

(GRI 2-23)

BENCHMARKED TO GLOBAL STANDARDS:

The GRI Index, the UN Global Compact and the Women’s Empowerment Principles

28 May 2022 marked 20 years of engagement for Aitken Spence PLC as a signatory to the UN Global Compact. This was an integral step in the company’s formation of a formal sustainability strategy, incorporating priorities for long-term social, environmental and economic sustainability, viability, profitability and integrity of the company. Aitken Spence internalised these 10 principles from the inception of the Group’s sustainability strategy and our progress can be viewed in this report as connected through this GRI Index.

The Company actively participates in the Working Groups for Climate Action, Water and Supply Chains and leads the Business & Human Rights Working Group. Key team members have also attended accelerator programmes for climate ambitions, Target Gender Equality and well as the first SDG Innovators programme for young executives. The Climate Emergency Task Force meetings are also hosted at Aitken Spence Towers to show our support for these movements.

The Group became signatory to the Women’s Empowerment Principles in 2010/2011, among the first entities in the world to do so.

Aitken Spence PLC aligns with the Global Reporting Initiative’s frameworks for sustainability reporting as it is the most widely used framework in the world affording us comparability of information. Our report for this financial year is ‘In Accordance’ with the GRI Standard reporting framework to disclose our performance information. Requirements of these global benchmarks also influences the Group’s integrated sustainability policy and its implementation framework.

The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact

Human Rights

1. Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights
2. Business should make sure they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour Standards

3. Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.
4. Businesses should uphold the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.
5. Businesses should uphold the effective abolition of child labour.
6. Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

7. Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.
8. Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility.
9. Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-corruption

10. Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

The 7 UN Women’s Empowerment Principles

1. Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality
2. Treat all women and men fairly at work – respect and support human rights and nondiscrimination
3. Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers
4. Promote education, training and professional development for women
5. Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women
6. Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy
7. Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality

Refer to the following icons in the GRI Index, showing the connection between the Ten Principles of the UNGC, and the seven principles of the Women’s Empowerment Principles;

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|  Financial information |  Environmental information |
|  Social information |  Governance information |

UNGC Principles:

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Women’s Empowerment Principles:

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