## HORNBY PLC ("Hornby" or the "Company")

### Chairman's Corporate Governance Statement 2018

(The information in this statement was last reviewed on 28 September 2018)

#### Introduction

This Statement is issued in compliance with Rule 26 of the AIM Rules. Hornby is incorporated in England and Wales and its shares are listed on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange ("AIM").

#### The Principles of Corporate Governance

I am the Chairman of Hornby and I am responsible for leading the Board and upholding high standards of corporate governance throughout the Group and particularly at Board level.

The Directors share the view that sound governance is fundamental to the successful growth of the business. After the Company's admission to AIM in 2015, the Board continued to follow the principles of the UK Corporate Governance Code, as appropriate to the size and nature of the Company. Following changes to AIM Rule 26 during 2018, the Company is now required to provide details of a recognised corporate governance code and the Board confirms it has decided to apply the Quoted Companies Alliance Corporate Governance Code for small and mid-sized companies 2013 (the "QCA Code"), an updated version of which was published in April 2018 (the "New QCA Code").

#### Compliance with the New QCA Code:

The Board believes that it applies the ten principles of the New QCA Code, but recognises the need to continue to develop our governance practices and disclosures in some areas in order to ensure we continue to effectively apply the principles going forward. In particular, we intend to focus on the development and articulation of our corporate culture in the coming year. The Board will also consider an appropriate evaluation of its performance. Alongside this, succession planning will be another topic of discussion for the Board this year.

The policies, procedures and relevant systems we have implemented to date have given us a firm foundation for our governance structure. The Board regularly reviews the structure to ensure that it develops in line with the growth and strategic plans of the Group.

#### **Deliver Growth**

The Board has collective responsibility for setting the strategic aims and objectives of the Group. Our strategy is articulated in the 2018 Annual Report and Accounts. In the course of implementing our strategic aims, the Board takes into account expectations of the Company's shareholder base and also its wider stakeholder and social responsibilities.

The Board also has responsibility for the Group's internal control and risk management systems. The Board regularly reviews the risks faced and ensures the mitigation strategies in place are the most effective and appropriate to the Group's operations.

#### **Dynamic Management Framework**

As Chairman, I regularly consider the operation of the Board as a whole and the individual performance of the directors. The Company has not yet conducted a formal Board performance evaluation process but we intend to do so during the next 12 months. The Board recognises the importance of a review of the effectiveness of its performance as a unit, as well as that of its committees and the individual directors, and this will be a key area of focus for us this year. Any future appointments to the Board will be on merit, but with due consideration to the need for diversity, including gender, on the Board. Such appointments will be made to complement the existing balance of skills and experience on the Board.

The Company operates an open and inclusive culture, and this is reflected in the way that the Board conducts itself. The Non-Executive Directors regularly attend the Company's offices and other events. With a relatively small employee base, such interactions mean it is relatively straightforward for the Board to promote and assess the desired corporate culture. That said, we recognise this is an area for development, and we intend to further and develop our culture during the course of the year.

#### **Build Trust**

During the year the Board has continued to review governance and the Group's corporate governance framework. The Board will continue to monitor its application of the New QCA Code and revise its governance framework as appropriate as the Group evolves.

The Board recognises the importance of maintaining regular dialogue with institutional shareholders to ensure that the Group's strategy is communicated and to understand the expectations of our shareholders.

The table appended to this Statement sets out details of some of the areas of the disclosure requirements under the QCA Code that we will be addressing, all of which we aim to comply with following publication of our 2019 Annual Report.

John Stansfield Non-Executive Chairman Hornby PLC 28 September 2018

# **HORNBY PLC**

# **Application of the QCA Corporate Governance Code**

# **DELIVER GROWTH**

Principle Establish a strategy and business model which promote long-term value for shareholders  An explanation of the Company's business mincluding key challenges in their execution (a be addressed) is included on pages 2 - 10 of t Annual Report and Accounts for the year end (the "2018 Annual Report"). The 2018 Annual describes how the business aims to build long value in a sustainable way.  2 Seek to understand and meet shareholder needs and expectations  The Company welcomes contact with its share contact details are provided in the 2018 Annu shareholder enquiries.  The Group maintains communication with ins shareholders through meetings with director following publication of the Group's interim a preliminary results.  All shareholders are encouraged to attend the Meeting at which the Group's activities will be questions answered.  Non-Executive Directors are available to discuss hareholders might wish to raise, and the Chimeetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with investors and analysts, as requirely linear through meetings with linear through meetings with linear through meetings with linear	nd how those will he Hornby PLC ed 31 March 2018 I Report also g-term shareholder eholders and hal Report for stitutional s, particularly had full year e Annual General
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General information about the Group is avail website: www.hornby.com. This includes an	ired. shareholder
announcements.	able on the Group's overview of
Take into account wider stakeholder and social responsibilities and their implications for long-term success  Pages 2-5 of the 2018 Annual Report describe and relationships on which the business relie great understanding of the needs, interests a the Company's stakeholders and of our socia and we will articulate this in more detail in our forward.	s. The Board has a nd expectations of responsibilities
4 Embed effective risk management, considering The Company's approach to risk managemen	
both opportunities and threats, throughout the on pages 9 and 10 of the 2018 Annual Report organisation	
The Board has primary responsibility for iden	Life in a the
major risks facing the Group and in developin	titying the
appropriate policies to manage those risks. Wannual risk assessment programme in place twith this.	g the

## **MAINTAIN A DYNAMIC MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

	Principle	Application
5	Maintain the board as a well-functioning, balanced team led by the chair.	The names of the directors who served during the year ended 31 March 2018 are set out on page 13 of the 2018 Annual Report.
		The names and details of the current directors is available on the Group's corporate investor relations website: <a href="http://www.hornby.plc.uk">http://www.hornby.plc.uk</a> .
		The 2019 Annual Report will set out, in more detail, those directors who are considered independent, the time commitment required by directors and it will confirm the number of board and committee meetings during the year and the attendance of directors at those meetings.
6	Ensure that between them the directors have the necessary up-to-date experience, skills and capabilities	The details of the directors that served during the year ended 31 March 2018, their background and experience are identified on the Group's corporate investor relations website: <a href="http://www.hornby.plc.uk">http://www.hornby.plc.uk</a>
		John Stansfield, the Non-Executive Chairman, is available to speak with shareholders concerning the corporate governance of the Company.
		We intend to expand the disclosures on the detail on the skills and experience each director brings to the Board, director training, how the directors keep their skillset up to date and any other internal advisory roles.
7	Evaluate board performance based on clear and relevant objectives, seeking continuous improvement	The Board have not conducted a formal Board performance evaluation to date. It is intended that a full evaluation of the Board, Committees and individual directors will be carried out during the year. The process and results will be disclosed on our website and in the 2019 Annual Report.
		Succession planning will also be an item for Board discussion during the course of the year.
8	Promote a corporate culture that is based on ethical values and behaviours	The nature of our business means expertise and people skills are at the core of what we do and how we maintain competitive advantage. Having a people orientated ethos, where team work and commitment are recognised, is central to the success of our strategy. We value their skills and expertise and encourage development through appropriate training and experience. We pride ourselves on our home-grown talent, with a significant number of our employees having been with the Company for many years.
		The Board intends to further develop its assessment of the recognition of corporate culture and ethical values during the year, and will enhance disclosures in these areas in the 2019 Annual Report.

9 Maintain governance structures and processes that are fit for purpose and support good decision-making by the board

The roles and responsibilities of the Chair, Chief Executive and any other Directors who have specific individual responsibilities or remits (e.g. for chairing board sub-committees, engagement with shareholders or other stakeholder groups) are set out on our website.

The Board has a schedule of matters reserved for the Board which requires the following key matters to be considered and approved by the Board:

- Strategy and Management
- Structure and Capital
- Contracts
- Communication
- Finance
- Internal Control
- Secretarial
- Board membership and other appointments
- Membership and Chairmanship of the Board Committees
- Remuneration
- Delegation of authority
- Corporate Governance matters
- Policies

The Company has a Remuneration Committee and an Audit Committee and the Terms of Reference for both Committees are available on the Group's corporate investor relations website: <a href="http://www.hornby.plc.uk">http://www.hornby.plc.uk</a>.

## **BUILD TRUST**

	Principle	Application
10	Communicate how the Company is governed and is performing by maintaining a dialogue with shareholders and other relevant stakeholders	Copies of previous Annual Reports and information about shareholder voting at previous Annual General Meetings of the Company are set out on the Group's corporate investor relations website: <a href="http://www.hornby.plc.uk">http://www.hornby.plc.uk</a> .  We intend to expand the disclosures on the work undertaken by the board committees during the year in the 2019 Annual Report.