

## **Political Engagement Policy Statement**

Willmott Dixon is one of the UK's largest privately-owned companies; we operate in the construction sector. Since the formation of our company in 1852, we have prided ourselves on the strong family values of loyalty, respect, honesty and openness. These values have helped our business stand the test of time, and set us apart from our competitors.

As a responsible business, we seek to embed our values into everything we do, and this includes the way in which we conduct relationships with holders of public office.

However, Willmott Dixon is a politically neutral company.

In the course of our business, we engage with a wide range of stakeholders, including ministers, Members of Parliament and members of the National Assembly for Wales, local authority representatives as well as civil servants and the media. This may be in support of our continued ambition to spread best practice across our industry and beyond, or to contribute to wider discussions on how to promote a fairer society and a more sustainable built environment in the UK.

### **What form does this engagement take?**

We undertake the following range of activities:

- Communication with politicians about projects, areas of best practice and community engagement, through a range of media including letters, emails and social media.
- Face-to-face meetings between our people and holders of public office, for example, during ministerial visits, launches and other events.
- Participation on relevant government advisory groups or regulation-drafting groups, particularly in relation to social or environmental issues.
- Drafting and sharing reports, including thought leadership and 'position' papers.
- Responding with formal submissions of opinion to government consultations.
- Presentations on matters of corporate expertise or knowledge in relation to our work at conferences and events.
- Campaigning, through our membership of industry forums and corporate social responsibility (CSR)-focussed groups, for changes to policy directly affecting our industry, local communities, and the quality of the UK's built and natural environments.

### **Our objectives**

We play an active role in contributing ideas and knowledge relating to a number of important issues for our industry. Issues of particular focus are:

- Raising standards in health and safety, employment and payment practices across our industry.
- Raising standards of quality and sustainability in the built environment.
- Contributing to the national debate on social value and demonstrating its worth.
- Helping procurers and key decision makers identify the most effective sustainable solutions.
- Promoting the role of business in providing opportunities for young people.

### **Our standards**

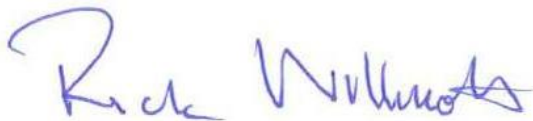
- Our activities comply with national legislative and regulatory requirements and we uphold and support the Committee on Standards in Public Life's "Seven Principles of Public Life".
- We act with integrity and honesty, and expect organisations and partners, with which we work, to align themselves to do the same.
- We make every effort to satisfy ourselves that the statements and information we publish are true and accurate, often through independent audit.

### **What don't we do?**

- The Group is not aligned or affiliated to any political party.
- We do not make political donations, nor do we authorise political donations by our people on our behalf.
- We never seek to inappropriately influence any holder of public office.

### **Transparency**

We publish a summary of our political engagement activities each year in our Sustainable Development Review. A comprehensive list of our membership of industry organisations and collaborations is published on our website.



**RICK WILLMOTT**

Group Chief Executive

**WILLMOTT DIXON HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**Date: 2.10.2018**