

SThree (“The Company”) Anti-Corruption & Bribery Policy

Policy Statement

SThree Plc’s, including all the subsidiaries and companies, (referred to in this policy as we, us, our) policy is to conduct all of its business in an honest and ethical manner. We take a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and are committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships wherever we operate and implementing and enforcing effective systems to counter bribery.

We will uphold all laws relevant to countering bribery and corruption in all the jurisdictions in which we operate. However, as a UK FTSE registered company we therefore remain bound by the laws of the UK, including the Bribery Act 2010, in respect of our conduct both at home and abroad.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Set out our responsibilities, and of those working for us, in observing and upholding our position on bribery and corruption; and
- provide information and guidance to those working for us on how to recognise and deal with bribery and corruption issues.

In nearly all of the countries that we operate in bribery and corruption are punishable for individuals by imprisonment and financial fines. Further, if we are found to have taken part in corruption we could face an unlimited fine, be excluded from tendering for public contracts and face damage to our reputation. We therefore take our legal responsibilities very seriously.

In this policy, third party means any individual or organisation you come into contact with during the course of your work for us, and includes actual and potential clients, customers, suppliers, distributors, business contacts, agents, advisers, and government and public bodies, including their advisors, representatives and officials, politicians and political parties.

Who is covered by the policy?

This policy applies to all individuals working at all levels and grades, including senior managers, officers, directors, employees (whether permanent, fixed-term or temporary), consultants, contractors, trainees, seconded staff, homeworkers, casual workers and agency staff, volunteers, interns, agents, sponsors, or any other person associated with us, or any of our subsidiaries or their employees, wherever located (collectively referred to as workers in this policy).

What is bribery?

A bribe is an inducement or reward offered, promised or provided, accepted or received (whether directly or indirectly) in order to gain an improper or illegal commercial, contractual, regulatory or personal advantage.

Examples:**Offering a bribe**

You offer a potential client tickets to a major sporting event, but only if they agree to do business with us.

This would be an offence as you are making the offer to gain a commercial and contractual advantage. We may also be found to have committed an offence because the offer has been made to obtain business for us. It may also be an offence for the potential client to accept your offer.

Receiving a bribe

A supplier gives your nephew a job, but makes it clear that in return they expect you to use your influence in our organisation to ensure we continue to do business with them.

It is an offence for a supplier to make such an offer. It would be an offence for you to accept the offer as you would be doing so to gain a personal advantage.

Gifts and hospitality

Please refer to the Gifts and Hospitality policy on the intranet for guidance on how to partake in normal and appropriate hospitality (given and received) to or from third parties.

Facilitation payments and kickbacks

We do not make, and will not accept, facilitation payments or "kickbacks" of any kind. Facilitation payments are typically small, unofficial payments made to secure or expedite a routine government action by a government official, such as speeding up a visa or licence application. They are not commonly paid in the UK, but are common in some other jurisdictions in which we operate.

If you are asked to make a payment on our behalf, you should always be mindful of what the payment is for and whether the amount requested is proportionate to the goods or services provided. If you have any suspicions, concerns or queries regarding a payment, you should raise these with Group Legal.

Kickbacks are typically payments made in return for a business favour or advantage. All workers must avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, that a facilitation payment or kickback will be made or accepted by us.

Donations

Except as approved in advance by the Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer, the Company prohibits donations (directly or through trade associations) by the Company or its business units.

Your responsibilities

You must ensure that you read, understand and comply with this policy.

The prevention, detection and reporting of bribery and other forms of corruption are the responsibility of all those working for us or under our control. All workers are required to avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, a breach of this policy.

You must notify your line manager or the confidential helpline as soon as possible if you believe or

suspect that a conflict with this policy has occurred, or may occur in the future. For example, if a client or potential client offers you something to gain a business advantage with us, or indicates to you that a gift or payment is required to secure their business. Further "red flags" that may indicate bribery or corruption are set out in the Schedule below.

Any employee who breached this policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal for gross misconduct. We reserve our right to terminate our contractual relationship with other workers if they breach this policy.

Record-keeping

We must keep financial records and have appropriate internal controls in place which will evidence the business reason for making payments to third parties.

You must declare and keep a written record of all hospitality or gifts accepted or offered, which will be subject to managerial review. Expenses claims relating to hospitality, gifts or expenses offered to third parties should be submitted in accordance with our expenses policy. You must specifically record the reason for the expenditure

All accounts, invoices, memoranda and other documents and records relating to dealings with third parties, such as clients, suppliers and business contacts, should be prepared and maintained with strict accuracy and completeness. No accounts must be kept "off-book" to facilitate or conceal improper payments.

How to raise a concern

You are encouraged to raise concerns about any issue or suspicion of malpractice at the earliest possible stage. If you are unsure whether a particular act constitutes bribery or corruption, or if you have any other queries, these should be raised with your line manager or through the confidential helpline. Concerns should be reported by following the procedure set out in our Whistleblowing Policy. A copy of our Whistleblowing Policy can be found on the intranet.

What to do if you are a victim of bribery or corruption

If you are offered a bribe by a third party, are asked to make one, suspect that this may happen in the future, or believe that you are a victim of another form of unlawful activity; please report any such activity to either your line manager, alternatively you can report such concerns by following the procedure set out in our Whistleblowing Policy.

Protection

Workers who refuse to accept or offer a bribe, or those who raise concerns or report another's wrongdoing, are sometimes worried about possible repercussions. We aim to encourage openness and will support anyone who raises genuine concerns in good faith under this policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

We are committed to ensuring no one suffers any detrimental treatment as a result of refusing to take part in bribery or corruption, or because of reporting in good faith their suspicion that an actual or potential bribery or other corruption offence has taken place, or may take place in the future. Detrimental treatment includes dismissal, disciplinary action, threats or other unfavourable treatment connected with raising a concern. If you believe that you have suffered any such treatment, you should inform Group Human Resources immediately. If the matter is not remedied, and you are an employee, you should raise it formally using our Grievance Procedure, which can be found on the intranet.

Training and communication

Training on this policy forms part of the induction process for all new workers. All existing workers will receive regular, relevant training on how to implement and adhere to this policy. A record of the training given will be maintained and reviewed to ensure everyone has the most up to date training.

Our zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption must be communicated to all suppliers, contractors and business partners at the outset of our business relationship with them as appropriate thereafter.

Who is responsible for the policy?

The CEO has overall responsibility, on behalf of the Main Board of Directors, for ensuring this policy complies with our legal and ethical obligations, and that all those under our control comply with it.

Management at all levels are responsible for ensuring those reporting to them are made aware of and understand this policy and are given adequate and regular training on it.

Monitoring and review

SThree will monitor the effectiveness and review the implementation of this policy, regularly considering its suitability, adequacy and effectiveness. Any improvements identified will be made as soon as possible. Internal control systems and procedures will be subject to regular audits to provide assurance that they are effective in countering bribery and corruption.

All workers are responsible for the success of this policy and should ensure they use it to disclose any suspected danger or wrongdoing.

This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and it may be amended at any time.

Schedule Potential risk scenarios: "red flags"

The following is a list of possible red flags that may arise during the course of you working for us and which may raise concerns under various anti-bribery and anti-corruption laws. The list is not intended to be exhaustive and is for illustrative purposes only.

If you encounter any of these red flags while working for us, you must report them promptly to your manager and/or using the procedure set out in the Whistleblowing policy:

1. you become aware that a third party engages in, or has been accused of engaging in, improper business practices;
2. you learn that a third party has a reputation for paying bribes, or requiring that bribes are paid to them, or has a reputation for having a "special relationship" with foreign government officials;
3. a third party insists on receiving a commission or fee payment before committing to sign up to a contract with us, or carrying out a government function or process for us;
4. a third party requests payment in cash and/or refuses to sign a formal commission or fee agreement, or to provide an invoice or receipt for a payment made;
5. a third party requests that payment is made to a country or geographic location different from where the third party resides or conducts business without a sensible business reason e.g. group company structure;
6. a third party requests an unexpected additional fee or commission to "facilitate" a service;
7. a third party demands lavish entertainment or gifts before commencing or continuing contractual negotiations or provision of services;
8. a third party requests that a payment is made to "overlook" potential legal violations;
9. a third party requests that you provide employment or some other advantage to a friend or relative
10. you receive an invoice from a third party that appears to be non-standard or customised
11. a third party insists on the use of side letters or refuses to put terms agreed in writing
12. you notice that we have been invoiced for a commission or fee payment that appears large given the service stated to have been provided;
13. a third party requests or requires the use of an agent, intermediary, consultant, distributor or supplier that is not typically used by or known to us;
14. you are offered an unusually generous gift or offered lavish hospitality by a third party; or
15. you become aware that a colleague has entered a start date for a contract even though no placement has been made.

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