

Supplier survey shames grocers

TESCO, Morrisons and Iceland have been rated the worst supermarkets by suppliers for their treatment of manufacturers and farmers, *writes Laura Chesters.*

The survey, compiled by YouGov for the grocery industry watchdog, found Tesco's buyers were rated the poorest in terms of complying with the code to ensure fair treatment of suppliers. It found 31pc reported that Tesco rarely or never complied with the code, while both Morrisons and Iceland got a rating of 30pc.

The poor result for Tesco comes as its chief executive Dave Lewis, *pictured below*, attempts to turn around the supermarket group after profit warnings and its multi-million-pound supplier payments accounting scandal.

It was this scandal that led to the grocery code adjudicator, **Christine Tacon**, investigating the treatment of suppliers. Her inquiry is likely to be finished in the autumn.

The news comes as investors await Tesco's first-quarter results on Friday. It reported a huge £6.4bn annual loss in April and analysts expect Friday's first-quarter like-for-like sales to be down around 2pc.

Aldi, Waitrose and Marks & Spencer were ranked top by suppliers in the survey of about 1,000 manufacturers. Sainsbury's buyers were ranked top among the big four supermarket chains.

Tesco shares rose 3.15p to 214p.

