Seirbhís Thithe
an Oireachtais
Houses of the
Oireachtas Service

Request for Tenders Dated
06 November 2026
for the Provision of
Hotel and Conference Facilities

Tender Procedure: Single Stage Tendering involving Negotiation

Tender Deadline: 27 November 2026

Tender Reference Number 2026/1032

Scope of Contract	**Provision of Hotel and Conferencing Facilities**
Procedure	Single Stage Tendering Procedure Involving Negotiation
Reason for Procedure	As the services in question fall within the categorisation of Chapter I of Title III to Directive 2014/24/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 February 2014 on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC, the Contracting Authority is free to choose any award procedure on condition that it observes the principles of equal treatment and transparency at all times. The Contracting Authority is therefore employing a Single Stage Tendering Procedure involving Negotiation in order to award this contract.
Issue Date	06 November 2026
Closing Date for Queries	19 November 2026
Closing Date for Tender Submissions	27 November 2026
Contact for Queries	Messaging Facility on www.etenders.gov.ie
Format for submission of tenders	On www.etenders.gov.ie only
Please note that information relating to this Request for Tender, including clarifications and changes, will be published on the Irish Government Procurement Opportunities Portal www.etenders.gov.ie. Registration is free of charge and there is no charge for documents. Please note that the Contracting Authority accepts no responsibility for information relayed (or not relayed) via third parties.	

Table of Contents

Part 1: Introduction 6

Part 2: Instructions to Tenderers 8

2.1 Important Notices 8

2.2 Compliant Tenders 10

2.3 Services Contract 10

2.4 Acceptance of RFT Requirements 11

2.5 Consortia and Prime / Subcontractors 11

2.6 Tender Submission Requirements 11

2.7 Queries and Clarifications 12

2.8 Tendering Costs 13

2.9 Confidentiality 13

2.10 Pricing 13

2.11 Environmental, Social and Labour Law 13

2.12 Publicity 14

2.13 Registrable Interest 14

2.14 Anti-Competitive Conduct 15

2.15 Industry Terms Used in this RFT 15

2.16 Freedom of Information 15

2.17 Tax Clearance 16

2.17A Interference and Inducement to Purchase 16

2.18 Conflicts of Interest 16

2.19 Withdrawal from This Competition 16

2.20 Site Visit 17

2.21 Insurance 17

Part 3: Selection and Award Criteria 19

3.1 Compliant Tenders 19

3.2 Selection Criteria 21

3.2.A Economic and Financial Standing 21
3.2.B Technical and Professional Ability 21
3.3 Award Criteria 22
3.4 Presentation of Proposals 23
3.5 Standstill Period 23
3.6 Return of Signed Contracts 24
3.7 Award to Runner-Up 24
Appendix 1: Requirements and Specifications 26
Appendix 2: Pricing Schedule 31
Appendix 3: Tenderers' Statement 32
Appendix 4: Declaration as to Personal Circumstances of Tenderer 34
Signature of Declarant 36
Appendix 5: Services Contract 37
Schedule A: Terms and Conditions 40
1. Contractor's Obligations 40
2. Key Personnel 42
3. Payment 42
4. Warranties, Representations and Undertakings 43
5. Remedies 45
6. Intellectual Property 46
7. Confidentiality 47
8. Force Majeure 49
9. Termination 49
10. Contract Management 51
11. Disputes 51
12. Governing Law, Choice of Jurisdiction and Execution 52
13. Notices 52
14. Assignment and Subcontract 53
15. Entire Agreement 53

16. Severability 53

17. Waiver 53

18. Non-Exclusivity 54

19. Media 54

20. Conflicts, Registrable Interests and Corrupt Gifts 54

21. Access To Premises 55

22. Equipment 55

23. Non-Solicitation 56

24. Change Control Procedure 56

25. Data Protection and Security 56

26. Additional Condition(s) 60

Schedule B: Services: The Specification 61

Schedule C: Charges 62

Schedule D: Service Levels 63

Schedule E: Data Protection 64

Appendix 6: Confidentiality Agreement 66

Schedule A to the Confidentiality Agreement: Data Protection 72

Part 1: Introduction

1.1 **The Houses of the Oireachtas Commission** (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").

(i) The relation of this RFT and the Appendices to it, including support documents Appendices, all of which Appendices form part of the RFT and are incorporated in it, is as set out in Clause 1 of the Services Contract (Appendix 5).

1.2 In summary, the Services comprise: the provision of a suitable venue within the greater Dublin area, to host the British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly (BIPA) Plenary Conference from 7 March to 9 March 2027.

1.3 **Not Used**

1.4 This public procurement competition (the "Competition") will be conducted in accordance with the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (Statutory Instrument 284 of 2016) (the "Regulations").

Because the services the subject matter of this competition fall within the scope of Chapter I of Title III of Directive 2014/24/EU, the Contracting Authority may adopt a bespoke procedure for the competition provided that the procedure takes account the specificities of the services in question, complies with the principles of transparency and equal treatment of economic operators, and otherwise complies with that Chapter I as given effect by Chapter 1 of Part 3 of the Regulations. Accordingly, the procedure chosen for the competition is a Single Stage Tendering Procedure involving Negotiation. The Contracting Authority reserves the right to enter negotiations with some or all tenderers who submit a valid responsive tender. Negotiations may be held on all aspects of the Services under each of the published Award Criteria. The Contracting Authority also reserves the right to award the contract directly following receipt of initial tenders without recourse to negotiations with individual Tenderers.

The process will involve the following stages:

I. Tender Stage

Tenders are invited from all interested economic operators. This Request for Tender includes selection criteria, a minimum based specification, award criteria and a pricing schedule against which Tenderers are invited to submit tenders. The Contracting Authority will evaluate those tenders against the award criteria and reserves the right to:

(a) Move straight to an award decision, without negotiation

(b) To invite all Tenderers to negotiation meetings.

(c) To apply the successive reduction rule based on the results of the evaluation results, particularly where there is a significant disparity in the scores awarded, to reduce the number of Tenderers invited to the negotiation phase.

II. The Negotiation Stage

Where an invitation to attend a negotiation meeting is issued, it should be noted that all aspects of the tender submitted may be discussed, including costs and the responses to the qualitative criteria. The selection criteria, the minimum based specification, and the award criteria themselves will not be negotiated. The aim of the negotiation is to seek clarification and improvement on final tenders submitted. A full agenda with details of dates, times, location, etc. will be issued in advance of the meeting.

Those tenderers will subsequently be accorded an opportunity to submit a Best and Final Offer (BAFO), which will be assessed against the award criteria.

It should be emphasised that the Contracting Authority reserves the right to award the contract directly following receipt of initial tenders without recourse to negotiations with individual Tenderers.

1.5 Any contract that may result from this Competition (the "Services Contract") will be issued for a term of twelve (12) months (subject to paragraph 1.5 or any early termination in accordance with the terms of the Contract, or both, the "Term").

1.6 Not Used

1.7 The Contracting Authority estimates that the expenditure on the Services to be covered by the proposed Services Contract may amount to some €85,000 (excl. VAT) over the Term (included as extended as provided for in paragraph 1.5). Tenderers must understand that this figure is an estimate only based on current and future expected usage. **This figure is indicative only and does not represent a guaranteed commitment; the actual expenditure may be lower depending on requirements. Tenderers should not interpret this estimate as a target or expected level of spend.**

1.8 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.

A pdf version of the Request for Tender has been made available on eTenders. This document will be considered as the primary source document in this procurement process; Microsoft Word versions of documents where they are provided are being made available to assist tenderers in responding to the tender competition. Where there is a discrepancy between a pdf version and a Word version, the pdf version will take precedence. Tenderers are requested to notify the Contracting Authority immediately of any anomaly. Where applicable the Contracting Authority will issue amended versions.

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 Tenderer 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 Controller (where 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 Controller in respect of any Personal Data provided by it in its Tender must 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 The Contracting Authority specifically refers Tenderers to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2022/1031 on the access of third country economic operators, goods and services to the Union's public procurement and concession markets and procedures supporting negotiations on access of Union economic operators, goods and services to the public procurement and concession markets of third countries (International Procurement Instrument – IPI), and to their obligation to comply therewith.

In particular, tenderers and candidates should note in Article 6 of Regulation (EU) 2022/1031, the obligations for a Contracting Authority in the context of a procurement procedure where the EU Commission has adopted an IPI measure.

2.1.6 Tenderers are referred to the provisions of Regulation (EU) 2022/2560 of the European Parliament and of the Council on Foreign Subsidies distorting the Internal Market, in addition to Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2023/1441, and their obligation to comply therewith. In particular, tenderers and candidates should note the requirements in Articles 28 and 29 of Regulation (EU) 2022/2560 relating to the prior notification or declaration of foreign financial contributions, where the estimated value of the public procurement procedure is equal to or greater than the applicable financial thresholds set out therein.

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) To complete and submit with their Tender the electronic version of the European Single Procurement Document ("ESPD"). A Tenderer may submit an eESPD which the Tenderer has used in a procurement procedure that was initiated in the 12 months before the date of the Contract Notice for this competition, provided that the Tenderer confirms that: (i) the information contained in it continues to be correct and (ii) the Tenderer satisfies the Selection Criteria for this Competition as set out at part 3.2 below;

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 paragraphs 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, 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 the 'electronic tenderbox' available on www.etenders.gov.ie. Only Tenders submitted to the electronic tenderbox 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 that in the electronic tenderbox, there is a current file size limit of 250MB for each single file uploaded, with a maximum total limit of 2GB for all documentation (combined) in the Tender submitted.

In order to submit a Tender to the electronic tenderbox, Tenderers must ensure

that they follow the necessary steps on the eTenders platform to ensure that their tender has been submitted properly, which includes ensuring that the "Submit" button has been clicked. If Tenderers need to modify or change any aspect of their Tender before the Tender Deadline, the Tender in its entirety will need to be re-submitted. Tenderers should be aware that the "Submit" button will be disabled automatically at the Tender Deadline.

2.6.2 Tenders must be received not later than **12 noon** on **Friday 27 November 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 using PDF software. 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 **12 noon** on **Thursday, 19 November 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 [6 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.

2.10.6 **Not Used**

2.11 Environmental, Social and Labour Law

2.11.1 In the performance of any Services Contract awarded, the successful Tenderer

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 a Tenderer contemplates that the provision of the Services would, were the Tenderer successful, involve reliance on the services of Agency Workers (within the meaning of the 2012 Act), the Tenderer should ensure that they consider its obligations under the 2012 Act when pricing its 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 accordance with the definition of those terms in Section 2 of the Ethics in Public Office Act 1995 (as amended) a copy of which is 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 (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 2018, information provided by them during this Competition may be liable to be disclosed.

2.16.2 Each Tenderer is asked to consider if any of the information supplied by them in its Tender should not be disclosed because of its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity. If a Tenderer considers that certain information is not to be disclosed because of its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity, the Tenderer must, when providing the information, clearly identify the specific sections of its Tender containing such information and specify the reasons for its confidentiality or commercial sensitivity. For the avoidance of doubt, a Tenderer may not assert confidentiality or commercial sensitivity over its entire Tender but must clearly identify the specific section containing such information. If a Tenderer does not identify information as confidential or commercially sensitive, the information 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 any relevant Tenderer 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 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. Prior to the award of any Services Contract arising out of this competition the successful Tenderer shall be required to supply its Tax Clearance Access Number and Tax Reference Number to facilitate online verification of its tax status by the Contracting Authority. 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.

2.17A Interference and Inducement to Purchase

Any effort by a Tenderer to unduly influence the Contracting Authority, relevant agency personnel or any other relevant persons or bodies in the process of examination, clarification, evaluation and comparison of tenders and in decisions concerning the award of a contract pursuant to this competition shall result in that Tenderer's tender being rejected. The presumptions (including as to any gift, consideration or advantage) and other provisions under the *Criminal Justice* (*Corruption Offences*) Act 2018, and all other measures for the time being governing the subject-matter in any applicable jurisdiction, shall be applicable.

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. Each Tenderer is required to declare that the preparation of its 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 that 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 terminating any [Goods/Services] Contract entered into by a Tenderer.

2.19 Withdrawal from This Competition

A Tenderer is required to notify the Contracting Authority immediately via the e- tenders website, if at any stage it decides to withdraw from this Competition.

2.20 Site Visit

2.20.1 Not Used

2.20.2 The Contracting Authority reserves the right to conduct a site visit to confirm that the facilities described in the tender response documents are available. The purpose of the site visit is solely to verify information provided within the tender submission. Where a material discrepancy exists between the facilities described in the tender submission and those available at the venue, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to take such action as it considers appropriate, including exclusion from the competition.

2.21 Insurance

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

Type of Insurance	Indemnity Limit
Employer's Liability	€13,000,000
Public Liability	€6,500,000
Product Liability	€6,500,000

2.21.2 By signing the Tenderer's Statement at Appendix 3, Tenderers confirm that, if awarded a Services Contract under this Competition, (i) they will, 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.

2.21.3 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 valid certificates of insurance upon request.

2.21A References to Legislation

All references to legislation, whether European or Irish, or whether primary (for example, statutes) or secondary (for example, regulations), are, where the context admits, and irrespective of whether expressly so stated, to that legislation as amended from time to time.

2.21B Choice of law and jurisdiction

This competition and all instruments by which is established and governed, such as, but not limited to, this RFT and the Tender Response Document, and all matters arising, are governed by Irish law and each of the Contracting Authority and each Tenderer irrevocably submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the Courts of Ireland.

Part 3: Selection and Award Criteria

3.1 Compliant Tenders

Only those Tenderers who have: -

(a) Submitted compliant Tenders pursuant to paragraph 2.2 above, and

(b) Declared by way of eESPD conforming to paragraph 2.2.1 that either:

(i) no mandatory grounds for exclusion of the Tenderer pursuant to Regulation 57 of the Regulations apply to them, or

(ii) in circumstances where any mandatory exclusion grounds apply to the Tenderer (and where the Tenderer is not precluded from doing so under Regulation 57(17) of the Regulations), that it can provide evidence to the effect that measures taken by it are sufficient to demonstrate its reliability despite the existence of any such relevant exclusion ground, and

(c) Declared by way of eESPD conforming to paragraph 2.2.1 that they satisfy the selection criteria for this Competition as set out in part 3.2 below (the "Selection Criteria"), will be evaluated in accordance with the Award Criteria at part 3.3 below.

However, please note that the Contracting Authority also reserves the right to exclude from evaluation a Tenderer to whom a discretionary ground for exclusion pursuant to Regulation 57 of the Regulations applies.

Tenderers should note that where a Tenderer is relying on the capacity of other entities (for example, Subcontractors) for the purposes of fulfilling any of the Selection Criteria in part 3.2 below it must ensure that each such entity:

(i) completes and submits a separate eESPD in respect of each such entity, and

(ii) when requested by the Contracting Authority, submit proof, to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority, that each such entity will place the necessary resources at the disposal of the Tenderer.

Where a Tenderer (Prime Contractor) intends to subcontract any share of any Contract to a Subcontractor, but is not relying on the capacity of such Subcontractor for the purposes of fulfilling any of the Selection Criteria in part 3.2 below, it must ensure that each such Subcontractor submits a separate eESPD in respect of such Subcontractor completing those sections of the eESPD which are specified in section 2.D of the eESPD for this Competition.

The Contracting Authority may decide to examine Tenders before verifying the absence of exclusion grounds in Regulation 57 of the Regulations (the "Exclusion Grounds") and the fulfilment of the Selection Criteria.

However, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this part 3.1, the Contracting Authority reserves the right to ask Tenderers at any moment during the Competition to submit any or all of the following for the purposes of verification of the status of the Tenderer (including the

Prime Contractor and any Subcontractor):

(i) a Declaration in the form attached at Appendix 4;
(ii) evidence to the effect that measures taken by the entity concerned are sufficient to demonstrate its reliability despite the existence of a relevant Exclusion Ground;
(iii) in the case of the Prime Contractor and any Subcontractor on whose capacity the Prime Contractor relies, all or any of the supporting documents specified at paragraph 3.2 below;
(iv) information concerning the Tenderer, and any proposed subcontractors, for the purposes of Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same) 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 legal person is established; and
(v) information concerning the origin of goods, if any, for the purposes of assessing compliance with Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same).

If a Tenderer does not, upon request by the Contracting Authority, provide evidence which is considered by the Contracting Authority as sufficient to demonstrate (i) its fulfilment of the Selection Criteria (or any one of them) in accordance with this RFT and(ii) the absence of Exclusion Grounds, or its reliability despite the existence of a relevant Exclusion Ground and (iii) that it does not come within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576) and (iv) that the origin of goods, if any, are not subject to the prohibitions set out in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same) then it shall be excluded from further participation in this Competition.

If a Tenderer does not, upon request by the Contracting Authority, provide evidence which is considered by the Contracting Authority as sufficient to demonstrate (i) the fulfilment by any Subcontractor on whose capacity the Prime Contractor relies of the Selection Criteria (or any one of them) in accordance with this RFT and (ii) the absence of Exclusion Grounds in respect of any Subcontractor, or the reliability of any Subcontractor despite the existence of a relevant Exclusion Ground and (iii) that any proposed Subcontractor on whose capacity the Tenderer relies (where the value of that subcontract exceeds 10% of the value of the Services Contract) does not come within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576) then, it shall be excluded from further participation in this Competition unless it replaces the Subcontractor with one which meets all relevant requirements of this RFT.

3.2 Selection Criteria

Tenderers will either pass OR fail each of the Selection Criteria in this part 3.2.
Tenderers are required to provide the following information in the Tender Response Document

- Tax Clearance
- Turnover (Minimum of €200,000 required)
- Insurances
- Declaration Regarding Statutory Obligations
- Curriculum Vitae of Contract Manager
- Information on three previous contracts
- Health and Safety Management Systems

Please note that the detailed information required in respect of the Selection Criteria and Mandatory Requirements, and the opportunity of providing confirmation or information in respect of those Selection Criteria and Requirements, are set out in the Tender Response Document, which must be fully completed accordingly. All of these Selection Criteria and Mandatory Requirements will be evaluated on a pass/fail basis.

Any Tenderer recording a "fail" in respect of one or more such Selection Criteria or Mandatory Requirements will be excluded from further participation in the competition.

3.2.A Economic and Financial Standing

Tenderers must declare by way of eESPD conforming to paragraph 2.2.1 that they satisfy the financial and economic standing requirement(s) set out below and that they are able, upon request and without delay, to provide the supporting documentation specified below to the Contracting Authority in each case.

Tenderers must provide the supporting documentation specified above without delay when requested by the Contracting Authority. However, where the Tenderer is unable, for a valid reason, to provide the specified documentation, the Tenderer must inform the Contracting Authority of the valid reason as to why the documentation cannot be supplied and, if the Contracting Authority considers the reason given to be valid, provide such other suitable alternative documentation to prove, to the satisfaction of the Contracting Authority, their economic and financial capacity.

3.2.B Technical and Professional Ability

Tenderers must declare by way of eESPD that they satisfy the technical and

professional requirement(s) set out below and that they are able, upon request and without delay, to provide the supporting documentation specified below to the Contracting Authority in each case.

Tenderers must provide the supporting documentation specified above without delay when requested by the Contracting Authority.

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 following criteria:

Award Criteria	Reference Section in RFT	Marks allocated	Minimum Marks	Weighting (%)
Criterion A Suitability and Standard of Conference Facilities	Appendix 1	200	130	20
Criterion B Catering	Appendix 1	200	130	20
Criterion C Accommodation	Appendix 1	200	130	20
Criterion D Sustainability	Appendix 1	50	32.5	5
Criterion E Accessibility	Appendix 1	50	32.5	5
Criterion F Cost	Appendix 2	300	N/A	30

Cost of the Service over the period of the contract based on the pricing Schedule. Scores for overall cost will be awarded as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Maximum points available x Lowest responsive valid tender}}{\text{Value of individual tender}}$$

The lowest responsive valid tender will achieve maximum points and all other tenders will be scored on a sliding scale thereafter using the above formula.

Marks will be categorised as follows.

Score	Category	Description
96 – 100%	Exceptional	An exceptional response demonstrating extensive understanding offering full assurance to client – fully supported with no reservations.
86 – 95%	Excellent	An excellent response demonstrating excellent understanding offering assurance to client – fully supported.
76 – 85%	Good	A good response demonstrating good understanding offering assurance to client – well supported.
65 – 75%	Acceptable	An acceptable response demonstrating a minimum understanding offering assurance to client - satisfactorily supported.
A minimum score of 65% applies to all Award Criteria. Less than 65% is unacceptable and considered ineligible for further consideration.		

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 in accordance with paragraph 3.1 above) 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 a relevant Exclusion Ground; (iii) all or any of the supporting documents specified at paragraph 3.2; and

(b) the evidence specified at paragraph 3.3.2(a) above demonstrating that each entity concerned meets the Selection Criteria and the compliance requirements specified at paragraph 3.1(b) and (c) above.

3.4 Presentation of Proposals

Tenderers may be required to make a presentation of the proposal contained in their Tender. The Contracting Authority will **not** be responsible for the cost of such presentations (in accordance with paragraph 2.8). Performance at presentations will **not** be evaluated.

3.5 Standstill Period

3.5.1 In circumstances where the European Communities (Public Authorities' Contracts)

(Review Procedures) Regulations 2010 (Statutory Instrument 130 of 2010), as amended by the European Communities (Public Authorities' Contracts) (Review Procedures) (Amendment) Regulations 2015 (Statutory Instrument 192 of 2015) and the European Communities (Public Authorities' Contracts (Review Procedures) (Amendment) Regulation 2017 (Statutory Instrument 327 of 2017) apply, 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 Tenderer 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 Tenderer 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.

3.7 Award to Runner-Up

3.7.1 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, or if for any reason it is not possible to conclude the Services Contract with the designated successful tenderer emerging from this competitive process, then the Contracting Authority may proceed to award the Services Contract in accordance with paragraph 3.6.1 above to the next highest-ranked Tenderer willing to contract with the Contacting Authority.

3.7.2 The Contracting Authority in this paragraph 3.7.2 and in paragraphs 3.7.3, 3.7.4, and 3.7.5 below, expressly provides for the modification, in terms of substitution of Contractor, of the Services Contract by way of review, and those paragraphs set out the scope of the review and contemplated modification and the conditions under which those paragraphs may be invoked.

3.7.3 If, the award having been made to a particular Tenderer pursuant to the terms of this competition, and the Contracting Authority having entered into the Services Contract, the Contracting Authority becomes entitled to terminate that Contract on any of the grounds set out in clause 9B or 9C in the Terms and Conditions scheduled to that Contract, or by reason of any combination of those grounds, and does so terminate that Contract, the Contracting Authority may, at its sole discretion, replace, at any time during the six month tender validity period, the discharged Contractor with the next highest scoring Tenderer in this competition willing to be so substituted. That Tenderer's compliance with paragraph 3.3.1, with any necessary changes, is a prerequisite of such a substituted award.

3.7.4 The replacement provided for in paragraph 3.7.3 shall have effect for the balance of the Term (including any part of the Term consisting of an extension in accordance with paragraph 1.5 and incorporating the entitlement to invoke that paragraph), and shall be on the basis, subject to any adaptations required to take account of performance by the discharged Contractor, of the terms and conditions advertised in this competition.

3.7.5 Nothing in paragraphs 3.7.2 to 3.7.4 inclusive entitles the Contracting Authority to effect any replacement of the Contractor which would alter the overall nature of the Services Contract.

3.7.6 Nothing in paragraphs 3.7.1 to 3.7.5 prejudices:

(a) the right of the Contracting Authority to cancel this competitive process and initiate a new contract award procedure at its sole discretion;

(b) any entitlement of the Contracting Authority under the Regulations.

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.

Accessibility

The successful tenderers shall comply with all relevant legislation relating to dignity at work. As a public body and employer, the Contracting Authority is committed to a policy of equality of opportunity for all personnel.

The venue must provide direct access for drop-off of delegates by coach and car and accessible parking facilities.

The contracting host venue should be wheelchair accessible and meet the applicable regulatory standards, in line with the European Accessibility Act, the Disability Act 2005, and the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Green Public Procurement (GPP)

The Contracting Authority is committed to the principles of environmental management in its activities, and it encourages the implementation of sustainability principles in its procurement practices and throughout the delivery of all contracts. All catering and hospitality services provided during the contract timeframe must adhere to the core national EPA Food and Catering Expertise GPP Criteria and with the EPA GPP Criteria.

The Contracting Authority intends to source service providers for the provision of suitable venues to host a British Irish Parliamentary Assembly (BIPA) Plenary Conference in the greater Dublin area.

The British-Irish Parliamentary Assembly (BIPA) is a forum to promote co-operation between senior political representatives in Britain and Ireland. Its members engage in a wide range of non-legislative parliamentary activities, through plenary meetings and ongoing Committee work. Bi-annual Plenary meetings alternate between Ireland and the UK.

Tenderers must demonstrate the ability to work effectively with outside contractors in relation to the technical equipment required for the Plenary conferences. They must also exercise discretion regarding hotel guests and collaborate appropriately with An Garda Síochána in relation to any security recommendations they may have. Furthermore, tenderers must adhere to strict confidentiality obligations, ensuring that any sensitive information encountered in the course of

their duties is handled with the utmost care and not disclosed to unauthorised parties.
Tenderers must also include specific details of cancellation policy in relation to hotel rooms, conference venue and catering numbers.

Venue Hire Requirements:
The Contracting Authority aims to have the Plenary Conference on:

- Sunday 7 March to Tuesday 9 March 2027

The requirements include:

1. **Four-star Accommodation (Double Room with single occupancy, with option for double occupancy)**
   - Friday – 2 rooms
   - Saturday – 6 rooms
   - Sunday and Monday – 80 rooms with option of extra 10 rooms
   - Minimum 10% of rooms on Sunday and Monday to be accessible.

2. **Registration Desk:**
   - To be available from Sunday afternoon in a convenient location for delegates checking in.

3. **Office and Meeting Rooms**

   Friday to Tuesday inclusive

   - 1 office for 8 people. To include tables and chairs and room for 2 printers and photocopier

   Sunday (early morning to 7:00pm)

   - 1 meeting room - boardroom style for 20 people
   - 1 meeting room - boardroom style for 20 people, with additional seats for 30 to 40 observers at back or side of the room.

   Sunday 9 am to Tuesday afternoon

   - Conference Room to accommodate up to 140 people as follows:
     - set up in double U layout to seat a maximum of 70 people
     - Stage required for up to 6 chairs plus lectern on stage
     - Table in front of stage for 2 people
     - Additional chairs for 60 observers' theatre style at the back of the room
     - 2 tables at back of room
     - Table to side of stage for 4 people
     - Adequate power outlets to allow for power strips to be available for delegates to charge electronic devices from their assigned seats in the conference room as well as meeting rooms (power strips will be provided by the contractor)

- Free private Wi-Fi internet access for all participants across all spaces, meeting rooms and conference facilities. Wi-Fi connection must be able to handle up to 200 delegates and staff each connecting simultaneously via laptop and smartphone.

4. Catering

Sunday

- Sandwiches, tea, and coffee for approximately 90 guests

- **Drinks** Reception and **Dinner**
  - Private space for reception for approximately 90 guests, the space must allow for networking
  - Beverage Provision: prosecco and non-alcoholic options. The service must be calculated at 2 glasses per person.

  Followed by
  - Private room for dinner – tables of 10 or 12 for 90 guests.
  - Room Setup: a private room set up with (round/long) tables, complete with high-quality linen, standard table tableware, printed menus, and table numbers

  Menu Structure:
  A 3-course seated meal with full table service comprising of the following:
  - Starter course (2 options, 1 vegetarian/vegan option (this should also facilitate those who are on a restricted diet).
  - Main course (2 options, one must be a red meat option) Plus a third vegetarian/vegan option (this should also facilitate those who are on a restricted diet.
  - a dessert, and freshly brewed tea/coffee.

  - Dietary Requirements: All allergen and dietary requirements (e.g., coeliac, nut allergies, gluten free) must be gathered by the Contractor post-award and accommodated at no additional cost.
  - Table Beverages: an allocation of half a bottle of house wine per person served during the meal, alongside water replenished continuously.

Monday

- Tea, coffee, pastries available from 9.00 am to approximately 4.30pm

- Buffet Lunch in private room
  - The service must be designed to facilitate quick turnaround times for attendees
  - The buffet area must comfortably accommodate up to **90** attendees. To prevent queuing bottlenecks, the Contractor must provide a minimum of 2 service stations so that attendees can serve themselves from both sides of the station.

- The buffet must be fully operational and refreshed within a strict **1-hour** lunch window.
- Menu Composition: The buffet selection must include a balanced variety of healthy and substantial options, structured as follows:
- **Main Course (Hot/Cold):** A minimum choice of **2** main dishes (one must be a red meat option)
- **Side Dishes:** A minimum selection of **2** hot sides (e.g. vegetables, potatoes)
- **Salads:** A minimum selection of **2** freshly prepared salads with a choice of dressings served on the side.

- **Drinks** Reception and **Dinner**
  - Private space for reception for up to 120 guests, the space must allow for networking
  - Beverage Provision: prosecco and non-alcoholic options. The service must be calculated at 2 glasses per person.

  Followed by
  - Private room for dinner – tables of 10 or 12 for up to 120 guests (preferably separate room from Sunday evening).

  - Room Setup: a private room set up with (round/long) tables, complete with high-quality linen, standard table tableware, printed menus, and table numbers

    Menu Structure:
    A 3-course seated meal with full table service comprising of the following:
  - Starter course (2 options, 1 vegetarian/vegan option (this should also facilitate those who are on a restricted diet).
  - Main course (2 options, one must be a red meat option) Plus a third vegetarian/vegan option (this should also facilitate those who are on a restricted diet.
  - a dessert, and freshly brewed tea/coffee.

  - Dietary Requirements: All allergen and dietary requirements (e.g., coeliac, nut allergies, gluten free) must be gathered by the Contractor post-award and accommodated at no additional cost.
  - Table Beverages: an allocation of half a bottle of house wine per person served during the meal, alongside water replenished continuously.

Tuesday

- Tea, coffee, pastries available from 9.00 am to 12 noon.

- **Buffet Lunch** in a private room
    - The service must be designed to facilitate quick turnaround times for attendees
    - The buffet area must comfortably accommodate up to **80** attendees. To prevent queuing bottlenecks, the Contractor must provide a minimum of 2 service stations so that attendees can serve themselves from both sides of the station.
    - The buffet must be fully operational and refreshed within a strict **1-hour** lunch window.
    - Menu Composition: The buffet selection must include a balanced variety of healthy and substantial options, structured as follows:
    - **Main Course (Hot/Cold):** A minimum choice of **2** main dishes (one must be a red meat option)
    - **Side Dishes:** A minimum selection of **2** hot sides (e.g. vegetables, potatoes)
    - **Salads:** A minimum selection of **2** freshly prepared salads with a choice of dressings served on the side.

The requirements outlined above, are provided as examples.

Please provide details of the suitability and quality of the proposed menus, including the quality of the ingredients and presentation. Please also specify the ability to accommodate dietary requirements and allergen management.

The Contracting Authority reserves the right to look for specific requirements outside of these.

Quality of Services

Services supplied are required to comply with the following minimum standards and requirements:

- High Speed Broadband Wi-Fi accessibility
- Wheelchair accessibility

Appendix 2: Pricing Schedule

Provision of Hotel and Conferencing Facilities	Cost (including VAT)
Accommodation Four-star Accommodation (Double Room with single occupancy, with option for double occupancy) • Friday – 2 rooms • Saturday – 6 rooms • Sunday and Monday – 80 rooms	
Conference facilities (incl. Wi-Fi) • Conference Room to accommodate up to 140 people • Registration desk and Office and meeting rooms	
Catering • Sandwiches, tea, coffee for 90 guests (on Sunday on arrival) • Drinks reception for 90 guests (Sunday and Monday) • Dinner for 90 guests (Sunday and Monday) • Buffet lunch for 90 guests (Monday and Tuesday) • Tea, coffee, pastries (available Monday 9.00am to 4.30pm, and Tuesday 9.00am to 12 noon) The most expensive menu options must be quoted here for the evaluation of cost.	
Parking The venue must provide direct access for drop-off of delegates by coach and car and accessible parking facilities	
Additional Mandatory Costs	

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: **The Houses of the Oireachtas Commission** (the "Contracting Authority") RE: Request for Tenders for the Provision of [Insert type of services required]

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 and the Confidentiality Agreement at Appendix 6 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. We shall, if awarded any Services Contract under the RFT, have in place on the Effective Date of the Services Contract all insurances (if any) as required by paragraph 2.21.1 of the RFT.
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. We do not come within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same).

11. The origin of goods connected to our Tender, if any, are not subject to the prohibitions set out in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same).

12. The subcontractor(s) on whose capacity we rely as part of our Tender (where the value of that subcontract exceeds 10% of the value of the Services Contract) does not come within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same).

Print name	
Signed (Authorised signatory)	
Company	
Address	
Date	

Appendix 4: Declaration as to Personal Circumstances of Tenderer

Re: Request for Tenders for the Provision of [Insert type of services required]

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 authorised 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, as defined in Article 2 of Council Framework Decision 2008/841/JHA.
   b. ever been the subject of a conviction for corruption, as defined in Article 3 of the Convention on the fight against corruption involving officials of the European Communities or officials of Member States of the European Union and Article 2(1) of Council Framework Decision 2003/568/JHA as well as corruption as defined in the national law of the Contracting Authority or the law of the state in [Click here and insert name of entity] is established.
   c. ever been the subject of a conviction for fraud within the meaning of Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests.
   d. ever been the subject of a conviction for terrorist offences or offences linked to terrorist activities, as defined in Articles 1 and 3 of Council Framework Decision 2002/475/JHA respectively, or for inciting or aiding or abetting or attempting to commit an offence, as referred to in Article 4 of that Framework Decision.
   e. ever been the subject of a conviction for money laundering or terrorist financing, as defined in Article 1 of Directive 2005/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council.
   f. ever been the subject of a conviction for child labour and other forms of trafficking in human beings as defined in Article 2 of Directive 2011/36/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council.

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, that have been established by EU law, national law, or collective agreements or 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).
   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 as required under Regulation 59 of the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (Statutory Instrument 284 of 2016).
   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.

5. [Click here and insert name of entity] does not come within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31

July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same);

6. The origin of goods connected to the Tender, if any, are not subject to the prohibitions set out in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same);

7. Any subcontractor, supplier or other entity on whose capacity [Click here and insert name of entity] relies as part of the Tender does not come within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same).

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

Declared before me by Click or tap here to enter text. who is personally known to me (or who is identified to me by Click or tap here to enter text. who is personally known to me) or*

Click or tap to enter a date.

(signed): [Insert Signature]
Practising Solicitor/Commissioner for Oaths

* Please include such other form of identification used to identify the Declarant as permitted by the Statutory Declarations Act, 1938 (as amended)

Appendix 5: Services Contract

The Houses of the Oireachtas Commission

and

[Insert successful Tenderer's full legal name]

AGREEMENT

Relating to the provision of Services pursuant to

Request for Tenders for the provision of Hotel and Conference Facilities

This Agreement is made on the **[Date E.G., 2nd] Day of [Month] 20[Year]** between:

The Houses of the Oireachtas Commission, of **Leinster Houses, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, D02 XR20** (the "Client" and described in the RFT as the "Contracting Authority"); 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 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.

i. This Agreement shall take effect on the date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date") and shall expire, subject to Clause 5.2, on [Insert date], unless it is otherwise terminated in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement or otherwise lawfully terminated, and the interval between the Effective Date and the termination of the Agreement (including any extension to it) for whatever reason is (the "Term").

Not Used

ii.

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 (being a duly authorised officer)		**Signed for and on behalf of the Contractor**	
Name	[Complete fields]	**Name**	[Complete fields]
Signature	[Complete fields]	**Signature**	[Complete fields]
Witness name	[Complete fields]	**Witness name**	[Complete fields]
Witness signature	[Complete fields]	**Witness signature**	[Complete fields]

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 or project governance protocols or any combination of the foregoing 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, or fiduciary or other relationship between the Parties, or any combination of the foregoing, 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 or to the performance of this Agreement or to both the Agreement and its performance 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; or any combination of those milestones, schedules or protocols;

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 or to the Services or to both the invoice and 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. **Delete and replace with "Not Used" if not applicable:**
it has inspected the Client's premises, lands and facilities before submitting its Submission and has made appropriate enquiries so as to be satisfied in relation to all matters connected with the performance of its obligations under this Agreement;

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

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. 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 the limit of indemnity as applying under Contractor's relevant insurances under this agreement regardless 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 (the "Retention Amount") which Retention Amount shall not at any given time exceed 10 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, copyright rights, and related/neighbouring 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 or other materials or any combination of any of the foregoing (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 the Contractor in respect of the Materials to the Client absolutely.

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 both 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 with 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 Information and shall comply with the confidentiality agreement as exhibited at Appendix 6 to the RFT (the "Confidentiality Agreement").

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 5 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 three months written notice to the Contractor. This Agreement may be terminated by the Contractor, without liability for compensation or damages, by serving three months written notice to the

Client.

B. Either Party shall have the right (in addition to its 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. 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 in circumstances where the Client becomes aware:

i) that any of the exclusion grounds set out in Regulation 57 of the Regulations apply to the Contractor;

ii) that the Contractor (on its own or resulting from its sub-contractors, suppliers or entities on which it relies) comes within the category of prohibited economic operators identified in Regulation (EU) No 833/2014 of 31 July 2014 (as amended by EU Regulation 2022/576 or any subsequent amendments to same).

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 (including where the Term is foreshortened by early 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 [insert Client contact] 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 or liabilities or both 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 orher 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 in accordance with 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 any 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 Clause 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, 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;

"Controller" has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws; "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 Controller and the Contractor is the 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, or request, or any order made by a Court, or any request from 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 request, complaint, correspondence, notice, or order (including, without limitation, by allowing Data Subjects to have access to their data) or otherwise to exercise, subject to any applicable legal exemptions, rights conferred by Chapter III of the GDPR in respect of the Personal 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 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 daily 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)

Not used.

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

1. Processing by the Contractor
    - 1.1 Subject matter of processing: all information, whether in oral or written (including electronic) form, created by or in any way originating with the Client (including but not limited to its 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 the Agreement, and all information in any of the aforementioned forms emanating from those who work in the parliamentary workplace, including Members of the Houses, Members' and party staff, interns and those on work placements, political correspondents working in the Houses, and the staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas Service, whether in the course of availing of the Services or contained in any correspondence or other document in any of those forms arising in respect of the Services, which relates to an identified or identifiable natural person;
    - 1.2 Nature of processing: Provision of Hotel and Conference Facilities
    - 1.3 Purpose of Processing: to allow the Contractor to provide the services under the Agreement;
    - 1.4 Duration of the processing: the Term of the Agreement.
    - 1.5 Types of personal data: Names and contact details of personnel of the Contractor or the Client involved in the processing and personal data emanating from the Client pursuant to its instructions or in conjunction with the Contractor (including but not limited to personal data of its employees, agents, independent contractors and/or Sub-contractors) or of those who work in the parliamentary workplace and avail of the Services, including Members of the Houses, Members' and party staff, interns and those on work placements, political correspondents working in the Houses, and the staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas Service, including identification information (e.g. name or other unique identifier), and contact information (e.g. email address, postal address, telephone contact numbers); from time to time, the personal data may include special categories of data (that is, data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation) and data to which Article 10 of the GDPR and section 55 of the Data Protection Act 2018 applies (criminal convictions, criminal allegations, and security measures relating to those matters or otherwise to criminal offences).
    - 1.6 Categories of data subject: Persons working in the parliamentary workplace, in particular Members of the Houses, Members' and party staff, interns and those on work placements, political correspondents

working in the Houses and the staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas Service; (where distinct) personnel of the Contractor or the Client involved in the processing.

Appendix 6: Confidentiality Agreement

THIS AGREEMENT is made on the **[date] day of [month] 20 [year]** BETWEEN:

The Houses of the Oireachtas Commission, of **Leinster Houses, Kildare Street, Dublin 2, D02 XR20** (hereinafter the "Contracting Authority") of the one part;
and

[Contractor's legal name: to be completed on signing.], of [address: to be completed on signing.] (hereinafter called the "Contractor") of the other part.

WHEREAS

A. By Request for Tenders dated [insert date] entitled [insert title] (the "RFT") the Contracting Authority invited tenders ("Tenders") for the provision of the Services described in Appendix 1 to the RFT (the "Services") ("the Competition"). The Contractor submitted a response to the RFT dated the [insert date of Tender].

The Contractor has been identified as the preferred Tenderer in the Competition.

B. For the purposes of the Competition and any subsequent contract awarded thereunder (if any) ("the Contract"), certain confidential information as defined at clause 2 of this Agreement, will be furnished to the Contractor. The Confidential Information is confidential to the Contracting Authority.

NOW IT IS HEREBY AGREED in consideration of the sum of €2.00 (the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by the Contractor) as follows:

1. The Contractor acknowledges that Confidential Information may be provided to them by the Contracting Authority and that each item of Confidential Information shall be governed by the terms of this Agreement.

2. For the purposes of this Agreement "Confidential Information" means:

2.1 unless specified in writing to the contrary by the Contracting Authority all and any information (whether in documentary form, oral, electronic, audio-visual, audio- recorded or otherwise including any copy or copies thereof and whether scientific, commercial, financial, technical, operational or otherwise) relating to the Contracting Authority, the provision of services under the Contract and all and any information supplied or made available to the Contractor (to include employees, agents, Subcontractors and other suppliers) for the purposes of the Contract(s) including personal data within the meaning of the Data Protection Laws; and

2.2 any and all information which has been derived or obtained from information described in sub-paragraph 2.1.

3. For the purposes of this Agreement "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.

4. Save as may be required by law, the Contractor agrees in respect of the Confidential Information:

4.1 to treat such Confidential Information as confidential and to take all necessary steps to ensure that such confidentiality is maintained;

4.2 not, without the prior written consent of the Contracting Authority, to communicate or disclose any part of such Confidential Information to any person except:

I. to those employees, agents, Subcontractors and other suppliers on a need-to-know basis; and/or

II. to the Contractor's auditors, professional advisers and any other persons or bodies having a legal right or duty to have access to or knowledge of the Confidential Information in connection with the business of the Contractor

PROVIDED ALWAYS that the Contractor shall ensure that all such persons and bodies are made aware, prior to disclosure, of the confidential nature of the Confidential Information and that they owe a duty of confidence to the Contracting Authority; and shall use all reasonable endeavours to ensure that such persons and bodies comply with the provisions of this Agreement.

5. The obligations in this Agreement will not apply to any Confidential Information:

i in the Contractor's possession (with full right to disclose) before receiving it from the Contracting Authority; or

ii which is or becomes public knowledge other than by breach of this clause; or

iii is independently developed by the Contractor without access to or use of the Confidential Information; or

iv is lawfully received from a third party (with full right to disclose).

6. The Contractor undertakes:

6.1 to comply with all directions of the Contracting Authority with regard to the use and application of all and any Confidential Information or data (including personal data as defined in the Data Protection Laws);

6.2 to comply with all directions as to local security arrangements deemed reasonably necessary by the Contracting Authority including, if required, completion of documentation under the Official Secrets Act 1963 and

comply with any vetting requirements of the Contracting Authority including by police authorities;

6.3 upon termination of the Competition (or the Contract) for whatever reason to furnish to the Contracting Authority all Confidential Information or at the written direction of the Contracting Authority to destroy in a secure manner all (or such part or parts thereof as may be identified by the Contracting Authority) Confidential Information in its possession and shall erase any Confidential Information held by the Contractor in electronic form. The Contractor will upon request furnish a certificate to that effect should the Contracting Authority so request in writing. For the avoidance of doubt "document" includes documents stored on a computer storage medium and data in digital form whether legible or not.

7. The Contractor shall not obtain any proprietary interest or any other interest whatsoever in the Confidential Information furnished to them by the Contracting Authority and the Contractor so acknowledges and confirms.

8. The Contractor shall, in the performance of the Contract, access only such hardware, software, infrastructure, or any part of the databases, data or ICT system(s) of the Contracting Authority as may be necessary for the purposes of the Competition (and obligations thereunder or arising therefrom) and only as directed by the Contracting Authority and in the manner agreed in writing between the Parties.

9. The Contractor agrees that this Agreement will continue in force notwithstanding any court order relating to the Competition or termination of the Contract (if awarded) for any reason.

10. The Contractor agrees that this Agreement shall in all aspects be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ireland and the Contractor hereby further agrees that the courts of Ireland have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine any disputes arising out of or in connection with this Agreement.

11. **A**. In this Agreement, the following terms shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

- " Controller" has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws;
- " Processor" has the meaning given under the Data Protection Laws;
- "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 Contracting Authority is the Controller, and the Contractor is the Processor in respect of Confidential Information which is Personal Data. Schedule A 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 11(B), the Contractor shall, in relation to any Confidential Information which is Personal Data: -

(1) process that Personal Data only on the written instructions of the Contracting Authority;

(2) ensure that it has in place appropriate technical and organisational measures, reviewed and approved by the Contracting Authority, 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 Contracting Authority 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 Contracting Authority with respect to the processing of the Personal Data;

E. The Contractor shall promptly notify the Contracting Authority if it receives a

Data Subject Access Request to have access to any Personal Data or any other complaint, or correspondence, or notice, or request or any order made by a Court, or any request from any regulatory or government body relating to the Contracting Authority's obligations under the Data Protection Laws and provide full co-operation and assistance to the Contracting Authority in relation to any such request, complaint, correspondence, notice, or order (including, without limitation, by allowing Data Subjects to have access to their data) or otherwise to exercise, subject to any applicable legal exemptions, rights conferred by Chapter III of the GDPR in respect of the Personal Data.

F. The Contractor shall without undue delay report in writing to the Contacting Authority 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 Contracting Authority 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 Contracting Authority, amend, delete or return Personal Data and copies thereof to the Contracting Authority 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 Contracting Authority, the 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 Contracting Authority 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 Contracting Authority from time to time.

K. The Contractor shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this clause 11 and allow for inspections and contribute to any audits by the Contacting Authority or the Contracting Authority'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 daily 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 Contracting Authority's option, reimburse the Contracting Authority for any reasonable expenses it incurs in having the Personal Data restored by a third party.

M. The Contracting Authority does not consent to the Contractor appointing any third-party processor of Personal Data under this Agreement.

N. Save for clauses 11B, 11C, 11D(4) and 11E, all the obligations on the Contractor in this clause 11 relating to the processing of Personal Data shall apply to the processing of all Confidential Information

Signed for and on behalf of the Client (being a duly authorised officer)		**Signed for and on behalf of the Contractor**	
Name	[Complete fields]	**Name**	[Complete fields]
Signature	[Complete fields]	**Signature**	[Complete fields]
Witness name	[Complete fields]	**Witness name**	[Complete fields]
Witness signature	[Complete fields]	**Witness signature**	[Complete fields]

Schedule A to the Confidentiality Agreement: Data Protection

1. Processing by the Contractor
    1.1 Subject matter of processing: all information, whether in oral or written (including electronic) form, created by or in any way originating with the Client (including but not limited to its 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 the Agreement, and all information in any of the aforementioned forms emanating from those who work in the parliamentary workplace, including Members of the Houses, Members' and party staff, interns and those on work placements, political correspondents working in the Houses, and the staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas Service, whether in the course of availing of the Services or contained in any correspondence or other document in any of those forms arising in respect of the Services, which relates to an identified or identifiable natural person;
    1.2 Nature of processing: Provision of Hotel and Conference Facilities
    1.3 Purpose of Processing: to allow the Contractor to provide the services under the Agreement;
    1.4 Duration of the processing: the Term of the Agreement.
    1.5 Types of personal data: Names and contact details of personnel of the Contractor or the Client involved in the processing and personal data emanating from the Client pursuant to its instructions or in conjunction with the Contractor (including but not limited to personal data of its employees, agents, independent contractors and/or Sub-contractors) or of those who work in the parliamentary workplace and avail of the Services, including Members of the Houses, Members' and party staff, interns and those on work placements, political correspondents working in the Houses, and the staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas Service, including dentification information (e.g. name or other unique identifier), and contact information (e.g. email address, postal address, telephone contact numbers); from time to time, the personal data may include special categories of data (that is, data revealing racial or ethnic origin, political opinions, religious or philosophical beliefs, or trade union membership, genetic data, biometric data for the purpose of uniquely identifying a natural person, data concerning health or data concerning a natural person's sex life or sexual orientation) and data to which Article 10 of the GDPR and section 55 of the Data Protection Act 2018 apply (criminal convictions, criminal allegations, and security measures relating to those matters or otherwise to criminal offences).
    1.6 Categories of data subject: Persons working in the parliamentary workplace, in particular Members of the Houses, Members' and party staff, interns and those on work placements, political correspondents working in the Houses and the staff of the Houses of the Oireachtas Service; (where distinct) personnel of the

Contractor or the Client involved in the processing.