



HELICAL PLC

Anti-Facilitation of Tax Evasion Policy

1. Policy Statement

- 1.1 It is our policy to conduct all of our business in an honest and ethical manner. We take a zero-tolerance approach to facilitation of tax evasion, whether under UK law or under the law of any foreign country.
- 1.2 We 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 tax evasion facilitation.
- 1.3 We will uphold all laws relevant to countering tax evasion in all the jurisdictions in which we operate, including the Criminal Finances Act 2017.

2. About This Policy

- 2.1 This policy should be read in conjunction with Helical's Anti-Facilitation of Tax Evasion Procedures Manual; together the documents:
 - (a) set out our responsibilities, and of those working for us, in observing and upholding our position on preventing the criminal facilitation of tax evasion; and
 - (b) provide information and guidance to those working for us on how to recognise and avoid tax evasion.
- 2.2 As an employer, if we fail to prevent our employees, workers, agents or service providers facilitating tax evasion, we can face criminal sanctions including an unlimited fine, as well as exclusion from tendering for public contracts and damage to our reputation. We therefore take our legal responsibilities seriously.
- 2.3 This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and we may amend it at any time.

3. Who Must Comply with This Policy?

- 3.1 This policy applies to all persons working for Helical plc or on our behalf in any capacity, including employees, directors, officers, agency workers, seconded workers, volunteers, interns, agents, contractors, consultants, third-party representatives and business partners, sponsors, or any other person associated with us, wherever located.

4. Who Is Responsible for The Policy?

- 4.1 The Audit and Risk Committee has overall responsibility for ensuring this policy complies with our legal and ethical obligations, and that all those under our control comply with it.
- 4.2 The Company Secretary has primary and day-to-day responsibility for implementing this policy, monitoring its use and effectiveness, dealing with any queries about it, and auditing internal control systems and procedures to ensure they are effective in preventing the facilitation of tax evasion.
- 4.3 Management, at all levels, are responsible for ensuring those reporting to them understand and comply with this policy and are given adequate and regular training on it.



5. What Is Tax Evasion Facilitation?

5.1 For the purposes of this policy:

- (a) **Tax evasion** means the offence of cheating the public revenue or fraudulently evading UK tax, and is a criminal offence. The offence requires an element of fraud, which means there must be deliberate action, or omission with dishonest intent;
- (b) **Foreign tax evasion** means evading tax in a foreign country, provided that conduct is an offence in that country and would be a criminal offence if committed in the UK. As with tax evasion, the element of fraud means there must be deliberate action, or omission with dishonest intent; and
- (c) **Tax evasion facilitation** means being knowingly concerned in, or taking steps with a view to, the fraudulent evasion of tax (whether UK tax or tax in a foreign country) by another person, or aiding, abetting, counselling or procuring the commission of that offence. Tax evasion facilitation is a criminal offence, where it is done deliberately and dishonestly.

5.2 Under the Criminal Finances Act 2017, a separate criminal offence is automatically committed by a corporate entity or partnership where the tax evasion is facilitated by a person acting in the capacity of an “associated person” to that body. For the offence to be committed, the associated person must deliberately and dishonestly take action to facilitate the tax evasion by the taxpayer. If the associated person accidentally, ignorantly, or negligently facilitates the tax evasion, then the corporate offence will not have been committed. The company does not have to have deliberately or dishonestly facilitated the tax evasion itself; the fact that the associated person has done so creates the liability for the company.

5.3 Tax evasion is not the same as tax avoidance or tax planning. Tax evasion involves deliberate and dishonest conduct. Tax avoidance is not illegal and involves taking steps, within the law, to minimise tax payable (or maximise tax reliefs).

5.4 In this policy, all references to tax include national insurance contributions (and their equivalents in any non-UK jurisdiction).

6. Training and Communication

6.1 Communication of this policy and the corresponding procedures manual form part of the induction process for all individuals who work for us, and additional training will be provided as necessary. Such training may form part of wider financial crime detection and prevention training.

6.2 Our zero-tolerance approach to tax evasion and foreign tax evasion must be communicated to all suppliers, contractors and business partners at the outset of our business relationship with them and as appropriate after that.

7. Breaches of This Policy

7.1 Any employee who breaches this policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal for misconduct or gross misconduct.

7.2 We may terminate our relationship with other individuals and organisations working on our behalf if they breach this policy.

Last approved by the Board on 13 February 2020.