

Anti-bribery Policy

This anti-bribery policy exists to set out the responsibilities of Venture Security and those who work for us in regard to observing and upholding our zero-tolerance position on bribery and corruption.

It also exists to act as a source of information and guidance for those working for us. It helps them recognise and deal with bribery and corruption issues, as well as understand their responsibilities.

Policy statement

Venture Security is committed to conducting business in an ethical and honest manner and is committed to implementing and enforcing systems that ensure bribery is prevented. Venture has zero-tolerance for bribery and corrupt activities. We are committed to acting professionally, fairly, and with integrity in all business dealings and relationships, wherever in the country we operate.

We will constantly uphold all laws relating to anti-bribery and corruption in all the jurisdictions in which we operate. We are bound by the laws of the UK, including the Bribery Act 2010, in regard to our conduct both at home and abroad.

We recognise that bribery and corruption are punishable by up to ten years of imprisonment and a fine. If our company is discovered to have taken part in corrupt activities, we may be subjected to an unlimited fine, be excluded from tendering for public contracts, and face serious damage to our reputation.

This anti-bribery policy applies to all employees (whether temporary, fixed term, or permanent), consultants, contractors, trainees, seconded staff, home workers, casual workers, agency staff, volunteers, or any other person or persons associated with us (including third parties), or any of our subsidiaries or their employees, no matter where they are located (within or outside of the UK). The policy also applies to Board members at any level.

In the context of this policy, third-party refers to any individual or organisation our company meets and works with. It refers to actual and potential clients, customers, suppliers, distributors, business contacts, agents, advisers, and government and public bodies – this includes their advisors, representatives and officials, politicians, and public parties.

Any arrangements our company makes with a third party is subject to clear contractual terms, including specific provisions that require the third party to comply with minimum standards and procedures relating to anti-bribery and corruption.

Definition

Bribery refers to the act of offering, giving, promising, asking, agreeing, receiving, accepting, or soliciting something of value or of an advantage so to induce or influence an action or decision.

A bribe refers to any inducement, reward, or object/item of value offered to another individual in order to gain commercial, contractual, regulatory, or personal advantage.

Bribery is not limited to the act of offering a bribe. If an individual is on the receiving end of a bribe and they accept it, they are also breaking the law.

Bribery is illegal. Employees must not engage in any form of bribery, whether it be directly, passively (as described above), or through a third party (such as an agent or distributor). They must not accept bribes in any degree and if they are uncertain about whether something is a bribe or a gift or act of hospitality, they must seek further advice from the company's Managing Director.

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Gifts and hospitality

Venture accepts normal and appropriate gestures of hospitality and goodwill (whether given to/received from third parties) so long as the giving or receiving of gifts meets the following requirements:

1. It is not made with the intention of influencing the party to whom it is being given, to obtain or reward the retention of a business or a business advantage, or as an explicit or implicit exchange for favours or benefits
2. It is not made with the suggestion that a return favour is expected
3. It is in compliance with local law
4. It is given in the name of the company, not in an individual's name
5. It does not include cash or a cash equivalent (e.g. a voucher or gift certificate)
6. It is appropriate for the circumstances (e.g. giving small gifts around Christmas or as a small thank you to a company for helping with a large project upon completion)
7. It is of an appropriate type and value and given at an appropriate time, taking into account the reason for the gift
8. It is given/received openly, not secretly
9. It is not selectively given to a key, influential person, clearly with the intention of directly influencing them
10. It is not above a certain excessive value, as pre-determined by the Managing Director (usually in excess of £100)
11. It is not offer to, or accepted from, a government official or representative or politician or political party, without the prior approval of the Managing Director

Where it is inappropriate to decline the offer of a gift (i.e. when meeting with an individual of a certain religion/culture who may take offence), the gift may be accepted so long as it is declared to the Managing Director, who will assess the circumstances.

Venture recognises that the practice of giving and receiving business gifts varies between countries, regions, cultures, and religions, so definitions of what is acceptable and not acceptable will inevitably differ for each.

As good practice, gifts given and received should always be disclosed to the Managing Director. Gifts from suppliers should always be disclosed.

The intention behind a gift being given/received should always be considered. If there is any uncertainty, the advice of the Managing Director should be sought.

Charitable Contributions

Venture accepts (and indeed encourages) the act of donating to charities – whether through services, knowledge, time, or direct financial contributions (cash or otherwise) – and agrees to disclose all charitable contributions it makes.

Employees must be careful to ensure that charitable contributions are not used to facilitate and conceal acts of bribery.

We will ensure that all charitable donations made are legal and ethical under local laws and practices, and that donations are not offered/made without the approval of the Managing Director.

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Employee Responsibilities

Employees of Venture Security must ensure that they read, understand, and comply with the information contained within this policy, and with any training or other anti-bribery and corruption information they are given.

All employees and those under our control are equally responsible for the prevention, detection, and reporting of bribery and other forms of corruption. They are required to avoid any activities that could lead to, or imply, a breach of this anti-bribery policy.

If employees have reason to believe or suspect that an instance of bribery or corruption has occurred or will occur in the future that breaches this policy, they must notify the Managing Director.

If any employee breaches this policy, they will face disciplinary action and could face dismissal for gross misconduct. Venture has the right to terminate a contractual relationship with an employee if they breach this anti-bribery policy.



Paul Howe
Managing Director