Board Diversity and Inclusion Policy

Purpose
The Board Diversity and Inclusion Policy (the Policy) sets out the approach to diversity and inclusion on the Board of Directors of Future plc (the Board). The Policy is also considered in relation to the Board’s committees and references to ‘the Board’ include references to its committees where relevant.

Scope of Application
The Policy applies to the Board. It does not apply to diversity in relation to employees of Future, which is covered by Future’s Diversity, Equality & Inclusion Policy.

Policy Statement
Future recognises and embraces the benefits of having a diverse Board, and sees increasing diversity at Board level as an essential element in maintaining a competitive advantage. A truly diverse Board will include and make good use of differences in the skills, regional and industry experience, educational, professional and socio-economic backgrounds, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, disability, cognitive and other distinctions between Directors. These differences will be considered in determining the optimum composition of the Board and when possible should be balanced appropriately. All Board appointments are made on merit, in the context of the skills, experience, independence and knowledge which the Board as a whole requires to be effective.

The Board Nomination Committee (the Committee) reviews and assesses Board composition on behalf of the Board and recommends the appointment of new Directors.

- In reviewing Board composition, the Committee will consider the benefits of all aspects of diversity including those described above, in order to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.
- In identifying suitable candidates for appointment to the Board, the Committee will consider candidates on merit against objective criteria and with due regard for the benefits of diversity on the Board.
- As part of the annual performance evaluation of the effectiveness of the Board, Board Committees and individual Directors, the Committee will consider the balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge of Future on the Board and the diversity representation of the Board, including gender and ethnicity, how the Board works together as a unit, and other factors relevant to its effectiveness.

We promote an open and inclusive culture in Board and Committee meetings, where all Directors are encouraged to share their views and their views are all taken into account, without bias or discrimination.
Measurable Objectives
The Committee will discuss and agree annually all measurable objectives for achieving diversity on the Board and recommend them to the Board for adoption. At any given time the Board may seek to improve one or more aspects of its diversity and measure progress accordingly. The Board’s current targets are:

- To ensure that the proportion of women on the Board is 40 percent from FY 2023, and in leadership positions is 40 percent by no later than 2025 (the latter in accordance with the recommendations of the FTSE Women Leaders Review).
- To ensure that at least one woman is appointed to the Chair or Senior Independent Director role on the Board, and/or one woman in the Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer role, from FY 2023.
- To have at least one member of the Board from an ethnic minority background excluding white ethnic groups from FY 2023.

The targets set out above in relation to the Board are based on the FCA’s ‘comply or explain’ statement targets for financial accounting periods starting 1 April 2022 (ie Future’s FY 2023). The Board recognises that periods of change in Board composition may result in temporary periods when this balance is not achieved.

The Board supports the recommendations set out in the FTSE Women Leaders Review on gender diversity and the Parker Review on ethnic diversity. The Board supports and monitors the executive leadership team’s actions to increase the proportion of senior leadership roles held by women, people from ethnic minority backgrounds and other under-represented groups across Future in support of the FTSE Women Leaders Review and Parker Review recommendations.

Monitoring and Reporting
The Committee will report annually, in the corporate governance section of the Future Annual Report, on the process it has used in relation to Board appointments. Such a report will include a summary of this Policy, the measurable objectives set for implementing the Policy and progress made towards achieving those objectives.

Review of the Policy
The Committee will review the Policy annually, which will include an assessment of the effectiveness of the Policy. The Committee will discuss any revisions that may be required and recommend any such revisions to the Board for approval.

Approved by the Board
19 September 2023