

Fortem Building Materials Limited

UK Tax Strategy

Background

The publication of this UK Tax Strategy statement is regarded as satisfying the statutory obligation under Para 22(2), Schedule 19, Finance Act 2016. "The Company" refers to Fortem Building Materials Limited.

Overview of Internal Governance

The Company's tax strategy, which covers both the internal governance of tax matters and the approach to tax, is approved by the Board.

Tax is primarily the responsibility of the Chief Financial Officer who sits on the ultimate Parent's Board. Day to day tax matters are delegated to the Group Finance Director and the Financial Controllers across the Company, along with a team of in house professionals who hold a combination of qualifications and experience appropriate to their roles and the assigned tax responsibilities. Company staff have access to online tax libraries as well as HMRC's own online material. In addition, a number of tax functions are outsourced to independent third-party tax professionals.

The Chief Financial Officer and Group Finance Director hold regular meetings with external tax professionals to ensure the Company continues to comply with best practice.

The Group Finance Director in conjunction with the Financial Controllers ensure that adequate controls are in place so that the correct amount of taxes are identified and paid on a timely basis.

Approach to risk management

All Board meetings are attended by either the Chief Financial Officer or Group Finance Director and there is a standing item to provide any updates on significant tax risks and developments.

An internal procedures document maintained by the Group Finance Director outlines the tax compliance procedures, controls in place and the role of the person responsible for them.

All senior members of the Finance team attend external seminars on a regular basis to ensure full awareness of tax developments and internal seminars drawing on external expertise are run as required.

The Company has a low-risk attitude in relation to tax and seeks to minimise the risk of uncertainty or disputes.

Attitude to tax planning

The Company predominantly operates in the UK and all taxes are paid in the relevant jurisdictions in which a tax liability arises as required by local laws.

The Company does not engage in aggressive tax planning arrangements and the Board has a low-risk attitude in relation to tax.

The Company does not engage in artificial arrangements, the sole purpose of which is to reduce tax. The Company will only engage in reasonable tax planning that is aligned with commercial and economic activity. The Company will utilise reliefs and incentives that exist to reduce the overall costs incurred whilst ensuring these are in keeping with the intention of the tax legislation.

The Company will only acquire businesses for strategic purposes and not to take advantages of tax opportunities such as tax losses. New companies or branches will only be located in the tax jurisdiction where there will be genuine commercial activity and not because of the tax regime in that jurisdiction.

Relationship with HMRC

The Company is committed to working in a transparent and proactive way with HMRC. The approach to dealing with HMRC is based on openness and transparency. The Company seeks to deal with all enquiries from HMRC in a speedy and timely matter with a view to closing out any issues as soon as practically possible. The Company proactively seeks the views of HMRC on any uncertain tax matters where possible.

Approval and Accounting Period Covered

This document, approved by the board of Fortem Building Materials, sets out the Company's approach to conducting its tax affairs and dealing with tax risks for the accounting period ending 31 March 2024.