Schedule 10 (Service Levels)

1. Definitions
   1. In this Schedule, the following words shall have the following meanings and they shall supplement Schedule 1 (Definitions):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **“Achieved Service Level”** | means the actual level of performance of a Service achieved by the Supplier in relation to a Service Level Performance Criteria for a Service Period; |
| **“Agreed Service Time”** | means the period during which the Supplier ensures the Services are Available to the Buyer; |
| **“Available”** | a Service shall be “Available” when the Buyer’s end users are able to access and use all its functions at a level that enables them to carry out their normal duties. Availability shall be construed accordingly; |
| **“Contract Year”** | means a consecutive period of twelve (12) Months commencing on the Contract Start Date or each anniversary thereof; |
| **“Critical Service Level Failure”** | takes the meaning of any instance of critical service level failure specified in Annex 2 to Part A of this Schedule; |
| **“Downtime”** | means any period of time within the Agreed Service Time during which a Service is not Available, excluding Planned Downtime; |
| **“Imposed Carrier Downtime”** | means time during which the Supplier is prevented from supplying the Services due to unavailability of an underlying telecommunications service from a third-party provider on which the Services are dependent. In any instance where the Supplier claims Imposed Carrier Downtime, the Supplier must be able to provide evidence to the satisfaction of the Buyer that the interruption to the Services was in fact due in its entirety to unavailability of the underlying service; |
| **“Incident”** | means an unplanned incident or interruption to Services, reduction in the quality of the Services or event which could affect the Services in the future; |
| **“Incident Resolution Time”** | means the time taken by the Supplier to Resolve an Incident, as set out in this Schedule; |
| **“Planned Downtime”** | means the time agreed in advance in writing by the Supplier and Buyer within the Agreed Service Time when a Service is not Available; |
| **“Provisioning”** | means the time taken from the placement of an Order for a Service or part thereof until the Service is Available to the Buyer and Provision shall be construed accordingly; |
| **“Resolution”** | means an action taken by or on behalf of the Supplier to fully repair the root cause of an Incident or to implement a workaround, such that the Services are returned to being Available. Resolve and Resolved shall be construed accordingly; |
| **“Service Credit Cap”** | means:  (a) in the period from the Contract Start Date to the end of the first Contract Year fifteen thousand pounds (£15,000); and  (b) during the remainder of the Contract Period, thirty five per cent (35%) of the Contract Charges payable to the Supplier under this Contract in the period of twelve (12) Months immediately preceding the Service Period in respect of which Service Credits are accrued; |
| **“Service Credits”** | any service credits specified in the Annex to Part A of this Schedule being payable by the Supplier to the Buyer in respect of any failure by the Supplier to meet one or more Service Levels; |
| **“Service Desk”** | means the single point of contact set up and operated by the Supplier to log, monitor and escalate Incidents, Incident Resolutions and Service Requests; |
| **“Service Failure Threshold”** | means the level of performance of a Service which becomes unacceptable to the Buyer, including as set out in each Service Level Performance Criteria and where the Supplier fails to provide the Services in accordance with this Contract; |
| **“Service Level Failure”** | means a failure to meet the Service Level Threshold in respect of a Service Level Performance Criterion; |
| **“Service Level Performance Criteria”** | means the criteria identified in;  paragraph 3.5 of Part A of this Schedule, against which the individual metrics are assessed; |
| **“Service Levels”** | means any service levels applicable to the provision of the Services under this Contract; |
| **“Service Level Threshold”** | shall be as set out against the relevant Service Level Performance Criteria in Annex 1 of Part A, of this Schedule; |
| **“Service Period”** | means a recurrent period of one month during the Contract Period, unless otherwise specified in the Award Form; |
| **“Unavailable”** | in relation to a Service, means that the Service is not Available; |

1. What happens if you don’t meet the Service Levels
   1. The Supplier shall at all times provide the Deliverables to meet or exceed the Service Level Performance Measure for each Service Level.
   2. The Supplier acknowledges that any Service Level Failure shall entitle the Buyer to the rights set out in Part A of this Schedule including the right to any Service Credits and that any Service Credit is a price adjustment and not an estimate of the Loss that may be suffered by the Buyer as a result of the Supplier’s failure to meet any Service Level Performance Measure.
   3. The Supplier shall send Performance Monitoring Reports to the Buyer detailing the level of service which was achieved in accordance with the provisions of Part B (Performance Monitoring) of this Schedule.
   4. A Service Credit shall be the Buyer’s exclusive financial remedy for a Service Level Failure except where:
      1. the Supplier has over the previous (twelve) 12 Month period exceeded the Service Credit Cap; and/or
      2. the Service Level Failure:
         1. exceeds the relevant Service Level Threshold;
         2. has arisen due to a Prohibited Act or wilful Default by the Supplier;
         3. results in the corruption or loss of any Government Data; and/or
         4. results in the Buyer being required to make a compensation payment to one or more third parties; and/or
      3. the Buyer is otherwise entitled to or does terminate this Contract pursuant to Clause 10.4 of the Core Terms (Buyer Termination Rights).
   5. Not more than once in each Contract Year, the Buyer may, on giving the Supplier at least three (3) Months’ notice, change the weighting of Service Level Performance Measure in respect of one or more Service Levels and the Supplier shall not be entitled to object to, or increase the Charges as a result of such changes, provided that:
      1. the total number of Service Levels for which the weighting is to be changed does not exceed the number applicable as at the Start Date;
      2. the principal purpose of the change is to reflect changes in the Buyer's business requirements and/or priorities or to reflect changing industry standards; and
      3. there is no change to the Service Credit Cap.
2. Critical Service Level Failure

On the occurrence of a Critical Service Level Failure:

* 1. any Service Credits that would otherwise have accrued during the relevant Service Period shall not accrue; and
  2. the Buyer shall (subject to the Service Credit Cap) be entitled to withhold and retain as compensation a sum equal to any Charges which would otherwise have been due to the Supplier in respect of that Service Period ("**Compensation for Critical Service Level Failure**"),

provided that the operation of this paragraph 3 shall be without prejudice to the right of the Buyer to terminate this Contract and/or to claim damages from the Supplier for material Default.

PART A: Long Form Service Levels and Service Credits

1. General provisions

The Supplier shall provide support and advice, when required by the Buyer, on matters relating to:

* + 1. Availability of the Services;
    2. quality of the Services;
    3. Provisioning;
    4. essential downtime
    5. Buyer support;
    6. complaints handling; and
    7. accurate and timely invoices.
  1. The Supplier accepts and acknowledges that failure to meet the Service Level Threshold set out in this Part A of this Schedule will result in Service Credits being due to the Buyer.

1. **Principal points**
   1. The objectives of the Service Levels and Service Credits are to:
      1. incentivise the Supplier to meet the Service Levels and to remedy any failure to meet the Service Levels expeditiously;
      2. ensure that the Services are of a consistently high quality and meet the requirements of the Buyer;
      3. provide a mechanism whereby the Buyer can attain meaningful recognition of inconvenience and/or loss resulting from the Supplier’s failure to deliver the level of service for which it has contracted to deliver; and
      4. provide an incentive to the Supplier to comply with and to expeditiously remedy any failure to comply with the Service Levels.
   2. The Parties acknowledge that:
      1. The Buyer will, in all cases, prefer to receive the Services within the Service Levels in preference to receiving the Service Credits; and
      2. the Supplier shall, in all cases, seek to deliver the Services within the Service Levels in preference to accepting a liability for Service Credits.
2. **Service Levels**
   1. The Supplier shall monitor its performance under this Contract by reference to the relevant Service Level Performance Criteria for achieving the Service Levels and shall send the Buyer a Performance Monitoring Report detailing the level of service which was achieved in accordance with the provisions of Part B (Performance Monitoring) of this Schedule.
   2. The Supplier shall, at all times, provide the Services in such a manner that the Service Level Thresholds are achieved.
   3. If the level of performance of the Supplier of any element of the provision by it of the Services during the Contract period:
      1. is likely to or fails to meet any Service Level Threshold; or
      2. is likely to cause or causes a Critical Service Level Failure to occur, the Supplier shall immediately notify the Buyer in writing and the Buyer, in its absolute discretion and without prejudice to any other of its rights howsoever arising may:
         * 1. Require the Supplier to immediately take all remedial action that is reasonable to mitigate the impact on the Buyer and to rectify or prevent a Service Level Failure or Critical Service Level Failure from taking place or recurring; and
           2. If the action taken under paragraph ‎(A) above has not already prevented or remedied the Service Level Failure or Critical Service Level Failure , the Buyer shall be entitled to instruct the Supplier to comply with the Rectification Plan Process; or
           3. If a Service Level Failure has occurred, deduct from the Contract Charges the applicable Service Credits payable by the Supplier to the Buyer in accordance with the calculation formula set out in Annex 1 of this Part A of this Schedule; or
           4. If a Critical Service Level Failure has occurred, exercise its right to compensation for such non-availability of Services via this Contract.
   4. Approval and implementation by the Buyer of any Rectification Plan shall not relieve the Supplier of any continuing responsibility to achieve the Service Levels, or remedy any failure to do so, and no estoppels or waiver shall arise from any such Approval and/or implementation by the Buyer.
   5. The Services are subject to the following four Service Level Performance Criteria as set out in paragraph 6 of this Part A of Schedule 10:
      1. Availability;
      2. Incident Resolution;
      3. Quality; and
      4. Provisioning.
3. **Agreed Service Time**
   1. The Services will be made Available by the Supplier to the Buyer during the Agreed Service Time.
   2. The Agreed Service Times are set out in the following table:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Agreed Service Time | |
| Solution Agreed Service Time | Monday – Sunday (including Bank Holidays);  00:00-23:59  (24 hours per day, 7 days per week) |
| Service Desk Agreed Service Time | Standard Service desk hours  Mon – Friday (excluding Bank Holidays) – 09:00 – 17:00  For Severity 1 calls,  A facility must be provided to enable the Authority to log calls out of hours. Relevant service levels shall be applied for a Severity 1 fault call, on a 24/7/365 basis.  The Authority’s website availability is part of our Warn and Inform duty as a Cat 1 responder under the Civil Contingencies Act, so must always be available (excluding planned maintenance, which must be agreed in advance with the Authority).  (To be completed post Contract Award with successful Supplier) |

1. **Incidents**
   1. If the Services become Unavailable, the Buyer must report the Unavailability as an Incident to the Service Desk.
   2. Incidents must be classified to one of the following four severity levels:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Severity Level | Description of impact of Incident |
| Severity 1 | The Services are Unavailable – the solution is completely unusable, or the Authority public facing website is Unavailable. |
| Severity 2 | The Services are partially Unavailable, but the Authority public facing website is still available. |
| Severity 3 | The Services are Unavailable to an individual user, or a small number of users, or faults have been identified that impact the usability of the Services. |
| Severity 4 | All other Incidents, including any Incidents raised initially at a higher Severity Level that were subsequently deemed to be attributable to the Buyer or in any other way not attributable to the Supplier. |

* + 1. The Supplier shall manage the Incident to resolution in accordance with this Schedule, whilst keeping the Buyer appropriately informed of progress.

1. Service Level Performance Criteria
   1. **Availability**
      1. The Supplier shall ensure that the Services are Available during the Agreed Service Time.
      2. Achieved Availability is calculated as a percentage of the total time in a Service Period that the Services should have otherwise been Available to the Buyer using the following formula:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Achieved Availability % | = | (MP – SD) x 100 |
| MP |

Where:

MP means total time within the Agreed Service Time (excluding Planned Downtime, Imposed Carrier Downtime and any Unavailability attributable to Severity 3 or Severity 4 Incidents) within the relevant Service Period; and

SD means total service downtime within the Agreed Service Time within the relevant Service Period during which a Service and/or part thereof is Unavailable (excluding Planned Downtime, Imposed Carrier Downtime and any Unavailability attributable to Severity 3 or Severity 4 Incidents) within the relevant Service Period.

* 1. Incident Resolution
     1. The Supplier shall ensure that Incidents are resolved within the Maximum Incident Resolution Time.
     2. Maximum Incident Resolution Times are determined by the Severity Levels as set out in the following table:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Severity 1 | Severity 2 | Severity 3 | Severity 4 (Indicative Only) |
| 6 hours | 8 hours | End of next Working Day | 10 Working Days |

* + 1. Each Incident will either be Resolved within the Maximum Incident Resolution Time, or it will not; and will be reported as such by the Supplier. The time taken to resolve the Incident is not material to this Service Level Performance Criteria.
    2. Achieved Incident Resolution is calculated as a percentage of the total number of Incidents in a Service Period that should have been resolved within the Maximum Incident Resolution Time using the following formula:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Achieved Incident Resolution % | = | (TI-FI) x 100 |
| TI |

Where:

TI means the total number of Incidents raised by the Buyer during the Service Period (excluding Severity 4 Incidents); and

FI means the total number of Incidents raised by the Buyer during the Service Period that were not resolved within the Maximum Incident Resolution Time (excluding Severity 4 Incidents).

* + 1. Where an Incident is reported outside the Agreed Service Time, the Incident will be treated as if it has been reported at the beginning of the next Working Day.
    2. The Incident will only be deemed to be Resolved once the Services are Available. However, the Supplier shall not formally close any Incident until the Buyer has confirmed that the Services are Available.
  1. Quality
     1. The Supplier shall ensure that the Services are delivered of a sufficient quality to meet the provisions of this Schedule.
     2. Measurement of answer and response times of the Service Desk will be based on the time taken for the Supplier to respond to the Buyer’s call or email. Calls and emails receiving an automated response or calls placed into a queuing system shall be deemed not to have been answered.
  2. **Provisioning**
     1. The Services will be provisioned at the outset in accordance with any Implementation Plan and any failure to meet Milestones will be dealt with in accordance with the terms of this Contract.
     2. Any delivery of Services or part thereof subsequent to the successful conclusion of the Implementation Plan will be subject to the Service Levels identified in the Variation to this Contract that incorporates those changes; or failing any other agreed Service Level, in accordance with the Supplier’s standard provisioning Service Levels.

1. Service Credits
   1. This section sets out the basic agreed formula used to calculate a Service Credit payable to the Buyer as a result of a Service Level Failure in a given Service Period.
   2. Service Credit payments are subject to the Service Credit Cap.
   3. Annex 1 of Part A of this Schedule details the Service Credits available for each Service Level Performance Criterion in the event that the applicable Service Level Threshold is not met by the Supplier.
   4. The Buyer shall use the Performance Monitoring Reports supplied by the Supplier under Part B (Performance Monitoring) of this Schedule to verify the calculation and accuracy of any Service Credits applicable to each Service Period.
   5. Service Credits are a reduction of the amounts payable in respect of the Services and do not include VAT. The Supplier shall set-off the value of any Service Credits against the appropriate invoice in accordance with calculation formula in Annex 1 of Part A of this Schedule.
   6. The amount of Service Credit is determined by the tables in Annex 1 of this Part A of this Schedule, using the calculated Achieved Service Level Performance Criteria (e.g. Achieved Availability), the Service Level Threshold and the Service Failure Threshold and is calculated by using the straight line formula below:

**Service Credit % = (m\*(a-x) + c),** where

*a* is the Service Level Threshold (%) below which Service Credits become payable;

*b* is the Service Failure Threshold (%);

*x* is the Achieved Service Level Performance Criteria (%) for a Service Period;

*c* is the minimum Service Credit (%) payable if the Achieved Service Level falls below the Service Level Threshold;

*d* is the maximum Service Credit (%) payable if the Achieved Service Level Reaches the Service Failure Threshold;

*m*is a coefficient defined for the services, which is calculated from the Formula *m = (d-c)/(a-b),* that is the slope of the straight line;

* 1. Consequently, the Service Credit regime is shown diagrammatically as follows:

100%

99.5%%

98% 97% 96% 95%

**Service Credit % (y)**

**Service Level % (x)**

Service Level Threshold (a)

2.5%

Minimum Service Credit % (c)

Service Failure Threshold (b)

25%

Maximum Service Credit % (d)

m = (d-c)/(a-b)

5.0

d

c

a

* 1. The Service Credit (£) is subsequently derived as follows:

Service Credit (£) = contract charges x Service Credit (%)

* 1. An example Service Credit calculation for the Availability of a service, (offered herein for illustrative purposes only), is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Coefficient (m) | Service Level Threshold % (a) | Service Failure Threshold % (b) | Minimum Service Credit % © | Maximum Service Credit % (d) |
| Availability | 5.0 | 99.5% | 95.00% | 2.5% | 25% |

* + 1. The Achieved Availability of a service was recorded as 97% for a Service Period. For this service, the Service Level Threshold is 99.5% and the Service Failure Threshold is 95%. The contract charges for the service for the Service Period are £3,000. Previous performance had exceeded the Service Level Threshold for Availability.
    2. In this illustration example:

Service Credit % = 5.0 x (99.5-97.0) + 2.5 = 15%;

therefore the Service Credit calculation is:

Service Credit (£) = £3,000 x 15% = £450.

* 1. An example Service Credit calculation for Incident Resolution is as follows:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Criteria | Coefficient (m) | Service Level Threshold % (a) | Service Failure Threshold % (b) | Minimum Service Credit % © | Maximum Service Credit % (d) |
| Incident Resolution | 0.25 | 95.0% | 85.00% | 2.5% | 5% |

* + 1. The Service Level Threshold is 95% of all incidents to be resolved within a specified time with the Service Failure Threshold being 85%. Assume that the Buyer has 80 Incidents within a Service Period, 10 of which were not resolved within the specified time. Therefore, the Achieved Incident Resolution is 87.5% for the Service Period. The contract charges for all the services that the Buyer is consuming are £50,000 per Service Period. Previous performance had exceeded the Service Level Threshold for Incident Resolution Times.
    2. In this illustration example:

Service Credit % = 0.25 x (95-87.5) + 2.5 = 4.375%

Consequently, the illustrated Service Credit calculation is:

Service Credit (£) = £50,000 x 4.375% = £2,187.50.

PART A Annex 1: Long Form Services Levels and Service Credits Table

1. Availability
   1. Services (excluding the Service Desk)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Coefficient (m) | Service Level Threshold % (a) | Service Failure Threshold % (b) | Minimum Service Credit % © | Maximum Service Credit % (d) |
| 5 | 99.5% | 95% | 5% | 25% |

* 1. Service Desk

| Coefficient (m) | Service Level Threshold (with Agreed Service Levels) % (a) | Service Failure Threshold % (b) | Minimum Service Credit % © | Maximum Service Credit % (d) |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 5 | 99% | 95% | 5% | 25% |

1. Incident Resolution

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Number of Incidents per Service Period | Coefficient (m) | Service Level Threshold  (a) | Service Failure Threshold  (b) | Minimum Service Credit % © | Maximum Service Credit % (d) |
| 39 or fewer | Not applicable | No more than 2 Incidents are Resolved in excess of the max Incident Resolution Times | 5 or more Incidents are Resolved in excess of the max Incident Resolution Times | 2.5%  (payable when 3 Incidents breach the Service Level Threshold in any Service Period) | 5% (payable when 4+ Incidents breach the Service Level Threshold in any Service Period) |
| 40 and more | 0.25 | 95% | 85% | 2.5% | 5% |

1. Quality
   1. Service Desk:

| Criteria | Coefficient | Service Level Threshold | Service Failure Threshold | Minimum Service Credit | Maximum Service Credit |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Calls Answered by a support operative within 60 seconds | 0.25 | 90% | 80% | 2.5% | 5% |
| General emails to be Responded to within one (1) Working Day. | 0.083 | 90% | 60% | 2.5% | 5% |
| Acknowledgement of Sev 1 and 2 Incidents within 1 hour at all times regardless of logging method. | 0.25 | 95% | 85% | 2.5% | 5% |
| Acknowledgement of Sev 3 and 4 incidents within 1 Work Day regardless of logging method. | 0.25 | 95% | 85% | 2.5% | 5% |
| Initial human Response to Sev 1 and 2 Incidents within 2 hours, where required. | 0.25 | 95% | 85% | 2.5% | 5% |
| Initial human Response to Sev 3 and 4 Incidents within 4 hours, where required. | 0.25 | 95% | 85% | 2.5% | 5% |
| Abandoned Calls | 0.25 | 95% | 85% | 2.5% | 5% |

* 1. Data Service
     1. Where the Buyer has procured Services that include data services, the following provisions will apply:
        1. The Services will only be deemed to have been Delivered once the Buyer has tested and accepted the quality of the data service;
        2. Subsequent to Services commencement, where the Buyer believes the quality of the data service is not acceptable:
           1. an Incident will be raised with the Service Desk;
           2. the Supplier shall investigate the Incident;
           3. Subsequent to the investigation, if:

a fault is found, the Incident is Resolved as any other Incident;

a fault is not found and the Buyer still believes the quality of the data service is unacceptable, the Supplier shall evidence to the Buyer that the data service complies with relevant Standards.

* + - * 1. In the event that a fault is not found and the Supplier cannot evidence to the satisfaction of the Buyer that the data service complies with relevant Standards, the Service will be deemed Unavailable from the time that the Incident was first raised with the Service Desk and the Incident Resolution Time will be accordingly measured from that time.

**PART A - Annex 2: Critical Service Level Failure**

1. CRITICAL SERVICE LEVEL FAILURE

1.1 A Critical Service Level Failure will be deemed to have occurred if the performance of the Services falls below the same Service Failure Threshold on three (3) occasions in any six (6) consecutive Service Periods.

1.2 In the event of a Critical Service Level Failure, the Buyer shall be entitled to terminate this Call-Off Contract for material Default.

Part B: Performance Monitoring

1. Performance Monitoring and Performance Review
   1. Within twenty (20) Working Days of the Start Date the Supplier shall provide the Buyer with details of how the process in respect of the monitoring and reporting of Service Levels will operate between the Parties and the Parties will endeavour to agree such process as soon as reasonably possible.
   2. The Supplier shall provide the Buyer with performance monitoring reports ("**Performance Monitoring Reports**") in accordance with the process and timescales agreed pursuant to paragraph 1.1 of Part A of this Schedule which shall contain, as a minimum, the following information in respect of the relevant Service Period just ended:
      1. for each Service Level, the actual performance achieved over the Service Level for the relevant Service Period;
      2. a summary of all failures to achieve Service Levels that occurred during that Service Period;
      3. details of any Critical Service Level Failures;
      4. for any repeat failures, actions taken to resolve the underlying cause and prevent recurrence;
      5. the Service Credits to be applied in respect of the relevant period indicating the failures and Service Levels to which the Service Credits relate; and
      6. such other details as the Buyer may reasonably require from time to time.
   3. The Parties shall attend meetings to discuss Performance Monitoring Reports ("**Performance Review Meetings**") on a Monthly basis. The Performance Review Meetings will be the forum for the review by the Supplier and the Buyer of the Performance Monitoring Reports. The Performance Review Meetings shall:
      1. take place within one (1) week of the Performance Monitoring Reports being issued by the Supplier at such location and time (within normal business hours) as the Buyer shall reasonably require;
      2. be attended by the Supplier's Representative and the Buyer’s Representative; and
      3. be fully minuted by the Supplier and the minutes will be circulated by the Supplier to all attendees at the relevant meeting and also to the Buyer’s Representative and any other recipients agreed at the relevant meeting.
   4. The minutes of the preceding Month's Performance Review Meeting will be agreed and signed by both the Supplier's Representative and the Buyer’s Representative at each meeting.
   5. The Supplier shall provide to the Buyer such documentation as the Buyer may reasonably require in order to verify the level of the performance by the Supplier and the calculations of the amount of Service Credits for any specified Service Period.
2. Satisfaction Surveys
   1. The Buyer may undertake satisfaction surveys in respect of the Supplier's provision of the Deliverables. The Buyer shall be entitled to notify the Supplier of any aspects of their performance of the provision of the Deliverables which the responses to the Satisfaction Surveys reasonably suggest are not in accordance with this Contract.