

EPTA UK TAX STRATEGY

In compliance with section 19(2) of schedule 19 Finance Act 2016, Epta UK is required to publish its tax strategy for the year ending 31 December 2018.

Epta UK is part of the Italian multinational Epta Group which specialises in commercial refrigeration for retailers. Epta UK is the trading name of Epta George Barker Limited and Epta Cold Service Limited together who form a nationwide organisation supplying commercial refrigeration, air conditioning systems, after sales and maintenance services to the UK market.

The strategy outlined below applies to Epta George Barker Limited, Epta Service UK Limited and their UK subsidiaries including Epta Cold Service Limited.

1. Commitment to compliance

Epta UK is committed to meeting all legal requirements and making all appropriate tax returns and tax payments. We aim to disclose all relevant facts to the tax authorities and use professional advisers to minimise the risk of non-compliance.

2. Tax planning

Epta UK takes advantage of available reliefs and incentives (e.g. capital allowances), but does not undertake aggressive tax planning for the sole purpose of gaining a tax advantage. Professional advice is sought where necessary on major transactions to assess any tax implications that may arise.

3. Risk management and governance arrangements

Epta UK tries to ensure its tax affairs are transparent and compliant with tax legislation. We recognise that managing tax compliance is increasingly complex and ensure that staff are appropriately trained and use professional advisers to minimise the risk of non-compliance.

The day to day responsibility for UK tax compliance lies with the UK Finance Director, but the Epta Group corporate tax department also has oversight of the tax affairs of all subsidiaries.

4. Attitude towards risk

Epta UK has a low tolerance towards tax risk and does not undertake transactions led by a tax planning purpose. The UK Board and the wider Epta Group is conscious of the potential negative publicity attracted by a bad attitude towards tax and seek to minimise the risk of any dispute with the tax authorities by being open and transparent about our tax affairs. We ensure that we have strong internal processes and controls and seek professional advice where there are any uncertainties.

5. Relationship with HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC)

Communication with HMRC is focussed around timely tax compliance i.e. meeting relevant filing and payment deadlines. We employ the services of professional tax advisers to act as our agents and in many cases they liaise with HMRC on our behalf. We aim to engage with HMRC openly and in a spirit of cooperation.

This strategy was approved by the Board of Directors on 14 December 2018.