# SANTANDER UK GROUP HOLDINGS plc and SANTANDER UK plc

(individually "the Company" and collectively "SANTANDER UK")

#### ROLE OF THE SENIOR INDEPENDENT DIRECTOR

### Purpose of the Role

The Senior Independent Director ("SID") is an independent non-executive director. For the purposes of the Senior Managers Function accountabilities for a SID (SMF14) under the Senior Manage Regime, the role of the SID is to provide a sounding board for the chair and serve as an intermediary for the other directors and the shareholder. This aligns to the definition in the FRC UK Corporate Governance Code (2018).

## **Key Accountabilities**

The key accountabilities of the SID are as follows:

In relation to the Chairman:

- Provide a sounding board for the Chair and provide support in the delivery of his or her objectives;
- Support the Chair in ensuring the Board are aware of the views of stakeholders;
- Lead the Board in the succession process for the Chair, including chairing the Board Nomination Committee and Board for that agenda item on tasks of Chair succession;
- Lead the assessment of the performance of the Chair, taking into account the views of the Executive and Non-Executive Directors, to monitor and evaluate the performance of the Chair on an ongoing basis and communicating results of the evaluation to the Chair. An evaluation is recommended twice a year.

In relation to the Board and Stakeholders:

- Support the Chair, as needed, in ensuring that Board discussions and decisionmaking are based on accurate and appropriately comprehensive information and proposals;
- Support the Chair and other Directors or shareholder, in exceptional circumstances, to resolve any significant issues;
- Serve as a trusted intermediary for the other directors and shareholder;
- Uphold high standards of integrity and probity and support the Chair and Non-Executive directors in instilling the appropriate culture, values and behaviours in the boardroom and the Company;
- Be available to the shareholder if it has concerns which discussions with the Chair,
   CEO or other Executive or Non-Executive directors has failed to resolve or for which such contact is inappropriate; and
- Attend meetings with the regulators, as necessary to obtain a balanced understanding of their issues and concerns.

#### Time commitment

The SID will be expected to commit time as required to the role, which will include committing significantly more time to the role in exceptional circumstances.