



Education & Skills
Funding Agency



European Union
European
Social Fund

Conditions of Funding (Grant)

between

**(i) the Secretary of State for Education (acting
through the Education and Skills Funding
Agency)**

and

(ii) [Provider Name]

Contents

1. Introduction
2. Definitions
3. Funding and Payment
4. Delivery of Provision
5. Sub-contracted provision
6. Apprentice Health, Safety and Welfare
7. Disposal of Assets and Change of Use
8. Equal Opportunities
9. Quality Assurance
10. Information for Apprentices
11. Data Collection
12. Data Protection and Protection of Personal Data
13. Branding and Logos
14. Feedback and Complaints
15. Retention of Documents
16. Access and Monitoring
17. Review of Performance and Reconciliation of Funding
18. Freedom of Information
19. Confidentiality
20. State Aid
21. Breach
22. Termination
23. Dispute Resolution

24. Recovery of Funds

25. The Agreement

26. Effective Date

Appendix 1 - Summary of Education and Skills Funding Agency Funding
2017/2018

Funding Appendices To be added as appropriate

HEI - Conditions of Funding (Grant) – 2017 to 2018

Higher Level Apprenticeship programmes

Education and Skills Funding Agency

www.gov.uk/esfa

Agreement Reference: **XXXXXXXXXX**

Conditions of Funding (Grant)

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Agreement is made between the Secretary of State for Education acting through the Education and Skills Funding Agency (the ESFA), an executive agency of the Department for Education and [Name of the body] (the Body) regarding the amount of Funding to be paid to the Body for Apprenticeship Programmes (the Provision) for the periods as set out in Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The Funding allocation(s) by the ESFA is made subject to the conditions set out in this Agreement and any documents referred to herein.

2 Definitions

- 2.1 **“Agreement”** means these Conditions of Funding, the attached Appendices to the Conditions of Funding and any documents or parts thereof, policies or guidance specified in this Agreement and any variation to the Agreement agreed in writing and signed by both Parties;

“Apprentice” means any individual to whom the Body is required to provide the Provision.

“Apprenticeship” means the training and (where applicable) end point assessment for an employee as part of a job with an accompanying skills development programme.

“Apprenticeship Programmes” means the Apprenticeships Provision delivered by the Body under this Agreement which is restricted to the delivery of higher and degree Apprenticeships Programmes at Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7.

“Body Related Parties” means any employee, officer, consultant, agent or any other person whatsoever acting for or on behalf of the Body or otherwise under the Body’s control and direction (including but not limited to sub-contractors);

“Child” means a person under the age of 18.

“Combined Authority” means a legal structure comprising two or more local authorities to undertake certain statutory or delegated functions.

“Crown Body” means any department, office or agency of the Crown, including HEFCE, QAA, OFSTED the Care Quality Commission, the Charity Commission, the Office for Students, any and all Local Authority or Combined Authority bodies.

“Department” means the Department for Education which incorporates its Executive Agency, the ESFA;

“Devolution Agreement” means the agreement between the Government and the Combined Authority devolving certain function to the Combined Authority.

“Funds” means the monies paid by the ESFA to the Body pursuant to this Agreement and **“Funding”** shall have the same meaning;

“Funding Rules” means the documents which set out the detailed requirements with which the Body must comply in respect of each Apprenticeship Programme delivered under this Agreement, as may be amended by the ESFA from time to time and which form part of this Agreement; as follows:

- a) Apprenticeships pre May 17
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/sfa-funding-rules-2016-to-2017>
- b) Higher level apprenticeships
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/apprenticeship-funding-rules-for-higher-education-institutions>;

“High Needs Apprentice” means an Apprentice aged 16 to 18, or any young person aged 19 to 25 subject to an Education Health and Care Plan, who requires additional support.

“Inspectorates” means one, any or all of the inspectorates or regulators: Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (OFSTED), Her Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales (Estyn), the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE).

“Law” means any Act of Parliament, subordinate legislation within the meaning of Section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, exercise of royal prerogative, enforceable community right within the meaning of Section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulatory policy, guidance or industry code, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements of any Regulatory Body of which the Body is bound to comply;

“Notice to Improve” The ESFA may issue a Notice to Improve to the Body in those instances where the Body is judged to be inadequate by Ofsted in whole or part, or where the Body fails to meet any minimum standard performance measure set by the Department for Education, or where the body fails to meet the HEFCE quality requirements. The notice will set out

the additional conditions of funding that the Body will be required to fulfil within a set time period in order to make the required improvements and be compliant.

“OFSTED” means the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills.

“Parties” means the ESFA and the Body.

“Provision” means the education and training to be delivered by the Body under this Agreement.

“QAA” means Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, applicable to degree level apprenticeships funding.

“Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers” means the register maintained by the ESFA of organisations qualified to receive Funding from the ESFA to deliver Apprenticeships from 1 May 2017.

“Register of Training Organisations” means the register maintained by the ESFA of organisations qualified to receive funding from the ESFA.

3 Funding and Payment

- 3.1 The breakdown of Funds which the ESFA agrees to pay to the Body is set out in Appendix 1 of this Agreement.

4 Delivery of Provision

- 4.1 The detailed requirements in respect of each Apprenticeship Programme are set out in the Funding Rules as amended and updated from time to time by the ESFA and which form part of the terms and conditions of this Agreement.
- 4.2 The Maximum Value of each Apprenticeship Programme as shown in Appendix 1 of this Agreement may not be exceeded for any reason. The ESFA will not be liable to make any payment in excess of the Maximum Value of each Apprenticeship Programme unless this has been agreed and evidenced by a variation in writing.
- 4.3 The Provision is to be delivered in accordance with any specific requirements of the ESFA and delivery profiles and any tender document submitted by the Body which all form part of this Agreement.
- 4.4 The ESFA will restrict delivery of provision under this Agreement against the Funding available up to the 31 July 2018 as detailed in Appendix 1. Appendix 1 confirms the maximum value available up to 31 March 2018. Where the delivery within this financial year fails to meet the minimum

levels of performance or where the delivery in this period would result in the overall maximum value being exceeded, the ESFA reserves the right at its absolute discretion to vary the terms of this Agreement accordingly.

- 4.5 The ESFA reserves the right to give the Body three months' notice to reduce the overall maximum value for any Apprenticeship Programme without the need to give a reason.
- 4.6 The Body must provide evidence that it has worked in partnership with the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) to ensure that the delivery of the Provision takes account of the LEP's local economic and skills priorities. Where the Body is delivering in an area covered by a Devolution Agreement, the Body must work with the Combined Authority and the delivery of Provision must take account of the Combined Authority's priorities for education and skills.
- 4.7 The value of Funds awarded in this agreement must only be used to fund the delivery of learning and skills in higher apprenticeships. The ESFA will recover Funding not used for this purpose.
- 4.8 The Body must ensure appropriate members of staff register as users on the user role management system at https://secure2.imservices.org.uk/self_registration/ to enable the Body to digitally sign and agree the Agreement online. It is the Body's responsibility to maintain appropriate user roles on an on-going basis.

5 Sub-Contracted Provision

- 5.1 Where the Body sub-contracts or intends to sub-contract any duties or obligations arising out of this Agreement, the Body must provide the ESFA with details of all sub-contractors biannually by fully and accurately completing the Declaration of Sub-contractors form in accordance with the deadline set out in the Funding Rules. If the Body is not sub-contracting then a nil return must be received by the deadline date. The Body must notify the ESFA of any within year changes to its sub-contractors. The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body not to enter into or to terminate any sub-contract to deliver the Provision under this Agreement.
- 5.2 The Body must comply with the requirements on sub-contracting delivery of the provision set out in the ESFA's Funding Rules as amended and updated. Sub-contracting any part of the Agreement shall not relieve the Body of any obligation or duty attributable to them under the Agreement. The Body is responsible for all the actions of its sub-contractors connected to or arising out of the delivery of the provision which it sub-contracts.
- 5.3 The delivery of the provision under this Agreement may only be sub-contracted to one level, unless otherwise specified in the Funding Rules when the Body must obtain the consent of the ESFA in writing.

- 5.4 Where the Body has sub-contracted any duties or obligations arising out of this Agreement, the Body shall ensure that there is in place a legally binding sub-contract and send copies of the sub-contract to the ESFA if requested in writing to do so. Where the Body enters into a sub-contract for the purpose of performing the Provision, the Body shall ensure that the sub-contract requires the sub-contractor to comply with the conditions of this Agreement and includes any terms specified in the Funding Rules.
- 5.5 The Body shall ensure that any sub-contract entered into for the purpose of delivering the provision under this Agreement contains a term providing that the ESFA has the right to enforce the terms of the sub-contract.
- 5.6 The Body shall ensure that sub-contractors are selected fairly and have sufficient capacity, capability, quality and financial standing to deliver the Provision.
- 5.7 The Body shall make payment to any sub-contractor within 30 days of receiving a valid claim for payment and ensure that any sub-contract entered into for the purpose of delivering the Provision under this Agreement contains a term giving effect to this requirement.
- 5.8 Where the Body enters into sub-contracts for purpose of delivering the Provision under this Agreement with an aggregate value of £100,000 or more in any one year, it must obtain an annual report from its external auditors which provides assurance on the arrangements that the Body has in place to manage and control its sub-contractors. The report must comply with the guidance issued from time to time by the ESFA. The Body must supply the ESFA with a certificate signed by its external auditors and an authorised signatory confirming it has received a report providing satisfactory assurance. The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body to provide a copy of the full report and any associated action plan resulting from recommendations made by their external auditor.
- 5.9 The Body must notify the ESFA in writing if there is a change in its name and/or ownership at least twelve weeks prior to the change taking effect. The ESFA reserves the right to terminate the Agreement if it considers in its absolute discretion that the change in ownership would prejudice the Body's ability to deliver the Provision.
- 5.10 The Body may not assign any rights, duties or obligations under this Agreement without the consent of the ESFA.
- 5.11 The Body must consider the criteria set out in the Funding higher-risk organisations and subcontractors document which is published on The ESFA's website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/sfa-financial-assurance-higher-risk-providers-and-subcontractors#history>.

6 Apprentice Health, Safety and Welfare

- 6.1 The Body shall ensure, so far as reasonably practicable that learning takes place in safe, healthy and supportive environments, which meet the needs of Apprentices. The Body shall provide information to the ESFA, as and when specifically requested, to give assurance that adequate arrangements exist for Apprentice health safety and welfare.
- 6.2 Where part of the learning takes place in an environment outside the direct control of the Body, the Body shall take all reasonable steps to ensure that adequate arrangements are in place to ensure the health and safety of Apprentices.
- 6.3 The Body shall make arrangements for ensuring that the Provision is provided with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children receiving education or training at the institution or under the auspices of the Body in an environment outside the direct control of the Body. This must include the adoption of safer recruitment procedures. In doing so, the Body shall have regard to any guidance published, from time to time, by the Secretary of State for Education which sets out the expectations in relation to safeguarding practice within further education institutions. References to 'must' in any such guidance shall be treated as 'should' for the purposes of this Agreement, save for any references to legal requirements arising from the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 in respect of referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service. Failure to do so may constitute a Serious Breach of this Agreement.
- 6.4 The Body shall make arrangements for ensuring that the Provision is provided with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of High Needs Apprentices aged 18 to 25 receiving education or training at their institution or under the auspices of the Body in an environment outside the direct control of the Body. This must include the adoption of safer recruitment procedures. In doing so, the Body shall make those arrangements as if such Apprentices were children and will have regard to any guidance published, from time to time, by the Secretary of State for Education which sets out the expectations in relation to safeguarding practice within further education institutions as if it applied to those Apprentices as if they were children. References to 'must' in any such guidance shall be treated as 'should' for the purposes of this Agreement, save for any references to legal requirements arising from the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 in respect of referrals to the Disclosure and Barring Service. Failure to do so may constitute a Serious Breach of this Agreement.
- 6.5 The Body must carry out appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service checks on all overseas applicants for employment where such applicants would be employed to work in regulated activity relating to children or vulnerable adults

(as defined by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006) if successful, and seek additional information about an applicant's conduct.

- 6.6 In working with other organisations/bodies, the Body shall make arrangements to co-ordinate and co-operate effectively for reasons of apprentice health, safety and welfare. In particular, respective responsibilities shall be clearly identified and documented as appropriate, to ensure understanding.
- 6.7 In providing the Provision, the Body must ensure it actively promotes the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, and promote principles that support equality of opportunity for all.
- 6.8 In providing the Provision, the Body must comply with the general duty on specified authorities in section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Prevent duty) and the duty on partners of a panel in section 38 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Channel co-operation duty). In doing so, the Body will act in accordance with any guidance issued by the Secretary of State in respect of these duties. Failure to do so may constitute a Serious Breach of this Agreement.
- 6.9 The Body shall not employ or engage, or continue to employ or engage, any person who is subject to a prohibition order made under section 141B of the Education Act 2002 to carry out teaching work (as defined in regulation 3 of the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulations 2012) in respect of any Apprentices under the age of 19 and High Needs Apprentices aged 19 to 25 (as if those Apprentices were pupils for the purposes of the definition of teaching work in regulation 3 of the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulations 2012).
- 6.10 Before employing or engaging a person to carry out teaching work in respect of any Apprentices under the age of 19 and High Needs Apprentices aged 19 to 25 (as if those Apprentices were pupils for the purposes of the definition of teaching work in regulation 3 of the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulations 2012), the Body shall take reasonable steps to ascertain whether that person is subject to a prohibition order made under section 141B of the Education Act 2002.
- 6.11 The Body, and the Body Related Parties, must be able to demonstrate that they have robust record-keeping procedures in respect of health, safety and safeguarding through checks on record keeping undertaken. Failure to do so will constitute a Serious Breach.

- 6.12 Where the Body makes a referral to any Local Authority (including referrals to social services) in respect of serious safeguarding concerns (in respect of all Apprentices up to the age of 18 and High Needs Apprentices aged 19 to 25), the Body shall ensure that it notifies the ESFA that a referral has been made.
- 6.13 Where the Body makes a referral of an individual for the purposes of determining whether that individual should be referred to a panel for the carrying out of an assessment under section 36 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 of the extent to which that individual is vulnerable to being drawn into terrorism, the Body shall ensure it notifies the ESFA that a referral has been made.
- 6.14 Where the Body has made a referral or provided information to the Disclosure and Barring Service in compliance with any duties of the Body under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, the Body shall ensure that it informs the ESFA that a referral has been made / information has been provided.
- 6.15 The Body shall, in circumstances where it sub-contracts the management and/or delivery of the Provision under this Agreement, ensure that all the clauses in respect of apprentice health safety and welfare are included in its contract with sub-contractors.
- 6.16 The Body shall inform the ESFA of the death of any apprentice which is as a result of work undertaken whilst in employment and who is undertaking a related Apprenticeship Programme. This shall be done by informing the ESFA's representative by telephone or email immediately the Body becomes aware of the event.
- 6.17 The Body shall report all RIDDOR reportable incidents in line with the Regulations, and shall investigate or assess the circumstances of all apprentice incidents within the scope of RIDDOR and follow HSE guidance 'Investigating Accidents and Incidents: A Workbook for Employers, Unions, Safety Representatives and Safety Professionals' (HSG245) ISBN 0717628272. The Body shall only use persons competent to investigate/assess apprentice incidents with a view to identifying the causes of any incident and lessons to be learned.
- 6.18 The Body shall also monitor, and act on, any other harm to apprentices to the extent that the Body could reasonably be expected to do so and/or where the harm could affect the quality of the learning experience. Harm includes (but is not limited to) other incidents that cause absence from learning, any loss to the apprentice of any physical or mental faculty or any disfigurement, incidents of bullying and harassment.

6.19 The Body shall co-operate with ESFA's representatives and Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) for the purposes of the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) in respect to those apprentices to which it applies.

7 Disposal of Assets and Change of Use

7.1 In respect of Assets whose value exceeds £2,500 including VAT the following provisions shall apply.

7.2 For the purposes of this section:

- (a) 'Asset' shall mean any property, real or personal, tangible or intangible;
- (b) an Asset shall be considered to have been financed by the ESFA if it has been acquired wholly or partly with Funds provided by the ESFA;
- (c) the use of any Asset shall be considered to have changed if the Body uses it for any purpose other than for the provision or connected with the delivery of the Provision under the Agreement;
- (d) 'the appropriate proportion thereof' shall be the proportion represented by the amount of Funding provided by the ESFA to acquire, develop or improve an asset in relation to the entire price paid for its acquisition, or its market value when its development or improvement have been completed.

7.3 The Body shall ensure that any Asset financed by the ESFA is adequately insured.

7.4 The Body shall inform the ESFA if it proposes to dispose of, or change the use of, any Asset that has been financed by the ESFA.

7.5 The Body shall not dispose of any Asset financed by monies provided by the ESFA unless it has first obtained the written consent of the ESFA to such a disposal.

7.6 Where the Body disposes of the Asset it shall pay the ESFA whichever is the greater, either the amount of Funding provided by the ESFA in respect of the Asset or the net proceeds of any disposal of an Asset, or the appropriate proportion thereof, to the ESFA unless otherwise agreed with the ESFA.

7.7 If the Body changes the use of any such Asset it will be treated as a disposal and the Body shall make a payment to the ESFA in accordance with clause 7.6 above.

- 7.8 In the event of the Body being taken over, merging or going into liquidation, all Assets financed by the ESFA, or the equivalent portion of their market value, will become the property of the ESFA.
- 7.9 The provisions of this clause shall apply during the Term of this Agreement and after its termination howsoever arising. The ESFA reserves the right to decide when interest in Assets financed by the ESFA under the terms and conditions of this Agreement shall cease.

8 Equal Opportunities

- 8.1 The Body shall not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of the provisions of the Equality Act 2010, or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof or any other statutory provision relating to discrimination in employment or the delivery of the Provision. The Body shall take all reasonable steps to ensure the observance of these provisions by all servants, employees or agents of the Body and all sub-contractors employed in the execution of the Agreement. The Body will comply with the detailed requirements in relation to equality of opportunity set out in clauses 8.2 to 8.4.
- 8.2 The Body will, in delivering the Provision under this Agreement, demonstrate that it has had regard to the duties placed on the ESFA by relevant equality legislation. The Body will take all reasonable steps to ensure the observance of these provisions by all servants, employees or agents of the Body and all sub-contractors employed to deliver the Provision.
- 8.3 The Body shall ensure that equality of opportunity is built into all aspects of the Provision; the business planning process; and the self assessment process. The Body shall use analysis of data to inform future planning to improve the representation, participation and success of underrepresented and underachieving groups and challenge stereotyping. The Body shall use appropriate, specific and measurable objectives. These will be proportionate, relevant and aligned to the provision the Body is funded to deliver.
- 8.4 The ESFA shall use a variety of equality information and data to support judgements about quality and eligibility for Funding. These may include, but are not limited to: inspection judgements for equality and diversity, judgements from the Equality and Human Rights Commission, and the success and participation rates of different groups of apprentices.

9 Quality Assurance

- 9.1 The Body shall deliver the provision to an acceptable standard of quality, comply with the Funding Rules published by the ESFA as amended from time to time and use all reasonable endeavours;
- 9.1.1 to minimise drop-out rates, deliver high completion, achievement and success rates and appropriate progression;
 - 9.1.2 to meet the minimum quality standards as published by the Department and / or the ESFA that apply to the Apprenticeship Programmes delivered;
 - 9.1.3 to ensure competent and appropriately qualified staff deliver and assess learning. The Body shall be responsible for the continuing professional development and training of its staff and for meeting any minimum requirements which may be required by the ESFA designated regulatory process for higher and degree apprenticeships
 - 9.1.4 to offer equality of access to learning opportunities and close equality gaps in learning and outcomes;
 - 9.1.5 to provide a safe, healthy and supportive environment, which meets the needs of Apprentices;
 - 9.1.6 to provide good management and leadership of the learning process;
 - 9.1.7 to deliver value for money and financial regularity and probity; and
 - 9.1.8 to ensure any sub-contractors delivering the provision comply with the requirements set out in clauses 9.1.1 to 9.1.7 above.
- 9.2 The Body shall continuously seek to improve the Provision and raise standards to benefit the Apprentice. The Body shall have the primary responsibility for improving standards and will need to demonstrate to the ESFA's satisfaction that it has an effective quality assurance system based on the implementation of its own quality improvement process. The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body to provide the ESFA or a relevant Inspectorate/quality assurance/regulatory body evidence to support the quality improvement processes.
- 9.3 The Body must take all reasonable steps to meet the relevant requirements for data gathering for the FE Choices Performance Indicators as outlined currently at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/fe-choices-information-for-providers> and in any subsequent updates to these web pages.

- 9.4 The Body must also meet the quality requirements set out by HEFCE applicable to degree level apprenticeships. The Body must also meet any minimum quality standards set out by the ESFA/DfE.
- 9.5 Where appropriate the Body shall confirm in writing to the ESFA that it has formal approval from relevant awarding organisations or other organisations as relevant to the qualifications and learning which form part of the Provision. The Body must notify the ESFA immediately in writing if it receives any sanction from an Awarding Organisation or other organisation responsible for this Provision.

Minimum standards

- 9.6 The ESFA may, at any time during the Term, undertake an assessment of the quality and delivery of the Provision which may include analysis of performance against the minimum quality standards, as published by the Department and / or the ESFA. Where the ESFA assesses that the Provision, in whole or in part, falls below the required standards, the ESFA may, in its absolute discretion, take one or more of the following actions:
- 9.6.1 issue a Notice to Improve, requiring the Body to, and the Body shall, accept and comply with additional conditions of funding relating to the improvement of the Provision; and/or
- 9.6.2 require the Body to suspend the recruitment of Provision to, and/or to cap any growth in, those Apprenticeship Programmes which are identified as below the required standards; and/or
- 9.6.3 give consideration to the Provision which are below the required standards in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent Agreements between the Parties; and/or
- 9.6.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Body in respect of that part of the Provision to which the failure to meet the required standards relate; and/or
- 9.6.5 terminate this Agreement in accordance with clause 22.2 (Termination) in full, or that part of the Provision failing to meet the required standards.
- 9.7 The failure of the Body, as assessed by the ESFA, to comply with any requirements of 9.6.1 - 9.6.4 within such time as the ESFA may deem reasonable may lead to the ESFA taking such actions as it deems appropriate which may include, but is not limited to, terminating in accordance with clause 22.2 (Termination).

Ofsted Inspection – where this is applicable to the Body for level 4 and level 5 apprenticeships

- 9.8 When the Body receives notification from OFSTED that the Provision is to be inspected, the Body shall provide the ESFA, on request, with a copy of its quality improvement activity, and any other relevant information in accordance with the required timescale of OFSTED. The Body must notify the ESFA of the date of the meeting at which OFSTED gives feedback on the inspection and allow the ESFA's nominated representative to attend the meeting. The Body must confirm to the ESFA in writing the outcome of the inspection within 5 working days of receiving the feedback from OFSTED.
- 9.9 Ofsted may, at any time during the Term, undertake an inspection of the Body. The ESFA will consider the outcome of any such inspection as follows:

Inadequate in part

- 9.9.1 Where Ofsted has assessed the Provision to be inadequate in part, but not overall, the ESFA may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:
- 9.9.1.1 Issue a Notice to Improve, requiring the Body to, and the Body shall, accept and comply with additional conditions of funding relating to the improvement of the Provision assessed as inadequate; and/or
 - 9.9.1.2 require the Body to suspend the recruitment of Apprentices to, and/or to cap any growth in, the Provision which is assessed as inadequate; and/or
 - 9.9.1.3 give consideration to the Provision which are assessed as inadequate in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent Agreements between the Parties; and/or
 - 9.9.1.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Body in respect of that part of the Provision assessed as inadequate.

Inadequate overall

- 9.9.2 Where the ESFA is made aware that Ofsted has provisionally assessed the Provision to be inadequate overall, the ESFA may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:
- 9.9.2.1 require the Body to, and the Body shall, accept and comply with temporary additional conditions of funding relating to the improvement of the overall Provision, including but not

limited to, requiring the Body to temporarily suspend the recruitment of Apprentices and/or temporarily cap any growth in those Apprenticeship Programmes which are assessed as inadequate.

9.9.2.2 commence discussions with the Body and the Local Authority within whose area the Body is located, either with Ofsted or not, as part of considering what actions as specified in clause 9.9.3.3 – 9.9.3.4 inclusive may be taken.

9.9.3 Where Ofsted has confirmed its assessment that the Provision is inadequate overall, the ESFA may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:

9.9.3.1 issue a Notice to Improve, requiring the Body to, and the Body shall, accept and comply with additional conditions of funding relating to the improvement of the overall Provision; and/or

9.9.3.2 require the Body to suspend the recruitment of Students to, and/or to cap any growth in, those Apprenticeship Programmes which are assessed as inadequate; and/or

9.9.3.3 give consideration to the assessment of inadequate in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent Agreements between the Parties; and/or

9.9.3.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Body; and/or

9.9.3.5 terminate this Agreement in accordance with clause 22.2 (Termination).

9.9.4 The failure of the Body, as assessed by the ESFA, to comply with any requirements of 9.9.1 - 9.9.3 within such time as the ESFA may deem reasonable may lead to the ESFA taking such actions as it deems appropriate which may include, but is not limited to, terminating in accordance with clause 22.2 (Termination).

9.9.5 The ESFA will take action based on Ofsted's provisional and confirmed outcomes as in clause 9.9.2 – 9.9.3 above. Where ESFA is made aware that the Body has made a complaint about the graded outcome of the overall assessment by Ofsted, ESFA will continue to progress action under clause 9.9.2 - 9.9.3 but will be mindful of the implications arising from the outcome of a complaint. The ESFA will review any decisions made at such time as outcomes of any complaint are made known.

Review by HEFCE/QAA/any other body authorised to review the institution

9.10 When the Body receives notification that the institution is to be reviewed by HEFCE, the QAA or any other body authorised to review the institution [on behalf of HEFCE], the Body shall provide the ESFA on request with a copy of its quality improvement activity related to the Provision, and any other relevant information in accordance with the required timescale of the body undertaking the review. The Body must notify the ESFA of the date of any meeting at which the body undertaking the review gives any feedback in respect of the review and allow the ESFA's nominated representative to attend the meeting. The Body must confirm to the ESFA in writing the outcome of the review within 5 working days of receiving feedback from the body undertaking the review.

Failure to meet HEFCE quality requirements

9.11 Where the result of the review undertaken in respect of the institution is that the institution fails to meet HEFCE quality requirements, the ESFA may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:

9.11.1 issue a Notice to Improve, requiring the Body to, and the Body shall, accept and comply with additional conditions of funding relating to the improvement of the Provision; and/or

9.11.2 require the Body to suspend the recruitment of Students to, and/or to cap any growth in, specified Apprenticeship Programmes; and/or

9.11.3 give consideration to the assessment in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent Agreements between the Parties; and/or

9.11.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Body; and/or

9.11.5 terminate this Agreement in accordance with clause 22.2 (Termination).

9.12 The failure of the Body, as assessed by the ESFA, to comply with any requirements of 9.11.1 - 9.11.3 within such time as the ESFA may deem reasonable may lead to the ESFA taking such actions as it deems appropriate which may include, but is not limited to, terminating in accordance with clause 22.2 (Termination).

9.13 The Body shall for those staff delivering the Provision be responsible for their continuing professional development and training and meeting any legal requirements to ensure that they are appropriately qualified and trained.

10 Information for Apprentices

- 10.1 As part of the delivery of the Provision, the Body must provide high quality and easily accessible information and advice in helping Apprentices to understand the opportunities and support available to them about education, training or connected matters (including employment).

11 Data Collection

- 11.1 The Body must supply the ESFA data on each individual apprentice, in accordance with the data collections framework set out in the 'ILR specification validation rules and appendices 2017/18' as amended and updated which is published on the website <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ilr-specification-validation-rules-and-appendices-2017-to-2018> in accordance with the 'Provider Support Manual' as amended and updated.
- 11.2 The Body must supply the ESFA with data in accordance with the following:
- 11.2.1 in line with agreed audit arrangements;
 - 11.2.2 in adherence with the Data Protection Act;
 - 11.2.3 to support payments received on profile;
 - 11.2.4 to enable reconciliation to take place; and
 - 11.2.5 to support the contract management and allocation processes.
- 11.3 Data collected must be transmitted to the ESFA through the web portal <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/esfa-the-hub>. Access to this web portal is restricted and the Body agrees to comply with the conditions of use regarding the supply of data to the ESFA set out in 'Individualised Learner Record (ILR) Specification for 2017/18 and relevant Provider Support Manual as amended and updated available on the web site <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ilr-specification-validation-rules-and-appendices-2017-to-2018>.
- 11.4 The Body must ensure that data is received by the ESFA in accordance with the requirements of the 'Individualised Learner Record (ILR) specification for 2017/18' and 'Provider Support Manual 2017/18' as amended and updated.
- 11.5 Where the ESFA is concerned about the quality of the data, including the completeness or accuracy of the data, provided by the Body, the ESFA may require the Body to supply data more frequently for such period as the ESFA shall require.

- 11.6 The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body, at its own cost, to carry out such work as the ESFA deems necessary to improve the quality of data.
- 11.7 The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body to:
- 11.7.1 review the management reports provided by either the Body's Internal Auditors or by the ESFA's Funding Auditors about the quality and reliability of the Body's Management Information System (MIS) and ILR data;
 - 11.7.2 commission either the Body's Internal Auditors or the ESFA's Funding Auditors to evaluate and support the Body's actions and action plan to address any data quality issues that have been identified in the resulting management letters; and
 - 11.7.3 secure confirmation from the Body that it has been informed of any concerns and secure their commitment to overseeing the timely and accurate return of data in future.
- 11.8 The ESFA reserves the right to suspend payments to the Body under the Agreement where data quality gives rise to concern about the accuracy of the data provided by the Body.
- 11.9 Failure to transmit complete and accurate data to the ESFA in accordance with this clause 11 may result in Funding being withheld or recovered.
- 11.10 The Body must update the course information funded by the ESFA at www.coursedirectoryproviderportal.org.uk in accordance with the course directory data requirements which can be found at <https://coursedirectoryproviderportal.org.uk/Help>.
- 11.11 The Body must submit data about any member of its workforce delivering GCSE English and Maths in the format and to the timescales as required by the ESFA.
- 11.12 Where the Body is an HEI and does not plan to complete an ILR for 19+ apprentices on SASE Frameworks, a data return should be made to the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), in accordance with Provider support manual - guide to making ILR data returns during the 2017 to 2018 funding year.
- 11.13 When HESA returns are used to make official data returns the Body will also submit a management information return on dates advised by the ESFA under separate cover. This data return must include the following minimum details:

11.13.1 Learner reference number

HEI - Conditions of Funding (Grant) – 2017 to 2018

Higher Level Apprenticeship programmes

Education and Skills Funding Agency

www.gov.uk/esfa

Agreement Reference: XXXXXXXXX

- 11.13.2 Start date
 - 11.13.3 Apprenticeship framework
 - 11.13.4 Planned end date / Actual end date
 - 11.13.5 Reason for leaving (where relevant)
 - 11.13.6 Confirmation of payment of 50% Employer contribution and the value of this contribution
 - 11.13.7 Employer name and address
 - 11.13.8 Price for learning (excluding VAT)
- 11.14 The Body must register with UK Register of Learning Providers (UKRLP) and maintain contact details on an on-going basis (<http://www.ukrlp.co.uk/>).

12 Data Protection and Protection of Personal Data

- 12.1 The Body shall ensure that information acquired by the Body and its sub-contractors under the delivery of this Agreement will at all times comply with the provisions and obligations imposed by the Data Protection Act 1998 and the Data Protection Principles together with any subsequent re-enactment or amendment thereof in storing and processing personal data, and all personal data acquired by either party from the other shall be returned to the disclosing party on request. Both parties hereby acknowledge that performance of a duty imposed by the Act shall not constitute a breach of any obligation in respect of confidentiality which may be owed to the other party. The clause shall not affect the ESFA's ability to make a search with a credit reference agency.
- 12.2 With respect to the parties' rights and obligations under this Agreement the parties agree that the ESFA is the Data Controller and the Body is the Data Processor within the meaning of the Data Protection Act.
- 12.3 The Body shall:
- 12.3.1 process Personal Data only in accordance with the instructions from the ESFA (which may be specific instructions or instructions of a general nature as set out in the Agreement or otherwise notified by the ESFA to the Body during the Term of the Agreement);
 - 12.3.2 process the Personal Data only to the extent and in such manner as is necessary for the delivery of the Provision or as is required by Law or any Regulatory Body;
 - 12.3.3 implement appropriate technical and organisational measures to protect the Personal Data against unauthorised or unlawful

processing and against accidental loss, destruction, damage, alteration or disclosure. These measures shall be appropriate to the harm which might result from any unauthorised or unlawful processing, accidental loss, destruction or damage to the Personal Data and having regard to the nature of the Personal Data which is to be protected;

- 12.3.4 take reasonable steps to ensure the reliability of any contractor personnel who have access to the Personal Data;
- 12.3.5 obtain prior written consent from the ESFA in order to transfer the Personal Data to any sub-contractors or other third parties for the delivery of the Provision;
- 12.3.6 ensure that all Personnel do not publish, disclose or divulge any of the Personal Data to any third party unless directed in writing to do so by the ESFA;
- 12.3.7 notify the ESFA within 5 working days if it receives:
 - 12.3.7.1 a request from a Data Subject to have access to that person's Personal Data; or
 - 12.3.7.2 a complaint or request relating to the ESFA's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;
- 12.3.8 provide the ESFA with full co-operation and assistance in relation to any complaint or request made, including by:
 - 12.3.8.1 providing the ESFA with full details of the complaint or request;
 - 12.3.8.2 complying with a data access request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation and in accordance with the ESFA's instructions;
 - 12.3.8.3 providing the ESFA with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject (within the timescales required by the ESFA); and
 - 12.3.8.4 providing the ESFA with any information requested by the ESFA;
- 12.3.9 permit the ESFA or the ESFA's representative (subject to reasonable and appropriate confidentiality undertakings), to inspect and audit the Body's data processing activities (and/or those of its agents, subsidiaries, and sub-contractors) and comply with all reasonable requests or directions by the ESFA to

enable the ESFA to verify and/or procure that the Body is in full compliance with its obligations under this Agreement;

- 12.3.10 provide a written description of the technical and organisational methods employed by the Body for processing Personal Data (within the timescales required by the ESFA); and
- 12.3.11 not Process Personal Data outside the European Economic Area without the prior written consent of the ESFA and, where the ESFA consents to a transfer, to comply with:
 - 12.3.11.1 the obligations of a Data Controller under the Eighth Data Protection Principle set out in Schedule 1 of the Data Protection Act 1998 by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred; and
 - 12.3.11.2 any reasonable instructions notified to it by the ESFA.

13 Branding and Logos

- 13.1 The Body, when receiving Funding from the ESFA shall comply with the requirements of the endorsement identity, available on the Education and Skills Funding Agency identity guidelines website at <https://brand.skillsfundingagency.bis.gov.uk/>; on all and any promotional materials or activities in relation to the Provision. This shall include but not be limited to prospectuses, direct mail advertising, TV and radio advertising, merchandising or any other literature or products.
- 13.2 The Body shall be given access to the current ESFA logos and statements, which it is required to use. The Body will be required to use logos and statements in accordance with the terms of use and should not alter or amend such logos or statements. Logos and statements are only to be used in relation to the provision under this Agreement. Any breach of this clause 13 or the requirements or terms of use of which the Body is made aware are a condition of funding, failure to comply could result in the Funding being withdrawn.
- 13.3 The Body may also be required to use logos from other co-branding or co-funding participants and must comply with any terms which apply to the use of such logos.
- 13.4 The Body must ensure all the terms of clause 13 are applied to the Body's sub-contractors in carrying out its responsibilities under this Agreement.

14 Feedback and Complaints

- 14.1 The primary responsibility for receiving feedback and investigating complaints promptly and thoroughly in respect of the provision shall rest with the Body. The Body shall have procedures in place, which are acceptable to the ESFA, to gather and act upon feedback and complaints from Apprentices and/or their representatives and employers and the wider community.
- 14.2 The Body must ensure that Apprentices are made aware of its procedure for dealing with complaints and that the procedure is clear and accessible to Apprentices who wish to complain.
- 14.3 The Body shall be responsible for resolving complaints in accordance with its own procedures and any guidance issued by the ESFA.
- 14.4 Where a complaint has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant the Body will advise the complainant of his or her right to complain to the ESFA and co-operate with any investigation carried out by the ESFA or their representatives and act on any recommendations made by the ESFA following the investigation.

15 Retention of Documents

- 15.1 The Body and the Body Related Parties shall retain original invoices, management information returns and all other documents necessary to verify the provision delivered by itself or by its sub-contractors in relation to this agreement for 6 years from the end of the financial year in which the last payment is made.

16 Access and Monitoring

- 16.1 The ESFA shall give the Body reasonable advance notice in writing of proposed visits to the Body or the Body Related Parties, to observe the delivery of the provision, by any person who has taken or will take no direct part in the delivery or content of the provision.
- 16.2 For monitoring and evaluation purposes, the ESFA, the Secretary of State and their agents, the Department, the Department for Work and Pensions (or their Successors), the National Audit Office, the Inspectorates and HM Treasury shall have the right to visit all or any site(s) and view operations relating to the provision and to inspect relevant documents and interview apprentices and the Body's staff during these visits.
- 16.3 The Body shall, and shall ensure that the Body Related Parties shall, permit access at any reasonable time to any of the representatives listed at clause 16.2 in order to:

- 16.3.1 examine, audit or take copies of any original or copy documentation, accounts, books and records of the Body and the Body Related Parties that relate to the Agreement;
 - 16.3.2 visit, view or assess the design, management and delivery of the Provision at any premises where those operations are carried out (including those of sub-contractors) and conduct relevant interviews, including interviews with apprentices, during these visits at any reasonable time;
 - 16.3.3 carry out examinations into the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Body has used the ESFA's resources in the delivery of the Provision.
- 16.4 Where reasonably required, the Body and the Body Related Parties shall provide copies of any relevant documents required by any of the representatives listed at clause 16.2.
- 16.5 The Body shall, if required by any of the representatives stated at clause 16.2 provide appropriate oral or written explanations.
- 16.6 The ESFA reserves the right, at any reasonable time, and as it may deem necessary to require the Body at its own cost to:
- 16.6.1 provide evidence of financial resources and the level of turnover sufficient to enable it to continue to deliver the Provision;
 - 16.6.2 provide such assurance as the ESFA may require that the delivery of the Provision complies with the requirements of the Agreement;
 - 16.6.3 obtain a report by an independent accountant of the ESFA's choice on the financial systems and controls operated by the Body or the accuracy of Funding claims in respect of payments claimed or received under the Agreement. The report and the work required in order to produce the report shall be carried out to the satisfaction of the ESFA, and the ESFA must be able to place reliance on it. The Body must agree the instructions for the work with the ESFA and the Body shall provide a copy of the interim and final report to the ESFA as soon as they are available. The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body to publish the report;
 - 16.6.4 provide a copy of the Body's latest audited Accounts;
 - 16.6.5 submit any claim for payment or management information provided to support a claim for payment to be audited by an independent auditor chosen by the ESFA.

16.7 The Body shall in delivering the Provision comply fully with all relevant rules and regulations of the ESFA in force from time to time especially when on ESFA's premises.

17 Review of Performance and Reconciliation of Funding

17.1 Where the Body receives profile payments from the ESFA, payments will be reconciled to cash earned by actual delivery of the Provision or the period to the timetable published in the Funding Rules.

17.2 Where the Body's actual delivery will result or has already resulted in an overpayment to the Body by the ESFA, the ESFA will either:

17.2.1 withhold future payments; or

17.2.2 raise an invoice for the amount; or

17.2.3 deduct the amount owed from payments due to the Body under the Agreement for current or subsequent months or years accordingly.

17.3 Where the Body's actual delivery has resulted in an underpayment to the Body by the ESFA, the ESFA will adjust the amount due to the Body accordingly. This adjustment shall not exceed the overall Maximum Value set out in Appendix 1.

17.4 Should there be an under or over payment to the Body, the ESFA may, at its absolute discretion, require a variation to the profile payments.

17.5 A review will take place at the end of the Term of this Agreement in respect of the delivery of the Provision. The ESFA will notify the Body of the actual amount of money which has been earned against the Provision delivered and compare this to the total profile payments made and to the overall maximum value specified in Appendix 1. At this stage final cash reconciliation will take place. Any overpayment made to the Body by the ESFA will be repayable within 30 days of receiving an invoice. The ESFA reserves the right to reduce future payments to recover any overpayments. The ESFA will pay any outstanding monies owed, up to the overall Maximum Value specified in Appendix 1 of this Agreement, within 30 days of final reconciliation being completed. Payment will be made via BACS.

17.6 The evidence required in respect of each Apprenticeship Programme is set out in the Funding Rules and the Body must retain such evidence for inspection on demand.

18 Freedom of Information

18.1 Definitions

- “Exempt Information”** means any information or class of information (including but not limited to any document, report, contract or other material containing information) relating to this Agreement or otherwise relating to the Body, which potentially falls within an exemption to FOIA (as set out therein).
- “FOIA”** means the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and all regulations made there under from time to time or any superseding or amending enactment and regulations, and words and expressions defined in the FOIA shall have the same meaning in clause 18; and
- “FOIA notice”** means a decision notice, enforcement notice and/or an information notice.

18.2 Freedom of Information

- 18.2.1 The Body acknowledges and agrees that the ESFA is subject to legal duties under FOIA, which may require the ESFA to disclose on request information relating to this Agreement or otherwise relating to the Body.
- 18.2.2 The Body acknowledges and agrees that the ESFA is required by law to consider each and every request made under FOIA for information.
- 18.2.3 The Body acknowledges and agrees that all decisions made by the ESFA pursuant to a request under FOIA is solely a matter for and at the discretion of the ESFA.
- 18.2.4 Notwithstanding anything in this Agreement to the contrary (including without limitation any obligations of confidentiality), the ESFA shall be entitled to disclose information in whatever form pursuant to a request made under FOIA, save that in relation to any information that is exempt information the ESFA shall use reasonable endeavours (but shall not be obliged) to consult the Body and shall not;
- a) confirm or deny that information is held by the ESFA; or
 - b) disclose information requested

to the extent that in the ESFA's opinion the information is eligible in the circumstances for an exemption and therefore the ESFA may lawfully refrain from doing either of the things described in parts (a) and (b) of this clause.

18.2.5 In relation to information relating to the Body or this Agreement which the Body requests should be exempt under the FOIA the Body shall indemnify the ESFA for any and all costs (including legal fees) incurred by the ESFA in:

- a) assessing the application of any exemption under FOIA; and/or
- b) responding to any FOIA notice; and/or
- c) lodging any appeal against a decision of the information commissioner in relation to disclosure

where such costs are incurred pursuant to efforts by the ESFA to withhold exempt information;

18.2.6 The ESFA shall in no event be liable for any loss, damage, harm or detriment, howsoever caused, arising from or in connection with the disclosure under FOIA of any exempt information or other information whether relating to this Agreement or otherwise relating to the Body;

18.2.7 The Body shall assist the ESFA as reasonably necessary to enable the ESFA to comply with its obligations under FOIA.

19 Confidentiality

“Confidential Information” means any information including Personal Data as defined by the Data Protection Act 1998, and any information, however it is conveyed, that relates to the business, affairs, developments, trade secrets, know-how, personnel, and suppliers of the Parties including all IPRs, together with all information derived from any of the above, and any other information clearly designated as being confidential or which ought reasonably be considered to be confidential (whether or not it is marked "confidential").

The Body hereby warrants that:

- 19.1 any person employed or engaged by it (in connection with this Agreement in the course of such employment or engagement) shall treat all Confidential Information belonging to the ESFA as confidential, safeguard it accordingly and only use such Confidential Information for the purposes of this Agreement; and
- 19.2 any person employed or engaged by it (in connection with this Agreement in the course of such employment or engagement) shall not disclose any Confidential Information to any third party without prior written consent of the ESFA, except where disclosure is otherwise expressly permitted by the provisions of this Agreement.
- 19.3 it shall take all necessary precautions to ensure that all Confidential Information obtained from the ESFA is treated as confidential and not disclosed (without prior approval) or used other than for the purposes of this Agreement by any of its employees, servants, agents or sub-contractors.
- 19.4 The provisions of clauses 19.1 and 19.2 shall not apply to any information:
 - 19.4.1 which is or becomes public knowledge (other than by breach of this clause 19);
 - 19.4.2 which was in the possession of the receiving party, without restriction as to its disclosure, before the date of receipt from the disclosing party;
 - 19.4.3 which must be disclosed pursuant to a statutory, legal or parliamentary obligation placed upon the party making the disclosure, including any requirements for disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act or the Environmental Information Regulations.
- 19.5 Nothing in this clause 19 shall be deemed or construed to prevent the ESFA from disclosing any Confidential Information obtained from the Body:
 - 19.5.1 to any other Crown Body;
 - 19.5.2 to Parliament and Parliamentary Committees or if required by any Parliamentary reporting requirement;
 - 19.5.3 to any professional adviser, consultant, contractor or other person engaged by the ESFA directly in connection with this Agreement, provided that such information is treated as confidential by the receiving consultant, contractor or any other person;

- 19.5.4 on a confidential basis to any body to which the ESFA intends to assign, novate or dispose its rights, obligations or liabilities under this Agreement in connection with any such assignment, novation or disposal.
- 19.6 In order to ensure that no unauthorised person gains access to any Confidential Information or any data obtained in the course of the delivery of the Provision, the Body undertakes to maintain adequate security arrangements that meet the requirements of professional standards and best practice.
- 19.7 The Body will immediately notify the ESFA of any breach of security in relation to Confidential Information and all data obtained in the course of the delivery of the provision and will keep a record of such breaches. The Body will use its best endeavours to recover such Confidential Information or data however it may be recorded. The Body will co-operate with the ESFA in any investigation that the ESFA considers necessary to undertake as a result of any breach of security in relation to Confidential Information or data.
- 19.8 The Body shall, at its own expense, alter any security systems at any time during the period of the Agreement at the ESFA's request if the ESFA reasonably believes the Body has failed to comply with clause 19.7.
- 19.9 The ESFA reserves the right to publish details of this Agreement and the payments made under it to comply with the Government's transparency requirements.
- 19.10 The Parties agree that the text of any press release or other communication to be published by or in the media concerning the subject matter of this Agreement shall require the approval of each of the Parties which shall not be unreasonably withheld or delayed.
- 19.11 The provisions of this clause 19 will apply for the duration of the Agreement and after its termination.

20 State Aid

- 20.1 The Body should satisfy themselves, if the European rules on State Aid apply to the provision delivered under this Agreement.
- 20.2 Where the rules on State Aid apply, the ESFA will supply to the Body details of the records that the Body will need to collect and retain.
- 20.3 The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body to obtain a contribution towards the cost of the Provision delivered under this Agreement from the employer of any apprentice. Where a contribution is required, the ESFA will confirm to the Body in writing the exact percentage of the contribution.

20.4 Where the ESFA requires the Body to obtain a contribution towards the cost of the provision under clause 20.3 of this Agreement, the Body must provide evidence that the contribution has been received.

20.5 In the event that any Funding paid under this Agreement is deemed to constitute unlawful state aid the ESFA reserves the right to require immediate repayment of any such Funding.

21 Breach

21.1 For the purpose of this clause, the following definitions shall have the meanings set out below:

21.1.1 "Minor Breach" shall mean a delay or non-performance by either Party of its obligations, in part or in full, under this Agreement which does not materially, adversely or substantially affect the performance or delivery of the Provision, in part or in full, or the provision of a safe, healthy and supportive learning environment; and

21.1.2 "Serious Breach" shall mean any breach which adversely, materially and substantially affects the performance or delivery of the Provision, in part or in full, or the provision of a safe, healthy and supportive learning environment. Serious breach includes but is not limited to:

21.1.2.1 a breach of security that adversely affects the Personal Data or privacy of an individual;

21.1.2.2 failure to comply with Law, or acts or omissions by the Body that endanger the health or safety of students;

21.2 For the avoidance of doubt:

21.2.1 neither Party shall be liable for any Minor Breach or Serious Breach under this clause, which occurs as a direct result of any act or omission by the other Party, its staff or agents; and

21.2.2 in the event of a breach the Party not in breach may enforce the clauses in this Agreement relating to breach even if it has not done so in the event of earlier breaches.

Minor Breach

21.3 Without prejudice to any other remedy, in the event of a Minor Breach, the Party not in breach shall be entitled to serve written notice on the Party in breach, giving full details of the breach and requiring the other Party to remedy the breach within a specified period.

21.4 If the Party in breach fails to remedy the Minor Breach within the time specified in notice served under clause 21.3, or such other period as may subsequently be agreed in writing between the Parties, it shall constitute a Serious Breach by the Party in breach.

Serious Breach

21.5 Without prejudice to any other remedy, in the event of a Serious Breach, which in the view of the ESFA is capable of remedy, the Parties shall adopt the following procedure:

21.5.1 The Party not in breach shall be entitled to serve written notice on the other Party giving full details of the breach and requiring the Party in breach to remedy the breach within a specified time period.

21.5.2 In the event that a Serious Breach of this Agreement by the Body is in the view of the ESFA not, or cannot be, remedied within the period specified in the notice served under clause 21.5.1, or such other period as may subsequently be agreed in writing between the Parties, the ESFA may:

- (a) require the Body to suspend recruitment of Apprentices, and cap growth of Apprenticeship Programmes in future years, to the Provision to which the Serious Breach relates;
- (b) give consideration to the Serious Breach in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent Agreement(s) between the Parties;
- (c) reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Body in respect of that part of the Provision to which the Serious Breach relates;
- (d) terminate, in accordance with clause 22 (Termination), in full or in respect of that part of the Provision to which the Serious Breach relates.

21.6 In the event that any Serious Breach cannot be remedied at all or within the period specified in the notice served in accordance with clause 21.5.1 or such other period as may be agreed in writing between the Parties, the Party not in breach may at its sole discretion terminate this Agreement or that part of the Provision to which the breach relates with immediate effect on notice in writing to the other Party.

22 Termination

22.1 Without prejudice to any other remedy, on the occurrence of a Serious Breach that is not capable of being remedied the ESFA shall be entitled to

terminate this Agreement, in respect of that part of the Provision to which the Serious Breach relates, by notice to the Body with immediate effect.

- 22.2 The ESFA shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement on written notice in the circumstances as detailed in clause 9 above (Quality Assurance). The period of notice shall be that which, in all the circumstances, the ESFA deems reasonable.
- 22.3 The ESFA shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement on written notice in case of the insolvency, liquidation or dissolution of the Body.
- 22.4 The ESFA shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement on written notice if the Body does not recruit or data returns reveal that no Apprentices have been enrolled for the academic year to which this Agreement relates. Where the ESFA terminates the Agreement under this clause 22.4, the ESFA will withdraw the allocation of Funding for the academic year and will take action to recover Funds where payments have already occurred.
- 22.5 In addition to the rights of termination under any other clauses of this Agreement, either party shall be entitled to terminate this Agreement in respect of all or part of the Provision delivered under this Agreement by giving to the other not less than six months' notice, in writing, to that effect without the need to give a reason for termination. Where this right is exercised by the Body it shall be implemented at no cost to the ESFA.
- 22.6 Once written notice of termination of this Agreement in whole or in part has been provided, the Body will be removed from the Register of Training Organisations and the Register of Apprenticeship Training Providers maintained by the ESFA and the ESFA will secure another training provider to deliver the Provision.
- 22.7 Termination under this clause 22 shall not prejudice or affect any right of action or remedy, which shall have accrued or shall thereupon accrue to the Parties under this Agreement.
- 22.8 On termination or expiry of this Agreement for any reason, the Body shall do its utmost to minimise disruption caused to Apprentices and to assist the implementation of any contingency plan proposed by the ESFA either prior to or after the termination or expiry of this Agreement, to deal with the effects of such termination or expiry in so far as it is practicable to do so. The ESFA will not be liable for any costs incurred by the Body in complying with this clause 22.8.
- 22.9 The Body shall, within 2 working days of termination of this Agreement cease using any marks of the ESFA and deliver up to the ESFA all correspondence, documents, student data relevant to continuation of the Provision, specification papers and other property belonging to the ESFA, which may be in its possession or under its control.

22.10 On termination of this Agreement (however arising) the accrued rights and liabilities of the Parties at termination shall survive and continue in full force.

23 Dispute Resolution

23.1 Any dispute, difference or question arising between the parties either during the currency of the Agreement or afterwards shall be referred to the nominated contacts for the ESFA and the Body for discussion and review in order to try to resolve the same.

23.2 In the event of the nominated contacts being unable to resolve the relevant issue, either party may request in writing that the matter is referred to the ESFA's nominated representative and the Body's representative nominated for this purpose (jointly "the Dispute Resolution Panel") for formal review and consideration. Any request for referral to the Dispute Resolution Panel must include details of the dispute and any proposals to resolve it.

23.3 The Dispute Resolution Panel will meet within 28 days of receiving a request for referral made in accordance with clause 23.2 above.

23.4 In the event of the Dispute Resolution Panel failing to identify a mutually acceptable resolution within 28 days of the date of reference, then the dispute shall be referred to and settled as far as possible by mediation in accordance with the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR) Model Mediation Procedure.

23.5 Neither Party may commence court proceedings in relation to any dispute arising out of the Agreement until they have attempted to settle it by mediation. Any such mediation may be terminated by either Party at any time of such Party wishing to commence court proceedings.

24 Recovery of Funds

24.1 The ESFA reserves the right to require the Body to repay all or part of the Funds provided by it in the event of a breach of the terms and conditions of funding set out in this Agreement or any previous Agreement between the ESFA or any predecessor body.

24.2 The ESFA shall be entitled to recover any sums repayable by the Body by deducting them from payments due to the Body under this Agreement.

25 The Agreement

25.1 This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and shall not be varied except by an instrument in writing signed by the parties.

26 Effective Date

- 26.1 The terms and conditions set out in this document will take effect from 1 August 2017 and will be reviewed on or before 31 July 2018 (“the Term”).