

# Modern Slavery Act Statement

December 2023



Guinness Asset Management Ltd ("Guinness")

## Modern Slavery Act Statement

This statement is made pursuant to Section 54(1) of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 and constitutes the Guinness modern slavery and human trafficking statement.

At Guinness, we take our social responsibilities seriously. The health and wellbeing of our employees are vital to us and we are committed to providing fairness and respect for all in our employment and cultivating a positive work environment. We want to cooperate with business partners who share these values, including safeguarding human rights and decent working conditions.

Guinness is committed to the preservation of human rights and is strongly opposed to the use of slavery in all forms; cruel, inhuman or degrading punishments; and any attempt to control or reduce freedom of thought, conscience and religion. Guinness will not knowingly enter into any business arrangement with any person, company or organisation which fails to uphold the human rights of its workers or who breach the human rights of those affected by the organisation's activities.

The investment management sector is not considered to be one most at risk from modern slavery and human trafficking. Given the nature of our services and the fact that Guinness has straightforward supply chains we adopt a proportionate and risk-based due diligence approach to assess the risk of modern slavery and human trafficking with the people, companies and organisations that we do business with.

Monitoring of our counterparties and service providers is undertaken at least annually. In our review of counterparties and service providers, we consider elements such as geography, the nature of services provided as well as other relevant factors such as regulatory status.

All Guinness employees have the necessary documentation to legally work and no-one under the legal minimum age for admission to work is employed.

As an investment management business, we invest in companies throughout the world and although investments are not covered by the Modern Slavery Act; we take our responsibilities to be good stewards for our investors seriously. We adhere to the six UN Principles for Responsible Investment and we consider ESG issues, including Human Rights, during the whole investment process. If any controversial matters involving the identification of any modern slavery or trafficking practices are identified we will engage with those companies to resolve and end those activities. Where we believe our engagement is not successful, we will look to take further actions, including voting against management or withdrawing our investment.

This statement has been approved by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Edward Guinness", written over a light blue horizontal line.

**Edward Guinness, Chief Executive officer**

On behalf of the Board of directors of Guinness Global Investors

Date: Effective December 2023