

NHS Template Sub-Contract for the Provision of Clinical Services for use with the NHS Standard Contract 2020/21(Full Length and Shorter Form versions)

Guidance

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Purpose of the NHS Template Sub-Contract for the Provision of Clinical Services
 - 1.1.1 Healthcare providers deliver NHS-funded clinical services under the terms of the NHS Standard Contract. It is becoming increasingly common for a provider (the "Head Provider") to sub-contract delivery of certain clinical services to a third party (the "Sub-Contractor"). This subcontracting can take many forms. It can be the sub-contracting of an entire service or of delivery of part of a care pathway. It can be an isolated sub-contracting by the Head Provider to a single Sub-Contractor, or the sub-contracting of a range of services to multiple Sub-Contractors under a prime contractor/lead provider (these terms are interchangeable) commissioning model.
 - 1.1.2 The template sub-contract for use with the full length version of the NHS Standard Contract is referred to in this guidance as the **Full Length Sub-Contract**, and the template for use with the shorter-form version of the NHS Standard Contract is referred to as the **Shorter Form Sub-Contract**. When referring here to both the Full Length Sub-Contract and the Shorter Form Sub-Contract, we use the term **Template Sub-Contract**.
 - 1.1.3 The Template Sub-Contract has now been revised in line the 2020/21 edition of the NHS Standard Contract (which is available at https://www.england.nhs.uk/nhs-standard-contract/20-21/) and has been republished as version 5. The Template Sub-Contract remains a non-mandatory model, but, (a) where Head Providers choose to use it when entering into new sub-contracts commencing 1 April 2020 onwards, they should use this version 5; (b) where an existing sub-contract based on the Template Sub-Contract runs beyond 31 March 2020, Head Providers should update that existing sub-contract to reflect this version 5 (as applicable), in parallel with entering into the National Variation with Commissioners to vary the terms of their NHS Standard Contract. This will ensure that the changes to the NHS Standard Contract 'flow down' to sub-contract level.
 - 1.1.4 The purpose of the Template Sub-Contract is to save time and effort for Head Providers and to reduce their risk, and that of Commissioners, by ensuring consistency of the Template Sub-Contract with the NHS Standard Contract.
 - 1.1.5 Although use of the Template Sub-Contract is not mandatory, its use is recommended because it is consistent with the NHS Standard Contract, and its widespread use will result in a higher degree of contracting consistency and less negotiation for the parties involved, which will in turn lead to cost savings and risk reduction. Note however that it is vital that the appropriate form of Template Sub-Contract is used: the Full Length Sub-Contract ONLY with the full length version of the NHS Standard Contract, and the Shorter Form Sub-Contract ONLY with the shorter from version of the NHS Standard Contract.
 - 1.1.6 Note that the Template Sub-Contract is designed for use when sub-contracting clinical services. When providers of clinical services are outsourcing provision of non-clinical support services such as catering, cleaning, portering etc., the Department of Health and Social Care's standard <u>Terms and Conditions for the Provision of Services</u> will be a more appropriate template.
- 1.2 Development process
 - 1.2.1 The Department of Health and Social Care ("DHSC") and NHS England recognised the need for the Template Sub-Contract that would benefit both providers of NHS funded care and their sub-contractors. It was agreed that the following principles should underpin the development of the Template Sub-Contract.

- (i) The structure should reflect the structure of the NHS Standard Contract, ensuring consistency of approach and familiarity for users. This approach ensures ease of updating the Template Sub-Contract in line with the annually revised NHS Standard Contract.
- (ii) The Service Conditions and General Conditions of the NHS Standard Contract should form part of the Template Sub-Contract, where appropriate. This approach ensures that obligations on the Head Provider under the NHS Standard Contract pass to the Sub-Contractor in the Template Sub-Contract minimising exposure of the Head Provider. Similarly where the Commissioner has rights under the NHS Standard Contract in relation to sub-contractors, these rights flow down into the Template Sub-Contract.
- (iii) It should be easy to identify the differences between the Template Sub-Contract and the NHS Standard Contract. Application of the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions and General Conditions is therefore by reference rather than by a full repetition. This approach ensures users can at a glance see where the Template Sub-Contract differs from the NHS Standard Contract.
- (iv) Ease of use as well as sufficient flexibility to respond to project specific requirements. Users only have to complete the Sub-Contract Particulars and Schedules, as with the NHS Standard Contract.
- (v) The Template Sub-Contract should be appropriate for use on a variety of contracting arrangements and in circumstances where there is one Sub-Contractor or there are a number of Sub-Contractors. The Template Sub-Contract is appropriate for use where there are multiple Commissioners under one Head Contract. However, it has not been designed for use (without substantial modification – on which legal advice would be required) where there are multiple Head Contracts and a Sub-Contractor is being appointed to provide services which contribute to the delivery of several or all of them.
- (vi) The Template Sub-Contract should also be suitable for use whatever the nature of the sub-contractor organisation: whether NHS, social enterprise, charity, private sector provider.

1.2.2 Differences between the Full Length Sub-Contract and the Shorter Form Sub-Contract are highlighted in red below.

- 1.3 Scope of this Guidance
 - 1.3.1 This Guidance contains:
 - (i) an overview of the structure and use of the Template Sub-Contract;
 - (ii) a practical overview of how to read the Sub-Contract Service Conditions and Sub-Contract General Conditions;
 - (iii) detail on how timelines and notice periods are approached in the Template Sub-Contract; and
 - (iv) an overview of how some of the key topics in the NHS Standard Contract are addressed in the Template Sub-Contract.
 - 1.3.2 It is assumed that users of the Template Sub-Contract have a working knowledge of and are familiar with the NHS Standard Contract. This Guidance does not therefore describe each condition of the Template Sub-Contract and for further information on

the detailed conditions users are referred to the Technical Guidance that accompanies the NHS Standard Contract.

- 1.3.3 For those elements of the Template Sub-Contract that will need completing there are guidance notes embedded in the text of each version, which give helpful tips and prompts to the user.
- 1.3.4 A final point to keep in mind is that Head Providers will be familiar with their rights and obligations as set out in the NHS Standard Contract as a service provider. However, the Head Provider is stepping into the shoes of the Commissioner for the purposes of the Template Sub-Contract. It is therefore advisable that the Head Provider reviews the relevant version of the NHS Standard Contract paying particular attention to how the rights and obligations of the Commissioner under that contract will be reflected in the Head Provider's rights and obligations in its Template Sub-Contract role as recipient of the sub-contracted service.

2. Structure and use of the Template Sub-Contract

- 2.1 Structure of the Template Sub-Contract
 - 2.1.1 There are 4 parts to the Template Sub-Contract:
 - (i) Sub-Contract Particulars and Schedules;
 - (ii) Sub-Contract Conditions;
 - (iii) Service Conditions; and
 - (iv) General Conditions.
 - 2.1.2 The structure of the Template Sub-Contract reflects the NHS Standard Contract so should be familiar to its users.
- 2.2 Sub-Contract Particulars and Schedules
 - 2.2.1 There is only one element of the Template Sub-Contract that requires local input: the Sub-Contract Particulars and Schedules.
 - 2.2.2 The Sub-Contract Particulars and Schedules needs completing for each Template Sub-Contract on a case-by-case basis. It reflects the relevant version of the NHS Standard Contract (full length or shorter form) where appropriate in a sub-contract context. Ensuring consistency between the Particulars and Schedules of the Template Sub-Contract and those of the Head Contract will be key.
 - 2.2.3 When completing the Schedules, the Head Provider should keep two questions in mind:
 - has the Head Provider ensured that all the details and requirements that are set out in the Head Contract Schedules and relate to the services to be provided by the Sub-Contractor have been written into the Sub-Contract Schedules?; and
 - (ii) are there any additional requirements that apply to the Sub-Contractor? This is particularly relevant where there are multiple Sub-Contracts supporting the same NHS Standard Contract.

Some Schedules in the NHS Standard Contract are not required in the context of the Template Sub-Contract, and so have been omitted, unless doing so would disturb the numbering - in which case the words "Not Used" have been inserted against the Schedule in question. In the Shorter Form Sub-Contract, as the numbering of the Schedules reflects that used in the shorter form NHS Standard Contract, some Schedules are intentionally omitted altogether.

- 2.3 Varying any other elements of the Template Sub-Contract
 - 2.3.1 Unlike with the NHS Standard Contract there are no parts of the Template Sub-Contract that are mandatory. So it is possible to vary or delete the Service Conditions and General Conditions ("Conditions") of the Template Sub-Contract as suits local requirements. The Template Sub-Contract should not, however, be amended or varied unless essential to do so for the particular circumstances of a Sub-Contract. Each version of the Template Sub-Contract has been structured in such a manner so that all Service Conditions and General Conditions of the relevant version of the NHS Standard Contract apply where appropriate and have been varied or supplemented where essential to do so for sub-contracting arrangements. This ensures the rights and obligations of the Parties are back-to-back with the NHS Standard Contract, that the obligations on the Head Provider flow down into the Template Sub-Contract and the rights of Commissioners in relation to Sub-Contractors are also incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract.
- 2.4 Execution of the Template Sub-Contract
 - 2.4.1 NHS bodies using the Template Sub-Contract are advised to review their Standing Orders, Standing Financial Instruments and Scheme of Delegation to ensure the method of signing and proposed signatory is consistent with their governing documents. It is also good practice to ensure the proposed signatory of the other party has authority to do so. Depending on the required approach to execution, amendments may be required to the signature blocks.
- 2.5 Incorporation of the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions and General Conditions
 - 2.5.1 The approach to the Template Sub-Contract is that the Service Conditions, General Conditions and Definitions of the NHS Standard Contract apply in the Template Sub-Contract wherever possible. This ensures that the obligations on the Head Provider under the NHS Standard Contract flow down to and are incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract and are binding on the Sub-Contractor.
 - 2.5.2 It is therefore essential that the NHS Standard Contract and the Template Sub-Contract are read together. Although on first review, the approach to incorporation in the Template Sub-Contract may seem daunting, it is useful to remember that users will rarely, if ever, read the entire Template Sub-Contract from end to end. We anticipate that individual Conditions will be reviewed only when they need to be referred to.
 - 2.5.3 The way to read the Service Conditions, General Conditions and Definitions in the NHS Standard Contract is through word substitution. The core word substitutions used in the flow-down of terms are set out in Condition 2 of the Sub-Contract Conditions. They adopt a common sense approach. So, for example:
 - (i) Wherever Commissioner is used in the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions and General Conditions this is read as Head Provider for the purpose of the Template Sub-Contract.

- (ii) Wherever Provider is used in the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions and General Conditions this is read as Sub-Contractor for the purpose of the Template Sub-Contract.
- (iii) Wherever Contract is used in the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions and General Conditions this is read as Sub-Contract for the purpose of the Template Sub-Contract.
- (iv) Wherever Services is used in the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions and General Conditions this is read as Sub-Contract Services for the purpose of the Template Sub-Contract.
- 2.6 Terminology under the NHS Standard Contract is as follows



2.7 Terminology under the Template Sub-Contract is as follows



2.8 Worked example

The example below shows how SC1 of the Full Length NHS Standard Contract is read for the purposes of the Template Sub-Contract. The substituted words are in bold and italics in the example.

SC1 – Compliance with the Law and the NHS Constitution

- 1.1 The Provider must provide the Services in accordance with the Fundamental Standards of Care and the Service Specifications. The Provider must perform all of its obligations under this Contract in accordance with:
 - 1.1.1 the terms of this Contract; and
 - 1.1.2 the Law; and
 - 1.1.3 Good Practice.

The Provider must, when requested by the Co-ordinating Commissioner, provide evidence of the development and updating of its clinical process and procedures to reflect Good Practice.

- 1.2 The Commissioners must perform all of their obligations under this Contract in accordance with:
 - 1.1.1 the terms of this Contract; and
 - 1.1.2 the Law; and
 - 1.1.3 Good Practice.
- 1.3 The Parties must abide by and promote awareness of the NHS Constitution, including the rights and pledges set out in it. The Provider must ensure that all Sub-Contractors and all Staff abide by the NHS Constitution.
- 1.4 The Parties must ensure that, in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant, those in the armed forces, reservists, veterans and their families are not disadvantaged in accessing the Services.

Applying word substitution, for the purposes of the Full Length Sub-Contract this becomes:

- 1.1 The *Sub-Contractor* must provide the *Sub-Contract Services* in accordance with the Fundamental Standards of Care and the *Sub-Contract Service Specifications*. The *Sub-Contractor* must perform all of its obligations under this *Sub-Contract* in accordance with:
 - 1.1.1 the terms of this *Sub-Contract*; and
 - 1.1.2 the Law; and
 - 1.1.3 Good Practice.

The **Sub-Contractor** must, when requested by the **Head Provider**, provide evidence of the development and updating of its clinical process and procedures to reflect Good Practice.

1.2 The *Head Provider* must perform all of *its* obligations under this *Sub-Contract* in accordance with:

- 1.1.1 the terms of this **Sub-Contract**, and
 - 1.1.2 the Law; and
 - 1.1.3 Good Practice.
- 1.3 The Parties must abide by and promote awareness of the NHS Constitution, including the rights and pledges set out in it. The *Sub-Contractor* must ensure that all *Sub-Sub-Contractors* and all Staff abide by the NHS Constitution.
- 1.4 The Parties must ensure that, in accordance with the Armed Forces Covenant, those in the armed forces, reservists, veterans and their families are not disadvantaged in accessing the *Sub-Contract Services*.
- 2.9 Sub-Contract Conditions
 - 2.9.1 The basic rule for the Sub-Contract Conditions is that the Service Conditions and General Conditions in the NHS Standard Contract apply to the Template Sub-Contract. However:
 - while the basic rule is that definitions in the NHS Standard Contract apply to the Template Sub-Contract, a few of the definitions in the NHS Standard Contract need rewording in the context of the Template Sub-Contract and are therefore presented as new or amended: see Sub-Contract Condition 2;
 - a few of the Service Conditions and General Conditions in the NHS Standard Contract do not apply as they are not relevant to the Template Sub-Contract: see Sub-Contract Condition 6.1. If the NHS Standard Contract Service Condition or General Condition applies, then it should be read using the rules of construction (i.e. word substitution) summarised above;
 - (iii) a few of the Service Conditions and General Conditions in the NHS Standard Contract are extended to give rights to the Commissioner as well as, or instead of, the Head Provider: see Sub-Contract Condition 6.2;
 - (iv) several of the Service Conditions and General Conditions are amended or have been added to: see Sub-Contract Condition 6.3. If there are any variations or additions, these should be read alongside the NHS Standard Contract Service Condition or General Condition. They can be easily identified as the row headings in Condition 6.3 of the Sub-Contract Conditions signpost the corresponding provision in the NHS Standard Contract; and
 - (v) if the NHS Standard Contract Service Condition or General Condition does not apply to the Template Sub-Contract, check Condition 6.3 in any event to see if any Sub-Contract Service Condition or General Condition applies instead of the corresponding NHS Standard Contract Service Condition or General Condition.

3. Timeframes and notice periods

- 3.1 Approach to timeframes and notice periods Template Sub-Contract
 - 3.1.1 There are a number of obligations in the NHS Standard Contract that must be met within a specified number of days, weeks or months. If the same timeframes flowed down into the Template Sub-Contract then there is a risk that the Head Provider could be in breach of its Head Contract. A similar issue arises regarding notice periods.

- 3.1.2 For example, the Commissioner requests certain information under the NHS Standard Contract and the deadline for providing the information is 10 calendar days. Two days after receipt of the request for information the Head Provider realises this is information that the Sub-Contractor holds. The Head Provider then requests the information from the Sub-Contractor. If the timeframes within the NHS Standard Contract applied, then the Sub-Contractor would have 10 calendar days to provide the information until the 10th day, the Head Provider. If the Sub-Contractor does not provide the information until the 10th day, the Head Provider would then be delivering the information to the Commissioner on the 12th day under the Head Contract and would therefore be in breach of the Head Contract.
- 3.1.3 To ensure consistency with the Head Contract and to enable the Head Provider to comply with its obligations under the Head Contract the time frames and notice periods set out in the NHS Standard Contract have, with some exceptions, in the Template Sub-Contract been reduced or extended (as appropriate) by 20% and are set out in Sub-Contract Condition 6.4.
- 3.2 A few points of clarification Template Sub-Contract
 - 3.2.1 Although the notice periods and timeframes have been increased or decreased to ensure consistency with and enable the Head Provider to comply with the Head Contract, they still do not give the Head Provider a great deal of flexibility. It will be important for the Head Provider to act immediately on all matters where there are deadlines or where notice periods apply. Contract managers will need to be aware of this requirement to act quickly.
 - 3.2.2 These revised timeframes and notice periods apply irrespective of whether the matter relates to the Head Contract. To approach this in any other way would lead to uncertainty between the parties.
 - 3.2.3 There are a few exceptions to the rule. There are some timeframes and notice periods where it is not appropriate to apply the 20% rule. This is primarily because the timescales apply to both parties acting together and it is not possible therefore to amend the provision. If a timeframe or noticed period has not been amended in Sub-Contract Condition 6.4, then the time frame or notice period in the NHS Standard Contract will apply.
 - 3.2.4 The timeframes and notice periods rule only applies as between the Head Provider and the Sub-Contractor. So where obligations are in respect of a third party only, the timeframe will be as set out in the NHS Standard Contract Service Condition or General Condition (e.g. SC7.3.1 of the Full Length Sub-Contract where the obligation is to inform the Service User, Carer or Legal Guardian and GC12.6.1 which ensures payment of Sub-Sub-Contractors by the Sub-Contractor within 30 days).
 - 3.2.5 Similarly where there is an obligation to carry out an action within a certain timeframe but this does not involve the Head Provider then the timeframe will remain as set out in the NHS Standard Contract. Further, where there is a generic statement such as GC20.8, which states that GC20 shall survive expiry or termination for a period of five years, it will remain as drafted in the General Condition.
 - 3.2.6 All references to 'before the start of the Contract Year' and 'during the Contract Year' will be read as drafted.
 - 3.2.7 18 Weeks Information and 18 Weeks Referral-to-Treatment Standard remain as drafted. Similarly all waiting times and treatment times in the Quality Requirements will

remain as set out in the NHS Standard Contract (unless the specific Sub-Contract specifies otherwise).

3.2.8 Any timeframes and notice periods specified in any part of the Template Sub-Contract will be as set out in that Sub-Contract. The 20% construction rule only applies to timeframes and notice periods in the NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions, General Conditions and Definitions as incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract.

4. Key topics in the NHS Standard Contract

4.1 This section sets out how some of the key topics in the NHS Standard Contract are addressed in the Template Sub-Contract.

Approach in the NHS Standard Contract	Approach in the Template Sub-Contract	Some issues to consider when preparing the Template Sub-Contract	
Service Specifications	Service Specifications		
Full Length NHS Standard Contract sets out (a) mandatory headings which must be used but the content is for local determination and (b) optional headings which	Although one of the most important parts of the Template Sub-Contract, parties have total flexibility as to the content.	Schedule 2 of the Full Length Sub-Contract includes guidance notes for consideration when preparing the Sub-Contract Services Specifications.	
are optional for use and the content is for local determination.		There are no guidance notes in the Shorter Form Sub- Contract.	
Shorter Form NHS Standard Contract does not have mandatory headings and parties have total flexibility as to the content.		The Guidance to the NHS Standard Contract also sets out a process for developing the services specification.	
Quality Requirements			
Operational Standards - apply according to service category and are mainly mandatory with a few elements for local	vice Head Contract apply to the	If elements for local determination under the Head Contract do not apply in the Template Sub-Contract this must be stated.	
determination.		To avoid confusion, best practice is to set out all Operational Requirements that apply to the Template Sub-Contract in Schedule 4 of the Template Sub- Contract.	
National Quality Requirements - apply according to service category and are mainly mandatory with a few elements for local	National Quality Requirements in the Head Contract apply to the Sub- Contract according to service category.	To avoid confusion, best practice is to set out all National Quality Requirements that apply to the Template Sub-Contract in Schedule 4 of the Template	

determination.		Sub-Contract.
Local Quality Requirements – for local determination.	Local Quality Requirements – for local determination between Head Provider and Sub-Contractor.	The Head Provider will want to ensure that these mirror those in the Head Contract, as appropriate to the Sub- Contract Services, and should consider any other Local Quality Requirements that may be relevant to the individual Sub-Contractor or should apply across multiple Sub-Contractors.
CQUINs		
National CQUIN goals apply.	National CQUINs are not incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract.	
Local Incentive Schemes to be agreed between Commissioner and Head Provider.	Local Incentive Schemes – to be agreed between Head Provider and Sub-Contractor on a case-by-case basis and set out in Schedule 4E of the Full Length Sub-Contract. These can include flowing down National CQUIN goals to mirror the approach in the Head Contract to incentivisation if required. There are no Local Incentive Schemes in the Shorter Form Sub-Contract.	Where Local Incentive Schemes are included in the Full Length Sub-Contract, remember to include how performance is measured and reported on and the payment process. Particular care should be taken in developing incentive schemes where the Head Provider has subcontracted services under one Head Contract to multiple Sub- Contractors, or the Head Provider and Sub-Contractor deliver services across different parts of the same pathway.
Managing Activity and Referrals		
Activity planning: prior to the start of each contract year, the Parties are expected to agree an Indicative Activity Plan and (under the Full Length NHS Standard Contract) the Commissioner has the option to set Activity Planning Assumptions.	The same approach to the Indicative Activity Plan and (in the case of the Full Length Sub-Contract) Activity Planning Assumptions are taken in the Template Sub- Contract although it will be the Head Provider setting the Activity Planning Assumptions, if required.	Activity planning will not be relevant to all Sub-Contracts and in these circumstances 'not applicable' should be stated in Schedule 2B (and in the case of the Full Length Sub-Contract Schedule 2C) of the Template Sub- Contract. The associated NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions as incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract will then not apply.

Activity management: either party must give early warning of any unexpected or unusual patterns of activity or referrals. Under the Full Length NHS Standard Contract this is then addressed through a range of mechanisms: Activity Query Notice, Joint Activity Review and Activity Management Plan.	The same approach to managing activity is adopted in the Template Sub- Contract, irrespective of whether a Template Sub- Contract sets out an Indicative Activity Plan or Activity Planning Assumptions.	
Prior approval schemes: the Full Length NHS Standard Contract sets out a process for those treatments or services that require Commissioner prior approval. The Shorter Form NHS Standard Contract does not include a prior approval scheme.	If there are any Prior Approval Schemes in the Head Contract that apply to the Sub-Contract Services, then they will form part of the Full Length Sub-Contract.	Consideration should be given to how a Prior Approval Scheme will work in practice.
Reporting Requirements		
Schedule 6A has three sections: National Requirements Reported Centrally, National Requirements Reported Locally and Local Requirements Reported Locally. The first two elements are mandated. The third element is for local agreement.	Parties have total flexibility to agree appropriate reporting requirements on a contract- by-contract basis and the requirements need to be set out in Schedule 6A of the Template Sub-Contract.	The Head Provider should consider all the information it will require both to performance manage the Template Sub-Contract and to be able to report fully under the Head Contract. If the Sub-Contractor is to submit any reports centrally then this must be stated in Schedule 6A of the Template Sub-Contract.
Price and Payment		
National Prices apply where applicable. The right to modify or vary the National Prices in certain circumstances as permitted by the National Tariff.	National Prices do not apply to the Template Sub- Contract and the Head Provider and Sub-Contractor agree their own pricing mechanism.	
Local Prices agreed where the National Tariff does not specify or mandate a National Price.	Parties have total flexibility to negotiate the pricing structure for all Sub- Contracted Services and this is then set out in Schedule 3 of the Template Sub- Contract. The price can	The Parties should consider how the price under the Head Contract might change from year to year and set out a mechanism to vary the price under the Template Sub-Contract. This is

	always be linked to a National Price and or currency if that is seen as appropriate.	particularly important for the Head Provider where the price under the Head Contract could decrease to reflect required efficiency savings.
Invoicing and payment monthly of 1/12 of Expected Annual Contract Value (EACV). Reconciliation process Invoicing and payment monthly in arrears where there is no EACV.	The concept of EACV is not used in the Template Sub- Contract. Invoicing is monthly in arrears within 10 days of end of the relevant month. Payment of undisputed invoices within 30 days of their receipt.	Set out the information the Head Provider will require with each invoice, particularly if there is more than one Commissioner. Do NOT extend the 10 days within which the Sub- Contractor must submit invoices as this could have a detrimental impact on a Head Provider's ability to provide required information to the Commissioner and to comply with reconciliation obligations. If payment is made on the basis of an EACV and therefore there will need to be a reconciliation process, insert appropriate provisions in the Sub-Contract Service Conditions and check the related Definitions in the NHS Standard Contract to ensure they work in the Template Sub-Contract.
Directly Bookable Services		
Under the Full Length NHS Standard Contract, the Provider must describe and publish all relevant services and associated appointment slots in a Directory of Services and ensure services are directly bookable as required by guidance. There is no such obligation in the Shorter Form Standard Contract.	There is no obligation on the Sub-Contractor to produce a Directory of Services or to enable the Sub-Contract Services to be directly bookable. There is, however, an obligation on the Sub- Contractor to provide all information the Head Provider requires regarding appointment slots.	It may be appropriate in some sub-contracting arrangements, particularly for larger value contracts, for the Sub-Contractor to comply with all Choose and Book requirements. In these circumstances in Sub- Contract Service Condition 2 remove reference to SC6.2 and SC6.3. By doing this NHS Standard Contract Service Conditions 6.2 and 6.3 then apply in the Full Length Sub-Contract.
Term and extensions	I	
Commissioners may determine locally the duration	The Template Sub-Contract takes the same approach to	When considering the duration of the Template

of each contract. There is a right to extend the contract on one occasion provided the contract is clear at the time it is entered into that there is a provision to so extend. Guidance also highlights the importance of consistency here with procurement law.	duration and extension.	Sub-Contract the Head Provider should bear in mind: (a) there is a right to terminate the Template Sub- Contract if the Head Contract is terminated or not extended; (b) any changes to the NHS Standard Contract during the term of the Template Sub-Contract are only incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract if they are National Variations; and (c) any changes to the Template Sub-Contract during the term of a signed Template Sub-Contract during the term of a signed Template Sub-Contract will not apply. If Parties want to have the flexibility of extending on more than one occasion then Schedule 1C can be amended. If the Head Provider is subject to procurement law, care should be taken to ensure the approach is consistent with the Head Provider's procurement obligations.
Transfer of Staff		
The Head Provider and any Sub-Contractor must comply with their respective obligations under TUPE if staff are to transfer to them at the start of the contract and if staff transfer to a new provider at the end of the contract. As staff will not transfer either from or to the Commissioner, the TUPE provisions are limited in their scope.	The TUPE provisions in the NHS Standard Contract are incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract. The Standard Sub-Contact has additional provisions regarding staff which apply if (a) employees of the Head Provider transfer to either the Sub-Contractor or a Sub Sub-Contractor at the start of the Template Sub-Contract; and (b) employees of the Sub-Contractor or a Sub- Sub-Contractor or a Sub- Sub-Contractor or a Sub- Sub-Contractor transfer to the Head Provider at the end of the Template Sub- Contract. (TUPE provisions are provided separately for the Shorter Form Sub-Contract, for inclusion if necessary, at https://www.england.nhs.uk/n	

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	hs-standard-contract/20-21/)	
Data Processing and GDPR		
The Head Provider must ensure that, where the Sub- Contractor is appointed to act as data processor or sub- processor under the Sub- Contract, that Schedule 6F is incorporated into the Sub- Contract.	The provisions in the NHS Standard Contract relating to GDPR are incorporated into the Template Sub-Contract. Schedule 6F to the Sub- Contract applies only where the Sub-Contractor is appointed to act as a data processor or sub-processor under the Sub-Contract.	Schedule 6F includes guidance notes on its use and how to complete Annex A. Further information is also provided in the <u>NHS</u> <u>Standard Contract Technical</u> <u>Guidance</u>
	Where the Head Provider is acting as data controller under the Head Contract, the Head Provider may appoint the Sub-Contractor to act as a data processor in relation to the relevant data.	
	Where the Head Provider is appointed to act as a data processor by one or more Commissioners under the Head Contract, it may appoint the Sub-Contractor to act as sub-processor under the Sub-Contract.	
	Schedule 6F should be populated if and as applicable.	
	(Schedule 6F is provided separately for the Shorter Form Sub-Contract, for inclusion if necessary, at <u>https://www.england.nhs.uk/n</u> <u>hs-standard-contract/20-21/</u>)	

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Equality and diversity are at the heart of NHS England's values. Throughout the development of the policies and processes cited in this document, we have given due regard to the need to:

- reduce health inequalities in access and outcomes of healthcare services integrate services where this might reduce health inequalities
- eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
- advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic (as cited in under the Equality Act 2010) and those who do not share it.

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