



<b>Agreement Type</b>	Contract for Services
<b>Funding Period</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2025 to 31 <sup>st</sup> July 2026
<b>Between</b>	the Secretary of State for Education
<b>And</b>	«ProviderName»
<b>Funding for</b>	«FSPGroupList»
<b>Master Contract Number</b>	«MasterContractRef»

#### **ACCEPTANCE BY THE CONTRACTOR**

By accepting this Contract via the Manage your education & skills funding service the person taking this action on behalf of the Contractor represents and warrants that the Contractor has read and understood this Contract, the Contractor agrees to be bound by this Contract and that he/she is duly authorised to accept this Contract and legally bind the Contractor.

#### **SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION**

by Andrew Thomas, Director of Funding and Financial Oversight

*Andrew Thomas*

## TERMS AND CONDITIONS

**This Contract is made on the date the Contract is digitally signed by the Contractor on the Manage Your Education & Skills Funding Service between:**

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«ProviderName»		THE SECRETARY OF STATE
«ProviderAddress»		FOR EDUCATION
		DEPARTMENT FOR
«ProviderCompanyNo»	AND	EDUCATION
		20 GREAT SMITH STREET
		LONDON
		SW1P 3BT

Hereinafter called  
the Contractor

Hereinafter called  
the Department

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## **PART 1: TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

- 1.1 In this Contract, unless the context otherwise requires, capitalised expressions shall have the meanings set out in Schedule 1 (Definitions) or the relevant Schedule in which that capitalised expression appears. If a capitalised expression does not have an interpretation in Schedule 1 (Definitions) or the relevant Schedule, it shall have the meaning given to it in this Contract.
- 1.2 In this Contract except where the context otherwise requires:-
  - 1.2.1 the masculine includes the feminine and vice-versa;
  - 1.2.2 the singular includes the plural and vice-versa;
  - 1.2.3 a reference to any clause, sub-clause, paragraph, schedule or annex is, except where it is expressly stated to the contrary, a reference to such clause, sub-clause, paragraph, schedule or annex of this Contract;
  - 1.2.4 any reference to this Contract or to any other document will include any permitted variation, amendment or supplement to such document;
  - 1.2.5 any reference to any enactment, order, regulation, code, guidance or other similar instrument will be construed as a reference to the enactment, order, regulation, code, guidance or instrument (including any EU instrument) as amended, replaced, consolidated or re-enacted;
  - 1.2.6 references to any documents being "in the agreed form" means such documents have been initialled by or on behalf of each of the Parties for the purpose of identification;
  - 1.2.7 a reference to a person includes firms, partnerships and corporations and their successors and permitted assignees or transferees;
  - 1.2.8 headings are for reference only;
  - 1.2.9 words preceding "include", "includes", "including" and "included" will be construed without limitation by the words which follow those words;
  - 1.2.10 the Schedules to this Contract form part of this Contract;
  - 1.2.11 references to the Parties shall be to the parties to this Contract; and
  - 1.2.12 references to months shall mean calendar months.
- 1.3 No review, comment or approval by the Department under the provisions of this Contract will operate to exclude or limit the Contractor's obligations or liabilities under this Contract or the Department's rights under this Contract.

#### 1.4 Precedence of Documentation

In the event of any inconsistency between the provisions of the Terms and Conditions and the Schedules, or between any of the Schedules, the conflict will be resolved according to the following descending order of priority:

1.4.1 the Terms and Conditions (Clauses 1 to 56);

1.4.2 Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring);

1.4.3 the remaining Schedules,

for the avoidance of doubt, in the event of any inconsistency between this Contract and the Funding Rules, this Contract will take precedence.

## **PART 2: THE SERVICES**

### **2 COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION**

2.1 The Contract Period will commence on the Agreement Date and expire or terminate on the earlier of:

2.1.1 the Expiry Date; or

2.1.2 the Termination Date.

### **3 SERVICE DELIVERY**

3.1 The Services to be delivered under this Contract are those as set out in Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring). The detailed requirements in respect of the Services are also set out in the Funding Rules as amended from time to time by the Department and which form part of the terms and conditions of this Contract.

3.2 The Services are to be delivered in accordance with the Specification, specific requirements of the Department, and all other Schedules, which all form part of the terms and conditions of the Contract.

3.3 The Contractor will comply (and will ensure that any Subcontractor complies) with the Department Policies.

3.4 The Contractor will ensure that data relating to Learners including Learner Records is held and saved in a format that can be reasonably accessed by the Department on request.

3.5 The Contractor will comply in all respects with all relevant Laws to which it may be subject.

### **4 DEPARTMENT OBLIGATIONS**

4.1 The Department will not wilfully impede the Contractor in the performance of its obligations under this Contract (having regard always to the interactive nature of the activities of the Department and of the Contractor).

## **5 EMERGENCIES AND SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS**

- 5.1 The Contractor must have and maintain an up-to-date Business Continuity Plan. [Expecting the unexpected - GOV.UK](#)
- 5.2 The Contractor must at the request of the Department provide whatever support and assistance may reasonably be required by the Department in response to any national, regional or local emergency or incident (including Significant Incident or Emergency) including at any premises identified by the Department.
- 5.3 The Contractor will ensure that Learners have access to portfolios, e-portfolios, learning materials and other evidence at all times.

## **6 CHANGE IN SERVICE**

- 6.1 Any Change must be dealt with in accordance with Schedule 4 (Change Control Procedure).
- 6.2 Any dispute arising from the operation of the Change Control Procedure must be resolved in accordance with the Dispute Resolution Procedure. Notwithstanding any referral to the Dispute Resolution Procedure the Contractor must nevertheless proceed to implement any Change requested by the Department which is required:
  - 6.2.1 to implement or comply with the orders, directions, guidance, recommendations or advice of a Relevant Authority or the Department's auditors (whether internal or external) or the outcome of a statutory inspection;
  - 6.2.2 to discharge a statutory duty;
  - 6.2.3 to protect the health and safety of or prevent damage to persons, property or the environment;
  - 6.2.4 to prevent acts of fraud or loss of revenue or income to the Department; and
  - 6.2.5 in a Significant Incident or Emergency in accordance with Clause 5 (Emergencies and Significant Incidents) of the Contract.
- 6.3 If a Change requires the Contract to be amended, the Parties must follow the procedure set out in Clause 48 (Amendments to this Contract).

## **7 PERFORMANCE MONITORING**

### **7.1 Contractor Monitoring**

- 7.1.1 The Contractor must put in place the necessary internal control framework, including an internal audit function if appropriate to ensure that it meets its obligations and those of its Subcontractors under this Contract.

### **7.2 Department Monitoring**

- 7.2.1 The Department will undertake its own performance monitoring, as set out in Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring) and may

elect, at its own cost, to undertake further monitoring at any stage during the Contract Period for any purpose, including ensuring that the Services are being provided in accordance with this Contract.

7.2.2 The Contractor must use its reasonable endeavours to assist the Department in any performance monitoring exercise under Clause 7.2.1. The Department may notify the Contractor of the outcome of the performance monitoring exercise and the Contractor must have due regard to the Department's comments in relation to the future provision of the Services.

7.2.3 Without prejudice to the Department's rights under Clauses 38 (Withholding, Suspension and Repayment of Funding) and 39.2 (Termination) and to any other express rights under this Contract, where the Contractor has been found to be fraudulent or have recklessly submitted erroneous reports, claims and/or learner data, or the Department reasonably believes such reports to be fraudulent or erroneous the Department may, by notice to the Contractor, increase the level of its monitoring of the Contractor or (at the Department's option) require the Contractor to increase the level of the Contractor's monitoring of its own performance of its obligations under this Contract in respect of the relevant Services which are the subject of such fraudulent, erroneous or misleading reporting until such time as the Contractor must have demonstrated to the reasonable satisfaction of the Department that it will perform (and is capable of performing) its obligations under this Contract and, in which case, the following provisions will apply:

- (a) any such notice to the Contractor will specify in reasonable detail the additional measures to be taken by the Department or by the Contractor (as the case may be) in monitoring the performance of the Contractor;
- (b) if the Contractor (acting reasonably) objects to any of the specified measures on the grounds that they are excessive it will notify the Department in writing within five (5) Working Days of the receipt of the notice of the measures objected to (and of any Changes necessary in order to prevent prejudice to the Contractor's performance of its obligations under this Contract);
- (c) the measures to be taken by the Department and the Contractor (as the case may be) will be agreed between the Parties or, in the absence of agreement within ten (10) Working Days of the Department's receipt of the Contractor's objection, determined pursuant to the Dispute Resolution Procedure; and
- (d) the Contractor will bear its own costs and indemnify and keep the Department indemnified at all times from and against all costs and expenses reasonably and properly

incurred by or on behalf of the Department in relation to such increased level of monitoring.

### **7.3 Contractor Responsible**

7.3.1 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that, notwithstanding any provision of this Contract which contemplates that the Department will or may from time to time:

- (a) monitor or inspect any performance of the Services;
- (b) check compliance by the Contractor with its obligations;
- (c) confirm or indicate approval of or non-objection to proposals made by the Contractor; or
- (d) request that the Contractor makes a Change to the Services;

it will always be fully the responsibility of the Contractor, and not the responsibility of the Department, to ensure that the Services are performed in all respects in accordance with the Contractor's obligations under this Contract and no such action by or on behalf of the Department will in any way limit or affect such obligations.

### **7.4 Quality Management Systems**

7.4.1 The Department will have the right upon reasonable notice and at reasonable times to audit the Contractor's quality management systems (for example ISO 9000 or equivalent standard) and/or any other quality management system to which the Specification refers, including examining and inspecting services and activities on or off the premises owned or occupied by the Contractor to establish the adequacy or accuracy of the quality management system documentation. The Contractor will use all reasonable endeavours to assist the Department in such an exercise.

## **8 HEALTH & SAFETY**

8.1 The Contractor must comply with all health and safety legislation and Health and Safety Executive working regulations, adopt and maintain safe operating systems of work and appropriate safety policies in order to protect the health and safety of Contractor Personnel, Learners and all other persons including members of the public.

8.2 Where part of the Services are provided in an environment outside the direct control of the Contractor, the Contractor must take all reasonable steps to ensure that adequate arrangements are in place to ensure the health and safety of Learners. This shall include but not be limited to, co-ordinating and co-operating with other organisations/bodies with responsibilities being clearly identified and documented as appropriate, to ensure understanding between the relevant parties.

8.3 The Contractor must report all incidents that are reportable under the Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013 ("RIDDOR") in accordance with those regulations and must investigate or assess the circumstances of all Learner 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 Contractor must only use persons competent to investigate/assess Learner incidents with a view to identifying the causes of any incident and lessons to be learned.

- 8.4 The Contractor must inform the Department of the death of any Learner during the provision of the Services. This will be done by informing the Department's representative by telephone or email immediately upon the Contractor becoming aware of the death.
- 8.5 The Contractor will, in circumstances where it Subcontracts the management and/or delivery of the Services under this Contract, ensure that all the provisions in respect of health and safety in this Clause 8 are included in the Subcontract with each Subcontractor.

## **9 LEARNER WELFARE**

- 9.1 In addition to its statutory health and safety responsibilities as referred to in Clause 8 (Health & Safety) above, the Contractor must ensure that the Services are delivered in safe, healthy and supportive environments, which meet the needs of Learners in accordance with this Clause 9 and Clause 25 (Employees).
- 9.2 Where the Contractor provides residential accommodation for Learners, the Contractor must inform the Department of the provision of such residential accommodation and comply with the requirements of the national minimum standards for residential accommodation for children in colleges published from time to time by the Secretary of State under section 87C of the Children Act 1989 as if the Contractor were a college (as defined by section 87(10) of the Children Act 1989).
- 9.3 In providing the Services, the Contractor 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.
- 9.4 In providing the Services, the Contractor must comply with the general duty on specified authorities in section 26 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Prevent duty) and must have regard to statutory guidance issued under section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 [Prevent duty guidance: England and Wales \(2023\) - GOV.UK](#).
- 9.5 In providing the Services, the Contractor must comply with the duty on partners of a panel in section 38 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (the Channel co-operation duty).
- 9.6 The Contractor will monitor, and act on, any other harm to Learners to the extent that the Contractor 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) incidents that cause absence from learning, any loss to the Learner of any physical or mental faculty or any disfigurement and incidents of bullying and harassment.

- 9.7 The Contractor will co-operate with the Department and Department for Work and Pensions for the purposes of the Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB) in respect of those Learners to which it applies.
- 9.8 The Contractor and/or the Contractor 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.
- 9.9 The Contractor will ensure it notifies the Department via the Customer Help Portal: [Home - Customer Help Portal](#) where a referral has been made by the Contractor or one of the Contractor Related Parties in either of the following circumstances (such notification must include the name of the institution, a high level summary of the nature of the incident (without sharing personal information about victims or alleged perpetrators) and confirmation of whether it is, or is scheduled to be, investigated by the Local Authority and/or the police):
- 9.9.1 a safeguarding concern related to sexual violence to Local Authority children's social care/adult social care and/or the police, or
  - 9.9.2 an allegation of abuse made against a teacher, lecturer or other member of staff to the designated officer(s) (at the local authority).
- 9.10 The Contractor will ensure it notifies the Department via the Customer Help Portal: [Home - Customer Help Portal](#) of incident(s) and/or where a referral has been made, where the Contractor or one of the Contractor Related Parties:
- 9.10.1 is aware of an incident, or pattern of incidents, which undermines the promotion of British fundamental values as referred to in Clause 9.3 or the ability of the Contractor or the Contractor Related Parties to comply with the Prevent duty, or
  - 9.10.2 makes a referral of an individual member of Contractor Personnel for the purposes of determining whether that member of Contractor Personnel 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.
- 9.11 Where it applies
- 9.11.1 The Contractor must comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and must have in place throughout the Contract Period policies and procedures to ensure full compliance.
  - 9.11.2 The Contractor must ensure that all Subcontracts that it enters into include an obligation for the Subcontractor to comply with the Modern Slavery Act 2015 with special emphasis on express anti-slavery and anti-human trafficking provisions.

- 9.11.3 The Contractor shall implement due diligence procedures to ensure that there is no slavery or human trafficking in any part of its supply chain.
- 9.12 Where it applies, the Contractor must comply with the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006 and must have in place throughout the Contract Period policies and procedures to ensure full compliance.
- 9.13 The Contractor will, in circumstances where it Subcontracts the management and/or delivery of the Services under this Contract, ensure that all the provisions in respect of Learner welfare in this Clause 9 are included in the Subcontract with each Subcontractor.

## **10 EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY**

- 10.1 The Contractor must 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 provision of services. The Contractor must take all reasonable steps to ensure the observance of these provisions by all servants, employees or agents of the Contractor and all Subcontractors employed in the execution of the Contract. The Contractor will comply with the detailed requirements in relation to equality of opportunity set out in Clauses 10.2 to 10.4.
- 10.2 The Contractor will, in delivering the Services under this Contract, demonstrate that it has had regard to the duties placed on the Department and the Contractor by the Equality Act 2010. The Contractor will take all reasonable steps to ensure the observance of these provisions by all servants, employees or agents of the Contractor and all Subcontractors engaged in the delivery of the Services.
- 10.3 The Contractor must ensure that equality of opportunity is built into all aspects of Services; the business planning process; and the self-assessment process. The Contractor must use analysis of data to inform future planning to improve the representation, participation and success of underrepresented and underachieving groups and challenge stereotyping. The Contractor must use appropriate, specific and measurable objectives. These will be proportionate, relevant and aligned to the Services the Contractor is funded to deliver.
- 10.4 The Department may 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 Learners.

## **11 QUALITY ASSURANCE AND RAISING STANDARDS**

- 11.1 The Contractor warrants and undertakes to the Department that it and any Contractor Related Party has and will continue to have the resources and

skills necessary to carry out the Contractor's obligations pursuant to this Contract.

- 11.2 The Contractor must comply with the Funding Rules published by the Department as amended from time to time and any other requirements, which may from time to time be issued by the Department, Inspectorates, the Awarding Organisations and other Regulatory Bodies and of which the Contractor is made aware.
- 11.3 The Contractor must ensure that all activities carried out pursuant to this Contract will be documented in accordance with any requirements of the Department and must provide such documentation as the Department may request from time to time to ensure compliance with this Clause 11.3.
- 11.4 The Contractor will continuously seek to improve the Services and raise standards to benefit the Learner. The Contractor will have the primary responsibility for improving standards and will need to demonstrate to the Department's satisfaction that it has an effective quality assurance system based on the implementation of its own quality improvement process. The Department reserves the right to require the Contractor to provide the Department or Ofsted with evidence to support the quality improvement processes.
- 11.5 The Contractor must use all reasonable endeavours to:
  - 11.5.1 minimise dropout rates and deliver high completion and achievement rates and appropriate progression;
  - 11.5.2 offer equality of access to learning opportunities and close equality gaps in learning and outcomes;
  - 11.5.3 provide good management and leadership of the learning process;
  - 11.5.4 deliver value for money and financial probity; and
  - 11.5.5 ensure all Subcontractors delivering Services under the Contract on behalf of the Contractor comply with the requirements set out in Clauses 11.5.1 to 11.5.4 above.
- 11.6 Failure to meet the requirements set out in Clauses 11.5.1 to 11.5.5 may result in the Department assessing the Contractor to be in breach of the Contract.
- 11.7 The Contractor must take all reasonable steps to meet the relevant requirements for data gathering for the Learner and employer satisfaction data in line with the Department's requirements that are in place at the relevant time. Contractors should note that the Department is currently considering the most useful information to collect from Learners. Information will be updated when it becomes available at [Learner and employer satisfaction surveys - GOV.UK](#) and in any subsequent updates to these web pages.
- 11.8 Where appropriate, the Contractor must confirm in writing to the Department that their (including Contractor Related Parties) Centre Approval Status for the relevant Services is still current. The written statement will need to confirm approved centre status for the specific

Regulated Qualification Framework (“RQF”) titles and levels, including Awarding Organisation name(s).

- 11.9 The Contractor must notify the Department immediately in writing via the Customer Help Portal: [Home - Customer Help Portal](#) if it receives any sanction from an Awarding Organisation, including but not limited to the suspension and/or removal of Centre Approval Status and/or the removal of the ability to register or certificate learners.
- 11.10 The Department can request any Awarding Organisation reports, assessments and notices from the Contractor at any time.
- 11.11 The Department may assess the quality and delivery of the Services and the Contractor’s compliance with the requirements in Clauses 11.5.1 to 11.5.5 during the Contract Period. The Contractor will be informed of the outcome of that process. Where the Department assesses the Contractor to be in breach of contract following such assessment the Department will issue a notice which, where the Department is not terminating the Contract, may:
  - 11.11.1 require the Contractor to meet improvement indicators to improve the quality of its Services. The Department will meet with the Contractor to discuss and reach agreement on implementation of these actions and improvement indicators and to agree arrangements for monitoring and reviewing progress. In such cases reviews will take place at the frequency specified by the Department and in agreement with the Contractor;
  - 11.11.2 agree detailed improvement plans and measures that set out clearly the expected timescale for improvement;
  - 11.11.3 agree arrangements for more frequent monitoring of quality improvement plans.

## **12 FINANCIAL HEALTH**

- 12.1 The Contractor shall promptly notify (or shall procure that its auditors promptly notify) the Department in writing in the event of any of the following circumstances:
  - 12.1.1 any downgrade in the credit rating issued by any rating agency of the Contractor or Subcontractor (and in any event within five (5) Working Days of the occurrence of the downgrade);
  - 12.1.2 any suspected or actual fraud or financial irregularity in accordance with Clause 14.1 (Fraud and Irregularity);
  - 12.1.3 any fact, circumstance or matter which could cause an Insolvency Event of the Contractor or a Subcontractor to arise (and in any event within ten (10) Working Days of the date on which the Contractor first becomes aware of the fact, circumstance or matter which could cause an Insolvency Event to arise); and

- 12.1.4 the occurrence of an Insolvency Event of the Contractor or a Subcontractor, in which case the Contractor shall immediately notify the Department in writing.
- 12.2 The Department will undertake an assessment of the Contractor's financial health and control ([ESFA financial health assessment - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/esfa-financial-health-assessment)). The Department will require the Contractor to use and comply with all processes and systems used by the Department for gathering financial information. Should the Department, at its absolute discretion, consider:
- 12.2.1 that the Contractor's ability to comply with its obligations under this Contract is or may be declining and/or has become or may become inadequate; and/or
- 12.2.2 that the outcome of any financial health and/or control assessment in relation to the Contractor indicates that the Contractor's financial health is or may be declining and/or is or may be inadequate,
- then the Department may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:
- 12.2.3 require the Contractor to, and the Contractor will, accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of financial health and/or control arrangements; and/or
- 12.2.4 require the Contractor to suspend the recruitment of Learners to the Services and/or cap any growth in Learner numbers; and/or
- 12.2.5 give consideration to what changes, if any, are required in its allocations when finalising the amount of funding in any subsequent contract between the parties; and/or
- 12.2.6 engage directly with Learners to ascertain the Contractor's performance of its obligations under this Contract; and/or
- 12.2.7 serve notice to the Contractor that the Department is transferring all or some of the learning and/or, where applicable, end-point assessments provided by the Contractor to another contractor nominated by the Department, and require the Contractor to comply with its obligations set out in Clause 41.2 (Exit Arrangements) to effect an orderly transition of the Services from the Contractor to the Department and/or any Successor Contractor; and/or
- 12.2.8 terminate this Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.4 (Termination) if:
- 12.2.8.1 the Contractor fails to comply with requirements imposed under Clauses 12.2.3, 12.2.4, 12.2.7; and/or
- 12.2.8.2 the Contractor fails to respond to any of the Department's communications regarding the Contractor's financial health; and/or

12.2.8.3 the Contractor fails to cooperate with the Department with regard to any of the matters contained in this Clause 12 (Financial Health); and/or

12.2.9 terminate the Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.5 (Termination).

12.3 Failure to submit accounts for assessment when requested will automatically deem the assessment under Clause 12.2 as 'inadequate' and Clauses 12.2.3 to 12.2.9 will apply.

12.4 Where the outcome of a financial assessment illustrates a deterioration from the previous assessment the Department may in its absolute discretion (and without prejudice to its rights under Clause 12.2) request such further assurance or information from the Contractor as it deems necessary.

12.5 The Contractor must notify the Department immediately if it, or any Contractor Related Party, is experiencing or forecasting any financial difficulties and the Department may ask for additional financial information to obtain assurance of continuity of delivery of the Services.

12.6 The Department may require the Contractor to procure an independent business review of the Contractor's financial health at the Contractor's cost (or the Department may procure such a review and recharge the costs to the Contractor, at its sole discretion) if the Department has concerns over the financial health of the Contractor.

12.7 The Department can at any time require the Contractor at its own cost to provide a copy of the Contractor's latest accounts, any historic accounts as requested, and submit further copies of the accounts as soon as they become available and to provide, upon request:

12.7.1 the Contractor's up to date management accounts, including financial performance against delivery;

12.7.2 financial forecasts of the Contractor's financial position for the next 12 months;

12.7.3 cash flow forecasts for the next 12 months;

12.7.4 any additional financial information the Department deems necessary.

12.8 Where the further information required from the Contractor under Clauses 12.4, 12.5, 12.6 and 12.7 does not provide adequate assurance to the Department then the Department may in its absolute discretion take one or more of the actions set out in Clauses 12.2.3 to 12.2.9.

12.9 The Department reserves the right to request that the Contractor provide a guarantee or other form of security on terms that will be notified to the Contractor.

## **13 INSPECTIONS**

13.1 Ofsted may, at any time during the Contract Period, undertake an inspection of the Contractor. When the Contractor receives notification from an Inspectorate that the Services are to be inspected, the Contractor

will inform the Department of the same and, on request, provide the Department with details of its quality improvement activity, and any other relevant information in accordance with the required timescale of the Inspectorate. The Contractor must promptly notify the Department via the Customer Help Portal: [Home - Customer Help Portal](#) of the date of the meeting at which an Inspectorate gives feedback on the inspection and allow the Department's nominated representative to attend the meeting. The Contractor must confirm to the Department in writing the outcome of the inspection within 5 Working Days of receiving the feedback from the Inspectorate.

- 13.2 The Department will consider the outcome of any such inspection in the manner set out in Clauses 13.3 to 13.11.

### **Requires improvement in part**

- 13.3 Where Ofsted has published its assessment and concluded that for two consecutive assessments the Services require improvement in any graded sub-judgement, the Department may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:

13.3.1 require the Contractor to accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the Services assessed as requires improvement; and/or

13.3.2 require the Contractor to suspend the recruitment of Learners to, and/or to cap any growth in, the Services which are assessed as requires improvement; and/or

13.3.3 give consideration to the Services which are assessed as requires improvement in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent contracts between the Parties; and/or

13.3.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Contractor in respect of that part of the Services assessed as requires improvement in accordance with the provisions of this Contract; and/or

13.3.5 terminate the Contract in accordance with Clause 39.4.6

### **Requires improvement overall**

- 13.4 Where Ofsted has published its assessment and concluded that for two consecutive assessments the Services require improvement overall, the Department may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:

13.4.1 require the Contractor to accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the overall Services; and/or

13.4.2 require the Contractor to suspend the recruitment of Learners to, and/or to cap any growth in, the Services which are assessed as requires improvement; and/or

- 13.4.3 give consideration to the Services which are assessed as requires improvement in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent contracts between the Parties; and/or
- 13.4.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Contractor in accordance with the provisions of this Contract; and/or
- 13.4.5 terminate this Contract in accordance with Clause 39.4.7 (Termination).

### **Inadequate in part**

13.5 Where Ofsted has published its assessment that the Services are inadequate in any graded sub-judgement, the Department may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:

- 13.5.1 require the Contractor to accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the Services assessed as inadequate; and/or
- 13.5.2 require the Contractor to suspend the recruitment of Learners to, and/or to cap any growth in, the Services which are assessed as inadequate; and/or
- 13.5.3 give consideration to the Services which are assessed as inadequate in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent contracts between the Parties; and/or
- 13.5.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Contractor in respect of that part of the Services assessed as inadequate in accordance with the provisions of this Contract; and/or
- 13.5.5 terminate the Contract in accordance with Clause 39.4.8.

### **Inadequate overall**

13.6 Where the Department is made aware that Ofsted has provisionally assessed the Services to be inadequate overall, the Department may, in its absolute discretion commence discussions with the Contractor and other relevant co-funding Regulatory Bodies where appropriate as part of considering what actions as specified in Clauses 13.7.1 to 13.7.5 inclusive may be taken.

13.7 Where Ofsted has published its assessment that the Services are inadequate overall, the Department may, in its absolute discretion take one or more of the following actions:

- 13.7.1 require the Contractor to accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the overall Services; and/or
- 13.7.2 require the Contractor to suspend the recruitment of Learners to, and/or to cap any growth in, the Services which are assessed as inadequate; and/or

- 13.7.3 give consideration to the Services which are assessed as inadequate in its allocations when finalising the amount of Funding in any subsequent contracts between the Parties; and/or
  - 13.7.4 reduce, suspend or recover payment to the Contractor in accordance with the provisions of this Contract; and/or
  - 13.7.5 terminate this Contract in accordance with Clause 39.4.9 (Termination).
- 13.8 The failure of the Contractor, as assessed by the Department, to comply with any requirements of Clauses 13.3.1, 13.4.1, 13.5.1 or 13.7.1 (requirement to accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the Services) within such time as the Department may deem reasonable may lead to the Department taking such actions as it deems appropriate which may include, but is not limited to, terminating the Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.10 (Termination).
- 13.9 The failure of the Contractor, as assessed by the Department, to comply with any requirements of Clauses 13.3.2, 13.4.2, 13.5.2 or 13.7.2 (requirement to suspend the recruitment of Learners to, and/or to cap any growth in, the Services) within such time as the Department may deem reasonable may lead to the Department taking such actions as it deems appropriate which may include, but is not limited to, terminating this Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.11 (Termination).
- 13.10 The Department will take action based on the Inspectorate's published outcomes as set out in Clause 13.7 above. Where the Department is made aware that the Contractor has made a complaint about the graded outcome of the overall assessment by Ofsted, the Department will continue to consider what action it needs to take under this Contract but will be mindful of the implications arising from the outcome of a complaint. The Department will review any decisions made at such time as outcomes of any complaint are made known.
- 13.11 If an Inspectorate rating is given based on incorrect or fraudulent information or data from the Contractor this will constitute a breach of contract and the Department may, at its sole discretion, terminate the Contract.

### **Ofsted Monitoring Visits**

- 13.12 Where Ofsted has published its assessment that the Contractor is making "insufficient progress" on any of the Monitoring Visit inspection themes, the Department may, in its absolute discretion take the following actions:
- 13.12.1 suspend the payment of Funding for current Learners for a specified period;
  - 13.12.2 not consider any applications or pay any Funding for new Learners for a specified period;
  - 13.12.3 require the Contractor to enter into a Subcontracting arrangement with another main provider or employer-provider in order to

ensure that there is minimal disruption to the training delivered to the Contractor's current Learners;

- 13.12.4 require the Contractor to, and the Contractor shall, accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the overall Provision within agreed timescales. Such conditions will include complying with the published recommendations of Ofsted. These conditions will apply until a full Ofsted inspection or further Ofsted Monitoring Visit of the Contractor has taken place; and/or
  - 13.12.5 require the Contractor to temporarily suspend the recruitment of Learners; and/or
  - 13.12.6 require the Contractor to temporarily suspend the recruitment of Learners via a Subcontracting arrangement with another main provider or employer-provider; and/or
  - 13.12.7 require the Contractor to inform all of their existing main providers or employer-providers about the outcome of the Ofsted visit; and/or
  - 13.12.8 terminate this Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.13 (Termination) where Learners may be at immediate risk on the grounds of safeguarding issues and/or the quality of leadership and/or training provision is such that one or more Learner has no reasonable prospect of achieving their training objective; and/or
  - 13.12.9 terminate this Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.14 (Termination) if the Contractor has two (2) consecutive Ofsted Monitoring Visits each resulting in one or more "insufficient progress" judgements in relation to one or more themes, and/or
  - 13.12.10 remove the Contractor from the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register if the Contractor has two (2) consecutive Ofsted Monitoring Visits each resulting in one or more "insufficient progress" judgements in relation to one or more themes.
- 13.13 In addition to the actions in Clauses 13.12.3 to 13.12.7 where the Provision relates to Apprenticeship Provision, the Department may, in its absolute discretion take the following actions:
- 13.13.1 require the Contractor to inform all of their existing employers about the outcome of the Ofsted visit;
  - 13.13.2 where the Department is made aware that Ofsted has assessed a Subcontractor to the Contractor as having made "insufficient progress" during their programme of Ofsted Monitoring Visits, the Contractor is required to ensure that the Subcontractor suspends the recruitment of Learners until further notice.

## **14 FRAUD AND IRREGULARITY**

14.1 The Contractor must immediately notify the Department in writing where the Contractor becomes aware of any instance of suspected fraud or financial irregularity in the delivery of the Contract including, but not limited to, cases of:

- 14.1.1 collusion with members of staff of the Department or employees of the Department for Education;
- 14.1.2 computer fraud;
- 14.1.3 the submission to the Department of inaccurate, incomplete, misleading or falsified information for the purpose of a claim for funding;
- 14.1.4 fraud involving Awarding Organisations;
- 14.1.5 fraud involving Subcontractors;
- 14.1.6 any reported financial irregularities, ILR Data errors and/or funding errors that have been identified either internally or externally by a third party through internal/external audit or other reviews;

provided that nothing in this Clause 14 will require the Contractor to do anything, which may cause it to infringe any Law.

14.2 Where the Department has reasonable cause to suspect that fraud or irregularity has occurred in relation to the delivery of the Contract and payments made hereunder, the Department and /or its agents will have:

- 14.2.1 right of access to the Contractor's Premises (or that of any of its Subcontractors) at any reasonable time with or without notice to examine and remove or copy all relevant documents and records including electronic records;
- 14.2.2 the right to require the Contractor to provide written authority to enable the Department to obtain such documents, records and/or information directly from third parties; and
- 14.2.3 the right to interview the Contractor's servants or agents engaged with the delivery of the Contract.

Failure to comply with this Clause 14.2 will constitute a breach of contract.

14.3 Where the Department has reasonable cause to suspect that fraud or irregularity has occurred in relation to the delivery of the Contract and payments made hereunder, the Department may require the Contractor to procure the services of an independent accountant (or other equivalent/appropriate professional) to investigate at the Contractor's cost (or the Department will procure such an independent accountant and recharge the costs to the Contractor at its sole discretion).

14.4 Where the Department has reasonable cause to suspect that fraud or irregularity has occurred in relation to:

- 14.4.1 the delivery of this Contract; or

14.4.2 the delivery of any other contract between the Department and the Contractor; or

14.4.3 the payments made under this Contract or any other contract between the Department and the Contractor;

the Department will have the right to suspend payments and/or require the Contractor to suspend recruitment of Learners under this Contract and any other contract between the Parties.

14.5 Where the Contractor is a registered or exempt charity, the Contractor will inform the Department of any schemes, orders or official warnings issued to them by the Charity Commission. Failure to inform the Department will constitute a breach of contract.

14.6 The Parties will co-operate in the identification of Learners who may be unlawfully claiming benefits. The Department may from time to time brief the Contractor as to the co-operation and assistance it reasonably requires including the provision of information regarding fraud by Learners. The Department will provide a named contact or telephone answering machine for receiving such information.

### **PART 3: CONTRACT GOVERNANCE**

#### **15 RELATIONSHIPS**

##### **15.1 Co-operate and Liaise**

15.1.1 Subject to any express provisions in this Contract to the contrary each Party agrees to co-operate with the other in good faith with the intent that there shall be a seamless interface between the provision of the Services and the Department's other operations and services. For the purposes of this Clause 15.1.1 "good faith" shall include using reasonable endeavours to avoid unnecessary disputes and claims against the other party.

##### **15.2 Information and Assistance**

15.2.1 Subject to any obligation in respect of confidentiality, the Data Protection Legislation and Confidential Information, the Parties will use all reasonable endeavours to provide and share information and data reasonably required by the other:

- (a) to enable it to perform its obligations under this Contract; and/or
- (b) (in the case of the Contractor) which is reasonably necessary to enable the Department to perform its statutory obligations and other functions insofar as they relate to the Services.

15.2.2 Neither Party will hinder, delay or prevent the other Party in the performance of the other Party's obligations under this Contract.

### **15.3 Enquiries, Investigations and Inspections**

15.3.1 The Contractor must and will ensure that its Subcontractors will at all times during the Contract Period and for a period of six (6) years thereafter, or such other time period as stated in the Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring), at its own cost, fully co-operate with any enquiry, investigation or inspection (whether routine or specific) which in any way concerns, affects or relates to the Services, or any sum claimed or charged in relation to this Contract or to any other contract of the Department. Such enquiry, investigation or inspection may be by, inter alia:-

- (a) the Department;
- (b) the Department's auditors (whether internal or external);
- (c) Regulatory Bodies; and/or
- (d) the Inspectorates.

15.3.2 Such co-operation will include (but not be limited to) the following:-

- (a) providing access to or copies of such files, documents, letters, emails, notes, minutes, records, accounts or any other information (whether held or stored electronically, in hard copy format or otherwise) which relate to the subject or Service (in whole or in part) under investigation;
- (b) providing access to the premises, equipment (including IT hardware and software) or other assets used by the Contractor and/or its Subcontractors in the performance of this Contract, such access to be supervised at all times unless the nature of the investigation requires the parties defined at Clause 15.3.1 to be unsupervised, such parties acting reasonably in making such assessment;
- (c) providing access to Contractor Personnel (of whatever seniority) involved in this Contract (including managerial or supervisory staff) or who may be the subject of, or be named in, any enquiry or investigation by the auditors or the ombudsmen (including providing suitable facilities for interviewing such staff);
- (d) maintaining the confidentiality of the enquiry or investigation when requested to do so;
- (e) making such explanations (whether written or oral) as may be necessary for the enquiry or investigation to be satisfied that the terms and conditions of this Contract, the Funding Rules and the Law are being complied with;
- (f) at all times and without notice allowing access by the Inspectorates, in connection with any complaint, investigation or inspection relating to this Contract or the Services to the Contractor's premises; and to all documentation and information relating to this Contract to

which the Contractor has (and/or is required under this Contract to have) access; and to the Contractor's agents, employees and Subcontractors.

- 15.3.3 Where the Department has undertaken an investigation or received a report from an independent accountant or otherwise, in relation to the Contractor it may, as a consequence of that investigation or report, require the Contractor to, and the Contractor will, accept and comply with additional Contract obligations and will meet the cost of such investigation.
- 15.3.4 Where the Contractor fails to comply with the contractual obligations imposed under Clause 15.3.3, within such time as the Department deems reasonable, the Department may take such actions as it deems appropriate which may include, but is not limited to terminating the Contract in accordance with Clause 39 (Termination).
- 15.3.5 The Contractor will in performing the Services comply fully with all relevant rules and regulations of the Department in force from time to time.
- 15.3.6 The Contractor will, if requested by the Department, co-operate with the Department, at its own expense, in connection with any legal proceedings, adjudication, arbitration, court proceedings or ombudsmen enquiries in which the Department may become involved, arising from breaches of the Department's duties under the Equalities Legislation due to the alleged acts or omissions of the Contractor, its employees, Subcontractors or agents.
- 15.3.7 The Contractor will ensure that the terms of any Subcontract include identical provisions to this Clause 15 (Relationships) and will indemnify the Department against any losses, damages or claims it suffers in consequence of a failure to ensure the inclusion of such identical provisions.

#### **15.4 Complaints and Feedback**

- 15.4.1 The primary responsibility for receiving feedback and investigating complaints promptly and thoroughly in respect of the Services will rest with the Contractor. The Contractor will have procedures in place including but not limited to a complaints framework, which are acceptable to the Department, to gather and act upon feedback and complaints from Learners and/or their representatives and employers and the wider community. The Contractor must also keep a log of the complaints received which will be accessible to the Department upon request.
- 15.4.2 The Contractor must ensure that Learners are made aware of its procedure for dealing with complaints and that the procedure is clear and accessible to Learners who wish to complain. The complaints procedure must be published on the Contractor's website and be provided to the relevant parties as part of the Contractor's on-boarding process.

- 15.4.3 The Contractor will be responsible for resolving complaints in accordance with its own procedures and any guidance issued by the Department. Once the Contractor has concluded its investigations, including any appeal, it must inform the complainant in writing of the outcome.
- 15.4.4 Where a complaint has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the complainant the Contractor will advise the complainant of their right to complain to the Department ([Complaints procedure - Department for Education - GOV.UK](#)) and co-operate with any investigation carried out by the Department and act on any recommendations made by the Department following the investigation.

## **16 REPRESENTATIVE**

### **16.1 Contract Manager**

- 16.1.1 Without limiting the Department's obligations or rights in respect of such matters the Department will appoint a Contract Manager who may subject to Clause 16.1.2 exercise the rights and powers conferred by this Contract upon the Department.
- 16.1.2 Except pursuant to Clause 48 (Amendments to this Contract), or unless specifically authorised for that purpose, the Contract Manager does not have authority to amend the Contract or to relieve the Contractor of any express obligations under the Contract.

### **16.2 Account Manager**

- 16.2.1 The Contractor will notify the Department in writing of the name, telephone number, e-mail address and the postal address of the person appointed as the Account Manager.
- 16.2.2 The Account Manager may exercise the functions, rights and powers conferred by this Contract upon the Contractor.
- 16.2.3 In the event that the Contractor wishes to change the identity of the Account Manager, it will, subject to Clause 16.2.4 give to the Department not less than 5 Working Days' notice in writing of such change. Such written notice will inform the Department of the name, telephone number e-mail address and postal address of the new Account Manager.
- 16.2.4 In the event that it is not possible or practical for any reason for the Contractor to give notice to the Department in accordance with Clause 16.2.3 the Contractor will notify the Department by whatever means the Contractor considers appropriate and will confirm such notification in writing within 5 Working Days.

### **16.3 User Role Management System**

- 16.3.1 The Contractor must ensure that those senior members of staff who are authorised to agree and sign contracts on behalf of the

Contractor, submit Funding claims and return data are registered as users of the user role management system at [DfE Sign-in](#). It is the Contractor's responsibility to maintain appropriate user roles on an on-going basis.

## **17 DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

- 17.1 Any dispute will be dealt with in accordance with this Clause 17.
- 17.2 In the first instance, a representative of each Party will each use their reasonable endeavours to resolve the dispute. If the dispute cannot be resolved by such representatives within 15 days of the dispute arising, it will be referred to a senior representative of each Party, who will each use their reasonable endeavours to resolve the dispute.
- 17.3 If a dispute cannot be resolved by negotiation as referred to in Clause 17.2 within 30 days of the dispute arising, either Party may refer the dispute for determination in accordance with the mediation procedure administered by the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution, the costs of the mediator being split equally between the Parties, who will otherwise bear their own costs.
- 17.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the Department shall not be obliged to follow the Dispute Resolution Procedure in circumstances where it wishes to terminate this Contract in any circumstances described in Clause 39 (Termination).

## **PART 4: IPR DATA AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **18 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS**

- 18.1 The Parties retain the ownership of each other's Background Intellectual Property. The Contractor will give the Department a non-exclusive royalty-free licence in perpetuity to use its Background Intellectual Property in respect of the Work.
- 18.2 Subject to Clause 18.3, the Parties agree that all rights, title and interest in any Foreground Intellectual Property Rights shall remain the property of Contractor.
- 18.3 In consideration of the Department making the payments to the Contractor in connection with the Services the Contractor hereby grants (and, where relevant, shall procure from any necessary third parties the grant) to the Department a non-exclusive, irrevocable, worldwide, royalty-free licence (with the right to license others) of any of the Contractor's Foreground Intellectual Property that the Department may reasonably require to be able fully to exploit, develop and commercialise the results of the Services, including, without limitation, the Work.
- 18.4 The provisions of this clause will apply during the continuance of this Contract and after its termination howsoever arising.

## **19 ASSIGNMENT OF IPR IN DATABASES**

- 19.1 The Contractor hereby assigns to the Department, with full title guarantee, title to and all rights and interest in the information contained in or stored on the Database or shall procure that the first owner of the Database assigns it to the Department on the same basis.
- 19.2 The assignment under Clause 19.1 will either take effect on the Agreement Date or as a present assignment of future rights that will take effect immediately on the coming into existence of the Database, as appropriate.
- 19.3 The Contractor will waive or procure a waiver of any moral rights in the Database assigned to the Department under this Contract.
- 19.4 To the extent that it is necessary for the Department to obtain the full benefits of ownership of the Database, the Contractor hereby grants to the Department and shall procure that any relevant third party licensor will grant to the Department an irrevocable, non-exclusive and global licence to use the Database.

## **20 DEPARTMENT DATA**

- 20.1 The Contractor acknowledges that the Department Data is the property of the Department and the Department hereby reserve all Intellectual Property Rights which may subsist in the Department Data.
- 20.2 The Contractor must perform secure back-ups of all the Department Data and must ensure that up-to-date back-ups, where not in the cloud, are stored off-site in accordance with the Business Continuity Plan. Back-ups stored in the cloud must comply with Data Protection Legislation. The Contractor must ensure that such back-ups are available to the Department at all times upon request.
- 20.3 The Contractor must take all necessary steps to ensure that any Department Data which comes into its possession or control is protected in accordance with the Data Protection Legislation and appropriate security procedures as set out in Schedule 8 (Security & Department Policies) and in compliance with Good Industry Practice (having regard to the nature of its other obligations under this Contract and under the Data Protection Legislation).
- 20.4 In the event that the Department Data used in the provision of the Services is corrupted or lost by the Contractor as a result of a breach by the Contractor of Clause 23 (Security), the Department will have the option, in addition to any other remedies that may be available to them either under this Contract or otherwise, to elect either of the following remedies:-
- 20.4.1 the Department may require the Contractor at its own expense to restore or procure the restoration of such the Department Data using the back-up copy referred to in Clause 20.2; or
- 20.4.2 the Department may itself restore or procure restoration of such the Department Data using the back-up copy referred to in

Clause 20.2 and will be repaid by the Contractor any reasonable expenses so incurred.

20.5 In the event that the Department Data used in the provision of the Services is corrupted or lost solely as a result of an act or omission by the Department the Department will, at its own expense,

20.5.1 require the Contractor to restore or procure the restoration of the Department Data using the back-up copy referred to in Clause 20.2; or

20.5.2 the Department may itself restore or procure the restoration of the Department Data.

20.6 The Contractor must:-

20.6.1 not use the Department Data, except as may be required to provide the Services or as instructed by the Department;

20.6.2 not disclose the Department Data to any third party, other than in accordance with the requirements of the Data Protection Legislation for the purposes of fulfilling its obligations under this Contract, except with the prior written consent of the Department or as required by this Contract;

20.6.3 undertake its obligations under this Contract in such a manner as to preserve so far as reasonably possible the integrity and prevent any loss, disclosure, theft, manipulation or interception of the Department Data; and/or

20.6.4 upon request provide the Department with full access to the relevant area of any systems of the Contractor or its Subcontractors where the Department Data is stored or held for the purpose of viewing, retrieving, copying or otherwise dealing with the Department Data.

## **21 DATA PROTECTION AND PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA**

21.1 The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Department on behalf of the Secretary of State for Education is the Data Controller and the Contractor is the Data Processor only for the processing set out in Schedule 7 (UK GDPR/Data Protection) (i.e. submission of Learner data to the Department). Any other processing of Personal Data undertaken by the Contractor (i.e. Learner enrolment or delivering education & training, e.g. e-portfolios) will be as a Data Controller and not on behalf of the Department. Clauses 21.2 to 21.14 below apply only in relation to the processing of Personal Data on behalf of the Department as set out in Schedule 7 (UK GDPR/Data Protection), and the only processing that the Data Processor is authorised to do on behalf of the Department is listed in Schedule 7 (UK GDPR/Data Protection) by the Department and may not be determined by the Data Processor.

- 21.2 The Data Processor must notify the Data Controller immediately if it considers that any of the Data Controller's instructions infringe the Data Protection Legislation.
- 21.3 The Data Processor must provide all reasonable assistance to the Data Controller in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to commencing any processing. Such assistance may, at the discretion of the Data Controller, include:
- 21.3.1 a systematic description of the envisaged processing operations and the purpose of the processing;
  - 21.3.2 an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the Services;
  - 21.3.3 an assessment of the risks to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects; and
  - 21.3.4 the measures envisaged to address the risks, including safeguards, security measures and mechanisms to ensure the protection of Personal Data.
- 21.4 If requested by the Department's Contract Manager, the Data Processor must, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Contract:
- 21.4.1 process that Personal Data only in accordance with Schedule 7 (UK GDPR/Data Protection), unless the Data Processor is required to do otherwise by Law. If it is so required the Data Processor will promptly notify the Data Controller before processing the Personal Data unless prohibited by Law;
  - 21.4.2 ensure that it has in place Protective Measures, which are appropriate to protect against a Data Loss Event, which the Data Controller may reasonably reject (but failure to reject shall not amount to approval by the Data Controller of the adequacy of the Protective Measures), having taken account of the:
    - (a) nature of the data to be protected;
    - (b) harm that might result from a Data Loss Event;
    - (c) state of technological development; and
    - (d) cost of implementing any measures;
  - 21.4.3 ensure that:
    - (a) the Data Processor Personnel do not process Personal Data except in accordance with this Contract (and in particular Schedule 7 (UK GDPR/Data Protection));
    - (b) it takes all reasonable steps to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Data Processor Personnel who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:
      - (i) are aware of and comply with the Data Processor's duties under this clause;

- (ii) are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Data Processor or any Data Sub-Processor;
  - (iii) are informed of the confidential nature of the Personal Data and do not publish, disclose or divulge any of the Personal Data to any third Party unless directed in writing to do so by the Data Controller or as otherwise permitted by this Contract; and
  - (iv) have undergone adequate training in the use, care, protection and handling of Personal Data; and
- 21.4.4 not make a Restricted Transfer unless the prior written consent of the Data Controller has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:
- (a) the destination country has been recognised as adequate by the UK government in accordance with Article 45 UK GDPR or section 74 of the DPA 2018;
  - (b) the Data Controller or the Data 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) as determined by the Data Controller;
  - (c) the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
  - (d) the Data Processor complies with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred (or, if it is not so bound, uses its best endeavours to assist the Data Controller in meeting its obligations); and
  - (e) the Data Processor complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Data Controller with respect to the processing of the Personal Data;
- 21.4.5 at the written direction of the Data Controller, delete or return Personal Data (and any copies of it) to the Data Controller on termination of the Contract unless the Data Processor is required by Law to retain the Personal Data.
- 21.5 Subject to Clause 21.6, the Data Processor must notify the Data Controller immediately if it:
- 21.5.1 receives a Data Subject Access Request (or purported Data Subject Access Request) in relation to processing their data under this Contract only (submission of learner data);
  - 21.5.2 receives a request to rectify, block or erase any Personal Data processed through the submission of learner data. Notification in such cases should be given via the Contract Manager;
  - 21.5.3 receives any other request, complaint or communication relating to either Party's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;

- 21.5.4 receives any communication from the Information Commissioner or any other Regulatory Body in connection with Personal Data processed under this Contract;
  - 21.5.5 receives a request from any third Party for disclosure of Personal Data where compliance with such request is required or purported to be required by Law; or
  - 21.5.6 becomes aware of a Data Loss Event.
- 21.6 The Data Processor's obligation to notify under Clause 21.5 will include the provision of further information to the Data Controller in phases, as details become available.
- 21.7 Taking into account the nature of the processing, the Data Processor will provide the Data Controller with full assistance in relation to either Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation and any complaint, communication or request made under Clause 21.5 (and insofar as possible within the timescales reasonably required by the Data Controller) including by promptly providing:
- 21.7.1 the Data Controller with full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;
  - 21.7.2 such assistance as is reasonably requested by the Data Controller to enable the Data Controller to comply with a Data Subject Access Request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation;
  - 21.7.3 the Data Controller, at its request, with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject;
  - 21.7.4 assistance as requested by the Data Controller following any Data Loss Event;
  - 21.7.5 assistance as requested by the Data Controller with respect to any request from the Information Commissioner's Office, or any consultation by the Data Controller with the Information Commissioner's Office.
- 21.8 The Data Processor must maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this clause. This requirement does not apply where the Data Processor employs fewer than 250 staff, unless:
- 21.8.1 the Data Controller determines that the processing is not occasional;
  - 21.8.2 the Data Controller determines the processing includes special categories of data as referred to in the 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
  - 21.8.3 the Data Controller determines that the processing is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.
- 21.9 The Data Processor will allow for audits of its Data Processing activity by the Data Controller or the Data Controller's designated auditor.

- 21.10 Each Party will designate its own data protection officer if required by the Data Protection Legislation.
- 21.11 Before allowing any Data Sub-Processor to process any Personal Data related to this Contract (submission of learner data), the Data Processor must:
- 21.11.1 notify the Data Controller's Contract Manager in writing of the intended Data Sub-Processor and processing;
  - 21.11.2 obtain the written consent of the Data Controller's Contract Manager;
  - 21.11.3 enter into a written agreement with the Data Sub-Processor which give effect to the terms set out in this Clause 21 such that they apply to the Data Sub-Processor; and
  - 21.11.4 provide the Data Controller with such information regarding the Data Sub-Processor as the Data Controller may reasonably require.
- 21.12 The Data Processor will remain fully liable for all acts or omissions of any of its Data Sub-Processors.
- 21.13 The Data Controller may, at any time on not less than 30 Working Days' notice, revise this clause by replacing it with any applicable Data Controller to Data Processor standard clauses or similar terms forming part of an applicable certification scheme (which shall apply when incorporated by attachment to this Contract).
- 21.14 The Parties agree to take account of any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office. The Data Controller may on not less than 30 Working Days' notice to the Data Processor amend this Contract to ensure that it complies with any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office.
- 21.15 Where the Contractor is providing the Services to Learners claiming out of work benefits, the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions (or their successor) is the Data Controller in relation to Personal Data which the Contractor is required to provide to the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. This Clause 21 will be enforceable by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in relation to any Personal Data processed by the Contractor on its behalf.
- 21.16 Where the Contractor is providing the Service to Learners who are subject to active management by the Offender Manager in respect of an order or licence, the Secretary of State for Justice (or their successor) is the Data Controller in relation to Personal Data, which the Contractor is required to provide to the Secretary of State for Education.
- 21.17 Where the Contractor is providing the Services to Learners who are subject to claiming Industrial Injuries Disablement Benefit (IIDB), the Department for Work and Pensions (or their successor) is the Data Controller in relation to Personal Data, which the Contractor is required to provide to the Secretary of State for Education. This Clause 21 will be

enforceable by the Secretary of State for Work and Pensions in relation to any Personal Data processed by the Contractor on its behalf.

21.18 The Data Processor will comply with any further written instructions or additional conditions from the Department's Data Controller in relation to the data processing.

21.19 In the circumstances set out in Clause 40.9, the Department may elect to take the role of Data Controller.

## **22 SUBMISSION OF LEARNER DATA**

### **22.1 General**

22.1.1 The Contractor must supply the Department with data in accordance with the following:

- (a) in line with agreed audit arrangements;
- (b) in adherence with the Data Protection Legislation;
- (c) to support payments to be made;
- (d) to enable reconciliation to take place;
- (e) to support the contract management and allocation processes; and
- (f) any written request from the Department.

22.1.2 The Contractor undertakes to the Department to submit accurate data.

22.1.3 Where the Department is concerned about the quality of the data, including the completeness or accuracy of the data, provided by the Contractor, the Department may require the Contractor to supply data more frequently for such a period as the Department will require and the Department may audit, or instruct a third party to audit, at the Contractor's cost, the Contractor's data and controls to gain assurance that the quality improvements have been made.

22.1.4 The Department reserves the right to require the Contractor, at its own cost, to carry out such work as the Department deems necessary to improve the quality of data.

22.1.5 The Department reserves the right to suspend Funding to the Contractor under the Contract where data quality gives rise to concern about the accuracy of the data provided by the Contractor.

22.1.6 Where the Contractor is providing the Services to Learners claiming out of work benefits, it must provide data to the Secretary of State with responsibility for unemployment or their nominated representative in accordance with the requirements notified to the Contractor. Failure to transmit complete and accurate data under this Clause 22 will constitute a material breach of contract and may result in Funding for this part of the

Services being suspended and/or withdrawn in accordance with Clause 38 (Withholding, Suspension and Repayment of Funding) and/or termination under Clause 39 (Termination).

- 22.1.7 The Contractor must update the course information with details of all of the Services funded by the Department to the course directory ([Publish to the course directory](#)). The Contractor must regularly review this information and keep it updated.
- 22.1.8 The Contractor must register with UKRLP ([UK Register of Learning Providers](#)) and Get Information About Schools ([Get Information about Schools - GOV.UK](#)) and maintain contact details on an on-going basis.
- 22.1.9 The Contractor must publish online the set of information as set out at [What academies and further education colleges must or should publish online - GOV.UK](#).
- 22.1.10 The Contractor must submit data about any member of its Contractor Personnel in the format and to the timescales as required by the Department.
- 22.1.11 Failure to transmit complete and accurate data to the Department in accordance with this Clause 22 will constitute a material breach of contract.

## **22.2 FE Data Submission**

- 22.2.1 Where required, the Contractor must supply the Department data on each individual Learner, in accordance with the 'Data Collection Timetable' set out in the 'Appendices, validation rules and schema' as amended and updated, and in accordance with the 'Provider Support Manual' as amended and updated, which are published on the Department's website [Individualised Learner Record \(ILR\) technical documents, guidance and requirements](#).
- 22.2.2 The Contractor must report new Learner starts within 2 months of the Learner starting, or within 3 months of the Learner finishing all withdrawals and achievements. The Contractor must report all changes by the final collection of the Funding Year. Failure to report withdrawals by this time will result in the recovery of the Funding.
- 22.2.3 ILR Data and Earnings Adjustment Statements must be transmitted to the Department through the Department's web portal [Submit learner data](#). Access to the Department's web portal is restricted and the Contractor agrees to comply with the conditions of use regarding the supply of data to the Department set out in this Clause 22.2.3 and in the 'ILR Specification' and the 'Provider Support Manual' as amended and updated available on the Department's web site.
- 22.2.4 The Department will confirm the data successfully submitted through Funding Reports [Individualised Learner Record \(ILR\) - GOV.UK](#) posted on the Department's web portal after the data

has been submitted. The Contractor must correct or remove data that fails the validation rules as set out in the ILR specification [Individualised Learner Record \(ILR\) technical documents, guidance and requirements](#).

- 22.2.5 Where required, the Contractor must use the Earnings Adjustment Statement (“EAS”) to claim funding that cannot be recorded through the ILR. The funding claim must be submitted as detailed in the guidance [Individualised Learner Record \(ILR\) technical documents, guidance and requirements](#). The Contractor must check the accuracy of the submissions on the EAS via the Submit Learner Data service and any errors must be corrected immediately. All submissions must be supported by evidence. The EAS should also be used to repay Funding claimed in error during the Funding Year. The Contractor must claim or repay funding via the EAS as set out in the EAS guidance: [Earnings adjustment statement \(EAS\) - GOV.UK](#) as updated and amended from time to time.

## **23 SECURITY**

- 23.1 The Contractor must comply, and will ensure compliance by the Contractor Personnel, with the provisions of Schedule 8 (Security & Department Policies).

## **24 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

### **24.1 Freedom of Information**

- 24.1.1 The Contractor acknowledges that the Department is subject to legal duties under the FOIA and the EIR, which may require the Department to disclose on request information relating to this Contract or otherwise relating to the Contractor.
- 24.1.2 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that the Department is required by Law to consider each and every request made under the FOIA and/or the EIR for information.
- 24.1.3 The Contractor acknowledges and agrees that all decisions made by the Department pursuant to a request under the FOIA and/or the EIR are solely a matter for and are at the discretion of the Department.
- 24.1.4 Notwithstanding anything in this Contract to the contrary (including without limitation any obligations of confidentiality), the Department will be entitled to disclose information in whatever form pursuant to a request made under the FOIA and/or the EIR, save that in relation to any information that is Exempt Information the Department will use reasonable endeavours (but will not be obliged) to consult the Contractor and will not:
- (a) confirm or deny that information is held by the Department;  
or

- (b) disclose information requested to the extent that in the Department's opinion the information is eligible in the circumstances for an exemption and therefore the Department may lawfully refrain from disclosing such information.
- 24.1.5 In relation to information relating to the Contractor or the Contract which the Contractor requests should be exempt under the FOIA and/or the EIR, the Contractor will indemnify the Department for any and all costs (including legal fees) incurred by the Department in:
  - (a) assessing the application of any exemption under the FOIA and/or the EIR; 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 Department to withhold Exempt Information.
- 24.1.6 The Department will on no account be liable for any loss, damage, harm or detriment, howsoever caused, arising from or in connection with the disclosure under the FOIA and/or the EIR of any Exempt Information or other information whether relating to this Contract or otherwise relating to the Contractor.
- 24.1.7 The Contractor will assist the Department as reasonably necessary to enable the Department to comply with its obligations under the FOIA and/or the EIR.

## **24.2 Confidentiality**

- 24.2.1 The Contractor hereby warrants and undertakes that:
  - (a) any person employed or engaged by it (in connection with this Contract in the course of such employment or engagement) will treat all Confidential Information belonging to the Department as confidential, safeguard it accordingly and only use such Confidential Information for the purposes of this Contract; and
  - (b) any person employed or engaged by it (in connection with this Contract in the course of such employment or engagement) will not disclose any Confidential Information to any third party without prior written consent of the Department, except where disclosure is otherwise expressly permitted by the provisions of this Contract.
- 24.2.2 The Contractor must take all necessary precautions to ensure that all Confidential Information obtained from the Department is treated as confidential and not disclosed (without prior written approval from the Department's Contract Manager) or used other than for the purposes of this Contract by any of its employees, servants, agents or Subcontractors.

- 24.2.3 The provisions of Clauses 24.2.1 and 24.2.2 will not apply to any information:
- (a) which is or becomes public knowledge (other than by breach of Clauses 24.2.1 and 24.2.2 or any other duty of confidentiality);
  - (b) which was in the possession of the receiving party, without restriction as to its disclosure, before the date of receipt from the disclosing party;
  - (c) 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 FOIA or the EIR.
- 24.2.4 Nothing in this Clause 24.2.4 will be deemed or construed to prevent the Department from disclosing any Confidential Information obtained from the Contractor:
- (a) to any other Central Government Body, Non-Departmental or Quasi Government Body or agency, central or local;
  - (b) to Parliament and Parliamentary Committees or if required by any Parliamentary reporting requirement;
  - (c) to any professional adviser, consultant, contractor or other person engaged by the Department directly in connection with this Contract, provided that such information is treated as confidential by the receiving consultant, contractor or any other person;
  - (d) on a confidential basis to any proposed successor body in connection with any assignment disposal of its rights, obligations or liabilities under this Contract.
- 24.2.5 In order to ensure that no unauthorised person gains access to any Confidential Information or any data obtained in the course of the Services, the Contractor undertakes to maintain adequate security arrangements that meet the requirements of professional standards and best practice.
- 24.2.6 The Contractor will immediately notify the Department of any breach of security in relation to Confidential Information and all data obtained in the course of the Services and will keep a record of such breaches. The Contractor will use its best endeavours to recover such Confidential Information or data however it may be recorded. The Contractor will co-operate with the Department in any investigation that the Department considers necessary to undertake as a result of any breach of security in relation to Confidential Information or data.
- 24.2.7 The Contractor must, at its own expense, alter any security systems at any time during the Contract Period at the Department's request if the Department reasonably believes the Contractor has failed to comply with Clause 24.2.6.

- 24.2.8 The Department reserves the right to publish details of this Contract and the payments made under it to comply with the Government's transparency requirements.
- 24.2.9 The provisions of this Clause 24 will apply for the Contract Period and after its termination.

## **PART 5: WORKFORCE**

### **25 EMPLOYEES**

- 25.1 When employing or engaging a person to carry out teaching work (as defined in regulation 3 of the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulation 2012), in respect of any Learners under the age of 19 and High Needs Learners aged up to 25 (as if those Learners were pupils for the purposes of the definition of teaching work in regulation 3 of the Teachers' Disciplinary (England) Regulations 2012) the Contractor must comply with Part 3 (Safer Recruitment) of [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK](#).
- 25.2 The Contractor will comply with Part 2 (The Management of Safeguarding) and Part 3 (Safer Recruitment) of [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK](#) in order to ensure the Provision is provided with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of Children whether at the institution or in an environment outside the direct control but under the auspices of the Contractor. In doing so, the Contractor 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. References to 'must' in any such guidance will be treated as 'should' for the purposes of this Contract, 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.
- 25.3 The Contractor will comply with Part 2 (The Management of Safeguarding) of [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) in order to ensure the Provision is delivered with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of High Needs Learners aged up to 25 receiving education or training at their institution or under the auspices of the Contractor in an environment outside the direct control of the Contractor. This must include the adoption of safer recruitment procedures, as set out in Part 3 (Safer Recruitment) of [Keeping children safe in education - GOV.UK](#). In doing so, the Contractor will make those arrangements as if such Learners were Children and the Contractor 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 Learners as if they were Children. References to 'must' in any such guidance will be treated as 'should' for the purposes of this Contract, 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.

- 25.4 The Contractor must ensure it takes the following action in respect of all Contractor Personnel and potential Contractor Personnel who in connection with the Contractor's provision of the Services will or is likely to be in contact with Learners or who will have access to Learners information (other than the Department's employees):
- 25.4.1 they are questioned as to whether they have any Convictions or ASBOs or any other punishment for antisocial behaviour order (such as a civil injunction, community protection notice or criminal behaviour order);
  - 25.4.2 the results are obtained of a background check with the DBS of the most extensive kind permitted by Law;
  - 25.4.3 to the extent permitted by Law, a copy of the results of such a background check as is referred to in Clause 25.4.2 are provided to the Department on request;
  - 25.4.4 in respect of potential Contractor Personnel from overseas the Contractor must comply with the following guidance [Criminal records checks for overseas applicants - GOV.UK](#);
  - 25.4.5 the Contractor must take the above action before the relevant Contractor Personnel or potential Contractor Personnel commences any activities in relation to the Services.
- 25.5 The Contractor must also ensure that:
- 25.5.1 no person who appears on a Barred List following the results of a DBS background check shall be employed or engaged in the performance of the Services; and
  - 25.5.2 all its Subcontractors will comply with all reporting requirements to the DBS including those who will have access to Learners' information (other than the Department's employees).
- 25.6 In so far as permitted by Law, where the Contractor has made a referral or provided information to the Disclosure and Barring Service in compliance with any duties of the Contractor under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006, the Contractor will ensure that it informs the Department via the Customer Help Portal: [Home - Customer Help Portal](#) that a referral has been made/information has been provided.
- 25.7 In the event that any Contractor Personnel or any employee of any Subcontractor is added to a Barred List, the Contractor must ensure that such member of staff shall cease to be engaged in the Provision or any activities connected with the Provision.
- 25.8 The Contractor will require Contractor Personnel, including those handling Learner information, to declare annually whether there has been a change in their circumstances relating to the background checks referred to in this Clause 25. Where the self-declaration indicates a change in circumstances relating to those background checks, the Contractor will:

- 25.8.1 assess the risk of continuing to engage such member of Contractor Personnel in the delivery of the Provision;
  - 25.8.2 request new background checks of such member of Contractor Personnel as required by this Clause 25;
  - 25.8.3 without prejudice to Clause 25.9, put in place appropriate actions to ensure Learners are safeguarded, including, but not limited to, extra supervision of the member of Contractor Personnel, re-assignment to an area of the delivery of the Services that does not bring the member of Contractor Personnel into regular contact with Learners and/or Learner information, or removal from the delivery of the Services of the member of Contractor Personnel, until such time as the Contractor has received the outcome of the background checks required under Clause 25.8.2 and has taken any action required as a result of the outcome of such background checks.
- 25.9 Pending the receipt by the Contractor of the results of the background checks referred to in this Clause 25, Contractor Personnel will not be used in the provision of the Services.
- 25.10 Failure by the Contractor to comply with Clauses 25.4 to 25.9 will constitute a material breach of contract.
- 25.11 The Contractor will provide details of its policies and procedures for recruitment, training, development, supervision and other employment-related policies when requested to do so.
- 25.12 The Contractor will ensure that it has in place and complies with an effective whistleblowing procedure, approved by the body responsible for the management of the Contractor, whereby staff may raise in confidence concerns about possible malpractice without fear of victimisation, subsequent discrimination or disadvantage. The procedure must be published on the Contractor's public-facing website. The Contractor will regularly review the procedure, including securing approval from the body responsible for the management of the Contractor of any amended procedure.
- 25.13 Unless Contractor Personnel transfer to the Department and/or a Successor Contractor under TUPE at expiry or termination of the Contract, the Contractor will retain employment records (or retain the right to access employment records) for seven (7) years following the last day such Contractor Personnel were engaged in providing Services save for Contractor Personnel in contact with Children and/or with access to information about Children where such records will be retained for fifteen (15) years following such date.
- 25.14 When requested by the Department on reasonable grounds, the Contractor will cease to use any Contractor Personnel specified by the Department in the provision of the Services. For the purposes of this clause Contractor Personnel will include non-executive directors.
- 25.15 The Contractor must ensure that:

- 25.15.1 there will be at all times a sufficient number of staff (including all relevant grades of supervisory staff) engaged in the provision of the Services with the requisite level of skill and experience. This obligation will include ensuring that there are sufficient staff to cover periods of holiday, sickness, other absences and anticipated and actual peaks in demand for each of the Services; and
- 25.15.2 all Contractor Personnel receive such training and supervision as is necessary to ensure the proper performance of the Services under this Contract.
- 25.16 The Contractor must inform the Department if directors, or any other person who has powers of representation, decision or control, meet the characteristics set out in the Funding Higher-Risk Organisations and Subcontractors document. [Funding higher risk organisations and subcontractors - GOV.UK](#). Failure to inform the Department will be a material breach of contract.
- 25.17 Where the contract value is greater than £10,000,000, the Contractor will consider the use of Apprenticeships in the delivery of the Services.
- 25.18 The Contractor must ensure that it and any Subcontractors have in place and maintain personnel policies and procedures covering all relevant matters (including discipline, grievance, equal opportunities and health and safety). The Contractor must ensure that the terms and implementation of such policies and procedures comply with Law and Good Industry Practice and that they are published in written form. The Contractor must provide copies of such policies to the Department, on the Department's request.

## **26 KEY STAFF**

- 26.1 The Contractor will use its reasonable endeavours to ensure continuity of staff, knowledge and skills and inform the Department immediately of any change to the top two tiers in its senior leadership team.

## **27 TUPE**

- 27.1 Where there are Transferring Former Supplier Employees (as defined in Schedule 6 (TUPE)) between the Previous Contractor and the Contractor, the provisions set out in Schedule 6 (TUPE) to this Contract will apply.

## **28 RE-PROVISION OF THE SERVICES**

- 28.1 The Department and the Contractor will act on the basis that TUPE applies on expiry or termination of the Contract where the Department is proposing re-provision for services which are substantially the same as the Services. For the avoidance of doubt this Clause 28 does not apply where the Contractor will be providing the Services in the following Funding Year.

- 28.2 During the period of three (3) months preceding the expiry of the Contract or within 21 days after the Department or the Contractor has given notice to terminate the Contract, the Contractor will disclose to the Department and will permit the Department to disclose to any new provider or potential new provider of the services which are substantially the same as the Services, the Staffing Information provided that prior to so doing any such provider will have executed in writing a confidentiality undertaking in favour of the Contractor.
- 28.3 During the period of three (3) months preceding the expiry of this Contract or within 21 days after the Department or the Contractor has given notice to terminate the Contract, the Contractor must, subject to the provisions of the UK GDPR and Data Protection Legislation, provide and thereafter keep updated at monthly intervals, to the Department and to the Successor Contractor information equivalent to the relevant personnel documentation and the Staffing Information in respect of each employee whom the Contractor reasonably believes will be a future transferring employee provided that prior to so doing the Successor Contractor nominated by the Department will have executed in writing a confidentiality undertaking in favour of the Contractor.
- 28.4 The Contractor must make reasonable endeavours to assist the Successor Contractor to communicate with, meet and inform and consult with the employees whom the Contractor reasonably believes will be a future transferring employee and their trade union or other employee representatives for the purposes of complying with TUPE.
- 28.5 The Contractor must immediately prior to the future transfer date provide to the Department or the Successor Contractor a complete and accurate list of the Staffing Information and identification details of all employees whom it reasonably believes will be future transferring employees.
- 28.6 Within a period of 21 days following the expiry or termination of this Contract the Contractor must provide to the Department or the Successor Contractor in writing final pay details of the future transferring employees.
- 28.7 The Contractor warrants that it will supply complete and accurate information pursuant to Clauses 28.2, 28.3, 28.5 and 28.6 in all material respects and the Contractor will indemnify and keep the Department indemnified fully now and in the future in respect of all or any costs whether arising in contract or under any relevant Law suffered or incurred by the Department or the Successor Contractor nominated by the Department by reason of any proceeding, claim or demand arising from or in connection with the provision of information and/or the failure to provide complete and accurate information under Clauses 28.2, 28.3, 28.5, and 28.6, and/or the provision of assistance and/or failure to provide assistance under Clause 28.4 of this Contract.
- 28.8 After receiving notice of the termination of this Contract and for six (6) months preceding expiry of this Contract the Contractor will promptly notify the Department or the Successor Contractor:

- 28.8.1 of the period of notice given by the employment of any employee whom the Contractor reasonably believes will be a future transferring employee; and
- 28.8.2 of any other change to any employee whom the Contractor reasonably believes will be a future transferring employee and their terms and conditions of employment, their Staffing Information and their relevant personnel documentation.
- 28.9 The Contractor warrants that it will supply the required information completely and accurately in all respects at the time of supply and will indemnify and keep the Department and/or any Successor Contractor indemnified in respect of all and any costs suffered or incurred by the Department or the Successor Contractor by reason of any proceedings, claim or demand arising out of or in connection with:
- 28.9.1 any claim against the Department or the Successor Contractor by any future transferring employee so far as it relates to any act or omission of the Contractor after the employee transfer date and prior to the future transfer date; and
- 28.9.2 any claim against the Department or the Successor Contractor by any future transferring employee whose name is not included on the list provided by the Contractor pursuant to Clause 28.5 so far as it relates to the dismissal of such future transferring employee within two Months of the Department or Successor Contractor becoming aware of the transfer of such future transferring employee.
- 28.10 For the purposes of Clause 28.9, in the event that the Department or the Successor Contractor incurs costs, liabilities or expenditure in respect of future transferring employees which is greater than would have been the case if the Required Information supplied by the Contractor had been accurate and complete, then such (net) greater costs, liabilities or expenditure will be deemed to be costs suffered or incurred by the Department or Successor Contractor and included within the indemnity provided by the Contractor.
- 28.11 The Department or Successor Contractor will be entitled to recover from the Contractor in full any legal, accountancy and other costs actually and reasonably incurred by the Department or Successor Contractor in connection with the costs and liabilities indemnified by the Contractor.
- 28.12 This Clause 28 will continue in effect for six (6) months following the expiry or termination of this Contract.

## **PART 6: PAYMENT AND AUDIT**

### **29 PAYMENT, FUNDING AND AUDIT**

#### **29.1 Payment, Funding and Audit provisions**

- 29.1.1 In consideration of the Services to be provided by the Contractor, the Department agrees to pay the Contractor the amounts set out

in Schedule 3 (Payment) of this Contract on condition that the Contractor delivers the Services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Contract.

- 29.1.2 The Contractor must use the Funding solely for the purpose of delivering the Services as set out in this Contract.
- 29.1.3 The Contractor will comply with the Funding Rules published by the Department as amended from time to time.
- 29.1.4 The Contractor shall comply with the requirements of, and have regard to the guidance in, the [Financial handbook for independent training providers - Guidance - GOV.UK](#) (the '**Financial Handbook**') unless the Contractor is a provider which is outside the scope of the Financial Handbook as set out in Annex A of the Financial Handbook.
- 29.1.5 The Department reserves the right to impose additional Contract obligations where it considers it is necessary to do so to secure the delivery of education and training of a reasonable quality by the Contractor, or to ensure that the resources provided by the Department are being used effectively and efficiently or to require the Contractor to address concerns about its financial viability.
- 29.1.6 The payment of Funding by the Department will be without prejudice to any claims or rights, which the Department may have against the Contractor and will not constitute any admission by the Department as to the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under this Contract. Prior to any such payment of Funding, the Department shall be entitled to make deductions or deferments in respect of any disputes or claims whatsoever with or against the Contractor, arising from this Contract or any other agreement between the Contractor and the Department.
- 29.1.7 The Department shall be entitled to terminate, pursuant to Clause 39.4.17 this Contract on written notice if the Contractor does not recruit and/or data returns reveal that no Learners have been enrolled for the Funding Year to which this Contract relates. Where the Department terminates the Contract under this Clause 29.1.7, the Department will withdraw the allocation of Funding for the Funding Year and will take action to recover Funds where payments have already occurred.
- 29.1.8 Where the Department identifies errors which it deems to be material in the data that the Contractor is required to provide under the Contract to support the payment of Funding, the Department reserves the right at its absolute discretion to require the Contractor at the Contractor's cost to procure an independent 100% audit of all or part of the Services by a deadline specified by the Department and/or to require the Contractor to repay Funding equivalent to the full amount of the Funding that has been wrongly claimed or paid. If only a sample of the Services has been audited, the Department reserves the right to calculate an error rate based on the said sample and claim repayment from

the Contractor of an extrapolated amount based on the error rate identified and the total value of the Funding paid to the Contractor under this Contract.

- 29.1.9 Without prejudice to any other provisions in this Contract, at the Department's discretion, such amounts as are identified as being recoverable under Clause 29.1.8, may be recovered by making adjustments to data submitted by the Contractor under the Contract, or by raising an invoice for payment by the Contractor, or by making deductions from future payments due to the Contractor under the Contract. Failure to settle such amounts by the Contractor will constitute a breach of contract. The decision of the Department as to the amount of recovery under this Clause 29.1 (Payment, Funding and Audit provisions) is final.
- 29.1.10 Where the Department, in accordance with Clause 29.1.8, identifies errors it may at its discretion review the Contractor's controls and processes to gain assurance the errors will not occur again. Where further assurance work is required this will be at the Contractor's cost (or the Department will procure and recharge to the Contractor at its sole discretion). Where a full funding audit results in a "qualified" rating this will constitute a breach of contract.
- 29.1.11 All payments by the Department will be made via BACS.

#### **Tax Compliance**

- 29.1.12 The Department may ask the Contractor to provide information which demonstrates how the Contractor complies with the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax in respect of that consideration.
- 29.1.13 The Department may terminate this Contract if:
- (a) in the case of a request mentioned in Clause 29.1.12 the Contractor:
    - (i) fails to provide information in response to the request within a reasonable time; or
    - (ii) provides information which does not demonstrate either how the Contractor complies with Clauses 29.1.12 and 29.1.15 or why those clauses do not apply to it;
    - (iii) it receives information which demonstrates that is not complying with its obligations under the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax.
- 29.1.14 The Department may supply any information which it receives under Clause 29.1.12 to HMRC.
- 29.1.15 If, during the Contract Period, an Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance occurs, the Contractor will:

- (a) notify the Department in writing of such fact within 5 Working Days of its occurrence; and
- (b) promptly give the Department:
  - (i) details of the steps it is taking to address the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance and to prevent the same from recurring, together with any mitigating factors it considers relevant; and
  - (ii) such other information in relation to the Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance as the Department may reasonably require.

## **30 REVIEW OF CONTRACTUAL PERFORMANCE AND RECONCILIATION OF CONTRACTS**

### **30.1 In-Year Reconciliation**

- 30.1.1 Reviews of contractual performance and reconciliation will be carried out in accordance with part 2B of Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring).
- 30.1.2 The evidence required in respect of each Learning Programme is set out in the Funding Rules and the Contractor must retain such evidence for inspection on demand.

### **30.2 Performance**

- 30.2.1 Performance will be monitored in accordance with the provisions of part 2B of Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring).
- 30.2.2 The Department will be able to share allocations and performance information with Combined Authorities, Crown Bodies and LEPS.

## **31 CONTRACTOR'S RECORDS AND AUDIT**

### **31.1 Maintenance of Records**

- 31.1.1 The Contractor must, and will procure that any Contractor Related Parties, maintain a full record of all incidents relating to data protection, health, safety and security, including CCTV, which occur during the Contract Period. The Contractor will make the aforementioned records available for inspection by the Department upon reasonable notice, and will present a report of them to the Department as and when requested.

### **31.2 Auditor**

- 31.2.1 The Department, the European Commission, the European Court of Auditors and/or a Crown Body may at any time conduct (whether itself or by its agents, consultants or advisers) audits for the following purposes:-

- (a) to establish that the Contractor has used the Funding (and proposed or actual variations to the Funding in accordance with this Contract) in the delivery of the Services and/or the costs of all suppliers (including Subcontractors) of the Services;
- (b) to verify the Contractor's claims for Funding;
- (c) to review the integrity, confidentiality and security of the Department Data as well as the Department's access to the Department Data;
- (d) to review the Contractor's and/or a Contractor Related Party's compliance with the DPA 2018, the FOIA and EIR in accordance with Clauses 20 (Department Data) and 24 (Freedom of Information and Confidentiality) and any other Law applicable to the Services;
- (e) to carry out the audit and certification of the Department's accounts;
- (f) to verify the accuracy and completeness of any management information delivered or required by this Contract;
- (g) to ensure that the Contractor and/or a Contractor Related Party is complying with the Department Policies and any British or equivalent European standards and any other audit that may be required by any Relevant Authority;

such audits may be based on current or preceding years or preceding contracts.

31.2.2 The Department will use its reasonable endeavours to ensure that the conduct of each audit does not unreasonably disrupt the Contractor or delay the provision of the Services.

31.2.3 Subject to the Department's obligations of confidentiality, the Contractor and/or a Contractor Related Party must on demand provide the Department (and/or its agents or representatives) with all reasonable co-operation and assistance in relation to each audit, including:-

- (a) all information requested by the Department within the permitted scope of the audit;
- (b) reasonable access to any premises and any equipment used (whether exclusively or non-exclusively) in the performance of the Services;
- (c) access to the Contractor's and/or a Contractor Related Party's systems;
- (d) access to Contractor Personnel; and
- (e) provision of any accounting records as referred to in section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and/or financial records as the Department may require which if the Contractor is not a

company may include similar accounting records as are referred to in section 386 of the Companies Act 2006.

- 31.2.4 The Contractor will implement all measurement and monitoring tools and procedures necessary to measure and report on the Contractor's (including for the avoidance of doubt a Contractor Related Party's) performance of the Services.
- 31.2.5 The Department will endeavour to (but is not obliged to) provide at least ten (10) Working Days' notice of its intention to conduct an audit. The Department may carry out audit visits with or without prior notice at its discretion.
- 31.2.6 The Parties agree that they will bear their own respective costs and expenses incurred in respect of compliance with their obligations under this clause, unless the audit identifies a material breach or malpractice by the Contractor and/or a Contractor Related Party in which case the Contractor will reimburse the Department for all the Department's reasonable costs incurred in the course of the audit.
- 31.2.7 If the findings of an audit conducted pursuant to this Clause 31 results in the requirement for ILR Data to be corrected and re-submitted the Contractor must re-submit the data to the Department, as set out in Clause 22 (Submission of Learner Data), within two months. Failure to do so will be a breach of contract.
- 31.2.8 If the Department identifies that:-
- (a) the Contractor has failed to perform its obligations under this Contract in any material manner, without prejudice to any other remedy that the Department has, the Parties will agree and the Contractor will implement and comply with a remedial plan. If the Contractor's failure relates to a failure to provide any information to the Department about the Funding, proposed Funding or the Contractor's costs, then the remedial plan will include a requirement for the provision by the Contractor of all such information;
  - (b) there has been any under or over payment it will be dealt with in accordance with Clause 29.1 (Payment, Funding and Audit provisions).
- 31.2.9 The Contractor must permit records referred to in this Clause 31 (Contractor's Records and Audit) to be examined and copied from time to time by the Department's auditor and inspectors and their representatives and other representatives of the Department.

### **31.3 Retention**

- 31.3.1 The records referred to in this Clause 31 (Contractor's Records and Audit) will be retained for a period of at least six (6) years, after the end of the Contract Period subject to any requirements for a longer retention period set out in the Funding Rules.

### **31.4 Information on Termination or Expiry**

- 31.4.1 Upon termination or expiry of this Contract the Contractor must (and will ensure that the Subcontractors will) comply with all reasonable requests of the Department to provide information relating to the Contractor's costs of providing the Services.

### **31.5 Confidentiality of Information**

- 31.5.1 All information referred to in this Clause 31 (Contractor's Records and Audit) is subject to the obligations set out in Clause 24.1 (Freedom of Information) and Clause 24.2 (Confidentiality).
- 31.5.2 For the purposes of the examination and certification of the Department's accounts and/or any examination of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness with which the Department has used its resources, the National Audit Office and/or the Department's internal or external auditor may examine such documents premises, systems and staff as they may reasonably require which are owned, held or otherwise within the control or employ of the Contractor or Subcontractors (who must ensure that any person acting on its behalf who has such documents and/or other information will also provide access) and may require the Contractor to produce such oral or written explanation as they consider necessary.
- 31.5.3 Where the Department appoints an independent third party to undertake, exercise or carry out any of the rights or powers contained in this Clause 31 (Contractor's Records and Audit) the Department must ensure that, simultaneously with its appointment, such independent third party enters into a confidentiality agreement with the Department that requires the independent third party to comply with confidentiality provisions equivalent to those set out in this Contract.

## **32 SUBSIDY CONTROL**

- 32.1 The Contractor should obtain its own advice as to whether the Subsidy Control Rules apply to the Funding received in relation to the Services delivered under this Contract. Guidance on this can be found at [Complying with the UK's international obligations on subsidy control: guidance for public authorities - GOV.UK](#).
- 32.2 Where the rules on Subsidy Control apply, the Contractor must:
- 32.2.1 comply with the relevant notification requirements; and
- 32.2.2 collect and retain appropriate records and will supply those records to the Department on its request.
- 32.3 The Department reserves the right to require the Contractor to obtain a contribution towards the cost of the Services delivered under this Contract from the employer of any Learner. Where a contribution is required, the Department will confirm to the Contractor in writing the exact percentage of the contribution.

- 32.4 Where the Department requires the Contractor to obtain a contribution towards the cost of the Services under Clause 32.3 above, the Contractor must provide evidence that the contribution has been received.
- 32.5 If a recovery order or any other enforcement measure is taken under the Subsidy Control Act 2022, the Contractor will repay the relevant subsidy to the Department within 28 days or such other timescale that the Department agrees with the Contractor.

## **PART 7: CORPORATE GENERAL**

### **33 SUBCONTRACTING**

- 33.1 The Contractor may enter into Subcontracts provided it does so in compliance with Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring) and Schedule 10 (Subcontracting).
- 33.2 Notwithstanding any arrangements the Contractor has entered into with any Subcontractor, the Contractor shall not be relieved or excused of responsibility or liability under this Contract nor shall performance of its obligations be affected by the appointment of any Subcontractor.
- 33.3 If the Contractor does not Subcontract any of the Services, the Contractor must still provide a nil return via the Subcontractor Declaration to confirm this.
- 33.4 Failure to comply with any of the requirements under Clauses 33.1 to 33.3 may result in the Department taking such actions as it deems appropriate, which may include, but is not limited to, action under Clause 38 (Withholding, Suspension and Repayment of Funding) and/or termination under Clause 39 (Termination).

### **34 INDEMNITIES AND LIABILITY**

#### **34.1 Contractor Indemnity**

- 34.1.1 The Contractor will be responsible for, and will release and indemnify the Department, its employees and agents on demand from and against all liability from:
- (a) death or personal injury caused by its negligence or that of its employees, agents or Subcontractors (as applicable);
  - (b) breach of statutory duty;
  - (c) third party actions, claims or demands brought against the Department as a direct consequence of the Contractor's breach of this Contract;
  - (d) fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation by it, its employees, agents or Subcontractors (as applicable);
  - (e) loss of or damage to property;

to the extent which the same may arise out of, or in consequence of:

- (f) the performance or non-performance by the Contractor of its obligations under this Contract; and
- (g) In all other respects, any negligent act, default or breach of statutory duty in connection with the performance or non-performance by the Contractor of its obligations under this Contract or of any Contractor Personnel in the performance or non-performance of the Services.

### **34.2 Contractor Not Responsible**

- 34.2.1 The Contractor will not be responsible for or obliged to indemnify the Department for any injury, loss, damage, cost and expense caused by the negligence or wilful misconduct of the Department or by the breach by the Department of its obligations under this Contract.

### **34.3 Limitation of Indemnity**

- 34.3.1 Subject to Clause 34.9, an indemnity by either Party under any provision of this Contract will be without limitation to any indemnity by that Party under any other provision of this Contract.

### **34.4 Responsibility for Related Parties**

- 34.4.1 The Contractor will be responsible as against the Department for the acts or omissions of the Contractor Related Parties as if they were the acts or omissions of the Contractor and the Department will be responsible as against the Contractor for the acts or omissions of Department Related Parties as if they were the acts or omissions of the Department.

### **34.5 Notification of Claims**

- 34.5.1 Where either Party (the “Indemnified Party”) wishes to make a claim under this Clause 34 (Indemnities and Liability) against the other (the “Indemnifying Party”) in relation to a claim made against it by a third party (a “Third Party Claim”), the Indemnified Party will give notice of the relevant claim as soon as reasonably practicable setting out full particulars of the claim.

### **34.6 Conduct of Claims**

- 34.6.1 The Indemnifying Party may at its own expense and with the assistance and co-operation of the Indemnified Party have the conduct of the Third Party Claim including its settlement and the Indemnified Party will not, unless the Indemnifying Party has failed to resolve the Third Party Claim within a reasonable period (and the Indemnified Party has notified the Indemnifying Party in writing that it is of the opinion that such reasonable period has expired), take any action to settle or pursue the Third Party Claim.

### **34.7 Costs of Claims**

34.7.1 The Indemnifying Party may, if it wishes to have conduct of any claim, give reasonable security to the Indemnified Party for any cost or liability arising out of the conduct of the claim by the Indemnifying Party.

34.7.2 The Contractor's liability to the Department pursuant to this Clause 34 (Indemnities and Liability) will be, for the avoidance of doubt, without prejudice to any other right or remedy available to the Department under this Contract.

### **34.8 No Limit on Liability**

34.8.1 Neither Party excludes or limits its liability to the other Party for:

- (a) death or personal injury caused by its negligence, or that of its employees, agents or Subcontractors (as applicable); or
- (b) any breach of any obligations implied by section 12 of the Sale of Goods Act 1979 or section 2 of the Supply of Goods and Services Act 1982; or
- (c) fraud by it, fraud by its employees, fraud by its agents or Subcontractors (as applicable); or
- (d) the matters covered by the indemnities in Clause 18 (Intellectual Property Rights); or
- (e) sums due under Clause 27 (TUPE) and/or Clause 28 (Re-Provision of the Services); or
- (f) any breach of the DPA 2018.

### **34.9 Contractor Limit on Liability**

34.9.1 Subject to Clause 34.2 (Contractor Not Responsible), Clause 34.8 (No Limit on Liability) and Clause 34.12 (Indirect Loss), the liability of the Contractor for the Contract Period will be Ten Million Pounds (£10,000,000) in aggregate in respect of all claims, losses or damages, whether arising under any indemnity from tort (including negligence), breach of contract or otherwise under or in connection with this Contract.

### **34.10 Contractor Aggregate Liability**

34.10.1 If the aggregate liability of the Contractor under Clause 34.9 (Contractor Limit on Liability) is equalled or exceeded at any time during the Contract Period, it will entitle the Department at its discretion to terminate this Contract pursuant to Clause 39.4.20 (Termination).

### **34.11 Department Limit on Liability**

34.11.1 Subject to Clause 34.8 (No Limit on Liability) and Clause 34.12 (Indirect Loss), the liability of the Department for the Contract Period will be one million pounds (£1,000,000) in aggregate in respect of all claims, losses or damages, whether arising under

any indemnity from tort (including negligence), breach of contract or otherwise under or in connection with this Contract.

34.11.2 For the avoidance of doubt, Clause 34.11.1 does not affect:

- (a) the Department's obligation to pay the Funding as and when it falls due in accordance with this Contract; and
- (b) any pension liability which becomes payable by the Department in accordance with the Annex to Part B of Schedule 6 (TUPE) and is claimed.

### **34.12 Indirect Loss**

34.12.1 Neither Party will be liable to the other Party for any Indirect Losses or indirect damage.

### **34.13 Additional Clauses**

34.13.1 The Parties expressly agree that if any limitation or provision contained or expressly referred to in this Clause 34 (Indemnities and Liability) is held to be invalid under any Law, it will be deemed omitted to that extent, and if either Party becomes liable for loss or damage to which that limitation or provision applied, that liability will be subject to the remaining limitations and provisions set out in this Clause 34 (Indemnities and Liability).

34.13.2 Nothing in this Clause 34 (Indemnities and Liability) will act to reduce or affect a Party's general duty to mitigate its loss and for the avoidance of doubt including any circumstances under which a Party has the benefit of an indemnity under this Contract.

### **34.14 No Double Recovery**

34.14.1 Neither the Department nor the Contractor will be entitled to recover compensation or make a claim under this Contract in respect of any loss that it or they has or have incurred to the extent that the Party has already been compensated in respect of that loss pursuant to this Contract or otherwise.

## **35 INSURANCE**

### **35.1 Requirement to Maintain**

35.1.1 Without prejudice to its liability to indemnify the Department under Clause 34 (Indemnities and Liability) the Contractor must take out and maintain in force or procure the taking out and maintenance of the Required Insurances and any other insurances as may be required by Law. The insurances will be effective in each case no later than the date on which the relevant risk commences.

35.1.2 The Required Insurances referred to in Clause 35.1.1 will amount to:

- (a) ten million pounds (£10 million) in respect of public liability cover in respect of each and every occurrence;

- (b) ten million pounds (£10 million) in respect of employer's liability cover in respect of each and every occurrence; and
- (c) five million pounds (£5 million) in respect of professional indemnity cover in respect of each and every claim.

35.1.3 The Department reserves the right, at any time, to request evidence that the Required Insurances are in force.

## **36 CHANGE OF CONTROL AND CHANGE IN NAME**

- 36.1 The Contractor represents and warrants to the Department that at the Agreement Date the legal and beneficial ownership of the Contractor is as set out in any tender information or register information supplied by the Contractor and that no arrangements are in place that will result in any sale, transfer or disposal of any legal, beneficial, equitable or other interest in any or all of the shares in the Contractor.
- 36.2 The Contractor will inform the Department in writing if there is a change in its name at least one month prior to the change taking effect unless to do would put the Contractor in breach of the Law. If that is the case the Contractor will inform the Department of the change in its name within 10 Working Days of it becoming lawful to do so.
- 36.3 The Contractor will inform the Department as soon as reasonably practicable and, in any event 12 weeks before any proposed Change of Control of the Contractor takes effect unless to do would put the Contractor in breach of the Law. If that is the case the Contractor will inform the Department of the Change of Control of the Contractor within 10 Working Days of it becoming lawful to do so.
- 36.4 For the avoidance of doubt if there is a Change of Control in the Contractor, this will be considered by the Department in relation to s.74 Procurement Act 2023 as it could potentially constitute a contract modification. The Department will, upon receipt of a notification under Clause 36.3 consider if the requested change is permissible under s.74 Procurement Act 2023 (Sch 8 (Permitted Contract Modifications)). The Department may terminate this Contract under Clause 39.4.16 where the Change of Control is not permissible.
- 36.5 The Department may, at any time, request that the Contractor informs it of the details of any Change of Control and the Contractor will comply with such a request as soon as reasonably practicable and in any event within twenty (20) Working Days of receipt of the Department's request.
- 36.6 The Department will consider any Change of Control in the context of all available information including that provided by the Contractor. The Department will consider the criteria set out in the Funding higher-risk organisations and Subcontractors document which is published on the Department's website [Funding higher risk organisations and subcontractors - GOV.UK](#).
- 36.7 If the Change of Control or change in name breaches this Contract or any policies and criteria referred to in this Contract then, without prejudice to

its other rights under this Contract or otherwise, the Department reserves the right to take action against the Contractor in accordance with Part 8 of this Contract (Termination and Exit Management).

36.8 If there is a Restricted Share Transfer of the Contractor:

36.8.1 the Contractor will give the Department notice of such Restricted Share Transfer at the earliest possible time that it is lawful for the Contractor to do so;

36.8.2 the Department reserves the right to take whatever actions it deems necessary; and

36.8.3 the Department may terminate this Contract under Clause 39.4.16 (Termination) within three (3) months of the Restricted Share Transfer taking place.

### **37 PROHIBITED ACTS**

37.1 The Contractor will not offer or give, or agree to give, to any member, employee or representative of the Secretary of State for Education any gift or consideration of any kind as an inducement or reward for doing or refraining from doing, or for having done or refrained from doing, any act in relation to the obtaining or execution of this Contract or any other contract with the Department or for showing or refraining from showing favour or disfavour to any person in relation to this Contract or any such contract.

37.2 The Contractor's attention is drawn to the criminal offences created by the Bribery Act 2010. Any offence by the Contractor or its employees or by anyone acting on its behalf under the Bribery Act 2010 in relation to this Contract or any contract with the Department or His Majesty's Government will entitle the Department to terminate the Contract and recover from the Contractor the amount of any loss resulting from such termination and/or to recover from the Contractor the amount of value of any gift, consideration or commission.

37.3 The Contractor must not use any Funding provided by the Department under this Contract for any of the purposes set out in paragraph 16 of [6: Grant Agreements \(HTML\) - GOV.UK](#) regardless of whether the Funding consists of a general grant or any other type of grant. For the avoidance of doubt, the Contractor's costs of memberships for their Associations are deemed eligible under the terms of the Contract.

37.4 The Contractor will not hold itself out as acting on behalf of the Department.

## **PART 8: TERMINATION AND EXIT MANAGEMENT**

### **38 WITHHOLDING, SUSPENSION AND REPAYMENT OF FUNDING**

38.1 Without prejudice to the Department's other rights and remedies under this Contract or otherwise, the Department may at its discretion withhold

or suspend or recover payment of Funding if one or more of the following applies:

- 38.1.1 the Contractor materially breaches any of the terms or conditions of this Contract;
- 38.1.2 the Department, acting reasonably, has concerns:
  - (a) about the standard of Services that the Contractor and/or a Subcontractor is delivering or has delivered including in respect of one or more standard or framework; and/or
  - (b) that the quality of leadership at the Contractor is such that one or more Learner has no reasonable prospect of achieving their training objective; and/or
  - (c) that Learners may be at risk on safeguarding grounds;
- 38.1.3 an Awarding Organisation is taking remedial and/or enforcement action against the Contractor and/or a Subcontractor;
- 38.1.4 the Department has reasonable grounds to suspect fraud, financial irregularity, dishonesty, negligence or malpractice by any of the Contractor and/or one or more Contractor Related Party;
- 38.1.5 the Department has concerns about the completeness, accuracy or promptness of the data submitted by the Contractor on the ILR in relation to this Contract or, subject to Clause 38.4 any other agreement;
- 38.1.6 any employee of the Contractor or any other Contractor Related Party has acted or failed to act in a way which, as a result, in the reasonable opinion of the Department, brings or is likely to bring the Department's name, brand or reputation or the Apprenticeships brand into disrepute;
- 38.1.7 the Contractor was not entitled to Funding under the Funding Rules in relation to one or more Learner;
- 38.1.8 there occurs, in respect of the Contractor, any Insolvency Event or Change of Control which, in the reasonable opinion of the Department, may affect the Contractor's ability to comply with its obligations under this Contract; and/or
- 38.1.9 the Contractor fails to comply with any of the provisions set out in this Contract (including the provisions in the Funding Rules and/or any requirements under the Apprenticeship Accountability Framework) and fails to rectify any such failure within 30 days of receiving written notice from the Department (or such other timescale specified in the notice) detailing the failure and requiring it to rectify the failure.
- 38.1.10 The Department is entitled to withhold, suspend or recover payment of Funding under any other provisions in this Contract.

- 38.2 Without prejudice to or limiting the provisions of Clause 38.1.1, where more than one breach (which are not material breaches) have occurred, those breaches (taken together) may be regarded as a material breach.
- 38.3 Rights to withhold, suspend and/or require repayment of the Funding are set out in other provisions in this Contract and in the Funding Rules (as amended from time to time).
- 38.4 If under Clause 38.1.5 some or all of the Department's concerns about the completeness, accuracy or promptness of data relate to data submitted under an agreement other than this Contract, then such concerns are relevant to the extent that they undermine the Department's confidence in the Contractor's ability to comply with its obligations to submit complete or accurate or prompt data in relation to this Contract.
- 38.5 The right to suspend Funding in accordance with Clause 38.1 includes the right to:
- 38.5.1 suspend the payment of Funding to the Contractor in part and/or for a specified period in relation to current Learners; and/or
  - 38.5.2 not consider any applications or pay any Funding for new Learners for a specified period.
- 38.6 Where the Department suspends Funding in accordance with the terms of this Contract, it shall notify the Contractor in writing of the suspension and its duration as well as the intervals at which the suspension will be reviewed for the Department to determine whether the suspension should be withdrawn or extended.
- 38.7 The Department reserves the right to recover from the Contractor any Funding paid to a Contractor under this Contract or pursuant to any arrangement between the employer of apprentices under an Apprenticeship if the Contractor breaches this Contract, the Funding Rules or the entitlement to Funding was based on wrong, inaccurate or misleading information.

## **39 TERMINATION**

### **Termination by either Party**

- 39.1 Either Party may terminate this Contract in whole or in part by giving to the other Party not less than three months' written notice.
- 39.2 Either Party may terminate this Contract with immediate effect by serving written notice if:
- 39.2.1 the other Party commits a material breach of any of its obligations under this Contract which is incapable of remedy; or
  - 39.2.2 the other Party commits a material breach of its obligations under this Contract which is capable of remedy and fails to remedy it or persists in such breach after 30 days of having been required in writing to remedy or desist.

### **Termination by the Department**

- 39.3 Where the Contractor is an individual, if they shall die or be adjudged incapable of managing their affairs within the meaning of Part VII of the Mental Health Act 1983 clause the Department will be entitled to terminate this Contract by notice to the Contractor or its representatives with immediate effect.
- 39.4 The Department may terminate this Contract with immediate effect by serving written notice in the following circumstances:
- 39.4.1 if s.57 Procurement Act 2023 applies to the Contractor;
  - 39.4.2 ceases to be on the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register maintained by the Department;
  - 39.4.3 the Contractor fails to comply with requirements imposed under Clauses 11.11.1 and/or 11.11.2 (Quality Assurance and Raising Standards);
  - 39.4.4 where the circumstances in Clause 12.2.8 applies (failure to comply, respond or cooperate – Financial Health);
  - 39.4.5 where the circumstances in Clause 12.2.9 applies (the outcome of any financial health and/or control assessment undertaken in relation to the Contractor is inadequate – Financial Health);
  - 39.4.6 where the circumstances set out in Clause 13.3 applies (two consecutive Ofsted inspections result in part of the Services being assessed as “requires improvement”);
  - 39.4.7 where the circumstances set out in Clause 13.4 applies (two consecutive Ofsted inspections result in the Services being assessed as overall “requires improvement”);
  - 39.4.8 where the circumstances set out in Clause 13.5 applies (an Ofsted inspection results in part of the Services being assessed as “inadequate”);
  - 39.4.9 where the circumstances set out in Clause 13.7 applies (an Ofsted inspection results in the Services being assessed as overall “inadequate”);
  - 39.4.10 where the circumstances set out in Clause 13.8 applies (failure to accept and comply with additional Contract obligations relating to the improvement of the Services);
  - 39.4.11 where the circumstances set out in Clause 13.9 applies (failure to suspend the recruitment of Learners and/or to cap any growth in the Services);
  - 39.4.12 in accordance with any of the rights set out in Clauses 15.3.4 (Enquiries, Investigations and Inspections) or 22.1.6 (Submission of Learner Data);
  - 39.4.13 in accordance with Clause 13.12.8 (Ofsted Monitoring Visits);
  - 39.4.14 in accordance with Clause 13.12.9 (Ofsted Monitoring Visits);
  - 39.4.15 the Contractor receives a “qualified” rating in two consecutive full funding audits;

- 39.4.16 a Change of Control is proposed by the Contractor or has taken place which is not permissible under s.74 Procurement Act 2023 or which does not comply with the policies and criteria set out in Clause 36.7;
  - 39.4.17 in accordance with Clause 29.1.7, the Contractor does not recruit and/or data returns reveal that no Learners have been enrolled for the Funding Year to which this Contract relates;
  - 39.4.18 in any of the circumstances set out in Clause 29.1.13 (Payment Funding and Audit Provisions) and/or the Department receives information which demonstrates that the Contractor is not complying with its obligations under the Income Tax (Earnings and Pensions) Act 2003 and all other statutes and regulations relating to income tax;
  - 39.4.19 the Contractor commits a material breach of Clause 33 (Subcontracting);
  - 39.4.20 as set out in Clause 34.10 (Contractor Aggregate Liability);
  - 39.4.21 the Contractor commits one or more Prohibited Acts;
  - 39.4.22 where any of the circumstances set out in Clause 38 (Withholding, Suspension and Repayment of Funding) occurs;
  - 39.4.23 the Contractor repeatedly breaches any of the terms of this Contract in such a manner as to reasonably justify the opinion that its conduct is inconsistent with it having the intention or ability to give full effect to the terms of this Contract;
  - 39.4.24 an Insolvency Event affecting the Contractor occurs; and/or
  - 39.4.25 if the Department terminates another contract with the Contractor on fault grounds similar to the Department's termination rights set out in this Contract.
- 39.5 This Contract will be voidable where, following an evaluation of the last three (3) years' Data Submissions relating to any other contract with the Department, the Department concludes that the Contractor was in material breach of that contract or contracts and if the Department had known at the time of awarding and/or entering into this Contract that the Contractor had committed a material breach, it would not have awarded and/or entered into this Contract.
- 39.6 If the circumstances set out in Clause 39.5 arise and the Contract is declared void, the parties will be deemed to have subsequently entered into a new legally binding agreement that includes the provisions set out in the table at Clause 56.1.2.
- 39.7 Where the Contractor goes into administration or liquidation, the Department must be assumed to be a creditor of the Contractor. The Contractor must take steps to ensure that the Department is provided with details of the administrator or liquidator and receives notification of any creditors meetings. The Department will confirm whether in fact it is a creditor within 12 weeks of being notified that the Contractor is in administration or liquidation.

## **40 CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION AND EXPIRY**

- 40.1 Notice of termination of the Contract under Clause 39 will result in the Contractor being removed from the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register.
- 40.2 The Contractor must not recruit new Learners, including Learners that have transferred from another provider, after notice of termination of the Contract has been given. The Department will not be liable to make payments in respect of any Learners recruited in breach of this clause.
- 40.3 The Department reserves the right to retain Funding that would otherwise be paid to the Contractor prior to the Expiry Date or Termination Date and/or to demand repayment of Funding, as relevant, in order to reconcile what has already been paid to the Contractor under Schedule 3 (Payment) with the amount the Contractor is entitled to under this Contract (including the Funding Rules).
- 40.4 On or before the Expiry Date (except where the Contractor will be responsible for delivering the Services in the subsequent Funding Year) or Termination Date, the Contractor must (at its own cost) ensure that all Learner files, documents and computer records in its and a Sub contractor's possession, custody or control (including but not limited to e-portfolios) which contain information relating to the Services are transferred to the Department upon request.
- 40.5 For the avoidance of doubt, after notice of termination and/or an Insolvency Event affecting the Contractor, the Contractor must not share any information about Learners, including but not limited to Department Data, with another organisation unless the Department provides written authorisation for the Contractor to do so. In addition, the Contractor shall not recruit Learners from another contractor that has been issued with a notice of termination and/or in relation to whom an Insolvency Event has occurred, without the permission of the Department.
- 40.6 The Contractor hereby grants the Department a non-exclusive licence to access the Contractor's Premises from the date of a notice of termination for such periods as may be reasonably necessary to enable the Department to retrieve the information referred to in Clause 40.4. The Department will exercise the rights provided under this clause where the Contractor has failed to comply with Clause 40.4 and the obligations set out in Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements).
- 40.7 The termination or expiry of this Contract shall be without prejudice to rights of either Party accrued prior to the Termination Date or Expiry Date and shall not affect the continuing rights of the Parties under any provision of the Contract that either expressly or by implication has effect after the Termination Date or the Expiry Date.
- 40.8 For the avoidance of doubt, the termination of this Contract howsoever arising shall not entitle the Contractor to any compensation.
- 40.9 Where this Contract is terminated or expires, the Department may elect to take the role of Data Controller to secure and protect Learner Files,

Learner Records and/or Evidence Packs, including e-portfolios until the Learner information can be transferred to a new Contractor, the Learner, or destroyed in accordance with defined retention periods. If the Department elects to assume this role, the Contractor shall co-operate fully to facilitate this.

## **41 EXIT ARRANGEMENTS**

- 41.1 The Department and the Contractor must, unless the Contractor will be responsible for delivering the Services in the following Funding Year, comply with their respective obligations in relation to the exit arrangements set out in Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements) and any current Exit Plan.
- 41.2 On (i) the Department giving notice under Clause 12.2.7 (notice to transfer Learner(s)); or (ii) either Party giving notice of termination for any reason; or (iii) 30 days before the Expiry Date, the Contractor shall do its utmost to minimise any disruption to Learners and shall co-operate fully with any reasonable requests made by the Department relating to this. For the avoidance of doubt the Department will be entitled to request that where the Contractor cannot complete Learners that it will co-operate in transferring the Learners to a new provider even if this is prior to the Termination Date or Expiry Date of this Contract and the Contractor's Exit Plan should reflect this. The Department will not be liable for any costs prior to or after the Termination Date or Expiry Date incurred by the Contractor in complying with this Clause 41.2.
- 41.3 Unless the Department otherwise requires, during the time between service of a notice of termination of this Contract in whole or in part and such termination taking effect, the Contractor must take all steps, which are necessary and consistent with its continuing obligations, to mitigate any losses, costs, liabilities and expenses which the Contractor may incur as a result of the termination, including to:
- 41.3.1 cancel all capital and recurring cost commitments in connection with the provision of the Services on the most cost-effective terms without fettering the Department's access to Department Data and the Database;
- 41.3.2 terminate all relevant contracts or the relevant parts of relevant contracts with its Subcontractors in connection with the provision of Services on the most favourable terms as can be achieved in the particular circumstances, having first ascertained from the Department whether such contracts are required to be transferred to the Department or any Successor Contractor instead; and
- 41.3.3 reduce labour costs by the redeployment or release of Contractor's Personnel to the extent possible in the circumstances.

- 41.4 If the Contractor does not fulfil its obligations in accordance with Clause 41.3, the Department will not pay any sums in excess of those which the Department would have paid had such action been taken.
- 41.5 If the Contractor does not co-operate with the Department in relation to exit in accordance with this Clause 41 and the Department incurs additional expenditure of any description as a result, the Department reserves the right to require the Contractor to reimburse the Department for this additional expenditure.

## **PART 9: GENERAL PROVISIONS**

### **42 PROVISION OF INFORMATION**

- 42.1 The Department may share information provided by the Contractor under this Contract and information about the Contractor or Contract, with other Government departments, Crown Bodies, Inspectorates, Combined Authorities and local authorities.
- 42.2 In addition to the other requirements to provide information set out in this Contract, the Department reserves the right to request information from the Contractor in order to exercise its responsibilities and/or to fulfil requirements to provide information to the Secretary of State, to account to Parliament and to meet European funding requirements (where applicable). On occasion, the Department will require urgent information from the Contractor.
- 42.3 The Contractor must provide the Department or agents acting on its behalf with the information it requires under Clause 42.2 at the times and in the formats specified by the Department. This information will be of sufficient quality to meet the purposes for which it has been requested.
- 42.4 Failure to comply with any request for information under this clause, at all or in the required timescales, will constitute a breach of contract.

### **43 SERVICE OF NOTICES**

- 43.1 Any notice or other document to be given under this Contract must be in writing and personally delivered, emailed, sent through the Department's electronic portal or sent by first class post to the address of the relevant party, as referred to above or in the case of an email address or correspondence address, as notified by the relevant party in writing from time to time. The notice or communication will be considered delivered as follows:
- 43.1.1 if personally delivered, when handed over to the addressee;
- 43.1.2 if sent by email or through the Department's electronic portal, on the day the email is sent if sent on a Working Day and before 5.00 pm, otherwise the email will be deemed delivered at 9.00 am on the next Working Day;

43.1.3 if sent by first class post, on the second Working Day after the day on which it is posted.

43.2 All such notices and documents must be in the English language. To prove the giving of a notice or other document it will be sufficient to show that it was despatched.

## **44 ENTIRE CONTRACT**

### **44.1 Prior Representations Superseded**

44.1.1 Except where expressly provided in this Contract, this Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties in connection with its subject matter and supersedes all prior representations, communications, negotiations and understandings concerning the subject matter of this Contract.

### **44.2 Acknowledgements**

44.2.1 Each of the Parties acknowledges that:

- (a) it does not enter into this Contract on the basis of and does not rely, and has not relied, upon any statement or representation (whether negligent or innocent) or warranty or other provision (in any case whether oral, written, express or implied) made or agreed to by any person (whether a Party to this Contract or not) except those expressly repeated or referred to in this Contract and the only remedy or remedies available in respect of any misrepresentation or untrue statement made to it will be any remedy available under this Contract; and
- (b) this clause will not apply to any statement, representation or warranty made fraudulently, or to any provisions of this Contract which was induced by fraud, for which the remedies available will be all those available under this Contract and under the Law governing this Contract.

## **45 NO AGENCY**

### **45.1 No Partnership, Joint Venture or Employment**

45.1.1 Nothing in this Contract will be construed as creating a partnership or joint venture or as a contract of employment between the Department and the Contractor.

### **45.2 No Agency or Power to Bind**

45.2.1 Save as expressly provided otherwise in this Contract, the Contractor must not be, or be deemed to be, an agent of the Department and the Contractor will not hold itself out as having authority or power to bind the Department in any way.

## **46 EXERCISE OF STATUTORY AUTHORITY**

46.1 Nothing in this Contract will be construed as a fetter or restriction on the exercise by the Department of its statutory functions.

## **47 PUBLIC RELATIONS AND PUBLICITY**

47.1 The Contractor must not by itself, its employees or agents and shall procure that its Contractor Personnel must not:

47.1.1 take part in any communications with representatives of the press, television, radio or other communications media on any matter concerning this Contract; and/or

47.1.2 use or make use of the Department's name, logo or other branding without the prior written approval of the Department.

without the prior written consent of the Department.

## **48 AMENDMENTS TO THIS CONTRACT**

48.1 This Contract will not be amended unless such amendment has been agreed in writing. For the avoidance of doubt this will include any amendments required to effect a Change agreed in accordance with Clause 6 (Change in Service) and Schedule 4 (Change Control Procedure).

## **49 WAIVER**

49.1 No term or provision of this Contract will be considered as waived by any Party to this Contract unless a waiver is given in writing by that Party. No act or omission of either Party shall by itself amount to a waiver of any right or remedy unless expressly stated by that Party in writing. In particular, no reasonable delay in exercising any right or remedy shall by itself constitute a waiver of that right or remedy.

49.2 No waiver under Clause 49.1 shall be a waiver of a past or future default or breach, nor shall it amend, delete or add to the terms, conditions or provisions of this Contract unless (and then only to the extent) expressly stated in that waiver.

## **50 SEVERABILITY**

50.1 If any term, condition or provision contained in this Contract is held to be invalid, unlawful or unenforceable to any extent, such term, condition or provision shall not affect the validity, legality or enforceability of the remaining parts of this Contract.

## **51 LAW AND JURISDICTION**

51.1 This Contract is governed by the Laws of England and Wales and, subject to Disputes which are properly referred to and resolved in accordance with

the Dispute Resolution Procedure, the Parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of England and Wales.

## **52 INTEREST ON LATE PAYMENTS**

52.1 The Parties will pay interest on any amount payable under this Contract not paid by the required date, from that date to the date of payment at the rate of 4% above the base lending rate published by the Bank of England. The Parties agree that this clause constitutes a substantial remedy for the purposes of the Late Payments of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998. For the avoidance of doubt, the Contractor will have no right to claim interest on corrections issued by the Department.

## **53 MITIGATION**

53.1 The Department and the Contractor will at all times take all reasonable steps to minimise and mitigate any loss for which the relevant Party is entitled to bring a claim against the other Party pursuant to this Contract and to take all reasonable steps to minimise and mitigate any effects or circumstances and/or events adversely affecting the performance of its obligations under this Contract which would otherwise entitle that Party to relief and/or to claim compensation hereunder.

## **54 FURTHER ASSURANCE**

54.1 Each Party must do all things and execute all further documents necessary to give full effect to this Contract.

## **55 THIRD PARTY RIGHTS**

55.1 No term of this Contract is enforceable under the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 by a person who is not a party to this Contract.

## **56 CONTINUING OBLIGATIONS**

56.1 Save as otherwise expressly provided in this Contract:-

56.1.1 the termination or expiry of this Contract will be without prejudice to any accrued rights and obligations under this Contract as at the Expiry Date or the Termination Date; and

56.1.2 the termination or expiry of this Contract will not affect the continuing rights or obligations of the Department and the Contractor under the Clauses in the table below and/or under any other provision of this Contract which is expressed to survive expiry or termination or which is required to give effect to such expiry or termination or the consequences of such expiry or termination for a period of six (6) years (or such longer term as may be specified in this Contract), after such expiry or termination:

Clause	Description
14	Fraud and Irregularity
15.4	Complaints and Feedback
17	Dispute Resolution
18	Intellectual Property Rights
19	Assignment of IPR in Databases
20	Department Data
21	Data Protection and Protection of Personal Data
24	Freedom of Information and Confidentiality
25	Employees
28	Re-Provision of the Services
29	Payment, Funding and Audit
31	Contractor's Records and Audit
34	Indemnities and Liability
35	Insurance
40	Consequences of Termination and Expiry
41	Exit Arrangements
47	Public Relations and Publicity
Schedule 6	TUPE
Schedule 7	UK GDPR/Data Protection
Schedule 8	Security & Department Policies
Schedule 9	Exit Arrangements

## **SCHEDULE 1: DEFINITIONS**

<b>“Account Manager”</b>	the person appointed by the Contractor in accordance with Clause 16.2 (Account Manager);
<b>“Agreement Date”</b>	the date of this Contract;
<b>“Apprenticeship”</b>	means the training and (where applicable) end point assessment for an employee as part of a job with an accompanying skills development programme;
<b>“Apprenticeship Accountability Framework”</b>	means the framework set out by the Department at <a href="#">Apprenticeship training provider accountability framework - GOV.UK</a> that includes quality indicators and supplementary indicators to which the Contractor must adhere as updated and amended from time to time;
<b>“Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register”</b> <b>“APAR”</b>	means the Apprenticeship Provider and Assessment Register (APAR) which is a record of organisations that are eligible to receive government funding to train Apprentices, and/or can undertake end-point assessments.
<b>“ASBO”</b>	an anti-social behaviour order as defined in the Crime and Disorder Act 1998;
<b>“Awarding Organisation”</b>	an organisation that is regulated by Ofqual or is recognised by QAA as an access validating agency;
<b>“Background Intellectual Property”</b>	means any intellectual property, other than Foreground intellectual Property, which is used in performing the Services or comprises part of the Work;
<b>“Barred List”</b>	means the list of individuals who are barred from engaging in regulated activity with children, adults or both in England and Wales maintained by the Disclosure and Barring Service;
<b>“Brokerage”</b>	means the provision by a third party of services, for a fee, to source Subcontractors to provide the Services on behalf of the Contractor;
<b>“Business Continuity Plan”</b>	any plan prepared pursuant to Clause 5.1, as may be amended from time to time;
<b>“Change”</b>	any change to the Services which will then be progressed through the Change Control Procedure (for the avoidance of doubt excluding a change to

	this Contract which will be dealt with in accordance with Clause 48 (Amendments to this Contract));
<b>“Change Control Procedure”</b>	means the procedure as set out in Schedule 4 (Change Control Procedure);
<b>“Change of Control”</b>	means: (a) any event where any single person or group of persons acting in concert (within the meaning of the City Code on Takeovers and Mergers) acquires any direct or indirect legal and/or beneficial interest in the share capital (as defined in section 545 of the Companies Act 2006) of the Contractor as a result of which that person or group of persons has a direct or indirect interest in more than 25% of the share capital of the Contractor; and/or (b) a change in the top two tiers of the management team of the Contractor.
<b>“Child” or “Children”</b>	shall have the meaning given to it in section 60 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006;
<b>“Combined Authority”</b>	means an authority established under section 103(1) of the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 or an authority to which a delegation of the Secretary of State’s functions has been made under section 39A of the Greater London Authority Act 1999;
<b>“Confidential Information”</b>	means any information, including Personal Data as defined by the Data Protection Legislation 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");
<b>“Contract”</b>	means the Contract between the above named parties consisting of the Terms and Conditions, the Schedules, the specification and any other documents (or parts thereof) specified in the Contract and any variations to the Contract agreed in writing and signed by both Parties;

<b>“Contract Manager”</b>	the person appointed by the Department in accordance with Clause 16.1 (Contract Manager);
<b>“Contract Period”</b>	means the period between the Agreement Date and the Expiry Date, unless terminated earlier on the Termination Date;
<b>“Contractor Personnel”</b>	means all persons employed or engaged by the Contractor together with the Contractor’s servants, agents, consultants and Subcontractors (and all persons employed by any Subcontractor together with the Subcontractor’s servants, consultants, agents, Contractor’s and Subcontractors) used in the performance of its obligations under this Contract;
<b>“Contractor Related Party”</b>	means any officer, agent, employee of the Contractor acting in the course of their office or employment including any Subcontractors supplied by the Contractor in relation to the Services;
<b>“Contractor System”</b>	the information and communications technology system used by the Contractor in performing the Services including the Contractor’s equipment and related cabling (but excluding the Department System);
<b>“Convictions”</b>	other than for minor road traffic offences, any previous or pending prosecutions, convictions, cautions and binding over orders (including any spent convictions as contemplated by section 1(1) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the exemptions specified in Part II of Schedule 1 of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exemptions) Order 1975 (SI 1975/1023) or any replacement or amendment to that Order, or is a Barred person in accordance with section 3 of the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006;
<b>“Crown Body”</b>	means any department, office or agency of the Crown, including Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission, the Charity Commission, the Office for Students, Ofqual, any and all local authority or Combined Authority bodies;
<b>“Data”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;
<b>“Database”</b>	the rights in or to the data held in the Contractor’s system in accordance with the Specification;
<b>“Data Controller”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;

<b>“Data Loss Event”</b>	any event that results, or may result, in unauthorised access to Personal Data held by the Data 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;
<b>“Data Processor”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;
<b>“Data Processor Personnel”</b>	means all directors, officers, employees, agents, consultants and contractors of the Data Processor and/or of any Data Sub-Processor engaged in the performance of its obligations under this Contract;
<b>“Data Protection Impact Assessment”</b>	an assessment by the Data Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data;
<b>“Data Protection Legislation”</b>	(i) the UK GDPR as amended from time to time; (ii) the Data Protection Act 2018 as amended from time to time; (iii) Regulations made under the Data Protection Act 2018; and (iv) all applicable Law about the Processing of Personal Data;
<b>“Data Protection Officer”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;
<b>“Data Subject”, “Process” and “Processing”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;
<b>“Data Subject Access Request” (SAR or DSAR)</b>	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;
<b>“Data Sub-Processor”</b>	any third Party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of the Data Processor related to this Contract;
<b>“Department”</b>	means the Secretary of State for Education acting through the Department for Education;
<b>“Department Data”</b>	means any data (including metadata), record, document or information howsoever stored which is either:  (a) communicated by the Department, its staff, Subcontractors and agents to the Contractor in writing, orally, electronically or by any other means relating to the Learners and/or Services provided to the Learners; or

	<p>(b) is obtained, gleaned, compiled or processed by the Contractor during the course of the Contractor providing the Services relating to or provided to the Learners, including Personal Data for which the Department is the Data Controller</p> <p>including but not limited to ILR Data, e-portfolios, and learner files;</p>
<b>“Department Policies”</b>	the policies of the Department referred to in Schedule 8 (Security & Department Policies) and any other policies of the Department including but not limited to the Department’s policy on funding higher risk organisations and Subcontractors in force as at the Agreement Date and amended from time to time;
<b>“Department Related Party”</b>	means any officer, agent, worker, employee of the Department acting in the course of their office, engagement or employment in relation to the Services;
<b>“Department System”</b>	means the Department’s computing environment (consisting of hardware, software and/or telecommunications networks or equipment) used by the Department or the Contractor in connection with this Contract which is owned by or licensed to the Department by a third party and which interfaces with the Contractor System or which is necessary for the Department to receive the Services;
<b>“Disclosure and Barring Service” or “DBS”</b>	means the non-departmental public body established pursuant to the Protection of Freedoms Act 2012;
<b>“Dispute Resolution Procedure”</b>	means the procedure for resolving disputes as set out in Clause 17 (Dispute Resolution);
<b>“DPA 2018”</b>	Data Protection Act 2018;
<b>“Earnings Adjustment Statement”</b>	means <a href="#">Earnings adjustment statement (EAS) - GOV.UK</a> as updated and amended from time to time;
<b>“EIR”</b>	means the Environmental Information Regulations 2004;
<b>“Exempt Information”</b>	means any information or class of information (including but not limited to any document, report, contract or other material containing information)

	relating to this Contract or otherwise relating to the Contractor, which potentially falls within an exemption to FOIA (as set out therein);
<b>“Exemption Case”</b>	means the case submitted by the Contractor to the Department in accordance with “Subcontracting threshold and exemption cases” of the Subcontracting Funding Rules for permission to exceed the Subcontracting Threshold;
<b>“Expiry Date”</b>	means 31 October 2026;
<b>“Financial Handbook for Independent Training Providers”</b>	means the guidance at <a href="#">Financial handbook for independent training providers - Guidance - GOV.UK</a> as updated and amended from time to time;
<b>“Financial Year”</b>	means a period of 12 months starting on 1 April and ending on 31 March;
<b>“Find a Tender Service”</b>	means the Government’s publishing portal for public sector procurement opportunities;
<b>“FOIA”</b>	means the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and all regulations made thereunder 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 24 (Freedom of Information and Confidentiality);
<b>“FOIA Notice”</b>	means a decision notice, enforcement notice and/or an information notice;
<b>“Foreground Intellectual Property”</b>	means any intellectual property that arises or is obtained or developed by, or on behalf of, the Contractor in respect of the Work in the course of or in connection with the provision of the Services excluding Learner Files;
<b>“Funding”</b>	means the funding paid to the Contractor by the Department in accordance with this Contract and the Funding Rules for the delivery of the Services;
<b>“Funding Agreement”</b>	means the table as set out in Schedule 3 (Payment);
<b>“Funding Higher Risk Organisations Policy”</b>	means the policy described in Schedule 10 (Subcontracting) and available at <a href="#">Funding higher risk organisations and subcontractors policy - GOV.UK</a>
<b>“Funding Period”</b>	means the period set out on page 1 of this Contract.

<b>“Funding Rules”</b>	means the documents produced by the Department which set out the detailed requirements with which the Contractor must comply in respect of the Services delivered under this Contract as may be amended by the Department from time to time and as referred to in Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring).
<b>“Funding Stream”</b>	means each stream of Funding as set out in Schedule 3 (Payment);
<b>“Funding Year”</b>	means a period of 12 months starting on 1 August and ending on 31 July;
<b>“Good Industry Practice”</b>	means the exercise of that degree of skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness as would be expected from a leading company within the relevant industry or business sector.
<b>“Guidance”</b>	any applicable guidance or directions with which the Contractor is bound to comply;
<b>“High Needs Learner”</b>	means a Learner aged 16 to 18 with high levels of Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND), supported with top-up funding from the high needs budget, or any young person aged up to 25 subject to an Education Health and Care Plan, who requires additional support costing over £6,000;
<b>“ICT Environment”</b>	means the Department System and the Contractor System;
<b>“ILR” or “Individualised Learner Record”</b>	means the on-going collection of Learner data undertaken by training providers including the Contractor in the Further Education (FE) and Skills sector as set out at <a href="#">Individualised Learner Record (ILR) - GOV.UK</a> ;
<b>“ILR Data”</b>	means Individualised Learner Record data;
<b>“Incident Response Plan”</b>	means each Party’s operational plan for response to and recovery from Significant Incidents or Emergencies as identified in national, local and community risk registers and in accordance with the requirements of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004;
<b>“Indirect Losses”</b>	means loss of profits, loss of production, loss of business, loss of business opportunity, or any claim for consequential loss or for indirect loss of any nature;

<p><b>“Insolvency Event”</b></p>	<p>means, in respect of the Contractor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) a proposal is made for a voluntary arrangement within Part I of the Insolvency Act 1986 or of any other composition scheme or arrangement with, or assignment for the benefit of, its creditors; or</li> <li>(b) a shareholders' meeting is convened for the purpose of considering a resolution that it be wound up or a resolution for its winding-up is passed (other than as part of, and exclusively for the purpose of, a bona fide reconstruction or amalgamation); or</li> <li>(c) a petition is presented for its winding up (which is not dismissed within 14 Working Days of its service) or an application is made for the appointment of a provisional liquidator or a creditors' meeting is convened pursuant to section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</li> <li>(d) a receiver, administrative receiver or similar officer is appointed over the whole or any part of its business or assets; or</li> <li>(e) an application order is made either for the appointment of an administrator or for an administration order, an administrator is appointed, or notice of intention to appoint an administrator is given; or</li> <li>(f) being a "small company" within the meaning of section 382(3) of the Companies Act 2006, a moratorium comes into force pursuant to Schedule A1 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</li> <li>(g) it suspends, or threatens to suspend, payment of its debts, or is unable to pay its debts as they fall due or admits inability to pay its debts, or: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. (being a company or a LLP) is deemed unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986, or</li> <li>b. (being a partnership) is deemed unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 222 of the Insolvency Act 1986; or</li> </ul> </li> <li>(h) a creditor or encumbrancer attaches or takes possession of, or a distress, execution or other such process is levied or enforced on or sued against, the whole or any part of its assets and such attachment or process is not discharged within fourteen (14) days; or</li> </ul>
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	<p>(i) where the Contractor or a Subcontractor is an individual:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. if a petition is presented for the Contractor’s or a Subcontractor’s bankruptcy; or</li> <li>b. if a criminal bankruptcy order is made against the Contractor or a Subcontractor; or</li> <li>c. if the Contractor or a Subcontractor makes any composition or arrangements with or for the benefit of creditors, or makes any conveyance or assignment for the benefit of creditors, or</li> <li>d. if an administrator is appointed to manage the affairs of the Contractor or a Subcontractor; or</li> </ul> <p>(j) where the Contractor or Subcontractor is not an individual but is a firm or a number of persons acting together in any capacity: if any of the events mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (h) above occurs in respect of any partner in the firm or any of those persons or a petition is presented for the Contractor or Subcontractor to be wound up as an unregistered company; or</p> <p>(k) any event occurs, or proceeding is taken, with respect to it in any jurisdiction to which it is subject that has an effect equivalent or similar to any of the events mentioned above.</p>
<p><b>“Inspectorates”</b></p>	<p>means one, any or all of the inspectorates: Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills (Ofsted), His Majesty’s Inspectorate for Education and Training in Wales (Estyn), the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, the Office for Students, the Care Quality Commission (CQC) and the Local Government Ombudsman;</p>
<p><b>“Intellectual Property Rights”</b></p>	<p>means any patent, registered design, copyright, database right, design right, topography right, trademark, trade name, application to register any of the aforementioned rights, trade secret, inventions, right in unpatented know-how, right of confidence and any other intellectual or industrial property right of any nature whatsoever in any part of the world including, without limitation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) any renewals, revisions and extensions created or provided by the laws of any country;</li> </ul>

	<p>(b) all rights of action and remedies (including but not limited to an injunction, damages and/or an account of profits) in relation to past infringements; and</p> <p>(c) the right to apply for registration of any such rights in any country of the world;</p>
<b>“Law”</b>	any law, statute, subordinate legislation within the meaning of section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, right within the meaning of section 4(1) EU Withdrawal Act 2018 as amended by EU (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 Contractor is bound to comply;
<b>“Learner”</b>	means any third party including any student, apprentice (under an Apprenticeship), trainee or similar to whom the Contractor is required to deliver any of the Services;
<b>“Learner Files” / “Learner Records” / “Evidence Packs”</b>	means any information relating to a Learner generated by the Contractor, the Learner or a third party for the purpose of the delivery of the Learning Programme;
<b>“Learning Programme”</b>	means a programme of education and/or training delivered by the Contractor under this Contract;
<b>“Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)”</b>	means a legal relationship between two or more local authorities by way of partnership or otherwise, created for the purposes of identifying, determining and facilitating economic opportunities that generate economic growth, prosperity and job creation in a particular area;
<b>“Malicious Software”</b>	any software program or code intended to destroy, interfere with, corrupt, or cause undesired effects on program files, data or other information, executable code or application software macros, whether or not its operation is immediate or delayed, and whether the malicious software is introduced wilfully, negligently or without knowledge of its existence;
<b>“Material Change”</b>	means a Change that leads to a demonstrable material increase to the Contractor’s costs or requires a significant Change to the Contract;

<b>“Minor Change”</b>	means a Change during the Contract Period to operational and administrative procedures but which is not a Material Change;
<b>“Occasion of Tax Non-Compliance”</b>	<p>(a) any tax return of the Contractor submitted to a Relevant Tax Authority on or after 1 October 2012 is found on or after 1 April 2013 to be incorrect as a result of:</p> <p>(i) a Relevant Tax Authority successfully challenging the Contractor under the General Anti-Abuse Rule or the Halifax Abuse Principle or under any tax rules or legislation that have an effect equivalent or similar to the General Anti-Abuse Rule or the Halifax Abuse Principle;</p> <p>(ii) the failure of an avoidance scheme which the Contractor was involved in, and which was, or should have been, notified to a Relevant Tax Authority under the DOTAS or any equivalent or similar regime; and/or</p> <p>(b) any tax return of the Contractor submitted to a Relevant Tax Authority on or after 1 October 2012 gives rise on or after 1 April 2013 to a criminal conviction in any jurisdiction for tax related offences which is not spent at the Agreement Date or to a civil penalty for fraud or evasion;</p>
<b>“Offender Manager”</b>	means an officer from His Majesty’s Prison and Probation Service who is working directly with an offender serving their sentence in the community;
<b>“Ofsted”</b>	means the Office for Standards in Education, Children’s Services and Skills;
<b>“Ofsted Monitoring Visit”</b>	means an interim type of inspection carried out by Ofsted in accordance with the Further Education and Skills Inspection Handbook ( <a href="#">Further education and skills inspection handbook - GOV.UK</a> )
<b>“Parties”</b>	means the Department acting on behalf of the Crown and the Contractor;
<b>“Personal Data”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;
<b>“Personal Data Breach”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;

<b>“Personal Data Requiring Sensitive Processing”</b>	takes the meaning given in the UK GDPR;
<b>“Premises”</b>	means the location(s) where the Services are to be performed;
<b>“Procurement Law”</b>	means the Public Contract Regulations 2015 or the Procurement Act 2023, as applicable;
<b>“Prohibited Acts”</b>	means the acts specified in Clause 37 (Prohibited Acts);
<b>“Protective Measures”</b>	appropriate technical and organisational measures which may include: pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of such measures adopted by it including those outlined in the Terms and Conditions of the Contract;
<b>“Provision”</b>	the Services that the Contractor is under an obligation under this Contract to deliver in accordance with Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring);
<b>“Regulated Qualification Framework” or “RQF”</b>	a system for cataloguing all qualifications regulated by Ofqual;
<b>“Regulatory Body”</b>	means those government departments and regulatory, statutory and other entities, committees, ombudsmen and bodies which, whether under statute, rules, regulations, codes of practice or otherwise, are entitled to regulate or investigate the matters dealt with in this Contract or any other affairs of the Contractor or the Department, including, without limitation Ofsted, the European Commission and the European Court of Auditors;
<b>“Relevant Authority”</b>	any court with the relevant jurisdiction and any local, national or supra-national agency, inspectorate, minister, ministry, officer or public or statutory person of the Government of the United Kingdom or of the European Union;

<b>“Restricted Transfer”</b>	a transfer of Personal Data which is undergoing processing or which is intended to be processed after transfer, to a country or territory to which such transfer is prohibited or subject to any requirement to take additional steps to adequately protect the Personal Data processed under this Contract for the transfer to be lawful under the Data Protection Legislation;
<b>“Restricted Share Transfer”</b>	any transfer of shares or ownership in the Contractor or its holding company or in the senior management (including shadow directors) of the Contractor or its holding company to a person who had a significant influence as a director and/or a shareholder over another training provider and in respect of which within the last three years the Department has terminated one or more contract for similar Services as are being delivered under this Contract or the Department would have terminated the Contract had the training provider not pre-emptively terminated the relevant agreement;
<b>“Services”</b>	means the services to be provided in accordance with the Funding Rules and Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring);
<b>“Services Start Date”</b>	means the date as set out in Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring);
<b>“Significant Incident or Emergency”</b>	an event or occurrence which: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) constitutes an emergency for the purposes of the Civil Contingencies Act 2004; and/or</li> <li>(ii) constitutes an emergency under local and community risk registers; and/or</li> <li>(iii) is designated as a significant or emergency incident under the Incident Response Plan;</li> </ul>
<b>“SME”</b>	means an enterprise falling within the category of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises defined by the Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises;
<b>“Specification”</b>	means the documents contained in Schedule 2 (Specification & Monitoring) setting out the Department’s requirements for the Services to be provided under this Contract;

<b>“Staffing Information”</b>	as defined in Schedule 6 (TUPE);
<b>“Subcontract”</b>	means an agreement entered into between the Contractor and a Subcontractor for the purposes of engaging the Subcontractor to deliver part of the Services on behalf of the Contractor;
<b>“Subcontracting”</b>	means the delivery of learning by a separate legal entity to the Contractor, irrespective of whether such learning is provided by a third party recruited to deliver on site (travel to teach), online learning or whether it is described as a service.
<b>“Subcontracting Threshold”</b>	means 25% of the Learners in each Funding Stream under this Contract in any given Funding Year;
<b>“Subcontractor”</b>	means a separate legal entity or an individual (not an employee) that has an agreement (called a Subcontract) with the Contractor to deliver any element of the Services paid for by the Funding. A separate legal entity includes but is not limited to companies in the Contractor’s group, other associated companies and sole traders. An individual could include a person who is a sole trader, self-employed, a freelancer or someone who is employed by an agency, unless those individuals are working under the Contractor’s direct management and control in the same way as the Contractor’s own employees. This does not include relationships between the Contractor and other third parties providing services such as marketing;
<b>“Subcontractor Declaration”</b>	means the declaration that the Department requires a Contractor to complete specifying whether or not the Contractor is Subcontracting any of the Services and if so, what Services and the amount of Funding that represents;
<b>“Subcontractor Policies”</b>	means the Department’s policies that apply to Subcontracting and Subcontractors as set out at <a href="#">Subcontracting post-16 education and training - GOV.UK</a> ;
<b>“Subsidy Control”</b>	means the UK Government’s rules on the provision of subsidies.
<b>“Successor Contractor”</b>	means the person nominated by the Department to undertake the services substantially the same as the Services after the termination of this Contract;

<b>“Termination Date”</b>	means any date on which this Contract terminates in accordance with Clause 39 (Termination);
<b>“Transferring Former Supplier Employees”</b>	as defined in Schedule 6 (TUPE);
<b>“UK GDPR”</b>	the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679) as transposed into United Kingdom national law by operation of section 3 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, together with the Data Protection, Privacy and Electronic Communications (Amendments etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019;
<b>“Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise” or “VCSE”</b>	means a non-governmental organisation that is value-driven and which principally reinvests its surpluses to further social, environmental or cultural objectives;
<b>“Work”</b>	means all materials created by the Contractor as a result of the provision of the Services including Confidential Information and all designs, drawings, data, specifications and all other technical business and similar information relating to the Services including all readable or computer or other machine readable data or material and any material relating to or comprising software which may be part of the provision of the Services;
<b>“Working Day”</b>	a day (other than a Saturday or Sunday) on which banks are open for domestic business in the City of London.

## **SCHEDULE 4: CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE**

1. The Parties acknowledge that Changes to the Contract may be necessary to reflect operational and administrative procedures during the Contract Period and that such Changes will be advised to the Contractor.
2. The Contractor will use reasonable endeavours to incorporate Changes implemented by the Department within the current Funding.
3. The Department may implement a Change on giving the Contractor reasonable notice provided that such Change does not amount to a Material Change that extends the scope of the Service(s).
4. If a Change amounts to a Material Change, the Department will give the Contractor written notice of the proposed Material Change and will give the Contractor 10 Working Days to respond to the Department with any comments including on the scope of the proposed Material Change and any impact on the Funding.
5. The Department will consider any comments made by the Contractor under Paragraph 4 and will notify the Contractor of whether or not it intends to implement the Material Change and if it does, of the terms of the Material Change. The Department's decision in relation to a Change is final.
6. The Department may implement a Change by communicating the Change through the Department's publications, Update or Inform, or through updates to Funding Rules and other related documents on GOV.UK. The Contractor will subscribe to alerts from GOV.UK so they are made aware of Changes.
7. For the avoidance of doubt the Department may implement a reduction in Funding as set out in the Funding Rules through a notification and not a Change or deed of variation, such a notification will be deemed to be an amendment under Clause 48 (Amendments to this Contract).

## **SCHEDULE 5: CONTRACTOR'S RESPONSE/PROPOSALS**

## SCHEDULE 6: TUPE

### TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS (PROTECTION OF EMPLOYMENT) REGULATIONS 2006 AND PENSIONS ASPECTS

#### Staff Transfer

#### 1 DEFINITIONS

In addition to the Definitions contained in Schedule 1 (Definitions) of this Contract, in this Schedule 6 (TUPE), the following definitions will apply:

<b>“Contractor’s Final Contractor Personnel List”</b>	a list provided by the Contractor of all Contractor Personnel who will transfer under the Employment Regulations on the Service Transfer Date;
<b>“Contractor’s Provisional Contractor Personnel List”</b>	a list prepared and updated by the Contractor of all Contractor Personnel who are at the date of the list wholly or mainly engaged in or assigned to the provision of the Services or any relevant part of the Services which it is envisaged as at the date of such list will no longer be provided by the Contractor;
<b>“Employee Liabilities”</b>	<p>all claims, actions, proceedings, orders, demands, complaints, investigations (save for any claims for personal injury which are covered by insurance) and any award, compensation, damages, tribunal awards, fine, loss order penalty, disbursement, payment made by way of settlement costs, expenses, legal costs, accountancy costs and all other costs reasonably incurred in connection with a claim or investigation related to employment including in relation to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(i) redundancy payments including contractual or enhanced redundancy costs, termination costs and notice pay;</li><li>(ii) unfair, wrongful or constructive dismissal compensation;</li></ul>

- (iii) compensation for discrimination because of sex, race, disability, age, religion or belief, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation or claims for equal pay;
- (iv) compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed term employees;
- (v) outstanding employment debts and unlawful deduction from wages including any PAYE and National Insurance contributions;
- (vi) employment claims whether in tort, contract or statute or otherwise;
- (vii) any investigation relating to employment matters by the Equality and Human Rights Commission or other enforcement, regulatory or supervisory body and of implementing any requirements which may arise from such investigation;

**“Employment Regulations”**

means the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/246) as amended or replaced or any other Regulation implementing the Acquired Rights Directive 77/187/EC

**“Former Contractor”**

a Contractor supplying services to the Department before the Relevant Transfer Date that are the same as or substantially similar to the Services (or any part of the Services) and will include any Subcontractor of such Contractor (or any Subcontractor of any such Subcontractor);

**“New Fair Deal”**

the revised Fair Deal position set out in the HM Treasury guidance: “Fair Deal for staff pensions: staff transfer from central government” issued in October 2013 including:

- (a) any amendments to that document immediately prior to the Relevant Transfer Date;
- (b) any similar pension protection in accordance with the Annexes D1-D3 inclusive to Part D of this Schedule as notified to the Contractor by the Department.

**“Notified Subcontractor”**

a Subcontractor identified in the Annex to this Schedule to whom Transferring Former Contractor Employees will transfer on a Relevant Transfer Date;

**“Old Fair Deal”**

HM Treasury Guidance “Staff Transfers from Central Government: A Fair Deal for Staff Pensions” issued in June 1999 including the supplementary guidance “Fair Deal for Staff pensions: Procurement of Bulk Transfer Agreements and Related Issues” issued in June 2004;

**“Replacement Subcontractor”**

a Subcontractor of the Successor Contractor to whom Transferring Contractor Employees will transfer on a Service Transfer Date (or any Subcontractor of any such Subcontractor);

**“Relevant Transfer”**

a transfer of employment to which the Employment Regulations applies;

**“Relevant Transfer Date”**

in relation to a Relevant Transfer, the date upon which the Relevant Transfer takes place. For the purposes of Part D and its Annexes, where the Supplier or a Subcontractor was the Former Supplier and there is no Relevant Transfer of the Fair Deal Employees because they remain continuously employed by the Supplier (or Subcontractor), references to the Relevant Transfer Date shall become references to the Operational Service Commencement Date;

**“Service Transfer”**

any transfer of the Services (or any part of the Services), for whatever reason, from the Contractor or any Subcontractor to a Successor Contractor or a Replacement Subcontractor;

**“Service Transfer Date”**

the date of a Service Transfer or, if more than one, the date of the relevant Service Transfer as the context requires;

**“Staffing  
Information”**

in relation to all persons identified on the Contractor’s Provisional Contractor Personnel List or Contractor’s Final Contractor Personnel List, as the case may be, such information as the Department may reasonably request (subject to all applicable provisions of the DPA 2018), but including in an anonymised format:

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

if applied generally in respect of such employees); and

- (j) any other “employee liability information” as such term is defined in regulation 11 of the Employment Regulations;

**“Transferring Former Contractor Employees”**

in relation to a Former Contractor, those employees of the Former Contractor to whom the Employment Regulations will apply on the Relevant Transfer Date; and

**“Transferring Contractor Employees”**

those employees of the Contractor and/or the Contractor’s Subcontractors to whom the Employment Regulations will apply on the Service Transfer Date.

## **2 INTERPRETATION**

Where a provision in this Schedule imposes an obligation on the Contractor to provide an indemnity, undertaking or warranty, the Contractor will procure that each of its Subcontractors will comply with such obligation and provide such indemnity, undertaking or warranty to the Department, Former Contractor, Successor Contractor or Replacement Subcontractor, as the case may be.

**PART A: NOT USED**

**ANNEX TO PART A: NOT USED**

## **PART B: Transferring Former Contractor Employees at commencement of Services**

### **1 RELEVANT TRANSFERS**

- 1.1 The Department and the Contractor agree that:
- (a) the commencement of the provision of the Services or of any relevant part of the Services will be a Relevant Transfer in relation to the Transferring Former Contractor Employees; and
  - (b) as a result of the operation of the Employment Regulations, the contracts of employment between each Former Contractor and the Transferring Former Contractor Employees (except in relation to any terms dis-applied through the operation of regulation 10(2) of the Employment Regulations) will have effect on and from the Relevant Transfer Date as if originally made between the Contractor and/or Notified Subcontractor and each such Transferring Former Contractor Employee.
- 1.2 The Department will procure that each Former Contractor will comply with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations and will perform and discharge all its obligations in respect of all the Transferring Former Contractor Employees in respect of the period up to (but not including) the Relevant Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part in respect of the period up to (but not including) the Relevant Transfer Date) and the Contractor will make, and the Department will procure that each Former Contractor makes, any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments.

### **2 FORMER CONTRACTOR INDEMNITIES**

- 2.1 Subject to Paragraph 2.2, the Department will procure that each Former Contractor will indemnify the Contractor and any Notified Subcontractor against any Employee Liabilities arising from or as a result of:
- (a) any act or omission by the Former Contractor in respect of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee arising before the Relevant Transfer Date;
  - (b) the breach or non-observance by the Former Contractor arising before the Relevant Transfer Date of:

- (i) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Former Contractor Employees; and/or
  - (ii) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Former Contractor Employees which the Former Contractor is contractually bound to honour;
- (c) any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
  - (i) in relation to any Transferring Former Contractor Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising before the Relevant Transfer Date; and
  - (ii) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Former Contractor Employee and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer their employment from the Former Contractor to the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor as appropriate, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations in respect of the period to (but excluding) the Relevant Transfer Date;
- (d) a failure of the Former Contractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Former Contractor Employees in respect of the period to (but excluding) the Relevant Transfer Date;
- (e) any claim made by or in respect of any person employed or formerly employed by the Former Contractor other than a Transferring Former Contractor Employee for whom it is alleged the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor as appropriate may be liable by virtue of this Contract and/or the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive; and
- (f) any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Former Contractor Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee relating to any act or omission of the Former Contractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the failure by the Contractor or any Subcontractor to comply with regulation 13(4) of the Employment Regulations.

- 2.2 The indemnities in Paragraph 2.1 will not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Contractor or any Subcontractor whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date including, without limitation, any Employee Liabilities:
- (a) arising out of the resignation of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee before the Relevant Transfer Date on account of substantial detrimental changes to their working conditions proposed by the Contractor or any Subcontractor to occur in the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date; or
  - (b) arising from the failure by the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.
- 2.3 If any person who is not identified by the Department as a Transferring Former Contractor Employee claims, or it is determined in relation to any person who is not identified by the Department as a Transferring Former Contractor Employee, that their contract of employment has been transferred from a Former Contractor to the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive then:
- (a) the Contractor will, or will procure that the Notified Subcontractor will, within five (5) Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Department and, where required by the Department, to the Former Contractor; and
  - (b) the Former Contractor may offer (or may procure that a third party may offer) employment to such person within fifteen (15) Working Days of the notification by the Contractor and/or the Notified Subcontractor or take such other reasonable steps as the Former Contractor considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with applicable Law.
- 2.4 If an offer referred to in Paragraph 2.3(b) is accepted, or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Former Contractor and/or the Department, the Contractor will, or will procure that the Notified Subcontractor will, immediately release the person from their employment or alleged employment.
- 2.5 If by the end of the fifteen (15) Working Day period specified in Paragraph 2.3(b):
- (a) no such offer of employment has been made;
  - (b) such offer has been made but not accepted; or
  - (c) the situation has not otherwise been resolved,

the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor may within fifteen (15) Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.

2.6 Subject to the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 2.3 to 2.5 and in accordance with all applicable proper employment procedures set out in Law, the Department will procure that the Former Contractor indemnifies the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor (as appropriate) against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination of employment pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 2.5 provided that the Contractor takes, or will procure that the Notified Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.

2.7 The indemnity in Paragraph 2.6:

(a) will not apply to:

(i) any claim for:

(A) discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or

(B) equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,

in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor; or

(ii) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Contractor and/or Notified Subcontractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and

(b) will apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 2.3(a) is made by the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor (as appropriate) to the Department and, if applicable, the Former Contractor, within six (6) months of the Effective Date.

2.8 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 2.3 is neither re-employed by the Former Contractor nor dismissed by the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor within the time scales set out in Paragraph 2.5, such person will be treated as having transferred to the Contractor or Notified Subcontractor and the Contractor will, or will procure that the Notified Subcontractor will, comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under the Law.

### **3 CONTRACTOR INDEMNITIES AND OBLIGATIONS**

- 3.1 Subject to Paragraph 3.2, the Contractor will indemnify the Department and/or the Former Contractor against any Employee Liabilities arising from or as a result of:
- (a) any act or omission by the Contractor or any Subcontractor in respect of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee whether occurring before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
  - (b) the breach or non-observance by the Contractor or any Subcontractor on or after the Relevant Transfer Date of:
    - (i) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Former Contractor Employee; and/or
    - (ii) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Former Contractor Employees which the Contractor or any Subcontractor is contractually bound to honour;
  - (c) any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Former Contractor Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Contractor or a Subcontractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
  - (d) any proposal by the Contractor or a Subcontractor prior to the Relevant Transfer Date to make changes to the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any Transferring Former Contractor Employees to their material detriment on or after their transfer to the Contractor or a Subcontractor (as the case may be) on the Relevant Transfer Date, or to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any person who would have been a Transferring Former Contractor Employee but for their resignation (or decision to treat their employment as terminated under regulation 4(9) of the Employment Regulations) before the Relevant Transfer Date as a result of or for a reason connected to such proposed changes;
  - (e) any statement communicated to or action undertaken by the Contractor or a Subcontractor to, or in respect of, any Transferring Former Contractor Employee before the Relevant Transfer Date regarding the Relevant Transfer which has not been agreed in advance with the Department and/or the Former Contractor in writing;

- (f) any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
  - (i) in relation to any Transferring Former Contractor Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date; and
  - (ii) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Former Contractor Employee, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer their employment from the Former Contractor to the Contractor or a Subcontractor, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by the HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising on or after the Relevant Transfer Date;
- (g) a failure of the Contractor or any Subcontractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Former Contractor Employees in respect of the period from (and including) the Relevant Transfer Date;
- (h) any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Former Contractor Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Former Contractor Employee relating to any act or omission of the Contractor or any Subcontractor in relation to obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the Former Contractor's failure to comply with its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations; and
- (i) a failure by the Contractor or any Subcontractor to comply with its obligations under Paragraph 2.8 above

3.2 The indemnities in Paragraph 3.1 will not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Former Contractor whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Relevant Transfer Date including, without limitation, any Employee Liabilities arising from the Former Contractor's failure to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.

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

#### **4 INFORMATION**

The Contractor will, and will procure that each Subcontractor will, promptly provide to the Department and/or at the Department's direction, the Former Contractor, in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Department and/or the Former Contractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations. The Department will procure that the Former Contractor will promptly provide to the Contractor and each Notified Subcontractor in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Contractor and each Notified Subcontractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

#### **5 PROCUREMENT OBLIGATIONS**

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

#### **6 PENSIONS**

The Contractor will, and will procure that each Subcontractor will, comply with the pensions provisions in the following Annex.

## **ANNEX TO PART B**

### **PENSIONS**

#### **7 INDEMNITY**

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

#### **8 EMPLOYER OBLIGATION**

The Contractor will and will procure that each Subcontractor will comply with:

- (a) the requirements of the Pensions Act 2008, section 258 of the Pensions Act 2004, Regulation 10 of the Employment Regulations and the Transfer of Employment (Pension Protection) Regulations 2005 for all transferring staff; and
- (b) Part D (and its Annexes) to this Schedule.

## **PART C: No transfer of employees at commencement of Services**

### **1 PROCEDURE IN THE EVENT OF TRANSFER**

- 1.1 The Department and the Contractor agree that the commencement of the provision of the Services or of any part of the Services will not be a Relevant Transfer in relation to any employees of the Department and/or any Former Contractor.
- 1.2 If any employee of the Department and/or a Former Contractor claims, or it is determined in relation to any employee of the Department and/or a Former Contractor, that their contract of employment has been transferred from the Department and/or the Former Contractor to the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive then:
- (a) the Contractor will, and will procure that the relevant Subcontractor will, within five (5) Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Department and, where required by the Department, give notice to the Former Contractor; and
  - (b) the Department and/or the Former Contractor may offer (or may procure that a third party may offer) employment to such person within fifteen (15) Working Days of the notification by the Contractor or the Subcontractor (as appropriate) or take such other reasonable steps as the Department or Former Contractor (as the case may be) considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with applicable Law.
- 1.3 If an offer referred to in Paragraph 1.2(b) is accepted (or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Department and/or the Former Contractor), the Contractor will, or will procure that the Subcontractor will, immediately release the person from their employment or alleged employment.
- 1.4 If by the end of the fifteen (15) Working Day period specified in Paragraph 1.2(b):
- (a) no such offer of employment has been made;
  - (b) such offer has been made but not accepted; or
  - (c) the situation has not otherwise been resolved,
- the Contractor and/or the Subcontractor may within five (5) Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.

## **2 INDEMNITIES**

- 2.1 Subject to the Contractor and/or the relevant Subcontractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 1.2 to 1.4 and in accordance with all applicable employment procedures set out in applicable Law and subject also to Paragraph 2.4, the Department will:
- (a) indemnify the Contractor and/or the relevant Subcontractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination of the employment of any employees of the Department referred to in Paragraph 1.2 made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1.4 provided that the Contractor takes, or will procure that the Notified Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities; and
  - (b) procure that the Former Contractor indemnifies the Contractor and/or any Notified Subcontractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of termination of the employment of the employees of the Former Contractor referred to in Paragraph 1.2 made pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 1.4 provided that the Contractor takes, or will procure that the relevant Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.
- 2.2 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 1.2 is neither re employed by the Department and/or the Former Contractor as appropriate nor dismissed by the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor within the fifteen (15) Working Day period referred to in Paragraph 1.4 such person will be treated as having transferred to the Contractor and/or the Subcontractor (as appropriate) and the Contractor will, or will procure that the Subcontractor will, comply with such obligations as may be imposed upon it under Law.
- 2.3 Where any person remains employed by the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor pursuant to Paragraph 2.2, all Employee Liabilities in relation to such employee will remain with the Contractor and/or the Subcontractor and the Contractor will indemnify the Department and any Former Contractor, and will procure that the Subcontractor will indemnify the Department and any Former Contractor, against any Employee Liabilities that either of them may incur in respect of any such employees of the Contractor and/or employees of the Subcontractor.
- 2.4 The indemnities in Paragraph 2.1:
- (a) will not apply to:
    - (i) any claim for:
      - (A) discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil

partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or

(B) equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,

in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor; or

(ii) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and

(b) will apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 1.2(a) is made by the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor to the Department and, if applicable, Former Contractor within 6 months of the Effective Date.

### **3 PROCUREMENT OBLIGATIONS**

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

## **PART D: Employment Exit Provisions**

### **1 PRE-SERVICE TRANSFER OBLIGATIONS**

- 1.1 The Contractor agrees that within twenty (20) Working Days of the earliest of:
- (a) receipt of a notification from the Department of a Service Transfer or intended Service Transfer;
  - (b) receipt of the giving of notice of early termination or any Partial Termination of this Contract;
  - (c) the date which is twelve (12) months before the end of the Contract Period; and
  - (d) receipt of a written request of the Department at any time (provided that the Department will only be entitled to make one such request in any six (6) month period),

it will provide in a suitably anonymised format so as to comply with the DPA 2018, the Contractor's Provisional Contractor Personnel List, together with the Staffing Information in relation to the Contractor's Provisional Contractor Personnel List and it will provide an updated Contractor's Provisional Contractor Personnel List at such intervals as are reasonably requested by the Department.

- 1.2 At least twenty (20) Working Days prior to the Service Transfer Date, the Contractor will provide to the Department or at the direction of the Department to any Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor:
- (a) the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List, which will identify which of the Contractor Personnel are Transferring Contractor Employees; and
  - (b) the Staffing Information in relation to the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List (insofar as such information has not previously been provided).
- 1.3 The Department will be permitted to use and disclose information provided by the Contractor under Paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 for the purpose of informing any prospective Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor.
- 1.4 The Contractor warrants, for the benefit of the Department, any Successor Contractor, and any Replacement Subcontractor that all information provided pursuant to Paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2 will be true and accurate in all material respects at the time of providing the information and the Contractor will indemnify and keep the Department indemnified fully now and in the future in respect of all or any costs, losses, liabilities, damages and expenses whether arising in contract or under any relevant Law suffered or incurred by the Department, the Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor

by reason of any proceedings, claim or demand arising from or in connection with the provision of information and/or failure to provide complete and accurate information under Paragraphs 1.1 and 1.2.

1.5 From the date of the earliest event referred to in Paragraphs 1.1(a), 1.1(b) and 1.1(c), the Contractor agrees, that it will not, and agrees to procure that each Subcontractor will not, assign any person to the provision of the Services who is not listed on the Contractor's Provisional Contractor Personnel List and will not without the approval of the Department (not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed):

- (a) replace or re-deploy any Contractor Personnel listed on the Contractor Provisional Contractor Personnel List other than where any replacement is of equivalent grade, skills, experience and expertise and is employed on the same terms and conditions of employment as the person they replace;
- (b) make, promise, propose, permit or implement any Material Changes to the terms and conditions of employment of the Contractor Personnel (including any payments connected with the termination of employment);
- (c) increase the proportion of working time spent on the Services (or the relevant part of the Services) by any of the Contractor Personnel save for fulfilling assignments and projects previously scheduled and agreed;
- (d) introduce any new contractual or customary practice concerning the making of any lump sum payment on the termination of employment of any employees listed on the Contractor's Provisional Contractor Personnel List;
- (e) increase or reduce the total number of employees so engaged, or deploy any other person to perform the Services (or the relevant part of the Services); or
- (f) terminate or give notice to terminate the employment or contracts of any persons on the Contractor's Provisional Contractor Personnel List save by due disciplinary process,

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

1.6 During the Contract Period, the Contractor will provide, and will procure that each Subcontractor will provide, to the Department any information the Department may reasonably require relating to the manner in which the Services are organised, which will include:

- (a) the numbers of employees engaged in providing the Services;
- (b) the percentage of time spent by each employee engaged in providing the Services;
- (c) the extent to which each employee qualifies for membership of any occupational pension scheme (within the meaning provided for in section 1 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993); and
- (d) a description of the nature of the work undertaken by each employee by location.

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

- (a) the most recent month's copy pay slip data;
- (b) details of cumulative pay for tax and pension purposes;
- (c) details of cumulative tax paid;
- (d) tax code;
- (e) details of any voluntary deductions from pay; and
- (f) bank/building society account details for payroll purposes.

## **2 EMPLOYMENT REGULATIONS EXIT PROVISIONS**

- 2.1 The Department and the Contractor acknowledge that subsequent to the commencement of the provision of the Services, the identity of the provider of the Services (or any part of the Services) may change (whether as a result of termination or partial termination of this Contract or otherwise) resulting in the Services being undertaken by a Successor Contractor and/or a Replacement Subcontractor. Such change in the identity of the supplier of such services may constitute a Relevant Transfer to which the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive will apply. The Department and the Contractor further agree that, as a result of the operation of the Employment Regulations, where a Relevant Transfer occurs, the contracts of employment between the Contractor and the Transferring Contractor Employees (except in relation to any contract terms dis-applied through operation of regulation 10(2) of the Employment Regulations) will have effect on and from the Service Transfer Date as if originally made between the Successor Contractor and/or a Replacement Subcontractor (as the case may be) and each such Transferring Contractor Employee.
- 2.2 The Contractor will, and will procure that each Subcontractor will, comply with all its obligations in respect of the Transferring Contractor Employees arising under the Employment Regulations in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date and will perform and discharge, and procure that each Subcontractor will perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of all the Transferring Contractor Employees arising in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part to the period ending on (and including) the Service Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments will be made between: (i) the Contractor and/or the Subcontractor (as appropriate); and (ii) the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor.
- 2.3 Subject to Paragraph 2.4, the Contractor will indemnify the Department and/or the Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor against any Employee Liabilities arising from or as a result of:
- (a) any act or omission of the Contractor or any Subcontractor in respect of any Transferring Contractor Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Contractor Employee whether occurring before, on or after the Service Transfer Date;
  - (b) the breach or non-observance by the Contractor or any Subcontractor occurring on or before the Service Transfer Date of:

- (i) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Contractor Employees; and/or
  - (ii) any other custom or practice with a trade union or staff association in respect of any Transferring Contractor Employees which the Contractor or any Subcontractor is contractually bound to honour;
- (c) any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Contractor Employees arising from or connected with any failure by the Contractor or a Subcontractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or before the Service Transfer Date;
- (d) any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions:
- (i) in relation to any Transferring Contractor Employee, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising on and before the Service Transfer Date; and
  - (ii) in relation to any employee who is not identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer their employment from the Contractor to the Department and/or Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising on or before the Service Transfer Date;
- (e) a failure of the Contractor or any Subcontractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Contractor Employees in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date);
- (f) any claim made by or in respect of any person employed or formerly employed by the Contractor or any Subcontractor other than a Transferring Contractor Employee identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List for whom it is alleged the Department and/or the Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor may be liable by virtue of this Contract and/or the Employment Regulations and/or the Acquired Rights Directive; and

- (g) any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Contractor Employee or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any Transferring Contractor Employee relating to any act or omission of the Contractor or any Subcontractor in relation to its obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations, except to the extent that the liability arises from the failure by the Department and/or Successor Contractor to comply with regulation 13(4) of the Employment Regulations.

2.4 The indemnities in Paragraph 2.3 will not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Service Transfer Date, including any Employee Liabilities:

- (a) arising out of the resignation of any Transferring Contractor Employee before the Service Transfer Date on account of substantial detrimental changes to their working conditions proposed by the Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor to occur in the period on or after the Service Transfer Date); or
- (b) arising from the Successor Contractor's failure, and/or Replacement Subcontractor's failure, to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.

2.5 If any person who is not identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List claims, or it is determined in relation to any person who is not identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List a Transferring Contractor Employee, that their contract of employment has been transferred from the Contractor or any Subcontractor to the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor pursuant to the Employment Regulations or the Acquired Rights Directive, then:

- (a) the Department will procure that the Successor Contractor will, or any Replacement Subcontractor will, within five (5) Working Days of becoming aware of that fact, give notice in writing to the Contractor; and
- (b) the Contractor may offer (or may procure that a Subcontractor may offer) employment to such person within fifteen (15) Working Days of the notification by the Successor Contractor and/or any Replacement Subcontractor or take such other reasonable steps as it considers appropriate to deal with the matter provided always that such steps are in compliance with Law.

- 2.6 If such offer is accepted, or if the situation has otherwise been resolved by the Contractor or a Subcontractor, the Department will procure that the Successor Contractor will, or procure that the Replacement Subcontractor will, immediately release or procure the release of the person from their employment or alleged employment.
- 2.7 If after the fifteen (15) Working Day period specified in Paragraph 2.5(b) has elapsed:
- (a) no such offer of employment has been made;
  - (b) such offer has been made but not accepted; or
  - (c) the situation has not otherwise been resolved

the Department will advise the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor, as appropriate that it may within five (5) Working Days give notice to terminate the employment or alleged employment of such person.

- 2.8 Subject to the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor acting in accordance with the provisions of Paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7, and in accordance with all applicable proper employment procedures set out in applicable Law, the Contractor will indemnify the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor against all Employee Liabilities arising out of the termination of employment pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 2.7 provided that the Successor Contractor takes, or will procure that the Replacement Subcontractor takes, all reasonable steps to minimise any such Employee Liabilities.

- 2.9 The indemnity in Paragraph 2.8:

- (a) will not apply to:
  - (i) any claim for:
    - (A) discrimination, including on the grounds of sex, race, disability, age, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity or sexual orientation, religion or belief; or
    - (B) equal pay or compensation for less favourable treatment of part-time workers or fixed-term employees,

in any case in relation to any alleged act or omission of the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor; or

- (ii) any claim that the termination of employment was unfair because the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor neglected to follow a fair dismissal procedure; and
  - (b) will apply only where the notification referred to in Paragraph 2.5(a) is made by the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor to the Contractor within six (6) months of the Service Transfer Date.
- 2.10 If any such person as is described in Paragraph 2.5 is neither re-employed by the Contractor or any Subcontractor nor dismissed by the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor within the time scales set out in Paragraphs 2.5 to 2.7, such person will be treated as a Transferring Contractor Employee.
- 2.11 The Contractor will comply, and will procure that each Subcontractor will comply, with all its obligations under the Employment Regulations and will perform and discharge, and will procure that each Subcontractor will perform and discharge, all its obligations in respect of any person identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List before and on the Service Transfer Date (including the payment of all remuneration, benefits, entitlements and outgoings, all wages, accrued but untaken holiday pay, bonuses, commissions, payments of PAYE, national insurance contributions and pension contributions which in any case are attributable in whole or in part in respect of the period up to (and including) the Service Transfer Date) and any necessary apportionments in respect of any periodic payments will be made between:
- (a) the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor; and
  - (b) the Successor Contractor and/or the Replacement Subcontractor.
- 2.12 The Contractor will, and will procure that each Subcontractor will, promptly provide to the Department and any Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor, in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Department, the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations. The Department will procure that the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor, will promptly provide to the Contractor and each Subcontractor in writing such information as is necessary to enable the Contractor and each Subcontractor to carry out their respective duties under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.
- 2.13 Subject to Paragraph 2.14, the Department will procure that the Successor Contractor indemnifies the Contractor on its own behalf and on behalf of any Replacement Subcontractor and its Subcontractors against any Employee Liabilities arising from or as a result of:

- (a) any act or omission of the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor in respect of any Transferring Contractor Employee identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any such Transferring Contractor Employee;
- (b) the breach or non-observance by the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor on or after the Service Transfer Date of:
  - (i) any collective agreement applicable to the Transferring Contractor Employees identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List; and/or
  - (ii) any custom or practice in respect of any Transferring Contractor Employees identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List which the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor is contractually bound to honour;
- (c) any claim by any trade union or other body or person representing any Transferring Contractor Employees identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List arising from or connected with any failure by the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor to comply with any legal obligation to such trade union, body or person arising on or after the Service Transfer Date;
- (d) any proposal by the Successor Contractor and/or Replacement Subcontractor to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any Transferring Contractor Employees identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List on or after their transfer to the Successor Contractor or Replacement Subcontractor (as the case may be) on the Service Transfer Date, or to change the terms and conditions of employment or working conditions of any person identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List who would have been a Transferring Contractor Employee but for their resignation (or decision to treat their employment as terminated under regulation 4(9) of the Employment Regulations) before the Service Transfer Date as a result of or for a reason connected to such proposed changes;
- (e) any statement communicated to or action undertaken by the Successor Contractor or Replacement Subcontractor to, or in respect of, any Transferring Contractor Employee identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List on or before the Service Transfer Date regarding the Relevant Transfer which has not been agreed in advance with the Contractor in writing;
- (f) any proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department in respect of any financial obligation including, but not limited to, PAYE and primary and secondary national insurance contributions;

- (i) in relation to any Transferring Contractor Employee identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List, to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising after the Service Transfer Date; and
  - (ii) in relation to any employee who is not a Transferring Contractor Employee identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List, and in respect of whom it is later alleged or determined that the Employment Regulations applied so as to transfer their employment from the Contractor or Subcontractor, to the Successor Contractor or Replacement Subcontractor to the extent that the proceeding, claim or demand by HMRC or other statutory Department relates to financial obligations arising after the Service Transfer Date;
- (g) a failure of the Successor Contractor or Replacement Subcontractor to discharge or procure the discharge of all wages, salaries and all other benefits and all PAYE tax deductions and national insurance contributions relating to the Transferring Contractor Employees identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List in respect of the period from (and including) the Service Transfer Date; and
- (h) any claim made by or in respect of a Transferring Contractor Employee identified in the Contractor's Final Contractor Personnel List or any appropriate employee representative (as defined in the Employment Regulations) of any such Transferring Contractor Employee relating to any act or omission of the Successor Contractor or Replacement Subcontractor in relation to obligations under regulation 13 of the Employment Regulations.

2.14 The indemnities in Paragraph 2.13 will not apply to the extent that the Employee Liabilities arise or are attributable to an act or omission of the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor (as applicable) whether occurring or having its origin before, on or after the Service Transfer Date, including any Employee Liabilities arising from the failure by the Contractor and/or any Subcontractor (as applicable) to comply with its obligations under the Employment Regulations.

## **ANNEX: LIST OF NOTIFIED SUBCONTRACTORS**

## **SCHEDULE 7: UK GDPR/DATA PROTECTION**

### **PROCESSING, PERSONAL DATA AND DATA SUBJECTS**

<b>Description</b>	<b>Details</b>
Subject matter of the Processing	<p>The subject matter is the Personal Data of Learners on education or training programmes administered by the Department that are subject to this Contract as defined in the Department Personal Information Charter, the Privacy information: key stage 4 and 5 and adult education and the ILR privacy notice and documentation.</p> <p><a href="#">Personal information charter - Department for Education - GOV.UK</a></p> <p><a href="#">Privacy information: key stage 4 and 5 and adult education - GOV.UK</a></p> <p><a href="#">ILR Privacy Notice 2025 to 2026 version 1: April 2025</a></p>
Duration of the Processing	<p>The duration of the Processing covers the Contract Period.</p>
Nature and purposes of the Processing	<p>The Contractor will be required to submit the data to the Department for the purposes as set out in Clause 22 (Submission of Learner Data) of this Contract.</p> <p>The processing of data in the agreement refers to the submission of ILR data to the Department only. The processing does not include the processing of Personal Data collected from the Learners by the body for the purposes of enrolling Learners onto programmes or delivering education or training.</p>
Type of personal data	<p>The Personal Data to be processed is defined in the ILR specification:</p> <p><a href="#">Individualised Learner Record (ILR) technical documents, guidance and requirements</a></p>
Categories of data subject	<p>The data subjects are Learners on education or training programmes administered by the Department that are subject to this Contract.</p>

<p>Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete</p>	<p>The Contractor is required to retain ILR data for 3 years for business operational purposes.</p> <p>For the purposes of the Department as a Data Controller of the data, the Contractor is required to retain the Learner Records data for the funding and audit purposes set out in this Contract for six (6) years from the end of the Financial Year in which the last payment is made under this Contract.</p> <p>For the purposes of the Department for Work &amp; Pensions as a Data Controller, where Learner Records data is used as match on the 2014 to 20 ESF programme, the data must be retained securely until 31<sup>st</sup> December 2034.</p> <p>The Contractor (and any other Data Controller) is responsible for determining any further need to process the data, including its retention, prior to secure destruction.</p> <p>The Contractor shall comply with Clause 40 (Consequences of Termination and Expiry) which sets out provisions that will apply to Learner Records after this Contract has been terminated or has expired.</p>
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## SCHEDULE 8: SECURITY & DEPARTMENT POLICIES

### Part A: Security

<p>"ACSC" "Assured Cyber Security Consultancy"</p>	<p>is the National Cyber Security Centre's (NCSC) approach to assessing the services provided by consultancies and confirming that they meet NCSC's standards. See website: <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/assured-cyber-security-consultancy">Assured Cyber Security Consultancy - NCSC.GOV.UK</a></p>
<p>"BPSS" "Baseline Personnel Security Standard"</p>	<p>the Government's HMG Baseline Personal Security Standard. Further information can be found at: <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/baseline-personnel-security-standard">Government baseline personnel security standard - GOV.UK</a></p>
<p>"CCP" "Certified Cyber Professional"</p>	<p>is a NCSC scheme in consultation with government, industry and academia to address the growing need for specialists in the cyber security profession. See website: <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/certified-cyber-professional">Certified Cyber Professional (CCP) assured service - NCSC.GOV.UK</a></p>
<p>"Cyber Essentials" "Cyber Essentials Plus"</p>	<p>Cyber Essentials is the government backed, industry supported scheme to help organisations protect themselves against common cyber-attacks. Cyber Essentials and Cyber Essentials Plus are levels within the scheme.</p> <p>There are a number of certification bodies that can be approached for further advice on the scheme; the link below points to these providers: <a href="https://www.iasme.com/cyber-assurance">IASME Cyber Assurance - IASME Cyber Assurance</a></p>
<p>"Department Data" "Department's Information"</p>	<p>as defined in Schedule 1 (Definitions) of the Contract</p>
<p>"Department"</p>	<p>as defined in Schedule 1 (Definitions) of the Contract.</p>
<p>"Departmental Security Standards"</p>	<p>means the Department's security policy or any standards, procedures, process or specification for security that the Contractor is required to deliver.</p>
<p>"Digital Marketplace / GCloud"</p>	<p>means the online framework for identifying and procuring cloud technology and people for digital projects.</p>

“End User Devices”	the personal computer or consumer devices that store or process information.
“Good Industry Practice”	as defined in Schedule 1 (Definitions) of the Contract.
“Good Industry Standard”	means the implementation of products and solutions, and the exercise of that degree of skill, care, prudence, efficiency, foresight and timeliness as would be expected from a leading company within the relevant industry or business sector.
“GSC” “GSCP” “Government Security Classifications Policy”	means the Government Security Classification Policy which establishes the rules for classifying HMG information. The policy is available at: <a href="#">Government Security Classifications - GOV.UK</a>
“HMG”	means His Majesty’s Government
“ICT”	means Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is used as an extended synonym for information technology (IT), used to describe the bringing together of enabling technologies used to deliver the end-to-end solution
“ISO/IEC 27001” “ISO 27001”	is the International Standard for Information Security Management Systems Requirements
“ISO/IEC 27002” “ISO 27002”	is the International Standard describing the Code of Practice for Information Security Controls.
“ISO 22301”	is the International Standard describing for Business Continuity
“IT Security Health Check (ITSHC)” “IT Health Check (ITHC)” “Penetration Testing”	means an assessment to identify risks and vulnerabilities in systems, applications and networks which may compromise the confidentiality, integrity or availability of information held on that IT system.
“NCSC”	The National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) formerly CESG is the UK government’s National Technical Authority for Information Assurance. The NCSC website is <a href="#">National Cyber Security Centre - NCSC.GOV.UK</a>

<p>“Need-to-Know”</p>	<p>the Need-to-Know principle is employed within HMG to limit the distribution of classified information to those people with a clear ‘need to know’ in order to carry out their duties.</p>
<p>“OFFICIAL” “OFFICIAL-SENSITIVE”</p>	<p>the term ‘OFFICIAL’ is used to describe the baseline level of ‘security classification’ described within the Government Security Classification Policy (GSCP).</p> <p>the term ‘OFFICIAL–SENSITIVE’ is used to identify a limited subset of OFFICIAL information that could have more damaging consequences (for individuals, an organisation or government generally) if it were lost, stolen or published in the media, as described in the GSCP.</p>
<p>“RBAC” “Role Based Access Control”</p>	<p>means Role Based Access Control. A method of restricting a person’s or process’ access to information depending on the role or functions assigned to them.</p>
<p>“Secure Sanitisation”</p>	<p>means the process of treating data held on storage media to reduce the likelihood of retrieval and reconstruction to an acceptable level.</p> <p>NCSC Guidance can be found at: <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/secure-sanitisation-and-disposal-of-storage-media">Secure sanitisation and disposal of storage media - NCSC.GOV.UK</a></p> <p>The disposal of physical documents and hardcopy materials advice can be found at: <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/secure-destruction">Secure Destruction   NPSA</a></p>
<p>“Security and Information Risk Advisor” “CCP SIRA” “SIRA”</p>	<p>means the Security and Information Risk Advisor (SIRA) is a role defined under the NCSC Certified Cyber Professional (CCP) Scheme. See also: <a href="https://www.ncsc.gov.uk/certified-cyber-professional-cpp-assured-service">Certified Cyber Professional (CCP) assured service - NCSC.GOV.UK</a></p>
<p>“Senior Information Risk Owner” “SIRO”</p>	<p>means the Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) responsible on behalf of the DfE Accounting Officer for overseeing the management of information risk across the organisation. This includes its executive agencies, arm’s length bodies (ALBs), non-departmental public bodies (NDPBs) and devolved information held by third parties.</p>
<p>“SPF”</p>	<p>means the definitive HMG Security Policy which describes the expectations of the Cabinet</p>

“HMG Security Policy Framework”	Secretary and Government’s Official Committee on Security on how HMG organisations and third parties handling HMG information and other assets will apply protective security to ensure HMG can function effectively, efficiently and securely. <a href="#">Security policy framework: protecting government assets - GOV.UK</a>
“Storage Area Network” “SAN”	means an information storage system typically presenting block based storage (i.e. disks or virtual disks) over a network interface rather than using physically connected storage.

- 1.1. The Contractor will be aware of and comply with the relevant [Security policy framework: protecting government assets - GOV.UK](#), [All topics - NCSC.GOV.UK](#) and where applicable Security and Departmental policies which include but are not constrained to the following paragraphs.
- 1.2. In the collection and processing of the data set out in Schedule 7 (UK GDPR/Data Protection), the requirements of Cabinet Office [PPN 014: Cyber essentials scheme - GOV.UK](#) dated February 2025, or any subsequent updated document, are mandated, and the Contractor will work towards meeting the requirements of Cyber Essentials during the 2025/26 Funding Year and present the evidence to the Department on request. The scope must be relevant to the submission of data to the Department, including an allowance for a sub-set scope if appropriate.
- 1.3. The Contractor will follow the Cabinet Office guidance on Government Security Classifications (GSCP) in respect of any Department Data being handled in the course of providing this Service and will handle this data in accordance with its security classification. (In the event where the Contractor has an existing Protective Marking Scheme then the Contractor may continue to use this but must map the HMG security classifications against it to ensure the correct controls are applied to the Department Data).
- 1.4. The Contractor will have in place and maintain physical security to premises and sensitive areas in line with those outlined in ISO/IEC 27002 including, but not limited to, entry control mechanisms (e.g. door access), CCTV, alarm systems etc.
- 1.5. The Contractor will have in place and maintain an appropriate user access control policy for all ICT systems to ensure only authorised personnel have access to Departmental Data. This policy should include appropriate segregation of duties and if applicable Role Based Access Controls (RBAC). User credentials that give access to Departmental Data or systems shall be considered to be sensitive data and must be protected accordingly.
- 1.6. The Contractor will have in place and will maintain procedural, personnel, physical and technical safeguards to protect Department Data, including but not limited to:
  - (a) physical security controls;

- (b) Good Industry Standard policies and processes;
  - (c) malware protection;
  - (d) boundary access controls including firewalls, application gateways, etc;
  - (e) maintenance and use of fully supported software packages in accordance with vendor recommendations;
  - (f) use of secure device configuration and builds;
  - (g) software updates and patching regimes including malware signatures, for operating systems, network devices, applications and services;
  - (h) user identity and access controls, including the use of multi-factor authentication for sensitive data and privileged account accesses;
  - (i) any services provided to the Department must capture audit logs for security events in an electronic format at the application, service and system level to meet the Department's logging and auditing requirements, plus logs shall be:
    - (i) retained and protected from tampering for a minimum period of six months; and
    - (ii) made available to the Department on request.
- 1.7. The Contractor will ensure that any Department Data (including email) transmitted over any public network (including the Internet, mobile networks, or un-protected enterprise network) or to a mobile device shall be encrypted when transmitted.
- 1.8. The Contractor will ensure that any Department Data which resides on a mobile, removable or physically uncontrolled device is stored encrypted using a product or system component which has been formally assured through a recognised certification process agreed with the Department except where the department has given its prior written consent to an alternative arrangement.
- 1.9. The Contractor will ensure that any device which is used to process Department Data meets all of the security requirements set out in the NCSC End User Devices Platform Security Guidance, a copy of which can be found at: [Device Security Guidance - NCSC.GOV.UK](#) and [Device security principles for manufacturers - NCSC.GOV.UK](#).
- 1.10. Whilst in the Contractor's care all removable media and hardcopy paper documents containing Department Data must be handled securely and secured under lock and key when not in use and shall be securely destroyed when no longer required, using either a cross-cut shredder or a professional secure disposal organisation. The term 'lock and key' is defined as: "securing information in a lockable desk drawer, cupboard or filing cabinet which is under the user's sole control and to which they hold the keys".
- 1.11. When necessary to hand carry removable media and/or hardcopy paper documents containing Department Data, the media or documents being carried shall be kept under cover and transported in such a way as to ensure that no unauthorised person has either visual or physical access to the material being carried. This Paragraph 1.11 will apply equally regardless of whether the material is being carried inside or outside of company premises. The term

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

- 1.12. In the event of termination, equipment failure or obsolescence, all Department Data, in either hardcopy or electronic format, that is physically held or logically stored by the Contractor must be accounted for and either physically returned or securely sanitised or destroyed in accordance with the current HMG policy using an NCSC approved product or method. Where sanitisation or destruction is not possible for legal, regulatory or technical reasons, such as data stored in a cloud system, Storage Area Network (SAN) or on shared backup tapes, then the Contractor or Subcontractor will protect the Department's information and data until such time, which may be long after the end of the contract, when it can be securely cleansed or destroyed. Evidence of secure destruction will be required in all cases.
- 1.13. Access by Contractor or Subcontractor staff to Department Data, including user credentials, shall be confined to those individuals who have a "Need-to-Know" in order to carry out their role; and have undergone mandatory pre-employment screening, to a minimum of HMG Baseline Personnel Security Standard (BPSS); or hold an appropriate National Security Vetting clearance as required by the Department. All Contractor or Subcontractor staff must complete this process before access to Department Data is permitted. Any Contractor or Subcontractor staff who will be in contact with children or vulnerable adults must, in addition to any security clearance, have successfully undergone an Enhanced DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) check prior to any contact.
- 1.14. All Contractor or Subcontractor employees who handle Department Data must have annual awareness training in protecting information.
- 1.15. Notwithstanding any other provisions as to business continuity and disaster recovery in the Contract, the Contractor will, as a minimum, have in place robust Business Continuity arrangements and processes including IT disaster recovery plans and procedures that conform to ISO 22301 to ensure that the delivery of the Contract is not adversely affected in the event of an incident. An incident will be defined as any situation that might, or could lead to, a disruption, loss, emergency or crisis to the Services delivered. If an ISO 22301 certificate is not available, the Contractor will provide evidence of the effectiveness of their ISO 22301 conformant Business Continuity arrangements and processes including IT disaster recovery plans and procedures. This should include evidence that the Contractor has tested or exercised these plans within the last twelve (12) months and produced a written report of the outcome, including required actions.
- 1.16. Any suspected or actual breach of the confidentiality, integrity or availability of Department Data, including user credentials, used or handled in the course of providing this service shall be recorded as an incident. This includes any non-compliance with these Departmental Security Standards for Contractors, or other Security Standards pertaining to the solution. Incidents shall be reported to the department immediately, wherever practical, even if unconfirmed or when full details are not known, but always within 24 hours of discovery. If incident reporting has been delayed by more than 24 hours, the Contractor should provide an explanation about the delay. The Contractor will inform their Contract

Manager in writing. Incidents will be investigated by the Contractor with outcomes being notified to the Department.

- 1.17. The Contractor will ensure that any IT systems and hosting environments that are used to handle, store or process Department Data will be subject to independent IT Health Checks (ITHC) using a NCSC approved ITHC provider before go-live and periodically (at least annually) thereafter. The findings of the ITHC relevant to the Service being provided are to be shared with the Department and all necessary remedial work carried out. In the event of significant security issues being identified, a follow up remediation test may be required.
- 1.18. The Contractor or Subcontractors providing the service will provide the Department with full details of any actual or future intent to develop, manage, support, process or store Department Data outside of the UK mainland. The Contractor or Subcontractor will not go ahead with any such proposal without the prior written agreement from the Department.
- 1.19. The Department reserves the right to audit the Contractor or Subcontractors providing the Service within a mutually agreed timeframe but always within seven (7) days of notice of a request to audit being given. The audit will cover the overall scope of the Service being supplied and the Contractor's, and any Subcontractors, compliance with this Schedule 8 (Security & Department Policies).
- 1.20. The Contractor and Subcontractors will undergo appropriate security assurance activities and will provide appropriate evidence including the production of the necessary security documentation as determined by the Department. This will include obtaining any necessary professional security resources required to support the Contractor's and Subcontractor's security assurance activities such as: a Security and Information Risk Advisor (SIRA) certified to NCSC Assured Cyber Security Consultancy (ACSC) or NCSC Certified Cyber Professional
- 1.21. The Contractor will contractually enforce all this Schedule 8 (Security & Department Policies) onto any third-party suppliers, Subcontractors or partners who could potentially access Department Data in the course of providing this Service.

## **Part B: Department Policies**

The following code outlines the standards and behaviors expected from suppliers and grant recipients, and reiterates the government's approach to working with suppliers.

[Codes of conduct for suppliers and grant recipients - GOV.UK](#)

## **SCHEDULE 9: EXIT ARRANGEMENTS**

### **1 DEFINITIONS**

- "Exit Manager"** the person appointed by each Party pursuant to Paragraph 3.3 of this Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements) for managing the Contractor's obligations under Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements);
- "Exit Plan"** the plan produced and updated by the Contractor during the Contract Period in accordance with Paragraph 5 of this Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements);

### **2 OVERVIEW**

- 2.1 The Contractor is required to ensure it performs its obligations to assist in the orderly transition of the Services from the Contractor to the Department and/or any Successor Contractor in the event of termination (including partial termination) or expiry of this Contract. This will include the transition of the Services to a follow-on contract with the same Contractor if applicable. This Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements) sets out the principles of the exit and service transfer arrangements that are intended to achieve such orderly transition. For the avoidance of doubt, the Contractor will be responsible for the overall management of the exit and service transfer arrangements.

### **3 CONTRACT LIFE OBLIGATIONS**

- 3.1 The Contractor will draw up an Exit Plan in accordance with Paragraph 5.1.
- 3.2 The Contractor will (unless otherwise agreed by the Department in writing) procure that all Subcontracts and other agreements with third parties used exclusively to deliver the Services to the Department, which are necessary to enable the Department and/or any Successor Contractor to perform the Services in accordance with this Contract or to enable re-provision of the Services, will be assignable and/or capable of novation at the request of the Department to the Department (and/or its nominee) and/or any Successor Contractor upon the Contractor ceasing to provide the Services (or part of them) without restriction (including any need to obtain any consent or approval) or payment by the Department. Where the Contractor uses Subcontracts and other agreements to deliver the Services and these agreements are part of framework agreements that the Contractor has with its third party suppliers, the Contractor will provide sufficient information and assistance to enable the Successor Contractor or the Department to enter into an agreement with such supplier directly.
- 3.3 The Contractor will appoint an Exit Manager. The Contractor's Exit Manager will be responsible for ensuring that the Contractor and its personnel, agents and Subcontractors comply with this Schedule 9 (Exit

Arrangements). The Contractor will ensure that its Exit Manager has the requisite authority to arrange and procure any resources of the Contractor as are reasonably necessary to enable the Contractor to comply with the requirements set out in this Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements).

#### **4 OBLIGATIONS TO ASSIST ON RE-PROVISION OF SERVICES OR TRANSFER BACK TO THE DEPARTMENT**

4.1 On reasonable notice, the Contractor will on request provide to the Department and/or to its potential Successor Contractor, the following material and information in order to facilitate the preparation by the Department of any invitation to tender and/or to facilitate any potential Successor Contractor undertaking due diligence:

4.1.1 details of the Services;

4.1.2 an inventory of Department Data (including but not limited to e-portfolios and any other Learner Files) in the Contractor's possession or control; and

4.1.3 all information relating to Transferring Employees required to be provided by the Contractor under this Contract.

#### **5 EXIT PLAN**

5.1 The Contractor will within six (6) months after the Services Start Date maintain an Exit Plan which sets out the Contractor's proposed methodology for achieving an orderly transition of Services from the Contractor to the Department and/or its Successor Contractor on the expiry or termination of this Contract and which complies with the requirements set out in Paragraphs 5.2 and 5.3 below.

5.2 The Exit Plan will:

5.2.1 document how the Services will transfer to the Successor Contractor (which will need to be agreed between the Contractor and the Successor Contractor) and/or the Department, including details of the processes to transfer documentation, Department Data (including e-portfolios and other Learner records), systems migration, security and the segregation of the Department's technology components from any technology components operated by the Contractor or its Subcontractors (where applicable);

5.2.2 set out procedures to deal with requests made by the Department and/or a Successor Contractor for staffing information pursuant to Clause 28 (Re-Provision of the Services) of the Contract;

5.2.3 address each of the issues set out in this Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements) to facilitate the transition of the Services from the Contractor to the Successor Contractor and/or the Department with the aim of ensuring that there is no disruption to or degradation of the Services;

- 5.2.4 list software agreements and licence agreements required to deliver the Services.
- 5.3 The Contractor will review and (if appropriate) update the Exit Plan each year to reflect changes in the Services.

## 6 TERMINATION OBLIGATIONS

- 6.1 In addition to the obligations as set out in Clauses 39 (Termination) and 40 (Consequences of Termination and Expiry) of the Contract, the Contractor will comply with all of its obligations contained in the Exit Plan.
- 6.2 Within six (6) months of the Expiry Date (except where the Service will be rolled over to the following Funding Year) or Termination Date:
  - 6.2.1 the Contractor will, subject to the requirement to retain one copy for the purpose of compliance with Clause 56 (Continuing Obligations) and the retention requirements of this Contract, erase from any computers, storage devices and storage media that are to be retained by the Contractor, all Department Data;
  - 6.2.2 the Contractor will return or make available for the Successor Contractor or the Department to use such of the following as is in the Contractor's possession or control:
    - 6.2.2.1 all materials created by the Contractor under this Contract, the IPRs in which are owned by the Department;
    - 6.2.2.2 details of work volumes and staffing requirements over the twelve (12) month period immediately prior;
  - 6.2.3 the Contractor will:
    - 6.2.3.1 with respect to learning or training in progress, document the current status and stabilising for continuity during transition;
    - 6.2.3.2 provide assistance and expertise as necessary to examine all governance and reports in place for the provision of the Services;
    - 6.2.3.3 answer all reasonable questions from the Department and/or its Successor Contractor regarding the Services;
    - 6.2.3.4 agree with the Department and/or the Successor Contractor a plan for the migration of the Department Data to the Department and/or the Successor Contractor. The Contractor will fully co-operate in the execution of the agreed plan, providing skills and expertise of a reasonably acceptable standard; and
  - 6.2.4 each Party will return to the other Party all Confidential Information of the other Party and will certify that it does not retain the other Party's Confidential Information save to the extent (and for the

limited period) that such information needs to be retained by the Party in question for the purposes of providing or receiving any Services.

- 6.3 Except where this Contract provides otherwise, all licences, leases and authorisations granted by one Party to the other in relation to the Services will be terminated with effect from the Expiry Date or Termination Date.

## **7 KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER**

- 7.1 Three (3) months prior to the Expiry Date of the Contract (or where the Contract is terminated within the timescale notified by the Department) the Contractor will upon request:

7.1.1 provide for transfer to the Department and/or the Successor Contractor of all knowledge reasonably required for the provision of the Services which may, as appropriate, include information, records and documents including that relating to configuration of software; and

7.1.2 provide the Department and/or Successor Contractor with reasonable access to such members of the Contractor's or its Subcontractors' personnel as have been involved in the development, provision or management of the Services and who are still employed or engaged by the Contractor or its Subcontractors.

- 7.2 To facilitate the transfer of knowledge from the Contractor to the Department and/or its Successor Contractor, the Contractor will provide, upon request, a detailed written explanation of the procedures and operations used to provide the Services, the change management process and other standards and procedures to the operations personnel of the Department and/or the Successor Contractor.

- 7.3 The information which the Contractor will provide, at its own cost, to the Department and/or its Successor Contractor pursuant to Paragraph 7.1 above will include:

7.3.1 copies of up-to-date procedures and manuals;

7.3.2 agreements with third party suppliers of goods and services which are to be transferred to the Department/Successor Contractor;

7.3.3 key support contact details for third party supplier personnel under contracts which are to be assigned or novated to the Department/Successor Contractor pursuant to this Schedule 9 (Exit Arrangements);

7.3.4 any relevant interface information.

## **8 ASSETS, SUBCONTRACTS AND SOFTWARE**

- 8.1 Following notice of termination of this Contract, the Contractor will not,

without the Department's prior written consent:

8.1.1 enter into or vary any Subcontract;

8.1.2 enter into or vary any licence for software in connection with the Services.

## 9 **CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL**

9.1 The Department and Contractor agree and acknowledge that in the event of the Contractor ceasing to provide the Services or part of them for any reason, Clause 28 (Re-Provision of the Services) of the Contract will apply.

## 10 **PAYMENT**

10.1 The provisions of Clause 40 (Consequences of Termination and Expiry) of the Contract apply.

## **SCHEDULE 10: SUBCONTRACTING**

### **Subcontracting Principles**

- 1.1. When Subcontracting, the Contractor must comply with;
  - 1.1.1. the Funding Rules; and
  - 1.1.2. the Subcontractor Policies; and
  - 1.1.3. the Funding Higher Risk Organisations and Subcontractors Policy (hereafter referred to as the “**Funding Higher Risk Organisations Policy**”).
- 1.2. The Contractor must select its Subcontractors fairly and without discrimination and must comply with any Procurement Law that may apply when doing so, including where the Contractor is a contracting authority under Procurement Law.
- 1.3. The Contractor must ensure that proposed Subcontractors are of adequate financial standing and have sufficient capacity and capability to deliver the Services that are to be subcontracted.
- 1.4. When appointing and working with Subcontractors the Contractor must have regard to the section headed ‘Selection and procurement of your subcontractors’ within the Subcontracting Funding Rules in relation to conflicts of interest.
- 1.5. The Contractor must enter into a direct contractual relationship by way of a Subcontract with all of its Subcontractors before any Subcontractor commences the delivery of the subcontracted Services, and such Subcontracts shall comply with the requirements set out in Paragraph 1.8 below.
- 1.6. The Services to be delivered with the Funding provided under this Contract may only be subcontracted to one level. Accordingly, the Contractor must ensure that its Subcontractors do not further Subcontract any of the Subcontractor’s Services to other suppliers.
- 1.7. The Contractor must not enter into any agreement for Brokerage in relation to the Services under this Contract.

### **Requirements for Subcontracts**

- 1.8. The Subcontract must include:
  - 1.8.1. terms and conditions substantially the same as those set out in this Contract, including but not limited to the right for the Contractor to terminate the Subcontract if the Subcontractor does not pass the annual due diligence checks and such other matters as are set out in the section headed ‘Due diligence requirements’ within the Subcontracting Funding Rules;
  - 1.8.2. where applicable, terms that comply with the requirements of Clause 9.11.2 (Modern Slavery);
  - 1.8.3. an obligation for the Subcontractor to comply with the Department Policies and Subcontractor Policies;
  - 1.8.4. where a Contractor is a contracting authority as determined by

Procurement Law, provisions that comply with the requirements of such Procurement Law;

- 1.8.5. payment provisions such that the Contractor must pay the Subcontractor within 30 days of receiving a valid invoice, unless compliance with Paragraph 1.8.4 will require otherwise;
  - 1.8.6. an obligation on the Subcontractor to obtain express written permission from the Contractor before enrolling any Learners;
  - 1.8.7. an obligation on the Subcontractor to fund and support enrolled Learners for the duration of their Learning Programme;
  - 1.8.8. an obligation on the Subcontractor to participate in any rectification plan as appropriate in the event that the Subcontractor has committed an act which would constitute a material breach of this Contract (whether or not it is also a breach of the Subcontract); and
  - 1.8.9. sanctions on the Subcontractor for material breach of the Subcontract substantially the same as those set out in this Contract.
- 1.9. Subcontracts must be available at all times for the Department to inspect on request.

### **Contractor Obligations**

- 1.10. The Contractor must make payment to any Subcontractor in accordance with the required provisions of the Subcontract set out at Paragraph 1.8.5 of this Schedule.
- 1.11. The Contractor must provide a fully completed Subcontractor Declaration via [Manage your education and skills funding](#) (MYESF) twice during the academic year. The first declaration must be made by 31 October and the second declaration must be made by 30 June. If the Contractor does not have any Subcontractors at the specified date it must submit a nil return. If after submission of its most recent Subcontractor Declaration the Contractor enters into any Subcontract within the Funding Year, it must submit an updated Subcontractor Declaration to the Department.
- 1.12. The Contractor must publish a policy statement on its public facing website by 31 October in each Funding Year. The policy statement must accord with the provisions of the section headed 'Your policies for subcontracting and fees and charges' within the Subcontracting Funding Rules.
- 1.13. The Contractor must manage and monitor its Subcontractors in accordance with the relevant Subcontract to ensure that the Subcontractors deliver the subcontracted Services to the standard set out in Clause 3 (Service Delivery) of this Contract.
- 1.14. The Contractor must have a contingency plan in place to ensure that there is continuity of Services for existing Learners in the event of any circumstances that may arise that render a Subcontractor unable to deliver the subcontracted Services including but not limited to the expiry or termination of the Subcontract.
- 1.15. The Contractor must ensure that a Subcontractor that has committed an act which constitutes a material breach of this Contract (whether or not it is also a breach of its Subcontract) participates in any rectification plan as appropriate.

- 1.16. The Contractor must carry out an investigation at its own cost if there is any evidence of a Subcontractor having irregular financial or delivery activity and notify the Department of this and of the outcome of any such investigation.
- 1.17. The Contractor must not enter new Subcontracting arrangements or increase the value of existing arrangements if any of the following circumstances apply:
  - 1.17.1. Ofsted has rated the Contractor's management and leadership as inadequate;
  - 1.17.2. the outcome of the Contractor's annual financial health assessment is inadequate, unless the Department has provided its written consent to the proposed Subcontracting arrangement in advance of a Subcontract being entered into;
  - 1.17.3. a Subcontractor has been inspected and judged to be inadequate by Ofsted; or
  - 1.17.4. a Subcontractor is subject to ongoing intervention or investigation by the Department.

### **Due Diligence**

- 1.18. The Contractor must carry out its own due diligence checks when appointing Subcontractors and must take account of the criteria set out in the **Funding Higher Risk Organisations Policy**.
- 1.19. The Contractor must ensure it refreshes the due diligence checks on its Subcontracting arrangements on at least an annual basis, including but not limited to reviewing its Subcontracts and the rationale for entering into each Subcontract, any fees and charges involved in the delivery of its subcontracted Services and whether each cost is reasonable and proportionate in accordance with the section headed 'Due diligence requirements' within the Subcontracting Funding Rules.
- 1.20. If a Subcontractor does not pass the due diligence requirements set out in the section headed 'Due diligence requirements' within the Subcontracting Funding Rules, the Contractor must take action in accordance with that section of the Subcontracting Funding Rules.

### **Subcontracting Thresholds**

- 1.21. The Contractor must continuously review the size of its subcontracted Services and ensure this does not exceed the Subcontracting Threshold of 25%.
- 1.22. The Contractor must promptly submit an Exemption Case (as defined in the Subcontracting Funding Rules) if it anticipates that its Subcontracting will exceed the Subcontracting Threshold. The Contractor must submit such Exemption Case no less than twelve (12) weeks prior to exceeding the Subcontracting Threshold. The Department may consider Exemption Cases that are submitted later if the Contractor provides evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Department reserves the right to decline the Contractor's Exemption Case.
- 1.23. If the Contractor has previously submitted an Exemption Case, it should continue to seek permission to exceed the Subcontracting Threshold and must submit an Exemption Case to the Department by no later than 11.59pm on 30

April in each Funding Year. The Department may consider Exemption Cases that are submitted later if the Contractor provides evidence of exceptional circumstances. The Department reserves the right to decline the Contractor's Exemption Case.

- 1.24. The Exemption Case and the Contractor's submission of it must comply with the section headed 'Subcontracting threshold and exemption cases' within the Subcontracting Funding Rules.
- 1.25. The Department will consider any submitted Exemption Case in accordance with the provisions of the section headed 'Subcontracting threshold and exemption cases' within the Subcontracting Funding Rules and will notify the Contractor as to whether or not the Exemption Case is accepted.
- 1.26. The Department expects that any fee retained by the Contractor as a management fee for a Subcontract will not exceed 20% of the overall value of the Subcontract. In the event that the management fee is in excess of 20% of the overall value of the Subcontract the Department reserves the right to require the Contractor to provide further information in relation to the rationale for the management fee and why it represents good value for money.

### **Financial Thresholds**

- 1.27. Where the annual value in any Funding Year of this Contract exceeds £5 million and the Contractor wants to Subcontract one or more of the Services the following provisions apply:
  - 1.27.1. The Contractor will advertise on Find a Tender Service all Subcontract opportunities arising from or in connection with the provision of the Services above a minimum threshold of £25,000 that arise during the Contract Period.
  - 1.27.2. Once a Subcontract has been awarded, the Contractor will update the notice on Find a Tender Service with the details of the successful Subcontractor.
  - 1.27.3. In addition to any other management information requirements set out in this Contract, the Contractor agrees and acknowledges that it will, at no charge, provide timely, full, accurate and complete SME Management Information ("MI") Reports to the Department which incorporate the following:
    - (a) The total revenue received directly from the Contract
    - (b) The total value of Services under the Contract that have been subcontracted (including revenues for non-SMEs/non-VCSEs); and
    - (c) The total value of subcontracted revenues to SMEs and VCSEs.
  - 1.27.4. The SME Management Information Reports will be provided in the correct format as required by the Department and any guidance issued by the Department from time to time.
- 1.28. If the aggregate total of all Subcontractors delivering the Services that are funded on the Contractor's behalf exceeds or is anticipated to exceed £100,000 in any academic year, the Contractor must meet the requirements detailed in

[ESFA subcontracting standard - GOV.UK](#). The £100,000 threshold includes Apprenticeships, DfE Adult Skills Fund and 16 to 19 provision subcontracted by the Contractor.

### **Departmental Rights**

- 1.29. In the event that the Contractor fails to comply with any of the requirements set out in this Schedule the Department reserves the right to take such remedial action under this Contract as it considers appropriate in the circumstances, which may include but is not limited to requiring the Contractor to terminate an existing Subcontract and/or prohibiting the Contractor from entering into any new Subcontract to deliver the Services under this Contract.