

ASX Release

27/08/2020

Corporate Governance Statement

Nanollose Limited (ASX:NC6) is pleased to provide a copy of its Corporate Governance Statement.

This Governance Statement and its associated Governance Policies are available on the Company's website at www.nanollose.com.

This announcement has been authorised for release by Winton Willesee.

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ABOUT NANOLLOSE

Nanollose Limited (ASX: NC6) is an innovative Australian company that uses an eco-friendly fermentation process to grow fibres that could become a sustainable alternative to conventional plant-derived cellulose fibres. The Company's process, which uses streams from various large-scale industries like sugar, wine and food, has the ability to produce 'Plant-Free' Cellulose. Cellulose is the hidden polymer building block most consumers know nothing about, but forms a huge part of items used in their everyday life such as clothing, paper and hygiene products.

The Board recognises the importance of establishing a comprehensive system of control and accountability as the basis for the administration of corporate governance.

During the 2019/20 financial year, the Company adopted a corporate governance framework that was largely consistent with *The Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations* (3rd Edition) as published by ASX Corporate Governance Council ("**Recommendations**") and sets out below its compliance and departures from the Recommendations for the financial year ended 30 June 2020 and to the date of this report.

The Board adopted the following suite of corporate governance policies and procedures which are contained with the Company's **Corporate Governance Plan**, a copy of which is available on the Company's website at www.nanollose.com:

- Board Charter
- Corporate Code Of Conduct
- Audit And Risk Committee Charter
- Remuneration Committee Charter
- Nomination Committee Charter
- Continuous Disclosure Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- Trading Policy
- Diversity Policy
- Shareholder Communications Strategy
- Performance Evaluation Procedures

The Board is committed to administering the policies and procedures with openness and integrity, pursuing the true spirit of corporate governance commensurate with the Company's needs.

In light of the Company's size and nature, the Board considers that the current corporate governance regime is a fit-for-purpose, efficient, practical and cost effective method of directing and managing the Company. As the Company's activities develop in size, nature and scope, the implementation of additional corporate governance policies and structures will be reviewed.

The Company further notes its intention to review its governance framework with reference to the 4th Edition Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations which came into effect on 1 July 2020.

PRINCIPLES AND RECOMMENDATIONS	COMPLY (YES/NO)	EXPLANATION
Principle 1: Lay solid foundations for ma	nagement ar	nd oversight
Recommendation 1.1 A listed entity should have and disclose a charter which sets out the respective roles and responsibilities of the board, the chair and management; and includes a description of those matters expressly reserved to the board and those delegated to management.	YES	The Company has adopted a Board Charter which complies with the guidelines prescribed by the ASX Corporate Governance Council. A copy of the Company's Board Charter is available on the Company's website.
Recommendation 1.2	\/=0	(a) The Nomination Committee (the
A listed entity should: (a) undertake appropriate checks before appointing a person, or putting forward to security holders a candidate for election, as a director; and (b) provide security holders with all material information relevant to a decision on whether or not to elect or re-elect a director.	YES	function of which is currently performed by the full Board) is responsible for the selection and appointment of members of the Board. The Company's Nomination Committee Charter requires the Nomination Committee to undertake appropriate checks before appointing a person, or putting forward to security holders a candidate for election, as a Director. During the 2020 Financial Year, the Company appointed Heidi Beatty as a director on 8 July 2019 and confirms appropriate checks were undertaken prior to her appointment. (b) All material information relevant to a decision on whether or not to elect or re-elect a Director is provided to security holders prior to any general meeting at which a resolution to elect or re-elect a Director will be voted on.
Recommendation 1.3 A listed entity should have a written agreement with each director and senior executive setting out the terms of their appointment.	YES	Each director and senior executive of the Company is party to a written agreement with the Company which sets out the terms and conditions of their appointment.
Recommendation 1.4 The company secretary of a listed entity should be accountable directly to the board, through the chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the board.	YES	The Board Charter outlines the roles, responsibility and accountability of the Company Secretary. The Company Secretary is accountable directly to the Board, through the chair, on all matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board.
Recommendation 1.5 A listed entity should:	PARTIALLY	(a) The Company has adopted a Diversity Policy however, given the current size of the Company, the Board has

- (a) have a diversity policy which includes requirements for the board:
 - to set measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity; and
 - (ii) to assess annually both the objectives and the entity's progress in achieving them;
- (b) disclose that policy or a summary or it; and
- (c) disclose as at the end of each reporting period:
 - the measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity set by the board in accordance with the entity's diversity policy and its progress towards achieving them; and
 - (ii) either:
 - (A) 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); or
 - (B) the entity's "Gender Equality Indicators", as defined in the Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012.

- determined that the benefits of the initiatives recommended by the ASX Corporate Governance Council in this instance are disproportionate to the costs involved in the implementation of such strategies. Accordingly, the Board has elected to adopt a tiered approach to the implementation of its Diversity Policy which is relative to the size of the Company and its workforce. The Company's policy provides:
- -Where the Company employs 50 or more employees, the Board undertakes to adopt practices in line with the Recommendations of the ASX Corporate Governance Council, including compliance with the requirement for the Company to set and report against measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity.
- Whilst the Company's workforce remains below this threshold, the Board will continue to drive the Company's diversity strategies on an informal basis and will apply the initiatives contained in its Diversity Policy to the extent that the Board considers relevant and necessary.
- (b) The Diversity Policy is available on the Company's website.

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- (i) As the Company did not employ 50 or more employees during the 2020 Financial Year, the Company did not formally define a set of measurable diversity objectives;
- (ii) As at 30 June 2020, the respective proportions of men and women on the Board, in senior executive positions and across the whole organisation are set out below. The Company defines senior executives as those employees who directly report to the Managing Director or the Board.
 - 80% of the Company's board were male and 20% were female:
 - 100% of the Company's two senior executives were male; and

		 - 42% of the Company's entire workforce of 7 people were female.
Recommendation 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.	YES	 (a) The Nomination Committee (the function of which is currently performed by the full Board) is responsible for evaluating the performance of the Board and individual Directors on an annual basis. The process for this is set out in the Company's Performance Evaluation Procedures policy which is available on the Company's website. (b) The Company undertook its last formal board performance review in June 2019 and were satisfied with the outcome of that review, with no board changes recommended for the 2020 financial year. However, it is noted that board composition is regularly considered on an informal basis at board level. The Company notes that it does intend to conduct a formal board evaluation process during the 2021 Financial Year and on at least a bi-annual basis moving forward.
Recommendation 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.	YES	 (a) The Remuneration Committee (the function of which is currently performed by the full Board) is responsible for evaluating the performance of senior executives on an annual basis in accordance with the Company's Performance Evaluation Procedures policy. The Performance Evaluation Procedures policy is available on the Company's website. (b) During the 2020 financial year, the Company did not undertake formal performance evaluations of its senior executives. The Board are satisfied, however, that the informal performance evaluations that occurred on a regular and ongoing basis provided sufficient governance. The Company does, however, intend to conduct future evaluations (both formal and informal) of its senior executives during the 2021 Financial Year.
Principle 2: Structure the board to add value		
Recommendation 2.1	YES	(a) The Board has determined that the function of the Nomination

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
 - (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, experience, independence and knowledge of the entity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.

Committee is most efficiently carried out with full board participation and accordingly, the Company has elected not to establish a separate Nomination Committee at this stage.

As a result, the duties that would ordinarily be assigned to the Nomination Committee under the Nomination Committee Charter are carried out by the full board.

A copy of the Nomination Committee Charter is available on the Company's website.

(b) The Board devotes time to discuss Board succession issues on an ongoing informal basis as well as in a formal setting when appropriate and required. All members of the Board are involved in the Company's nomination process, to the maximum extent permitted under the Corporations Act and ASX Listing Rules.

Recommendation 2.2

A listed entity should have and disclose a board skill matrix setting out the mix of skills and diversity that the board currently has or is looking to achieve in its membership. YES

The Board of the Company is comprised of directors with a broad range of technical, operational, commercial, legal, financial and other skills, experience and knowledge relevant to overseeing the business of the Company.

The Company had developed a skills matrix which it intends to use as a tool to assess the appropriate and ideal balance of knowledge, skills, experience, independence and diversity necessary for the Board to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively.

A copy of the Company's Board Skills Matrix is set out in the Company's Corporate Governance Plan which is available on the Company's website.

Recommendation 2.3

A listed entity should disclose:

- the names of the directors considered by the board to be independent directors;
- if a director has an interest, (b) position. association relationship of the type described in Box 2.3 of the ASX Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendation (3rd Edition), but the board is of the opinion that it does not compromise the independence of the director, the nature of the interest, position, association or relationship in question and an explanation of why the board is of that opinion; and
- the length of service of each (c) director

During the 2020 Financial Year, the Board YES of the Company was comprised of the following directors:

- Wayne Best (Chairman)
- Alfie Germano (Managing Director)
- Gary Cass (Executive Director) (resigned 8 July 2019)
- Winton Willesee (Non-Executive Director)
- Terence Walsh (Non-Executive Director)
- Heidi Beatty (Non-Executive Director)

Ms Beatty was determined to be independent under the ASX listing rules.

Dr Best, and Mr Germano are not independent by virtue of their respective roles as executives of the Company.

Mr Cass was not considered independent by virtue of his former role as an executive of the Company.

Mr Willesee is not considered to be independent by virtue of his substantial shareholding in the Company.

Mr Walsh is not considered independent on the basis that he is the nominee of the Company's IPO broker and former corporate adviser.

The Board determined has independence of each of the Company's directors in line with the guidance set out by the ASX's Corporate Governance Council (3rd edition) and have not formed an opinion contrary to those guidelines.

Directors who held office during and after the 2020 financial year have served continuously since their respective dates of appointment unless otherwise noted below:

- Wayne Best: appointed 26 September 2014 to current;
- Willesee: appointed September 2014 to current;
- Terence Walsh: appointed 15 August 2016 to current;
- Alfie Germano: appointed 9 August 2017 to current:
- Gary Cass: appointed 26 September 2014; resigned 8 July 2019; and
- Heidi Beatty: appointed 8 July 2019 to current.

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NO	The Board has formed the view that, given the size and technical nature of the business of the Company, the current Board structure is appropriate for the Company at its current stage of development.
PARTIALLY	The Board has formed the view that, given the size and technical nature of the business of the Company, and the indepth knowledge Dr Best holds in the operations of the Company, Dr Best is the most appropriate person to hold the position of Chairman of the Company. The Chairman is not the same person as the CEO of the entity.
YES	The Company's program for the induction of new directors is tailored to each new Director depending on their personal requirements, background skills, qualifications and experience and includes the provision of a formal letter of appointment and an induction pack containing sufficient information to allow the new Director to gain an understanding of the business of the Company and the roles, duties and responsibilities of Directors. All Directors are encouraged to undergo continual professional development and, subject to prior approval by the Chairman, all Directors have access to numerous resources and professional development training to address any skills gaps. In addition, opportunities to develop the skills and experience of individual board members are considered as part of the Company's annual board performance review process.
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YES	 (a) The Company has a Corporate Code of Conduct that applies to its Directors, employees and contractors. (b) The Company's Corporate Code of Conduct is available on the Company's website.
	YES

Principle 4: Safeguard integrity in financial reporting

Recommendation 4.1

The board of a listed entity should:

- (a) have an audit committee which:
 - has at least three members, all of whom are nonexecutive directors and a majority of whom are independent directors; and
 - (ii) is chaired by an independent director, who is not the chair of the board,

and disclose:

- (iii) the charter of the committee;
- (iv) the relevant qualifications and experience of the members of the committee; and
- (v) in relation to 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 an audit committee, disclose that fact and the processes it employs that independently verify and safeguard the integrity of its financial reporting, including the processes for the appointment and removal of the external auditor and the rotation of the audit engagement partner.

YES

(a) The Board has determined that the function of the Audit and Risk Committee is most efficiently carried out with full board participation and accordingly, the Company has elected not to establish a separate Audit and Risk Committee at this stage.

As a result, the duties that would ordinarily be assigned to the Audit and Risk Committee under the Audit and Risk Committee Charter are carried out by the full board.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter is available on the Company's website.

(b) The Board devotes time on at least an annual basis to consider the robustness of the various internal control systems it has in place to safeguard the integrity of the Company's financial reporting.

In addition, the Board has the opportunity to confer with the Company's external auditors on the matters identified during the course of the audit that has the potential to increase the Company's exposure to the risk of material misstatements in its financial reports.

The full Board also assumes responsibility for recommendations to security holders on the appointment and removal of the external auditor. Audit partner rotations will be enforced in accordance with the relevant guidelines.

Recommendation 4.2

The board of a listed entity should, before it approves the entity's financial statements for a financial period, receive from its CEO and CFO a declaration that the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and 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.

YES

Prior to the execution of the financial the Company, the statements of Company's Managing Director and accountant provided the Board with a written declaration that the financial records of the entity have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and 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.

Recommendation 4.3 A listed entity that has an AGM should ensure that its external auditor attends its AGM and is available to answer questions from security holders relevant to the audit.	YES	At the Company's 2019 Financial Year AGM held on 24 October 2019, a representative of the Company's audit firm, RSM Australia Partners, was present and available to answer questions from security holders relevant to the audit.
Principle 5: Make timely and balanced o	lisclosure	
Recommendation 5.1 A listed entity should: (a) have a written policy for complying with its continuous disclosure obligations under the Listing Rules; and (b) disclose that policy or a summary of it.	YES	 (a) The Company has adopted a Continuous Disclosure Policy which details the processes and procedures which have been adopted by the Company to ensure that it complies with its continuous disclosure obligations as required under the ASX Listing Rules and other relevant legislation. (b) The Continuous Disclosure Policy is available on the Company's website.
Principle 6: Respect the rights of security	holders	
Recommendation 6.1 A listed entity should provide information about itself and its governance to investors via its website.	YES	Shareholders can access information about the Company and its governance (including its Constitution and adopted governance policies) from the Company's website on the "Corporate Governance" page.
Recommendation 6.2 A listed entity should design and implement an investor relations program to facilitate effective two-way communication with investors.	YES	The Company has adopted a Shareholder Communications Strategy which aims to promote and facilitate effective two-way communication with investors. The Strategy outlines a range of ways in which information is communicated to shareholders. A copy of the Company's Shareholder Communications Strategy policy is available on the Company's website.
Recommendation 6.3 A listed entity should disclose the policies and processes it has in place to facilitate and encourage participation at meetings of security holders.	YES	Shareholders are encouraged to participate at all EGMs and AGMs of the Company. Upon the despatch of any notice of meeting to Shareholders, the Company Secretary shall send out material with that notice of meeting stating that all Shareholders are encouraged to participate at the meeting.

Recommendation 6.4 A listed entity should give security holders the option to receive communications from, and send communications to, the entity and its security registry electronically.	YES	Shareholders have the option of electing to receive all shareholder communications by e-mail and can update their communication preferences with the Company's registrar at any time.
Principle 7: Recognise and manage risk		
Recommendation 7.1 The board of a listed entity should: (a) have a committee or committees to oversee risk, each of which: (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 risk committee or committees that satisfy (a) above, disclose that fact and the process it employs for overseeing the entity's risk management framework.	YES	 (a) The Board has determined that the function of the Audit and Risk Committee is most efficiently carried out with full board participation and accordingly, the Company has elected not to establish a separate Audit and Risk Committee at this stage. As a result, the duties that would ordinarily be assigned to the Audit and Risk Committee under the Audit and Risk Committee Charter are carried out by the full board. The Audit and Risk Committee Charter is available on the Company's website. (b) The Board devotes time at Board meetings on at least an annual basis to fulfill the roles and responsibilities associated with overseeing risk and maintaining the Company's risk management framework.
Recommendation 7.2 The board or a committee of the board should: (a) review the entity's risk management framework with management at least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound, to determine whether there have been any changes in the material business risks the entity faces and to ensure that they remain within the risk appetite set by the board; and (b) disclose in relation to each reporting period, whether such a review has taken place.	YES	(a) The Company's process for risk management and internal compliance includes a requirement to identify and measure risk, monitor the environment for emerging factors and trends that affect these risks, formulate risk management strategies and monitor the performance of risk management systems. The Company's Risk Management Policy details the Company's disclosure requirements with respect to the review of the Company's risk management procedures and internal compliance and controls. (b) Whilst no discrete session was convened during the 2020 financial

		year, the Company does regularly consider its risk exposures on an ongoing basis within its regular board meeting.
Recommendation 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.		 (a) The Audit and Risk Committee (the function of which is currently performed by the full Board) is responsible for monitoring the need for a formal internal audit function. (b) Due to the size and nature of the Company's operations, the Company does not consider it necessary to establish a formal internal audit committee at this stage. The effectiveness of the Company's risk management and internal control processes is subject to annual review by the Board.
Recommendation 7.4 A listed entity should disclose whether, and if so how, it has regard to economic, environmental and social sustainability risks and, if it does, how it manages or intends to manage those risks.		The Company's Risk Management Policy details the Company's risk management systems which assist in identifying and managing potential or apparent business, economic, environmental and social sustainability risks (where appropriate).
Principle 8: Remunerate fairly and respo	nsibly	
Recommendation 8.1 The board of a listed entity should: (a) have a remuneration committee which: (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	YES	 a) Due to its size, the Board has determined that the function of the Remuneration Committee is most efficiently carried out with full board participation and accordingly, the Company has elected not to establish a separate Remuneration Committee at this stage. As a result, the duties that would ordinarily be assigned to the Remuneration Committee under the Remuneration Committee Charter are carried out by the full board. The Remuneration Committee Charter is available on the Company's website. b) The Board devotes time at least on an annual basis at Board meetings to discuss the outcome of performance reviews of its Board and any senior executives, and to consider the level and composition of remuneration for Company directors and senior
(b) if it does not have a		

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.		such remuneration is appropriate and not excessive.
Recommendation 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 and ensure that the different roles and responsibilities of non-executive directors compared to executive directors and other senior executives are reflected in the level and composition of their remuneration.	YES	The Company's policies and practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive and executive directors and other senior employees are set out in its Remuneration Policy, a copy of which is available on the Company's website.
Recommendation 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.	YES	(a) The Company's Remuneration Committee (the function of which is currently performed by the full Board) is responsible for the review and approval of any equity-based remuneration schemes offered to Directors and Employees of the Company. Further, in accordance with the Remuneration Committee Charter, the Remuneration Committee is also responsible for granting permission, on a case by case basis, for scheme participants to enter into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise) which limit the economic risk of participating in the Scheme. (b) The Company's policy in this regard is set out the Company's Remuneration Committee Charter, a copy of which is available on the Company's website.