

# UK Tax Strategy

Reference: Vitol (UK entities)

Date: relevant for the financial year ending 31 December 2020

# UK Tax Strategy

This document is regarded as complying with the duty under paragraph 16(2) of Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 2016 for Vitol to publish its tax strategy for its UK companies. This document is relevant for the financial year ending 31st December 2020.

## 1. Approach to tax compliance and reporting

Vitol is a global company with over 40 offices worldwide. To understand more of what Vitol does and where it operates, please follow this [link](#) to the Vitol corporate brochure. Vitol has an open and transparent relationship with the tax authorities in all the jurisdictions in which it operates. Vitol pays tax in accordance with the legislation in each of these jurisdictions.

## 2. Approach to tax risk management and governance

Our approach to operating responsibly includes paying the appropriate level of tax in all the jurisdictions in which we operate and the mitigation of tax risks wherever possible.

Vitol has rigorous risk management policies in place to ensure that it complies with all relevant national and international legislation and regulations. The policies and their implementation are overseen by the finance function, which reports directly to the Executive Management Committee.

Vitol aims to ensure that all personnel with tax responsibilities, or whose business activities may have a tax impact, have a consistent understanding of how tax risk is identified, assessed, reported and managed.

Those responsible for tax matters regularly liaise with business units to discuss commercial activities and related tax matters.

Ongoing checks are made of processes and procedures to ensure staff responsible for processing tax related matters perform their functions correctly and diligently. This includes input from external advisers who are regularly used to review the work undertaken by internal staff and assist with the preparation of tax filings where needed.

## 3. Attitude of Vitol to tax planning

Vitol seeks to ensure that tax planning is aligned with commercial activity. This means that tax decisions are made in response to commercial activity, and are aligned to make use of reliefs which are intended to apply to the commercial activity we undertake.

Like any business expense, however, Vitol has an obligation to manage tax costs as part of its financial and fiduciary responsibility. Vitol will therefore seek to respond to tax incentives and exemptions granted by governments where appropriate.

#### **4. Level of risk that Vitol is prepared to accept**

In line with our Code of Conduct, our primary objective is to apply the law correctly to all our transactions and, in so doing, our aim is to minimise tax risk. Vitol recognises that tax legislation can be complex and needs to be interpreted in the context of Vitol economic activity.

We seek expert and independent advice and opinion as appropriate to reduce uncertainty as far as possible.

#### **5. Approach to dealings with tax authorities**

Vitol's Code of Conduct makes clear that Vitol will always engage with the relevant authorities. Vitol seeks to work positively, pro-actively and transparently with tax authorities to minimise the extent of disputes and achieve certainty, wherever possible.

This includes being committed to providing relevant information that is necessary for tax authorities to review possible tax risks. We seek to work collaboratively with tax authorities to achieve early agreement on disputed issues and certainty on a real-time basis, wherever possible.