



## **DFS Furniture Plc**

### **Remuneration Committee**

#### **Terms of Reference**

##### **1. CONSTITUTION**

**1.1** The remuneration committee (“the Committee” ) was constituted as a committee of the board of directors (board) of DFS Furniture PLC (Company) at a full meeting of the board held on 18 September 2024 in accordance with the articles of association of the Company.

**1.2** A Committee of the Board with delegated authority to determine the policy for executive director remuneration and to set remuneration for the Chair, executive directors, and members of the Group Leadership Team. Remuneration policies and practices should be designed to support strategy and promote long-term sustainable success.

**1.3** The Committee may sub-delegate any or all of its powers and authority as it thinks fit to one or more of its members or the company secretary, including, without limitation, the establishment of sub-committees which are to report back to the Committee.

##### **2. ROLE**

**2.1** The role of the Committee is to assist the board to fulfil its responsibility to shareholders to ensure that:

**(a)** remuneration policy and practices of the Company are designed to support strategy, reward fairly and responsibly, with a clear link to corporate and Environmental, Social and Governance performance, individual performance, and having regard to statutory and regulatory requirements, and to promote the long-term success of the Company; and

**(b)** executive remuneration is aligned to company purpose and values and linked to the delivery of the company’s long-term strategy.

**2.2** Subject to paragraph 2.3, in particular, the Committee shall consider:

**(a)** remuneration policies, including base salary, long-term and short-term incentives, minimum

shareholding requirements and post-employment shareholding requirements;

**(b)** Remuneration practice and its cost to the Company;

**(c)** Recruitment, service contracts and severance policies;

**(d)** Pension arrangements and other benefits;

**(e)** The engagement and independence of external remuneration advisers; and

**(f)** A review of workforce remuneration and related policies and the alignment of incentives and rewards with culture.

**2.3** The remuneration of the senior independent director and non-executive directors of the board shall be matter for the chair and the executive directors to be decided at a meeting of the board to be determined within the limits set in the Company's articles of association. No director shall be involved in any decisions as to their own remuneration.

### **3. DUTIES AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

The Committee shall carry out the following duties for the Company and its subsidiaries (**Group**) and advise the board appropriately:

#### **3.1 Remuneration policy and practices**

**(a)** determine and agree with the board the policy for the remuneration and benefits, including pension rights and compensation payments, of the executive directors and set the remuneration for:

**(i)** the chair of the Company;

**(ii)** executive directors;

**(iii)** the company secretary; and

**(iv)** other senior executives who report directly to the Chief Executive Officer.

**(b)** subject to paragraph 3.5(b), in determining the remuneration policy, consider:

**(i)** all relevant legal and regulatory requirements, the provisions, and recommendations of the UK Corporate Governance Code (**Code**) and associated guidance;

**(ii)** the need to promote the long-term sustainable success of the Company and the alignment to the Company purpose and values, having regard to the views of shareholders and other stakeholders, and ensuring that executive directors, senior executives, and the company secretary are rewarded in a fair and responsible manner, provided with appropriate incentives to encourage enhanced performance, and are rewarded for their individual contributions;

- (iii)** the strategy of the Group and how the policy reflects and supports the long-term strategy;
- (iv)** the Company's risk appetite and risk management strategy ensuring that the remuneration policy is aligned to the Company's risk policies and systems and long-term strategic goals; and
- (v)** any shareholding requirements, including vesting and holding periods, and any post-employment shareholding requirements for executive directors, the company secretary and senior executives that encompass both unvested and vested shares;
- (c)** when determining executive director remuneration policy and practices, address the factors set out in Provision 40 of the Code as set out in the appendix to these terms of reference.
- (d)** when determining remuneration schemes and the remuneration policy, consider the use of discretion by the Committee to override formulaic outcomes;
- (e)** review at least annually the on-going appropriateness and relevance of the remuneration policy and consult with significant shareholders, on the policy or any other aspects of remuneration when required;
- (f)** within the terms of the agreed remuneration policy, determine the total remuneration package for the chair of the board and each element of the total individual remuneration package for each executive director, the company secretary and senior executives including (to the extent applicable):
  - (i)** base salary;
  - (ii)** profit sharing and specific incentive remuneration schemes or arrangements;
  - (iii)** participation in share option schemes and share ownership plans;
  - (iv)** pension arrangements, including the level of contributions by the Company; and
  - (v)** other bonuses and benefits in cash or in kind;
- (g)** ensure, where relevant, that any payments made in respect of any remuneration package are permitted under the latest shareholder approved remuneration policy and, if not, that either a revised remuneration policy or the proposed payment is submitted for shareholder approval;
- (h)** within the terms of the agreed remuneration policy, decide on any ex-gratia payments to be made and benefits granted to directors and senior executives
- (i)** exercise any discretion or judgment on remuneration outcomes in accordance with any incentive schemes and the remuneration policy, taking account of company and individual performance, and wider circumstances; and
- (j)** agree the policy for authorising claims for expenses from the directors.

### **3.2 Share based remuneration and bonus arrangements**

**(a)** recommend for approval by the board the design of, and determine the targets for, the operation of all long-term incentive schemes, including all schemes involving the award of shares or the grant of options, in which executive directors, company secretary and senior executives participate. For any such schemes or plans, determine each year whether the awards will be made, and if so, approve the levels of participation in such schemes or plans by those individuals. Such determination shall take account of dilution limits and headroom capacity within the relevant share schemes or plans and the financial impact of awards on the Group;

**(b)** monitor and assess any performance conditions applicable to any long-term incentive awards granted under any schemes or plans adopted by the Company. Ensure that the performance conditions are fully explained, aligned to the Company purpose and values, and clearly linked to the successful delivery of the Company's long-term strategy and enhancement of shareholder value;

**(c)** consider whether the executive directors, the company secretary and senior executives should be eligible for annual bonuses. Bonuses shall be used to reward contribution to the business which exceeds the level expected;

**(d)** recommend for approval by the board the design of, and determine annual targets and key performance indicators for, any bonus scheme operated by the Company and assess performance against targets and key performance indicators, by the Company, individual executive directors, the company secretary, and senior executives;

**(e)** exercise independent judgement and discretion when authorising outcomes under all incentive arrangements, taking account of company and individual performance, and wider circumstances;

**(f)** design and invoke agreed safeguards, for example, clawback or withholding the payment of any sum or share award, to protect against rewards for failure through appropriate risk management of any incentive arrangements to ensure that any performance-related payments reflect actual achievements; and

**(g)** ensure that all incentive arrangements are aligned to the Company's risk policies and systems, its purpose, and values, support the strategy and promote long-term sustainable success.

### **3.3 Pensions**

Review the pension arrangements for the executive directors:

**(a)** the alignment of pension contribution rates, or payments in lieu, for executive directors with those available to the wider workforce; and

**(b)** the pension consequences and associated costs to the Company of basic salary increases and any other changes in pensionable or contribution rates, when compared with the arrangements for the wider workforce.

### **3.4 Service contracts and severance**

**(a)** approve the terms of the service contracts, the duration of which shall not normally exceed one year's notice period, for executive directors, the company secretary and senior executives and any material amendments to those contracts;

**(b)** determine the policy for, and scope of, termination payments and compensation commitments for each executive director, senior executive and the company secretary and ensure that poor performance is not rewarded and that there is a clear policy to link non-contractual payments to performance; and

**(c)** ensure that contractual terms on termination, and any payments made, are fair to the individual and the Company and in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements, that failure is not rewarded and that the duty to mitigate loss is fully recognised.

### **3.5 Workforce remuneration and related policies**

**(a)** review workforce remuneration and related policies and the alignment of incentives and rewards with culture;

**(b)** when setting the remuneration policy for executive directors, the company secretary, and senior executives, take into account the matters in Paragraph 3.5(a); and

**(c)** oversee any major changes in remuneration and employee benefits structures throughout the Group.

### **3.6 Remuneration consultants**

**(a)** to help it to fulfil its obligations the Committee has authority to appoint remuneration consultants and to commission or purchase any reports, surveys, or information which it deems necessary, at the expense of the Company but within any budgetary restraints imposed by the board; and

**(b)** be responsible for establishing the selection criteria, selecting, appointing, and setting the terms of reference for any remuneration consultants who advise the Committee.

### **3.7 Shareholder approval**

**(a)** produce a report to shareholders annually on matters relating to remuneration that shall include the information required to be disclosed by the Companies Act 2006 (including any regulations made under that Act), the Code, the Listing Rules (as published by the Financial Conduct Authority) (**Listing Rules**) and any other relevant statutory, regulatory or governance codes and incorporate:

**(i)** an annual statement by the Committee's chair and annual report on directors' remuneration (together, **annual remuneration report**); and

**(ii)** the directors' remuneration policy when it must be submitted for approval in accordance with Paragraph 3.7(b) (**directors' remuneration policy**) and, in any other case, either the directors' remuneration policy, a summary of such policy or details of when the directors' remuneration policy was approved and where it can be found on the Company's website;

- (b)** submit the directors' remuneration policy for approval by the board and shareholders:
- (i)** every three years;
  - (ii)** in any year in which there is a change to the policy;
  - (iii)** if shareholder approval was not obtained when last submitted; and
  - (iv)** if majority shareholder approval was not achieved on the last submitted annual remuneration report;
- (c)** submit the annual remuneration report to shareholders for approval on an advisory basis at the annual general meeting each year; and
- (d)** subject to delegation of authority by the board, engage in appropriate discussions as necessary with shareholders if, a significant proportion of votes have been cast by shareholders against a resolution to approve the annual remuneration report or directors' remuneration policy or any employee share scheme at any annual general meeting or general meeting, as the case may be, and agree with the board any appropriate disclosure, including in the annual report.

### **3.8 Other matters**

- (a)** keep abreast of external remuneration trends and market conditions including receiving an annual presentation from its external remuneration consultants;
- (b)** consider such other matters as are referred to the Committee by the board; and
- (c)** work and liaise as necessary with all other board committees.

## **4. MEMBERSHIP**

**4.1** The Committee shall comprise a chair and a minimum of two members. Each Committee member shall be an independent non-executive director as determined by the board (in accordance with the Code).

**4.2** The board shall appoint members of the Committee on the recommendation of the nomination committee in consultation with the Committee chair. It is recognised that the number of members may fall below three for temporary periods due to departures pending new appointments.

**4.3** The chair of the board may be member of, but not chair, the Committee if he or she was considered to be independent on appointment as chair.

**4.4** Appointments to the Committee shall be for period of up to three years, extendable by no more than two additional three year periods, so long as members continue to be independent.

**4.5** The board shall appoint the Committee chair from among the independent non-executive directors and in accordance with provision 32 of the Code before such appointment, the appointee should have

served on a remuneration committee for at least 12 months.

**4.6** The Committee chair shall review membership of the Committee annually, as part of the annual performance evaluation of the Committee.

**4.7** The company secretary, or their nominee, shall act as the secretary of the Committee and provide all necessary support to the Committee, including the recording of Committee minutes and ensuring that the Committee receives information and papers in a timely manner to enable full and proper consideration of the relevant issues.

## **5. ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

**5.1** The Committee shall meet at least twice a year and otherwise as required or as may be requested by any member of the Committee.

**5.2** Only members of the Committee have the right to attend Committee meetings. However, other individuals such as the Chief Executive, Chief Financial Officer, the Chief Operating Officer, and external advisers may be invited to attend for all or part of any meeting, as and when appropriate and necessary. The Committee shall have the discretion to decide who, other than Committee members, shall attend and address Committee meetings.

**5.3** No person shall participate at a meeting of the Committee (or during a relevant part) at which any part of their remuneration is being directly discussed or participate in any recommendation or decision specifically concerning their remuneration.

**5.4** The secretary of the Committee shall ascertain, at the beginning of each meeting, the existence of any conflicts of interest and minute them accordingly.

**5.5** Meetings of the Committee be conducted when the members are physically present together or in the form of either video or audio conference.

## **6. NOTICE OF MEETINGS**

**6.1** Meetings of the Committee shall be called by the secretary of the Committee at the request of the Committee chair.

**6.2** 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 calendar 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.

## **7. QUORUM**

**7.1** The quorum necessary for the transaction of business at a Committee meeting shall be two members present.

**7.2** 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.

## **8. VOTING ARRANGEMENTS**

**8.1** Subject to Paragraph 8.2 and Paragraph 8.3, each Committee member shall have one vote which may be cast on matters considered at the meeting. Votes can only be cast by members attending a Committee meeting.

**8.2** If a matter that is considered by the Committee is one where a Committee member, either directly or indirectly has a personal interest, that member shall not be permitted to vote at the meeting.

**8.3** Except where the Committee chair has a personal interest, the Committee chair shall have a casting vote.

## **9. MINUTES OF MEETINGS**

**9.1** The secretary of the Committee shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of all Committee meetings.

**9.2** Draft minutes of Committee meetings shall be circulated promptly to all Committee members. Once approved, minutes shall be circulated to all other board members unless in the opinion of the Committee chair it would be inappropriate to do so.

**9.3** A resolution in writing and signed by all Committee members will be as effective as a resolution passed at a Committee meeting. Any written resolution may be approved electronically and should be tabled and noted at the next meeting of the Committee.

## **10. ENGAGEMENT WITH SHAREHOLDERS**

All Committee members shall attend the annual general meeting to answer any shareholder questions on the Committee's activities. In addition, the Committee chair should seek engagement with shareholders on significant matters related to the Committee's areas of responsibility.

## **11. REPORTING RESPONSIBILITIES**

**11.1** The Committee chair shall report to the board on its proceedings after each meeting on all matters within its duties and responsibilities and the minutes of all Committee meetings shall be included in the board papers for subsequent board meeting.

**11.2** The Committee shall:

**(a)** report to the board on workforce reward, incentives, and conditions, and support the board's monitoring of the alignment of company policies and practices with culture and strategy;

**(b)** make whatever recommendations to the board it deems appropriate on any area within its remit where action or improvement is needed;



**(c)** The Committee shall ensure that provisions regarding disclosure of information as set out in the UK Corporate Governance Code and The Companies (Directors' Remuneration Policy and Directors' Remuneration Report) Regulations 2019 are fulfilled and produce an annual report of the Company's remuneration policy and practices which will form part of the Company's Annual Report that is put to shareholders for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

**(d)** prepare a formal report for shareholders to be incorporated in the Company's annual report that shall include the matters referred to in paragraph 3.7 (a) and ensure that it is submitted for approval in accordance with paragraph 3.7(b) above;

**(e)** If the Committee has appointed external remuneration advisers, the annual report on remuneration should identify such advisers and state whether they have any other connection with the Company and/or individual directors.

**(f)** ensure, through the chair of the board, that the Company maintains contact, and the Committee chair seeks engagement, as required, with the Company's major shareholders on significant matters related to the Committee's areas of responsibility;

**(g)** prepare and adopt a report on the Committee's work and activities for inclusion in the Company's annual report setting out:

**(i)** the number of meetings of the Committee and individual attendance by the members; and

**(ii)** the matters listed in Provision 41 of the Code, as set out in the appendix to these terms of reference, and other information recommended by the Code; and

**(h)** make publicly available the Committee's terms of reference by placing them on the Company's website.

## **12. OTHER MATTERS**

The Committee shall:

**12.1** Have access to sufficient resources to carry out its duties, including access to the company secretary and other Group functions for assistance as required.

**12.2** 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.

**12.3** Give due consideration to laws, regulations and any published guidelines or recommendations regarding the remuneration of directors of listed/ non listed companies and formation and operation of share schemes including but not limited to the Companies Act 2006, the principles and provisions of the Code, the requirements of the Listing Rules, the Financial Conduct Authority's Prospectus Rules and Disclosure Guidance and Transparency Rules as well as guidelines published by the Investment Association, Institutional Shareholder Services, Glass Lewis, the Pensions and Lifetime Savings Association, and any other applicable rules, as appropriate.

The Committee shall ensure that provisions regarding disclosure of information as set out in the UK Corporate Governance Code and The Companies (Directors' Remuneration Policy and Directors' Remuneration Report) Regulations 2019 are fulfilled and produce an annual report of the Company's remuneration policy and practices which will form part of the Company's Annual Report that is put to shareholders for approval at the Annual General Meeting.

**12.4** Work and liaise as necessary with all other board committees including the nominations committee in respect of any remuneration package to be offered to any new appointee of the board.

**12.5** The Committee shall arrange for periodic reviews of its own performance and review, at least annually, its terms of reference to ensure it is operating at maximum effectiveness and recommend any changes it considers necessary to the board for approval.

### **13. AUTHORITY**

The board authorises the Committee to:

**13.1** Carry out all duties set out in these terms of reference, to have unrestricted access to the Company's documents and information and to obtain, at the Company's expense, appropriate independent legal or professional advice on any matter within its terms of reference as it considers necessary.

**13.2** Seek any information it requires from any employee of the Group to perform its duties.

**13.3** Secure the attendance of external advisers at its meetings if it considers this necessary, at the Company's expense.

**13.4** Call any employee of the Group to be questioned at a Committee meeting as and when required.

**13.5** Have the right to publish in the Company's annual report details of any issues that cannot be resolved between the Committee and the board.

As adopted at the Board on 18 September 2024

DFS Furniture PLC

## Appendix

### i. Provision 40 of the Code

When determining executive director remuneration policy and practice, the Committee should address the following:

**Clarity** – remuneration arrangements should be transparent and promote effective engagement with shareholders and the workforce;

**Simplicity** – remuneration structures should avoid complexity and their rationale and operation should be easy to understand;

**Risk** – remuneration arrangements should ensure reputational and other risks from excessive rewards, and behavioural risk that can arise from target -based incentive plans, are identified and mitigated;

**Predictability** – the range of possible values of rewards to individual directors and any other limited or discretions should be identified and explained at the time of approving the policy; and

**Proportionality** – the link between individual awards, the delivery of strategy and the long-term performance of the Group should be clear. Outcomes should not reward poor performance.

### ii. Provision 41 of the Code

There should be a description of the work of the remuneration committee in the annual report, including:

- an explanation of the strategic rationale for executive directors' remuneration policies, structures, and any performance metrics;
- reasons why the remuneration is appropriate using internal and external measures, including pay ratios and pay gaps;
- a description, with examples, of how the remuneration committee has addressed the factors in Provision 40;
- whether the remuneration policy operated as intended in terms of company performance and quantum, and, if not, what changes are necessary;
- what engagement has taken place with shareholders and the impact this has had on remuneration policy and outcomes;
- what engagement with the workforce has taken place to explain how executive remuneration aligns with wider company pay policy; and
- to what extent discretion has been applied to remuneration outcomes and the reasons why.