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Anti-facilitation of Tax Evasion policy

Introduction

Integrity and transparency are of utmost importance to the Erith Group and we conduct our business to the highest legal and ethical standards. We are aware of the laws in place relating to tax evasion, including the Criminal Finances Act 2017, and we take our responsibilities seriously. We understand that failure to prevent the facilitation of tax evasion, whether committed by Erith Group employees or by third parties acting for or on behalf of the Erith Group, renders the Company liable to criminal sanctions including an unlimited fine.

This policy applies to our entire workforce and also those who work on behalf of us or provide services to our organisation including employees, directors, workers including agency workers, volunteers, contractors, consultants and any other party with whom the Company does business.

Tax evasion

Tax evasion is the practice of using illegal methods to avoid paying tax. It involves deliberate and dishonest conduct and is not the same as tax avoidance. It frequently involves contrived, artificial transactions that serve no purpose other than to reduce tax liability.

The following non-exhaustive list contains indicators of tax evasion:

- requests for cash payment.
- overly complex payment mechanisms.
- transactions involving overly complex supply chains.
- transactions involving private banking facilities.
- incomplete or non-standard invoices or other records relating to the payment of tax.
- making false statements in relation to the payment of tax or failure to register with relevant bodies tasked with ensuring tax compliance.
- failure to register for VAT.
- any individual or supplier asking to be paid gross when they should be paid net.

Policy

Tax evasion and facilitating the evasion of tax are criminal offences. Both acts will damage our reputation and the confidence of our customers, suppliers and business partners.

The Company will not be party to tax evasion or the facilitation of tax evasion of any form. We take a zero-tolerance approach to the facilitation of tax evasion and are committed to:

- rejecting the facilitation of tax evasion and
- not recommending the services of others who do not have reasonable prevention procedures in place.

Individual responsibilities

It is strictly prohibited for any employee or person working on our behalf or in connection with us to take part in any activity, directly or indirectly, relating to tax evasion or the facilitation of tax evasion.

You must not:

- undertake any action which facilitates tax evasion, or
- aid or abet any action of tax evasion.

You are required to report any behaviour which reasonably leads you to believe that tax evasion or the facilitation of tax evasion is occurring in any way which is connected to the Company.

Where we have reason to believe that you have breached any obligation under this policy, action will be taken which is appropriate to our relationship with you. This includes the instigation of a disciplinary procedure, or the termination of our contractual arrangement with you.

Reporting concerns

You must notify the Erith Group Compliance Manager, email: compliance@erith.com at the earliest stage if you suspect that tax evasion or the facilitation of tax evasion may be occurring. The failure to report a suspicion, of itself, may constitute an offence of facilitation of tax evasion. Therefore, we strongly encourage the reporting of concerns.

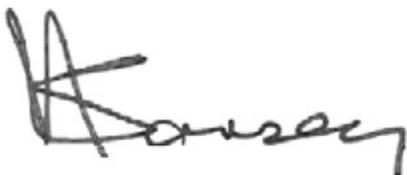
Once reported, an investigation will be carried out. As part of the investigation, you may need to give an account of your suspicions including names, dates and any other pertinent information.

Detriment

No individual who reports a concern relating to tax evasion or facilitation of tax evasion under this policy, or the Company's whistleblowing policy, will be subjected to detrimental treatment. Additionally, no individual will be subjected to detrimental treatment because they have refused to take part in any behaviour which is prohibited by the policy.

Training and review

The Company will ensure that all relevant individuals are provided with appropriate training in relation to financial crime detection and prevention. The Company will ensure it monitors and enforces compliance with the prevention procedures and will regularly review the effectiveness of the prevention procedures in place.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Darsey'.

Signed for and on behalf of the Executive Board
Steven Darsey, Chairman

30th April 2023