

AABRS Limited Terms and Conditions of Business

PART A: Formation and Scope

1. The Contract

1.1 These terms and conditions ('the Terms and Conditions') apply to the services ('the Services') which we will provide to you and which are set out in the attached letter of engagement ('Letter of Engagement').

1.2 The Letter of Engagement and Terms and Conditions form the basis of our business relationship with you and are referred to as 'the Contract'.

1.3 The Contract comprises the whole agreement between AABRS Limited and you relating to the Services.

1.4 The Contract replaces and overrides any previous communications, understandings, correspondence, proposal or presentation whether written or oral.

1.5 By sending us instructions and or by asking us to start performing the Services, you are agreeing to accept these terms.

2. Definitions

2.1 For the avoidance of doubt, 'we' and 'our' refers to AABRS Limited, Langley House, 53 Theobald Street, Borehamwood, WD6 4RT and 'you' and 'your' refers to the party or parties to whom the Letter of Engagement is addressed.

3. General Matters

3.1 You confirm that you have all the necessary powers and have obtained all the necessary authorisations, consents and approvals to validly and lawfully enter into this Contract.

3.2 Amendment to the Terms and Conditions may only be made by a specific paragraph in the Letter of Engagement referring to a numbered clause of the Terms and Conditions. In the event of a conflict between the Terms and Conditions and the Letter of Engagement, the Letter of Engagement will prevail.

3.3 Either party may initiate changes to the Services and such changes as may be agreed will be set out in a supplementary letter to the Letter of Engagement and will form part of the Contract.

3.4 The terms of the Contract which expressly or by implication are intended to survive its termination or expiry will survive and continue to bind all parties.

3.5 If any provision of this Contract should not be valid, in whole or in part, it will be deemed not to form part of the **Contract** and the enforceability of the remainder of the Contract will not be affected.

4. Regulatory Matters

4.1 Nothing in the Contract will prevent us from complying with the law, statute or regulations of any relevant professional body to which we are associated.

4.2 In the course of our work, we may perform certain Services which are regulated by a regulatory authority. If the services are or become a regulated activity, we will communicate with you further, with a view to complying with the relevant regulations.

Part B: Client Obligations and Fees

5. Client Assistance

5.1 In order for us to achieve the standards of service set out in the Letter of Engagement and, if appropriate, to represent your interests properly, we need your cooperation. Please provide any information requested by us as soon as possible, otherwise we may not be able to progress the engagement.

5.2 You will use all reasonable skills, care and attention to ensure that all the information we require is provided on a timely basis and is accurate and complete. You also undertake to notify us immediately if you subsequently learn that the information provided to us is incorrect, inaccurate, or not capable of being relied upon.

5.3 Results of our work will largely be based upon information supplied by you or on your behalf and we will not corroborate or verify the information provided unless this is specified in the Letter of Engagement. Although the Services may involve analysis of financial information and accounting records, we do not carry out audit work, in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards or give tax advice and, as a result, we assume no responsibility for and make no representations about the accuracy or completeness of any financial information, tax status or liability.

5.4 You agree that the Services are not designed to and are not likely to reveal fraud or misrepresentation. Accordingly, we cannot accept responsibility for detecting fraud or misrepresentation by any party whatsoever.

5.5 We are working with you in the role of advisers and we will not, under any circumstances, be required to direct your affairs, the sole responsibility for which remains with the directors, proprietors and senior management.

5.6 We will not provide any specialist services such as legal, regulatory or other services unless this is specified in the Letter of Engagement.

6. Fees

6.1 Fee arrangements will be set out in the Letter of Engagement and, to the extent that the Letter of Engagement is silent on the matter, the following terms will apply.

6.1.1 Time for payment of fees and expenses will be of the essence.

6.1.2 We will bill you at the end of the assignment or, if the assignment takes more than 6 weeks to complete, we will bill you on a monthly basis.

6.1.3 Our invoices are payable within seven days of the invoice date.

6.1.4 To the extent that our invoices are not paid by the due date, we are entitled to charge interest at the prevailing rate on unpaid sums.

6.1.5 All sums due in connection with the services which may comprise fees, expenses, or other sums, will be subject to the appropriate rate of Value Added Tax as applicable.

6.2 Any fee estimate given by AABRS Limited will be given in good faith but will not be contractually binding.

Part C: Liability and Risk Management

7. Reports and Advice

7.1 During the performance of the Services, we may provide interim reports and advice. Any reports and advice, are based upon partial completion of the Services. Consequently, these are not our final views or conclusions and cannot be relied upon as such. You agree that we do not assume a duty of care to you, or any other party to whom we have agreed to assume a duty of care, in respect of interim reports and advice. The final results of our work and our definitive conclusions will be contained in our final report.

7.2 Any report issued or advice given by us is provided solely for your use and only in connection with the purpose specified in the Letter of Engagement. Unless otherwise provided in the Letter of Engagement, you will not disclose or publish the contents of our report or advice to any third party without our prior written consent. At your request, we will consider third party disclosure which will be at our sole discretion and we may grant, withhold or grant with conditions at our discretion. Under no circumstances, regardless of consent, will we assume any responsibility to any third party to which disclosure may be made.

7.3 You have agreed that you will maintain our reports and advice confidential.

7.4 The terms upon which our advice may be disclosed to your advisors are as follows:

7.4.1 our advice is confidential;

7.4.2 our advice is only appropriate for the purposes of the Services contemplated in the Letter of Engagement; and

7.4.3 we accept no duty of care to advisors to whom our reports and advice are disclosed whatsoever.

7.5 You have agreed to take reasonable steps to ensure that these terms are understood by your advisors.

8. Quality of work and liability

8.1 We will use reasonable skill and care in the provision of the Services.

8.2 You agree that it is reasonable for AABRS Limited to limit its liability in connection with the provision of the Services, except as noted below.

8.3 The aggregate liability of AABRS Limited, its partners, agents and employees or any of them to pay damages for loss or damage, including consequential loss suffered by you, if a direct result of breach of contract, negligence, or any other tort by us in connection with the Services, will be limited to that proportion of your actual loss which was directly and solely caused by us.

8.4 Subject to Clause 8.6 below, our liability will not, in any circumstances, exceed the aggregate limit set out in the Letter of Engagement. This cap applies exclusively to our pre-appointment advisory capacity; it does not limit any statutory duties strictly attached to the office of Liquidator once appointed. Where our Letter of Engagement is addressed to more than one party, the limit of liability specified in the Letter of Engagement will be the aggregate limit to be allocated between the parties in whatever proportions they agree between themselves. Even if no such agreement is made, none of you will dispute the validity, enforceability or operation of the limit of liability.

8.5 Under no circumstances will we be liable to pay any damages to you for losses arising out of or in any way connected with action taken, omissions or acts by you or anyone acting on your behalf.

8.6 We will only accept liability without limit for;

8.6.1 Death or personal injury caused by our negligence or the negligence of our employees acting in the course of their employment;

8.6.2 Any fraudulent misrepresentations made by us, upon which you can be shown to have relied which predated the Letter of Engagement; and

8.6.3 Any other liability which by law we cannot exclude or limit.

8.7 Nothing in this clause shall in any way confer greater rights than either of us would otherwise have at law.

8.8 You agree that no legal proceedings arising from or in connection with the Contract will be commenced against any of our directors, partners or employees personally.

8.9 You further agree that any claims, howsoever arising, must be formally commenced within 2 years after the party bringing the claim becomes aware of the facts which give rise to the claim. This expressly overrides any statutory provision which would otherwise apply.

9. Your Responsibility for Third Parties

9.1 You will be wholly responsible for the work and fees of any third party engaged by you in connection with the Services. Unless specified in the Letter of Engagement, we will not be responsible for managing or reviewing services delivered by third parties.

10. Our Responsibility for Third Parties

10.1 As part of the performance of the Services, it may be necessary for us to take specialist advice from a third party ('a Sub-contractor') and we shall be entitled to do so provided that we remain liable to you for the work to be performed by the Sub-contractor. For the purposes of the Contract, any references to our employees also apply to Subcontractors.

10.2 Notwithstanding the confidentiality clause above, we may disclose information concerning your business to our Subcontractors provided that they have agreed to maintain as confidential information acquired by them during the provision of the Services.

11. Conflicts of interest

11.1 Whilst we have established procedures to identify situations where a conflict of interest might arise, we cannot guarantee that we will identify all such situations. If we become aware of a conflict of interest, we will put in place a barrier to preserve confidentiality and to ensure that the advice we give and the reports which we issue are independent.

11.2 If, after commencement of the Contract, you become aware of any potential conflict concerning the provision of the Services, you agree to notify us immediately.

Part D: Compliance and Data

12. Confidentiality

12.1 We and you agree that any confidential information received from the other will be used only for the purposes of providing or receiving the Services under this or any other contract between us. Except as provided below, neither party will disclose the other's confidential information to any third party without the written consent of the other.

12.2 Notwithstanding the above clause, we will be entitled to disclose confidential information about you as follows:

12.2.1 in accordance with the terms of the letter of engagement;

12.2.2 to our insurers or legal advisors; or

12.2.3 to any third party, to the extent that this is required by any court, governmental department or regulatory authority or where we have a legal duty to disclose.

12.3 In this latter case, we will endeavour to give you notice of the circumstances and the need to disclose certain information.

12.4 The disclosure of confidential information internally within AABRS Limited is approved for whatever purpose.

13. Data Protection

13.1 We are registered under the Data Protection Act 2018 ('the Act') and fully endorse and adhere to the **principles** of it. By your acceptance of the Contract, you agree to us maintaining personal data in accordance with the Act. All data supplied to us will be processed in accordance with the Act and we request that you comply with data protection legislation in relation to all personal data supplied by us.

14. Anti-Money Laundering & Sanctions

14.1 We are subject to statutory obligations under the Money Laundering, Terrorist Financing and Transfer of Funds (Information on the Payer) Regulations 2017 and Proceeds of Crime Act 2002.

15. Anti-Bribery and Criminal Finances

15.1 Both parties undertake to comply with all applicable laws relating to anti-bribery and anti-corruption, including the Bribery Act 2010, and acknowledge the corporate offences under the Criminal Finances Act 2017 regarding the failure to prevent the facilitation of tax evasion.

16. Intellectual Property Rights

16.1 All working papers, methodologies, and materials created by us during the engagement remain the exclusive intellectual property of AABRS Limited.

Part E: Suspension and Termination

17. Suspension

17.1 At any time during the term of the contract, either of us may give immediate notice suspending the Services in the event that;

17.1.1 issues exist or arise which, materially and adversely affect one party's ability to perform its duties and obligations under the Contract; or

17.1.2 either of us becomes aware that the other has failed to disclose to it information which that party considers to be material to the performance of its duties and obligations under the Contract.

17.2 If performance of the contract is suspended pursuant to the above clause, we will be entitled to reasonable fees for the services provided prior to suspension.

17.3 In the event that performance of the contract is resumed, we will be entitled reasonably to vary our fees for the resumed performance of the contract.

18. Termination

18.1 At any time during the term of the contract, either of us may terminate the contract for whatever reason upon the expiry of 28 days notice to be given in writing to the other commencing on the date when that notice of termination is sent.

18.2 Either of us may terminate the contract forthwith by notice in writing to the other if the duties and obligations under the contract have been suspended for more than 28 days.

18.3 We may terminate the contract at any time without notice, if we do not receive payment from you of any invoice within 21 days of the due date in accordance with the Terms and Conditions.

18.4 Either party may terminate the contract on written notice with immediate effect if the other party commits a material breach of the terms of the contract which is irredeemable or if redeemable, is not remedied within 30 days of a written request to remedy it.

18.5 Upon termination of the contract, each of us will upon written request by the other return to the other all property and documentation of the other that is in its possession, except that we will be entitled to retain one copy of any documents which we require to maintain a professional record of our provision of the Services. Upon termination, you will pay forthwith upon request all fees and expenses **due** in respect of the services provided up to the date of termination together with our reasonable costs and expenses incurred in connection with the termination of the Contract.

18.6 For the avoidance of doubt, the date of termination will be the date upon which any period of notice expires or the date upon which any party is deemed to have received a notice terminating the contract with immediate effect.

18.7 Termination of the contract will be without prejudice to any accrued rights of all parties.

19. Consumer Contracts (Rights to Cancel)

19.1 Where applicable under the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013, by instructing us to commence the Services immediately, you acknowledge and agree that you waive any statutory 14-day cancellation period to allow for the urgent performance of insolvency advisory services.

Part F: General Conditions

20. Electronic communications

20.1 During the provision of the services, the parties may from time to time communicate with each other electronically. All parties recognise that systems and procedures cannot guarantee that transmissions will be unaffected by outside influences.

20.2 During the provision of the Services, the parties may communicate electronically with each other. In connection with electronic communications, all parties:

20.2.1 recognise that electronic communication cannot be guaranteed to be secure, virus free or unaffected by transmission;

20.2.2 accept the risks of and authorise electronic communication between themselves;

20.2.3 agree to use commercially reasonable virus checking procedures before sending information electronically;

20.2.4 agree that each will be responsible for its own electronic communication systems, and;

20.2.5 agree that no party will have a claim against any other party for any reason arising out of electronic communications in connection with the Services.

20.3 The exclusion of liability in the above clause will not apply to the extent that any liability **arises** out of acts, omissions or misrepresentations which are in any case criminal, dishonest or fraudulent on the part of **either party in respect of** directors, partners, agents or employees.

21. Cyber Security Warning

21.1 We will never notify you of a change to our bank details via email alone. You must verbally verify any altered bank details with the engagement partner before transferring funds.

22. Environmental issues

22.1 We will not give advice on environmental issues nor will we perform an environmental audit as part of our services. You agree that environmental issues and their impact are excluded from the services unless otherwise agreed in the Letter of Engagement.

23. Assignment

23.1 Neither of us may transfer or assign any rights or obligations under this contract without the prior written consent of the other party.

24. Notices

24.1 Any written notice issued in connection with this contract may be delivered in person, by post or by facsimile transmission. Notices to us at our address will be marked for the attention of the engagement partner referred to in the Letter of Engagement. Notices to you will be delivered to the address last notified by you, for the attention of the person or persons to whom the letter of engagement is addressed.

24.2 Any notice sent by post will be deemed to have arrived on the second working day after despatch and any notice sent by fax or served personally will be deemed to have arrived on the day following despatch.

25. Force majeure

25.1 Neither of us will be liable to the other for any delay or failure to fulfil obligations caused by circumstances outside our reasonable control.

26. Complaints

26.1 If you are dissatisfied with the services you are receiving, please contact the engagement partner disclosed in the Letter of Engagement. We will carefully consider any complaint we receive and, if we believe that we have given a less than satisfactory service, we will take all reasonable steps to put it right. In the event that you are still dissatisfied you have the right to complain using the online Insolvency Complaints Gateway service at www.gov.uk/complain-about-insolvency-practitioner.

27. Governing law and dispute resolution

27.1 Unless otherwise provided in the letter of engagement, this contract will be governed by and interpreted in accordance with English law.

27.2 If any dispute arises between us, we will attempt to resolve the dispute in good faith by negotiation. In the event that negotiation is unsuccessful, the parties agree to try to resolve matters through alternative dispute resolution procedures. If the dispute cannot be resolved through these means, all parties agree that the English courts will have exclusive jurisdiction in connection with the resolution of the dispute.