**Prompt payment statement**

Jointline aim to be both a supplier and a customer of choice, operating ethically and transparently. It is very important to Jointline that our suppliers are paid in accordance with agreed payment terms. We seek to pay at least 95% of invoices submitted to us within 60 days of receipt and are working towards reducing the payment length.

As part of our commitment to our supply chain, we regularly review our payment performance and our current internal review demonstrates that we do not always meet the current target of achieving 95% of payments within the 60 day timeframe that we have set ourselves.

In order to improve this, we have produced a prompt payment code action plan which identifies ways in which we can improve our payment performance and support our valued supply chain further.

The challenges that we have faced in the last year and which have contributed to us not having achieved our 95% target have included:

* A high degree of adverse weather
* COVID-19
* Historic commitment to capital investment
* Internal invoice approvals have proven to be time consuming if full information is not given on the invoice.

Our action plan to address these issues includes a number of strategies including:

* Commitment to expanding our work for major retailers in the distribution sector in a bid to ensure that adverse weather concerns are offset
* Making full use of government schemes introduced to support ongoing business throughout the COVID-19 pandemic
* Reducing unnecessary overheads and committing to ‘lean’ methods of working
* Pro-actively working with our suppliers to ensure that all relevant information is provided to us first time when invoicing.
* Regular reporting of progress on our prompt payment plan at each board meeting by the financial director.