# APN Outdoor Group Limited Appendix 4D Half-year report

#### 1. Company details

Name of entity: APN Outdoor Group Limited

ABN: 57 155 848 589

Reporting period: For the half-year ended 30 June 2016
Previous period: For the half-year ended 30 June 2015

#### 2. Results for announcement to the market

			\$'000
Revenues from ordinary activities	ир	10.4% to	150,556
Profit from ordinary activities after tax attributable to the owners of APN Outdoor Group Limited	up	51.6% to	19,527
Profit for the half-year attributable to the owners of APN Outdoor Group Limited	ир	51.6% to	19,527

# 3. Net tangible assets

	Reporting period cents	Previous period cents
Net tangible assets per ordinary security	16.29	15.15

#### 4. Dividends

#### Current period

On 22 April 2016 APN Outdoor Group Limited paid a final, fully franked dividend of 11.0 cents per share (\$18,327,596) for the year ended December 2015.

On 22 August 2016 the Board recommended the payment of an interim, fully franked dividend of 6.5 cents per share (\$10,829,943). Proposed dividends on ordinary shares are not recognised as a liability as at 30 June 2016. This dividend will be paid on 21 October 2016.

# Previous period

On 17 April 2015 APN Outdoor Group Limited paid a special, fully franked dividend of 1 cent per ordinary share (\$1,666,145) for the year ended December 2014.

#### 5. Audit qualification or review

The financial statements were subject to a review by the auditors and the review report is attached as part of the Half year report.

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Appendix 4D Half-year report

# 6. Attachments

The Half year report of APN Outdoor Group Limited for the half-year ended 30 June 2016 is attached.

# 7. Signed

Doug Flynn Chairman

22 August 2016 Sydney

# **APN Outdoor Group Limited**

ABN 57 155 848 589

Half year report - 30 June 2016

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Corporate directory 30 June 2016

Directors Doug Flynn

Independent non-executive Chairman

Pat O'Sullivan

Independent non-executive Director

Lisa Chung

Independent non-executive Director

Jack Matthews

Independent non-executive Director

Richard Herring

Chief Executive Officer and Executive Director

Company secretary Wayne Castle

Registered office Level 4

33 Saunders Street

Pyrmont

New South Wales 2009

Principal place of business Level 4

33 Saunders Street

Pyrmont

New South Wales 2009

Share register Link Market Services Limited

Level 12

680 George Street Sydney NSW 2000

Share registry telephone: 1300 554 474

Auditor PricewaterhouseCoopers

Darling Park Tower 2 201 Sussex Street

Sydney NSW 2000 Australia

Bankers Commonwealth Bank of Australia

Westpac Banking Corporation

National Australia Bank ASB Bank Limited

ASD DUTK LITTIEC

Stock exchange listing APN Outdoor Group Limited shares are listed on the Australian Securities

Exchange (ASX code: APO)

Website http://investors.apnoutdoorcorporate.com/

#### APN Outdoor Group Limited Directors' report 30 June 2016

The Directors present their report, together with the financial statements, on the consolidated entity (referred to hereafter as the 'Group') consisting of APN Outdoor Group Limited (referred to hereafter as the 'Company' or 'parent entity') and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the half-year ended 30 June 2016.

#### **Directors**

The following persons were Directors of APN Outdoor Group Limited during the whole of the financial half-year and up to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated:

Doug Flynn - Chairman Pat O'Sullivan Lisa Chung Jack Matthews Richard Herring

# **Principal activities**

During the period the principal continuing activities of the Group consisted of the provision of advertising services.

# **Review of operations**

The profit for the Group after providing for income tax amounted to \$19,527,000 (30 June 2015: \$12,880,000).

A review of operations of the Group is set out in pages 3 to 5.

#### Significant changes in the state of affairs

There were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Group during the financial half-year.

#### **Rounding of amounts**

The Company is of a kind referred to in ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/ Directors Reports) Instrument 2016/191, issued by the Australian Securities and Investments Commission, relating to 'rounding-off'. Amounts in this report have been rounded off in accordance with the Instrument to the nearest thousand dollars, or in certain cases, the nearest dollar.

# Auditor's independence declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 307C of the Corporations Act 2001 follows this Directors' Report.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors, pursuant to section 306(3)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the Directors

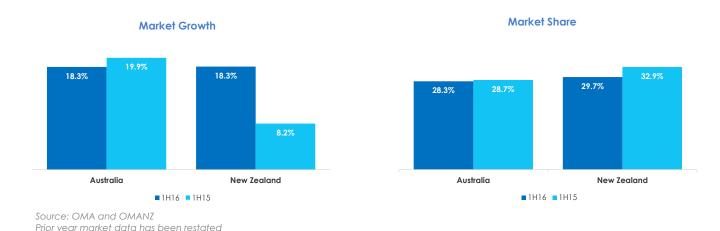
Doug Flynn Chairman

22 August 2016 Sydney

#### APN Outdoor Group Limited Review of operations 30 June 2016

The first half of 2016 has seen further strong earnings growth and a continuation of our leadership position in large format digital screens. We remain on track to deliver in excess of 20 to 25 new Elite Screens in prime metro locations and have commissioned 16 so far this year across Australia and New Zealand.

Total group revenues were up 10% for the period. This growth is consistent with our previous market guidance of 8% to 11% for 2016. Total group revenues comprise media revenues and ancillary production and installation revenues across Australia and New Zealand. Total group revenue growth is lower than the Australian Outdoor media market due to lower revenue growth in New Zealand, and non-media growth related drivers of production and installation revenue.



The Australian Outdoor media market continued to exhibit superior growth and was up 18% on the prior corresponding period. Australian media revenues were broadly in line with market growth. Continued market strength was fuelled by further digitisation by APO and other key Outdoor operators as well as declining audiences in most traditional media.

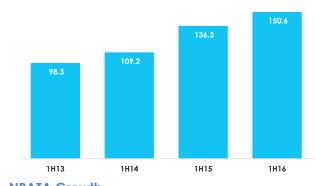
Australian revenues grew 11% during the period. This is lower than the independently reported market growth of 18% which relates only to media revenues. Our production and installation revenues continue to grow, although at a lower rate than media revenues as (i) they are driven by physical volumes and therefore don't benefit from the same strong yields exhibited by our media revenues and (ii) the increased digitisation of our inventory reduces the volumes of static advertising campaigns which attract these revenues.

The New Zealand business lost market share after a 7% share increase in 2015. We have already effected a number of changes in our New Zealand sales structure and appointed an experienced General Manager to the business to improve performance.

#### **Financial Performance**

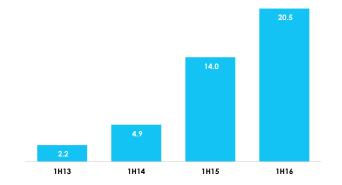
#### **Revenue Growth**

- up 10% (\$14.3m) on prior year
- 4 year CAGR 11%



# **NPATA Growth**

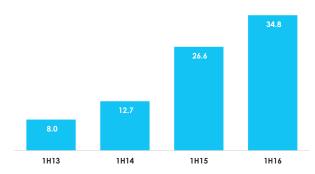
- up 46% (\$6.5m) on prior year
- 4 year CAGR 75%



Previous financial years are presented on a pro-forma basis

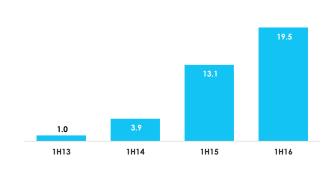
#### **EBITDA Growth**

- up 31% (\$8.2m) on prior year
- 4 year CAGR 45%



#### **NPAT Growth**

- up 49% (\$6.4m) on prior year
- 4 year CAGR 104%



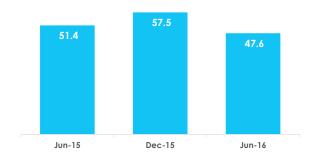
# **Capital Management**

Our business model generates strong cash flows. Operating cash flows for the half year were used to fund investment activities, dividends and debt reduction. Cash conversion for the half was 152%.

During the half year net debt was reduced by a further \$9.9m to \$47.6m. Net debt to EBITDA reduced from 0.8x at December 2015 to 0.6x during the period. At 30 June 2016, we had \$65m of funding available from undrawn banking facilities and cash, of which \$37m has been subsequently committed to fund the acquisitions of Metrospace and iOM.

An increase of \$20m to our debt facilities was recently approved.

Net Debt (\$m) excludes unamortised borrowing costs



# APN Outdoor Group Limited Review of operations 30 June 2016

#### **Business Review**

#### **Growth in Digital**

- Maintained a clear leadership position in large format digital billboards (Elite Screens)
- An additional 16 Elite Screens added so far this year across Australia and New Zealand and on track to deliver 20 - 25 this year
- 68 Elite Screens active
- Digital revenues generated 32% of all revenues in the first half of 2016

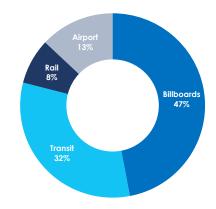
# Digital proportion of revenue



# **Outdoor Category Leadership**

APO operates in four of the primary Outdoor advertising categories being Billboards, Transit, Airport and Rail. Our aim is to achieve and maintain the leadership position in all of these categories.

Revenue by c	ategory – 1H 2	2016		
\$ millions	1H16	1H15	Growth \$	Growth %
Billboards	70.3	65.1	5.2	8%
Transit	48.2	47.1	1.1	2%
Rail	12.8	10.1	2.7	27%
Airport	19.3	14.0	5.3	38%
TOTAL	150.6	136.3	14.3	10%



Overall revenue growth is being assisted by our digitisation program. Billboards and Transit remain our largest revenue formats but Rail and Airport represent an increasing proportion of revenues, driven by asset upgrades. Transit revenues were up 2% after 10% growth in 2015 – the Transit category currently does not include any digital revenues.



# **Auditor's Independence Declaration**

As lead auditor for the review of APN Outdoor Group Limited for the half-year ended 30 June 2016, I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- 1. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the review; and
- 2. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

This declaration is in respect of APN Outdoor Group Limited and the entities it controlled during the period.

David Wiadrowski

**Partner** 

PricewaterhouseCoopers

5 Windronoki

Sydney 22 August 2016

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Contents 30 June 2016

Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income	8
Statement of financial position	9
Statement of changes in equity	10
Statement of cash flows	11
Notes to the financial statements	12
Directors' declaration	15
Independent auditor's review report to the members of APN Outdoor Group Limited	16

#### **General information**

The financial statements cover APN Outdoor Group Limited as a Group consisting of APN Outdoor Group Limited and the entities it controlled at the end of, or during, the half-year. The financial statements are presented in Australian dollars, which is APN Outdoor Group Limited's functional and presentation currency.

APN Outdoor Group Limited is a listed public company limited by shares, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. Its registered office and principal place of business is:

Level 4 33 Saunders Street Pyrmont New South Wales 2009

A description of the nature of the Group's operations and its principal activities are included in the Directors' report, which is not part of the financial statements.

This report is made in accordance with a resolution of Directors.

Where necessary the Group presents reclassified comparative information where required for consistency with the current financial period's presentation.

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income For the half-year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	June 2016 \$'000	June 2015 \$'000
Revenue	3	150,556	136,321
Expenses Raw materials and consumables used Sales and marketing Production and installation Employee benefits Rental of advertising space Depreciation and amortisation Other expenses Finance expenses Total expenses		(3,219) (16,656) (8,678) (15,815) (63,974) (5,408) (7,453) (1,414) (122,617)	(3,880) (14,693) (10,267) (15,910) (58,320) (5,602) (6,638) (2,278) (117,588)
Profit before income tax expense		27,939	18,733
Income tax expense		(8,412)	(5,853)
Profit after income tax expense for the half-year		19,527	12,880
Other comprehensive income			
Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss Cash flow hedges transferred to profit or loss, net of tax Net change in the fair value of cash flow hedges taken to equity, net of tax Foreign currency translation		22 (59) 503	(79) (1,784 <u>)</u>
Other comprehensive income for the half-year, net of tax		466	(1,863)
Total comprehensive income for the half-year		19,993	11,017
		Cents	Cents
Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	7 7	11.72 11.68	7.73 7.69

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Statement of financial position As at 30 June 2016

	Note	June 2016 \$'000	Dec 2015 \$'000
Assets			
Current assets Cash and cash equivalents Trade and other receivables Inventories Prepayments Total current assets		11,365 55,245 654 5,274 72,538	9,020 62,777 677 12,286 84,760
Non-current assets Investments accounted for using the equity method Property, plant and equipment Intangibles Deferred tax Other Total non-current assets  Total assets		575 80,674 222,800 611 2,750 307,410	546 77,858 222,862 462 2,750 304,478
Liabilities			
Current liabilities Trade and other payables Income tax Employee benefits Provisions Other Total current liabilities		27,627 7,426 2,215 1,100 2,753 41,121	22,728 14,716 2,134 1,005 3,984 44,567
Non-current liabilities  Borrowings Derivative financial instruments Deferred tax Employee benefits Provisions Other Total non-current liabilities	4	58,578 84 25,026 371 1,354 3,476 88,889	65,926 17 24,896 339 1,929 3,469 96,576
Total liabilities		130,010	141,143
Net assets		249,938	248,095
Equity Issued capital Reserves Retained profits  Total equity		222,334 4,397 23,207 249,938	222,334 3,753 22,008
Total equity		247,730	248,095

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Statement of changes in equity For the half-year ended 30 June 2016

Group	Issued capital \$'000	Reserves \$'000	Retained profits / (acc losses) \$'000	Total equity \$'000
Balance at 1 January 2015	222,334	3,817	(9,877)	216,274
Profit after income tax expense Other comprehensive income, net of tax	<u> </u>	- (1,863 <u>)</u>	12,880	12,880 (1,863 <u>)</u>
Total comprehensive income	-	(1,863)	12,880	11,017
Transactions with owners Share based payment expense Dividends paid		54	(1,666)	54 (1,666)
Balance at 30 June 2015	222,334	2,008	1,337	225,679
Group	Issued capital S'000	Reserves	Retained profits	Total equity
	9 000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance at 1 January 2016	222,334	<b>\$'000</b> 3,753	<b>\$'000</b> 22,008	<b>\$'000</b> 248,095
Balance at 1 January 2016  Profit after income tax expense Other comprehensive income, net of tax			·	
Profit after income tax expense		3,753	22,008	248,095 19,527
Profit after income tax expense Other comprehensive income, net of tax		3,753 - 466	22,008 19,527 	248,095 19,527 466

# **APN Outdoor Group Limited** Statement of cash flows For the half-year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	June 2016 \$'000	June 2015 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities  Receipts from customers (inclusive of GST)  Payments to suppliers and employees (inclusive of GST)		161,206 (108,283)	146,553 (109,284)
Interest and other finance costs paid Income taxes paid		52,923 (1,060) (15,773)	37,269 (2,124) (883)
Net cash from operating activities		36,090	34,262
Cash flows from investing activities Payments for property, plant and equipment Payments for intangibles Other investment		(7,453) (478)	(4,905) - (2,750)
Net cash used in investing activities		(7,931)	(7,655)
Cash flows from financing activities Proceeds from borrowings Repayment of borrowings Dividends paid	5	17,500 (25,000) (18,328)	886 (23,266) (1,666)
Net cash used in financing activities		(25,828)	(24,046)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial half-year Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents		2,331 9,020 14	2,560 9,865 (160)
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial half-year		11,365	12,265

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2016

#### Note 1. Significant accounting policies

These general purpose financial statements for the interim half-year reporting period ended 30 June 2016 have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 'Interim Financial Reporting' and the Corporations Act 2001, as appropriate for for-profit oriented entities. Compliance with AASB 134 ensures compliance with International Financial Reporting Standard IAS 34 'Interim Financial Reporting'.

These general purpose financial statements do not include all the notes of the type normally included in annual financial statements. Accordingly, these financial statements are to be read in conjunction with the annual report for the year ended 31 December 2015 and any public announcements made by the Company during the interim reporting period in accordance with the continuous disclosure requirements of the Corporations Act 2001.

The principal accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the previous financial year and corresponding interim reporting period, unless otherwise stated.

#### New, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations adopted

The Group has adopted all of the new, revised or amending Accounting Standards and Interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board ('AASB') that are mandatory for the current reporting period.

Any new, revised or amending Accounting Standards or Interpretations that are not yet mandatory have not been early adopted.

# Note 2. Operating segments

The Group operates in one market segment only being Out-of-Home advertising.

Revenues are generated by sales to external customers in Australia (2016: \$136,693,000, 2015: \$122,712,000) and New Zealand (2016:\$13,863,000, 2015: \$13,609,000). The geography is based upon the location of the advertising provided. No individual customer is material to the revenues reported.

Given the similar economic characteristics of the markets, products and customers, these businesses have been aggregated for the purposes of presentation of this report as one segment.

#### Note 3. Revenue

	June 2016 \$'000	June 2015 \$'000
Sales revenue Advertising revenue	150,454	136,130
Other revenue Sundry revenue	102	191
Revenue	150,556	136,321

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2016

# Note 4. Non-current liabilities - borrowings

	June 2016 \$'000	Dec 2015 \$'000
Bank loans - secured Borrowing costs Less: accumulated amortisation	59,000 (916) 494	66,500 (916) 342
	58,578	65,926

#### Assets pledged as security

Under the current borrowing facilities the Group has provided security over all of its assets and undertakings.

# Note 5. Equity - dividends

#### Dividends

On 22 April 2016 APN Outdoor Group Limited paid a final, fully franked dividend of 11.0 cents per share (\$18,327,596).

On 22 August 2016 the Board recommended the payment of an interim, fully franked dividend of 6.5 cents per share (\$10,829,943). Proposed dividends on ordinary shares are not recognised as a liability as at 30 June 2016. This dividend will be paid on 21 October 2016.

# Franking credits

	June 2016 \$'000	Dec 2015 \$'000
Franking credits available at the reporting date based on a tax rate of 30% Franking credits that will arise from the payment of the amount of the provision for	7,878	645
income tax at the reporting date based on a tax rate of 30%	7,411	14,901
Franking credits available for subsequent financial years based on a tax rate of 30% Franking debits that will arise from the payment of dividends declared subsequent to	15,289	15,546
the reporting date based on a tax rate of 30%	(4,641)	(7,855)
Net franking credits available based on a tax rate of 30%	10,648	7,691

The above franking account disclosures are for APN Outdoor Limited as the parent company of the Group.

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Notes to the financial statements 30 June 2016

#### Note 6. Events after the reporting period

#### **Acquisitions**

Subsequent to the reporting date, the Group entered into an agreement to acquire the outdoor advertising assets of iOM Pty Ltd (iOM).

#### iOM

APO acquired the legal entity iOM Pty Ltd in August 2016. iOM is Victorian based and contains a mix of both static and digital billboard sites. iOM's 130 sites complement our existing footprint and will add to the digital conversion pipeline.

Total consideration comprised \$16 million plus cash and working capital acquired at completion. The acquisition was subject to the satisfaction of conditions precedent. The conditions precedent were satisfied in August 2016.

# Metrospace

Acquisition of Metrospace Advertising Pty Ltd is well progressed and is expected to complete in the near future.

#### **Increase to APN Outdoor Debt Facility**

In August 2016 the Group increased the limit under its debt facility by \$20 million. The increase is to facilitate the acceleration of the Group's digital rollout programme and to make capital available to support an ongoing review of acquisition opportunities.

#### Other

No other matter or circumstance has arisen since 30 June 2016 that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Group's operations, the results of those operations, or the Group's state of affairs in future financial years.

#### Note 7. Earnings per share

	June 2016 \$'000	June 2015 \$'000
Profit after income tax attributable to the owners of APN Outdoor Group Limited	19,527	12,880
	Number	Number
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating basic earnings per share  Adjustments for calculation of diluted earnings per share:  Options over ordinary shares	166,614,509 548,082	166,614,509 943,940
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share	167,162,591	167,558,449
	Cents	Cents
Basic earnings per share Diluted earnings per share	11.72 11.68	7.73 7.69

# APN Outdoor Group Limited Directors' declaration 30 June 2016

In the Directors' opinion:

- the attached financial statements and notes comply with the Corporations Act 2001, Australian Accounting Standard AASB 134 'Interim Financial Reporting', the Corporations Regulations 2001 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements;
- the attached financial statements and notes give a true and fair view of the Group's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the financial half-year ended on that date; and
- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of Directors made pursuant to section 303(5)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001.

On behalf of the Directors

Doug Flynn Chairman

22 August 2016 Sydney



# Independent auditor's review report to the members of APN Outdoor Group Limited

# Report on the Half-Year Financial Report

We have reviewed the accompanying half-year financial report of APN Outdoor Group Limited (the company), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the half-year ended on that date, selected explanatory notes and the directors' declaration for APN Outdoor Group Limited (the consolidated entity). The consolidated entity comprises the company and the entities it controlled during that half-year.

# Directors' responsibility for the half-year financial report

The directors of the company are responsible for the preparation of the half-year financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the half-year financial report that is free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

# Auditor's responsibility

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the half-year financial report based on our review. We conducted our review in accordance with Australian Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2410 *Review of a Financial Report Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity*, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, we have become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including giving a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*. As the auditor of APN Outdoor Group Limited, ASRE 2410 requires that we comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the audit of the annual financial report.

A review of a half-year financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

#### *Independence*

In conducting our review, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

PricewaterhouseCoopers, ABN 52 780 433 757

Darling Park Tower 2, 201 Sussex Street, GPO BOX 2650, SYDNEY NSW 1171 T: +61 2 8266 0000, F: +61 2 8266 9999, www.pwc.com.au

Liability limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation



# Conclusion

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the half-year financial report of APN Outdoor Group Limited is not in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* including:

- 1. giving a true and fair view of the consolidated entity's financial position as at 30 June 2016 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date;
- 2. complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* and the *Corporations Regulations 2001*.

PiccewaterhouseCoopers

PricewaterhouseCoopers

5 Windronoki

David Wiadrowski Partner Sydney 22 August 2016