MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
BETWEEN

THE DIGITAL AGENCY OF JAPAN
AND
THE GOVERNMENT DIGITAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

IN THE AREA OF DIGITAL GOVERNMENT

The Digital Agency of Japan and the Government Digital Service (GDS) of the United Kingdom Government, hereinafter referred to individually as a "Participant" and collectively as "the Participants", have reached the following common recognition:

This Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) recognises that:

(i) The Digital Agency is committed to realising the opportunity of digital innovation to support more widespread adoption of digital tools, to better serve the people of Japan.

(ii) The Government Digital Service (GDS) is working to create a digital government in the UK based on user needs. Its mission is to build a simple, joined-up and personalised experience of government for everyone. It is building on openness and transparency to strengthen people's trust in government and deliver digital public services. By doing so, it is changing the way the UK Government provides services – saving money, supporting growth and building the country's digital economy.

SECTION 1
Cooperation

1. The Participants have come to the following mutual recognition:

    a. With a view to assisting each other to become better at what they do, the Participants will focus their cooperation in the following areas:
        I. User-centred design and design system
        II. Digital procurement reform
        III. Digital skills and capability
        IV. Digital governance, standards and assurance
        V. Digital government services, including common components like online payments and messaging platforms
        VI. Tech and government cloud

VII. Application and utilisation of AI in the public sector
VIII. Cybersecurity

b. The Participants will exchange information, experience and lessons learnt on digital government transformation and reforming traditional approaches to technology.

SECTION 2
Principles

2. The Participants endeavour to work towards and conduct their activities based on principles of:

a. User-centred design—designing digital government services to serve the needs of citizens and businesses.
b. Supporting open, inclusive and transparent government—including promoting open standards and open source technology; and
c. Embedding accessibility into service design and delivery.

SECTION 3
Financial arrangements

3. The Participants will jointly decide on a case-by-case basis how initiatives will be funded and resourced. The Participants may designate other institutions or organisations to lead on activities decided by mutual consent as appropriate. Each Participant will remain liable for any losses or bear liabilities incurred due to their own or their employees' actions and neither Participant intends that the other will be liable for any loss it suffers as a result of this MoC.

SECTION 4
Confidentiality

4. Any information produced as the result of the cooperative activities carried out under this MoC will be used exclusively by the Participants. Such information may only be disclosed by a Participant:

a. With the prior written consent of the other Participant; or
b. To the minimum extent that Participant is required to do so by applicable law or by order of a court or as required by the rules and regulations of any regulatory body or any enquiry or investigation by any governmental, parliamentary or official body which has the power to compel disclosure.

SECTION 5
Non-legally Binding

5. This MoC does not constitute or create, and is not intended to constitute or create any legally enforceable rights or obligations, including financial rights or obligations, whether under international or domestic law.

SECTION 6
Resolution of Differences

6. Any difference about the interpretation or application of this MoC will be resolved by consultations between the Participants, and will not be referred to any national or international tribunal or third party for settlement.

SECTION 7
Duration, Commencement and Discontinuation

7. This MoC will commence on the date of the signature of both Participants and will continue, at the discretion of the Participants, for three (3) years.

8. Thereafter, it will automatically be renewed for successive one (1) year periods, unless either Participant gives six (6) months' prior written notice to the other Participant of its intention not to renew this MoC.

9. The Participants may modify this MoC upon their mutual written consent.

10. A Participant may discontinue this MoC for any reason by giving three (3) months' written notice to the other Participant.

Signed in duplicate on 28 October 2026 in English.

SHIOZAKI Akihisa, State Minister for Digital Transformation For the Digital Agency of Japan	Baroness Mackenzie of Sherwood CBE Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State (Minister for Arts and Museums) in the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland