

BUILDING ENGINEERING SERVICES ASSOCIATION



ANTI-CORRUPTION AND BRIBERY POLICY

Bribery Act 2010

SECOND EDITION

LEGAL AND COMMERCIAL

Rotherwick House, 3 Thomas More St, St Katharine's & Wapping, London, E1W 1YZ

Tel: 020 7313 4919

Email: legal@thebesa.com

www.thebesa.com

Table of contents

Policy statement	3
Who is covered by the policy?	3
What is bribery?.....	3
Gifts and hospitality	4
What is not acceptable?	4
Facilitation payments and kickbacks.....	4
Donations	4
Your responsibilities.....	5
Record-keeping.....	5
How to raise a concern.....	5
What to do if you are a victim of bribery or corruption	5
Protection.....	5
Training and communication	6
Monitoring and review.....	6

Policy statement

It is our policy to conduct all of our business in an honest and ethical manner.

We take a zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption and are committed to acting professionally, fairly and with integrity in all our business dealings and relationships and implementing and enforcing effective systems to counter bribery.

We will uphold all laws relevant to countering bribery and corruption.

In this policy:

- **“Compliance Manager”** means Head of the Audit Committee, and
- **“third party”** means any individual or organisation you come into contact with during the course of your work for us, and includes actual and potential clients, customers, suppliers, distributors, business contacts, agents, advisers, and government and public bodies, including their advisors, representatives and officials, politicians and political parties.

Who is covered by the policy?

This policy applies to all individuals working at all levels and grades, including senior managers, officers, directors, employees (whether permanent, fixed-term or temporary), consultants, contractors, trainees, seconded staff, home workers, casual workers and agency staff, volunteers, interns, agents, sponsors, or any other person associated with us, or any of our subsidiaries or their employees, wherever located (collectively referred to as **“workers”** in this policy).

What is bribery?

A bribe is an inducement or reward offered, promised or provided in order to gain any commercial, contractual, regulatory or personal advantage.

Example 1

- **Offering a bribe**

You offer a potential client tickets to a major sporting event, but only if they agree to do business with us.

This would be an offence as you are making the offer to gain a commercial and contractual advantage. We may also be found to have committed an offence because the offer has been made to obtain business for us. It may also be an offence for the potential client to accept your offer.

- **Receiving a bribe**

A supplier gives your nephew a job, but makes it clear that in return they expect you to use your influence in our organisation to ensure we continue to do business with them.

It is an offence for a supplier to make such an offer. It would be an offence for you to accept the offer as you would be doing so to gain a personal advantage.

Example 2

Gifts and hospitality

This policy does not prohibit hospitality and gifts given to or received from third parties if the hospitality or gift is under the value of £125.00 (“the **Approved Threshold**”) and the following requirements are met:

- It is not made with the intention of influencing a third party to obtain or retain business or a business advantage, or to reward the provision or retention of business or a business advantage, or in explicit or implicit exchange for favours or benefits.
- It complies with local law.
- It is given or received in our name, not in your name.
- It does not include cash or a cash equivalent (such as gift certificates or vouchers).
- It is appropriate in the circumstances. For example, in the UK it is customary for small gifts to be given at Christmas time.
- Taking into account the reason for the gift, it is of an appropriate type and value and given at an appropriate time.
- It is given or received openly, not secretly.

We appreciate that the practice of giving business gifts varies between countries and regions and what may be normal and acceptable in one region may not be in another. The test to be applied is whether in all the circumstances the gift or hospitality is reasonable and justifiable. The intention behind the gift should always be considered.

What is not acceptable?

It is not acceptable for you (or someone on your behalf) to:

- give, promise to give, or offer, a payment, gift or hospitality with the expectation or hope that a business advantage will be received, or to reward a business advantage already given
- give, promise to give, or offer, a payment, gift or hospitality to a government official, agent or representative to "facilitate" or expedite a routine procedure
- accept payment from a third party that you know or suspect is offered with the expectation that it will obtain a business advantage for them
- accept a gift or hospitality from a third party if you know or suspect that it is offered or provided with an expectation that a business advantage will be provided by us in return
- threaten or retaliate against another worker who has refused to commit a bribery offence or who has raised concerns under this policy, or
- engage in any activity that might lead to a breach of this policy.

Facilitation payments and kickbacks

If you are asked to make a payment on our behalf, you should always be mindful of what the payment is for and whether the amount requested is proportionate to the goods or services provided. You should always ask for a receipt, which details the reason for the payment. If you have any suspicions, concerns or queries regarding a payment, you should raise these with your head of department or Compliance Manager. Kickbacks are typically payments made in return for a business favour or advantage. All workers must avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, that a facilitation payment or kickback will be made or accepted by us.

Donations

We only make charitable donations that are legal and ethical under local laws and practices. No donation shall be offered or made without the prior approval of your head of department or Compliance Manager.

Your responsibilities

You must ensure that you read, understand and comply with this policy.

The prevention, detection and reporting of bribery and other forms of corruption are the responsibility of all those working for us or under our control. All workers are required to avoid any activity that might lead to, or suggest, a breach of this policy.

You must notify your head of department or Compliance Manager as soon as possible if you believe or suspect that a conflict with this policy has occurred, or may occur in the future. For example, if a client or potential client offers you something to gain a business advantage with us, or indicates to you that a gift or payment is required to secure their business. Further "red flags" that may indicate bribery or corruption are set out in the Schedule.

Any employee who breaches this policy will face disciplinary action, which could result in dismissal for gross misconduct.

Record-keeping

We must keep financial records and have appropriate internal controls in place, which will evidence the business reason for making payments to third parties.

You must notify your Compliance Manager of any hospitality or gifts accepted or offered above the Approved Threshold (which will be subject to managerial review).

You must ensure all expenses claims relating to hospitality, gifts or expenses incurred to third parties are submitted in accordance with our expenses policy and specifically record the reason for the expenditure.

All accounts, invoices, memoranda and other documents and records relating to dealings with third parties, such as clients, suppliers and business contacts, should be prepared and maintained with strict accuracy and completeness. No accounts must be kept "off-book" to facilitate or conceal improper payments.

How to raise a concern

You are encouraged to raise concerns about any issue or suspicion of malpractice at the earliest possible stage. If you are unsure whether a particular act constitutes bribery or corruption, or if you have any other queries, these should be raised with your head of department or Compliance Manager.

What to do if you are a victim of bribery or corruption

It is important that you tell your head of department or Compliance Manager as soon as possible if you are offered a bribe by a third party, are asked to make one, suspect that this may happen in the future, or believe that you are a victim of another form of unlawful activity.

Protection

Workers who refuse to accept or offer a bribe, or those who raise concerns or report another's wrongdoing, are sometimes worried about possible repercussions. We aim to encourage openness and will support anyone who raises genuine concerns in good faith under this policy, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

We are committed to ensuring no one suffers any detrimental treatment as a result of refusing to take part in bribery or corruption, or because of reporting in good faith his or her suspicion about bribery or corruption activity. If you believe that you have suffered any such treatment, you should inform your head of department or Compliance

Manager immediately. If the matter is not remedied, and you are an employee, you should raise it formally using our Grievance Procedure.

Training and communication

Training on this policy forms part of the induction process for all new workers. All existing workers will receive regular, relevant training on how to implement and adhere to this policy.

Our zero-tolerance approach to bribery and corruption must be communicated to all suppliers, contractors and business partners at the outset of our business relationship with them and as appropriate thereafter.

Monitoring and review

This policy does not form part of any employee's contract of employment and it may be amended at any time.

Workers are invited to comment on this policy and suggest ways in which it might be improved. Comments, suggestions and queries should be addressed to your head of department or Compliance Manager.