

SHARESOC REMUNERATION GUIDELINES



Setting Pay in Public Companies

This document gives ShareSoc's guidelines for the remuneration of Directors in public companies.

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ShareSoc Remuneration Guidelines

SETTING PAY IN PUBLIC COMPANIES

FOREWORD

There has been substantial criticism of Director remuneration in public companies of late. Many consider current awards grossly excessive, with the pay of Directors continuing to rise disproportionately to that of other staff and officers. This tendency has been exacerbated by ever more complex pay schemes featuring multiple bonuses and long term incentive schemes. Such complexity can make it very difficult for shareholders to evaluate remuneration policies and to form a view as to whether payouts are reasonable.

This document attempts to provide simple guidance on what a suitable pay scheme should look like, particularly for smaller companies.

The Members of ShareSoc (the UK Individual Shareholder Society) have a right to expect fair and equitable returns on their investments. They look for the Directors to be reasonably, but not excessively, compensated for good performance and for their interests to be aligned with all the stakeholders in the business. Trust and respect in business stems from Directors doing "the right things" and we believe that companies that perform well and have a good Director Remuneration policy will gain the respect and admiration of a growing shareholder base.

There is a general consensus that pay levels need to be restrained, but existing mechanisms are not effective in doing so. Hence, ShareSoc has developed its own guidelines.

We hope this guidance will prove to be of use not just for investors when reviewing the remuneration of companies in which they have invested, but also the directors of such companies when they are considering pay structures.

Mark Northway

Chairman

May 2016

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Executive Summary

This document sets out ShareSoc's Guidelines for the remuneration of public company directors.

ShareSoc proposes different guidance for large and small companies, due to the significant differences in the way remuneration is approached between the two.

For **larger companies**, ShareSoc believes and recommends:

- Current levels of FTSE100 CEO pay are excessive. **An appropriate level of compensation should be less than half of the amounts currently being awarded.**
- FTSE 100 CEOs' **maximum bonus** should be **100%** of salary (currently 200% is typical) and **LTIP maximum** normal annual award should be **100%** of salary (currently 300% is typical). It may be necessary to offer more to externally recruited CEOs, in their first year.
- **Remuneration creep** needs to be reversed. Remuneration has tripled over the last 18 years, but the FTSE 100 share index has barely increased at all.
- To strengthen the executive board's focus on the company's long term performance, **share options** should be a central element of the remuneration package, with the requirement that a meaningful portion of share incentives must be held throughout tenure.

Manifest has agreed to allow ShareSoc to publish Manifest reports on its website. These reports contain a detailed analysis of remuneration for main market and larger AIM companies.

For **smaller companies** (those with market cap less than £200 million), ShareSoc has developed specific recommendations:

- **Salaries** should not be more than the median of comparable sized companies. For a CEO, we give specific guidance on what is reasonable.
- **Bonuses.** Fast growth companies should conserve cash. ShareSoc prefers such companies to reward management through equity incentives. Once a company is profitable, a bonus may be appropriate. For a profitable company, the maximum bonus for a CEO should be 100% of salary: a lower limit is often sufficient.
- **Share Incentives:** Share Options are a simple and clear incentive for managers of small companies. The exercise price of share options should be set at not less than the market price at the date of grant.

- **LTIPs and nil cost options, with complex performance conditions are unnecessary for small companies and should not be used.** Value Creation Schemes should also not be used.

Dilution should be less than 10% of equity over a 10-year period. This can be front ended, but some should be reserved for top ups and new recruits.

A typical structure might be 2% for the CEO with another 3% for top team, so the CEO and top team have 5%, but how this is shared out will depend on the roles and skills of the top team.

There should be clear **disclosure** of remuneration in the annual report and shareholders should be asked to vote on remuneration and share schemes.

Objectives

ShareSoc's objective in promulgating these guidelines is to improve remuneration practices and to better align them with the interests of shareholders. In particular, we aim to help companies avoid bad remuneration practices and we look to provide a framework for good remuneration practice.

ShareSoc believes there should be an equitable balance between directors' personal interests and those of the company they direct and its shareholders, as a matter of good governance. We want remuneration committees to be truly independent and to balance those interests in a fair and reasonable manner.

We also hope that these Remuneration Guidelines will enable ShareSoc Members to monitor and engage with the Directors of the companies in which they invest and to critically assess their remuneration policies and practices.

ShareSoc's 5 Pillars of Good Remuneration

These Remuneration Guidelines have been developed in line with the following five principles:

- 1. Performance Linkage:** There should be a demonstrable linkage between historic pay and performance (shown by 6 year TSR graph, Single Figure Remuneration and % of maximum pay-outs from bonus and options/long term variable pay).
- 2. Pay Level:** Remuneration (salary, equity incentives, bonus and benefits) should be demonstrably reasonable. This is measured in terms of:
 - i) £ amount.
 - ii) % share of revenue, profits, cash flow, market cap, increase in market cap, dilution, etc.
- 3. Share Ownership:** Management should own and retain significant amounts of shares in their company.
- 4. Clarity and Transparency.** Remuneration policies should be clear and easily understandable by investors.
- 5. Good Remuneration Governance** – independence, consultation, disclosure, voting and sound business practices.

Larger Companies

ShareSoc has adopted different guidance for large and small companies, due to the significant differences in the way remuneration is approached in companies of different size and stage of development.

Large companies are complex in terms of the scope and scale of their business operations. Their remuneration arrangements tend to be complex. They attract significant media attention. The remuneration numbers involved are very large in terms of absolute amount, even though they may represent only a small percentage of turnover, profits or market capitalisation.

There already exists a plethora of guidelines for large companies. The UK Corporate Governance Code provides best practice guidance for remuneration for large companies. In addition, there are best practice guidelines from the Investment Association (formerly the ABI) and the Pensions and Life Savings Association (formerly the NAPF), Manifest, PIRC, the IOD, the QCA and many fund managers including Hermes, Fidelity, F&C and many others.

There would be little value in ShareSoc developing its own remuneration guidelines for large companies, as this would add even more confusion to the current situation.

ShareSoc has therefore reached agreement with Manifest to publish Manifest's reports on the our website. These reports contain a detailed analysis of remuneration in main market and larger AIM companies. The availability of these reports is a very significant benefit to fully paid up ShareSoc Members.

ShareSoc members are also invited to write their own reports on investee companies and to make comments on the Remuneration Forum of the ShareSoc Members website (again accessible only by Full Members).

<http://sharesoc.ning.com/forum/topics/remuneration-forum>

The 5 Pillars provide a good framework to analyse the remuneration in large companies, and these are complemented by the following additional ShareSoc opinions:

- FTSE100 CEO pay is currently too high. Examples include WPP (£70m in 2015, Reckitt £23m in 2015, BP a 20% increase to £14 million against the backdrop of a £4.6 billion loss in 2015). ShareSoc has commented publicly on these and other cases.

- The FTSE 100 CEO pay policy model is also too high, with bonuses in many cases at 200% of salary and LTIPs at 300% of salary. These percentages should be less than half current levels.
- Remuneration creep needs to be reversed. CEO remuneration has tripled over the last 18 years, while over the same period the FTSE 100 share index has barely increased at all. Remuneration creep occurs in a number of ways and each of these should be identified and exposed, For example: –
 - Salary increases at greater than the rate for other employees. Over time modest-looking salary increases can compound to significantly increase remuneration, particularly as other awards tend to be set as a percentage of salary. There is a strong case for fixing the salary of the chief executive when he or she is appointed with no further increases; incentive pay will reward performance.
 - Increases in bonus maximum opportunity, or payment level for target performance, or setting easier targets, which mean that higher bonuses are paid than would have been in previous years for the same level of performance. Adopting additional performance measures which are easier to achieve than the previous measures, is another way of increasing the likely payout. The use of the balanced scorecard approach is often associated with soft targets and vigilance by shareholders is necessary in such cases.
 - Increases in the size of long-term incentive awards or setting targets which are easier to achieve than was the previous case. Adopting additional long-term performance measures which are easier to achieve than the previous measures, thus increasing the likely payout.
 - Making awards of long-term incentives at the same level of salary following a substantial decrease in the share price (e.g. Anglo American), which can produce windfall payouts for merely recovering to the previous level of share price.
 - Use of pension arrangements which hide the increase of value or potential value to the executive (e.g. BP where the chief executive has a pension based on salary and bonus).
 - Making large acquisitions that increase the volatility of future results. For example, the probability of the share price doubling or halving over three years may increase from 10% to 30% as a result of a large acquisition. The odds of achieving an EPS goal or ROCE goal may similarly improve.

The effect on remuneration is to increase the potential value of the future remuneration plans, although the effect on shareholders is minimal and the alignment with shareholders is significantly reduced.

- Complexity in remuneration design is unhelpful. Simplification should be the goal where possible. However, there is a danger of further remuneration creep arising from over-simplification.
- Soft targets should be avoided. Remuneration Committees should be challenged to justify such targets. ShareSoc members are well positioned to challenge the board at AGMs.
- Generous use of discretion and interpretation of incentive scheme rules so as to boost incentive scheme payouts should similarly be challenged.
- The lack of disclosure of incentive targets, so that investors cannot see if the targets are easy or stretching, is unacceptable. The use of “the targets are commercially sensitive” excuse is in most cases self serving. If a measure is a KPI and if it is worth rewarding the CEO for the achievement of that KPI, the company must be able to explain what the target is and show that the threshold, target and maximum payout opportunities are stretching.
- Share options should be emphasised in remuneration packages, along with also strict share-holding requirements, so that a meaningful portion of stock incentives must be held to the end of a Director’s tenure or beyond.
- The Remuneration Committee chair must be capable of standing up to the demands/requests of the executive board members. Historically, institutional investors have not provided the NEDs with adequate support. Shareholders should vote against the re-election of the director who is the Remuneration Committee chair where concerns exist, providing real pressure to resist excessive demands from the executive directors.
- Lastly and possibly most importantly, the appointment of a new CEO is a critical opportunity to control remuneration. To be effective, the CEO must work with a team of executives. Excessive remuneration to a new CEO is divisive and should be avoided. For most FTSE 100 companies, there are plenty of capable people able to do a good CEO job, so it is unnecessary to pay excessively to hire an external recruit. However, if, for example, it is necessary to provide a £5 million per annum package to hire a new CEO and a package that will pay out 25 million over five years and double that if the share price doubles, then the company should say so in simple language and justify it.

Smaller Companies

ShareSoc has developed its Remuneration Guidelines specifically for companies with less than £200 million market cap. Small companies are less complex and their remuneration should reflect this. The ShareSoc guidelines are consistent with the principles of the QCA Remuneration Committee Guide (which is designed for Small and Mid-Size Quoted Companies), but ShareSoc provides specific guidance on levels of salary, incentives and the percentage of equity dilution.

Our focus is on the CEO's remuneration (or Executive Chairman or highest paid director as the case may be). In nearly all cases with smaller companies, if the CEO's remuneration package and awards are reasonable, then this will be reflected across the board and management structure.

The ShareSoc methodology looks at each of the 5 Pillars of Good Remuneration, but does not give weightings to each of them. We believe that in some cases that a particularly bad approach for any one of the pillars could result in a bad overall assessment for a company. We do not want companies to be able to trade off a good assessment under one pillar with a poor performance under another.

PILLAR1 - Pay for Performance Linkage

1.1 Principles

ShareSoc expects that pay should be linked to performance and shareholders should have a say on pay (see Pillar 5). Poor performance should not be rewarded with high pay, nor should mediocre performance be rewarded with high pay. High pay may be acceptable when performance is very good.

Pay should be linked to performance over a period of years. Companies should show the relationship of performance and pay using the format in the Appendix, together with a commentary to explaining both the linkage and the reasons for lack of a relationship. Doing this will help build trust between investors and the company.

1.2 Analysis

Analysis focuses on the share price or TSR (TSR = share price change plus dividends) graph (at least 6 years or since IPO), comparing the company's TSR with that of a generic index and a sector, plus an analysis of KPIs and bonus and LTIP pay-outs as a % of maximum, salary and the single total figure of remuneration.

PILLAR 2 - The Level of Remuneration

2.1 Remuneration Principles

Salary (and benefits) should be reasonable. Most incentives should be equity based. Companies that pay less than average in cash may provide more generous equity incentives. Bonuses should not normally be paid unless the company is profitable.

The remuneration of the CEO sets the tone for the rest of the organisation. It should not be excessive. It should be demonstrably reasonable against peer benchmarks, measured in terms of:

- i) £ amount.
- ii) % share of revenue, profits, cash flow, market cap, increase in market cap, dilution, etc.

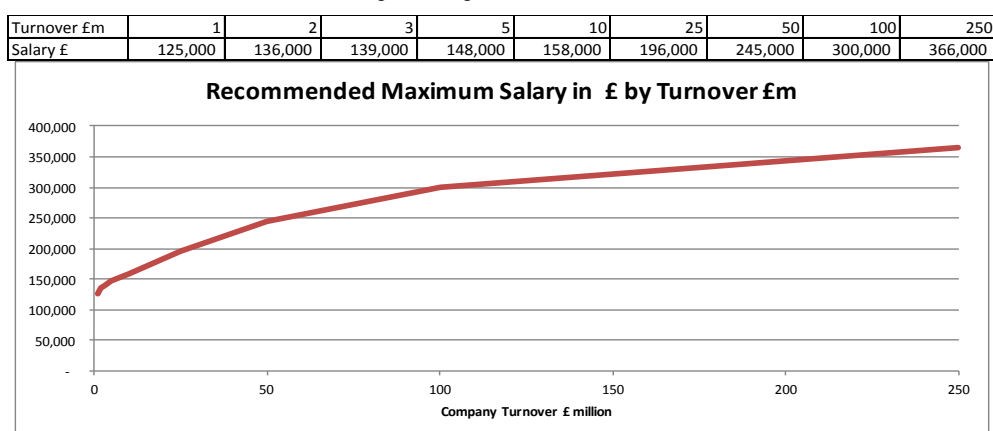
The CEO remuneration should not be overly large in comparison to the rest of the organisation. Excessive pay differentials are likely to be demotivational, unless there are special reasons which can be clearly explained to employees and shareholders.

2.2 Salaries

The CEO's salary should be set on appointment and thereafter should normally only be increased in line with the average increase awarded to employees. A CEO is paid to perform and when he/she does, an increase in salary is not necessary, as he/she will be rewarded through incentives.

Salaries should ideally not be more than the median (of other companies) and certainly not excessively more. ShareSoc's Recommended Maximum Salaries are shown in the graphs below. Salaries increase with the size and complexity of the company. The turnover or market cap is a good proxy for complexity. For a CEO, the following graphs show what is acceptable to ShareSoc. For example, ShareSoc believe that a £50m turnover company should pay their CEO a salary of not more than £245k pa.

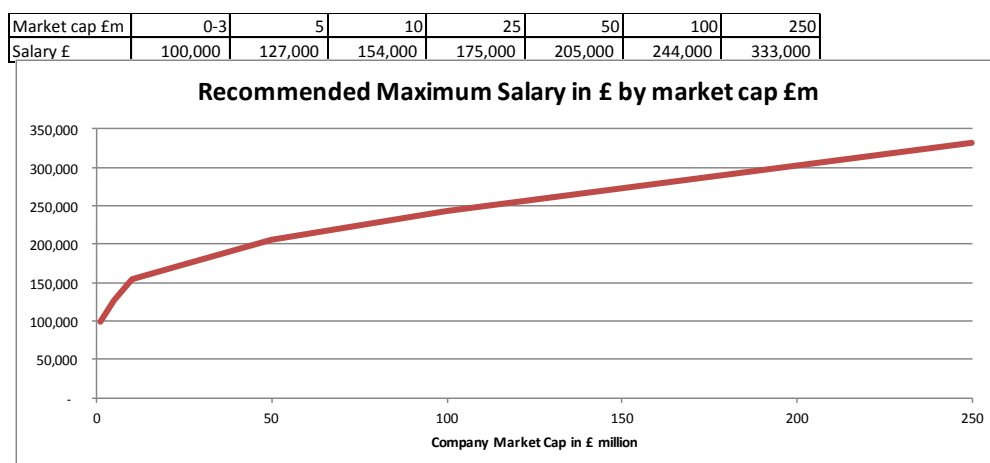
Recommended Maximum CEO Salary in £ by Turnover £m



ShareSoc recognises that some sectors have significant revenues but minimal profits; this should reduce the level of what is a reasonable salary. Conversely, high margin businesses may warrant higher salaries. The ShareSoc guidance permits flexibility to allow for the type of company.

Recommended Maximum CEO Salary in £ by Market Cap £m

An alternative way to benchmark salary is to look at the market cap of the company. This is notoriously unreliable as share prices and market caps go up and down by considerable amounts and very rarely do salaries go in tandem with such movements. Some (weak) remuneration committees ratchet up salaries when market cap increases, but do not even consider adjustments the other way. With this proviso, the following table and graph show the ShareSoc Maximum Recommended Salary for companies with market caps at the following levels:



2.3 Equity/Share Incentives

Share Options are a simple and clear incentive for managers of small companies. The exercise price of share options should not be set at less than the market price at the date of grant. LTIPs (see Glossary) and nil cost options, with complex performance conditions are unnecessary for small companies and should not be used. Value Creation Schemes (see Glossary) should not be used.

Dilution should be less than 10% of equity over a 10 year period. This can be front ended, but some should be reserved for top ups and new recruits.

A typical structure might be 2% for the CEO with another 3% for the top team, so the CEO and top team have 5%, but how this is shared out will depend on the roles and skills of the top team.

Typically, there should be another 3% for other managers and all employees; with another 2% in reserve for new recruits. (Note leavers' awards will usually fall back into the pool, so there will be more than 2% available in practice.)

ShareSoc Remuneration Guidelines

Potential gains from this approach are sufficient to incentivise management, see table below:

Share price increase multiple x	Management share option gains from 10% dilution		
5x	£4m	£12m	£40m
3x	£2m	£6m	£20m
2x	£1m	£3m	£10m
	£10m	£30m	£100m
	Market cap at start		

For example, if the share price increases fivefold (5x), and the company was £30 million market cap when the options were granted, then the market cap will grow to £150 million and if the management (including directors) had been awarded options over 10% of the shares, their collective option gains would be £12 million.

We believe that a fast growth company should be targeting at least doubling its returns to shareholders (i.e. share price plus dividends) over the planning period. The smaller the company, the larger will be the expectation of growth. Modelling the potential gains, using illustrative changes in share prices, identifies the potential rewards from equity incentives: the company and its shareholders can then decide if the potential rewards are appropriate.

Equity incentives encourage management to build up and retain significant stakes in their company. Shareholders should view with concern companies whose management sell down their stakes.

Share Options should not be exercisable for at least three years after grant. (ShareSoc prefers 50% of options to vest after 3 years and 50% after 5 years. This creates a longer term focus and reduces the possibility that the CEO will request a large top up incentive after 3 years have elapsed.)

EMI (Enterprise Management Incentives - see Glossary) are highly tax effective for management and for companies and should be implemented whenever the company meets the qualifying conditions.

Sharing Success with employees

EMI options can provide a share in success when awarded in small amounts to all/most employees.

Awards of shares to all employees under a SIP (Share Incentive Plan - see Glossary) can be very tax effective. Reserving 5% of profits for all employee profit sharing distributed via a SIP can be one way to help avoid divisiveness and encourage a culture of all sharing in success together.

2.4 Bonuses

Start up companies should conserve cash, as should fast growth companies. ShareSoc prefers such companies to reward management through equity incentives. Once a company is profitable, a bonus may be appropriate.

For a profitable company, the CEO's maximum bonus should be 100% of salary: a lower limit is often sufficient. Payment of half of the bonus in cash and half in shares (e.g. as nil cost options) that must be held for at least three years is encouraged. In general, the higher the bonus, the more that should be paid in shares.

The performance measures that determine bonus should link to the key strategic milestones and KPIs shown in the strategic report in the annual report.

In exceptional circumstances, a bonus may be paid to a CEO of a loss making company. In such cases, the maximum bonus should be 50% of salary and it may be better to pay this in shares in order to conserve cash. A bonus may be appropriate in some pre-revenue/pre-profit companies, where it is linked to measurable and stretching milestones along the path to commerciality.

Companies should have a clear policy on how profits are split between the bonus pool, dividends and reinvestment in the business and explain this to its shareholders.

2.5 Adjustments to incentive targets

Where the incentive scheme rules permit, any adjustments to incentive targets (e.g. as a result of issuing new shares, raising or paying off debt, acquisitions or disposals, decisions re whether items are exceptional or trading) must be fair to both shareholders and management. Softening of targets so as to increase incentive scheme payments is an unacceptable practice.

2.6 Reloading/Repricing

Reloading or re-pricing can potentially occur when a company's share price has reduced. If the share price reduction is a result of management's performance, then ShareSoc will (normally) expect some of the management to have left. Under such circumstances, ShareSoc would agree with the need to re-incentivise the rest of the team. However, it may not be necessary to award as much equity as before, as there should be scope to grow the market capitalisation substantially and increases in shareholder value of 5 times or even 10 times may be possible in such circumstances. Careful modelling of potential outcomes is required and will justify what the appropriate rate of dilution should be in such circumstances.

2.7 Fair rewards through the cycle

Some business sectors are notoriously cyclical. A company that invests at the top of the cycle may find its share price subsequently declines by 50% or even 90%. Issuing management with new incentives at the bottom of the cycle, which pay out for failing to get back to the original situation is highly dubious. Shareholders should look for fair rewards through the business cycle.

PILLAR 3 - Management Share Ownership

3.1 Share Ownership Principles

Management should build up and retain significant stakes in their businesses. Stakes should be both personally material and represent a reasonable percentage of outstanding shares.

ShareSoc would like the major part of management's rewards to be linked to increases in the share price over the long term.

Management should not normally sell shares in their companies. If they do, they should explain clearly the reasons why they are doing so.

3.2 Analysis

Shareholders should review the share ownership of the CEO over the past several years, e.g.:

Year	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Number of shares owned	100,000	100,000	150,000	150,000	200,000	200,000
Share price at year end	£0.05	£0.03	£0.04	£0.07	£0.08	£0.10
Value of shares owned	£5,000	£3,000	£6,000	£10,500	£16,000	£20,000
Vested options - number	0	200,000	300,000	500,000	750,000	1,000,000
Gains on vested options		£2,000	£4,500	£20,000	£37,500	£60,000
Unvested options number	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000
Gains to date on unvested options	£6,000	£2,000	£0	£4,000	£6,000	£10,000
Total of shares owned plus gains to date on options	£11,000	£7,000	£10,500	£34,500	£59,500	£90,000
Shares sold in the year-number	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shares sold in the year -value £	0	0	0	0	0	0

PILLAR 4 - Clarity and Transparency

4.1 Principles

The annual report should show clearly how much the CEO and other directors have been paid and how much they may be paid, potentially.

The explanation should be in plain English.

Complexity should be avoided. If remuneration cannot be simply explained, shareholders should view this negatively.

The full requirements of the Remuneration Disclosures required for main market companies are unnecessary for smaller companies. (Our view is that while those disclosures add additional data, they also add to the complexity of understanding the key remuneration issues)

The recommended minimum remuneration disclosures for companies wanting to build trust with their investors are provided in the Appendix.

Cross-referring to other year's remuneration reports and to circulars to shareholders may be "transparent" but is not helpful to shareholders. All relevant information necessary to explain remuneration to shareholders should be in one place in the remuneration report. It should not be necessary to follow a complex trail to find out what is really happening and companies that try to hide remuneration details in this way will be exposed and criticised.

4.2 Analysis

There are no specific analyses on this pillar, but each remuneration report should be assessed against the above principles.

PILLAR 5 - Good Governance and Business Practices

Principles

A remuneration committee should make remuneration decisions, with Independent Non-Executive Directors in the majority.

Companies should consult with key shareholders (to include a representative number of individual shareholders) about potentially contentious remuneration issues.

Where concerns are raised by shareholders about a company's remuneration arrangements, the company should engage with its key shareholders about the issues raised and explain how it intends to address the concerns.

Companies should table an advisory vote on their remuneration report at the AGM and invite shareholders to approve any new long-term incentive schemes (including their performance targets, unless clearly commercially sensitive).

Companies must be concerned about their culture, values and ethics. It matters how business results are achieved, as well as what is achieved.

Analysis

There is no specific analysis on this pillar, but each remuneration report should be assessed against the above principles.

Conclusion

ShareSoc's objective is to improve companies' remuneration practices, so that ShareSoc Members and other shareholders receive fair and equitable investment returns.

The Guidelines in this document provide a framework for good remuneration practice, and can help companies avoid bad remuneration practices.

These Remuneration Guidelines will also enable ShareSoc Members to monitor and engage with the Directors of the companies in which they invest and to critically assess their remuneration policies and practices.

If you have any comments on the contents of this document please send them to ShareSoc using the Contact Information on the final page.

APPENDIX - Remuneration Disclosures

Suggested minimum remuneration disclosure for AIM/ISDX companies wishing to build trust with their investors

Statement from the Rem Com Chair. Example:

The Remuneration Committee aims to set remuneration packages that motivate and reward executives to deliver long term sustained performance. We think our packages are reasonable. The graph and table below shows the historic relationship of pay of the CEO and performance in terms of share price [or TSR] and other KPIs and demonstrate a satisfactory linkage. The scenario chart shows the potential rewards which we feel are both reasonable and motivational for the executive team. The policy summary table shows the key elements of our remuneration approach. Shareholders are asked to approve our remuneration and I very much hope to receive your support via the vote[s] on Resolution[s] xxx at the AGM.

1. History of pay and performance

A chart should be displayed showing the share price performance over the last five years together with relevant comparator indices (e.g. Sector Index and Small Cap Index) so as to give a general impression of performance. Some companies may prefer to include a comparison against a specific group of companies or an index excluding specific companies (e.g. overseas miners) which are felt not to be relevant comparators. Some companies may prefer to use TSR (see Glossary) rather than share price as the basis of comparison.)

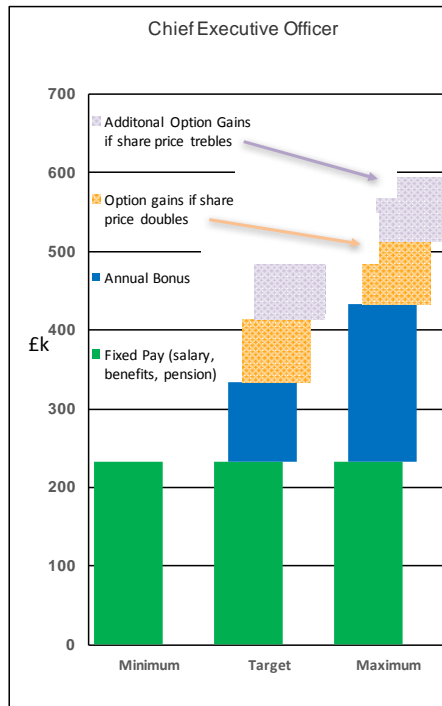
Historic data on turnover, profits, ROCE, debt and market cap should be displayed together with CEO remuneration data as in the following example.

Five Year Trading Record + Forecasts								
year ended 31-Dec		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016(E)	2017(E)
Turnover	£m	43.12	50.31	57.20	59.88	61.93	54.50	58.62
Reported Pretax Profit	£m	-21.65	-3.62	2.23	3.09	5.37		
Norm. Pretax	£m	-14.54	-1.44	1.93	2.93	6.93	4.18	6.16
Dividend Per Share	p	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.60	1.70
Operating Margin	%	-33.03	-2.90	3.32	4.88	11.42		
ROCE	%	-46.99	-8.17	9.66	14.85	26.52		
Net Borrowings	£m		-10.15	-8.13	-3.70	-0.38		
Market Cap at B/S date	£m	34.3	23.64	28.76	51.26	50.27	= £31m @ 17 Mar16	
Remuneration Data for CEO								
Bonus payout as % maximum	%	50%	25%	25%	80%	100%		
LTIPs % vesting in the year	%	50%	0%	0%	52%	90%		
Salary	£	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	200,000	
Single Figure of Remuneration	£	300,000	250,000	250,000	350,000	550,000		
Shares owned - number		2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000		
Shares owned value - at year end	£	368,450	253,941	308,940	550,635	540,000		

note: estimates (E) are average of broker estimates and are not company forecasts (except for salary which is the policy for 2016).

2. Illustration of Payouts from Remuneration Policy

2. Illustration of payouts from remuneration policy



Values in £k p.a.	Illustrative scenarios		
	Minimum	Target	Maximum
Salary	200	200	200
Fixed Pay (salary, benefits, pension)	233	233	233
Annual Bonus	0	100	200
Option gains, if no change in share price	0	0	0
Option gains if share price doubles	0	80	80
Option gains if share price trebles	0	160	160
Total if no share price change	233	333	433
Total if share price doubles	233	413	513
Total if share price trebles	233	573	673
Loss in value of shares owned if share price halves	-270	-270	-270
Gain in value of shares owned if no share price change	0	0	0
Gain in value of shares owned if share price doubles	540	540	540
Gain in value of shares owned if share price trebles	1,080	1,080	1,080

LTI/Option gains estimated using all awards and assumes gains are made over the next 5 years and annualised by dividing by 5.

Notes should explain the assumptions, for example:

Minimum assumes nil bonus and nil vesting of LTI performance conditions. Target assumes bonus at 50% of maximum and LTI vesting at median performance for market related performance conditions and target performance for financial/other performance conditions. Maximum assumes maximum bonus payout and maximum vesting of bonus matching and LTI performance conditions.

3. Remuneration Policy

A summary of the key elements of the remuneration policy table should also be included as best practice. The focus should be on the CEO, but, if there are likely to be contentious issues, details of all directors' remuneration should be clearly disclosed. An example of the recommended format is given on below.

ShareSoc Remuneration Guidelines

Item	Policy
Salary	£xxx,000 w/e dd/mm/yy. Set at median level of comparable sized companies. Reviewed annually. Any increases normally in line with those of the general workforce.
Benefits	Health insurance – family cover Pension (x% of salary) and Life insurance at, both at same level as other employees
Bonus	Target 25% salary. Maximum 50% salary. Targets and measures set each year to reflect KPIs.
Share options	CEO has options over 2% of the company awarded on ddmmyy, with an exercise price of £y.yyp (The above is a simple award structure. In other cases, the company should explain its policy and list all option awards, number of shares in award, dates of award and when exercisable, exercise price and any performance conditions that apply, see example below.)
Share Ownership	CEO owns xx shares, currently worth £yy. He/She is expected to build a stake over time of at least 3 x salary and not to sell shares, other than to pay taxes on exercised options, until this threshold level is achieved. Any share sales must be discussed and pre-agreed with the Chairman.

Directors' Share Options

	Options @31.12.14	Awarded in year	Options exercised	Options lapsed	Options @31.12.15	Option Price	Date of grant
Name1	x				x	21p	1 Aug 08
Name1	x				x	26p	1 Aug 11
Name1	X				X	35p	1 Aug 14
Name1	X	X			X	45p	1 Aug 15
Name2	X				X	35p	1 Aug 14
Name2	X	X			X	45p	1 Aug 15

Add details of performance conditions that apply to the above. If none say so.

Add details of vesting, e.g. options are normally exercisable 50% 3 years after date of grant and 50% after 5 years.

4. Remuneration Outcomes – Single Total figure of Remuneration

	Salary		Benefits		Pension		Bonus		Long Term Incentives		Total	
	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
CEO name	200	200	10	10	23	23	90	100	227	17	550	350
Exec dir. 2 name	135	130	10	9	14	13	90	50	52	0	300	202
Chair name	50	50									50	50
NED1 name	35	35									35	35
NED2 name	35	35									35	35

For definition of terms see Schedule 8 of "The Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) (Amendment) Regulations 2013."

5. Companies Act Required Disclosures for Directors' Remuneration

- Aggregate remuneration paid to directors, excluding option/LTI gains and pensions.
- Remuneration of the highest paid director.
- Aggregate gains by directors on exercised share options.
- Aggregate gains made by Directors from other long term incentive schemes.
- Aggregate pension contributions.
- See Schedule 5 to "The Large and Medium-sized Companies and Groups (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008" for full details of requirements.

Notes about suggested data

The graph, valuation metrics and 5 year trading record data are a standard set of data, such as provided by Morningstar, London Stock Exchange or Stockopedia.

Bonus payout as % max, LTIPs % vesting and Single Total Figure are as defined in the remuneration reporting regulations.

Illustration of payouts from policy is partly as defined in the remuneration reporting regulations, but enhanced to show the impact of share price changes. Share price changes and their impact are a very important part of reward for fast growth companies.

Value of shares held is also very important for smaller AIM companies, as many CEOs are founders and have large stakes in their companies.

Glossary

EMI: Enterprise Management Incentives. These are tax advantaged share options. For EMI details see:

<http://www.mm-k.com/content/documents/2015emisummary.pdf>

LTIPs: Long Term Incentive Plans. LTIPs are operated by the majority of FTSE 100 companies and are sometimes called performance share plans, or performance restricted stock plans.

SIP:Share Incentive Plan. Schemes that allow employees to acquire shares in various ways. For SIP details see:

<http://www.mm-k.com/content/documents/201506SIP-summary.pdf>

TSR: Total Shareholder Return. The percentage change in the share price plus dividends received by shareholders expressed as an annual return figure.

Value Creation Schemes. These give a share of the gain in the value of a company above a threshold to executives via a subsidiary company created for this purpose.

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These Director Remuneration Guidelines were prepared by a subcommittee of ShareSoc Directors, led by Cliff Weight, ably supported by Roger Lawson, Chris Spencer-Phillips, who instigated the project, and Mark Lauber.

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