

STHREE PLC (OR 'THE COMPANY')
TERMS OF REFERENCE
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ('EXEC COM')

1. Establishment/Purpose

The Exec Com is established as a Committee of SThree plc pursuant to Article 96 of the SThree plc Articles of Association. Its purpose is to assist the CEO in the performance of his duties on behalf of the Board, including:

- the development and implementation of strategy, operational plans, policies, procedures and budgets;
- the review and monitoring of operating and financial performance;
- the assessment and control of risk;
- the prioritisation and allocation of resources;
- monitoring competitive forces in each area of operation.

All subject to the limitations of authority as detailed within the 'Schedule of Matters Reserved for the SThree plc Board/Committees and subsidiary company control framework' and Group Authorities Matrix, as amended from time to time, with appropriate matters delegated by the Board to other Committees as necessary.

2. Membership

The Exec Com shall normally comprise the CEO, Senior Regional/Operational Executives, CFO (of SThree plc), the MDs of each major Region, HR Director, IT Director, Business Services Director, Business Co-ordination/Property Director or any other SThree plc Executive Director.

Additionally, any person may be invited by the CEO from time to time either to become a full Exec Com member, or to attend all or any part of any meeting.

3. Chair

Any person nominated by the CEO shall act as Chair of the Exec Com. Alternatively, the Senior Regional/Operational Executives or CFO may act as, or nominate, a person to act as Chair.

4. Secretary

Any person so nominated by the CEO shall act as secretary of the Exec Com or take minutes of Exec Com meetings.

5. Quorum

The quorum necessary for the transaction of business shall be two members, of whom at least one must be the CEO, Senior Regional/Operational Executives or CFO. A duly convened meeting of the Exec Com at which a quorum is present shall be competent to exercise all or any of the authorities, powers and discretion vested in or exercisable by the Exec Com.

6. Frequency of Meetings

The Exec Com shall normally meet monthly on the Monday prior to each main Board meeting, except for August and December. Additional meetings may be held as required.

7. Notice of Meetings

Meetings of the Exec Com, other than those regularly scheduled as above, shall be summoned by the secretary of the Exec Com at the request of the CEO.

Unless otherwise agreed, notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date together with an agenda of items to be discussed and supporting papers, shall be forwarded to each member of the Exec Com, any other person required to attend, no later than the Friday before the date of each meeting.

8. Conduct of Meetings

Except as outlined above, meetings of the Exec Com shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Company's Articles of Association governing the proceedings of Directors.

9. Minutes of Meetings

The secretary shall minute the proceedings and resolutions of all meetings of the Exec Com, including recording the names of those present and in attendance.

Minutes of Exec Com meetings shall be circulated promptly to all members of the Exec Com and, once agreed, to all Directors of SThree plc.

10. General Powers/Duties

To ensure that the Group's corporate objectives and responsibilities are aligned to the operational objectives of the business and, if necessary, to recommend objectives or strategy for the Group in the development of its strategic plans/business, having regard to the interests of its shareholders, customers, employees and other stakeholders.

Agreeing policy guidelines for Brands based on approved Group strategy and the successful execution of this strategy;

Development and agreement of the Group's management plans/budgets and (up to) a five year plan to be presented to the Board and, following adoption, the development/management of the operational structure/performance of the business to ensure achievement of budgets and plans and monitoring/reporting thereon;

Developing and reviewing business objectives, performance and budgets to ensure that they fall within the agreed Group targets and taking appropriate cost control measures to optimise the allocation and adequacy of the Group's resources;

To define and set areas of responsibility and accountability within the business for the effective day to day operation of the business, ensuring appropriate levels of authority are delegated to senior management throughout the Group;

Development of and, as appropriate, recommending remuneration policies for the Group and implementing the appropriate remuneration structures within the business;

Recommending the appointment, remuneration or removal of persons, as appropriate, whilst ensuring the provision of adequate management development and succession planning in line with the operational organisational structure of the Group;

Ensuring the adequate control, co-ordination and monitoring throughout the Group of risk and internal control systems/processes and ensuring that these are regularly reviewed, updated and communicated throughout the business and with auditors;

To review and ensure compliance with all relevant legislation and regulations and also reviewing and implementing the Group's Corporate Social Responsibility (CR) programme to ensure that business is conducted consistently with the agreed/appropriate CR practices;

To implement effective information systems, including controls and security throughout the Group, whilst safeguarding the integrity of management information and financial reporting systems;

Identifying and executing new business opportunities outside current core activities, including geographic diversification and recommending any acquisitions, trade investments, divestments and major capital expenditure proposals for approval, where material, in a Group context, either by nature or cost;

Approving all strategic or material alliances and partnership agreements;

To ensure that all matters having material, financial, political, commercial, legal, health, safety & environmental or employee implications for the Group are reviewed and reported on and to develop and implement Group policies which safeguard against potential liability for offences committed by the Group, including, but not limited to, the following areas:

- Codes of ethics and business practice;
- Share dealing code;
- Risk management policies;
- Treasury policies;
- Health and safety policy;
- Communications policy (including procedures for the release of price sensitive information);
- Investor relations policy;
- Corporate Social Responsibility policy (including environmental, employee communications and employee disability);
- Charitable donations policy; and
- Ensuring the active liaison, co-ordination and co-operation between Brands.

Generally, to maintain an effective communications process throughout the Group.

At least annually, to review its own performance, constitution and terms of reference to ensure that it remains effective and to recommend any changes considered necessary for approval by the SThree plc Board.

11. Reporting Responsibilities

The CEO shall report formally to the Board, at each Board meeting, on the proceedings of the Exec Com since the previous Board meeting.