

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM SD

Specialized Disclosure Report



CRH public limited company

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Republic of Ireland

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organisation)

001-32846

(Commission file number)

Not Applicable

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

Belgard Castle, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, Ireland

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Senan Murphy

Tel: +353 1 404 1000

Belgard Castle, Clondalkin, Dublin 22, Ireland

(Name and telephone number, including area code, of the person to contact in connection with this report)

Check the appropriate box to indicate the rule pursuant to which this form is being filed, and provide the period to which the information in this form applies:

Rule 13p-1 under the Securities Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13p-1) for the reporting period from January 1 to December 31, 2017.

Section 1 – Conflict Minerals Disclosure

Item 1.01 Conflict Minerals Disclosure and Report

Conflict Minerals Disclosure: This Form SD and the Conflict Minerals Report, filed as Exhibit 1.01 hereto, are publicly available at www.crh.com.

Item 1.02 Exhibit

The Conflict Minerals Report required by Items 1.01 and 1.02 is filed as Exhibit 1.01 to this Form SD.

Section 2 – Exhibits

Item 2.01 Exhibits

Exhibit 1.01 – Conflict Minerals Report as required by Items 1.01 and 1.02 of this Form.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the duly authorised undersigned.

CRH public limited company

By:

/s/ S. Murphy

Senan Murphy
Finance Director

Dated: 31 May 2018

**Conflict Minerals Report of CRH public limited company
Pursuant to Rule 13p-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934****Section 1: Introduction and Group overview****Section 1.1: Introduction**

This is the Conflict Minerals Report of CRH public limited company (herein referred to as “CRH”, the “Group”, “we”, “us”, or “our”) for calendar year 2017 (“Reporting Year 2017”) in accordance with Section 13(p) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the “Exchange Act”) and Rule 13p-1 thereunder (“Rule 13p-1”). Rule 13p-1 was adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to implement reporting and disclosure requirements related to conflict minerals as directed by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010 (Dodd-Frank Act). Conflict minerals are defined by the SEC as columbite-tantalite (coltan), cassiterite, gold, wolframite, or their derivatives, which are limited to tantalum, tin, and tungsten (“3TG” or “conflict minerals”). Rule 13p-1 imposes certain reporting obligations on SEC registrants whose products contain conflict minerals that are necessary to the functionality or production of their products (such minerals are referred to as “necessary conflict minerals”), excepting conflict minerals that, prior to January 31, 2013, were located “outside of the supply chain” (as defined in Rule 13p-1). For products that contain necessary conflict minerals, the registrant must conduct in good faith a reasonable country of origin inquiry designed to determine whether any of the conflict minerals originated in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) or an adjoining country, collectively defined as the “Covered Countries”. If, based on such inquiry, the registrant knows or has reason to believe that any of the necessary conflict minerals contained in its products originated or may have originated in a Covered Country and knows or has reason to believe that those necessary conflict minerals may not be solely from recycled or scrap sources, the registrant must conduct due diligence in order to determine if the necessary conflict minerals contained in those products did or did not directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups in the Covered Countries. Terms used in this report which are not defined herein have the meanings set forth in Form SD.

Section 1.2: Group overview

CRH plc is a leading global diversified building materials group, employing 85,000 people at over 3,600 operating locations in 32 countries worldwide and is the second largest building materials company worldwide and the largest in North America. The Group has leadership positions in Europe, where it is the largest heavyside materials business, as well as established strategic positions in the emerging economic regions of Asia and South America. A Fortune 500 company, CRH is a constituent member of the FTSE 100 index, the EURO STOXX 50 index, the ISEQ 20 and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) Europe. CRH’s American Depositary Shares (ADSs) are listed on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE).

CRH manufactures and distributes a diverse range of superior building materials and products for the built environment. From foundations, to frame and roofing, to fitting out the interior space and improving the exterior aesthetic, to on-site works and infrastructural projects including roads and bridges, our materials and products are used extensively in construction projects of all sizes, all across the world. We are committed to improving the built environment through the delivery of superior materials and products for the construction and maintenance of infrastructure, housing and commercial projects.

CRH’s Heavyside Materials businesses manufacture and supply aggregates, cement, asphalt, readymixed concrete, concrete products, lime and paving and construction services. The Group’s Lightside Products businesses are primarily engaged in the production and sale of construction accessories, network access products and perimeter protection, architectural products, shutters and awnings, precast and BuildingEnvelope®. CRH’s Building Materials Distribution businesses distribute building materials to

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professional builders, specialist heating and plumbing contractors and DIY customers through a network of trusted local and regional brands.

CRH has identified over the last five years that a small portion of our product portfolio include components which contain 3TG and this has minimal impact on our supply chain. Purchases from these suppliers represent approximately 2% of CRH's cost of raw materials and goods for resale. These include:

- Certain glazing products:
 - Our Oldcastle BuildingEnvelope® (OBE) business is a leading integrated supplier of products specified to close the building envelope, including architectural glass, storefront systems, custom engineered curtain wall and window wall, architectural windows, doors and skylights. OBE is also the largest supplier of architectural railings, glazing hardware and high performance glass installation products in North America. Float glass is used in the manufacture of some of our OBE glazing products. We purchase this float glass from our suppliers and it is made by floating molten glass on a bed of molten metal, typically tin. Trace amounts of tin remain on the surface of the float glass in the oxide form.
- Certain products containing electrical/electronic components:
 - Our Perimeter Protection business designs, manufactures, installs and services fully integrated outdoor security and detection solutions. This includes permanent and temporary fencing, entrance control and perimeter intrusion detection systems (PIDs).
 - Our Shutters & Awnings business designs, manufactures and supplies roller shutters, awnings, terrace roofs and related products for sun protection and outdoor living; and
 - The primary components of these products do not contain 3TG however some electrical/electronic elements of these products (e.g. circuit boards, capacitors, solder tags, pcb boards, micro switches or radio controls) may contain minute amounts of the minerals.

Some of the components which are incorporated into our products contain 3TG that are necessary for the functionality or production of those products. Our objective is to ensure that our direct suppliers are not using 3TG minerals from sources that directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups in the Covered Countries.

Over the last five years, we have actively engaged with our direct suppliers to put in place processes, procedures and systems to develop conflict-free supply chains for CRH. CRH uses the tools provided by the Responsible Minerals Initiative (RMI) (formerly Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative), an initiative of the Responsible Business Alliance (RBA) formerly the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition and the Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI), to assist in the ongoing engagement with direct suppliers.

Across our OBE, Perimeter Protection and Shutters & Awnings businesses, we have identified a total of 39 suppliers from whom components with minute amounts of the minerals are purchased ("impacted suppliers").

Section 2: Due diligence framework

In accordance with Rule 13p-1, CRH undertook due diligence measures to determine the source and chain of custody of 3TG in its products, as described in this Form SD, that are necessary to the functionality or production of the products. CRH designed its due diligence measures to be in conformity, in all material respects, with the internationally recognised due diligence framework as set forth in the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Due Diligence Guidance for

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Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas (“OECD Framework”) and the related supplements for gold and for tin, tantalum and tungsten.

Section 3: Due diligence measures undertaken

CRH’s due diligence measures for 2017 included the five steps listed below, consistent with the OECD Framework. Since our filing in respect of 2016:

- We continued to roll out our management systems across the Group, specifically the use of our cloud based Sustainability Reporting Application, as set out in step 1 below;
- We updated and expanded inquiries to ensure we have appropriately identified and assessed the risk relating to the use of 3TG in the Group’s products as outlined in step 2 below;
- We continue to progress our reasonable country of origin inquiries (RCOI). To date, 18 of our impacted suppliers have provided details of their smelters. Our procedures to assess supplier responses and the smelter listings are ongoing; and
- We incorporated our recently acquired businesses into our inquiries and confirmed that no new high risk businesses were identified as part of these inquiries.

Step 1: Establish company management systems

CRH previously introduced the following measures to establish management systems per step 1 of the OECD Framework:

- Established a cross-functional conflict minerals project team comprised of representatives from our Sustainability, Procurement, Operations, Compliance and Finance functions to direct the overall efforts of the conflict minerals compliance programme;
- Established a Group policy which aims to prevent the use of minerals that directly or indirectly finance or benefit armed groups in the DRC or in adjoining countries. This policy is incorporated into our Supplier Code of Conduct (which is available on www.crh.com);
- Developed a grievance mechanism to report any policy violation via the confidential hotline service;
- Instituted a retention policy for conflict minerals programme documentation in accordance with existing corporate retention policies and procedures;
- Engaged with suppliers, informing them that CRH is subject to Section 1502 of the Dodd-Frank Act (Section 13(p) of the Exchange Act) and began our inquiries with them in this regard;
- Work remains ongoing to include provisions regarding products or components that contain conflict minerals in supply contract renewals and new contracts;
- Suppliers who provide products or components that contain conflict minerals are engaged in our surveys and continued discussions regarding the country of origin of these minerals. Further details on this process are set out in step 3 below;
- Developed a specific role for appropriate personnel within CRH Procurement with responsibility to further drive Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and sustainability practices into our procurement processes and systems which will enable greater transparency of information going forward;

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- Implemented a bespoke conflict minerals questionnaire through our online Sustainability Reporting Application to carry out the annual Group-wide assessment to determine the use of conflict minerals within CRH; and
- Reviewed our Group Procurement Application to identify all suppliers to the three businesses identified and to determine the actual spend with any impacted suppliers. The identified list of suppliers is continuously reviewed and CRH Procurement engaged with those suppliers who accounted for more than 98% of spend in this area.

Step 2: Identify and assess risks in the supply chain

At the commencement of the reporting process in 2013, we undertook a Group-wide assessment to determine the use of conflict minerals within CRH. An applicability assessment was completed which involved cross-functional inquiries across the Group. Local management teams conducted reviews to identify the materials, products, parts and suppliers potentially exposed to Rule 13p-1's requirements using both product-centric and supplier-centric approaches. Three business units (which then represented 128 of the Group's close to 3,400 locations in 2013) indicated the use of 3TG (through the purchase of 3TG-containing electrical and electronic components which are incorporated into our products or used in the production process of our products, or through the purchase of float glass with trace amounts of tin in oxide form on the surface).

Since our 2013 reporting year, when we identified 22 suppliers:

- as part of our continued applicability assessment an additional 45 new suppliers (23 in 2017) were identified within our Lightside businesses,
- a total of 28 previously identified suppliers no longer supply to the Group and so have been excluded from further inquiries;

resulting in a total of 39 identified suppliers across our businesses in respect of 2017 reporting. We are continuing to engage with the suppliers identified and are conducting country of origin inquiries as outlined in step 3 below.

Reporting Year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Movement since 2013
New suppliers	-	-	+14	+8	+23	+45
Suppliers no longer supplying	-	-4	-1	-5	-18	-28
Total	22	18	31	34	39	+17

Over the last four years, we have updated and expanded our assessment of the risk in relation to 3TG in order to validate our assessment process and confirm our determination of suppliers that are relevant for the conflict minerals process.

Senior management in our divisions have considered the results of our original applicability assessment in the context of any changes in the profile of their products and supplier base since that assessment. The conflict minerals questionnaire, circulated through our online Sustainability Reporting Application, was used to carry out the annual Group-wide assessment to determine

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the use of conflict minerals within CRH. The results of the assessment concluded that the initial assessment remains appropriate and the businesses identified at that time continue to represent the only businesses using materials/components that contain 3TG. However, as a result of continuous process improvements, along with changes in our supplier base, we have identified 17 net additional suppliers since 2013 reporting within those previously identified businesses that provide components containing minute quantities of 3TG.

Step 3: Design and implement a strategy to respond to identified risks

As described in Step 2 above, consistent with reporting year 2016, we expanded our inquiries beyond those initial suppliers judged to be high risk through an update review, whereby senior management in our divisions confirmed that the findings of our previous assessments remain appropriate. In addition, our implemented procedures designed to confirm that no new high risk businesses were identified in our recently acquired businesses continue to be applied.

Our RCOI process includes the following steps to assess whether the necessary 3TG in our products originated from the Covered Countries:

- We continue to engage with the 39 suppliers identified to gather the following information annually:
 - A completed Conflict Minerals Reporting Template (CMRT) developed by the RMI; and
 - Where available, details of the suppliers' policies on conflict minerals as well as any other documentation regarding their management systems and due diligence processes on this matter.
- Of the 39 suppliers, only 30 are deemed to be relevant suppliers, as 9 suppliers contacted confirmed their products supplied to CRH do not contain any 3TG and are therefore outside the scope of this review and for future reporting. Of the 30 relevant suppliers;
 - 18 suppliers have provided details of the smelters who supply their minerals. We are working to evaluate the reliability of their findings and determine which smelters may be traced to the 3TG used in components of our products;
 - 8 suppliers are in the process of identifying the source of their minerals; and
 - 4 suppliers have provided responses which appear to be incomplete or inconclusive and we are working to evaluate the reliability of their responses.

Our RCOI work is ongoing in this regard:

- We continue to experience improved engagement from the majority of suppliers and they demonstrate an understanding of the requirement;
- We are engaging with suppliers to gather all outstanding information/clarifications from our fifth round of inquiries and we continue to follow up regularly. We will consider the reasons they put forth for their delay in providing the information in the context of our assessment of the reliability of their responses;
- We are reviewing the RMI CMRT and policies received. We are continuing to develop specific completeness and consistency criteria in order to evaluate their most up to date responses for reliability;

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- We continue to engage with suppliers to narrow the list of smelters they identified in their responses to those who potentially source/process the 3TG minerals in the products sold to CRH and to probe any incomplete or inconsistent information in responses received; and
- Because of the many participants in the supply chain of these products, it is a time consuming process to identify all such participants and to ascertain the smelters and country of origin of the minerals. CRH's RCOI consists of inquiring of direct suppliers and encouraging them to engage with their supply chain to determine the source of the minerals.

The cross-functional conflict minerals project team's ongoing review of the nature and quality of supplier responses forms a key part of the process of responding to identified risks. Local management report to the project team regularly. Update meetings are held periodically during the process, communicating the results of the risk assessment process. Matters discussed include progress on response rates and procedures to evaluate the information received as well as actions to perform follow up inquiries.

Step 4: Carry out independent third-party audit of supply chain due diligence at identified points in the supply chain

In accordance with Rule 13p-1 and the SEC's current guidance, CRH is not required to obtain an independent private sector audit of this Conflict Minerals Report for Reporting Year 2017.

CRH does not directly purchase 3TG; instead these minerals are present in a small number of our products through 1) purchase of electrical/electronic components that contain them and are incorporated into our products or used in the production process and 2) the purchase of float glass with trace amounts of tin in oxide form on the surface.

CRH is a downstream consumer of necessary 3TG and is many steps removed from smelters and refiners who provide minerals and ores. CRH does not purchase raw minerals or ores, and does not, to the best of its knowledge, directly purchase from any of the Covered Countries. CRH does not perform or direct audits of smelters and refiners within the supply chain. As a result, CRH's due diligence measures rely on assessments carried out by its suppliers and cross-industry initiatives such as the RMI led by the RBA and the GeSI to conduct smelter and refiner due diligence.

Our work to assess the reliability of supplier representations in this context is ongoing. Section 5 below sets out our ongoing efforts to mitigate risk in this regard.

Step 5: Report on supply chain due diligence

This report and the associated Form SD are available online at www.crh.com.

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Section 4: Determination

As a downstream consumer of 3TG, CRH must rely on its direct suppliers to gather information about smelters and refiners in the supply chain. CRH does not, to the best of its knowledge, directly purchase from any of the Covered Countries. CRH is engaging with all 30 relevant suppliers of the products described above. We have experienced improved engagement from the majority of suppliers, and from assessments of supplier responses to date, we have observed enhanced understanding of the applicable due diligence requirements and progress in our suppliers' own inquiries. We have received information from all 30 relevant suppliers, 18 of whom have provided details to us of their smelters and our work to evaluate this information remains ongoing. We lack sufficient assurance regarding the country of origin at this time and CRH is therefore unable to determine where the 3TG identified through certain supplier responses originated. We are continuing to engage with our suppliers and section 5 below sets out our continuous improvement efforts to mitigate risk in this regard.

Section 5: Continuous improvement efforts to mitigate risk

CRH is undertaking the following steps to mitigate any risk that the necessary 3TG used in CRH's products may benefit armed groups in the Covered Countries:

- Continued and consistent engagement with relevant suppliers to encourage diligence and resolve in their efforts to identify smelter and country of origin. This includes working with them individually to understand the challenges they face in concluding their inquiries and to narrow the list of smelters they identified to those who potentially source/process the 3TG minerals in the products sold to CRH;
- Continued cross-functional engagement within CRH to build expertise in assessing the reliability of supplier responses and representations on traceability;
- Continued work to include provisions regarding products or components that contain conflict minerals in supply contract renewals and new contracts; and
- Considering the engagement of additional external experts where necessary to perform inquiries/supplier audits to assess relevant suppliers' procedures.

Section 6: Independent audit

In accordance with Rule 13p-1 and the SEC's current guidance, CRH is not required to obtain an independent private sector audit of this Conflict Minerals Report for Reporting Year 2017.

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Forward-Looking Statements

In order to utilise the “Safe Harbor” provisions of the United States Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, CRH is providing the following cautionary statement.

This Conflict Minerals Report contains certain forward-looking statements with respect to the steps we intend to take to improve the quality of supplier responses in connection with our conflict minerals due diligence efforts. These forward-looking statements may generally, but not always, be identified by the use of words such as “will”, “can”, “intends” or similar expressions.

By their nature, forward-looking statements involve risk and uncertainty because they relate to events and depend on circumstances that may or may not occur in the future and reflect the Group’s current expectations and assumptions as to such future events and circumstances that may not prove accurate. A number of factors could cause actual results and developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements, certain of which are beyond our control and which include, among other things: our ability to identify additional high-risk suppliers; whether our suppliers respond favourably to our efforts to increase engagement with suppliers; and the feasibility of implementing our planned diligence measures in the next compliance period or at all.