

**ASHTEAD GROUP PLC**  
**REMUNERATION COMMITTEE – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

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**Last reviewed: June 2023**

**1. Membership**

- 1.1.** The committee shall comprise at least three members, all of whom shall be independent non-executive directors. The chair of the board may also serve on the committee as an additional member if he or she was considered independent on appointment as chair. Members of the committee shall be appointed by the board, on the recommendation of the nomination committee and in consultation with the chair of the remuneration committee.
- 1.2.** Only members of the committee have the right to attend committee meetings. However, other individuals such as the chief executive, the head of human resources and external advisers may be invited to attend for all or part of any meeting, as and when appropriate and necessary.
- 1.3.** Appointments to the committee shall be for a period of up to three years, extendable by no more than two additional three-year periods so long as members (other than the company's chair, if he or she is a member of the committee) continue to be independent.
- 1.4.** The board shall appoint the committee chair who shall be an independent non-executive director. In the absence of the committee chair and/or an appointed deputy, the remaining members present shall elect one of themselves to chair the meeting who would qualify under these terms of reference to be appointed to that position by the board. The chair of the board shall not chair the committee.

**2. Secretary**

The company secretary or his or her nominee shall act as the secretary of the committee and will ensure that the committee receives information and papers in a timely manner to enable full and proper consideration to be given to the issues.

**3. Quorum**

The quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be two.

**4. Meetings**

The committee shall meet at least three times a year and otherwise as required.

**5. Notice of meetings**

- 5.1.** Meetings of the committee shall be called by the secretary of the committee at the request of the committee chair or any member of the committee.
- 5.2.** Unless otherwise agreed, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed, shall be forwarded to each member of the committee and any other person required to attend, no later than five working days before the date of the meeting. Supporting papers shall be sent to committee members and to other attendees, as appropriate, at the same time.

**6. Minutes of meetings**

- 6.1. The secretary shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of all committee meetings, including the names of those present and in attendance.
- 6.2. Draft minutes of committee meetings shall be circulated promptly to all members of the committee. Once approved, minutes should be circulated to all other members of the board unless in the opinion of the chair of the committee it would be inappropriate to do so.

## 7. Annual general meeting

The committee chair should attend the annual general meeting to answer any shareholder questions on the committee's activities.

## 8. Duties

- 8.1. The committee should carry out the duties detailed below for the parent company, major subsidiary undertakings and the group as a whole, as appropriate.
- 8.2. The committee shall:
  - 8.2.1. Have delegated responsibility for determining the remuneration policy for the company's chair, executive directors and senior management, including the company secretary. The board itself or, where required by the Articles of Association the shareholders, should determine the remuneration of the non-executive directors within the limits set in the Articles of Association. No director or senior manager shall be involved in any decisions as to their own remuneration.
  - 8.2.2. In determining such policy, take into account all factors which it deems necessary including relevant legal and regulatory requirements, the provisions and recommendations of the UK Corporate Governance Code ("Code") and associated guidance. The objective of such policy shall be to attract, retain and motivate executive management of the quality required to run the company successfully without paying more than is necessary, having regard to views of shareholders and other stakeholders. The remuneration policy should have regard to the risk appetite of the company and be aligned to the company's purpose, values and long-term strategic goals. A significant proportion of remuneration should be structured so as to link rewards to corporate and individual performance and designed to promote the long-term sustainable success of the company.
  - 8.2.3. When setting remuneration policy for directors, review and have regard to pay and employment conditions across the company or group, especially when determining annual salary increases.
  - 8.2.4. Review the on-going appropriateness and relevance of the remuneration policy.
  - 8.2.5. Within the terms of the agreed policy and in consultation with the chair and/or chief executive, as appropriate, determine the total individual remuneration package of each executive director, the company's chair and other designated senior executives including bonuses, incentive payments and share options or other share awards.
  - 8.2.6. Obtain reliable, up-to-date information about remuneration in other companies of comparable scale and complexity. To help it fulfil its obligations the committee shall have full authority to appoint remuneration consultants and to commission or purchase any reports, surveys or information that it deems necessary at the expense of the company but within any budgetary restraints imposed by the board.
  - 8.2.7. Be exclusively responsible for establishing the selection criteria, selecting, appointing and setting the terms of reference for any remuneration consultants who advise the committee.
  - 8.2.8. Approve the design of, and determine targets for, any performance-related pay schemes operated by the company and approve the total annual payments made under such schemes. In designing performance-related remuneration for executive directors and other designated senior executives,

schemes should include provisions that would enable the company to recover sums paid or shares delivered or withhold the payment of any sum or delivery of shares, and specify the circumstances in which it would be appropriate to do so.

- 8.2.9.** Exercise independent judgement and discretion when determining remuneration outcome, taking account of company and individual performance, and wider circumstances
- 8.2.10.** Review the design of all share incentive plans for approval by the board and shareholders. For any such plans, determine each year whether awards will be made, and if so, the overall amount of such awards, the individual awards to executive directors and other designated senior executives and the performance targets to be used.
- 8.2.11.** Determine the policy for, and scope of, pension arrangements for each executive director and other designated senior executives.
- 8.2.12.** Ensure that contractual terms on termination, and any payments made, are fair to the individual, and the company, that failure is not rewarded and that the duty to mitigate loss is fully recognised.
- 8.2.13.** Review workforce remuneration and related policies and the alignment of incentives and rewards with culture, taking these into account when setting the policy for executive director remuneration.
- 8.2.14.** Agree the policy for authorising claims for expenses from the directors.
- 8.2.15.** Work and liaise as necessary with all other board committees, ensuring the interaction between the committees and the board is reviewed regularly.

## **9. Reporting responsibilities**

- 9.1.** The committee chair shall report to the board on its proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities.
- 9.2.** The committee shall make whatever recommendations to the board it deems appropriate on any area within its remit where action or improvement is needed.
- 9.3.** The committee shall ensure that provisions regarding disclosure of information, including pensions, as set out in the Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 (as amended) and the Code, are fulfilled and produce a report of the company's remuneration policy and practices to be included in the company's annual report and ensure each year that it is put to shareholders for approval at the AGM. If the committee has appointed remuneration consultants, the annual report of the company's remuneration policy should identify such consultants and state whether they have any other connection with the company.
- 9.4.** The committee shall ensure that the company's remuneration policy for executive directors is put to shareholders for approval every three years (or such shorter period as may be required by the applicable legislation).

## **10. Other matters**

The committee chair should seek engagement with shareholders on significant matters related to the committee's areas of responsibility and disclose in the remuneration report what engagement with shareholders and the workforce has taken place.

- 10.1.** The committee shall:
  - 10.1.1.** Have access to sufficient resources in order to carry out its duties, including access to the company secretariat for assistance as required.

- 10.1.2. Be provided with appropriate and timely training, both in the form of an induction programme for new members and on an on-going basis for all members.
- 10.1.3. Give due consideration to laws, regulations and any published guidelines or recommendations regarding the remuneration of directors of listed companies and the formation and operation of share schemes; including, but not limited to: the provisions of the Code, the requirements of the FCA's Listing Rules, Prospectus Rules, Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules Sourcebook, as well as guidelines published by the Investment Association and any other applicable rules and guidance, as appropriate.
- 10.1.4. Arrange for periodic reviews of its own performance and, at least annually, review its constitution and terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and recommend any changes it considers necessary to the board for approval.

**11. Authority**

The committee is authorised by the board to obtain, at the company's expense, outside legal or other professional advice on any matters within its terms of reference.

Approved by the Board on the 12th day of June 2023



Signed .....  
Eric Watkins, Company Secretary