

The Group intends this statement to satisfy any statutory responsibilities it may have to disclose its approach to the management of taxes. In particular, this statement complies with the UK disclosure requirement under Paragraph 16 Schedule 19 of the UK 2016 Finance Act. This Strategy applies to the financial year ending 31 December 2023.

Tax Policy Statement

We are committed to compliance with tax law and practice in the UK. Compliance for us means paying the amount of tax we are legally obliged to pay and doing so in the right place, at the right time. It involves disclosing all relevant facts and circumstances to the UK tax authorities in ways that reflect the economic reality of the transactions we undertake, and claiming appropriate reliefs and incentives where available.

Risk management

The level of risk that we accept in relation to UK tax is consistent with our overall objective of achieving certainty in the Group's tax affairs. At all times, we seek to comply fully with our regulatory and other obligations, and to act in a way that upholds our core values and reputation as a responsible corporate citizen. We see compliance with tax legislation as key to managing tax risk, and understand the importance of tax in the wider context of business decisions.

Processes have been put in place to ensure tax is considered as part of our overall decision-making processes, with tax risks managed by local finance teams and escalated through to appropriate levels of management and, ultimately, to the Board when necessary.

Tax planning

In structuring our commercial activities, we will always consider – among other factors – the relevant tax laws. We believe that it is fair to mitigate tax using generally available reliefs in the spirit in which they are intended. However, any tax planning that we undertake will have commercial and economic substance and we will not use aggressive tax planning or enter into complicated tax avoidance schemes.

Although for commercial reasons we may trade with customers and suppliers genuinely located in countries considered to be tax havens, we will not use such jurisdictions for the purpose of avoiding tax, nor will we seek to take advantage of the secrecy afforded to transactions recorded in these jurisdictions.

Engaging with HMRC

We aim to have a good working relationship with HMRC. We will engage with honesty and integrity, and in a spirit of cooperative compliance. We will make all returns and pay tax on a timely basis, across all types of tax.

The Board will review the policy, and our compliance with it, on an annual basis.

Approved by the Board on the 13th December 2023.
