

## Umbrella Preferred Supplier List (“PSL”) FAQ for Contractors

### 1. Why does InterQuest Group have a PSL in place for Umbrella Providers?

Following the guidance provided in the Government’s 2015 autumn statement and as a result of continual changes in legislation in the industry, most recently the IR35 reform in April 2020, it is important for Umbrella providers to ensure they provide solutions that are compliant and legal. In addition, the Criminal Finance Act requires all organisations to maintain fully compliant supply chains, with heavy penalties for those that do not. There are a vast range of Umbrella service providers in the UK. By selecting a small number of leading UK Umbrella organisations for our PSL, InterQuest Group aims to minimise the legal and tax risk exposure for our contractors, clients and our business.

### 2. Who does this affect?

This PSL applies to all contract engagements in the UK. It does not yet apply to contractors who work overseas.

### 3. I do not want to change my current umbrella provider to InterQuest Group approved PSL umbrella organisation.

Unfortunately we cannot accept contract workers who operate through an Umbrella provider that is not on the approved PSL. Prior to you starting your assignment through InterQuest you will be asked to change your Umbrella provider and use one of our selected PSL organisations. There is typically no charge for setting up with a new provider.

### 4. Why can InterQuest Group not add the umbrella provider I use to the PSL?

Membership of the PSL is reviewed annually with the next review period in January 2021, although we do reserve the right to change the PSL from time to time. This includes when a provider does not pass our compliance audits and spot checks or does not adhere to FCSA standards. Unless an umbrella has joined our PSL, we cannot engage with them.

### 5. What are the benefits of the PSL for me as a contractor?

By operating through one of InterQuest Group’s approved PSL Umbrella organisations, you should feel reassured that you are receiving some of the best, compliant services available in the UK market. Some Umbrellas may state that they can provide solutions that minimise personal tax contributions. It should be noted that take home pay (net earnings) should be the same whichever provider you use. The Umbrella organisation does not dictate the method for which you are taxed as this is governed by HMRC and their rules should be universally applied.

### 6. I am not happy with the services provided by my current Umbrella provider, who should I speak to?

These umbrella organisations are not linked to InterQuest Group so you should speak with the Account Manager of the specific umbrella provider you have engaged. If your complaint is not dealt with to your satisfaction you can provide comments to our Contracts Administration team and we will try to assist [email address for contracts admin].