

# Avison Young Tax Strategy Policy

## Scope

Avison Young (UK) Holdings, a limited company registered in England and Wales, is a wholly owned subsidiary of Avison Young (Canada) Inc., a company incorporated in Canada.

Avison Young is a commercial property advisory company based in the UK, with its headquarters in London. The company provides commercial property advice and services to the public and private sectors, including property planning, development and regeneration, building consultancy, project management, property management, valuation services, capital markets, agency services and business rates advice.

This strategy applies to Avison Young (UK) Holdings Limited and to the group of companies headed by Avison Young (UK) Holdings Limited, in accordance with paragraph 19 of Schedule 19 to the Finance Act 2016. A list of the entities to which it applies is set out below. In this strategy, references to 'the Avison Young Group' are to all these entities. The strategy has been published in accordance with paragraph 19(4) of the Schedule.

This strategy applies to the financial year to which it relates<sup>1</sup>. References to 'UK Taxation' are to the taxes and duties set out in paragraph 15(1) of the Schedule which include Income Tax, Corporation Tax, PAYE, NIC, VAT, Insurance Premium Tax, and Stamp Duty Land Tax. References to 'tax', 'taxes' or 'taxation' are to UK taxation and to all corresponding worldwide taxes and similar duties in respect of which the Avison Young Group has legal responsibilities.

## Aim

The Avison Young (AY) Group is committed to full compliance with all statutory obligations and full disclosure to relevant tax authorities. The AY Group's tax affairs are managed in a way which takes into account the group's wider corporate reputation in line with the AY Group's overall high standards of governance.

## Governance in Relation to UK Taxation

- Ultimate responsibility for the AY Group's tax strategy and compliance rests with the UK Management Committee.
- The UK Chief Finance Officer ("UK CFO") is a UK Management Committee member with executive responsibility for tax matters;

- Day-to-day management of the Group's tax affairs is delegated to the UK Financial Controller ("UK FC") who reports to the UK CFO and is supported by the finance team.
- The Group's finance team is staffed with appropriately qualified individuals;
- The UK CFO, UK FC, and the Group's finance team work closely with a Global Tax Director.
- The UK CFO reports to the UK Management Committee on the Group's tax affairs and risks during the year;
- The UK CFO and Management ensure that the Group's tax strategy is one of the factors considered in all investments and significant business decisions taken.

## Risk Management

- The AY Group operates a system of tax risk assessment and controls as a component of the overall internal control framework applicable to the group's financial reporting system;
- The AY Group seeks to reduce the level of tax risk arising from its operations as far as is reasonably practicable by ensuring that reasonable care is applied in relation to all processes which could materially affect its compliance with its tax obligations;
- Processes relating to different taxes are allocated to appropriate process owners, who carry out a review of activities and processes to identify key risks and mitigating controls in place. These key risks are monitored for business and legislative changes which may impact them and changes to processes or controls are made when required;
- Appropriate training is carried out for staff outside Tax team who manage or process matters which have tax implications;
- Advice is sought from external advisers where appropriate.

## Attitude Towards Tax Planning and Level Of Risk

The AY Group manages risks to ensure compliance with legal requirements in a manner which ensures payment of the right amount of tax.

<sup>1</sup> Financial year 2023 (1st January 2023- 31st December 2023)

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When entering into commercial transactions, the AY Group seeks to take advantage of available tax incentives, reliefs and exemptions in line with, and in the spirit of, tax legislation. The AY Group does not undertake tax planning unrelated to such commercial transactions.

The level of risk which the AY Group accepts in relation to UK taxation is consistent with its overall objective of achieving certainty in the group's tax affairs. At all times the AY Group seeks to comply fully with its regulatory and other obligations and to act in a way which upholds its reputation as a responsible corporate citizen.

In relation to any specific issue or transaction, the management is ultimately responsible for identifying the risks, including tax risks which need to be addressed and for determining what actions should be taken to manage those risks, having regard to the materiality of the amounts and obligations in question.

## **Relationship with HMRC**

The AY Group maintains an open and honest relationship in its dealing with HMRC and will seek to work in 'partnership' with HMRC in relation to its tax dealings

The AY Group ensures that HMRC is kept aware of significant transactions and changes in the business and seeks to discuss any tax issues arising at an early stage. When submitting tax computations and returns to HMRC, the AY Group discloses all relevant facts and identifies any transactions or issues where it considers that there is potential for the tax treatment to be uncertain.

Any inadvertent errors in submissions made to HMRC are fully disclosed as soon as reasonably practicable after they are identified.

## **List of Entities Covered by This Tax Strategy:**

Avison Young (UK) Holdings Limited

Avison Young (UK) Limited

Avison Young Real Estate Finance Limited

Avison Young Project Management Limited

Avison Young Workplace Limited

Avison Young Infrastructure Management Limited