CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023		
ACN 620 896 282		
BLACK CAT SYNDICATE LIMITED		

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# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023**

The Board is responsible for the overall corporate governance of Black Cat Syndicate Limited ("the Company"), including establishing and monitoring key performance goals. In addition, the Board is committed to attaining standards of corporate governance that are commensurate with the Company's needs. In this regard, the Board has created a framework for managing the Company, including internal controls and a business risk management process. This framework is reflected, in part, in the policies and charters described below.

The Board has adopted and endorses *The ASX Corporate Governance Council Principles and Recommendations (4<sup>th</sup> Edition)* as amended from time to time ("ASX Recommendations") and has adopted the ASX Recommendations that are considered appropriate for the Company given its size and the scope of its proposed activities. Details of the Company's compliance with the ASX Recommendations (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) are set out below.

The Company has adopted amended policies and practices, to comply with where applicable, the recommendations of the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition of the Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). The updated polices are available for review on the Company's website at <a href="https://bc8.com.au/corporate-governance/">https://bc8.com.au/corporate-governance/</a> The Company reports its compliance with, or departure from, the 4<sup>th</sup> Edition recommendations in this Corporate Governance Statement for the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

In light of the Company's current stage of development, the Board considers that its current composition is appropriate. As the Company's activities change in nature and scope, the size of the Board and the implementation of additional corporate governance policies and structures will be reviewed and may change.

The 2023 Corporate Governance Statement has been adopted by the Board.

The following charters and policies were effective for the year ended 30 June 2023.

#### 1. BOARD CHARTER

The Board guides and monitors the business and management of the Company. Under its Charter, the Board is responsible for, amongst other things:

- 1. Driving the strategic direction of the Company, the allocation of resources to meet objectives and monitoring management performance;
- 2. Appointing and, if necessary, replacing of the Managing Director and other senior executives;
- **3.** Approving the Company's remuneration framework;
- **4.** Monitoring the timeliness and effectiveness of reporting to Shareholders;
- **5.** Reviewing and ratifying systems of audit, risk management and internal compliance and control, codes of conduct and legal compliance;
- **6.** Approving and monitoring the progress of major capital expenditure, capital management and significant acquisitions and divestitures;
- 7. Approving and monitoring the budget and adequacy and integrity of financial and other reporting;
- **8.** Approving the annual, half yearly and quarterly reports;
- **9.** Approving significant changes to the organisational structure;
- **10.** Approving decisions affecting the Company's capital, including determining dividend policy;
- 11. Recommending to Shareholders the appointment of the external auditor;
- 12. Ensuring a high standard of corporate governance practice and regulatory compliance; and
- **13.** Procuring appropriate professional development opportunities for Directors.

The Company is committed to the circulation of relevant materials to Directors in a timely manner to facilitate Directors' participation in Board discussions on a fully informed basis.

## 2. COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD

Election of Board members is substantially the province of the Shareholders in general meeting.

The current Board of Directors is as follows:

Mr Paul Chapman Non-Executive Chairman;

Mr Gareth Solly Managing Director;

Mr Les Davis Independent Non-Executive Director;

Mr Philip Crutchfield Independent Non-Executive Director; and

Mr Tony Polglase Independent Non-Executive Director.

For the purposes of corporate governance reporting the Company's Managing Director, Mr Gareth Solly has been identified as the Chief Executive Officer ("CEO").

Details of the skills and experience of Directors of the Company are included in the Directors' Report section of the 2023 Annual Financial Statements which are available on the Company's website at www.bc8.com.au.

## 3. AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE CHARTER

The Board has adopted an Audit and Risk Committee Charter which outlines the composition of the committee, its purpose, its responsibilities and requirements of its meetings. In summary, the audit and risk committee is responsible for ensuring the integrity of the Company's financial statements, the effectiveness of financial reporting and liaison with the Company's auditor, and overseeing of the implementation and management of the Company's risk management framework and systems.

A formal Audit and Risk Committee was formed during the financial year ended 30 June 2023. Prior to this the duties of the Committee were performed by the full Board.

A copy of the Audit and Risk Committee Charter is made available on the Company's website (<a href="www.bc8.com.au">www.bc8.com.au</a>).

# 4. REMUNERATION AND NOMINATION COMMITTEE CHARTER

The Board has adopted a Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter which outlines the composition of the committee, its role, its responsibilities, its authority, and requirements of its meetings.

#### Remuneration

The committee is responsible for preparing and reviewing the Company's strategy with regard to remunerating, recruiting, incentivising, retaining and, where appropriate, terminating the Company's executives, Non-Executive Directors and employees.

#### Nomination

The committee is responsible for the identification and recommendation of potential candidates for appointment to the Board after considering current board composition and skill sets and experience deemed appropriate. In addition, the nomination committee will oversee matters of performance appraisal, induction procedures, succession planning and ongoing education and improvement.

The nomination committee will also undertake performance evaluation of the Board, its Committees, individual Directors and senior executives pursuant to the Company's Performance Evaluation Policy.

A formal Remuneration and Nomination Committee was formed during the financial year ended 30 June 2023. Prior to this the duties of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee were performed by the full Board.

A copy of the Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter is made available on the Company's website (www.bc8.com.au).

# 5. CODE OF CONDUCT FOR DIRECTORS, SENIOR EXECUTIVES AND EMPLOYEES

The Board has adopted a Code of Conduct for Directors, senior executives and employees to promote ethical and responsible decision making and execution of their roles and responsibilities.

A copy of the Code of Conduct is made available on the Company's website (www.bc8.com.au).

#### 6. CONTINUOUS DISCLOSURE POLICY

The Company is, subject to the exceptions contained in the Listing Rules, required to disclose to the Australian Securities Exchange ("ASX") any information concerning the Company which is not generally available and which a reasonable person would expect to have a material impact on the price or value of Shares.

The Company is committed to observing its disclosure obligations under the Corporations Act and the Listing Rules. The Company encourages a culture of openness which is conducive to fulfilment of the Company's disclosure obligations and creates clear lines of communication and authority with regard to the dissemination of information and continuous disclosure issues. In accordance with this policy, all information provided to the ASX is made available on the Company's website (<a href="www.bc8.com.au">www.bc8.com.au</a>)

# 7. SECURITIES TRADING POLICY

The Company has adopted a Securities Trading Policy to maintain investor confidence in the integrity of Company's internal controls and procedures, and to provide guidance on avoiding any breach of insider trading laws.

Under the policy, all Key Management Personnel (which includes Directors) are prohibited from trading in the Company's securities, subject to exceptional circumstances, during the following periods:

- two weeks prior to and 48 hours after the release of the Company's Annual Financial Report;
- two weeks prior to and 48 hours after the release of the Company's Half-Year Financial Report;
   and
- two weeks prior to and 48 hours after the release of the Company's Quarterly Reports.

A member of Key Management Personnel, who is in possession of price sensitive information which is not generally available to the market, must not deal in the Company's securities at any time.

In addition, a member of Key Management Personnel who wishes to trade in the Company's securities must first obtain the consent of the Chairman. In the event that the Chairman wishes to trade in the Company's securities, the prior consent of the Board must be obtained.

A copy of the Securities Trading Policy is made available on the Company's website (www.bc8.com.au).

# 8. DIRECTORS' DISCLOSURE OBLIGATIONS

Any change in a Director's direct or indirect interest in Company securities must be disclosed to the Company so that appropriate disclosure can be made by the Company to the ASX in accordance with the Listing Rules.

# 9. SHAREHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS POLICY

This policy details how the Company is committed to keeping Shareholders appraised of the Company's activities, including by providing regular communications that are balanced and understandable, ensuring information is easily accessible, and facilitating Shareholder participation in the Company's general meetings.

A copy of the Shareholder Communications Policy is made available on the Company's website (<a href="https://www.bc8.com.au">www.bc8.com.au</a>).

## 10. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY

The CEO is primarily responsible for administering this policy, which sets out the way in which various types of risk are to be managed, including by reviews of internal controls, financial reporting, operational activities, investment proposals, environmental and safety risks and continuous improvement.

Material risk matters are reported on and considered at board meetings and at least annually by the Audit and Risk Committee.

A copy of the Risk Management Policy is made available on the Company's website (www.bc8.com.au).

#### 11. ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Company recognises that it has a fundamental requirement to conduct its proposed activities in an environmentally responsible manner. The Company continually develops its environmental management system to ensure legislative compliance, high levels of employee awareness, stakeholder participation when developing project systems, appropriate performance by contractors and continual improvement in respect of environmental protection issues and hazard minimisation.

Environmental matters are reported on as a standing agenda item at all board meetings.

#### 12. DIVERSITY POLICY

The Board has adopted a Diversity Policy which provides a framework for the Company to achieve, amongst other things, a diverse and skilled Board and workforce, a workplace culture characterised by inclusive practices and behaviours for the benefit of all staff, and a work environment that values and utilises the contributions of all employees, irrespective of gender, culture, disability, age or religion. The Company employs new employees and promotes current employees on the basis of performance, ability and attitude. The Board is continually reviewing its practices with a focus on ensuring that the selection process at all levels within the organisation is formal and transparent and that the workplace environment is open, fair and tolerant.

The Company, in keeping with the recommendations of the Corporate Governance Council provides the following information regarding the proportion of gender diversity in the organisation as at 30 June 2023:

	Proportion of Female / Total Number of Persons Employed
Females employed in the Company as a whole	12 / 25
Females employed in the Company in senior executive positions*	0 / 1
Females appointed as a Director of the Company	0 / 5

<sup>\*</sup> The Board has determined the General Manager – Projects and Chief Financial Officer to be the only senior executives outside of the Company's Directors during the financial year ended 30 June 2023.

#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2023**

The recommendations of the Corporate Governance Council relating to reporting require a Board to set measurable objectives for achieving diversity within the organisation, and to report against them on an annual basis. The Company has implemented measurable objectives as follows:

Measurable Objective	Objective Satisfied	Comment
Adoption and promotion of a Formal Diversity Policy.	Yes	The Company has adopted a Formal Diversity Policy which has been made publicly available via the ASX and the Company's website.
To ensure Company policies are consistent with and aligned with the goals of the Diversity Policy.	Yes	The Company's selection, remuneration and promotion practices are consistent with the goals of the Company's Diversity Policy.
To provide flexible work and salary arrangements to accommodate family commitments, study and self-improvement goals, cultural traditions and other personal choices of current and potential employees.	Yes	The Company will, where considered reasonable and where compatible with the Company's operations, accommodate requests for flexible working arrangements.
To implement clear and transparent policies governing reward and recognition practices.	Yes	The Company rewards and promotes based on merit and responsibility as part of its ongoing review processes.
To provide relevant and challenging professional development and training opportunities for all employees.	Yes	The Company seeks to continually encourage self-improvement in all employees, irrespective of seniority, ability or experience, through external and internal training courses, regular staff meetings and relevant on job mentoring.

The Company has not at this time, implemented measurable objectives regarding the proportion of females to be employed or appointed to Board positions.

The Board will consider the future implementation of gender-based diversity measurable objectives when more appropriate to the size and nature of the Company's operations.

A copy of the Diversity Policy is made available on the Company's website (www.bc8.com.au).

### 13. WHISTLEBLOWER POLICY

The Company has adopted a formal Whistleblower Policy which is made available on the Company's website (<a href="www.bc8.com.au">www.bc8.com.au</a>).

This policy applies to all directors, officers, employees, consultants and contractors of Black Cat Syndicate Limited (Personnel). This policy also applies, as far as is reasonably achievable, to the Company's service providers, suppliers and third-party contractors.

The purpose of this policy is to encourage the persons to whom the policy applies to raise any concerns or report instances of any potential breach of law, any violations (or suspected violations) of the Company's Code of Conduct or any other legal or ethical concern without the fear of detriment.

## 14. ANTI-BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION POLICY

The Company has adopted a formal Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy in recognition that bribery and corruption act to undermine legitimate business activities, distort competition and may expose the Company, its employees and other stakeholders to significant risks.

The Company provides a safe mechanism pursuant to its Whistleblower Policy to enable and encourage the reporting of any actual, alleged, or perceived, instances of bribery or corruption by any individual to which this policy applies.

A copy of the Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy is made available on the Company's website (<a href="www.bc8.com.au">www.bc8.com.au</a>).

## 16. COMPLIANCE WITH THE ASX RECOMMENDATIONS

The Company's compliance with, and departures from, the ASX Recommendations (4<sup>th</sup> Edition) as at the date of the Report are set out below:

#### **COMPANY'S COMMENT** ASX RECOMMENDATION 1. Lay Solid Foundations for Management and Oversight 1.1. A listed entity should disclose: The Company has adopted a Board Charter that sets out the specific roles and responsibilities of (a) The respective and roles the Board, the Chairman and management and responsibilities of its Board and includes a description of those matters management; and expressly reserved to the Board and those (b) Those matters expressly reserved to delegated to management. the Board and those delegated to The Board Charter sets out the specific management. responsibilities of the Board, requirements as to the Board's composition, the roles and responsibilities of the Chairman and Company Secretary, the establishment, operation and management of Board Committees, Directors' access to Company records and information, details of the Board's relationship with of management, details the Board's performance review and details of the Board's Disclosure Policy. A copy of the Company's Board Charter is available on the Company's website. 1.2. A listed entity should: The Board requires the Remuneration and (a) committee ensure Nomination to (a) Undertake appropriate checks before appropriate checks (including checks in appointing a person, or putting forward character, experience, respect of to security holders a candidate for education, criminal record and bankruptcy election, as a Director; and history (as appropriate)) are undertaken (b) Provide security holders with all before appointing a person, or putting material relevant information in its forward to security holders a candidate for possession relevant to a decision on election, as a Director. whether or not to elect or re-elect a (b) All material information relevant to a Director. decision on whether or not to elect or reelect a Director is provided to security holders in the Notice of Meeting containing the resolution to elect or re-elect a Director. 1.3. A listed entity should have a written The Company has written agreements with each agreement with each Director and senior of its Directors and senior executives. executive setting out the terms of their appointment. The Board Charter outlines the roles. 1.4. The Company Secretary of a listed entity responsibility and accountability of the Company should be accountable directly to the Secretary. In accordance with this, the Board, through the chair, on all matters to Company Secretary is accountable directly to do with the proper functioning of the Board. the Board, through the Chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board. 1.5. A listed entity should: The Company has adopted a Diversity (a) Have and disclose a Diversity Policy; Policy which provides a framework for the (b) Through its board or a committee of Company to establish and achieve the board, set measurable objectives measurable diversity objectives. The for achieving gender diversity in the Diversity Policy allows the Board to set composition of its board, senior measurable gender diversity objectives if considered appropriate, and to assess

- executives and workforce generally; and
- (c) Disclose at the end of each reporting period the measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity set by the board or a relevant committee of the board in accordance with the entity's Diversity Policy and its progress towards achieving them, and either:
  - (1) The respective proportions of men and women on the board, in senior executive positions and across the whole organisation; or
  - (i) If the entity is a "relevant employer" under the Workplace Gender Equality Act, the entity's most recent "Gender Equality Indicators", as defined in and published under that Act.

## **COMPANY'S COMMENT**

- annually both the objectives if any have been set and the Company's progress in achieving them.
- (b) The Company has set measurable objectives which seek to allow and promote diversity, but do not at this stage include any specific numerical targets for gender, or any other, diversity measures.
- (c)
- (i) The Board does not presently intend to set measurable gender diversity objectives. The Company has a policy of appointing and promoting based on skills and merit: and
- (ii) The respective proportions of men and women on the Board, in senior executive positions and across the whole organisation (including how the entity has defined "senior executive" for these purposes) has been disclosed in the Company's Annual Corporate Governance Statement.

## 1.6. A listed entity should:

- (a) Have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of the Board, its committees and individual Directors; and
- (b) Disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether a performance evaluation was undertaken in the reporting period in accordance with that process.
- (a) The Company's Remuneration and Nomination Committee is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Board, its committees and individual Directors on an annual basis. It may do so with the aid of an independent advisor.
- (b) No performance evaluations were undertaken in respect of the Board and individual Directors for the financial period ended 30 June 2023.

## 1.7. A listed entity should:

- (a) Have and disclose a process for periodically evaluating the performance of its senior executives; and
- (b) Disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether a performance evaluation was undertaken in the reporting period in accordance with that process.
- (a) The Company's Remuneration and Nomination Committee is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Company's senior executives on an annual basis. A senior executive, for these purposes, means Key Management Personnel (as defined in the Corporations Act) other than a Non-Executive Director.
  - No performance evaluations were undertaken in respect of senior executives during the financial period ended 30 June 2023.

## 2. Structure the Board to Add Value

- 2.1. The Board of a listed entity should:
  - (a) Have a nomination committee which:
    - (i) Has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors; and
- (a) The Company's Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter provides for the creation of a Remuneration and Nomination Committee, with at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors, and which must be chaired by an independent Director.

- (ii) Is chaired by an independent Director; and disclose;
- (iii) The charter of the committee;
- (iv) The members of the committee; and
- (v) As at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) If it does not have a Nomination Committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs to address Board succession issues and to ensure that the Board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.

## **COMPANY'S COMMENT**

- (b) The Company created a formal Remuneration and Nomination Committee during the year ended 30 June 2023.
  - Until the creation of a formal committee the Board carried out the duties that would ordinarily be carried out under the Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter, including the following processes to address succession issues and to ensure the Board has the appropriate balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge of the Company to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively:
    - (i) devoting time at least annually to discuss Board succession issues and updating the Company's Board skills matrix; and
    - (ii) all Board members being involved in the Company's nomination process, to the maximum extent permitted under the Corporations Act and ASX Listing Rules.
- 2.2. A listed entity should have and disclose a Board skills matrix setting out the mix of skills and diversity that the Board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership.

Under the Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter, the Remuneration and Nomination Committee is required to prepare a Board skill matrix setting out the mix of skills and diversity that the Board currently has (or is looking to achieve) and to review this at least annually against the Company's Board skills matrix to ensure the appropriate mix of skills and expertise is present to facilitate successful strategic direction.

The Board has not yet established a formal Board skills matrix. Gaps in the collective skills of the Board are regularly reviewed by the Board as a whole, with the Board proposing candidates for directorships having regard to the desired skills and experience required by the Company as well as the proposed candidates' diversity of background.

Full details as to each Director and senior executive's relevant skills and experience are available in the Company's Annual Report.

- 2.3. A listed entity should disclose:
  - (a) The names of the Directors considered by the Board to be independent Directors;
  - (b) If a Director has an interest, position, association or relationship that may cause doubts about the independence of a Director, but the Board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the Director, the nature of the interest, position,

The Board considers all of its current Non-Executive Directors, Mr Paul Chapman, Mr Les Davis, Mr Philip Crutchfield and Mr Tony Polglase to be independent directors for the year ended 30 June 2023.

The Board does not consider that any of its Non-Executive Directors are party to any interests, positions, associations or relationships that would compromise their status as independent Directors.

ASX RECOMMENDATION	COMPANY'S COMMENT
association or relationship in question	The current Directors of the Company
and an explanation of why the Board is of that opinion; and	commenced office on the following dates:  — Mr Paul Chapman – 4 August 2017;
(c) The length of service of each Director.	Mr Gareth Solly – 1 January 2018;
	Mr Les Davis – 4 August 2017;
	Mr Philip Crutchfield – 6 April 2021; and
	·
2.4. A majority of the Board of a listed entity	- Mr Tony Polglase – 25 May 2020.
should be independent Directors.	The Company advises that currently four of its five directors are considered to be independent.  During the whole financial year ended 30 June 2023 a majority of the Board was comprised of independent Directors and as such did comply with Recommendation 2.4.
2.5. The Chair of the Board of a listed entity should be an independent Director and, in particular, should not be the same person as the CEO of the entity.	The Chairman of the Company, Mr Paul Chapman, was considered to be independent for the whole reporting period, and as such the Company does comply with Recommendation 2.5. The position of Chairman and CEO are held by separate Directors.
2.6. A listed entity should have a program for inducting new Directors and provide appropriate professional development opportunities for Directors to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as Directors effectively.	In accordance with the Company's Board Charter, the Remuneration and Nomination Committee is responsible for the approval and review of induction and continuing professional development programs and procedures for Directors to ensure that they can effectively discharge their responsibilities. The Company Secretary is responsible for facilitating inductions and professional development.
3. Act Ethically and Responsibly	
3.1. A listed entity should articulate and disclose its values.	The Company seeks to achieve its objectives whilst seeking to ensuring it:  conducts business with honesty, integrity, and fairness; complies with all relevant laws and regulations applicable to it; ensures the safety and wellbeing of our representatives and other stakeholders; and respects and cares for the environment and the wider communities in which it operates, in a sustainable manner.  The Company has communicated its vision and values via its website at www.bc8.com.au/vision-and-values/
3.2. A listed entity should:  (a) Have and disclose a code of conduct for its Directors, senior executives and employees; and	The Company has adopted a Code of Conduct that applies to all Directors, executives and employees.  A copy of the code is available on the Company's website.

#### **ASX RECOMMENDATION COMPANY'S COMMENT** (b) Ensure that the board or a committee Any material breach of the Code of Conduct will of the board is informed of any material be immediately reportable to the board. breaches of that code. 3.3. A listed entity should: The Company has adopted a Whistleblower policy, a copy of which is available on the (a) Have and disclose a Whistleblower appointed the Company's website and Policy; and Secretary Company as the designated (b) Ensure that the board or a committee Whistleblower Officer. of the board is informed of any material incidents reported under that policy. The Company will maintain a register of reportable incidents and all material reported incidents will be immediately reportable to the Board. The Company has adopted an Anti-bribery and 3.4. A listed entity should: Corruption Policy, a copy of which is available (a) Have and disclose an Anti-bribery and on the Company's website. Corruption Policy; and (b) Ensure that the board or a committee The Company will maintain a register of of the board is informed of any material breaches and all material breaches will be breaches of that policy. immediately reportable to the Board. Safeguard Integrity in Corporate Reporting 4.1 The Board of a listed entity should: (a) The Company's Audit and Risk Committee (a) Have an audit committee which: Charter provides for the creation of an audit and risk committee, with at least three Has at least three members, all of members, a majority of whom must be whom are Non-Executive Directors independent Directors, and which must be and a majority of whom are chaired by an independent Director who is independent Directors; and not the Chairman. (ii) Is chaired by an independent The Company created a formal audit and Director, who is not the chair of the risk committee during the year ended 30 Board; and disclose; June 2023. (iii) The charter of the committee; Until the creation of a formal Audit and Risk Committee, the Board carried out the (iv) The relevant qualifications and experience of the members of the duties that would ordinarily be carried out committee: and under the Audit and Risk Committee Charter including the following processes (v) As at the end of each reporting to independently verify and safeguard the period, the number of times the integrity of its financial reporting, including committee met throughout the the processes for the appointment and period and the individual removal of the external auditor and the attendances of the members at rotation of the audit engagement partner: those meetings; or (i) The Board devotes time at board (b) If it does not have an Audit Committee, meetings to fulfilling the roles and disclose that fact and the processes it associated responsibilities with employs that independently verify and maintaining the Company's internal safeguard the integrity of its corporate audit function and arrangements with reporting, including the processes for external auditors: and the appointment and removal of the (ii) All members of the Board are involved external auditor and the rotation of the in the Company's audit function to audit engagement partner. ensure the proper maintenance of the entity and the integrity of all financial reportina. The Company's Audit and Risk Committee 4.2 The Board of a listed entity should, before Charter requires the CEO and CFO (or, if none, it approves the entity's financial statements for a financial period, receive from its CEO

and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") a

#### **ASX RECOMMENDATION COMPANY'S COMMENT** declaration that, in their opinion, the the person(s) fulfilling those functions) to financial statements of the entity have been provide a sign off on these terms. properly maintained and that the financial The Company confirms that it has received CEO statements comply with the appropriate and CFO declarations in respect of the accounting standards and give a true and 2022/2023 financial period. fair view of the financial position and performance of the entity and that the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively. Periodic corporate reports that are not subject to 4.3 A listed entity should disclose its process to audit or review by the Company's auditors verify the integrity of any periodic corporate (which include, but not limited to, quarterly report it releases to the market that is not activities and cash flow reports, directors' audited or reviewed by an external auditor. reports and any information included in the Company's annual report other than the audited financial statements) are compiled and verified by executive management before being reviewed by the Board before release to the market. **Make Timely and Balanced Disclosure** The Company's Continuous Disclosure Policy 5.1 A listed entity should have and disclose a details the Company's disclosure requirements written policy for complying with its as required by the ASX Listing Rules and other continual disclosure obligations under relevant legislation. listing rule 3.1. The Company's Continuous Disclosure Policy, is available on the Company's website. material market announcements 5.2 A listed entity should ensure that its board provided to the board for review and comment receives copies of all material market prior to release to the ASX Market announcements promptly after they have Announcements Platform. been made. 5.3 A listed entity that gives a new and The Company ensures that any substantive substantive investor investor or analyst presentation materials are or analyst presentation should release a copy of the released as a market announcement ahead of presentation materials on the ASX Market the presentation being given. Announcements Platform ahead of the This recommendation does not apply to one on presentation. one meetings between the Company and investors or analysts. The Company ensures that any presentation materials at these meetings does not involve the disclosure of any material information that has not already been disclosed to the market.

about itself and its governance to investors via its website.  6.2 A listed entity should have an investor relations program that facilitates effective two-way communication with investors.  The Company has adopted a Shareholder communication should a savailable on the Company's website.  6.3 A listed entity should disclose how it facilitates and encourages participation at meetings of security holders.  6.3 A listed entity should disclose how it facilitates and encourages participation at meetings of security holders.  6.4 A listed entity should ensure that all substantive resolutions at a meeting of security holders are decided by a poll rather than by a show of hands.  6.5 A listed entity should give security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.  6.5 A listed entity should give security holders are decided upon by a poll.  Where considered appropriate, the Company to receive emains its security registry electronically.  6.5 A listed entity should give security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.  6.5 A listed entity should give security holders are decided upon by a poll.  Where considered appropriate, the Company and send communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.  6.5 A listed entity should give security holders are decided upon by a poll.  Where considered appropriate, the Company to receive emains the poll.  The Company to the ASX, including the releas of the Annual Report, half yearly reports an quarterly reports.  Links are made available to the Company' website on which all information provided to the Charter provides for the creation of a Audit and Risk Committee.  (a) The Company's Audit and Risk Committee. Charter provides for the creation of a Audit and Risk Committee. Which must be chaired by an independent Directors, and which must be chaired by an i	ASX RECOMMENDATION	COMPANY'S COMMENT
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(a) The Commons another a feweral soult as	(ii) Is chaired by an independent	Charter is available on the Company's
	(iv) The members of the committee;	(c) The Company created a formal audit and risk committee during the year ended 30 June 2023.

- (v) As at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) If it does not have a Risk Committee or committees that satisfy (a) above, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for overseeing the entity's risk management framework.
- 7.2 The Board or a committee of the Board should:
  - (a) Review the entity's risk management framework and least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound and that the entity is operating with due regard to the risk appetite set by the Board; and
  - (b) Disclose, in relation to each reporting period, whether such a review has taken place.
- 7.3 A listed entity should disclose:
  - (a) If it has an internal audit function, how the function is structured and what role it performs; or
  - (b) If it does not have an internal audit function, that fact and the processes it employs for evaluating and continually improving the effectiveness of its risk management and internal control processes.
- 7.4 A listed entity should disclose whether it has any material exposure to economic, environmental and social sustainability risks and, if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.

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Until the creation of a formal Audit and Risk Committee the Board carried out the duties that would ordinarily be carried out under the Audit and Risk Committee Charter. The Board devoted time at its regular board meetings to fulfilling the roles and responsibilities associated with overseeing risk and maintaining the entity's risk management framework and associated internal compliance and control procedures.

- (a) The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires that the Audit and Risk Committee should, at least annually, satisfy itself that the Company's risk management framework continues to be sound.
- (b) The Audit and Risk Committee has undertaken a formal risk review in the period ended 30 June 2023.
- (a) The Company does not have a formal internal audit function.
- (b) As set out in Recommendation 7.1, the Audit and Risk Committee is responsible for overseeing the establishment and implementation of effective risk management and internal control systems to manage the Company's material business risks and for reviewing and monitoring the Company's application of those systems.
- The Company does have some exposure to environmental and social sustainability risks due to its ongoing exploration and development activities. This risk exposure is not considered to be unusual and common to other entities undertaking similar activities in common jurisdictions.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires the Audit and Risk Committee to assist management determine whether the Company has any material exposure to economic, environmental and social sustainability risks and, if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.

#### 8 Remunerate Fairly and Responsibly

- 8.1 The Board of a listed entity should:
  - (a) Have a remuneration committee which:
- (a) The Company's Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter provides for the creation of a Remuneration Committee, with at least three members, a majority of whom must be independent

- (i) Has at least three members, a majority of whom are independent Directors; and
- (ii) Is chaired by an independent Director; and disclose;
- (iii) The charter of the committee;
- (iv) The members of the committee; and
- (v) As at the end of each reporting period, the number of times the committee met throughout the period and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings; or
- (b) If it does not have a remuneration committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs for setting the level and composition of remuneration for Directors and senior executives and ensuring that such remuneration is appropriate and not excessive.

## **COMPANY'S COMMENT**

Directors, and which must be chaired by an independent Director.

- (b) The Company created a formal Remuneration and Nomination Committee during the year ended 30 June 2023.
  - Until the creation of a formal Remuneration and Nomination Committee, the Board carried out the duties that would ordinarily be carried out under the Remuneration and Nomination Committee Charter including setting the level and composition of remuneration for Directors and senior executives and ensuring that such remuneration is appropriate and not excessive.

8.2 A listed entity should separately disclose its policies and practices regarding the remuneration of Non-Executive Directors and the remuneration of executive Directors and other senior executives.

The Board discloses its policies and practices regarding the remuneration of Directors and senior executives, in the Remuneration Report included in the Annual Report.

- 8.3 A listed entity which has an equity-based remuneration scheme should:
  - (a) Have a policy on whether participants are permitted to enter into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise) which limit the economic risk of participating in the scheme; and
  - (b) Disclose that policy or a summary of it.

The Company's Securities Trading Policy, which is available on the Company's website, includes a prohibition on participants of an equity-based remuneration scheme from entering into transactions which limit the economic risk of participating in the scheme.