

Terms and Conditions for room hire and additional services

Definitions:

'Agreement' means the agreement between the Customer and The Royal Society for the Package (as defined below) incorporating these Terms and Conditions and the order setting out the details in writing of the Package.

'The Royal Society' means The Royal Society whose registered office is 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y5AG.

'The Venue' shall be the Royal Society offices at 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG.

'The Customer' means the Company, Institution, Organisation or Individual on whose behalf this legally binding Agreement is made.

'Charges' means the amounts payable by the Customer for the hire of a room or rooms, consumables and Audio Visual/Media services as agreed in between the parties, including the Pre-Booked Charges and any additional Charges payable in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

'The Event' means the function, conference or special occasion to take place at the Venue, the date of which has been agreed by the parties and at which The Royal Society is engaged to provide the Services.

'The Caterer' is CH&CO Limited or any other caterer who is contracted by The Royal Society to provide catering services at the Venue.

'Consumables' means the food, drink, wines and spirits supplied at the Event.

'Hire Period' means the period of time to hire room or rooms for the Event as agreed between The Royal Society and the Customer.

'Package' means the combined services (including, without limitation, room hire, catering services and Audio Visual/Media services) supplied by The Royal Society to the Customer.

'Pre-Booked Charges' means the amount of set Charges quoted by The Royal Society at the time of booking, or where no charge is quoted, the charge listed in The Royal Society's published price list at the date of acceptance of the Customer's booking.

1) ROOM HIRE

a) Any rooms or areas of The Royal Society made available to the Customer are by agreement with The Royal Society and are subject to payment by the Customer of the Charges.

b) Applications for venue hire will be accepted only if the nature of the function is considered appropriate by The Royal Society and in sympathy with the ethos of the Royal Society and that the function is to promote science, technology, education or scholarship. The Royal Society reserves the right to refuse a booking.

c) The Customer will ensure that the Event will not be conducted and that its guests will not behave in a way which will or may constitute a breach of the law or cause a nuisance or be an infringement of any rights or licences held by The Royal Society. In particular (but without limitation) the Customer shall ensure that there is no betting or gaming during the Event.

d) The Royal Society reserves the right to exclude or eject any persons from the Event, whom it reasonably considers to be objectionable (including any person engaged by the Customer to provide entertainment or perform any other duties at the Event). The Customer will be liable for any liability arising thereby and shall indemnify The Royal Society accordingly save where the Customer establishes negligence or bad faith by The Royal Society.

e) At the end of the Hire Period the Customer shall remove from the Venue anything which the Customer has brought into the Venue for the purposes of or in connection with the Event and shall ensure that all rooms used are clean, undamaged and free from rubbish.

f) If, in the opinion of The Royal Society, the Customer has failed to comply with paragraph 1(e) above, The Royal Society may, in place of the Customer but at the Customer's expense, do all that is necessary to comply with that paragraph.

g) Items can be sent in 48 hours prior to the Event by the provided delivery template. All left over items need to be packed up and labelled with the collection template and to be collected within 48 hours after the Event. A collection template will be provided. The Royal Society reserves the right to charge £50 (+VAT) per day for storage for items left over 48 hours within the building. The Royal Society reserves the right to dispose accordingly of any items left over after 48 hours and charge £300 (+VAT) for the disposal.

h) The Royal Society holds a liquor licence which is valid until 23:00 hours. If an entertainment or occasional licence is required for the Event, at least 6 weeks' prior written notice will be required and an appropriate charge will be made. The Royal Society reserves the right as its absolute discretion to decline applying for an entertainment or occasional licence.

i) The Royal Society reserves the right to turn down or cancel the entertainment, if, in the opinion of the Royal Society, the Event is too loud and/or may cause or is causing disturbance to other users of the Venue.

j) The Royal Society reserves the right to withdraw the use of The Royal Society event spaces if, in the opinion of The Royal Society, the Customer has misrepresented the purpose of the booking. The Customer may not sub-let or further offer for hire any accommodation.

2) ATTENDEES

a) At the time of booking the Customer shall provide details of the guaranteed minimum number of persons attending the Event on the front page of these Terms and Conditions.

b) The Customer shall confirm the expected numbers attending not less than 7 working days (Monday-Friday, excluding bank holidays) prior to the Event and final catering numbers no less than 5 working days prior to the Event. Charges for the Services will be based on that number or the number actually attending, if greater. If The Royal Society provides the Package for any number less than the guaranteed minimum number, The Royal Society's Charges based on the guaranteed minimum number previously advised will nevertheless apply in full.

c) The Customer agrees to commence the Event promptly at the time agreed with The Royal Society and to procure that those persons present at the Event vacate the room designated for it at the time stated on the booking form.

d) The Royal Society reserves the right to charge additional fees where evening events overrun. This may include, if an event overruns past 23.00 hours, an additional £1000 per hour or part thereof plus taxi fares for staff provided for the Event by The Royal Society.

e) The Customer shall ensure that those attending the Event are ready to be served their food at the time agreed and that meals are completed

within any pre-agreed time period.

f) The Customer agrees to reimburse all expenses incurred by The Royal Society resulting from the Customer's breach of its obligations hereunder including (without limitation) any additional payments to staff.

3) CHARGES

a) All Charges for the Package will be the Pre-Booked Charges plus any amounts made to adjust the Charges in accordance with these Terms and Conditions.

b) All Charges are subject to Value Added Tax at the current rate.

c) All payments are required in pounds Sterling.

d) The Royal Society reserves the right to require a deposit payable at the time of booking such deposit being equal to 50% of the estimated total of the catering cost and the room hire charge payable to The Royal Society (the "Deposit"). The Deposit and room hire charge are non-refundable and the balance amount will be payable as specified on the order page of this Agreement. A booking will not be considered confirmed until The Royal Society has received a signed Agreement and the designated Deposit and the portion of the Charges designated as the room hire charge (or, where Charges are based on a day delegate rate, such attributable Charges) have been paid in full. Time for payment of the amounts due is of the essence and The Royal Society reserves the right to cancel the provision of any parts of the Package for which corresponding Charges have not been paid by the due dates.

e) Without limitation, The Royal Society reserves the right to make additional Charges for Events commencing before or running on beyond the times stated on the order page of this Agreement (please see paragraph 2(d) above).

f) Customers shall pay the balance of any Charges over and above the amounts due pursuant to paragraph 3(a) above within 30 days of the invoice date. The Royal Society reserves the right to charge interest on overdue amounts above 30 days at a rate of 4% per annum above the base rate of Bank of England for the time being.

g) All queries relating to amounts invoiced must be notified in writing to The Royal Society within 7 days of the date of the Event invoice.

h) If the Customer fails to make payment of any Charges on the due date then, without prejudice to any other rights or remedy available to The Royal Society, The Royal Society shall without liability to the Customer, be entitled to cancel the provision of the Services and any orders for future Services from the Customer and charge the Customer for any Charges outstanding and the cost of recovery thereof.

4) CONSUMABLES

a) The Royal Society currently provides catering services through its catering contractor Harbour & Jones Limited. The Caterer has the sole right to the provision of the Services at The Royal Society and no consumables may be brought into the venue by the Customer or its guests without the prior written consent of the Royal Society. Where, with The Royal Society's consent, Customers consume their own beverages a corkage charge shall be applied.

b) All pre ordered beverages are non-refundable. Additional beverages are sold on a sale or return basis and The Royal Society reserves the right to charge for all opened bottles, notwithstanding the fact that they have not been consumed.

c) When Consumables are charged on a consumption basis, the Customer shall check the opening and closing of stocks of Consumables in the presence of The Royal Society's representative(s). In the event of a Customer refusing, failing or delaying to do so, the figures recorded by The Royal Society shall be conclusive.

d) It is the Customer's responsibility to notify The Royal Society of its authorised representative(s) for the Event and to ensure that all orders of Consumables are signed for by the authorised representative of the Customer. Where the Customer fails to notify The Royal Society of its authorised representative(s) or orders are placed by persons other than a Customer's authorised representative, the figures recorded by the Royal Society shall be conclusive and the Customer shall be bound to pay the charges for the Services. The Royal Society will not accept any adjustments to the Charges unless this procedure is followed.

e) All Consumables offered are subject to availability. Where Consumables are not available, reasonable endeavours will be made to offer the closest available substitute.

5) AUDIO VISUAL/ MEDIA SERVICES

a) The Royal Society reserves the right to surcharge for amendments to requirements made within three working days of the commencement of the Hire Period.

b) The Audio Visual department's hours of operation are between 08.00 and 18.00. Technician rates outside of these hours will be quoted £75+ VAT per hour per technician.

c) Any equipment hired to the Customer will be operated during the Event by staff employed by The Royal Society, except as provided in paragraph 5(d).

d) With the written approval of The Royal Society, equipment hired for use in the Venue may be operated during the Event by the Customer or its/his/her authorised agent.

e) The Customer agrees to make good any damage or loss to equipment which is operated in accordance with paragraph 5(d) by the Customer or his/her authorised agent.

f) The Royal Society agrees to use reasonable endeavours to find a suitable replacement for any equipment hired to the Customer which is

found to be defective.

g) Customers are not permitted to bring any electrical equipment into the building unless it bears a valid Portable Appliance Test Certificate.

h) The Royal Society reserves the right to substitute alternative equipment and/or services where original equipment and/or services are unobtainable or are not able to be used.

i) Additional equipment and/or services requested immediately prior to, or during an Event must be signed for by the Customer or authorised signatory on an additional request form, on which the estimated additional Charges will be clearly shown.

j) The Royal Society will not accept responsibility for disruption and inconvenience to, or the ruination of an Event and/or presentation where sub-standard materials and/or poor quality video playback material, have been presented to a technician for projection.

k) The Customer agrees that The Royal Society will not be responsible for failure to notify speakers or presenters of the minimum acceptable standards, or failure to gain their precise requirements, or for the unforeseen requirements of late arriving speakers and/or slide/video users.

l) Production companies working with The Royal Society staff and equipment as third party suppliers will be required to sign a document stating the clear line of authority throughout the Hire Period and must deal entirely with The Royal Society Audio Visual Manager and/or designated authority. The Customer agrees that any person employed or authorised by him/her to deal with any equipment or service in relation to the Event shall comply with any direction or instruction given to him/her in relation to the use of any equipment by the staff employed by the Venue.

m) The Customer agrees to make good any damage or loss to equipment which is operated in accordance with paragraph 5(l) by the Customer's production company.

n) The Royal Society agrees to use reasonable endeavours to provide the equipment and perform the services specified in relation to the Event. The Royal Society does not however accept any liability for any failure to provide equipment or perform services where that failure is beyond the reasonable control of The Royal Society.

o) The Royal Society does not accept any liability for any loss or damage which arises directly or indirectly out of the use of the equipment or the performance of such equipment, unless such loss arises from the negligence of The Royal Society staff. The Customer agrees to indemnify The Royal Society against any third party claim in respect of any such loss or damage.

p) Hired equipment remains at all times the property of The Royal Society. The Customer shall not sell, or offer for sale, assign, mortgage or pledge the equipment or any part or parts thereof and the Customer will keep the equipment in their own possession for their own use and will not allow any lien or other encumbrance to be created in respect of the same.

q) The Customer shall be responsible for any software and hardware provided by them for use in Events and The Royal Society will be responsible for any software and hardware provided by them for use in Events.

6) CANCELLATION BY THE ROYAL SOCIETY

The Royal Society may cancel the provision of the Services to an Event and forthwith terminate this Agreement and the rights granted to the Customer if:-

a) The Royal Society or part of The Royal Society has to be closed for reasons beyond The Royal Society's control; or

b) The Customer is already in arrears with any payment due to The Royal Society and/or

c) The Customer is in breach of any of these Terms and Conditions and/or The Royal Society's Terms and Conditions of Hire (if any) and fails to rectify such breach within 7 days of written request so to do by The Royal Society; or

d) The Customer becomes insolvent or enters into liquidation or receivership or is subject to any similar process or is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of Section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986 or any statutory modification or re-enactment thereof; or

e) The Customer (being an individual) is adjudicated bankrupt or dies.

7. CANCELLATION BY THE CUSTOMER

a) Unless agreed otherwise between the parties in writing, A confirmed booking shall only be deemed to be cancelled when The Royal Society receives written notification of the cancellation from the Customer before the agreed date of the Event (in which case, paragraphs 7(a) and 7(b) shall apply).

b) Unless agreed otherwise between the parties in writing, where a Customer cancels the provision of the Services in accordance with paragraph 7(a), in addition to loss of the Deposit, the Customer shall pay to The Royal Society the following charges in respect of the Services (credit being given for the amount of the Deposit paid):-

Notice of cancellation received for Events taking place in the Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall -

Less than 7 days prior to Event - 100% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Between 8-30 days prior to Event - 90% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Between 31-60 days prior to Event - 70% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Between 61-100 days prior to Event - 50% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Between 101 – 180 days prior to Event - 30% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Between 181 – 270 days prior to the Event – 20% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Notice of cancellation received for Events taking place other than in the Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall -

Less than 7 days prior to Event - 100% of the Pre-Booked Charges

Between 8-30 days prior to Event - 80% of the Pre-Booked Charges
Between 31-60 days prior to Event - 60% of the Pre-Booked Charges
Between 61-100 days prior to Event - 40% of the Pre-Booked Charges
Between 101 – 180 days prior to Event - 20% of the Pre-Booked Charges

c) Where a room hire booking is cancelled for any reason less than 9 months before the Event and The Royal Society hires all or some of the rooms previously booked for the Event by the Customer for the whole or part of the Hire Period to some other customer, then such room hire charge paid by that other person shall be refunded by The Royal Society to the Customer save that the said refund shall be limited to a maximum of (50%) of the Charges in respect of the room hire only.

8. LIABILITY

a) The Royal Society shall not be liable to the Customer by reason of any delay in performing or any failure to perform any of The Royal Society's obligations in relation to the Services if such delay or failure is due to any cause beyond The Royal Society's reasonable control including (without limitation) Government intervention, strikes, acts of God, national or local disasters or war or any event causing the whole or part of The Royal Society to be closed to the public. In such circumstances the charges payable by the Customer may be subject to abatement by a fair and reasonable apportionment.

b) Subject to paragraph 8(g) and to the extent described at paragraphs 5(o) and 8(c), The Royal Society will not be liable for any losses, claims, demands, actions, proceedings, damages, costs or expenses or other liability incurred by the Customer in the exercise of the rights granted by this agreement.

c) Without limitation to the paragraph 8(g), The Royal Society does not accept liability for loss or damage to any object, equipment, furniture, stock or other property of any sort brought onto the premises by the Customer or their guests or hired by The Royal Society on the Customer's behalf howsoever such loss or damage may occur unless as a direct result of The Royal Society's negligence. All such property will remain under the care and control of the Customer and is entirely at the Customer's own risk.

d) The Customer shall be liable for any loss or damage caused to the Venue and the property, furnishings, paintings or objects in the Venue by any act or omission of the Customer, its sub-contractors or guests of the Customer, and shall pay to The Royal Society on demand the amount required to remedy any such damage.

e) Subject to paragraph 8(g), The Royal Society shall not be liable to the Customer for consequential, indirect or special losses.

f) Subject to paragraph 8(g), the total liability of The Royal Society to the Customer shall not exceed the Charges payable by the Customer for the Package.

g) Notwithstanding any other provision of the agreement, the liability of the parties shall not be limited in any way in respect of the following:

(i) death or personal injury caused by negligence;

(ii) fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation;

(iii) any other losses which cannot be excluded or limited by applicable law.

8A. Effect of COVID-19

a) Both parties acknowledge the ongoing impact COVID-19 pandemic in the UK (the 'Pandemic') and accept the need to comply with recommended or mandatory measures which may be currently in place or which may be introduced by the UK Government intended to prevent or delay the spread of the Pandemic, and that either or both parties may be affected by, among others, absences or unavailability of staff, loss of, or disruption to, facilities, and illness, quarantining, shielding or self-isolation (including, but not limited to, precautionary self-isolation) of staff and contractors (together 'Pandemic Effects').

b) The Royal Society monitors government guidelines continuously through this period and will update the client regularly.

c) The parties agree to communicate without delay any issues they may have in performing their obligations under this Agreement as a result of Pandemic Effects.

d) The Customer acknowledges that Pandemic Effects may require The Royal Society to take one or more of the following measures to comply with applicable laws or guidance and/or for the safety of the Venue staff and the safety of delegates attending the event to which this booking relates:

(i) impose maximum delegate numbers at the Event;

(ii) limit food or drink availability;

(iii) impose specific requirements regarding personal protective equipment such as the wearing of masks;

(iv) restrict the numbers of overnight stays if applicable;

(v) limit any planned entertainment for your event; and/or

(vi) designate alternative entrance and exit routes.

If, subject to paragraph 8A(f) the circumstances described in paragraph 8A(c)(i) to (vi) apply, The Royal Society may (but shall not be obliged to) revise Charges previously agreed.

e) If The Royal Society is obliged due to specific Government restrictions, to close the Venue, the Royal Society may offer the client an alternative

date for the event but if that cannot be agreed, the booking will be deemed cancelled and the Deposit [and any other amounts pre-paid by the Customer] will be returned in full with no further payment required.

f) If Pandemic Effects are, in the reasonable opinion of either party, likely to result in a material change to the operation or nature of the Event, either party may serve notice of cancellation as soon as possible before the Event and in any event at least ten days before the Event unless Government restrictions are introduced at short notice ten days or less before the Event whereupon the Event may be cancelled with immediate effect. In such circumstances, the Deposit [and any other amounts pre-paid by the Customer] will be returned in full with no further payment required.

9. HEALTH AND SAFETY

a) The Customer must take instructions from The Royal Society's Events Manager (or the nominated deputy for the occasion) and, while Events are in progress. For events with over 100 guests The Royal Society reserves the right to provide extra security and charge the customer. The Royal Society staff on duty will assume full control of evacuation in the event that any security matter including bomb, fire or the behaviour of those attending warrants such action.

b) Security staff positioned in The Royal Society provide an initial response to incidents and a security presence for The Royal Society. Dedicated personal security provision for the Customer and their equipment can only be provided if The Royal Society has been notified and additional security has been booked. Any invitee requiring a high level of personal security (including members of the Royal Family, Foreign Dignitaries and Government Ministers) must be notified to The Royal Society at the time of the booking.

c) The Customer must comply with all the Venue's Health and Safety regulations. The Customer shall notify The Royal Society immediately on becoming aware of any accident or injury occurring at the Venue. Where an event requires the provision of special services, e.g. additional electrical services, the Customer shall comply with any additional safety requirements imposed by The Royal Society. Blocking of access routes will not be permitted while delivering, setting up or breaking down for events.

d) In accordance with paragraph 5(g), all electrical equipment brought into the Venue must have a current Portable Appliance Test (PAT) Certificate. This must be presented to the Events Manager on the day of the event. In the absence of a Certificate, the Customer shall be obliged to use the equipment on site, should it be available, and will be charged accordingly. The Royal Society accepts no responsibility for any disruption to an event should equipment not be available.

e) The Customer shall not use or allow to be used any gas-supplied heaters, helium balloons, naked flames or anything similar in any part of the Venue.

10. INSURANCE

a) The Customer shall take out before the Event and maintain during the Hire Period public liability insurance in respect of its liabilities under these Terms and Conditions and for an amount of cover not less than ten million pounds sterling.

b) The Customer shall, at the request of The Royal Society, produce before the Event a certificate of such insurance for inspection by The Royal Society.

c) The Customer shall not do anything which will or might vitiate in whole or in part any insurance effected in respect of the Venue from time to time

11. GENERAL

a) The Customer shall not use the "The Royal Society" logo in any of its advertising or publicity for the Event without the prior written approval of The Royal Society. The Customer will ensure that advertising and publicity material for the Event does not imply that the Event is endorsed or organised by The Royal Society without the prior written approval of The Royal Society. If the client uses any publicity or marketing material (web based or print) the following sentence must be added:

"This event is not organized or endorsed by the Royal Society."

Two printed invitations (or equivalent documentation) and any supporting information together with a guest list must be made available to the Events Manager at least 5 working days prior to the Event. The guest list is for Health and Safety purposes and will be destroyed immediately after the event.

b) No variation to these Terms and Conditions shall be effective unless agreed in writing and signed on behalf of The Royal Society and the Customer.

c) Any notices to be given under these Terms and Conditions must be given in writing and delivered personally or sent by pre-paid recorded delivery or registered post or scanned and sent by email to the addresses of the parties stated on the front page of these Terms and Conditions.

d) These Terms and Conditions shall prevail over any Conditions offered by the Customer. No terms or conditions endorsed on, delivered with, or contained in the Customer's purchase conditions, order, confirmation of order, specification or other document shall form part of the Agreement between The Royal Society and the Customer except to the extent that The Royal Society otherwise agrees in writing.

e) The Customer may not assign, transfer or sub-contract its rights and/or obligations under these Terms and Conditions without the prior written consent of The Royal Society.

f) If the expression the Customer includes more than one person those persons shall be jointly and severally liable under these Terms and Conditions.

g) These Terms and Conditions shall be governed and construed in accordance with English Law and each party agrees to submit to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the English Courts as regards any claim or matter arising.

h) The Royal Society is a non-smoking venue and e-cigarettes must not be used within the Venue. This policy will be strictly enforced.

i) No alterations may be made to the appearance of the hired space without the prior agreement of the Events Manager. Affixing to walls/surfaces is not permitted. The Events Manager reserves the right to remove any unauthorised items and charge at cost for any damage incurred.

j) All deliveries must be pre-arranged within the agreed hire period. Details of the companies making deliveries and of the delivered items must be provided to the Events Manager at least 24 hours in advance of the Event.

k) The Customer acknowledges that no relationship of landlord and tenant is created between the Customer and The Royal Society by this Agreement and that The Royal Society retains control possession and management of the Venue and the Customer has no right to exclude The Royal Society from the Venue.

l) The customer details or any guest lists supplied to the Royal Society are part of the event booking and will be held in accordance with the Royal Society privacy policy which can be accessed online on: <https://royalsociety.org/about-us/terms-conditions-policies/privacy-policy/>

m) The Customer agrees and undertakes:

(i) to indemnify The Royal Society and keep The Royal Society indemnified against all losses, claims, demands, actions, proceedings, damages, costs, expenses or other liability in any way incurred by The Royal Society arising from any loss or damage to the Venue or its contents caused by the Customer, its staff, sub-contractors and Event attendees, or any breach by the Customer of its obligations and agreements pursuant to this agreement.