

## Softcat plc – Tax Strategy

Softcat (“the Group”) is a leading UK provider of IT infrastructure products and services. We are passionate about outstanding employee satisfaction and world-class customer service - both of which inspire our flexible and friendly approach to business.

We provide organisations with technology solutions across five key technology towers; hybrid platforms, workspace, cyber security, networking & connectivity and data, AI & automation.

### Our primary tax objective

The Group's primary tax objective is to ensure that it pays the right amount of tax, in the right jurisdiction, at the right time, as dictated by both UK and local legislation.

This tax strategy is compliant with the UK tax strategy publication requirement as set out in Paragraph 16(2), Schedule 19 of the Finance Act 2016 and relates to the accounting period ending 31 July 2026. The tax strategy is approved by the Board of Directors and is in line with the Softcat values and overall group strategy and operations.

### Our management of UK tax risks

The Group’s processes, systems and controls are reviewed by the second line function, who undertake periodic reviews to document the effectiveness of tax risk mitigation measures. The results are reported to the Audit and Risk Committee and any recommendations are actioned.

The Group’s tax strategy is reviewed and approved annually by the Audit and Risk Committee and the Board. The Board has delegated the responsibility for the execution of the strategy to the Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”) who communicates with and advises the Board on the tax affairs of the Group.

The CFO is kept up to date with the tax affairs and risks of the Group by the Group Financial Controller and the Tax Manager. Any matters of risk are raised with the CFO promptly and dealt with as a matter of priority. Material commercial matters are discussed internally, and external professional advice is sought in relation to complex or non-routine matters. The CFO is also the nominated Senior Accounting Officer (“SAO”) and as part of those duties, affirms whether the tax accounting arrangements are fit for purpose and the Group delivers correct and complete tax returns in all jurisdictions.

The Group Financial Controller has ownership of the operational management of the tax function and the Tax Manager is responsible for the day to day running of the Group’s tax affairs and compliance, supported by the internal tax team.

The Group is also supported by external advisors across key areas including corporation tax, Value Added Tax (VAT) and transfer pricing to ensure appropriate support on the preparation and review of tax returns and submissions. Advisors continue to support with technical tax queries on an ad-hoc basis across all areas of tax.

### Our approach to tax planning

Softcat is a responsible taxpayer and does not enter into tax schemes designed to avoid tax or otherwise wilfully seek to avoid paying the right amount of tax. Softcat has a zero-tolerance approach to tax evasion and the facilitation of tax evasion by anyone associated with the business.

## **Our approach to tax risk**

As a large and expanding organisation with a high volume of transactions, Softcat is exposed to a variety of tax risks. Softcat has a low tolerance to tax risk and seeks to proactively minimise this risk in line with the primary tax objective described above.

The team responsible for the tax matters of the Group has adequate training and a reasonable level of experience (including suitable qualifications) to carry out their tax related responsibilities and identify risks on an ongoing basis.

Controls are in place for all material transactions to be reviewed by the Group Financial Controller, to ensure compliance with local laws, the Group's tax strategy and the values of the Group.

In addition, and where appropriate, external professional advisers are engaged to provide advice to disclose and resolve issues, risks and uncertain tax positions in real time, to ensure compliance.

Softcat plc continues to be categorised as low risk by HMRC and its risk rating was refreshed in November 2023 for the next three years. Management intends to maintain this low-risk rating in the future.

## **Our relationship with HMRC**

The Group maintains an open and honest relationship in its dealing with HMRC and seeks to work in partnership with them in relation to its tax dealings.

The Tax Manager maintains a strong working relationship with HMRC via its dedicated Customer Compliance Manager (CCM) and through this relationship has a direct avenue to discuss any outstanding tax matters.

If inadvertent errors are identified during FY26, full disclosure will be made as soon as practicable, and the Group will continue to make appropriate disclosures in line with the legal requirements and criteria set out by HMRC.

## **Our review of the tax strategy**

The Softcat plc tax strategy was approved by the Board of Softcat plc on 21 May 2026.