you must keep confidential).
- 1.4 Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Supplier and the Buyer will record any New IPR and keep this record updated throughout the Term.
- 1.5 Where a Party acquires ownership of intellectual property rights incorrectly under this Contract it must do everything reasonably necessary to complete a transfer assigning them in writing to the other Party on request and at its own cost.
- 1.6 Neither Party has the right to use the other Party's intellectual property rights, including any use of the other Party's names, logos or trademarks, except as provided in this clause 1 or otherwise agreed in writing.
- 1.7 If any claim is made against the Buyer for actual or alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property arising out of, or in connection with, the supply or use of the Deliverables (an **"IPR Claim"**), then the Supplier indemnifies the Buyer against all losses, damages, costs or expenses (including professional fees and fines) incurred as a result of the IPR Claim.
- 1.8 If an IPR Claim is made or anticipated, the Supplier must at its own option and expense, either:
 - 1.8.1 obtain for the Buyer the rights in clause 1.1 without infringing any third party intellectual property rights; and
 - 1.8.2 replace or modify the relevant item with substitutes that don't infringe intellectual property rights without adversely affecting the functionality or performance of the Deliverables.
- 1.9 If the Supplier is not able to resolve the IPR Claim to the Buyer's reasonable satisfaction within a reasonable time, the Buyer may give written notice that it terminates the Contract from the date set

out in the notice, or where no date is given in the notice, the date of the notice. On termination, the consequences of termination in clause 11.5.1 shall apply.

1.10 The Supplier shall not use in the Delivery of the Deliverables any Third Party IPR unless:

- 1.10.1 the Buyer gives its approval to do so; and
- 1.10.2 one of the following conditions applies:
 - 1.10.2.1 the owner or an authorised licensor of the relevant Third Party IPR has granted the Buyer a direct licence that provides the Buyer with the rights in clause 1.1; or
 - 1.10.2.2 if the Supplier cannot, after commercially reasonable endeavours, obtain for the Buyer a direct licence to the Third Party IPR as set out in clause 1.10.2.1:
 - (a) the Supplier provides the Buyer with details of the licence terms it can obtain and the identity of those licensors;
 - (b) the Buyer agrees to those licence terms; and
 - (c) the owner or authorised licensor of the Third Party IPR grants a direct licence to the Buyer on those terms; or
 - 1.10.2.3 the Buyer approves in writing, with reference to the acts authorised and the specific intellectual property rights involved.
- 1.11 In spite of any other provisions of the Contract and for the avoidance of doubt, award of this Contract by the Buyer and the ordering of any Deliverable under it, does not constitute an authorisation by the Crown under Sections 55 and 56 of the Patents Act 1977, Section 12 of the Registered Designs Act 1949 or Sections 240 – 243 of the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

X. Annex 6 – Security Management

Not used.