

Hugh Davies Associates Limited t/a Amber River HDA

# MIFIDPRU Disclosure

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## Table of Contents

1. Introduction.....	3
2. Remuneration .....	4
2.1. Our approach and objectives.....	4
2.2. Governance and decision-making procedures .....	4
2.3. Key characteristics of remuneration policies and practices.....	5
2.4. Fixed remuneration .....	5
2.5. Variable remuneration .....	5
2.6. Quantitative disclosures .....	6

# 1. Introduction

Hugh Davies Associates Limited (Amber River HDA), the “Firm” is a MIFID investment firm authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA). We are required to comply with the disclosure requirements under the Investment Firms Prudential Regime (IFPR), which is set out in the FCA Handbook MIFIDPRU 8. This supersedes the previous Pillar 3 disclosure.

For the purpose of prudential regulations, we are classified as a SNI (small and non-interconnected) firm and are subject to the basic requirements. We are required to provide a level of detail in our disclosures that is appropriate to our size and internal organisation, and to the nature, scope, and complexity of our activities.

The following sections of the MIFIDPRU disclosure rules apply to us:

- MIFIDPRU 8.1 – Disclosure
- MIFIDPRU 8.6 – Remuneration policy and practices

## 2. Remuneration

The Firm is required to comply with the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code under IFPR, which aims to ensure that we have risk-focused remuneration policies that are consistent with and promote sound and effective risk management in the long-term interests of the Firm and our customers and do not expose the Firm or our clients to excessive risk.

### 2.1. Our approach and objectives

We have formulated our approach in remuneration policy and practices with reference to the guidance set out by the FCA. We consider the appropriate balance between fixed and variable remuneration as well as the constraints in place to avoid a conflict of interest between staff incentives and the best interests of customers.

The objectives of our financial incentives are to:

- promote sound and effective risk management in the long-term interests of the Firm and our customers;
- limit risk-taking and avoid conflicts of interest
- ensure alignment between risk and individual reward
- supporting positive behaviours and healthy firm cultures
- encourage responsible business conduct
- discourage behaviour that can lead to misconduct and poor customer outcomes
- align employee's interests with the firm's long-term strategy and objectives
- be gender neutral, in line with the Equality Act 2010
- ensure good client outcomes at all times
- align behaviour to our values.

### 2.2. Governance and decision-making procedures

The Business Risk Committee of the Firm is responsible for overseeing the implementation of our remuneration policy and ensuring our compliance with the MIFIDPRU Remuneration Code.

The Business Risk Committee is made up of the 4 members of the board who are a 50/50 split of advisory staff and compliance/operations. They each bring input and perspective from their respective areas.

One role of the Board is to ensure the extent of the variable remuneration at the Firm cannot affect the Firm's ability to ensure a sound capital base. The Board of the Firm is responsible for overseeing the performance management process; reviewing and approving the remuneration policy, variable remuneration pool and caps, eligibility of participation in variable remuneration schemes, as well as the approval of variable remuneration awarded to individuals.

We assess our staff members under our performance management process on an ongoing basis with an annual performance assessment outcome being used as a contributing factor in the determination of remuneration.

The remuneration of senior staff (managers and directors) is directly overseen by the Board of the Firm.

### 2.3. Key characteristics of remuneration policies and practices

The Firm's remuneration policy has been created and is reviewed annually by the Business Risk Committee and Board.

The remuneration policy's aims are to promote sound and effective risk management, to encourage responsible business conduct, to limit risk-taking and avoid conflicts of interest, to align employee's interests with the firm's long-term strategy and objectives, and to be gender neutral, in line with the Equality Act 2010.

The policy is designed to align risk and reward, to ensure the capital base of the firm is not put at risk by its remuneration incentives.

The remuneration policy has been developed based on a number of key principles which are:

- Remuneration should align to the Firm's business drivers, corporate vision and strategic priorities of the wider firm.
- Remuneration should adhere to wider people management practices, and only reward results which support a positive employment culture and customer values.
- Remuneration plans communication should be made simple, clear and transparent for employees and shareholders.

At Amber River HDA, total reward typically comprises a salary and benefits including pension scheme, Death In Service Benefits, together with a number of bonus arrangements. Salaries are set in the context of affordability, external market considerations as well as internal relativities and equal pay factors.

### 2.4. Fixed remuneration

#### **Base Salary**

We review the base salary our staff members on an annual basis by considering factors such as market information and individual performance as well as increased competency and qualifications.

### 2.5. Variable remuneration

#### **Bonus**

The Firm's bonus scheme is a discretionary reward scheme based on the performance of the Firm as a whole. All bonuses are dependent on the firm's overall financial result to ensure a sound capital base.

The bonus pool will take into consideration all types of current and future, financial and non-financial risks and be determined on a sliding scale, using a monthly salary multiplier as a guide.

On an individual level, the scheme is designed and linked to both financial and non-financial criteria, rewarding behaviours that promote positive non-financial outcomes for the firm and limiting eventual behaviours contrary to the firm's values.

The bonus pool and other individual bonuses will be adjusted as deemed necessary by the The Board of the Firm in consideration of the following:

- Any compliance or regulatory issues that have occurred or are under investigations internally or externally
- Any persistent or significant breaches in either financial or non-financial KPI's
- Any conduct related matters that have occurred or are under investigation internally or externally
- Any matters that adversely impact client outcomes
- Any other factors that may publicly impact the Firm's brand or reputation.

## 2.6. Quantitative disclosures

For the financial year ended March 2024 the amount of remuneration awarded was as follows:

Total remuneration (£)	Fixed proportion (£)	Variable proportion (£)
£1,013,154.76	£960,275.71	£52,879.05