PORTMEIRIONGROUP

Portmeirion Group PLC

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<u>Transparency Statement on Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery (the "Statement") (in compliance with the Modern Slavery Act 2015)</u>

Portmeirion Group PLC and its subsidiary companies are committed to preventing acts of modern slavery and human trafficking within its business and supply chains, and expects the same high standards from its suppliers. While we are confident that the risk of slavery and trafficking within our Group and supply chain is low, we recognise that modern slavery can take many forms and so we continue to regularly evaluate and, where necessary, try to reduce the nature and extent of our exposure to the risk within our business. We aim to operate in a sustainable and ethical way for our people and communities as we believe this is not only the right thing to do but it is also critical to the long term health of our business and the world we operate in.

This Statement details the measures taken by Portmeirion Group PLC, which includes our U.K. operating subsidiaries Portmeirion Group UK Limited and Wax Lyrical Limited, to prevent modern slavery within our business and supply chains for the financial year ending 31 December 2022. This is our fifth Modern Slavery Act Statement.

1. Our business and supply chains

We are a U.K. public limited company with a global presence in the homewares sector. We are the ultimate parent company of the Portmeirion Group, directly employ around 820 people worldwide and sell into over 80 countries. Our largest operations are in the U.K. where we employ around 670 people and in the US and Canada where we employ around 150 people. Together with the products that we produce in our own factories within the U.K., we work with a range of suppliers to design, manufacture, package and transport our products around the world. There have been no structural changes since our last statement.

2. Managing the risk

2.1 Our policies

Our vision to be a leading force in the global homewares sector will only be achieved through a culture of honesty, integrity and openness and by respecting human rights and the interests of our employees, customers and all other stakeholders. We promote an open culture in the business achieved from effective employee engagement, people development and diligent resource management. We are a caring employer with an excellent health and safety record, fair and balanced equality policies, a wide diversity in our workforce and management structures and a consultative approach with our people. The Group has policies which set out our expectations and requirements and support our commitment to combat modern slavery; these include those on diversity and inclusion, harassment and bullying, recruitment, anti-bribery, whistle-blowing, work-life balance and flexible hybrid working.

2.2 Supply chain

We have a Supplier Code of Conduct ("Code of Conduct") which requires that employment should be freely chosen and that forced, bonded or child labour cannot be used. Our Code is based on the Base Code of Labour Practice of the Ethical Trading Initiative ("ETI") which itself is based on the standards of the International Labour Organization ("ILO"). Our product supplier contracts contain, as standard, binding clauses enforcing our Supplier Code of Conduct and retaining our right of audit and inspection of our product supplier's premises and records. Our Code aims to ensure that international human rights standards are respected at all our supplier's sites. If issues are found in supplier audits, our initial goal is to work with the suppliers to bring their practices into compliance.

Compliance with the Code of Conduct is reviewed using a tailored questionnaire that complements our Code and is supplemented with visits to suppliers' premises by our staff or representatives. During 2022, we continued to have external SMETA 4 pillar audits on all of our product suppliers to ensure they are working within ETI guidelines. These audits are carried out every two years and from 2023 will be semi announced audits with limited warning. Sedex Members Ethical Trade Audit ("SMETA") is the audit procedure created by the Sedex membership which is a compilation of good practice in ethical audit technique. The Supplier Ethical Data Exchange ("Sedex") is a not-for-profit, membership organisation that leads work with buyers and suppliers to deliver improvements in responsible and ethical business practices in global supply chains. The SMETA 4 pillar audit consists of four key pillars: Labour Standards, Health & Safety, Environment and Business Ethics and is based on both international standards and ILO conventions.

2.3 Employment practices

Our global recruitment and employment practices contain measures to ensure there is no forced labour. These measures include:

- due diligence checks on U.K. recruitment agencies;
- background checks in relation to new starters to our business relevant to the jurisdiction they will be working in;
- encouraging employee vigilance to the risks and signs of modern slavery and human trafficking and to report any instances or suspicions using the procedures set out in our Whistleblowing Policy as soon as they arise; and
- training of relevant colleagues, particularly in HR and management functions, to
 ensure they are equipped to identify and recognise any potential instances of
 modern slavery. Training is conducted formally through online training and
 assessments as well as through on-the-job mentoring.

2.4 Due diligence

The Group reserves the right to request evidence of compliance with our policies and Code of Conduct and to carry out audits at any time having given reasonable notice.

2.5 Engagement

The Board is committed to engagement with our stakeholders to deliver better outcomes for our business and all people who come into contact with it. The Board considers all stakeholders in its decision making. Further detail of this engagement and outcomes is available in our Section 172(1) Statement which we publish each year in our Report and Accounts for Portmeirion Group PLC; available on our website at https://www.portmeiriongroup.com/investors/reports-and-presentations.

3. Reporting & Action

Whistleblowing is an effective way of identifying risks of modern slavery. Our Group Whistleblowing Policy applies to employees, contractors and anyone else acting on Portmeirion Group's behalf. If a report of actual or suspected modern slavery is made, we would conduct such investigations that we could reasonably do including, where required, liaising with law enforcement officials. Our Global HR Director and Group Company Secretary are available for all employees, contractors, suppliers and other stakeholders to confidentially raise concerns in relation to improper, unethical or illegal practices and can be reached at whistleblowing@portmeiriongroup.com. We are committed to dealing with all whistleblowing reports and ensure those who raise concerns are protected from retaliation.

We do not tolerate any slavery or human trafficking within our business. If we find evidence of slavery and/or human trafficking in our supply chain, we will immediately seek to terminate our relationship with the relevant supplier and will liaise with law enforcement as required.

During 2022, we continued our employee training and awareness programme. No instances of modern slavery were identified or reported.

4. Looking Ahead

Whilst we are proud of our continued efforts to support and protect the human rights of every person involved in our operations and our supply chain, we recognise more can be done.

In 2023, Portmeirion Group will be launching its global sustainability strategy which will further support us in our commitment to preventing acts of modern slavery and human trafficking. Our commitments will focus on identifying and embedding further improvements in our supply chain transparency and to support our suppliers in applying Portmeirion Group people principles across our value chain.

This year we will mark Anti-Slavery Day on 18 October 2023 to show support and raise awareness by sending out tailored communications to employees and sourced product supplier to help them understand and spot the signs of modern slavery and human trafficking.

We believe that Portmeirion Group is effective in combating modern slavery and human trafficking within our business and supply chains through our approach to supply chain management and in promoting awareness of the issue and a transparent culture with our employees.

The contents of this statement are approved by the Board of Directors.

Mike Raybould Chief Executive

Portmeirion Group PLC 21 March 2023