

PREVENTION OF BULLYING AND HARASSMENT AT WORK POLICY

Statement of Policy

1. Colvin Limited is committed to encouraging and maintaining good employee relations within a working environment which fosters team working and encourages employees to give of their best. Everyone in the Company and those who have dealings with the Company has a responsibility to maintain good working relationships and not use words or deeds that may harm the wellbeing of others. In addition to the obligations placed upon both employers and employees by the Equality and Human Rights legislation, everyone has the right to be treated with consideration, fairness, dignity and respect. This contributes to a workplace environment in which individuals feel safe and can work effectively competently and confidently.
2. The Company's policy applies to all staff working within the organisation and to all employees working off the premises. It extends to include non-permanent workers such as secondees, contractors, agency, temporary staff, consultants and any other workers. The policy, in addition, covers the behaviour of staff outside working hours which may impact upon work or working relationships.
3. The Company has a "zero-tolerance" policy and will investigate vigorously any allegations of bullying or harassment, regardless of whether the matter has been raised formally or informally.

Key Principles

4. The Company will provide and sustain a safe working environment in which everyone is treated fairly and with respect. Those working or dealing with the Company must not encounter harassment, intimidation or victimisation on the basis of gender, race, colour, ethnic or national origin, sexual orientation, marital status, religion or belief, age, trade union membership, disability, offending background or any other personal characteristic.
5. Everyone carries a personal responsibility for their own behaviour and for ensuring that their conduct is in accordance with the principles set out in this policy. In addition, each person has a responsibility to report any instance of bullying or harassment which they witness or which comes to their attention. Employees have a responsibility to act as role models, pro-actively addressing instances of bullying and harassment. Managers should also make themselves aware of their responsibility.

6. Harassment may be defined as any conduct which is :-
 - unwanted by the recipient
 - is considered objectionable
 - causes humiliation, offence, distress or other detrimental effect.

7. Harassment may be an isolated occurrence or repetitive: it may occur against one or more individuals. Harassment may be, but is not limited to:
 - Physical contact - ranging from touching to serious assault, gestures, intimidation, aggressive behaviour.