

**Law Access Limited**  
(ACN 602 771 068)

**Record of Resolution**

(passed under section 249B of the Corporations Act 2001 (Cwlth))

The Law Society of Western Australia Inc (**Law Society**) is the sole member of Law Access Limited (ACN 602 771 068) (**Company**).

The following is passed as a special resolution:

*That the document attached to this resolution is adopted as the Constitution of the Company, in substitution for the present Constitution of the Company (which is repealed).*

Signed on behalf of the Law Society of Western Australia Inc as the sole member of Law Access Limited.

GREGORY MCINTYRE

Name

PRESIDENT.

Position

22. 10. 19.

Date

K&L GATES

**Constitution of  
Law Access Limited  
ACN 602 771 068  
a company limited by guarantee**

22 October 2019

**K&L Gates**  
Perth office  
Ref: 0906346.00001

## Table of Contents

<b>1.</b>	<b>Nature of the Company</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Definitions and interpretation</b>	<b>1</b>
2.1	Definitions	1
2.2	Interpretation	2
2.3	Replaceable rules	3
2.4	Compliance with the Corporations Act	3
2.5	Transitional	4
<b>3.</b>	<b>Objects and powers of the Company</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Assets and income of the Company</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Membership</b>	<b>5</b>
5.1	Number of Members	5
5.2	Initial Members	5
5.3	Membership requirements and undertaking	5
5.4	Liability of Members and undertaking	5
5.5	Membership rights	6
5.6	Representatives	6
<b>6.</b>	<b>Application for and cessation of membership</b>	<b>7</b>
6.1	Application for membership	7
6.2	Membership fees	8
6.3	Failure to pay membership fees	8
6.4	No transfer of membership	8
6.5	Cessation of membership	8
<b>7.</b>	<b>Register of Members</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>8.</b>	<b>General meetings</b>	<b>9</b>
8.1	Annual general meetings	9
8.2	Business at annual general meeting	10
8.3	Power of Directors to convene general meeting	10
8.4	Power of Members to convene a general meeting	10
8.5	Members' resolutions at a general meeting	10
8.6	Notice of general meetings	11
8.7	Content of notice of general meetings	11
8.8	Failure to give notice	12
8.9	Use of technology	12
8.10	Quorum	12
8.11	If a quorum not Present	12
8.12	Chairman of general meeting	13
8.13	Right of officers and advisers to attend general meeting	13
8.14	Adjournments	13
8.15	Written resolutions of Members	14
<b>9.</b>	<b>Voting at general meetings</b>	<b>14</b>
9.1	Voting rights	14
9.2	Members' resolutions	14

9.3	Voting by poll	14
9.4	Chairman's casting vote	15
9.5	Members of unsound mind and minors	15
9.6	Objection to qualification to vote	15
9.7	Votes counted in error	16
9.8	Direct voting	16
<b>10.</b>	<b>Proxies</b>	<b>16</b>
10.1	Appointment of proxies	16
10.2	Rights of proxies	16
10.3	Form of proxy	17
10.4	Where proxy is incomplete	17
10.5	Lodgement of proxy	17
10.6	Validity of proxy vote	18
<b>11.</b>	<b>Board of Directors</b>	<b>19</b>
11.1	Number of Directors	19
11.2	Initial Directors	19
11.3	Appointment and removal of Directors	19
11.4	Term of appointment as Director	19
11.5	Nomination of Directors	20
11.6	Director qualifications	20
11.7	Vacation of office of Director	20
11.8	Remuneration and payments to Directors	21
<b>12.</b>	<b>Powers and duties of Directors</b>	<b>21</b>
12.1	General management power	21
12.2	Appointment of attorneys and representatives	22
12.3	Committees	22
12.4	Negotiable instruments and electronic payments	22
12.5	By-laws	22
12.6	Acts of Directors valid despite defective appointment	23
12.7	Interested Directors	23
<b>13.</b>	<b>Proceedings of Directors</b>	<b>24</b>
13.1	Calling and holding Directors' meetings	24
13.2	Meetings by telecommunications	24
13.3	Quorum	25
13.4	Chairman	25
13.5	Directors' resolutions	25
13.6	Acts of Directors valid despite defective appointment	26
13.7	Minutes	26
13.8	Written resolutions of Directors	26
<b>14.</b>	<b>Alternate Directors and attendance by proxy</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>Secretary</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>16.</b>	<b>Patron</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>17.</b>	<b>Gift fund</b>	<b>28</b>
17.1	Gift Fund	28
17.2	Limit on use of Gift Fund	29

17.3	Bank accounts	29
17.4	Maintaining the Gift Fund	29
17.5	Winding up of the Gift Fund	30
17.6	Revocation clause	30
<b>18.</b>	<b>Execution of documents</b>	<b>31</b>
18.1	Execution generally	31
18.2	Execution by authorised persons	31
<b>19.</b>	<b>Notices</b>	<b>31</b>
19.1	How notice to be given	31
19.2	When notice is given	32
19.3	No notice of valid address	32
<b>20.</b>	<b>Audit and accounts</b>	<b>32</b>
20.1	Company must keep accounts	32
20.2	Audit	32
20.3	Financial reporting	33
<b>21.</b>	<b>Inspection of records</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>22.</b>	<b>Indemnity and insurance</b>	<b>33</b>
22.1	Definition	33
22.2	Company must indemnify Officers	33
22.3	Documentary indemnity and insurance policy	33
<b>23.</b>	<b>Affiliation and membership of other similar organisations</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>24.</b>	<b>Winding up</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>25.</b>	<b>Variation or amendment of Constitution</b>	<b>34</b>
	<b>Schedule 1 – Members</b>	<b>35</b>
	<b>Schedule 2– Directors</b>	<b>36</b>
	<b>Schedule 3 – Deductible Gift Recipient Status</b>	<b>37</b>

# **Law Access Limited ACN 602 771 068**

## **A Company limited by guarantee**

### **1. Nature of the Company**

- (a) This Company is a public company limited by guarantee.
- (b) The name of the Company is Law Access Limited.
- (c) The Company does not have the power to issue shares.

### **2. Definitions and interpretation**

#### **Definitions**

The following definitions apply in this Constitution unless the context requires otherwise:

**ACNC Act** means the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (Cth);

**Alternate Director** means a person appointed as an alternate Director under clause 14;

**Annual fee** means the annual fee determined under clause 0;

**Appointing Director** has the meaning given in clause 14(a);

**ASIC** means the Australian Securities and Investments Commission;

**Board** means the Board of Directors of the Company from time to time;

**Business Day** means a day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, public holiday or bank holiday in Perth, Western Australia;

**Chairman** means the chairman of Directors appointed under clause 0;

**Company** means Law Access Limited ACN 602 771 068

**Constitution** means this constitution as amended, supplemented or replaced from time to time;

**Corporations Act** means the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) and any regulations made under that statute;

**Director** means a person appointed or elected to the office of director of the Company and, where appropriate, includes an Alternate Director;

**Financial Year** means the 12 month period ending on 30 June;

**Gift Fund** means a fund established by the Company in accordance with clause 16;

**Insolvency Event** means, in relation to a person, any one or more of the following events or circumstances:

- (a) a winding up, dissolution, liquidation, provisional liquidation, administration or bankruptcy;
- (b) having a controller (as defined in the Corporations Act), receiver, receiver and manager, administrator, liquidator (whether provisional or otherwise) or analogous person appointed to it or any of its property;
- (c) being unable to pay any of its debts as and when due and payable or being deemed to be insolvent under any provision of the Corporations Act or any other law;
- (d) seeking protection from its creditors under any law, entering into a compromise, moratorium, assignment, composition or arrangement with, or for the benefit of, any of its members or creditors; or
- (e) any analogous event or circumstance to those described in paragraphs (a) to (d) under any law;

**Law Society** means The Law Society of Western Australia Inc;

**Member** means a member of the Company entered in the Register;

**Objects** means the objects of the Company as set out in clause 3;

**Office** means the registered office of the Company;

**Present** means, in connection with a meeting, a Member being present in person or by proxy, attorney or Representative, and includes being present at a different venue from the venue at which other Members are participating in the same meeting, providing the pre-requisites for a valid meeting at different venues are observed;

**Register** means the register of Members of the Company;

**Representative** means a natural person nominated by an organisation in accordance with clause 0;

**Secretary** means a person appointed to the office of secretary of the Company from time to time;

**Small Company Limited By Guarantee** has the meaning given to that term in section 45B of the Corporations Act;

**Special Resolution** has the meaning given to that term in section 9 of the Corporations Act; and

**Tax Act** means the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997* (Cth).

## Interpretation

In this Constitution, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (f) the singular includes the plural and vice versa;
- (g) a gender includes the other genders;

- (h) the headings are used for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this Constitution;
- (i) other grammatical forms of defined words or expressions have corresponding meanings;
- (j) a reference to a document includes the document as modified from time to time and any document replacing it;
- (k) if something is to be or may be done on a day that is not a Business Day then it must be done on the next Business Day;
- (l) the word "person" includes a natural person, partnership, body corporate, association, governmental or local authority, agency and any other body or entity whether incorporated or not;
- (m) the word "month" means calendar month and the word "year" means 12 months;
- (n) the words "in writing" include any communication sent by letter, facsimile transmission or email or any other form of communication capable of being read by the recipient;
- (o) a reference to a thing includes a part of that thing;
- (p) a reference to all or any part of a statute, rule, regulation or ordinance (**statute**) includes that statute as amended, consolidated, re-enacted or replaced from time to time;
- (q) wherever "include", "for example" or any form of those words or similar expressions is used, it must be construed as if it were followed by "(without being limited to)";
- (r) money amounts are stated in Australian currency unless otherwise specified;
- (s) a reference to any agency or body, if that agency or body ceases to exist or is reconstituted, renamed or replaced or has its powers or functions removed (**defunct body**), means the agency or body that performs most closely the functions of the defunct body; and
- (t) any expression in a provision of this Constitution that relates to a particular provision of the Corporations Act has the same meaning as in that provision of the Corporations Act.

### **Replaceable rules**

The replaceable rules contained in the Corporations Act are displaced under section 135(2) of the Corporations Act and do not apply to the Company.

### **Compliance with the Corporations Act**

This Constitution is subject to the Corporations Act and where there is any inconsistency between a clause of this Constitution and the Corporations Act which is not permissible under the Corporations Act, the Corporations Act prevails to the extent of the inconsistency.



## **Transitional**

Everything done under this Constitution of the Company continues to have the same operation and effect after the adoption of any successor Constitution as if properly done under that Constitution.

## **3. Objects and powers of the Company**

- (a) The Objects for which the Company is established are:
  - (i) to provide and support the provision of pro bono legal services, and thereby further the public interest, improve access to justice and protect human rights;
  - (ii) to undertake law reform, policy work and legal education; and
  - (iii) in order to improve access to justice and the legal system for those who are disadvantaged or marginalised, to:
    - (A) identify matters of public interest requiring legal assistance;
    - (B) seek redress in matters of public interest for those who are disadvantaged or marginalised;
    - (C) refer individuals, community groups and not-for-profit organisations to lawyers and others in ancillary or related fields willing to provide their services without charge or for a reduced or deferred fee;
    - (D) support and enhance community organisations in pursuing the interests of the communities they seek to represent;
    - (E) encourage, foster and support the work and expertise of the legal profession in pro bono and/or public interest law; and
    - (F) effect structural changes to address injustice.
- (b) The Company has all the powers of a company set out in the Corporations Act. The Company may use its powers to do:
  - (i) anything which it considers will advance or achieve the Objects; and
  - (ii) all other things that are incidental or conducive to carrying out the Objects.

## **4. Assets and income of the Company**

- (a) Subject to clause 4(b), all assets, income and profits of the Company must be applied solely towards the promotion of the Objects, and no portion of the Company's assets, income or profits may be:
  - (i) paid or distributed directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise to any Member; or
  - (ii) paid as fees or otherwise to any Director except in accordance with clause 4(b).

- (b) Nothing in this Constitution prevents the Company from making a payment approved by the Board:
  - (i) for out-of-pocket expenses properly incurred by a Director in attending meetings of Directors, general meetings and committee meetings and otherwise performing duties as Director;
  - (ii) as bona fide compensation for a service rendered to the Company by a Director or Member in a professional or technical capacity (other than in the capacity as a Director), where the amount payable is commercially reasonable;
  - (iii) in good faith to any Member for goods supplied in the ordinary course of business; and
  - (iv) in respect of the indemnification of, or payment of premiums on contracts of insurance for, any Director, in accordance with clause 22.

## **5. Membership**

### **Number of Members**

The number of Members of the Company is unlimited.

### **Initial Members**

- (a) On the date of adoption of this Constitution, the persons listed in Schedule 1 will be the initial Members of the Company.
- (b) The Board may admit further persons as Members of the Company in accordance with this Constitution.

### **Membership requirements and undertaking**

- (c) Every Member must:
  - (i) be approved for membership in accordance with clause 0; and
  - (ii) fulfil their obligations under this Constitution.
- (d) Every Member undertakes to the best of their ability to:
  - (i) comply with this Constitution and any regulations, policies or standards of the Company in force from time to time; and
  - (ii) promote the Objects, interests and standing of the Company.

### **Liability of Members and undertaking**

- (e) The liability of Members is limited.
- (f) Each Member undertakes to contribute an amount of \$10 to the property of the Company if the Company is wound up while the Member is a Member or within one year after the Member ceases to be a Member, for:

- (i) payment of the Company's debts and liabilities incurred before the time at which the Member ceased to be a Member;
- (ii) the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
- (iii) for the adjustment of rights of the contributories among themselves.

### **Membership rights**

A Member has the right to:

- (g) receive notices from the Company;
- (h) attend, request the convening of, vote at and be heard at all general meetings of the Company;
- (i) be elected to, or hold office on, the Board; and
- (j) subject to the Board's discretion, be appointed or have its Representative appointed, as applicable to any committee, working party or similar representative body of the Company or the Board, with or without a determinative vote.

### **Representatives**

- (k) A Member that is an organisation must by notice in writing to the Secretary appoint and remove a natural person to act as its Representative:
  - (i) in all matters as permitted by the Corporations Act and subject to any restrictions on the Representative's powers imposed by the Member; and
  - (ii) provided that the appointment is not valid until it has been approved by the Board, such approval not to be unreasonably withheld.
- (l) A certificate executed by the appointing Member is rebuttable evidence of the appointment or removal (as applicable) of a Representative.
- (m) Subject to this Constitution, a Representative is entitled to:
  - (i) exercise at a general meeting all the powers which its appointing Member could exercise if it were a natural person;
  - (ii) be counted towards a quorum on the basis that the Member will be deemed Present at a general meeting by its Representative; and
  - (iii) be nominated as a Director of the Company.
- (n) Where:
  - (i) a Representative's appointment has been revoked; and
  - (ii) the Secretary has not received written notice of the revocation prior to a general meeting,

any vote given at the relevant meeting in accordance with the terms of instrument appointing the Representative is valid.

- (o) The Board may, in its sole discretion, by resolution withdraw its approval of a Representative, if it believes on reasonable grounds that it is in the interests of the Company to do so.

## **6. Application for and cessation of membership**

### **Application for membership**

- (a) Except for the initial Members in accordance with clause 0, every application for membership of the Company must:
  - (i) be on a written form approved by the Board for that purpose and signed by the applicant and their proposer (who must be a Member);
  - (ii) include the applicant's name, address, occupation (if applicable); and
  - (iii) be submitted to the Secretary at the Office or in any other way approved by the Board from time to time.
- (b) Within a reasonable period of receipt of a membership application, the Board will consider the application and will, in its absolute discretion without having to provide reasons:
  - (i) approve or reject the applicant; or
  - (ii) decide to request an applicant to supply any evidence of eligibility that the Board considers reasonably necessary.
- (c) An applicant will be admitted to membership of the Company if:
  - (i) a majority of the Directors entitled to vote at the meeting vote to admit the applicant as a Member; and
  - (ii) the application is supported by a Special Resolution of the Members.
- (d) If the Board rejects a membership application, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable, notify the applicant in writing that the application has been rejected.
- (e) If the Board approves a membership application, the Secretary must, as soon as practicable:
  - (i) notify the applicant in writing of the approval for membership; and
  - (ii) request payment of the applicant's entrance fee (if any), all or part of the Annual Fee (as determined by the Board) and any special fee within 14 days after the date the applicant is notified of acceptance.
- (f) If an amount due under clause 6(e)(ii) is not paid by the due date, the Board may cancel the approval of the membership application.
- (g) The Secretary must, within 30 days after a membership application is approved by the Directors, enter the applicant's name in the Register in accordance with clause 7.

### **Membership fees**

- (h) The entrance fee for membership and Annual Fee payable by Members will be determined by the Board from time to time.
- (i) Except for the first Annual Fee payable by a new Member in accordance with clause 6(e)(ii), all Annual Fees are due and payable in advance on 1 July each year or as otherwise determined by the Board from time to time.
- (j) The Board may from time to time set a special fee payable by all Members or certain Members on a date determined by the Board.

### **Failure to pay membership fees**

- (k) If any amount owing under clause 0 remains unpaid for a period of 30 days after it falls due, the Secretary will send a notice to the Member requiring payment of the outstanding amount within 14 days of the date of the notice.
- (l) If the amount is not paid within this 14 day period then the Member will at the end of the period automatically and without further notice cease to be a Member.
- (m) The Board may, in its absolute discretion, reinstate the Member on payment of all arrears of amounts owing under clause 0.
- (n) This clause 0 does not apply to the cancellation of an approval of a membership application under clause 6(f).

### **No transfer of membership**

A right, privilege or obligation of a person by reason of membership:

- (o) is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another person; and
- (p) terminates upon the cessation of membership.

### **Cessation of membership**

- (q) A Member will cease to be a Member:
  - (i) if the Member resigns by notice in writing to the Secretary, on the date that the notice is received by the Secretary;
  - (ii) if their membership is cancelled in accordance with clause 0;
  - (iii) if, in the Board's reasonable opinion, the Member's status or conduct renders it undesirable that the Member continue to be a Member, including (without limitation) if the Member brings the reputation of the Company into disrepute and both of the following requirements are met:
    - (A) a Special Resolution of the Members in favour of terminating the membership of the Member is passed; and
    - (B) the Member has been given at least 21 days notice of the resolution and has had the opportunity to be heard at the meeting at which the resolution is proposed; or

- (iv) where the Member is an individual, if the Member:
  - (A) dies;
  - (B) becomes of unsound mind or a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the law relating to mental health; or
  - (C) is convicted of an indictable offence;
- (v) where the Member is an organisation, if it is deregistered or otherwise ceases to be an organisation; or
- (vi) if the Member is the subject of an Insolvency Event.
- (r) Any Member ceasing to be a Member:
  - (i) will have its name removed from the Register;
  - (ii) is not be entitled to any refund (or part refund) of any Annual Fee or other fee already paid; and
  - (iii) will remain liable for and must pay to the Company all fees and any other amounts which were due to the Company at the date of ceasing to be a Member.

## **7. Register of Members**

- (a) The Secretary must keep and maintain a Register containing:
  - (i) the name and address of each Member;
  - (ii) the date on which each Member's name was entered into the Register; and
  - (iii) the name and date of appointment of each Representative.
- (b) The Register is available for inspection free of charge by any Member upon request.
- (c) A Member may make a copy of entries in the Register.

## **8. General meetings**

### **Annual general meetings**

- (a) The Company must hold an annual general meeting within 18 months after the date of its registration.
- (b) The Company must hold an annual general meeting once in each calendar year and no later than 5 months after the end of each Financial Year.
- (c) The annual general meeting must be held at the place that the Board sets for the meeting.

## **Business at annual general meeting**

The business of an annual general meeting is to:

- (d) confirm the minutes of the last preceding annual general meeting and of any other general meeting held since the last annual general meeting;
- (e) unless for the preceding Financial Year the Company was a Small Company Limited By Guarantee, consider the annual report; Directors' report; and the auditor's report (if any),
- (f) elect Directors;
- (g) (where relevant) appoint the auditor and fix the remuneration of the auditor; and
- (h) transact any other business which under this Constitution or the Corporations Act may properly be brought before the meeting.

## **Power of Directors to convene general meeting**

- (i) The Board may convene a general meeting of the Company's Members whenever it thinks fit, at any place it thinks fit.
- (j) The Board must convene a general meeting of Members, on the request of Members with at least 5% of the votes that may be cast at a general meeting.
- (k) Subject to the Corporations Act, the Board may cancel or postpone any general meeting or change its venue by giving notice to all persons to whom the notice of the original meeting was given, but may not cancel a general meeting which was called or requested by persons other than the Directors, without the prior written consent of those persons.

## **Power of Members to convene a general meeting**

- (l) Members with at least 5% of the votes that may be cast at a general meeting may call, and arrange to hold, a general meeting.
- (m) As far as reasonably practicable, a general meeting under this clause 0 must be called in the same way in which general meetings of the Company are called.
- (n) The Members calling the general meeting must pay the expenses of calling and holding it under this clause 0.

## **Members' resolutions at a general meeting**

- (o) Members with at least 5% of the votes that may be cast on a resolution may give the Company notice of a resolution they propose to move at a general meeting.
- (p) The notice under clause 8(o) must:
  - (i) be in writing;
  - (ii) set out the wording of the proposed resolution; and
  - (iii) be signed by the Members proposing to move the resolution.

- (q) If the Company has been given notice of a Members' resolution under clause 8(o), the resolution must be considered at the next general meeting of the Company that occurs more than 2 months after the notice is given.

### **Notice of general meetings**

- (r) Written notice of a general meeting must be given in accordance with this Constitution to:
  - (i) every Member;
  - (ii) every Director; and
  - (iii) the auditor (if any).
- (s) Notice of general meetings (including annual general meetings) must be provided to Members at least 21 clear days before the meeting is to be held.
- (t) Subject to the Corporations Act and clause 8(u), the Company may call, on shorter notice than that specified in clause 8(s):
  - (i) an annual general meeting, if all the Members entitled to attend and vote at the annual general meeting agree prior to the annual general meeting; and
  - (ii) any other general meeting, if Members holding at least 95% of the votes that may be cast at the general meeting agree prior to the general meeting.
- (u) The Company cannot call a general meeting or annual general meeting on shorter notice than that specified in clause 8(s) if a resolution will be moved at the meeting to:
  - (i) appoint or remove a Director; or
  - (ii) remove an auditor.
- (v) Subject to the Corporations Act, the Company may give notices to Members electronically, by notifying the Member:
  - (i) that the notice is available; and
  - (ii) how the Member may use electronic means to access the notice,

by any electronic means permitted by the Corporations Act and to an electronic address nominated by the relevant Member for the purpose of receiving notices.

### **Content of notice of general meetings**

A notice of a general meeting must:

- (w) specify the place, date and time for the general meeting (and, if the meeting is to be held in 2 or more places in accordance with clause 0, the technology that will be used to facilitate this);
- (x) state the general nature of the business to be transacted at the general meeting;



- (y) (if a Special Resolution is to be proposed at the general meeting) set out an intention to propose the Special Resolution and state the resolution; and
- (z) contain a statement of:
  - (i) each Member's right to appoint a proxy; and
  - (ii) the fact that a proxy need not be a Member of the Company.

### **Failure to give notice**

Any resolution passed at a general meeting is not invalidated by:

- (aa) the accidental omission to give notice of a general meeting to any Member or non-receipt of that notice by a Member; or
- (bb) the accidental omission to send out the instrument of proxy to a person entitled to receive notice or non-receipt of that instrument.

### **Use of technology**

- (cc) The Company may hold a general meeting (including an annual general meeting) at 2 or more venues using any technology that gives Members a reasonable opportunity to participate, provided that arrangements are made at each venue for the recording of all votes cast.
- (dd) The general meeting is taken to be held where the Chairman of the general meeting conducts the general meeting. All proceedings conducted in accordance with this clause 0 are as valid as if conducted at a single gathering of a quorum of those entitled to be present.

### **Quorum**

- (ee) No business may be transacted at a general meeting unless a quorum of Members is Present at the time when the meeting proceeds to business.
- (ff) Except as otherwise provided in this Constitution, a quorum constitutes:
  - (i) where the number of Member is greater than 2 and less than 40, 50% of Members who are Present;
  - (ii) where the total number of Members is less than 2, all those Members who are Present; or
  - (iii) where the total number of Members is 40 or above, 20 Members who are Present.

### **If a quorum not Present**

If a quorum is not Present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the general meeting in the notice:

- (gg) where the meeting is convened on the requisition of Members, the meeting must be automatically dissolved (subject to clause 8(oo)); and
- (hh) in any other case:

- (i) the meeting stands adjourned to a day and at a time and place as the Directors decide or, if no decision is made by the Directors, to the same day in the next week at the same time and place; and
- (ii) if no quorum is Present at the resumed meeting within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting must be dissolved.

### **Chairman of general meeting**

- (ii) Subject to clause 8(jj), the Chairman must preside as chair at every general meeting.
- (jj) If the Chairman is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the meeting or is unwilling to act as chair:
  - (i) the Directors present must elect a Director to chair the meeting; or
  - (ii) if none of the Directors present wish to act, or in the absence of all Directors, the Members Present must elect one of their number to chair the meeting.
- (kk) Where a person is appointed to chair a meeting under clause 8(jj), in relation to that meeting, references to the Chairman in this Constitution include a reference to that person.

### **Right of officers and advisers to attend general meeting**

- (ll) A Director who is not a Member is entitled to be present and to speak at any general meeting.
- (mm) A Secretary who is not a Member is entitled to be present and, at the request of the Chairman of the general meeting, to speak at any general meeting.
- (nn) Any other person (whether a Member or not) required by the Directors to attend any general meeting is entitled to be present and, at the request of the Chairman of the general meeting, to speak at that general meeting.

### **Adjournments**

- (oo) The Chairman may, and must if directed to do so by the general meeting, adjourn a general meeting from time to time and from place to place.
- (pp) Only business left unfinished at the meeting which was adjourned may be transacted at a meeting resumed after an adjournment.
- (qq) A resolution passed at a meeting resumed after an adjournment is passed on the day it was in fact passed.
- (rr) When a meeting is adjourned for 30 days or more, notice of the adjourned meeting must be given as in the case of the original meeting. In all other cases it is not necessary to give notice of the adjourned meeting.

## Written resolutions of Members

- (ss) A resolution may be passed without a general meeting being held if all the Members entitled to vote on the resolution sign a document containing a statement that they are in favour of the resolution set out in the document.
- (tt) Identical copies of the document may be distributed for signing by different Members and taken together will constitute the same document.
- (uu) The resolution is passed when the last Member signs the document, and satisfies any requirement in this Constitution or the Corporations Act that the resolution be passed at a general meeting.

## 9. Voting at general meetings

### Voting rights

- (a) Each Member has 1 vote.
- (b) Each person present at the general meeting who represents more than 1 Member, either personally, by proxy, attorney or as Representative:
  - (i) where voting by show of hands, has 1 vote; and
  - (ii) where voting by poll, may cast 1 vote for each share held personally, by proxy, attorney or as Representative.
- (c) A Member ordinarily entitled to vote is not entitled to vote if his or her Annual Fee is more than 30 days in arrears at the commencement of the relevant general meeting.

### Members' resolutions

- (d) Except where by law a resolution is required to be a Special Resolution, a resolution put to the vote at a general meeting must be decided by a majority of votes cast by the Members Present at the general meeting.
- (e) A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded in accordance with clause 0.
- (f) Before a vote is taken, the Chairman must inform the general meeting whether any proxy votes have been received and how the proxy votes are to be cast on the resolution.
- (g) A declaration by the Chairman that a resolution has on a show of hands been carried or lost and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the meeting is conclusive evidence of that fact. Neither the Chairman nor the minutes of the meeting need to state the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour or against the resolution.

### Voting by poll

- (h) Subject to clause 9(l), a poll may be demanded by:
  - (i) the Chairman;

- (ii) at least 5 Members who are Present and entitled to vote on the resolution; or
  - (iii) a Member or Members Present representing at least 5% of the total votes that may be cast on the resolution on a poll.
- (i) Subject to clause 9(l), a poll may be demanded:
  - (i) before a vote is taken; or
  - (ii) before or immediately after the voting results on a show of hands are declared.
- (j) The demand for a poll may be withdrawn.
- (k) Subject to clause 9(l), if a poll is demanded, it is to be taken in the manner and at the time the Chairman directs.
- (l) A poll may not be demanded on any resolution concerning on the election of a Chairman or on a question of adjournment.
- (m) The result of the poll will be the resolution of the meeting at which the poll was demanded.
- (n) The demand for a poll does not prevent a general meeting from proceeding with any other business.

### **Chairman's casting vote**

Subject to the Corporations Act, in the case of an equality of votes on a show of hands or on a poll, the Chairman of the relevant general meeting has a casting vote, in addition to any vote that the Chairman may otherwise be entitled.

### **Members of unsound mind and minors**

- (o) If a Member is:
  - (i) of unsound mind;
  - (ii) a person whose person or estate is liable to be dealt with in any way under the Law relating to mental health; or
  - (iii) a minor,

the Member's committee or trustee or any other person who has proper management or guardianship of the Member's estate or affairs may, subject to clause 9(p), exercise any rights of the Member in relation to a general meeting as if the committee, trustee or other person were the Member.
- (p) Any person with powers of management or guardianship cannot exercise any rights under clause 9(o) unless the person has provided the Directors with satisfactory evidence of their appointment and status.

### **Objection to qualification to vote**

- (q) An objection to a person's right to vote at a general meeting:

- (i) may only be raised at the general meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered; and
  - (ii) must be determined by the Chairman of the meeting, whose decision is final.
- (r) A vote allowed after an objection is valid for all purposes.

### **Votes counted in error**

If any vote is counted which ought not to have been counted or might have been rejected, the error will not invalidate the resolution unless the error is:

- (s) detected at the same general meeting; and
- (t) of sufficient magnitude, in the opinion of the Chairman, as to invalidate the resolution.

### **Direct voting**

- (u) The Directors may determine that, at any general meeting, a Member who is entitled to attend and vote on a resolution at that meeting is entitled to vote by direct vote in respect of that resolution. A direct vote includes a vote delivered to the Company by post, fax or other electronic means approved by the Directors.
- (v) Where clause 9(u) applies, the notice of meeting must indicate that direct voting is available at the relevant meeting or on particular resolutions.
- (w) The Directors may prescribe regulations, rules and procedures in relation to direct voting, including (without limitation):
  - (i) specifying the form, method and timing of casting a direct vote at a meeting for the vote to be valid; and
  - (ii) the circumstances in which a direct vote may be withdrawn by the Member or deemed withdrawn.

## **10. Proxies**

### **Appointment of proxies**

- (a) A Member who is entitled to attend and vote at a general meeting may appoint a person as that Member's proxy to attend and vote for that Member at a general meeting.
- (b) A proxy need not be a Member of the Company.

### **Rights of proxies**

A proxy appointed to attend and vote at a general meeting for a Member in accordance with this clause 10 has the same rights as the Member to:

- (c) speak at the meeting;
- (d) vote (to the extent allowed by the appointment); and

- (e) demand, or join in a demand, for a poll.

### **Form of proxy**

- (f) An instrument appointing a proxy is valid if it is in the form specified by the Directors from time to time and is:
  - (i) signed by or on behalf of the Member making the appointment; and
  - (ii) contains the following information:
    - (A) the Member's name and address;
    - (B) the Company's name;
    - (C) the proxy's name or the name of the office held by the proxy; and
    - (D) the meetings at which the appointment may be used.
- (g) The proxy form must provide for the Member to vote for or against each resolution and may provide for abstention to be indicated.
- (h) An instrument appointing a proxy may specify the manner in which the proxy is to vote in respect of a particular resolution. Where it does so, the proxy is not entitled to vote on the resolution except as specified in the instrument. A proxy may vote as the proxy thinks fit on any motion or resolution in respect of which no manner of voting is indicated.
- (i) An instrument appointing a proxy will not be valid after 12 months from the date of its execution, unless it is expressly stated to be a standing appointment or to extend for a longer period.

### **Where proxy is incomplete**

- (j) No instrument appointing a proxy is treated as invalid merely because:
  - (i) it does not contain the address of the appointor or proxy;
  - (ii) it is not dated; or
  - (iii) in relation to any or all resolutions, it does not contain an indication of the manner in which the proxy is to vote.
- (k) Where the instrument does not indicate the name of the proxy, the instrument is treated as given in favour of the Chairman of the general meeting.

### **Lodgement of proxy**

- (l) An instrument appointing a proxy is not treated as valid unless:
  - (i) the instrument;
  - (ii) and either:
    - (A) the power of attorney or other authority (if any) under which the instrument is signed; or

- (B) a copy of that power or authority certified in a manner acceptable to the Directors,

are lodged not less than 48 hours (or any shorter period as the Directors may permit, subject to the Corporations Act) before the time for holding the meeting at the place specified for that purpose in the notice of the meeting or, if none, at the Office.

- (m) An instrument appointing a representative to act for a Member at all meetings of the Company or at all meetings for a specified period is not treated as valid unless:

- (i) the instrument of appointment or a certified copy of it, duly signed by hand or electronically authenticated in accordance with clause 10(n); and
- (ii) any evidence as to the validity and non-revocation of that authority as may be required by the Directors,

are lodged not less than 48 hours (or any shorter period as the Directors may permit) before the time for holding the meeting at the place specified for that purpose in the notice of the meeting or, if none, at the Office.

- (n) For the purposes of this clause 0:

- (i) a legible facsimile of any document which is received at the place specified in the notice is duly lodged at that place at the time when the facsimile is received; and
- (ii) subject to the Corporations Act, instead of signing or executing an instrument of appointment, a Member may electronically authenticate the appointment of a proxy, provided that:
  - (A) the Member is identified by personal details as required by the Company;
  - (B) the Member's approval of the information communicated to the Company is accompanied by a personal identification number or any other numbers provided by the Company; and
  - (C) the Member complies with any other requirements of the Company.

### **Validity of proxy vote**

- (o) A vote exercised in accordance with the terms of an instrument of proxy, a power of attorney or other relevant instrument of appointment is valid despite:
  - (i) the previous death or mental incapacity of the appointing Member;
  - (ii) the revocation of the relevant instrument or of the authority under which the instrument was executed; or
  - (iii) the revocation of the power of attorney,

if no notice in writing of the death, mental incapacity or revocation has been received by the Company at the Office before the commencement of the general

meeting or adjourned meeting at which the instrument or power of attorney is used.

- (p) A proxy is not revoked by the appointing Member attending and taking part in the general meeting, unless the Member actually votes on the resolution for which the proxy is proposed to be used.

## **11. Board of Directors**

### **Number of Directors**

- (a) The Company must have at least 3 Directors, or such greater number of Directors not exceeding 9 as the Directors think fit, in office at all times. At least 2 of the Directors must be ordinarily resident in Australia.
- (b) At least 50% of the Directors rounded up to the next whole number must be nominees of the Law Society.
- (c) The Company in general meeting may by ordinary resolution alter the number of Directors, provided that the minimum number is not reduced below 3.

### **Initial Directors**

- (d) There will be 3 initial Directors.
- (e) On the date of adoption of this Constitution, the persons listed in Schedule 2 will be the initial Directors.

### **Appointment and removal of Directors**

- (f) Subject to the Corporations Act and clause 11.1(b), the Company may by resolution appoint or remove a Director from office.
- (g) Subject to the Corporations Act, the Directors may at any time appoint any person to be a Director, either to fill a casual vacancy or as an addition to the number of existing Directors, provided the total number of Directors does not exceed the maximum number specified in clause 11(a). That person holds office until the end of the next annual general meeting following their appointment and is eligible for election at that meeting.

### **Term of appointment as Director**

- (h) No Director may hold office:
  - (i) for a period in excess of 3 years (**Term**), without submitting himself or herself for re-election; and
  - (ii) for more than 6 consecutive years.
- (i) At each annual general meeting, the person or persons (if any) standing for election as Director will be, as applicable:
  - (i) any Director required to retire under clause 11(h)(i) who stands for re-election;



- (ii) any Director required to submit for election under clause 11(g); and
- (iii) subject to clause 11(h), a person standing for election as a new Director.
- (j) A retiring Director is eligible for re-election without needing to give any prior notice of an intention to submit for re-election and holds office as a Director until the end of the meeting at which the Director retires.
- (k) In the event that a person standing for election, that has been nominated by the Law Society in accordance with clause 11(b), fails to be elected as a Director, the Law Society may nominate another person that will be appointed pursuant to clause 0 in order to comply with clause 11(b).

### **Nomination of Directors**

- (l) A Member may nominate any other Member for each position on the Board which is to be filled at the next annual general meeting in accordance with this Constitution.
- (m) A nomination under clause 11(l) must be in writing, signed by the nominator and be submitted to the Secretary at the Office at least 7 Business Days before the annual general meeting at which the election is to take place.

### **Director qualifications**

- (n) A Director is not required to be a Member or a Representative.
- (o) A person must give the Company a signed written consent to act as a Director before being appointed as a Director.

### **Vacation of office of Director**

In addition to the circumstances in which the office of a Director becomes vacant:

- (p) under the Corporations Act;
- (q) because of a resolution under clause 11(f); or
- (r) under clause 0;

the office of a Director becomes vacant if the Director:

- (s) becomes physically or mentally incapable of performing the Director's duties and the Board resolves that his or her office be vacated for that reason;
- (t) is the subject of an Insolvency Event;
- (u) resigns by notice in writing to the Company;
- (v) dies;
- (w) is absent (and not represented by an Alternate Director) from meetings of the Directors for a continuous period of 6 months without special leave of absence from the Directors and the Board resolves that his or her office be vacated; or

- (x) subject to clause 0, without the prior or subsequent consent of the other Directors, is directly or indirectly interested in any contract or proposed contract with the Company and fails to declare the nature of the Director's interest as required by the Act.

### **Remuneration and payments to Directors**

No payment will be made to any Director other than a payment allowed under clause 4(b).

## **12. Powers and duties of Directors**

### **General management power**

- (a) Subject to the Corporations Act and this Constitution, the Directors are responsible for managing the business of the Company and may exercise all powers of the Company which are not required to be exercised by the Company in a general meeting by the Corporations Act or this Constitution.
- (b) Without limiting clause 12(a), the Directors may exercise all the powers of the Company to:
  - (i) borrow or raise money;
  - (ii) grant security over any property or business of the Company or all or any of its uncalled capital;
  - (iii) pay interest on any debt due by the Company; and
  - (iv) issue debentures or give any other security for a debt, liability or obligation of the Company or of any other person.

### **Duties**

The Directors must comply with their duties as directors under legislation and common law (judge-made law), and with the duties described in governance standard 5 of the regulations made under the ACNC Act which are:

- (c) to exercise their powers and discharge their duties with the degree of care and diligence that a reasonable individual would exercise if they were a director of the Company;
- (d) to act in good faith in the best interests of the Company and to further the charitable purposes of the Company set out in clause 3;
- (e) not to misuse their position as a Director;
- (f) not to misuse information they gain in their role as a Director;
- (g) to disclose any perceived or actual material conflicts of interest in the manner set out in clause 12.9;
- (h) to ensure that the financial affairs of the Company are managed responsibly, and
- (i) not to allow the Company to operate while it is insolvent.

### **Appointment of attorneys and representatives**

- (j) The Directors may, by power of attorney or by general or specific appointment, appoint any person or persons to be an attorney or representative of the Company with such powers, authorities and discretions (being powers, authorities and discretions vested in or exercisable by the Directors), for such period and subject to such conditions as they think fit.
- (k) An appointment under clause 12(j) may be made on terms for the protection and convenience of persons dealing with the attorney or representative as the Directors think fit and may also authorise the attorney or representative to delegate all or any of the powers, authorities and discretions vested in the attorney or representative.

### **Committees**

- (l) The Directors may create a committee or committees consisting of any number of Directors, Members or other persons (including, without limitation, employees or volunteers of the Company) as they think fit.
- (m) The Directors may delegate any of their powers to a committee. In that case:
  - (i) the committee must exercise those powers in accordance with any direction of the Directors; and
  - (ii) a power exercised in accordance with clause 12(m)(i) is taken to be exercised by the Directors.
- (n) If the Board does not delegate any of its powers to a committee, that committee will act as an advisory committee only.
- (o) Clauses 0, 0, 0 and 0 apply to any committee as if each reference in those clauses to the Directors was a reference to the members of the committee and each reference to a meeting of Directors were to a meeting of the committee.
- (p) Minutes of all the proceedings and decisions of every committee must be made, entered and signed in the same manner in all respects as minutes of proceedings of the Directors are required by the Corporations Act to be made, entered and signed.

### **Negotiable instruments and electronic payments**

- (q) All negotiable instruments of the Company are to be executed by the persons and in the manner determined by the Directors from time to time.
- (r) All electronic payments by the Company are to be made or authorised in the manner determined by the Directors from time to time.

### **By-laws**

- (s) The Directors have the power to make by-laws regulating the establishment, organisation and conduct of the Company and its committees, provided such by-laws are not inconsistent with this Constitution or the Corporations Act.
- (t) All by-laws made and in force from time to time are binding on the Members.

### **Acts of Directors valid despite defective appointment**

Any act done at any meeting of the Directors or of a committee of Directors by any person acting as a Director is, although it is later discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any such Director or that the Director was disqualified, is valid as if the Director had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director or to be a member of the committee.

### **Interested Directors**

- (u) Subject to clause 12.9, a Director:
  - (i) may hold another position (except as auditor) in the Company or any related body corporate on terms as to remuneration, tenure and otherwise that the Directors think fit;
  - (ii) may be employed by the Company or act in a professional or technical capacity (except as auditor) on behalf of the Company;
  - (iii) is not disqualified, merely because he or she is a Director, from contracting with the Company in any respect including, but not limited to:
    - (A) selling property to, or purchasing property from, the Company;
    - (B) lending money to the Company with or without interest or security;
    - (C) guaranteeing the repayment of money borrowed by the Company for a commission or profit; or
    - (D) underwriting or guaranteeing the subscription for securities in any related body corporate or other body corporate promoted by the Company or in which the Company is interested as a shareholder or otherwise, for a commission or profit.
- (v) The Directors may exercise the voting rights conferred by shares in any body corporate held or owned by the Company in the manner that they think fit.
- (w) A contract or arrangement made by the Company with a Director or in which a Director is in any way directly or indirectly interested may not be avoided merely because the Director is a party to or interested in it.
- (x) In addition to clause 12.9, the Directors may make regulations requiring the disclosure of interests that a Director, and any person considered by the Directors as related to or associated with the Director, may have in any matter concerning the Company. Any regulations made under this Constitution bind all Directors.

### **Conflicts of interest**

- (y) A Director must disclose the nature and extent of any actual or perceived material conflict of interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of Directors (or that is proposed in a circular resolution):
  - (i) to the other Directors, or

- (ii) if all of the Directors have the same conflict of interest, to the members at the next general meeting, or at an earlier time if reasonable to do so.
- (z) The disclosure of a conflict of interest by a Director must be recorded in the minutes of the meeting.
- (aa) Each Director who has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of Directors (or that is proposed in a written resolution under clause 13.8) must not, except as provided under clause 12.9(d):
  - (i) be present at the meeting while the matter is being discussed, or
  - (ii) vote on the matter.
- (bb) A Director may still be present and vote if:
  - (i) their interest arises because they are a member of the company, and the other members have the same interest;
  - (ii) their interest relates to an insurance contract that insures, or would insure, the director against liabilities that the director incurs as a director of the Company;
  - (iii) their interest relates to a payment of an indemnity by the Company under clause 22, or any contract relating to an indemnity that is allowed under the Corporations Act;
  - (iv) ASIC makes an order allowing the director to vote on the matter, or
  - (v) the Directors who do not have a material personal interest in the matter pass a resolution that:
    - (A) identifies the Director, the nature and extent of the Director's interest in the matter and how it relates to the affairs of the Company, and
    - (B) says that those Directors are satisfied that the interest should not stop the Director from voting or being present.

## **13. Proceedings of Directors**

### **Calling and holding Directors' meetings**

- (a) The Board or a Director may call a Directors' meeting by giving reasonable notice to each Director.
- (b) The Directors may adjourn and otherwise regulate their meetings as they think fit.

### **Meetings by telecommunications**

Without limiting the power of the Directors to regulate their meetings as they think fit, the Directors may hold a valid meeting using any medium by which each of the Directors can simultaneously hear all the other participants (including telephone and video conferencing), and in that case:

- (c) the participating Directors are taken to be present at the meeting for the purposes of this Constitution;
- (d) the meeting is taken to be held where the Chairman of the meeting is;
- (e) if a failure in communications prevents any Director present at the meeting from participating in the meeting, then the meeting will be suspended until communications are restored, unless communications cannot be restored within 15 minutes, in which case the meeting will be deemed to have terminated; and
- (f) all proceedings of the Directors conducted in accordance with this clause 0 are as valid and effective as if conducted at a meeting at which all of them were present in person

### **Quorum**

- (g) At a meeting of Directors, the number of Directors whose presence is necessary to constitute a quorum is no less than 50% of all Directors.
- (h) In the event that a Director has a material personal interest in a matter that is being considered at a meeting of Directors and is excluded from being present at the meeting or voting on that matter in accordance with clause 12.9(c), the number of Directors whose presence is necessary to constitute a quorum is no less than 50% of all Directors who have no material personal interest in the matter and are eligible to be being present at the meeting and vote.
- (i) If the office of a Director becomes vacant, the remaining Directors may act but, if the total number of remaining Directors is not sufficient to constitute a quorum at a meeting of Directors, the Directors may act only for the purpose of increasing the number of Directors to a number sufficient to constitute a quorum or for the purpose of convening a general meeting of the Company.

### **Chairman**

- (j) The Directors must elect a Director to chair Director's meetings (**Chairman**) and may decide the period during which the Chairman is to hold that office.
- (k) Where a meeting of the Directors is held and:
  - (i) a Chairman has not been elected; or
  - (ii) the Chairman declines to act or is not present within 15 minutes after the time appointed for the holding of the meeting,
 the Directors present must elect one of their number to chair the meeting.
- (l) Where a person is appointed to chair a meeting under clause 13(k), in relation to that meeting, references to the Chairman in this Constitution include a reference to that person.

### **Directors' resolutions**

- (m) Subject to this Constitution, a resolution of the Board must be passed by a majority of the votes of Directors present and entitled to vote on the resolution.

- (n) In case of an equality of votes, the Chairman has a second or casting vote in addition to his or her deliberative vote (if any).

### **Acts of Directors valid despite defective appointment**

Any act done at any meeting of the Directors or of a committee of Directors by any person acting as a Director is, although it is later discovered that there was some defect in the appointment of any such Director or that the Director was disqualified, is valid as if the Director had been duly appointed and was qualified to be a Director or to be a member of the committee.

### **Minutes**

- (o) The Directors must cause minutes to be made of:
- (i) proceedings and resolutions of general meetings of the Members and resolutions passed by Members without a meeting;
  - (ii) all appointments of Directors, Alternate Directors and officers;
  - (iii) all orders made by the Directors;
  - (iv) proceedings and resolutions of Directors' meetings and resolutions passed by Directors without a meeting,
- and retain the minutes in a minute book for a period of at least 10 years or such other period as may be required under the Corporations Act.
- (p) The Company must ensure that minutes are signed within a reasonable time after the date of the meeting or of the resolution being passed by:
- (i) the Chairman of the meeting; or
  - (ii) the Chairman of the next meeting; or
  - (iii) in the case of a resolution without a meeting, a Director.
- (q) In the absence of evidence to the contrary, contents of the minute book that is recorded and signed in accordance with this clause 0 is evidence of the matters shown in the minute.

### **Written resolutions of Directors**

- (r) The Directors may pass a resolution without a Directors' meeting being held if all the Directors entitled to vote on the resolution sign a document containing a statement that they are in favour of the resolution set out in the document.
- (s) Identical copies of the document may be distributed for signing by different Directors and taken together will constitute the same document.
- (t) The resolution is passed when the last Director signs the document.
- (u) Where a committee consists of one Director only, a document signed by that Director and recording a decision of the committee is valid and effective as if it were a decision made at a meeting of that committee and that document constitutes a minute of that decision.

## 14. Alternate Directors and attendance by proxy

- (a) A Director (Appointing Director) may:
  - (i) with the approval of a majority of the other Directors, appoint a person (who need not be a Member); or
  - (ii) without the need for the approval of the other Directors, appoint another Director,

to be an Alternate Director in the Appointing Director's place during any period that the Appointing Director thinks fit.
- (b) The appointment of an Alternate Director:
  - (i) may be terminated or suspended at any time by the Appointing Director; and
  - (ii) terminates automatically if the Appointing Director vacates office as a Director.
- (c) An appointment, or the termination or suspension of an appointment, of an Alternate Director is effected by delivery of a written notice signed by the Appointing Director to the other Directors. Delivery may be by post, fax or electronic message.
- (d) An Alternate Director:
  - (i) is entitled to notice of meetings of the Directors and, if the Appointing Director is not present at such a meeting, is entitled to attend, participate and vote in the Appointing Director's stead; and
  - (ii) subject to any limitation in the appointment of the Alternate Director, may exercise all the powers and perform all the duties of the Appointing Director, except the power to appoint an Alternate Director.
- (e) The exercise of any power by the Alternate Director is as officer of the Company and not as agent of the Appointing Director and the Alternate Director is responsible to the Company for his or her own acts and omissions.
- (f) Where the Alternate Director is another Director, that Director is entitled to cast a deliberative vote on the Director's own account and on account of each Appointing Director by whom the Director has been appointed as an Alternate Director.
- (g) Except for reimbursement of expenses in accordance with clause 4(b)(i), an Alternate Director is not entitled to receive remuneration for acting as Alternate Director.
- (h) An Alternate Director is not taken into account in determining the number of Directors or rotation of Directors.
- (i) A Director may attend and vote by proxy at any meeting of the Directors provided that such proxy is a Director and has been appointed in writing signed by the



Appointing Director. Such appointment may be general or for any particular meeting or meetings.

- (j) For any director nominated by the Law Society, the alternate director must also be nominated by the Law Society.

## **15. Secretary**

- (a) A person must give the Company a signed written consent to act as Secretary before being appointed as a Secretary.
- (b) A Secretary of the Company holds office on the terms and conditions, as to remuneration and otherwise, as the Directors decide.
- (c) The Secretary's responsibilities include:
  - (i) keeping the minutes of the meetings of the Board and the Members in one or more books provided for that purpose;
  - (ii) ensuring that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of this Constitution or as required by law;
  - (iii) maintaining the Register; and
  - (iv) generally performing all duties incidental to the office of secretary of a corporation and such other duties as may be assigned to him or her by the Board from time to time.

## **16. Patron**

The Company may, from time to time, by Special Resolution appoint one or more persons as a patron or a vice-patron of the Company.

## **17. Gift fund**

### **Gift Fund**

If the Company obtains endorsement as a deductible gift recipient under Division 30 of the Tax Act it must establish a Gift Fund:

- (a) to which gifts of money or property for the Objects are to be made;
- (b) to which contributions that are not gifts but which:
  - (i) are described in items 7 or 8 of the table in section 30-15 of the Tax Act in relation to a fundraising event held for the Company's objects; or
  - (ii) can be made to the Gift Fund without adversely affecting the Company's deductible gift recipient status,
 are to be made;
- (c) to which any money received by the Company because of gifts or contributions referred to in clauses 17(a) or 17(b) is to be credited; and

- (d) that does not receive any other money or property.

### **Limit on use of Gift Fund**

The Company must use the assets of the Gift Fund only for its Objects.

### **Bank accounts**

- (e) Contributions to the Gift Fund must be kept separate from other funds and property of the Company.
- (f) A separate bank account must be opened with an authorised deposit-taking institution selected by the Directors, in the name of Law Access Gift Fund, to deposit money donated to the Gift Fund and money from the realisation of property donated to the Gift Fund and interest accruing on such monies.

### **Maintaining the Gift Fund**

In maintaining the Gift Fund the Company must:

- (g) ensure that the Gift Fund is operated on a not-for-profit basis;
- (h) ensure that at all times the Gift Fund is maintained and used for the Objects;
- (i) ensure that the Gift Fund is operated separately and maintained with separate books of account from the Company's general accounts;
- (j) have in place appropriate procedures to ensure only and all proper amounts of money and property are credited to the Gift Fund;
- (k) ensure that money from interest on donations, income derived from donated property, and money from the realisation of such property is to be deposited into the Gift Fund;
- (l) issue receipts in the name of the fund to donors which contain the elements required for donations to the Gift Fund to be deductible under the Tax Act;
- (m) ensure any money or property that is incorrectly received into the Gift Fund will be removed from the Gift Fund as soon as practicable with the accounts for the Gift Fund adjusted and noted accordingly;
- (n) ensure that the Gift Fund is operated in accordance with the Gift Fund Rules in Schedule **Error! Reference source not found.**;
- (o) keep records which:
  - (i) record and explain all transactions and other acts the Gift Fund or the Company engages in which is relevant to the Company's status as a deductible gift recipient; and
  - (ii) show that the each of the following assets of the Gift Fund is used by the Gift Fund or the Company only for its Objects:
    - (A) gifts of money or property for the Objects;

- (B) contributions (that are not gifts) but which are described in items 7 or 8 of the table in section 30-15 of the Tax Act in relation to a fund-raising event held for its Objects;
  - (C) contributions (that are not gifts) but which can be made to the Gift Fund without adversely affecting the Company's deductible gift recipient status; and
  - (D) money received by the Gift Fund because of such gifts or contributions;
- (p) keep the records referred in clause 17(o) for at least 5 years after the completion of such transactions or acts to which they relate;
  - (q) ensure that any allocation of funds or property to other persons or organisations will be made in accordance with the Objects and not be influenced by the preference of the donor; and
  - (r) at all times ensure it complies with all laws and regulations in existence from time to time or any guidelines issued by the Australian Taxation Office or the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission in relation to gift funds or any other government authority overseeing the administration of gift funds.

### **Winding up of the Gift Fund**

At the first occurrence of:

- (s) the winding up of the Gift Fund; or
- (t) the Company ceasing to be endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under Division 30 of the Tax Act,

any surplus assets of the Gift Fund must be transferred to an organisation:

- (u) which is charitable at law and with objects similar to the Company;
- (v) whose constitution prohibits distributions or payments to its members and directors (if any) to an extent at least as great as is outlined in clause 4;
- (a) which is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under Division 30 of the Tax Act; and
- (b) the identity of which is decided by the Directors.

### **Revocation clause**

If the endorsement of the Company as a deductible gift recipient is revoked, any surplus:

- (w) gifts of money or property for the principal purpose of the Company;
- (x) contributions made in relation to an eligible fundraising event held for the principal purpose of the Company; and
- (y) money received by the Company because of such gifts and contributions,

shall be transferred to another organisation:

- (z) which is charitable at law and with objects similar to the Company;
- (aa) whose constitution prohibits distributions or payments to its members and directors (if any) to an extent at least as great as is outlined in clause 4;
- (c) which is endorsed as a deductible gift recipient under Division 30 of the Tax Act; and
- (d) the identity of which is decided by the Directors.

## **18. Execution of documents**

### **Execution generally**

The Company may validly execute a document (including a deed) if the document is signed:

- (a) if the Company has more than one Director, by a Director and countersigned by another Director, Secretary or another person appointed by the Directors to countersign that document or a class of documents in which that document is included; or
- (b) if the Company has only one Director who is also the only Secretary or where the Company has only one Director and no Secretary, by that Director where the Director states next to his or her signature that he or she is the sole Director and, if applicable, sole Secretary of the Company.

### **Execution by authorised persons**

Clause 0 does not limit the ability of the Directors to authorise a person who is not an officer of the Company to execute a document for and on behalf of the Company.

## **19. Notices**

### **How notice to be given**

The Company may give a notice to any Member by:

- (a) serving it on the Member personally;
- (b) sending it by post to the Member's address as shown in the Register or an alternative address (if any) supplied by the Member to the Company for the purpose of giving notices;
- (c) giving it to a Member's Representative in any manner contemplated by this clause 0, where the Member has by written notice to the Secretary required that all notices to be given to the Member be given to its Representative;
- (d) sending it by facsimile to the facsimile number (if any) nominated by the Member for the giving of notices;
- (e) sending it by email to an email address nominated by the Member;

- (f) sending it via any other electronic means permitted by the Corporations Act and nominated by the Member for the giving of notices, including providing an electronic link to the notice; or
- (g) giving it by any other means permitted by the Corporations Act.

### **When notice is given**

A notice is deemed to be given by the Company and received by the Member:

- (h) if delivered in person, when delivered to the Member;
- (i) if posted, on the day after the date of posting to the Member, whether delivered or not;
- (j) if sent by facsimile transmission, on the day after the date of its transmission; or
- (k) if sent by email or other electronic means, on the day after the date of its transmission,

but if the delivery or receipt is on a day which is not a Business Day or is after 4.00 pm (addressee's time), it is deemed to have been received at 9.00 am (addressee's time) on the next Business Day.

### **No notice of valid address**

If:

- (l) any Member has not provided to the Office an address for registration in the Register; or
- (m) the Company believes that a Member is not known at the address registered in the Register,

unless and until the Member provides a valid address to the Office, all notices to be sent to that Member are taken to be given to the Member if the notice is displayed at the Company's Office for 48 hours, and are taken to be served at the commencement of that period.

## **20. Audit and accounts**

### **Company must keep accounts**

- (a) The Company must keep accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act or the ACNC Act (as applicable).
- (b) The Company must allow the Directors and the auditor to inspect those accounts at all reasonable times.

### **Audit**

If required by the Corporations Act or the ACNC Act (as applicable), the Board must cause the Company's financial report for each Financial Year to be audited and obtain an auditor's report.

## **Financial reporting**

The Board must cause the Company to comply with all financial reporting obligations imposed on it under the Corporations Act or the ACNC Act (as applicable).

## **21. Inspection of records**

- (a) Subject to the Corporations Act or the ACNC Act (as applicable), the Directors must determine whether and on what terms the accounting records and other documents of the Company or any of them will be open to the inspection of Members other than Directors.
- (b) A Member other than a Director does not have the right to inspect any document of the Company except as provided by the Corporations Act or ACNC Act (as applicable), or otherwise as authorised by the Directors or by the Company in general meeting.

## **22. Indemnity and insurance**

### **Definition**

In this clause **Officer** has the meaning given in section 9 of the Act.

### **Company must indemnify Officers**

To the full extent permitted by law and without limiting the powers of the Company, the Company may indemnify any person who is or has been an Officer of the Company, or of a related body corporate of the Company against all losses, liabilities, damages, costs, charges and expenses of any kind incurred by the Officer as an officer of the Company or of a related body corporate.

### **Documentary indemnity and insurance policy**

To the extent permitted by the Corporations Act and any applicable law and without limiting the powers of the Company, the Directors may authorise the Company to, and the Company may, enter into any:

- (a) documentary indemnity in favour of; or
- (b) insurance policy for the benefit of,

a person who is, or has been, an Officer of the Company or of a related body corporate of the Company, which indemnity or insurance policy may be in such terms as the Directors approve and, in particular, may apply to acts or omissions prior to or after the time of entering into the indemnity or policy.

## **23. Affiliation and membership of other similar organisations**

The Company may in general meeting determine to affiliate with or become a member of, or to accept affiliation or membership of, any organisation (including any regional or international association) having similar or like interests to the Company.

## **24. Winding up**

- (a) If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company there remains, after satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property or assets whatsoever, such property or assets will not be paid to or distributed among the Members but, in accordance with clause 24(b) will be given or transferred to another organisation or organisations:
  - (i) with objects similar to the Objects;
  - (ii) which are endorsed as deductible gift recipients under Division 30 of the Tax Act; and
  - (iii) which prohibit the distribution of its income and property amongst its members to an extent at least as great as that imposed on the Company under clause 4.
- (b) The organisation or organisations selected for the purpose of clause 24(a) will be determined by a Special Resolution of Members or if it not practicable to obtain such a Special Resolution, by a Judge of the Supreme Court of Western Australia who has jurisdiction in the matter.

## **25. Variation or amendment of Constitution**

This Constitution may be varied or amended from time to time by Special Resolution of the Members, in accordance with the Corporations Act.

## **Schedule 1 – Members**

### **Initial Members (clause 0)**

The Law Society of Western Australia Inc



**Schedule 2– Directors****Initial Directors (clause 0)**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of appointment</b>
Matthew Keogh	Date of registration of the Company
Alain Musikanth	Date of registration of the Company
Adam Ebell	Date of registration of the Company

## Schedule 3 –

### 1. Deductible Gift Recipient status

#### 1.1 Application of this rule

This rule only applies if the company is a deductible gift recipient under ITAA97.

#### 1.2 Maintaining a Gift Account

The company must maintain a management account (**Gift Account**):

- (a) to identify and record Gifts and Deductible Contributions;
- (b) to identify and record any money received by the company because of those Gifts and Deductible Contributions; and
- (c) that does not record any other money or property.

#### 1.3 Limits on use of Gift Account

The company must use the Gift Account only for its principal purposes.

#### 1.4 Winding up or revocation of deductible gift recipient

- (d) Upon:
  - (i) the winding up of the company; or
  - (ii) the company ceasing to be deductible gift recipient under the ITAA 97, whichever is earlier, any surplus Gifts and Deductible Contributions and money received by the company because of those Gifts and Deductible Contributions must be transferred to a fund, authority or institution:
    - (iii) which is charitable at law;
    - (iv) whose constitution prohibits distributions or payments to its members to an extent at least as great as is outlined in rule 4; and
    - (v) gifts to which are deductible under the ITAA 97 on the basis that it is characterised as a public benevolent institution as described in item 4.1.1 of the table in section 30-45.
- (e) The identity of the institution referred to in rule 10.4(a) must be decided by the directors, or if the directors do not wish to decide or do not decide, it must be decided by the members by ordinary resolution at or before the time of winding up of the company and, if the members do not decide, by the Supreme Court of the state or territory in which the company is registered.

#### 1.5 Receipts

Receipts for Gifts or Deductible Contributions must state the;

(f) name and ABN of the company;

(g) the date and amount (or value, if property) of the Gift or Deductible Contribution;

(h) the name of the donor or contributors;

the fact that it was a Gift or Deductible Contribution (and if it was a Deductible Contribution, the relevant fundraising event and GST inclusive market value of the event or goods or services purchased).

**Deductible  
Contribution**

a contribution of money or property as described in item 7 or item 8 of the table in section 30-15 of the ITAA 97 in relation to a fundraising event held for the principal purpose of the company.

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**Gift**

a contribution of money or property as described in item 1 of the table in section 30-15 of the ITAA 97.

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