

Request for Tenders dated 15/07/2026
for the Supply of Housing Delivery Strategy and HDAP Advisory
Services for Limerick (2027–2040).

Tender procedure: Open procedure

Tender Deadline 29/07/2026 00:00

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Part 1: Introduction

- 1.1 Limerick City and County Council (the “Contracting Authority”) invites tenders (“Tenders”) to this request for tenders (“RFT”) from economic operators (“Tenderers”) for the provision of the services as described in Appendix 1 to this RFT (the “Services”).
- 1.2 In summary, the Services comprise: Preparation of the statutory Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) 2027–2030 together with a place-based Housing Delivery Strategy for Limerick to 2040.
- 1.3 *Not used.*
- 1.4 This public procurement competition (the “Competition”) will be conducted in accordance with the open procedure under the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (Statutory Instrument 284 of 2016) (the “Regulations”). Any contract that may result from this Competition (the “Services Contract”) will be issued for a term of **12 months** (“the Term”).
- 1.5 The Contracting Authority reserves the right to extend the Term for a period or periods of up to 6 months with a maximum of one such extension or extensions on the same terms and conditions, subject to the Contracting Authority’s obligations at law.
- 1.6 The Contracting Authority estimates that the expenditure on the Services to be covered by the proposed services contract may amount to some €100,000 (excl. VAT) over the Term and any possible extensions. Tenderers must understand that this figure is an estimate only based on current and future expected usage.
- 1.7 Contracting Authority policy seeks to encourage participation on a fair and equal basis by Small and Medium Enterprises (“SME”)s in this Competition. SMEs that believe the scope of this Competition is beyond their technical or business capacity are encouraged, subject to paragraph 2.5, to explore the possibilities of forming relationships with other SMEs or with larger enterprises. Through such relationships they can participate and contribute to the successful implementation of any Services Contract that may result from this Competition and therefore increase their social and economic benefits.

Larger enterprises are also encouraged, subject to paragraph 2.5, to consider the practical ways that SMEs can be included in their proposals to maximise the social and economic benefits of any Services Contracts that may result from this Competition.

Part 2: Instructions to Tenderers

2.1 IMPORTANT NOTICES

2.1.1 While every effort has been made to provide comprehensive and accurate information in all notices and documents prepared for the purposes of this Competition, the Contracting Authority does not accept any liability or provide any express or implied warranty in respect of any such information. Tenderers must form their own conclusions about the solution needed to meet the requirements set out in this RFT and may wish to consult their legal advisers.

2.1.2 The Contracting Authority does not bind itself to accept the lowest priced or any Tender. This RFT does not constitute an offer or commitment to enter into a Services Contract. No contractual rights in relation to the Contracting Authority will exist unless and until a formal written Services Contract has been executed by or on behalf of the Contracting Authority. Any notification of preferred bidder status by the Contracting Authority shall not give rise to any enforceable rights by the Tenderer.

The Contracting Authority may cancel this Competition at any time prior to a formal written Services Contract being executed by or on behalf of the Contracting Authority.

The award of a Services Contract does not confer exclusivity on the successful Tenderer.

2.1.3 This RFT supersedes and replaces any and all previous documentation, communications and correspondence between the Contracting Authority and Tenderers, and Tenderers should place no reliance on such previous documentation and correspondence.

2.1.4 In this clause 2.1.4, “Data Protection Laws” means all applicable national and EU data protection laws, regulations and guidelines including but not limited to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (the “General Data Protection Regulation”), and any guidelines and codes of practice issued by the Office of the Data Protection Commission or other supervisory authority for data protection in Ireland from time to time.

The Contracting Authority will be a Data Controller (where Data Controller has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws) in respect of any Personal Data (where Personal Data has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws) required to be provided by the Tenderer in response to this RFT.

The Tenderer, as Data Controller in respect of any Personal Data provided by it in its Tender, is required to confirm in the statement required under paragraph 2.4 below that all Data Subjects (where Data Subject has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws) whose Personal Data is provided by the Tenderer have consented to the processing of such Personal Data by the Tenderer, the Contracting Authority, the Evaluation Team and the supplier of the etenders.gov.ie website, for the purposes of the participation of the Tenderer in this Competition or that the Tenderer otherwise has a legal basis for providing such Personal Data to the Contracting Authority for the purposes of its participation in this Competition.

2.1.5 Not used.

2.1.6 Not used.

2.2 COMPLIANT TENDERS

2.2.1 If a Tenderer fails to comply in any respect with the requirements of this paragraph 2.2.1, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to reject the Tenderer's Tender as non-compliant or, without prejudice to this right and subject to its obligations at law, to take any other action it considers appropriate including but not limited to:

- seeking written clarification from the Tenderer;
- seeking further information from the Tenderer; or
- waiving a requirement, which in the Contracting Authority's view, is non-material or procedural.

Tenderers are required:

(a) Not used.

(b). To submit all documentation which this RFT requires to be submitted with their Tender;

(c) To follow the format of this RFT and respond to each element in the order as set out in this RFT;

(d) To conform to and comply with all instructions and requirements set out in this RFT;

(e) To submit the statement required under paragraph 2.4 below; and

(f) Not to alter or edit this RFT in any way.

2.2.2 Without prejudice to the generality of paragraphs 2.2.1, failure to comply with paragraph 2.6.1, 2.6.2 or 2.6.3 below will render the Tender non-compliant and it will be rejected.

2.3 SERVICES CONTRACT

2.3.1 Tenderers should note the terms and conditions of the Services Contract at Appendix 5 to this RFT.

2.3.2 Tenderers are required to confirm their acceptance of the terms and conditions of the Services Contract by signing the Tenderer's Statement at Appendix 3. Tenderers may not amend the Services Contract.

2.4 ACCEPTANCE OF RFT REQUIREMENTS

Each Tenderer is required to accept the provisions of this RFT. ALL TENDERERS MUST RETURN, with their Tender, a scanned signed copy of the Tenderer's Statement, as set out in Appendix 3, printed on the Tenderer's letterhead. The Contracting Authority must be able to read the scanned signature of the Tenderer. If possible, please sign documents using blue ink. If the Contracting Authority cannot read the scanned signature, Tenderers may be requested to re-submit. Tenderers may not amend the Tenderer's Statement.

2.5 CONSORTIA AND PRIME / SUBCONTRACTORS

Where a group of undertakings (in whatever form and regardless of the legal relationship between them) come together to submit a Tender in response to this RFT, the Contracting Authority will deal with all matters relating to this Competition through a single nominated entity authorised to represent all members of the group of undertakings. The Tenderer must provide details of all members of the group of undertakings and their role in the Tender and clearly set out the contact details including name, title, telephone number, postal address, facsimile number and e-mail address of the nominated entity authorised to represent the Tenderer and to whom all communications shall be directed and accepted until this Competition has been completed or terminated. Correspondence from any other person will NOT be accepted, acknowledged or responded to.

Prior to and as a condition of award of any Services Contract, the successful Tenderer shall be required to designate a single entity who will carry overall responsibility for the Services Contract (the “Prime Contractor”), irrespective of whether or not tasks are to be performed by a subcontractor or other consortium member (the “Subcontractor”).

2.6 TENDER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- 2.6.1** Tenders must be submitted via www.etenders.gov.ie. Only such tenders will be accepted. Tenders submitted by any other means (including but not limited to: by email, fax, post, hand delivery, etc.) will NOT be accepted.

Tenderers must ensure that they give themselves sufficient time to upload and submit all required tender documentation in their Tender before the Tender Deadline (as defined in paragraph 2.6.2). Tenderers should take into account the fact that upload speeds vary.

Tenderers must note the relevant eTenders file size limits which apply to single files uploaded, and maximum total file size limit of for all documentation (combined) in the Tender submitted.

Only such tenders will be accepted. Tenders submitted by any other means will NOT be accepted.

Tenderers must ensure that they give themselves sufficient time to submit all required tender documentation in their Tender before the Tender Deadline (as defined in paragraph 2.6.2).

- 2.6.2** Tenders must be received not later than 00:00 on 29th July 2026 (the “Tender Deadline”). Tenders that are received late WILL NOT be considered in this Competition.
- 2.6.3** Tenders must be submitted in English.
- 2.6.4** Subject to paragraph 2.14 and 2.18, each Tenderer is limited to submitting one Tender in its own capacity and one Tender as part of a consortium/group of undertakings under this RFT.
- 2.6.5** All Tenders submitted in soft copy must be compiled such that they can be read immediately in pdf format. The Contracting Authority is not responsible for corruption in electronic documents. Tenderers must ensure electronic documents are not corrupt.

2.7 QUERIES AND CLARIFICATIONS

- 2.7.1 All queries relating to any aspect of this Competition or of this RFT must be directed to the messaging facility on www.etenders.gov.ie. Queries will be accepted no later than 23:45 on 20th July 2026 unless otherwise published by the Contracting Authority. For the avoidance of doubt, Tenderers may not contact the Contracting Authority directly regarding any aspect of this Competition.
- 2.7.2 All responses to queries will be issued by the Contracting Authority via the messaging facility on www.etenders.gov.ie. Where appropriate, queries may be amalgamated. Tenderers should note that the Contracting Authority will not respond to individual Tenderers privately.
- 2.7.3 The Contracting Authority reserves the right to issue or seek written clarifications.
- 2.7.4 The Contracting Authority reserves the right at any time before the Tender Deadline, to update or amend the information contained in this document and/or to extend the Tender Deadline. Participating Tenderers will be informed of any such amendment or extension through the eTenders website.
- 2.7.5 Tenderers should ensure that they register their interest in this Competition, by clicking on the “Accept” button on www.etenders.gov.ie, in order to receive all responses to queries and other updates in relation to this Competition.

2.8 TENDERING COSTS

- 2.8.1 All costs and expenses incurred by Tenderers relating to their participation in this Competition including, but not being limited to, site visits, field trials, demonstrations and/or presentations shall be borne by and are a matter for discharge by the Tenderers exclusively.

2.9 CONFIDENTIALITY

- 2.9.1 All documentation, data, statistics, drawings, information, patterns, samples or material disclosed or furnished by the Contracting Authority to Tenderers during the course of this Competition:
- (a) are furnished for the sole purpose of replying to this RFT only;
 - (b) may not be used, communicated, reproduced or published for any other purpose without the prior written permission of the Contracting Authority;
 - (c) shall be treated as confidential by the Tenderer and by any third parties (including subcontractors) engaged or consulted by the Tenderer; and
 - (d) must be returned immediately to the Contracting Authority upon cancellation or completion of this Competition if so requested by the Contracting Authority.

2.10 PRICING

- 2.10.1 All Tenderers must complete the Pricing Schedule at Appendix 2 to this RFT.

- 2.10.2 All prices quoted must be all-inclusive (i.e. including but not being limited to shipping, packaging, delivery, ancillary costs and all other costs/expenses), be expressed in Euro only and exclusive of VAT. The VAT rate(s) where applicable should be indicated separately.
- 2.10.3 Tenderers must confirm that all prices quoted in the Tender will remain valid for 24 months commencing from the Tender Deadline.
- 2.10.4 Any currency variations occurring over the term of the Services Contract shall be borne by the Tenderer.
- 2.10.5 Payments for Services provided pursuant to this RFT shall be subject to and made in accordance with the Services Contract at Appendix 5 to this RFT.

2.11 ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND LABOUR LAW

- 2.11.1 In the performance of any Services Contract awarded, the successful Tenderers and their Subcontractors (if any), shall be required to comply with all applicable obligations in the field of environmental, social and labour law that apply at the place where the services are provided, that have been established by EU law, national law, collective agreements or by international, environmental, social and labour law listed in Schedule 7 of the Regulations.
- 2.11.2 Tenderers shall be required to include an undertaking to comply fully with the provisions of Council Directive 2001/23/EC of 12 March 2001 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to the safeguarding of employees' rights in the event of transfers of undertakings, business or parts of undertakings or business and as implemented in Irish law by Statutory Instrument No. 131 of 2003, the European Communities (Protection of Employees on Transfer of Undertakings) Regulations 2003 and to indemnify the Contracting Authority for any claim arising or loss or costs incurred as a result of its failure or incapacity to fulfil its obligations under the said Directive and Statutory Instrument.
- 2.11.3 The Protection of Employees (Temporary Agency Work) Act 2012 (the "2012 Act") provides that an Agency Worker (as defined in the 2012 Act) is entitled to the same basic working and employment conditions as those which apply to employees recruited directly by the Hirer (as defined in the 2012 Act) to do the same or a similar job. Where the provision of the Services will involve the provision to the Contracting Authority of Agency Workers (within the meaning of the 2012 Act), Tenderers should ensure that they consider their obligations under the 2012 Act when pricing their Tender. The Contracting Authority shall have no liability for any increase in salaries that may be payable as a result of the application of the 2012 Act to the provision of the Services.

2.12 PUBLICITY

No publicity regarding this Competition or any Services Contract pursuant to this Competition is permitted unless and until the Contracting Authority has given its prior written consent to the relevant communication.

2.13 REGISTRABLE INTEREST

Any Registrable Interest involving any Tenderer or Subcontractor and the Contracting Authority, members of the Government, members of the Oireachtas, or employees and officers of the Contracting Authority and their relatives must be fully disclosed in the Tender or, in the event of this information only coming to the notice of the Tenderer or Subcontractor after the submission of a

Tender, must be communicated to the Contracting Authority immediately upon such information becoming known to the Tenderer or Subcontractor.

The terms “Registrable Interest” and “Relative” shall be interpreted as per Section 2 of the Ethics in Public Office Acts 1995 and 2001, copies of which are available at www.irishstatutebook.ie. The Contracting Authority will, at its absolute discretion, decide on the appropriate course of action, which may in appropriate circumstances include eliminating a Tenderer from this Competition or terminating any Services Contract entered into by a Tenderer.

2.14 ANTI-COMPETITIVE CONDUCT

Tenderers’ attention is drawn to the Competition Act 2002 (as amended, the “2002 Act”). The 2002 Act makes it a criminal offence for Tenderers to collude on prices or terms in a public procurement competition.

2.15 INDUSTRY TERMS USED IN THIS RFT

Where reference is made to a particular item, source, process, trademark, or type in this RFT then all such references are to be given the meaning generally understood in the relevant industry and operational environment.

2.16 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- 2.16.1** Tenderers should be aware that, under the Freedom of Information Act 2014 and the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2014, information provided by them during this Competition may be liable to be disclosed.
- 2.16.2** Tenderers are asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in their Tender should not be disclosed because of its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity. If Tenderers consider that certain information is not to be disclosed because of its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity, Tenderers must, when providing such information, clearly identify the specific sections of their Tender containing such information and specify the reasons for its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity. For the avoidance of doubt Tenderers may not assert confidentiality or commercial sensitivity over the entire Tender but must clearly identify the specific section containing such information. If Tenderers do not identify information as confidential or commercially sensitive, it is liable to be released in response to a request under the above legislation without further notice to or consultation with the Tenderer. The Contracting Authority will, where possible, consult with Tenderers about confidential or commercially sensitive information so identified before making its decision on a request received. The Contracting Authority accepts no liability whatsoever in respect of any information provided which is subsequently released (irrespective of notification) or in respect of any consequential damage suffered as a result of such obligations.

2.17 TAX CLEARANCE

It will be a condition of any Services Contract pursuant to this Competition that the successful Tenderer(s) shall, for the term of such contract(s), comply with all applicable EU and domestic tax laws. Tenderers are referred to www.revenue.ie for further information. Before any payment is made to a successful Tenderer for services delivered under the proposed services contract, the Tenderer must provide evidence that the Tenderer has a valid tax clearance certificate (issued by the Irish Collector General) in force at the time the payment is due. By supplying these numbers the successful Tenderer acknowledges and agrees that the Contracting Authority has the permission of the successful Tenderer to verify its tax cleared position online.

2.18 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Any conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest on the part of a Tenderer, Subcontractor or individual employee(s) or agent(s) of a Tenderer or Subcontractor(s) must be fully disclosed to the Contracting Authority as soon as the conflict or potential conflict is or becomes apparent. Tenderers are required to declare that the preparation of their Tender was carried out independently. In the event of any actual or potential conflict of interest, the Contracting Authority may invite Tenderers to propose means by which the conflict of interest might be removed and in circumstances where there are links between Tenderers, the Contracting Authority may seek further information to confirm the Tenders have been prepared independently. The Contracting Authority will, at its absolute discretion, decide on the appropriate course of action, which may in appropriate circumstances include eliminating a Tenderer from this Competition or any Mini-Competition or terminating any Framework Agreement or Services Contract entered into by a Tenderer.

2.19 WITHDRAWAL FROM THIS COMPETITION

Tenderers are required to notify the Contracting Authority immediately via the e-tenders website, if at any stage they decide to withdraw from this Competition.

2.20 SITE VISIT

2.20.1 Not used.

2.20.2 Not used.

2.21 LIABILT Y AND INDEMNITY

- 2.21.1 The successful Tenderer shall be required to hold for the term of the Services Contract the following insurances:

Type of Insurance	Level Required
Employer's Liability	€12.7 million
Public Liability	€6.5 million

By signing the Tenderer's Statement in the Tender Response Document, Tenderers confirm that, if awarded a 2.21.2 Services Contract under this Competition, they will,

- (i) from the Effective Date of the Services Contract (as defined in the Services Contract), obtain and hold the types and levels of insurance as specified at paragraph 2.21.1,
- (ii) the territorial limits and jurisdiction of its insurance policies include Ireland and
- (iii) they are not aware of any exclusions, restrictions, conditions or warranties or, in the case of policies with an aggregate limit of indemnity, any outstanding claims, which could have a material adverse impact on the level of coverage specified above. A formal confirmation from the Tenderer's insurance company or broker to this effect will be requested from the successful Tenderer(s) prior to the award of (and shall be a condition of) any Services Contract.

The successful Tenderer will, during the term of the Services Contract, be required to:

- a. Immediately advise the Contracting Authority of any material change to its insured status.
- b. Produce proof of current premiums paid upon request.
- c. Produce certificates of insurance upon request.

Part 3: Selection and Award Criteria

3.1 COMPLIANT TENDERS

- 3.1 Only those Tenderers who have submitted compliant Tenders pursuant to paragraph 2.2 above will be evaluated in accordance with the Award Criteria at part 3.3 below.

3.2 SELECTION CRITERIA

- 3.2 Not used.

3.3 AWARD CRITERIA

- 3.3.1 The Services Contract will be awarded on the basis of the most economically advantageous tender(s) as identified in accordance with the criteria and marking scheme set out in the table below:

No.	Award Criterion	Weighting	Minimum Qualifying Threshold
1	Understanding the Requirement Consideration will be given to: • Understanding of objectives • Demonstrated understanding of: • DHLGH HDAP Guidance. • Social Housing and Starter Home requirements. • Housing Need and Demand Assessment. • Place-based housing delivery planning. • Housing delivery acceleration. • Long-term housing growth planning. Please limit your response to 4 no. A4 pages under this criterion	20	10
2	Approach to Delivering the Services Tenderers must provide comprehensive detail demonstrating their approach and methodology for delivering the specific scope (as set out in Appendix 1) and should address the following as a minimum: - Programme initiation - Analysis - Final Deliverables - Risk, Management & Mitigation	30	15

	Please limit your response to 6 no. A4 pages under this criterion		
3	Price Tenderers must complete Appendix 2 Pricing Schedule. The price score will be calculated in accordance with the formula set out below.	20	N/A
4	Technical Merit of Team Proposed Tenderers must provide the following: - Project Team Organisation Chart identifying consultants / sub-consultants making up the team and the key personnel. - Short Form CVs of the key personnel proposed for delivery of the contract, to include, relevant qualification and training, length of time with the company and time in current position, information with dates regarding expertise and experience (highlighting that with the current company or previous employers). Maximum of 1/2 x A4 page per person. - the key personnel proposed for delivery of the services Please limit your response to 5 no. A4 pages under this criterion to include tables, organograms and diagrams but excluding CV's. Short Form CVs should be no longer than half a page each and a maximum of 3 no. A4 pages in total under this criterion.	30	15

Tenderers must provide a document which sets out:

- In respect of Award Criteria 1, 2 and 4, the proposed approach or methodology to deliver on the requirements and specifications set out in Appendix 1; and,
- In respect of Award Criterion 3, a quoted price which shall be that amount which is necessary to carry out all of the work required to satisfy the tender requirements. This sum shall include all costs, be expressed in Euro only and be exclusive of VAT.

Tenderers must score the Minimum Qualifying Threshold allocated to all non-price criteria (Criteria 1, 2 and 4) in the RFT in order to come under consideration for awarding of the contract. Failure to achieve the Minimum Qualifying Threshold in any of these non-cost criteria will result in the Tenderer being eliminated from the competition and not being scored for Criterion 3 - Price.

The Price score marked will be a result of a calculation of the total price quoted as follows; the lowest priced Tender shall be awarded the maximum points available under this criterion and the points of all other Tenders under this criterion shall be calculated using the following formula.

Price Score	=	Lowest Tendered Rate	x
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Tendered Rate under evaluation	Maximum Number of Marks Available
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For the purposes of determining marks scored for responses to Award Criteria 1, 2 and 4; the following scoring methodology will apply:

Score	Assessment
91% to 100%	Excellent response providing comprehensive and convincing assurance that the Tenderer will deliver to an excellent standard.
81% to 90%	A very good response which demonstrates real understanding and assurance that the Tenderer will deliver to a good or high standard.
61% to 80%	A satisfactory response which demonstrates a reasonable understanding of requirements and gives reasonable assurance of delivery to an adequate standard, but does not provide sufficiently convincing assurance to award a higher mark.
30% to 60%	A response where reservations exist. Lacks full credibility/convincing detail, and there is a risk that delivery will not be successful.
1% to 29%	A response where serious reservations exist. This may be because, for example, insufficient detail is provided, or the response has fundamental flaws, or is seriously inadequate or seriously lacks credibility with a high risk delivery will be unsuccessful.
0%	No Response or response completely fails to address the criterion under consideration.

Where the scoring process results in a tie between two or more tenders, then the following process will be followed to determine the ranking and the successful tender:

- The tender with the highest overall 'Qualitative' score (total of marks awarded under Criteria 1, 2 and 4) shall be deemed the Most Economically Advantageous Tender.

3.3.2 Subject to paragraphs 2.1 (Important Notices) and 3.5 (Standstill Period) of this RFT, award of the Services Contract to the highest ranked Tenderer (as determined by paragraph 3.3.1) will be conditional upon:

- (a) the Tenderer submitting the following evidence in respect of the Tenderer (including the Prime Contractor and any Subcontractors, as applicable) to the extent not already provided, within seven (7) days of request by the Contracting Authority: (i) a Declaration in the form attached at Appendix 4; (ii) if applicable, evidence to the effect that measures taken by the entity concerned are sufficient to demonstrate its reliability despite the existence of relevant ground(s) for exclusion.

3.4 NOT USED

Not used.

3.5 STANDSTILL PERIOD

- 3.5.1** No contract can or will be executed or take effect until at least fourteen (14) calendar days after the day on which the Tenderers have been sent a notice informing them of the result of this Competition ("Standstill Period") if such notice is sent by electronic means. The Standstill Period shall be sixteen (16) calendar days if such notice is sent by other means. The preferred bidder will be notified of the decision of the Contracting Authority and of the expiry date of the Standstill Period.
- 3.5.2** Tenderers should note that the Contracting Authority may, when notifying Tenderers of the results of this Competition, include the scores obtained by the Tenderer concerned and the scores obtained by the preferred bidder in respect of each award criterion assessed by the Contracting Authority.

3.6 RETURN OF SIGNED CONTRACTS

- 3.6.1** The successful Tenderer must sign and return the Services Contract and the Confidentiality Agreement, both in duplicate, to the Contracting Authority no later than 14 calendar days from the date of expiry of the Standstill Period unless notified otherwise in writing by the Contracting Authority. A signed Services Contract returned by the successful Tenderer is not binding on the Contracting Authority until the Contracting Authority has signed the Services Contract in accordance with paragraph 2.1.2 above.
- 3.6.2** Where the signed Services Contract and the Confidentiality Agreement have not been received by the Contracting Authority within the period as specified at paragraph 3.6.1 then the Contracting Authority may proceed to award the Services Contract to the next highest-ranked Tenderer in accordance with paragraph 3.6.1 above.

Appendix 1: Requirements and Specifications

Tenderers must address each of the issues and requirements in this part of the RFT and submit a detailed description in each case which demonstrates how these issues and requirements will be dealt with / met and their approach to the proposed delivery of the Services. A mere affirmative statement by the Tenderer that it can/will do so or a reiteration of the tender requirements is NOT sufficient in this regard.

1.0 Introduction

Limerick City and County Council (LCCC) is preparing a Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP). The HDAP will serve as the Council's statutory Housing Delivery Action Plan for the period 2027–2030 in accordance with DHLGH requirements. This commission will also support preparation of a wider Housing Delivery Strategy to 2040 to guide neighbourhood-level delivery, land activation, investment planning and long-term housing growth.

The Council has completed significant preparatory work, including demographic analysis, housing need assessment, private sector pipeline analysis, land capacity assessment, TRABIS pipeline review, neighbourhood-based housing modelling and initial financial profiling.

The purpose of this commission is to focus on the housing strategy and advisory workstream at a very high level to guide strategic direction from 2027-2040.

HDAP and Housing Delivery Strategy Relationship

The consultant shall prepare:

Output A

The statutory Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) required by DHLGH for 2027–2030.

Output B

A wider Housing Delivery Strategy to 2040 which:

- Builds on the HDAP.
- Supports neighbourhood-level planning.
- Identifies medium and long-term housing opportunities.
- Supports investment prioritisation.
- Supports future land activation and delivery planning.

2.0 Appointment Objective

The consultant shall prepare:

- A statutory Housing Delivery Action Plan (HDAP) covering 2027–2030.
- A supporting Housing Delivery Strategy extending to 2040.

The HDAP shall satisfy DHLGH requirements while the wider Housing Delivery Strategy shall support long-term housing growth, neighbourhood planning and delivery acceleration.

The commission shall be undertaken through five interlinked stages:

1. Baseline Survey and Evidence Gathering
2. Strategic Analysis and Assessment
3. Housing Vision for each City Neighbourhood and rural town and village.
4. Housing Delivery Planning and Intervention Framework
5. Implementation, Monitoring and Programme Management Framework

The study area shall include:

- Eight Strategic City Neighbourhoods
- Fifteen Key Rural Towns and Villages

Please note that LCCC has already gathered a significant body of data to interrogate. There is a requirement to align with Development Plan and Government Circulars in relation to HNDA and Housing Delivery Action plan objectives. LCCC has already completed substantial data collection and analysis. Tenderers should focus on integration, interpretation and modelling of existing datasets rather than extensive primary data collection exercises.**Stage 1 – Baseline Survey and Evidence Gathering**

2.1 Data Collection, Integration and Evidence Base

LCCC has assembled a substantial housing evidence base. The consultant shall review, consolidate and operationalise all available information into a consolidated Housing dataset. Please cost for an onboarding one day workshop with LCCC and a workshop at the end of August to ensure the brief is discussed in detail and confirmed.

Existing information includes:

- CSO demographic and housing datasets
- Electoral District housing and population data
- Planning permissions and development activity
- Private sector development pipeline information
- Forward Planning zoning and land capacity studies
- Housing Need and Demand Assessments
- TRABIS housing delivery datasets
- Local Authority housing programme information
- Approved Housing Body programmes
- Land Development Agency projects
- Existing financial delivery pipelines
- Infrastructure and servicing information

- Regeneration datasets
- Vacancy datasets
- Affordable Housing programme information

The consultant shall undertake:

Data Integration

- Consolidation of all datasets into a single HDAP evidence base
- Validation and reconciliation of datasets
- Identification of data gaps
- Recommendations regarding additional data requirements
- Development of a GIS-enabled housing delivery database
- Spatial mapping of housing supply and demand indicators
- Production of a robust, auditable methodology capable of annual update

Existing Housing Delivery Survey

The consultant shall establish a comprehensive understanding of for each City Neighbourhood, town and village:

- Current housing stock
- Existing housing pipeline
- Housing market conditions
- Development activity
- Land availability
- Infrastructure capacity
- Housing need indicators
- Delivery constraints
- Funding opportunities

Stage 2 – Strategic Analysis and Assessment

2.2 Housing Market and Demographic Analysis

The consultant shall undertake a detailed assessment of historic and current housing market dynamics.

Analysis shall include:

Population and Demographic Assessment

- Population growth patterns
- Population projections
- Household formation trends
- Household composition

- Migration patterns
- Age profile analysis
- Employment trends
- Economic activity
- Income profiles
- Deprivation indicators
- Educational indicators

Housing Market Assessment

Assessment of:

- Housing tenure profile
- Housing type and size mix
- Density patterns
- Occupancy rates
- Housing affordability
- Private rental market performance
- Vacancy levels
- Dereliction/Vacancy patterns
- Affordable housing provision
- Cost rental provision
- Social housing provision
- Private housing provision
- Student accommodation
- Traveller accommodation
- Specialist and supported housing provision
- Accessible housing provision

HDAP-Specific Requirements

- Starter Homes assessment.
- Affordable Purchase requirements.
- Cost Rental requirements.
- Social housing target assessment.
- Disability accommodation needs.
- Older persons accommodation requirements.
- Traveller accommodation requirements.

Historic Housing Delivery Analysis

The consultant shall investigate:

- Housing completions trends
- Historic delivery rates
- Planning permission conversion rates
- Build-out trajectories

The analysis shall identify the principal factors influencing housing delivery and explain how these factors are likely to shape future delivery.

2.3 Neighbourhood and Settlement Assessment

The consultant shall prepare detailed place-based assessments for:

- Eight City Neighbourhoods
- Fifteen Rural Towns and Villages

Each assessment shall include:

Existing Place Profile

- Population characteristics
- Housing profile
- Social and community infrastructure
- Accessibility and connectivity
- Employment opportunities
- Educational facilities
- Health facilities
- Environmental assets
- Infrastructure constraints

SWOT Assessment

For each neighbourhood and settlement the consultant shall identify:

Strengths

Existing assets supporting housing delivery and neighbourhood sustainability.

Weaknesses

Current deficiencies, imbalances and delivery challenges.

Opportunities

Potential development opportunities and strategic interventions.

Threats

Risks to housing delivery, market viability and neighbourhood sustainability.

Stage 3 – Housing Vision and Place-Based Delivery Strategies

2.4 Future Housing Needs Assessment

The consultant shall quantify future housing requirements by location, tenure and household type.

Assessment shall address:

- Social Housing
- Affordable Purchase
- Cost Rental
- Private Ownership
- Private Rental
- Older Persons Housing
- Supported Housing
- Student Accommodation
- Key Worker Housing
- Family Housing
- One and Two Person Households
- Traveller Accommodation
- Universal Design Housing
- Universal Design Plus Housing
- H15 Community Dwellings

The assessment shall clearly demonstrate:

- Who housing is required for
- Where housing is required
- What type of housing is required
- When housing is required

2.5 Housing Vision and Neighbourhood Delivery Strategies

The consultant shall prepare a future housing vision for each neighbourhood and settlement.

Each strategy shall establish:

Housing Objectives

- Housing growth objectives
- Tenure balancing objectives
- Target tenure mix
- Dwelling type mix
- Density framework

- Housing quality objectives
- Place-making objectives
- Climate resilience objectives

Development Framework

- Strategic sites
- Brownfield opportunities
- Public land opportunities
- Infill housing opportunities
- Regeneration opportunities
- Infrastructure requirements
- Community infrastructure requirements
- Public realm priorities

This section forms part of the wider Housing Delivery Strategy and is not required as part of the statutory HDAP submission.

Stage 4 – Housing Delivery Planning and Intervention Framework

2.6 Housing Supply and Delivery Modelling

The consultant shall prepare a comprehensive housing delivery model to 2040.

This shall quantify for each City Neighbourhood, Town and Village:

Housing Capacity

- Zoned land capacity
- Existing permissions
- Active pipeline
- Inactive pipeline
- Strategic housing zones – visioning at a high-level future potential not identified in current Development Plan
- Regeneration areas
- Vacancy opportunities
- Underutilised stock
- Public land opportunities

Delivery Forecasting

Annual delivery projections shall be prepared for:

- 2027–2030 HDAP period
- 2030–2035

- 2035–2040

Forecasts shall consider:

- Build-out assumptions
- Infrastructure requirements
- Development constraints
- Funding requirements
- Market conditions
- Delivery partner capacity

2.7 Gap Analysis

The consultant shall compare projected housing delivery against housing requirements and national targets.

This shall identify:

Housing Delivery Shortfalls

- By year
- By geography
- By tenure
- By household type
- Gap to DHLGH `HNDA targets.
- Gap to Starter Home requirements.
- Gap to long-term Housing Delivery Strategy objectives.

Delivery Constraints

- Infrastructure limitations
- Funding constraints
- Land constraints
- Planning constraints
- Market constraints
- Delivery capacity constraints
- Skills shortages
- Organisational barriers

2.8 Housing Delivery Intervention Plan

The consultant shall prepare a prioritised intervention framework identifying measures required to increase housing delivery.

This shall examine opportunities through:

- Local Authority delivery
- Approved Housing Bodies
- Land Development Agency
- Private developers
- SME builders
- Self-build and serviced sites
- Modern Methods of Construction
- Public-private partnerships
- Strategic land activation
- Regeneration programmes
- Infrastructure-led development

The consultant shall identify:

Short-Term Actions (2027–2030)

Measures capable of immediate activation.

Medium-Term Actions (2030–2035)

Actions requiring infrastructure or policy support.

Long-Term Actions (2035–2040)

Strategic interventions supporting long-term housing growth.

Recommendations shall distinguish between:

- Actions required to achieve HDAP targets (2027–2030)
- Actions required to support the Housing Delivery Strategy to 2040

Stage 5 – Implementation, Monitoring and Programme Management Framework

2.9 Housing Delivery Enabler Framework

The consultant shall prepare a comprehensive Housing Delivery Management Framework supporting LCCC's role as a proactive Housing Delivery Enabler.

The framework shall include:

Governance

- Delivery governance structure
- Roles and responsibilities
- Decision-making pathways

Programme Management

- Housing delivery programme structure

- Delivery sequencing
- Critical path analysis
- Risk management framework

Monitoring and Reporting

- Housing Delivery Dashboard
- KPI framework
- HDAP annual review framework.
- HDAP Portal update process.
- Reporting templates aligned with DHLGH requirements.
-
- Annual reporting templates
- Delivery monitoring toolkit
- Intervention triggers
- Review methodology
- Annual update process

The framework shall be designed to support active management and acceleration of housing delivery rather than solely monitoring outputs.

2.10 Collaboration and Coordination

The consultant shall work collaboratively with:

- Limerick City and County Council
- Graphic Design and Visualisation Consultant – to be appointed
- Financial and Funding Consultant – to be appointed
- Relevant stakeholders and delivery partners

The consultant shall participate in workshops (3 no.), stakeholder engagement sessions (3 no.) and project reviews (as required) to ensure the delivery of a fully integrated Housing Delivery Action Plan.

This commission is expected to deliver not only an assessment of housing need, but a practical, evidence-led housing delivery management system capable of supporting investment prioritisation, programme management, intervention planning and accelerated housing delivery across Limerick City and County.

The consultant shall act as lead integrator across all three commissions and shall ensure consistency between:

- HDAP submission requirements.
- Housing Delivery Strategy outputs.
- Graphic design outputs.
- Financial strategy outputs.

2.11. Deliverables

The consultant shall provide:

1. Draft HDAP (2027–2030)
2. Final HDAP Submission Document
3. HDAP Data Tables and Supporting Schedules
4. Housing Delivery Strategy 2040
5. Eight Neighbourhood Delivery Strategies
6. Fifteen Town / Village Summaries
7. Housing Capacity and Delivery Model
8. Intervention Framework
9. Housing Delivery Enabler Framework
10. Executive Summary
11. Presentation Materials
12. Workshop Outputs

2.12. Programme

Stage	Timeline
Tender Issue	July 2026
Appointment	July 2026
Draft Outputs	August 2026
Final Submission Inputs	End Q3 2026

Appendix 2: Pricing Schedule

Tenderers must set out the pricing schedule below.

COST (FIXED FEE)			
The quoted price shall be that amount which is necessary to carry out all of the work required to satisfy the requirements set out in this RFT. This sum shall include all costs, be expressed in Euro only and be exclusive of VAT.			
Please provide the total fixed cost for the provision of services.	€	VAT rate	Insert VAT rate
Please provide total no. of days required	Insert # of days		
Please provide details which clearly illustrate how the fixed cost has been calculated:			
	Daily Rate ex VAT	No. of Days	Cost
Managing Director/Partner/ Subject Matter Expert	€		€
Director/Principal /Senior Manager	€		€
Manager	€		€
Senior Consultant	€		€
Junior Consultant	€		€
Total			€
Please provide a breakdown of any additional costs below, such as Travel and Subsistence, if applicable:			

Appendix 3: Tenderers' Statement

[Tenderers shall complete and return the following form of Tenderers' Statement printed on the Tenderers' headed notepaper and signed by the Tenderer.]

TENDERERS' STATEMENT

TO: Limerick City and County Council (the "Contracting Authority")

RE: Request for Tenders for the Supply of Housing Delivery Strategy and HDAP Advisory Services for Limerick (2027–2040).

Having examined your Request for Tenders (the "RFT") including the Instructions to Tenderers, the Selection and Award Criteria, the Requirements and Specifications, and the Terms and Conditions of the Services Contract, we hereby declare the following:

1. We understand the nature and extent of the Services required to be delivered as described in Requirements and Specifications at Appendix 1 to the RFT.
2. We accept all of the Terms and Conditions of the RFT, the Services Contract and the Confidentiality Agreement and agree if awarded a Services Contract to execute the Services Contract at Appendix 5 to the RFT.
3. We accept all the Selection and Award Criteria as set out in Part 3 of the RFT.
4. We agree to provide the Contracting Authority with the Services in accordance with the RFT and our Tender.
5. We agree that, if awarded any Services Contract, we shall, in the performance of such contract, comply with all applicable obligations in the field of environmental, social and labour law.
6. We confirm that we have complied with all requirements as set out at Part 2 of the RFT.
7. We confirm that all prices quoted in our Tender will remain valid for the period of time commencing from the Tender Deadline, as specified at paragraph 2.10.3 of the RFT.
8. Not used.
9. We confirm that all Data Subjects whose Personal Data is provided in our Tender have consented to the processing of such Personal Data by us, the Contracting Authority, the Evaluation Team and the supplier of the etenders.gov.ie website, for the purposes of our participation in this Competition or that we otherwise have a legal basis for providing such Personal Data to the Contracting Authority for the purposes of our participation in this Competition and that we will provide evidence of such consent and / or legal basis to the Contracting Authority upon request.
10. Not used.
11. Not used.

12. Not used.

SIGNED

Company

(Authorised Signatory)

Print name

Address

Date

Appendix 3A: Not used

Appendix 3A: Not used

Appendix 3A: Not used

Appendix 3A: Not used

Appendix 3A: Not used

Appendix 3A: Not used

Appendix 4: Declaration as to Personal Circumstances of Tenderer

Re: Request for Tenders for the Provision of Housing Delivery Strategy and HDAP Advisory Services for Limerick (2027–2040).

NAME: [Click here and insert name]

ADDRESS: [Click here and insert address]

I, [Click here and insert name of Declarant], of [Click here and insert name of entity] do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am a [insert role of Declarant] of [Click here and insert name of entity] and am authorized by [Click here and insert name of entity] to make this declaration which relates to a tender (“the Tender”) submitted by [Click here and insert name of entity] in response to an RFT dated titled [insert description of competition] published by [insert name of contracting authority] (“the Contracting Authority”).
2. Neither [Click here and insert name of entity] nor any person who is a member of the administrative, management or supervisory body of [Click here and insert name of entity] nor any person who has powers of representation, decision or control in [Click here and insert name of entity] has:
 - a. ever been the subject of a conviction for participation in a criminal organisation.
 - b. ever been the subject of a conviction for corruption.
 - c. ever been the subject of a conviction for fraud.
 - d. ever been the subject of a conviction for terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities.
 - e. ever been the subject of a conviction for money laundering or terrorist financing.
 - f. ever been the subject of a conviction for child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings.
3. [Click here and insert name of entity]:
 - a. is not in breach and has not breached its obligations relating to the payment of taxes or social security contributions.
 - b. has carried out the preparation of the Tender independently.
4. [Click here and insert name of entity]:
 - a. has, in the performance of all public contracts, complied with applicable obligations in the field of environmental social and labour law that apply at the place where the works are carried out or the services provided).
 - b. is not bankrupt or the subject of insolvency or winding-up proceedings, its assets are not being administered by a liquidator or by the court, it is not in an arrangement with creditors, its business activities are not suspended nor is it in any analogous situation arising from a similar procedure under national laws and regulations.
 - c. is not guilty of grave professional misconduct.

- d. has not entered into agreements with other economic operators aimed at distorting competition.
- e. is not aware of any conflict of interest due to its participation in the Competition;
- f. has not had any prior involvement in the preparation of the Competition;
- g. has not shown significant or persistent deficiencies in the performance of a substantive requirement under a prior public contract, a prior contract with a contracting entity, or a prior concession contract, which led to early termination of that prior contract, damages or other comparable sanctions.
- h. is not guilty of serious misrepresentation in supplying the information required for the verification of the absence of grounds for exclusion or the fulfilment of the Selection Criteria for this Competition and did not withhold such information and did not fail or is not able to submit supporting documents in respect of this Competition.
- i. has not undertaken to unduly influence the decision-making process of the Contracting Authority in respect of the Competition, or obtain confidential information that may confer upon it undue advantages in respect of the Competition; or negligently provided misleading information that may have a material influence on decisions concerning exclusion, selection or award.

I understand and acknowledge that the provision of inaccurate or misleading information in this declaration may lead to my business/firm/company/partnership being excluded from participation in this or future tenders, and I make this solemn declaration conscientiously believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act, 1938. This declaration is made for the benefit of the Contracting Authority.

Signature of Declarant

Appendix 5: Services Contract

Limerick City and County Council

and

[Insert successful Tenderer's full legal name]

AGREEMENT

Relating to the provision of Services pursuant to

Request for Tenders for the provision of Housing Delivery Strategy and HDAP Advisory Services for Limerick (2027–2040).

THIS AGREEMENT IS MADE ON THE [DATE E.G. 2ND] DAY OF [MONTH] 20[YEAR] BETWEEN:

Limerick City and County Council, of [address] ("the Client");

and

[Contractor's full legal name], of [address] ("the Contractor")

(each a "Party" and together "the Parties").

WHEREAS:

- A. By Request for Tender entitled "Insert title of RFT" advertised in the supplement to the Official Journal of the European Union, OJEU Notice Number [] of [] dated insert date of RFT ("the RFT") the Contracting Authority invited tenders from economic operators ("Tenderers") for the provision of the services described in Appendix 1 to the RFT (the "Services"). References to the RFT shall include any clarifications issued by the Contracting Authority via the messaging facility on www.etenders.gov.ie between [insert date] and [insert date] (the "RFT Clarifications"). The RFT (including the RFT Clarifications) is hereby incorporated by reference into this Agreement.
- B. The Contractor submitted a response to the RFT dated [insert date of Tender] ("the Submission"). References to the Submission shall include any clarifications issued by the Contractor in writing to the Contracting Authority between [insert date] and [insert date] (the "Submission Clarifications"). The Submission (including the Submission Clarifications) is hereby incorporated by reference into this Agreement.

IT IS HEREBY AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. This Agreement consists of the following documents, and in the case of conflict of wording, in the following order of priority:
 - i. This Agreement and Schedules A to E attached hereto;
 - ii. The RFT;
 - iii. The Submission.
- 2. The Contractor agrees to provide the Services described in Schedule B ("the Services") to the Client in accordance with this Agreement ("Agreement"). Schedule B details the nature, quality, time of delivery, key personnel and functional specifications of the Services in accordance with the RFT and the Submission ("the Specification").
- 3. Subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement, the Client agrees to pay to the Contractor the charges as stipulated in Schedule C ("the Charges"). The Charges are exclusive of VAT which shall be due at the rate applicable on the date of the VAT invoice.
- 4. For the purposes of this Agreement, the Client's Contact is [name of contact person] of [address of contact person]; the Contractor's Contact is [Contractor contact name] of [Contractor contact address].

5. This Agreement shall take effect on the date of this Agreement (“the Effective Date”) and shall expire on [Insert date], unless it is otherwise terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement or otherwise lawfully terminated or otherwise lawfully extended as agreed between the Parties (“the Term”).

Delete and replace with “Not Used” if not applicable:

The Client reserves the right to extend the Term for a period or periods of up to [Insert Number] months with a maximum of [Insert Number] such extensions permitted subject to its obligations at law

6. Unless otherwise specified herein, a defined term used in this Agreement shall have the same meaning as assigned to it in the RFT.
7. Headings are included for ease of reference only and shall not affect the construction of this Agreement.
8. Unless the context requires otherwise, words in the singular may include the plural and vice versa.
9. References to any statute, enactment, order, regulation or other legislative instrument shall be construed as a reference to the statute, enactment, order, regulation or instrument as amended, unless specifically indicated otherwise.
10. In the event that any ambiguity or question of intent or interpretation arises in relation to this Agreement, this Agreement shall be construed as if drafted jointly by the Parties and no presumption or burden of proof shall arise favouring or disfavouring any Party by virtue of the authorship of any of the provisions of this Agreement.

SIGNED for and on behalf of the Client	SIGNED for and on behalf of the Contractor
(being a duly authorised officer)	
Witness	Witness

Schedule A: Terms and Conditions

1. CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS

- A. The Contractor undertakes to act with due care, skill and diligence in the provision of the Services and generally in the carrying out of its obligations under this Agreement and in the appointment, monitoring and retention of its agents and Subcontractors. The Contractor shall require its agents and Subcontractors to exercise due care, skill and diligence in the provision of the Services and generally in the carrying out of obligations allocated by the Contractor to its agents and Subcontractors under this Agreement.
- B. In consideration of the payment of the Charges and subject to clause 3 the Contractor shall:
1. provide the Services in accordance with the Specification, the RFT, the Client's directions and the terms of this Agreement;
 2. comply with and implement any policies, guidelines and/or any project governance protocols issued by the Client from time to time and notified to the Contractor in writing;
 3. comply with all local security and health and safety arrangements as notified to it by the Client; and
 4. provide the Services in accordance with good industry practice and comply with all applicable laws including but not limited to all obligations in the field of environmental, social and labour law that apply at the place where the Services are provided, that have been established by EU law, national law, collective agreements and by international, environmental, social and labour law listed in Schedule 7 of the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (Statutory Instrument 284 of 2016) (the "Regulations"). The Contractor shall be responsible for compliance with all statutory requirements of an employer and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing shall be solely responsible in law for the employment, remuneration, taxes, immigration and work permits of all personnel retained for the purposes of complying with this Agreement.
- C. The Contractor is deemed to be the prime contractor under this Agreement and the Contractor assumes full responsibility for the discharge of all obligations under this Agreement and shall assume all the duties, responsibilities and obligations associated with the position of prime contractor. The Contractor as prime contractor under the Submission hereby assumes liability for its Subcontractors and shall ensure that its Subcontractors shall comply in all respects with the relevant terms of this Agreement, including but not limited to clause 1B(4) above, to the extent that it or they are retained by the Contractor. Subject to clause 14, the Contractor shall notify the Client as soon as possible of any changes to the name, contact details and legal representatives of its Subcontractors.
- D. Without prejudice to clause 1C, where the Client becomes aware that any of the exclusion grounds set out in Regulation 57 of the Regulations apply to any Subcontractor, the Client reserves the right to require the Contractor to immediately replace such Subcontractor and the Contractor shall comply with such requirement. The Contractor shall include in every sub-contract a right for the Contractor to terminate the sub-contract where any of the

exclusion grounds apply to the Subcontractor and a requirement that the Subcontractor, in turn, includes a provision having the same effect in any sub-contract which it awards.

- E. During this Agreement the Contractor shall be an independent contractor and not the employee of the Client. Neither Party shall have any authority to bind or commit the other. Nothing herein shall be deemed or construed to create a joint venture, partnership, and/or fiduciary or other relationship between the Parties for any purpose. The officers, employees or agents of the Contractor are not and shall not hold themselves out to be (and shall not be held out by the Contractor as being) servants or agents of the Client for any purposes whatsoever.
- F. The Client acknowledges that the Contractor may from time to time be dependent on the Client to facilitate the Contractor in the carrying out of its duties under this Agreement. The Client agrees to use its reasonable endeavours to so facilitate the Contractor within the timescales and in the manner agreed by it in writing in accordance with clause 10.
- G. The Contractor agrees that any information relating to this Agreement and / or the performance of this Agreement may be passed by the Client to the Office of Government Procurement (“OGP”) and that the OGP may use this information in the analysis and reporting of spend data including the preparation and publishing of reports.
- H. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable obligations arising pursuant to the European Communities (Protection of Employees’ Rights on Transfer of Undertakings) Regulations 2003 (S.I. No. 131 of 2003) and Council Directive 2001/23/EC (together the “TUPE Regulations”) and failure to so comply shall constitute a serious breach of this Agreement. The Contractor shall indemnify, save harmless and keep the Client indemnified from and against any claim arising or loss or costs incurred as a result of its failure or incapacity to fulfil its obligation under the said TUPE Regulations.
- I. In the case of public procurement procedures which are subject to an IPI measure within the meaning of Regulation (EU) 2022/1031, the Contractor shall comply with the following obligations:
 - i. not to subcontract more than 50% of the total value of the contract to economic operators originating in a third country which is subject to an IPI measure;
 - ii. for contracts whose subject matter covers the supply of goods, to ensure for the duration of the contract that goods or services supplied or provided in the execution of the contract and originating in the third country which is subject to the IPI measure represent no more than 50% of the total value of the contract, irrespective of whether such goods or services are supplied or provided directly by the successful tenderer or by a subcontractor;
 - iii. to provide to the Client, upon request, adequate evidence corresponding to point (i) or (ii) above;
 - iv. to pay a proportionate charge, in the event of non-observance of the obligations referred to at point (i) or (ii) above, of between 10% and 30% of the total value of the contract.

2. KEY PERSONNEL

The Contractor undertakes and acknowledges that it is responsible for ensuring that all key personnel as specified in the Submission (“Key Personnel”), assigned by it to provide the Services shall be

available for the Term of this Agreement. The Contractor acknowledges that the Key Personnel are essential to the proper provision of the Services to the Client. In the event that any of the Key Personnel assigned by the Contractor to provide the Services under this Agreement becomes unable to provide the Services for whatever reason then, the Contractor acknowledges and undertakes that it shall immediately notify the Client in writing of the inability of any Key Personnel and replace that person with a person of equivalent experience and expertise ("Replacement Personnel"). The Contractor shall provide to the Client such details as the Client may reasonably require in writing regarding any Replacement Personnel. The Client shall have absolute discretion as to the suitability of any proposed Replacement Personnel.

3. PAYMENT

- A. Subject to the provisions of this clause 3 the Client shall pay and discharge the Charges (plus any applicable VAT), in the manner specified at Schedule C. Invoicing arrangements shall be on such terms as may be agreed between the Parties.
- B. Discharge of the Charges is subject to:
 - 1. Compliance by the Contractor with the provisions of this Agreement including but not limited to any milestones, compliance schedules and/or operational protocols in place pursuant to clause 10A from time to time;
 - 2. The furnishing by the Contractor of a valid invoice and such supporting documentation as may be required by the Client from time to time. Any Contractor pre-printed terms and conditions are hereby disallowed;
 - 3. Invoices being submitted to the Client's Contact (as set out in this Agreement or such other alternative contact as may be agreed between the Parties). All and any queries relating to the invoice and/or the Services for any billing period (including whether or not Services have been accepted, rejected, satisfactorily re-performed or as the case may be) must be raised by the Client's Contact within 14 calendar days of receipt of invoice. In circumstances where no queries are raised within the said 14 day period the invoice shall be deemed accepted. Upon resolution of any queries on the invoice to the satisfaction of the Client or upon such deemed acceptance the invoice shall be payable by the Client. Payment is subject to any rights reserved by the Client under any other provision of this Agreement; and
 - 4. The Client being in possession of the Contractor's current Tax Clearance Certificate. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable EU and domestic taxation law and requirements.
- C. The European Communities (Late Payment in Commercial Transactions) Regulations, 2012 shall apply to all payments. Incorrect invoices will be returned for correction with consequential effects on the due date of payment.
- D. Wherever under this Agreement any sum of money is recoverable from or payable by the Contractor (including any sum which the Contractor is liable to pay to the Client in respect of any breach of this Agreement), the Parties may agree to deduct that sum from any sum then due, or which at any later time may become due to the Contractor under the Agreement or under any other agreement or contract with the Client. Any overpayment by either Party, whether of the Charges or of VAT or otherwise, shall be a sum of money

recoverable by the Party who made the overpayment from the Party in receipt of the overpayment.

- E. The Charges shall include any and all costs or expenses incurred by the Contractor, its employees, servants and agents in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.
- F. The Charges shall be discharged as provided for in this clause subject to the retention by the Client in accordance with section 523 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997 of any Professional Services Withholding Tax payable to the Contractor. Any and all taxes applicable to the provision of the Services will be the sole responsibility of the Contractor and the Contractor so acknowledges and confirms.

4. WARRANTIES, REPRESENTATIONS AND UNDERTAKINGS

- A. The Contractor acknowledges, warrants, represents and undertakes that:
 - 1. it has the authority and right under law to enter into, and to carry out its obligations and responsibilities under this Agreement and to provide the Services hereunder;
 - 2. it is entering into this Agreement with a full understanding of its material terms and risks and is capable of assuming those risks;
 - 3. it is entering into this Agreement with a full understanding of its obligations with regard to taxation, employment, social and environmental protection and is capable of assuming and fulfilling those obligations;
 - 4. it has acquainted itself with and shall comply with all legal requirements or such other laws, recommendations, guidance or practices as may affect the provision of the Services as they apply to the Contractor;
 - 5. it has taken all and any action necessary to ensure that it has the power to execute and enter into this Agreement;
 - 6. the status of the Contractor, as declared in the "Declaration as to Personal Circumstances of Tenderer" dated [insert date] , which confirms that none of the excluding circumstances listed in Regulation 57 of the Regulations apply to the Contractor, remains unchanged;
 - 7. it owns, has obtained or is able to obtain, valid licences for all Intellectual Property Rights (as defined in clause 6 below) that are necessary for the performance of its obligations under this Agreement and for the Client to obtain the benefit of the Services for its business purposes;
 - 8. *Not used*
 - 9. it retains and shall maintain for the Term insurances for the nature and amount specified in the RFT. The Contractor undertakes to advise the Client forthwith of any material change to its insured status, to produce proof of current premiums paid upon written request and where required produce valid certificates of insurance for

inspection. The Contractor shall carry out all directions of the Client with regard to compliance with this clause 4A.9; and

10. the Client shall be under no obligation to purchase any minimum number or value of Services.

- B. The Contractor undertakes to notify the Client forthwith of any material change to the status of the Contractor with regard to the warranties, acknowledgements, representations and undertakings as set out at clause 4A and to comply with all reasonable directions of the Client with regard thereto which may include termination of this Agreement.

5. REMEDIES

Prior to publication please ensure to insert amounts/figures where applicable. When finished, delete these instructions.

- A. The Contractor shall be liable for and shall indemnify the Client for and in respect of all and any losses, claims, demands, damages or expenses which the Client may suffer due to and arising directly as a result of the negligence, act or omission, breach of contract, breach of duty, insolvency, recklessness, bad faith, wilful default or fraud of the Contractor, its employees, Subcontractors or agents or any of them or as a result of the Contractor's failure to exercise skill, care and diligence as outlined in clause 1. The terms of this clause 5A shall survive termination of this Agreement for any reason.
- B. Save in respect of fraud (including fraudulent misrepresentation), personal injury or death or in respect of the Contractor's indemnity under clause 6(G), neither Party will be liable for any indirect losses (including loss of profit, loss of revenue, loss of goodwill, indirectly arising damages, costs and expenses) of any kind whatsoever and howsoever arising even if such Party has been advised of their possibility.
- C. Should the Client find itself obliged to order elsewhere in consequence of the failure of the Contractor to deliver Services, the Client shall be entitled to recover from the Contractor any excess prices which may be paid by the Client.
- D. Except as otherwise expressly provided by this Agreement, all remedies available to either Party for breach of this Agreement are cumulative and may be exercised concurrently or separately, and the exercise of any one remedy shall not be deemed an election of such remedy to the exclusion of other remedies.
- E. ***Delete and replace with "Not Used" if not applicable:***
- Save in respect of fraud, personal injury or death or in respect of the Contractor's indemnity under clause 6(G) (for which no limit applies), the limit of the Contractor's aggregate liability to the Client under this Agreement whatsoever and howsoever arising shall not under any circumstances exceed 150% of the total value of the payments paid by the Department under the proposed services contract regardless of the number of claims.
- F. If for any reason the Client is dissatisfied with the performance of the Contractor, a sum may be withheld from any payment otherwise due calculated as follows:
- €48,000 ("the Retention Amount") which Retention Amount shall not at any given time exceed 40 per cent of the Charges. In such event the Client shall identify the particular Services with which it is dissatisfied together with the reasons for such dissatisfaction.

Payment of the Retention Amount will be made upon replacement and/or remedy of the said Services as identified by the Client or resolution of outstanding queries. The Client shall hold the Retention Amount on behalf of the Contractor but without any obligation to invest. The terms of this clause 5F shall be without prejudice to and not be in substitution for any remedy of the Client under this Agreement.

- G. Time of delivery shall be of the essence and if the Contractor fails to deliver the Services within the time period promised or specified in the Specification, the Client may by notice in writing to the Contractor's Contact release itself from any obligation to accept and pay for the Services and / or terminate this Agreement in either case without prejudice to any other rights and remedies of the Client.
- H. **Not used.**

6. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- A. Intellectual Property Rights ("IPR") means all patents and patent rights, trademarks and trademark rights, trade names and trade name rights, service marks and service mark rights, service names and service name rights, brand names, copyrights and copyright rights, trade dress, business and product names, logos, slogans, trade secrets, industrial models, utility models, design models, designs, rights in confidential information, know-how, rights in the nature of unfair competition rights and rights to sue for passing off, and all pending applications for and registrations of patents, trademarks, service marks, and copyrights together with all connected and similar or analogous rights in any country or jurisdiction for the full term thereof.
- B. Pre-existing IPR means all IPR existing prior to the date of this Agreement and all IPR in any materials, acquired or developed by or for Contractor or Client independently of this Agreement, and any IPR in Contractor's standard hardware and software products or modifications or updates to such products.
- C. All IPR title and interest in all reports, data manuals and/or other materials (other than software) (including without limitation all and any audio or audio visual recordings, transcripts, books, papers, records, notes, illustrations, photographs, diagrams) produced for the purposes of this Agreement (collectively "the Materials") (or any part or parts thereof) shall vest in the Client and the Contractor so acknowledges and confirms. For the avoidance of doubt the Contractor hereby assigns all Intellectual Property Rights, title and interest in the Materials (including by way of present assignment of future copyright) to the extent that any such Intellectual Property Rights title or interest may be deemed by law to reside in it in the Materials to the Client absolutely. Notwithstanding the assignment of intellectual property rights to Limerick City and County Council, the Department hereby grants to the contractor a non-exclusive, royalty free licence to use the data collected in the provision of the services, for academic, research and teaching purposes and any other not for profit activities which have first been approved in writing by Department, provided that all personal data is removed. The Department agrees that the contractor may publish academic papers and other such publications based on the data collected. Any such publications should acknowledge that the research project, which generated the findings and knowledge, was funded by Limerick City and County Council. The contractor shall submit a copy of its proposed Publication to the Department thirty (30) days before the date of the proposed Publication (the "Notice Period"). The Department may, by giving

written notice to the contractor, at any time during the Notice Period, require that any confidential information of the Department (including any reference to the Department or any use of Department branding) be removed from said Publication and the contractor shall comply with such request.

- D. The Client grants to the Contractor a royalty-free non-exclusive licence to use the Client's Pre-existing IPR for the Term to the extent necessary to enable the Contractor to fulfil its obligations under this Agreement. Save as expressly set out in this clause 6 all Pre-Existing IPR shall remain the sole property of the party who owned, acquired or developed such intellectual property.
- E. The Contractor shall waive or procure a waiver of any moral rights subsisting in copyright produced under or in performance of this Agreement.
- F. Nothing in this Agreement shall prohibit or be deemed to prohibit the Contractor from providing services similar to the Services to any party other than the Parties hereto. In no event shall the Contractor be precluded from independently developing for itself, or for others, materials which are competitive with, or similar to, the Services and to use its general knowledge, skills and experience, and any ideas, concepts, know-how, formats, templates, methodologies and techniques that are acquired or used in the course of providing the Services.
- G. The Contractor shall ensure that all and any necessary consents and/or licences for any software, instrument, modality or methodology are obtained and in place before use for the purposes of this Agreement (to include but not be limited to ensuring that the Client shall be vested with all necessary rights so as to enable the Client to enjoy the benefit of the Services for its business purposes). The Contractor hereby indemnifies the Client and shall keep and hold the Client harmless from and in respect of all and any losses (whether direct, indirect or consequential) liability, damages, claims, costs or expenses which arise by reason of any breach of third party Intellectual Property Rights in so far as any such rights are used for the purposes of this Agreement.

At the request of the Client for and in respect of any such breach, the Contractor shall at its expense and option:

- (i) procure the necessary rights for the Client to continue use;
 - (ii) replace the relevant deliverable with a non-infringing equivalent;
 - (iii) replace the relevant deliverable to make it non-infringing while giving equivalent performance; or
 - (iv) if the Contractor cannot obtain the remedies in (i), (ii) or (iii) above, it may direct the return of the deliverable and refund to the Client Charges paid for such deliverable less a reasonable amount for the Client's use of the deliverable up to the time of return, provided such reasonable amount is due to the owner of the said deliverable, TOGETHER with all losses (whether direct, indirect or consequential) thereby accruing to the Client as a result of the breach.
- H. Upon the termination of this Agreement for whatever reason, the Contractor shall immediately deliver up to the Client all the Materials prepared up to the date of

termination. The provisions of this clause 6 will survive the expiration or termination of this Agreement for any reason.

7. CONFIDENTIALITY

- A. Each of the Parties to this Agreement agrees to hold confidential all information, documentation and other material received, provided or obtained arising from their participation in this Agreement ("Confidential Information") and shall not disclose same to any third party except to:-
1. its professional advisers subject to the provisions of this clause 7; or
 2. as may be required by law; or
 3. as may be necessary to give effect to the terms of this Agreement subject to the provisions of this clause 7; or
 4. in the case of the Client by request of any person or body or authority whose request the Client or persons associated with the Client (including but not limited to the Legislature and/or the Executive and/or the Civil Service) considers it necessary or appropriate to so comply.

- B. The Contractor undertakes to comply with all reasonable directions of the Client with regard to the use and application of all and any of its Confidential.

The obligations in this clause 7 will not apply to any Confidential Information:

1. in the receiving Party's possession (with full right to disclose) before receiving it from the other Party; or
 2. which is or becomes public knowledge other than by breach of this clause; or
 3. is independently developed by the disclosing Party without access to or use of the Confidential Information; or
 4. is lawfully received by the disclosing Party from a third party (with full right to disclose).
- C. The Contractor acknowledges that the security of the State and its information is of paramount importance to the Client. Accordingly the Contractor confirms that it will, if requested by the Client, from time to time, submit full personal details (including those of Subcontractors) who are assigned to provide the Services (or any part thereof) under this Agreement. The Contractor further acknowledges that checks may be carried out in relation to all such personnel by police authorities and the Contractor shall comply with all reasonable directions of the Client arising therefrom.
- D. In circumstances where the Client is subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2014 or the European Communities (Access to Information on the Environment) Regulations 2007 to 2014, then in the event of the Client receiving a request for information related to this Agreement, the Client shall consult with the Contractor in respect of the request. The Contractor shall identify any information that is not to be disclosed on grounds of confidentiality or commercial sensitivity, and shall state the reasons for this sensitivity. The Client will consult the Contractor about this confidential or commercially sensitive information before making a decision on any request received under the above legislation.

The Contracting Authority accepts no liability whatsoever in respect of any information provided which is subsequently released (irrespective of notification) or in respect of any consequential damage suffered as a result of such obligations.

- E. The terms of this clause 7 shall survive expiry, completion or termination for whatever reason of this Agreement.

8. FORCE MAJEURE

- A. A 'Force Majeure Event' means an event or circumstance or combination of events and/or circumstances not within the reasonable control of the Affected Party (as defined in clause 8B below) which has the effect of delaying or preventing that Party from complying with its obligations under this Agreement including but not limited to acts of God, war, out-break of disease, insurrection, riot, civil disturbance, rebellion, acts of terrorism, government regulations, embargoes, explosions, fires, floods, tempests, or failures of supply of electrical power, or public telecommunications equipment or lines, excluding industrial action of whatever nature or cause (strikes, lockouts and similar) occurring at the Contractor (or Subcontractor or agent) places of business.
- B. In the event of any failure, interruption or delay in the performance of either Party's obligations (or of any of them) resulting from any Force Majeure Event, that Party ("the Affected Party") shall promptly notify the other Party in writing specifying:
 - 1. the nature of the Force Majeure Event;
 - 2. the anticipated delay in the performance of obligations;
 - 3. the action proposed to minimise the impact of the Force Majeure Event;and the Affected Party shall not be liable or have any responsibility of any kind for any loss or damage thereby incurred or suffered by the other Party, provided always that the Affected Party shall use all reasonable efforts to minimise the effects of the same and shall resume the performance of its obligations as soon as reasonably possible after the removal of the cause.
- C. If the Force Majeure Event continues for 48 calendar days either Party may terminate at 14 days notice.
- D. In circumstances where the Contractor is the Affected Party, the Client shall be relieved from any obligation to make payments under this Agreement save to the extent that payments are properly due and payable for obligations actually fulfilled by the Contractor in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

9. TERMINATION

- A. This Agreement may be terminated by the Client, without liability for compensation or damages, by serving 2 months written notice to the Contractor.
- B. Either Party shall have the right (in addition to any rights under clause 9(a) and any other rights which it has at law) to terminate this Agreement immediately and without liability for compensation or damages on the happening of any of the following:

1. if the other Party commits any serious breach or a series of breaches of any provision of this Agreement and fails to remedy such breach(es) (if the breach(es) are capable of remedy) within 30 days after receipt of a request in writing from the other Party;
 2. if the other Party becomes insolvent, becomes bankrupt, enters into examinership, is wound up, commences winding up, has a receiving order made against it, makes any arrangement with its creditors generally or takes or suffers any similar action as a result of debt, or an event having an equivalent effect;
 3. in circumstances where the Client becomes aware of any conflict of interest on the part of the Contractor which cannot, in the opinion of the Client, be removed by other means; and
 4. in circumstances where the Client becomes aware of any registrable interest on the part of the Contractor.
- C. Not used.
- D. Termination of this Agreement shall not affect any antecedent and accrued rights, obligations or liabilities of either Party, nor shall it affect any provision of this Agreement which is expressly or by implication intended to come into or continue in force on or after such termination.
- E. If requested by the Client, the Contractor shall promptly furnish such anonymised information relating to the terms and conditions of the employment of all persons providing the Services as may be required by the Client ("Employment Information"). The Contractor agrees that the Client may release the Employment Information to third parties for the purposes of any procurement competition for the provision of the Services upon expiry of the Term or earlier termination of this Agreement for whatever cause.

10. CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

- A. The Client's Contact and the Contractor's Contact shall liaise on a regular basis to address any issues arising which may impact on the performance of this Agreement and to agree milestones, compliance schedules and operational protocols as required by the Client from time to time. If requested in writing by the Client the Contractor shall meet formally with the Client to report on progress and shall comply with all written directions of the Client.
- B. The Contractor agrees to:
1. liaise with and keep the Client's Contact fully informed of any matter which might affect the observance and performance of the Contractor's obligations under this Agreement;
 2. maintain such records and comply with such reporting arrangements and protocols as required by the Client from time to time;
 3. comply with all reasonable directions of the Client; and
 4. comply with the service levels and performance indicators set out in Schedule D.

- C. The Client or its authorised representative may inspect the Contractor's premises, lands and facilities (or such part or parts thereof relating solely to this Agreement) with due access to relevant personnel and records upon reasonable notice in writing to ensure compliance with the terms of this Agreement. The Contractor shall comply with all reasonable directions of the Client thereby arising. The cost of inspection shall be borne by the Client.

11. DISPUTES

- A. In the event of any dispute arising out of or relating to this Agreement (the "Dispute"), the Parties shall first seek settlement of the Dispute as set out below.
- B. The Dispute shall be referred as soon as practicable to [insert Contractor contact] within the Contractor and to Eoin Corrigan within the Client respectively.
- C. If the Dispute has not been resolved within fifteen (15) Business Days (or such longer period as may be agreed in writing by the Parties) of being referred to the nominated representatives, then either Party may refer the Dispute to an independent mediator, the identity of whom shall be agreed in advance by the Parties.
- D. If the Parties are unable to agree on a mediator or if the mediator agreed upon is unable or unwilling to act, either Party may within twenty-one (21) days from the date of the proposal to appoint a mediator or within twenty-one (21) days of notice to either Party that the mediator is unable to act, apply to the Chairman of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Irish Branch to appoint a mediator.
- E. Any submissions made to and discussions involving the mediator, of whatever nature, shall be treated in strict confidence and without prejudice to the rights and/or liabilities of the Parties in any legal proceedings and, for the avoidance of doubt, are agreed to be without prejudice and legally privileged. The Parties shall make written submissions to the mediator within ten (10) Business Days of his/her appointment.
- F. The Parties shall share equally the cost of the mediator. The costs of all experts and any other third parties who, at the request of any Party, shall have been instructed in the mediation, shall be for the sole account of, and shall be discharged by that Party.
- G. For the avoidance of doubt, the obligations of the Parties under this Agreement shall not cease, or be suspended or delayed by the reference of a dispute to mediation. The Contractor shall comply fully with the requirements of the Agreement at all times.

12. GOVERNING LAW, CHOICE OF JURISDICTION AND EXECUTION

- A. This Agreement shall in all aspects be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland and the Parties hereby agree that the courts of Ireland have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement.
- B. This Agreement shall be executed in duplicate and each copy of the Agreement shall be signed by all the Parties hereto. Each of the Parties to this Agreement confirms that this Agreement is executed by their duly authorised officers.

13. NOTICES

- A. Any notice or other written communication to be given under this Agreement shall either be delivered personally or sent by registered post or email. The Parties will from time to time agree primary and alternative contact persons and details for the purposes of this clause 13.
- B. All notices shall be deemed to have been served as follows:
1. if personally delivered, at the time of delivery;
 2. if posted by registered post, at the expiration of 48 hours after the envelope containing the same was delivered into the custody of the postal authorities (and not returned undelivered); and
 3. if communicated by email, on the next calendar day following transmission.

14. ASSIGNMENT AND SUBCONTRACT

- A. Subject to a Party's obligations at law, any assignment to a third party or other transfer of a Party's rights or obligations under this Agreement (the "Assignment") requires the prior written consent of the other Party. Prior to any such Assignment, the assignee will be obliged to sign an undertaking to comply with all obligations under this Agreement. Any attempted Assignment not complied with in the manner prescribed herein shall be null and void.
- B. Subject to a Party's obligations at law, any sub-contract of a Party's rights or obligations under this Agreement requires the prior written consent of the other Party, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld or delayed. Any attempted subcontract not complied with in the manner prescribed herein shall be null and void. For the purposes of Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same), the Client may require information from the Contractor in relation to the status of the proposed subcontractor(s) including, but not limited to, in respect of natural persons, copies of identity documents and, in respect of legal persons, a certificate or extract from the commercial register or other competent authority of the country in which the person is established.

15. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties, and any and all other previous agreements, arrangements and understandings (whether written or oral) between the Parties with regard to the subject matter of this Agreement (save where fraudulently made) are hereby excluded.

16. SEVERABILITY

If any term or provision herein is found to be illegal or unenforceable for any reason, then such term or provision shall be deemed severed and all other terms and provisions shall remain in full force and effect.

17. WAIVER

No failure or delay by either Party to exercise any right, power or remedy shall operate as a waiver of it, nor shall any partial exercise preclude further exercise of same or some other right, power or remedy.

18. NON-EXCLUSIVITY

Nothing in this Agreement shall preclude the Client from purchasing services (or Services) from a third party at any time during the currency of the Agreement.

19. MEDIA

No media releases, public announcements or public disclosures relating to this Agreement or its subject matter, including but not limited to promotional or marketing material, shall be made by the Contractor without the prior written consent of the Client.

20. CONFLICTS, REGISTRABLE INTERESTS AND CORRUPT GIFTS

- A. The Contractor confirms that it has carried out a conflicts of interest check and is satisfied that neither it nor any Subcontractor nor agent as the case may be has any conflicts in relation to the Services and its obligations undertaken under this Agreement. The Contractor hereby undertakes to notify the Client immediately should any conflict or potential conflict of interest come to its attention during the currency of this Agreement and to comply with the Client's directions in respect thereof. In the event of such notification, the Client shall have the right (in addition to any other rights which it has at law) to terminate this Agreement immediately and without liability for compensation or damages.
- B. Any registrable interest involving the Contractor (and any Subcontractor or agent as the case may be) and the Client, the Ceann Comhairle (Speaker), or any member of the Government, or any member of the Oireachtas, or their relatives must be fully disclosed to the Client immediately upon such information becoming known to the Contractor (Subcontractor or agent as the case may be) and the Contractor shall comply with the Client's directions in respect thereof, to the satisfaction of the Client. In the event of such disclosure, the Client shall have the right (in addition to any other rights which it has at law) to terminate this Agreement immediately and without liability for compensation or damages. The terms "registrable interest" and "relative" shall be interpreted as per section 2 of the Ethics in Public Office Act, 1995 (as amended) a copy of which is available on request.
- C. The Contractor shall not offer or agree to give any public servant or civil servant any gift or consideration or commission of any kind as an inducement or reward for doing or forbearing to do or for having done or forborne to do any action in relation to the obtaining or execution of this or any other public contract. Any breach of this clause 20C or the commission of any offence by the Contractor, any Subcontractor, agent or employee under the Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Act 2018 shall entitle the Client to terminate this Agreement immediately and without liability for compensation or damages and to recover the amount of any loss resulting from such cancellation, including but not limited to recovery from the Contractor of the amount or value of any such gift, consideration or commission.

21. ACCESS TO PREMISES

- A. Any of the Client's premises made available from time to time to the Contractor by the Client in connection with this Agreement, shall be made available to the Contractor on a non-exclusive licence basis and shall be used by the Contractor solely for the purpose of

performing its obligations under this Agreement. The Contractor shall have use of such premises as licensee and shall vacate the same on completion, termination or abandonment of this Agreement.

- B. The Contractor shall upon reasonable notice by the Client allow the Client access to its premises (including the premises of any Subcontractor or agent) where the Services are being performed for the Client under this Agreement.

22. EQUIPMENT

- A. The Contractor shall provide all equipment and materials necessary for the provision of the Services ("Equipment").
- B. All Equipment brought onto the Client's premises shall be at the Contractor's own risk and the Client shall have no liability for any loss of, caused by or damage to any Equipment. The Contractor shall provide for the haulage or carriage thereof to the Client's premises and the removal of Equipment when no longer required at its sole cost. Unless otherwise agreed, Equipment brought onto the premises will remain the property of the Contractor.
- C. The Contractor shall maintain and store all items of Equipment within the Client's premises in a safe, serviceable and clean condition.
- D. The Contractor shall, at the Client's written request, at its own expense and as soon as reasonably practicable:
 - i. remove from the Client's premises any Equipment which in the reasonable opinion of the Client is either hazardous, noxious or not in accordance with this Agreement; and
 - ii. replace such item with a suitable substitute item of Equipment.
- E. On completion of the Services the Contractor shall remove the Equipment used by the Contractor to provide the Services and shall leave the Client's premises in a clean, safe and tidy condition. The Contractor is solely responsible for making good any damage to the Client's premises or any objects contained thereon, other than fair wear and tear, which is caused by the Contractor or any of its employees or Subcontractors.

23. NON SOLICITATION

- A. For the Term and for a period of 12 months thereafter (and save in respect of publicly advertised posts) neither the Client nor the Contractor shall employ or offer employment to any of the other Party's employees without that other Party's prior written consent.

24. CHANGE CONTROL PROCEDURE

- A. At any time during the Term of this Agreement, either Party may propose a change or changes to any part or parts of this Agreement.
- B. The change control procedures set out in this Schedule will apply to all changes irrespective of whether the Contractor or the Client proposes the change.
- C. A change control notice ("Change Control Notice") shall be prepared for all change requests. The Change Control Notice will provide an outline description of the change requested, the rationale for the change, the effect that the change will have on the Services (where known)

and an estimate of the effort and cost required to prepare an impact assessment (“Impact Assessment”).

- D. All Change Control Notices proposing changes to this Agreement must be submitted for review to the other Party’s Contact.
- E. The Parties must indicate their acceptance or rejection of the change control request and/or Impact Assessment within a reasonable timeframe of its completion and Tender Submission for review, subject to a maximum of twenty (20) calendar days or such other period agreed between the Parties.
- F. On approval of an Impact Assessment, this Agreement and/or the Schedules should be updated and revised as appropriate and in writing.
- G. In the event that either Party rejects the Impact Assessment, the change(s) shall not take place and the Parties shall continue to perform their obligations under this Agreement.
- H. The Contractor and the Client will agree a reasonable charge in advance for investigating each proposed variation and preparing each estimate, whether or not the variation is implemented. If the Client’s request for any variation is subsequently withdrawn but results in a delay in the performance of the Services then the Contractor will not be liable for such delay and will be entitled to an extension of time equal to not less than the period of the delay.

25. DATA PROTECTION AND SECURITY

A. In this Agreement the following terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them: “Data” means all Confidential Information, whether in oral or written (including electronic) form, created by or in any way originating with the Client (including but not limited to his employees, agents, independent contractors and/or Sub-contractors) and all information that is the output of any computer processing, or other electronic manipulation of any information that was created by or in any way originating with the Client provided under this Agreement and includes any Personal Data;

“Data Controller” has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws;

“Data Processor” has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws;

“Data Protection Laws” means all applicable national and EU data protection laws, regulations and guidelines, including but not limited to Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (the “General Data Protection Regulation”), and any guidelines and codes of practice issued by the Office of the Data Protection Commission or other supervisory authority for data protection in Ireland.

“Data Subject” has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws;

“Data Subject Access Request” means a request made by a Data Subject in accordance with rights granted under the Data Protection Laws to access his or her Personal Data;

“Personal Data” has the meaning given under Data Protection Laws;

“Processing” has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws;

- B. The Contractor shall comply with all applicable requirements of the Data Protection Laws.

- C. The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Laws, the Client is the Data Controller and the Contractor is the Data Processor in respect of Data which is Personal Data. Schedule E sets out the scope, nature and purpose of Processing by the Contractor, the duration of the Processing and the types of Personal Data and categories of Data Subject.
- D. Without prejudice to the generality of clause 25B, the Contractor shall, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with the performance by the Contractor of its obligations under this Agreement:-
- (1) process that Personal Data only on the written instructions of the Client;
 - (2) ensure that it has in place appropriate technical and organisational measures, reviewed and approved by the Client, to protect against unauthorised or unlawful processing of Personal Data and against accidental loss or destruction of, or damage to, Personal Data, appropriate to the harm that might result from the unauthorised or unlawful processing or accidental loss, destruction or damage and the nature of the data to be protected, having regard to the state of technological development and the cost of implementing any measures (those measures may include, where appropriate, pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of its systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of the technical and organisational measures adopted by it);
 - (3) ensure that all personnel who have access to and/or process Personal Data are obliged to keep the Personal Data confidential;
 - (4) not transfer any Personal Data outside of the European Economic Area unless the prior written consent of the Client has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled;
 - i. appropriate safeguards are in place in relation to the transfer, to ensure that Personal Data is adequately protected in accordance with Chapter V of Regulation 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation);
 - ii. the data subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
 - iii. The Contractor complies with its obligations under the Data Protection Laws by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred; and
 - iv. The Contractor complies with reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Client with respect to the processing of the Personal Data;
- E. The Contractor shall promptly notify the Client if it receives a Data Subject Access Request to have access to any Personal Data or any other complaint, correspondence, notice, request any order of the Court or request of any regulatory or government body relating to the Client's obligations under the Data Protection Laws and provide full co-operation and assistance to the Client in relation to any such complaint, order or request (including, without limitation, by allowing Data Subjects to have access to their data).

- F. The Contractor shall without undue delay report in writing to the Client any data compromise involving Personal Data, or any circumstances that could have resulted in unauthorised access to or disclosure of Personal Data.
- G. The Contractor shall assist the Client in ensuring compliance with its obligations under the Data Protection Laws with respect to security, impact assessments and consultations with supervisory authorities and regulators.
- H. The Contractor shall at the written direction of the Client, amend, delete or return Personal Data and copies thereof to the Client on termination of this Agreement unless the Contractor is required by the laws of any member of the European Union or by the laws of the European Union applicable to the Contractor to store the Personal Data.
- I. The Contractor shall permit the Client, the Office of the Data Protection Commission or other supervisory authority for data protection in Ireland, and/ or their nominee to conduct audits and or inspections of the Contractor's facilities, and to have access to all data protection, confidentiality and security procedures, data equipment, mechanisms, documentation, databases, archives, data storage devices, electronic communications and storage systems used by the Contractor in any way for the provision of the Services. The Contractor shall comply with all reasonable directions of the Client arising out of any such inspection, audit or review.
- J. The Contractor shall fully comply with, and implement policies which are communicated or notified to the Contractor by the Client from time to time.
- K. The Contractor shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this clause 25 and allow for inspections and contribute to any audits by the Client or the Client's designated auditor.
- L. The Contractor shall:-
 - (1) take all reasonable precautions to preserve the integrity of any Personal Data which it processes and to prevent any corruption or loss of such Personal Data;
 - (2) ensure that a back-up copy of any and all such Personal Data is made [insert frequency] and this copy is recorded on media from which the data can be reloaded if there is any corruption or loss of the data; and
 - (3) in such an event and if attributable to any default by the Contractor or any Sub-contractor, promptly restore the Personal Data at its own expense or, at the Client's option, reimburse the Client for any reasonable expenses it incurs in having the Personal Data restored by a third party.
- M. The Client does not consent to the Contractor appointing any third party processor of Personal Data under this agreement
- N. Save for clauses 25B, 25C, 25D(4) and 25E, all the obligations on the Contractor in this clause 25 relating to the processing of Personal Data shall apply to the processing of all Data.
- O. The provisions of this clause 25 shall survive termination and or expiry of this Agreement for any reason.

26. ADDITIONAL CONDITION(S)

Research Ethics Framework

1. Introduction

The Contractor, in delivering the services the subject of this contract, will fully adhere to the following framework, which are intended to ensure that rights, privacy and confidentiality are maintained, that all research is carried out with integrity and transparency, and that the well-being of any participants are fully respected.

The Client acknowledges that these guidelines do not provide a complete set of rules for resolving ethical choices or dilemmas. New situations may emerge which require creative approaches to ethics issues. This ethical framework offers guidance – it cannot replace the need for self-critical, imaginative and responsible ethical reflection about issues which may arise in the course of research, but it can help guide and illustrate how to proceed.

2. General principles

The general principles for ethical research are:

1. Research should aim to maximise benefit for individuals and society and minimise risk and harm;
2. The rights and dignity of individuals and groups should be respected;
3. Participation should be voluntary and appropriately informed, wherever possible;
4. Anonymity, data protection and confidentiality should be paramount;
5. Research should be conducted with integrity and transparency;
6. Independence of research should be maintained and where conflicts of interest cannot be avoided they should be made explicit.

3. Ethical standards

If successful, and before commencement of the project, the proposal will be assessed for any ethical issues that may arise during or following the research. If any potential ethical issues are identified, the successful bidder will provide an ethical statement which sets out assurances on how the research meets the ethical standards required.

4. Minimising Risk and Harm

In carrying out their research, researchers should take every possible measure to minimise the risk of harm to any individual.

5. Rights of individuals and groups should be respected

Researchers should maintain respect for participants in all manners, and pay particular attention to minority ethnic groups, traditions and practices, and ensure knowledge of these practices before conducting research.

6. Informed Consent

In research involving participants, participation should be based on the freely given informed consent of participants. This implies a responsibility on the researcher to explain in appropriate detail (both in writing and verbally), in a language they can understand, and in terms meaningful to participants. This explanation should include the following:

- What the research is about;
- The nature of their participation;
- Who is undertaking and financing the research;
- Implications in terms of risks and benefits of participating in the research;
- Why it is being undertaken/purpose of the research;
- The name and contact details of the principal researcher(s);
- Information about what will happen to their information, how it will be used and disseminated, stored and when it will be disposed of.
- That their participation is entirely voluntary, and that a decision not to consent will have no adverse consequences;
- That participants have the right to withdraw from the study and withhold information at any time without affecting their use of services or need for assistance.
- That the researcher will be bound by any confidentiality agreement except in cases where information disclosed by the customer/tenant indicates a serious risk to self or to others. Where such issues requiring disclosure arise, they shall be reported to a Housing Agency Researcher who will inform the relevant body.
- Any intended follow-up contact as part of the current or future research.

Researchers should be explicit in their limits of confidentiality.

Research participants should understand that they can reject the use of data-gathering devices such as tape recorders and video cameras. Research data, records or films should not be communicated or used other than for the agreed purposes and with participants' written consent. When making notes, filming or recording for research purposes, researchers should make clear to research participants the purpose of the notes, filming or recording.

Special care should be taken where research participants are particularly vulnerable by virtue of factors such as age or disability. Researchers will need to take into account the legal and ethical complexities involved in those circumstances where there are particular difficulties in eliciting fully informed consent.

In cases where written consent cannot be obtained, such as with recorded telephone interviews or where the subjects are illiterate, informed oral consent should be obtained by documenting on the consent form. Where participants have impairments that limit understanding and/or communication to the extent that they are unable to give informed written consent, permission where possible should be obtained from a family member or other responsible adult, such as a caregiver or guardian, before proceeding with the research.

Researchers should decide on a project by project basis whether the provision of incentives to recognise and value participants' time and input into research (e.g. giving a token of appreciation) is appropriate.

The signed consent form and the information sheet together are proof of the process of informed consent.

7. Anonymity, Data Protection and Confidentiality

Data Protection Legislation applies to the Client and accordingly any work undertaken must fall within the remit of the General Data Protection Regulations and Data Protection Act 2018.

Schedule B: Services: The Specification

[Insert when completing contract]

Schedule C: Charges

[Insert when completing contract]

Schedule D: Service Levels

[Insert at RFT stage, if applicable, or when completing contract]

Schedule E: Data Protection

[complete when completing the contract]

Processing, Personal Data and Data Subjects

1. Processing by the Contractor
 - 1.1 Subject matter of processing
 - 1.2 Nature of processing
 - 1.3 Purpose of processing
 - 1.4 Duration of the processing
2. Types of personal data
3. Categories of data subject

Appendix 6: Not Used
