

Scotmid Tax Policy 2026

Our commitment to responsible and transparent taxation

Document owner	Chief Financial Officer
Committee oversight	Audit Committee
Approved by	Board
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Next scheduled review	September 2029

1. Introduction

Scotmid Co-operative Society Limited has a long-standing policy not to engage in aggressive tax avoidance and to pay the correct amount of tax arising from its operations. This policy reaffirms the Society's commitment to responsible tax conduct, transparency and compliance, in a manner consistent with its values and principles.

The Society aims to maintain accreditation under the Fair Tax Mark, or an equivalent recognised standard, where this remains appropriate and aligned with the Society's values and objectives.

2. Taxation policy

The Society's policy is to pay the taxes it is due to pay and not to engage in aggressive tax avoidance, even where an arrangement may be legal. This provides a clear statement to members and other stakeholders of the Society's commitment to being a responsible participant in society.

The Society seeks to pay the right amount of tax, at the right rate, in the right place and at the right time. It will report its tax affairs in a manner that reflects the economic reality and substance of the transactions undertaken in the course of its trade.

3. Tax planning and the spirit of the law

The Society will not use options, allowances or reliefs provided by tax law in a manner that is contrary to the spirit of the law. It will not undertake transactions with the sole or main purpose of securing tax advantages that would not otherwise be available based on the economic reality of its trading activities.

The Society will not knowingly enter into arrangements that require notification to HMRC under the Disclosure of Tax Avoidance Schemes rules, or arrangements to which it could reasonably be anticipated that the UK General Anti-Abuse Rule would apply. The Society will not use tax havens to reduce, delay or avoid tax liabilities, nor use financial secrecy arrangements to obscure the substance of transactions.

4. Transparency and financial reporting

The Society's financial statements and tax submissions will be prepared in a manner consistent with this policy and applicable reporting requirements. The Society will seek to provide users, including HM Revenue & Customs, with the information they reasonably require to understand and appraise its tax position.

5. Governance and responsibility

The Chief Financial Officer is responsible for overseeing the application of this policy. The Audit Committee provides oversight of material tax risks and the Society's tax governance arrangements, with significant matters escalated to the Board where appropriate.

6. Review and approval

Review cycle: This document will be reviewed at least every three years, or sooner where changes in legislation, business operations, risk profile or regulatory expectations make an earlier review appropriate.

Version history

Version	Date	Change
1.0	September 2023	Initial issue
2.0	September 2026	Board review and governance refresh