**Letter to suppliers**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Fair Tax Week will be running from 11th to 19th June this year and I am writing to you to highlight this as a supplier to Newcastle City Council. See [Fair Tax Week 2022 | Fair Tax Foundation (fairtaxmark.net)](https://fairtaxmark.net/supporters/fair-tax-week/) for further details. The event is overseen by the Fair Tax Foundation, which was set up in 2014. Their Fair Tax Mark accreditation scheme seeks to encourage and recognise businesses that pay the right amount of corporation tax at the right time and in the right place.

Tax contributions are crucial to a healthy economy, to fund investment in infrastructure and people. Aggressive tax avoidance undermines the ability of responsible business to compete fairly, both domestically and internationally. Across the globe, it’s estimated that close to 40% of multinational profits (US$950bn) are artificially shifted to tax havens each year, leading to a significant reduction in corporate income tax revenue for governments to invest in public services.

Newcastle City Council has signed up to support the Fair Tax Declaration alongside many other local authorities across England, and agreed to:

* Lead by example and demonstrate good practice in our tax conduct, right across all our activities.
* Ensure contractors implement IR35 and pay a fair share of employment taxes.
* Not use offshore vehicles for the purchase of land and property, especially where this leads to reduced payments of stamp duty.
* Undertake due diligence to ensure that not-for-profit structures are not being used inappropriately as an artificial device to reduce the payment of tax and business rates.
* Demand clarity on the ultimate beneficial ownership of suppliers and their consolidated profit and loss position.
* Promote Fair Tax Mark certification for any business in which they have a significant stake and where corporation tax is due.
* Support Fair Tax Week events in the area and celebrate the tax contribution made by responsible businesses who say what they pay with pride.
* Support calls for urgent reform of EU and UK law to enable local authorities to better penalise poor tax conduct and reward good tax conduct through their procurement policies.

If you would like to join us in standing up for responsible tax conduct, then please consider joining the following companies who have already been accredited by the Fair Tax Foundation:

* Lush Cosmetics
* SSE (formerly Southern & Scottish Energy)
* Cooperative Group
* Timpson Group
* Leeds Building Society
* Pennon Group (parent company to South-West Water and Viridor)
* United Utilities
* Capita
* Coventry Building Society
* Epwin Group

Fair Tax Mark accreditation could be a mark of pride for your business and employees, as well as a way to boost customer confidence and demonstrate your commitment to corporate social responsibility. You would also be able to access a growing network of pioneering businesses who want to lead on responsible tax practice.

I hope you will give this full consideration, thank you for your time.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Paul Frew

Cabinet Member for an Efficient City

Newcastle City Council