Ramsdens Holdings PLC

**Remuneration Committee** 

**Terms of Reference** 

Reviewed and approved at the Board meeting of 8 April 2024

#### 1. **INTERPRETATION**

In these terms of reference:

"Company" means Ramsdens Holdings PLC or any of its subsidiaries;

"Board" means the board of directors of the Company;

"Committee" means the remuneration committee of the Board; and

"**Executives**" means the Company's executive directors of the Company and the company secretary of the Company.

### 2. CONSTITUTION

By a resolution dated 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017, the Board resolved, pursuant to the authority and power conferred upon the Board by regulations 5 and 6 of the Model Articles incorporated into the articles of association of the Company, to establish a committee of the Board to be known as the remuneration committee.

### 3. GENERAL AIMS

The Committee shall:

- (a) determine the total individual remuneration packages (including pension rights and any compensation payments) of the Executives;
- (b) monitor the level and structure of remuneration for senior management;
- be responsible for appointing and determining the terms of appointment of any remuneration consultants in respect of the Executives' remuneration;
- (d) aim to give the Executives appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance;
- (e) ensure that the Executives are, in a fair and responsible manner, rewarded for their individual contributions to the Company's overall performance; and
- (f) demonstrate to the shareholders of the Company that the remuneration of the Executives is set by a committee of the Board who have no personal interest in the outcome of the decisions and who will give due regard to the interests of the shareholders and to the financial and commercial health of the Company.

## 4. GENERAL POLICY DUTIES

- 4.1 The role of the Committee is to assist the Board to fulfil its responsibility to shareholders to ensure that the remuneration policy and practices of the Company reward fairly and responsibly with a clear link to corporate and individual performance, having regard to statutory and regulatory requirements.
- 4.2 The Committee shall determine and agree with the Board the framework or broad policy for the remuneration of the Executives (including, without limitation, the terms of any share option or incentive scheme or profit sharing or profit related pay scheme or the terms of any pension or

retirement benefits scheme or the terms of any death in service or permanent or private health insurance scheme) and in doing so shall seek to attract and retain talented Executives by providing total remuneration packages which are competitive with that of other executives employed by companies of similar size, complexity and same line of business as the Company.

- 4.3 In determining such policy, the Committee shall take into account all factors which it deems necessary.
- 4.4 The remuneration of non-executive directors shall be a matter for the chairman and executive members of the Board.
- 4.5 No director or manager shall be involved in any decisions as to his or her own remuneration.

### 5. SPECIFIC DUTIES

The Committee shall:

- (a) Be responsible for setting the remuneration policy of the Company and reviewing the ongoing appropriateness and relevance of the remuneration policy and in doing so shall, inter alia, endeavour to motivate Executives to achieve strong financial and operational performance, emphasise performance based compensation which balances rewards for short term and long term results, rewards individual performance, links the interests of Executives with the Company's shareholders by providing a portion of total remuneration in the form of share incentives and encourages long term commitment to the Company;
- (b) 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;
- (c) review the design of all share incentive plans or schemes 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 level of individual awards and the performance targets to be used;
- (d) determine the policy for, and scope of, pension arrangements;
- (e) ensure that contractual terms on termination, and any payments made, are fair to the individual and the Company, that failure is not rewarded and the duty to mitigate loss is fully recognised;
- (f) within the terms of the agreed policy, and in consultation with the chairman of the Board and/or chief executive as appropriate, determine the total individual remuneration package of each Executive (including, without limitation, if applicable entitlement to any benefits under share option schemes, incentive, bonus, profit sharing or profit related pay schemes, pension or retirement benefits schemes and death in service or permanent or private health insurance schemes).

- (g) review and note annually the remuneration trends across the Company including the Gender Pay report;
- (h) oversee any major changes in employee benefit structures within the Company;
- agree the policy for authorising claims for expenses from the chief executive and chairman of the Board;
- (j) ensure that all provisions regarding the disclosure of remuneration, including pensions, are fulfilled;
- (k) be exclusively responsible for establishing the selection criteria, selecting, appointing and setting the terms of reference for any remuneration consultants who advise the Committee; and to obtain reliable up-to-date information about remuneration in other companies;
- (I) consider the Company's risk appetite and risk management strategy and ensure that the remuneration policy is aligned to the Company's risk policies and systems and long term strategic goals;
- (m) consider whether executive directors should be required to hold a minimum number of shares for a further period after vesting or exercise, including a period after leaving the Company; and
- (n) ensure the Company maintains appropriate contact as required with its principal shareholders in relation to remuneration.

# 6. **REPORTING AND AGM**

- 6.1 The chairman of the Committee shall report formally to the Board after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities.
- 6.2 The Committee shall make whatever recommendations to the Board it deems appropriate on any matter or area within its remit where action or improvement is needed.
- 6.3 The Committee shall:
  - (a) Report annually to shareholders on matters relating to executive remuneration. The report shall include an annual statement by the Committee's Chairman, the directors remuneration policy and an annual report on directors remuneration. The annual report on directors remuneration will be put to the shareholders for approval at the AGM;
  - (b) have regard to the provisions regarding the disclosure of remuneration, including pensions, as set out in the Companies Act 2006, Directors' Remuneration Reporting Regulations 2013 and the UK Corporate Governance Code are fulfilled and other relevant statutory, regulatory or governance codes;
  - (c) ensure that provisions regarding disclosure of remuneration as listed in the AIM Rules for Companies are fulfilled;

- (d) in any event, consider and decide upon the details of directors' remuneration, which should be reported to shareholders in addition to those required by law, and how those details should be presented; and
- (e) consider and decide each year whether circumstances are such that a resolution should be put to the Company at Annual General Meeting approving any remuneration policy.
- 6.4 The chairman of the Committee (or in his absence another member of the Committee) shall attend the Company's Annual General Meeting to answer any shareholders' questions about the Committee's activities.
- 6.5 The Committee's terms of reference shall be available on the Company's website.

# 7. **REGULATORY DUTIES**

In carrying out its duties under these terms of reference, the Committee shall:

- (a) give due regard to:
  - (i) all relevant legal requirements;
  - (ii) the AIM Rules for Companies;
  - (iii) the provisions, recommendations and disclosure requirements contained in the Market Abuse Regulation; and
  - (iv) the Corporate Governance Code for small and mid-size quoted companies issued by the Quoted Companies Alliance;
- (b) ensure that it has such information as it considers necessary or desirable to fulfil its duties as set out in these terms of reference.

## 8. MEMBERSHIP

- 8.1 Members of the Committee shall be appointed from time to time by the Board, on the recommendation of the nomination committee in consultation with the chairman of the Committee.
- 8.2 The Committee shall consist of at least two members.
- 8.3 All members of the Committee shall be independent non-executive directors of the Company.
- 8.4 The chairman of the Board can be a member of, and can chair, the Committee, provided he or she was considered independent on appointment.
- 8.5 The Board shall appoint the chairman of the Committee who shall be an independent nonexecutive director of the Company. In the absence of the chairman, members of the Committee present at a duly convened meeting may elect one of their number to chair the meeting. The Board shall determine the period for which the chairman of the Committee holds office.
- 8.6 The Board may from time to time remove members from the Committee.
- 8.7 The membership of the Committee shall be set out in the annual report of the Company.

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8.8 The remuneration of the non-executive directors of the Company shall be a matter for the executive members of the Board and no member shall be involved in any decisions as to his own remuneration.

#### 9. SECRETARY

- 9.1 The company secretary (or his or her nominee) shall be the secretary of the Committee.
- 9.2 The company secretary shall ensure that the Committee receives information and papers in a timely manner to enable proper consideration to be given to issues.

### 10. MEETINGS

- 10.1 The Committee shall as and when necessary and at such other times as the chairman of the Committee shall require.
- 10.2 Meetings of the Committee shall be summoned by the secretary of the Committee at the request of any member of the Committee.
- 10.3 Unless otherwise agreed, at least 5 working days' notice shall be given of each meeting of the Committee.
- 10.4 Unless otherwise agreed, each notice of a meeting of the Committee shall:
  - (a) confirm the venue, time and date of the meeting;
  - (b) include an agenda of items to be discussed at the meeting; and
  - (c) be sent to each member of the Committee, the secretary, any other person required, invited or entitled to attend the meeting and all other non-executive directors of the Company.
- 10.5 Supporting papers shall be sent to members of the Committee and to other attendees at the same time as the relevant notice.
- 10.6 The quorum necessary for the transaction of business by the Committee shall be two members of the Committee both of whom should be non-executive directors, and a duly convened meeting of the Committee at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Committee.
- 10.7 Only members of the Committee have the right to attend meetings of the Committee. However, others (such as other directors) and external advisers may be invited to attend and speak at (but not vote at) all or part of meetings of the Committee as and when appropriate.
- 10.8 Meetings of the Committee may be held by conference telephone, video-conference or using similar communications equipment whereby all members participating in the meeting can hear each other.

#### 11. VOTING

- 11.1 Each member of the Committee shall have one vote which may be cast on matters considered at the meeting. Votes can only be cast by members attending a meeting of the Committee.
- 11.2 If a matter which is considered by the Committee is one where a member of the Committee, either directly or indirectly has a personal interest, that member shall not be permitted to vote at the meeting.
- 11.3 Matters for decision by the Committee shall be decided by a majority decision of the members present at the meeting and eligible to vote.

### 12. MINUTES

- 12.1 The secretary of the Committee shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of Committee meetings and record the names of those present and in attendance.
- 12.2 The secretary of the Committee shall ascertain, at the start of each Committee meeting, the existence of any conflicts of interest and minute them accordingly.
- 12.3 Following each meeting of the Committee, the secretary shall circulate, for comment, draft minutes to each member who was present at the meeting.
- 12.4 After approval and signing of the minutes by the chairman of the meeting, the secretary shall circulate copies of the minutes to all members of Committee and, to all members of the Board, unless a conflict of interest exists.

#### 13. AUTHORITY

- 13.1 The Committee is a committee of the Board and as such exercises such powers of the Board as have been delegated to it.
- 13.2 The Committee is authorised by the Board to investigate any activity within its terms of reference.
- 13.3 The Committee is authorised to:
  - (a) seek any information it requires (including from any employee of the Company);
  - (b) seek legal or other professional advice (including the advice of independent remuneration consultants);
  - (c) within any budgetary restraints imposed by the Board, to appoint remuneration consultants, and to commission or purchase any relevant reports, surveys or information, which it deems necessary to help it fulfil its obligations;
  - (d) to secure the attendance of external advisors at its meetings (if it considers it necessary); and
  - (e) to obtain reliable, up-to-date information about remuneration in other companies;

all at the Company's expense.

# 14. **OWN PERFORMANCE**

At least once a year, the Committee shall review its own performance, 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.

## Appendix

#### **Remuneration Policy**

Our remuneration policy is to:

- Include a competitive mix of base salary, pension, annual bonus and long term incentives, with an appropriate proportion of the package determined by stretching targets linked to the Group's performance;
- The Executive Directors are entitled to have an additional 3% of their Basic annual salary paid into their respective pension schemes. Due to the annual pension contribution cap, the Remuneration Committee have approved that any contributions can be paid as a cash allowance.
- Promote the long-term success of the Group in line with our strategy; and
- Provide appropriate alignment between the interests of shareholders and executives including minimum shareholdings.

#### Expenses Policy for the Board

Our expenses policy is to reimburse any Board member for all reasonably incurred travel and subsistence expenses

- Travel expenses: Consideration should be given to the cost, duration and time of day regarding travel arrangements
- Overnight stays: Consideration should be given to the wider Company policy and utilising websites (e.g. booking.com) that could provide better value for money alternatives to picking a particular brand of hotel.
- Subsistence: Consideration should be given to the wider Company policy regarding a reasonable meal at the requisite time of day
- Entertaining: Any entertaining of an adviser, supplier or customer should be proportionate and reasonable. Any expenses in excess of £50 per person should be declared to the Head of Compliance & Risk for anti-bribery reporting
- All expenses incurred by the Board, other than CFO should be approved by the CFO and any expenses incurred by the CFO approved by the CEO