

challenger 

Corporate
Governance
Statement
2023



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Annual General Meeting

Date

26 October 2023

Time

9.30am (Sydney time)

Full details of the meeting will be included in the Notice of Annual General Meeting, which will be sent to shareholders in September 2023.

Reporting suite

About this statement

This 2023 Corporate Governance Statement is also available at



[challenger.com.au/
corporategovernance
2023](https://challenger.com.au/corporategovernance2023)

Annual Report

Reflecting the increased commitment to sustainability, Challenger's Annual Report incorporates the Sustainability Report in addition to the Operating and Financial Review, Directors' Report and Financial Statements. The report provides our stakeholders with a holistic overview of Challenger's governance and performance for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.

The 2023 Annual Report is available at



[challenger.com.au/
annualreport
2023](https://challenger.com.au/annualreport2023)

Annual Review

The 2023 Annual Review provides useful information about Challenger and its financial performance in an easy-to-read format. The Annual Review includes a performance update, a report from the Independent Chair and the Chief Executive Officer, and information on Challenger's approach to environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters.

The Annual Review is available at



[challenger.com.au/
annualreview
2023](https://challenger.com.au/annualreview2023)

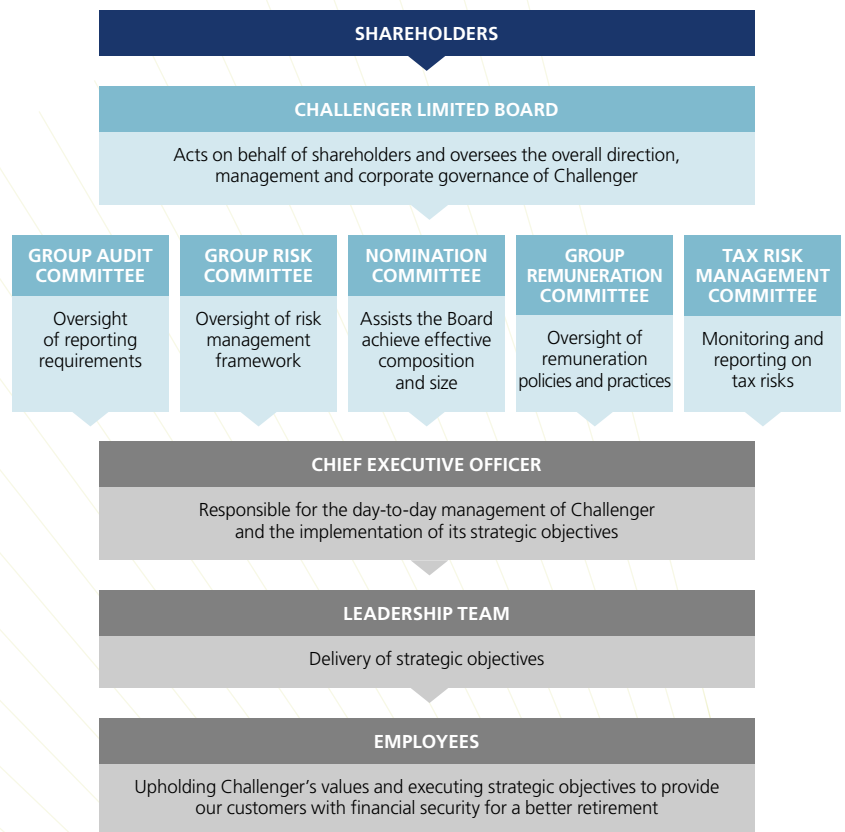
Challenger's approach to corporate governance

Challenger Limited (Challenger) is committed to implementing and maintaining a robust corporate governance system. Challenger believes that corporate governance adds value to its business and enhances stakeholder confidence.

The Board of Directors (Board) determines the most appropriate corporate governance practices for Challenger and its controlled entities (Group), taking into consideration Australian and international standards and the requirements of regulators such as the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA) and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC).

This Corporate Governance Statement reports against the Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations (4th edition) published by the Australian Securities Exchange's (ASX) Corporate Governance Council in 2019 (Principles).

Challenger's Corporate Governance Statement has been approved by the Board and is current as at 14 August 2023. The Corporate Governance Statement and Key Disclosures (Appendix 4G) have been lodged with the ASX.



Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations

Principle 1 – Lay solid foundations for management and oversight

The role of the Board and delegations

The Board is accountable to shareholders for the activities and performance of Challenger by overseeing the creation of sustainable shareholder value within an appropriate risk framework and having regard for stakeholder interests and community expectations.

The Board is responsible for setting Challenger's corporate strategy and strategic priorities. Challenger's purpose is to provide its customers with financial security for a better retirement. This is a long-term purpose and the Board sets strategic priorities each year to work towards fulfilling Challenger's purpose.

Directors are actively involved in setting, approving and regularly monitoring Challenger's strategic priorities and holding management accountable for progress. This process includes an annual Board strategy offsite and regular strategy discussions with the Leadership team, regular Board reporting and meetings, and discussion and review with management. Similarly, the Board ensures that rigorous governance processes operate effectively to guide decision-making across the business.

The Board's role and responsibilities are set out in the Board Charter, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au

The Board's responsibilities include:

- overseeing the establishment, promotion and maintenance of effective risk management policies and processes;
 - determining and adopting Challenger's dividend policy;
 - reviewing Board composition and performance;
 - appointing, evaluating and remunerating the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and approving the appointment of the Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Chief Risk Officer (CRO), General Counsel and Company Secretary; and
 - determining the CEO's delegated authority.
- The Board has established committees to assist in carrying out its responsibilities and to consider certain issues and functions in detail. The Board committees are discussed under Principle 2.

Management responsibility

The Board has delegated to the CEO the authority and powers necessary to implement the strategies approved by the Board and to manage Challenger's business affairs within the policies and delegation limits specified by the Board from time to time. The CEO may delegate authority to management, but remains accountable for all authorities delegated to management.

Nominations and appointment of new Directors

The Board has established a Nomination Committee comprised of a majority of Independent Non-Executive Directors, which must have at least three members and be chaired by an Independent Non-Executive Director. The Nomination Committee currently comprises all members of the Board, other than the CEO, and is chaired by the Chair of the Board, who is an Independent Non-Executive Director.

Appropriate checks are undertaken before recommending a person for election as a Director and being appointed. These include checks as to the person's character, fitness and propriety, experience, education, criminal record and bankruptcy history. Similar checks are also undertaken for newly appointed senior executives.

The Nomination Committee conducts periodic assessments of the Board's competencies to assist in determining the appropriate composition of the Board and to consider the desirable breadth and range of skills required when selecting new Board members.

The Nomination Committee, where appropriate, engages specialist external consultants to assist with identifying and selecting a diverse range of candidates who meet the Nomination Committee's desired competencies. The Nomination Committee also considers other factors, including independence, commercial capability, cultural fit and time availability to meet the commitment required.

The Nomination Committee assesses potential new Directors using these competencies and factors and makes recommendations to the Board for consideration and approval.

A copy of the Nomination Committee Charter is available at:

 challenger.com.au

If a new Director is appointed during the year, that person must stand for election by shareholders at the next Annual General Meeting (AGM). Shareholders are provided with all material information known to Challenger that is relevant to a decision about whether or not to elect a Director.

On behalf of Challenger, the Chair provides a letter to each new Director, setting out the terms of their appointment, including their roles and responsibilities. All current Directors have received a letter confirming the terms of their appointment.

Retirement and re-election of Directors

Challenger's Constitution requires that, excluding the CEO and any Director appointed during the year, one-third of the remaining Directors must retire each year.

Any Director who is appointed during the year must stand for election at the next AGM. In addition, any Director who has been in office for three or more years, or for three or more AGMs, must retire and stand for re-election at the third AGM.

Succession planning

In conjunction with the Nomination Committee, the Board considers the succession of its members, the CEO, CFO, CRO, General Counsel and Chief Executives of each of the business divisions.

The Board continues to review its composition having regard to the knowledge, skills and experience of each Director.

On 27 October 2022, Duncan West succeeded Peter Polson as Chair of the Board at the conclusion of the AGM held that day. As a result of Mr West's appointment as Chair, he joined the Group Remuneration Committee, became Chair of the Nomination Committee and stepped down as Chair of the Group Audit Committee. Heather Smith was appointed as Mr West's successor as Chair of the Group Audit Committee.

Review of Board performance

The Board seeks to ensure that it is operating effectively and undertakes a formal review of its performance, individual Directors and Board committees at least annually. As the Challenger Board is undertaking an external review of the Board, its committees and directors in 2023, the review for the 2023 reporting period will take place in September 2023.

The Board also had an external consultant undertake a detailed review of its skills and diversity in February 2023.

Regular reviews of the Board's performance are conducted by the Chair with all Board members, and this involves consideration of the effectiveness of the Board and its committees having regard to the attributes, knowledge, skills and experience of each Director.

Company Secretary

The Company Secretary is accountable directly to the Board, through the Chair, on matters to do with the proper functioning of the Board.

Diversity

The Board is committed to promoting a diverse and inclusive culture at Challenger. This commitment is reflected in a range of policies and practices, and these are assessed using measurable targets, including a target of at least 33.3% female representation at Board level, which is met by the current Board composition.

Challenger's approach to diversity and inclusion is set out in our Diversity Policy, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Challenger has a Diversity and Inclusion strategy, which focuses on three key areas:


- diverse and inclusive workplace;
- gender equality; and
- employment opportunities for people aged over 50.

To drive continued focus and implementation, Challenger has established a Diversity Committee, which is chaired by the Chief Executive Officer and sponsored by the Chair of the Board.

The Diversity Committee's objectives include designing, implementing and maintaining programs and initiatives to help achieve measurable objectives set by the Board each year. The effectiveness of the Group's diversity programs and initiatives and the Group's progress towards achieving those objectives are reviewed regularly by management and at least annually by the Remuneration Committee. The objectives and progress for the year ended 30 June 2023 are set out in the 2023 Annual Report, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

Challenger's most recent annual report to the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA), which reports on the 'Gender Equality Indicators' under the *Workplace Gender Equality Act 2012* (Cth), is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Challenger maintains its citation as an WGEA Employer of Choice, following its initial recognition in 2018.

Executive performance assessment

Challenger has written employment agreements with each senior executive, and the performance of senior executives is reviewed at least annually against agreed performance objectives and measures, consistent with Challenger's performance management framework which applies to all Challenger employees.

Detailed information about these performance measures and outcomes is included in the Remuneration Report in Challenger's 2023 Annual Report, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

All employees at Challenger are also assessed at least annually against Challenger's values (refer to Principle 3).

The Group Remuneration Committee is responsible for reviewing the performance of the CEO at least annually, including setting the CEO's objectives for the year, reviewing progress and making remuneration recommendations to the Board. The Group Risk Committee is also responsible for reviewing the performance of the Chief Risk Officer at least annually.

The CEO and the Group Remuneration Committee set performance objectives and review performance of the CEO's direct reports (Leadership Team).

Performance evaluations for the CEO and Leadership Team have been undertaken in respect of the 2023 financial year in accordance with the above process.



Principle 2 – Structure the Board to be effective and add value

Membership of the Board

The Board has a majority of Independent Non-Executive Directors, and an Independent Chair who is appointed by the Board. The roles of Chair and CEO are not held by the same person.

A list of Board members as at 30 June 2023 is set out below. Details of Board members, including their skills, experience and tenure, are set out in the Directors’ Report in the 2023 Annual Report, which is available at :

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

The Board is committed to ensuring that it has an effective composition, size and commitment to discharge its responsibilities and duties.

The Board has determined that its current members have an appropriate collective mix of skills, experience and expertise to:

- exercise independent judgement;

- have a proper understanding of, and competence to deal with, current and emerging issues of the business;
- encourage enhanced Challenger performance; and
- effectively review and challenge the performance of management.

The Board’s competencies are assessed annually and the results of the most recent assessment are shown in the table on this page.

The Board skills matrix shows that Board members have a high level of competency across the areas of expertise relevant to Challenger’s business.

The Board recognises that the needs of our diverse range of customers are constantly evolving. The Board receives frequent customer updates and undertakes educational sessions to enhance its understanding of customer needs.

Current Board members

NAME	POSITION	INDEPENDENT	APPOINTED
Duncan West ¹	Chair	Yes	2018
Nick Hamilton	Managing Director & CEO	No	2022
John M Green	Non-Executive Director	Yes	2017
Steven Gregg	Non-Executive Director	Yes	2012
Masahiko Kobayashi ²	Non-Executive Director	No	2019
Heather Smith	Non-Executive Director	Yes	2021
JoAnne Stephenson	Non-Executive Director	Yes	2012
Melanie Willis	Non-Executive Director	Yes	2017
Hiroyuki Iioka	Alternate Director	No	2019

1. Duncan West was appointed Chair of the Board on 27 October 2022.
 2. Mr Kobayashi is a representative director of MS&AD Insurance Group Holdings Inc and Mr Iioka acts as his alternate director.

Board skills matrix

LEADERSHIP



Leadership, effective communication and influencing skills

▶ 100% Expert

STRATEGY



Strategic thinking capability and transactional expertise

▶ 100% Expert

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE



Experience in life insurance, funds management or financial sector and management of complex investment portfolios

▶ 50% Expert ▶ 38% Advanced ▶ 12% Capable

PEOPLE AND CULTURE



Experience in building capable and highly engaged teams, managing effective workplace culture and understanding remuneration structures

▶ 62% Expert ▶ 38% Advanced

RISK, LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE



Financial services and fiduciary regulatory awareness. Relevant compliance and risk experience including legal and tax risk management. Public company corporate governance.

▶ 75% Expert ▶ 25% Advanced

IT AND DIGITAL



Understanding of IT strategy, the application of technology in large organisations, IT and digital innovation and cyber risks

▶ 12% Expert ▶ 63% Advanced ▶ 25% Capable

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING



Financial reporting literacy including exposure to Accounting Standards

▶ 87.5% Expert ▶ 12.5% Advanced

STAKEHOLDERS



Experience in understanding key stakeholders’ needs, relevant regulatory relationships and shareholder engagement

▶ 50% Expert ▶ 50% Advanced

SUSTAINABILITY



Understanding community expectations, relevant regulatory developments and disclosure requirements on sustainability issues

▶ 38% Expert ▶ 62% Advanced

Director induction and education

All new Challenger Directors participate in an induction program detailing Challenger's business, with a focus on the Group's financial, strategic, operational and risk management position and processes.

Challenger supports and encourages continuous education. Ongoing Director education is provided through regular management presentations on key Challenger business functions and activities.

Regulatory developments are summarised and brought to the attention of the Board on a regular basis by the General Counsel and the CRO. Directors can access external education and professional development training, and are provided additional education sessions on topical issues presented by experts in relevant fields.

Ernst & Young (EY), the Group's external auditor, and KPMG, the Group's internal auditor, as well as other industry experts, regularly present to Directors on matters relevant to the Group's business and its operating environment.

Director independence

The Board's approach to Director independence is set out in its Board Charter, which states that an Independent Non-Executive Director should be independent of management and free from any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with, or could reasonably be perceived to materially interfere with, the independent exercise of their judgement.

The Board has undertaken a review of all Directors in the 2023 financial year, taking into account relevant factors including tenure, and has determined that each Non-Executive Director (excluding the MS&AD representatives) remains independent. The Board noted the expertise, judgement, industry knowledge and understanding of Challenger's business brought by each Director.

The Board regularly considers and assesses the independence of each Director in light of the interests and information that Directors disclose in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* (Cth) (Corporations Act).

In assessing independence, the Board has regard to whether the Director has any of the following relationships with Challenger or any Group company:

1. is, represents or has been within the last three years an officer or employee of, or professional adviser to, a substantial shareholder of Challenger;
2. receives performance-based remuneration (including options or performance rights) from, or participates in an employee incentive scheme of, Challenger;

3. is employed, or has previously been employed, in an executive capacity by Challenger or any of the other members of the Group, and there has not been a period of at least three years between ceasing such employment and serving on the Board;
4. is, or has been within the last three years, in a material business relationship (e.g. as a supplier, professional adviser, consultant or customer of Challenger or the Group), or an officer of or otherwise associated with a material supplier, professional adviser, consultant or customer;
5. has close personal ties with any person who falls within any of the categories described in points 1 to 4 above; or
6. has been a Director of Challenger for such a period that his or her independence from management and substantial shareholders may have been compromised.

The Board will state its reasons if it considers a Director to be independent, notwithstanding the existence of a relationship of the kind referred to in points 1 to 6 above.

Determination of materiality in assessing independence

The materiality of a relationship is assessed on a case-by-case basis having regard to each Director's individual circumstances.

Conflicts of interest

In accordance with the Board Charter and the Corporations Act, any Director with a material personal interest in a matter being considered by the Board must declare such an interest and may only be present when the matter is being considered at the Board's discretion. Directors with a material interest may not vote on any matter in which they have declared a personal interest.

Meetings of the Board

The Board meets formally approximately seven times a year. Details of Directors' meetings are set out in the table on page 8.

In addition, the Board may meet to resolve specific matters needing attention between scheduled meetings.

The CEO, in consultation with the Independent Chair, establishes the meeting agendas to ensure adequate coverage of strategic, financial and material risk matters throughout the year. Senior executives regularly present at Board meetings and can be contacted by Directors between scheduled Board meetings.

Board access to information and advice

All Directors have access to the necessary records and information to fulfil their responsibilities. The Company Secretary and General Counsel provide Directors with guidance on corporate governance issues and developments, and on other matters reasonably requested by the Directors.

The Board, or each Director, has the right to seek independent professional advice to assist them in discharging their duties. Challenger will meet the cost of the advice provided the Chair's prior approval, where appropriate, is obtained.

Board committees

To assist in undertaking its duties, the Board has established the following standing committees:

- Group Risk Committee (GRC);
- Group Audit Committee (GAC);
- Group Remuneration Committee (GRemCo);
- Nomination Committee (NomCo); and
- Tax Risk Management Committee.

Each committee has its own charter, copies of which are available at:



The charters specify the composition, responsibilities, duties, reporting obligations, meeting arrangements, authority and resources available to the committees and the provisions for review of the charter. Details of Directors' membership of each committee and those eligible members' attendance at meetings throughout the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023 are set out on page 8.

Directors' meetings

DIRECTOR	BOARD		GROUP RISK COMMITTEE		GROUP AUDIT COMMITTEE		GROUP REMUNERATION COMMITTEE		NOMINATION COMMITTEE	
	ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND	ATTENDED	ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND	ATTENDED	ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND	ATTENDED	ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND	ATTENDED	ELIGIBLE TO ATTEND	ATTENDED
D West ^{1,2}	9	9	5	4	4	4	3	3	4	4
N Hamilton ³	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
J M Green	9	9	5	5	4	3	7	6	4	4
S Gregg	9	8	5	5	4	4	7	7	4	4
M Kobayashi	9	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
H Smith ⁴	9	9	5	5	4	4	-	-	4	4
J Stephenson	9	9	5	5	4	4	7	7	4	4
M Willis	9	9	5	5	4	4	-	-	4	4
P Polson ⁵	4	4	2	1	1	1	4	3	1	1

1. Mr West replaced Mr Polson as Chair of the Board and member of the Group Remuneration Committee on 27 October 2022.
2. Mr West was a member of the Tax Risk Management Committee (TRMC) until 25 November 2022 and attended 1 meeting (being eligible to attend 1 meeting).
3. The Managing Director and CEO attends the Group Risk Committee, the Group Audit Committee, the Group Remuneration Committee and the Nomination Committee meetings at the invitation of these Committees.
4. Ms Smith was appointed a member of the TRMC on 25 November 2022 with no meetings held in the 2023 financial year following her appointment.
5. Mr Polson ceased to be a Director on 27 October 2022.



Principle 3 – Instil a culture of acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly

The Board and Challenger's commitment to ethical and responsible decision-making is reflected in the internal policies and procedures, underpinned by Challenger's values. The values set out the employee behaviour needed to meet community expectations and to support Challenger to deliver on its corporate strategy and strategic priorities. Challenger's values are:

- Act with integrity – we do things the right way;
- Aim high – we deliver outstanding results;
- Collaborate – we work together to achieve shared goals; and
- Think customer – we make decisions with our customers front of mind.

Code of Conduct

Challenger's Code of Conduct, adopted by the Board, applies to all Directors, executives, employees, consultants and contractors of Challenger and the Group. It articulates the standards of honest, ethical and law-abiding behaviour expected by Challenger.

Employees are actively encouraged to bring any issues or concerns to the attention of management or the Board, including activities or behaviour that may not comply with the Code of Conduct, other Group policies and procedures, regulatory requirements or laws. They can also do this anonymously using Challenger's whistleblower reporting process. A copy of the Code of Conduct is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Consequence management procedures exist for breaches of the Code of Conduct and supporting policies. Material breaches of the Code of Conduct are reported to the GRC and the Board. Non-compliance with the Code of Conduct and supporting policies may result in disciplinary action, including impacts to reward or ultimately termination of employment.

Whistleblower Policy

Challenger is committed to an open culture in which concerns and issues about wrongdoing are disclosed in a supportive environment.

The Challenger Whistleblower Policy outlines the framework and sets out avenues for disclosures to be made on an anonymous basis. Material incidents are included in the reports to the Board and GRC.

A copy of Challenger's Whistleblower Policy is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Fraud and Corruption Policy

Challenger is committed to the highest level of integrity and ethical standards in the way it conducts business.

Challenger has a Fraud and Corruption Policy, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au

The policy applies to all Challenger employees, and the consultants, Directors, officers, agents and contractors who provide services to Challenger and the Group.

Employees are encouraged to report suspected fraudulent or corrupt activities.

Incidents and breaches pertaining to bribery and corruption are part of the reporting to the Board and GRC.

Political Donations Policy

The Board has adopted a policy of not making political donations in any country or jurisdiction in which it operates. The policy prohibits Challenger from making donations, or contributing funds, to any political party, parliamentarian, elected official or candidate for political office, and prohibits Challenger employees, executives and Directors from attending events, in their official capacity, where funds are raised for these purposes.

Challenger seeks to actively participate in effective policy development and will submit views to governments and other political stakeholders on matters that affect Challenger, its customers, shareholders and the wider community.

Director and Employee Trading Policy

The Board has approved a trading policy which prescribes the manner in which Directors and employees can trade in Challenger's securities and third party securities.

Pre-trade approval is required for all trading in Challenger securities.

Directors and employees are prohibited from trading in Challenger securities or third party securities at any time while in possession of non-public price-sensitive information. In addition, Directors and employees are prohibited from trading in Challenger securities at certain times prior to the release of Challenger's half-year and full-year financial results to the ASX. Other prohibited periods may also be imposed in accordance with the trading policy.

Challenger's trading policy prohibits any employees from hedging any unvested performance rights which they received as part of their remuneration.

It is also Challenger policy to prohibit Directors and employees from taking margin loans over Challenger shares.

Sustainability

Challenger has a clear sustainability strategy that supports its business strategy.

Reflecting the increased commitment to sustainability, Challenger's Annual Report incorporates the Sustainability Report in addition to the Operating and Financial Review, Directors' Report and Financial Statements. The report provides our stakeholders with a holistic overview of Challenger's governance and performance for the period from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. The 2023 Annual Report is available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

Human rights

To demonstrate its commitment to human rights, Challenger published its first Human Rights Statement in 2021, outlining guiding principles on the way it approaches human rights considerations throughout its operations. A copy of Challenger's Human Rights Statement is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Challenger also publishes its annual Modern Slavery Statement, in accordance with the requirements of the *Modern Slavery Act 2018* (Cth). The Statement is published in March each year, in respect of the prior financial year. Challenger continually monitors and assesses modern slavery risks across its operations, investments and supply chain. The most recent Statement is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Principle 4 – Safeguard the integrity of corporate reports

Integrity of corporate reports

The Board has the responsibility to ensure the truthful and factual presentation of Challenger’s financial position. The Board has established the Group Audit Committee (GAC) to assist the Board to focus on issues relevant to the integrity of Challenger and the Group’s financial reporting. In accordance with its Charter, the GAC comprises a majority of Independent Non-Executive Directors and must have at least three members. The GAC must be chaired by an Independent Non-Executive Director, who is not Chair of the Board.

Details of the qualifications and experience of the members of the GAC are described in the Directors’ Report in the 2023 Annual Report, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

The GAC typically meets four times a year, and additional meetings are scheduled as required.

The members of the GAC and attendance at meetings are set out in the table on page 8.

The GAC is responsible for reviewing the half-yearly and annual financial reports, and all other financial information prepared for Challenger’s financial statements with management, advisers and auditors to ensure the reports and information provide a true and fair view of Challenger’s financial position and performance.

The GAC makes recommendations to the Board in relation to the appointment, review and removal of an external auditor, assessment of the external auditor’s

independence and the appropriateness of non-audit services that the external auditor may provide. A copy of the GAC Charter is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Declaration by the CEO and CFO

In respect of the financial report for the year ended 30 June 2023, the Board has received a written declaration from the CEO and the CFO that:

- in their opinion, the Group’s financial records have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Group; and
- the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively.

Independent external audit

Challenger requires its independent external auditor to:

- provide stakeholders with assurance as to whether the Group’s financial reports are true and fair; and
- ensure that Group accounting policies comply with applicable accounting standards and guidance.

Challenger’s independent external auditor is Ernst & Young (EY). EY was first appointed in November 2003, and this appointment was ratified by shareholders at the AGM

in November 2004. A competitive tender process was conducted in 2014, resulting in the re-appointment of EY.

The external auditor attends Challenger’s AGMs and is available to answer shareholder questions relating to the external audit.

Verification of non-audited periodic corporate reports

Where periodic corporate reports are not audited or reviewed by external auditors (such as this Corporate Governance Statement or the Sustainability Report), a thorough internal review and verification process is undertaken to ensure accuracy of the reports. Working groups (comprising relevant internal stakeholders and other external subject matter experts) are established to review and verify material statements of facts and opinions in the periodic corporate reports. Before it approves the corporate reports, the Board receives confirmation from management that the reports are true and accurate.



Principle 5 – Make timely and balanced disclosure

Continuous Disclosure Policy

Challenger is committed to ensuring that all investors have equal and timely access to material information about Challenger and that its announcements are factual and presented in a clear and objective manner.

The Board has approved and implemented a Continuous Disclosure Policy. A copy of the policy is available at:



challenger.com.au

The policy is designed to ensure compliance with the continuous disclosure requirements under the Corporations Act and the ASX Listing Rules.

The Board has established a Continuous Disclosure Committee, which is responsible for:

- ensuring that full consideration is given to the appropriateness, quality and adequacy of the information that is released to the market;
- making decisions on what should be disclosed publicly under the Continuous Disclosure Policy; and
- ensuring that disclosure is made promptly and without delay.

The Board receives a copy of all material ASX announcements by Challenger, and the Continuous Disclosure Committee may, where appropriate, refer major disclosure decisions to the Board for its approval.

All market sensitive announcements made by Challenger are lodged with the ASX and made publicly available via the ASX market announcements platform before being discussed with, or disseminated to, stakeholders. All shareholder and analyst presentations given by Challenger that contain new material information are lodged with the ASX ahead of the presentation.



Principle 6 – Respect the rights of security holders

Maintaining relationships with shareholders and noteholders

Challenger recognises the importance of enhancing its relationships with shareholders and noteholders by:

- communicating effectively;
- providing ready access to clear and balanced information about Challenger; and
- encouraging participation at AGMs.

Challenger's Investor Relations Practice Note details its approach to facilitating effective two-way communication and is available at:



challenger.com.au

Online and electronic communication with Challenger is encouraged

As set out in Principle 5, it is Challenger's policy to announce to the market material information about Challenger in a timely, clear, balanced and objective manner.

Following release to the ASX, Challenger publishes half-yearly and annual reports, major announcements and other relevant information, including corporate governance information, on its website.

Half and full year financial results, Investor Days and the AGM are webcast, enabling greater shareholder participation. Challenger also encourages shareholders to receive reports, communications, announcements and payments electronically.

Shareholders are encouraged to, and do, regularly communicate electronically with Challenger's registry, Computershare Investor Services, on all matters relating to their holdings.

Challenger also provides a facility to ask questions about its business via its website, which are answered directly. Interested parties can register via the website to receive updates regarding material Challenger market announcements.

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

Challenger believes that AGMs provide an important opportunity for shareholders to engage with the Board and management of their company.

A formal notice and AGM documents are sent to shareholders at least 28 days in advance of the meeting. The AGM documents include explanatory notes that clearly explain the nature of the AGM business and the resolutions to be put to shareholders.

The 2023 AGM will be held as a 'hybrid' meeting, which will enable shareholders to attend either physically or virtually. Challenger's Board believes this method is the best way to engage with the broadest range of shareholders. Shareholders who are unable to attend the AGM, either in person or virtually via their electronic device, are encouraged to appoint a proxy in advance of the meeting.

All resolutions being considered at Challenger's AGMs are decided by a poll rather than a show of hands. The AGM voting result is lodged with the ASX as soon as practicable after the AGM and published on the Challenger website.



Principle 7 – Recognise and manage risk

Risk management and compliance

The management of risk is fundamental to the Group's business, supporting better outcomes for our customers and building shareholder value. At Challenger, risk is everybody's business.

The Board's Risk Appetite Statement outlines the level of risk that is acceptable in striving to achieve the Group's strategic goals and financial objectives. This is combined with an effective risk management framework, which monitors, mitigates and manages the risks to which the Group is exposed.

The Board recognises the broad range of risks the Group faces as a participant in the financial services industry, including funding and liquidity risk; investment and pricing risk; counterparty risk; strategic, business and reputation risk; operational risk; licence and regulatory risk; climate change risk; and conduct risk. The Board also maintains a focus on contemporary and emerging risks and monitoring key risks to Group strategy.

The Leadership Team is accountable for managing the risks within their divisions and is required to manage risk as part of business objectives, with risk management integrated across business processes. There are clear accountabilities for risk management for all Challenger employees and these are measured through Challenger's annual performance review process.

Oversight, analysis, monitoring and reporting of these risks is conducted by the Executive Risk Management Committee (ERMC), which is chaired by the CRO. The CRO is independent of the business units and accountable to the CEO, the Board and its committees.

An integral part of risk management for the Group is the maintenance of a strong risk culture among its employees. Challenger has defined a target risk culture within its Risk Appetite Statement, with metrics that are regularly monitored and reported to the Board. The Group's expectations of its employees are encapsulated in the Challenger values.

The Board has established the Group Risk Committee (GRC), which is comprised of a majority of Independent Non-Executive Directors and must have at least three members.

The GRC must be chaired by an Independent Non-Executive Director, who is not the Chair of the Board.

The GRC meets a minimum of four times a year, and additional meetings are scheduled as required.

The members' names and details of attendance at meetings are set out on page 8.

On a day-to-day basis, the Risk division, which is separate from the operating segments of the business, has responsibility for monitoring the implementation of the risk management framework, including the monitoring, reporting and analysis of the various risks faced by the business, and providing effective challenge to activities and decisions that may materially affect Challenger's risk profile. Internal processes have been put in place to confirm that material transactions undertaken by the Group are in line with the Board's risk appetite.

The GRC reports to the Board on the effectiveness of the risk framework and internal controls. Challenger undertakes a detailed review of the Group's risk management strategy on an annual basis, including for the financial year ended 30 June 2023, to satisfy the GRC and the Board that it continues to be sound.

While Challenger's risk management framework remains robust and continues to operate efficiently, Challenger seeks continual improvements to enhance the framework.

A summary of Challenger's risk management framework and a copy of the GRC Charter can be found at:

 challenger.com.au

Internal audit

Internal audit services for the Group were provided by KPMG during the financial year ended 30 June 2023. The GAC, together with the GRC, oversees the scope of internal audit and monitors the progress of the internal audit work program, which must include (at least annually) an evaluation of compliance with and effectiveness of the Group's risk management framework.

The GAC and GRC receive reports from internal audit at each meeting and monitor management's responsiveness to internal audit findings and recommendations.

The internal audit function is independent of the external auditor and reports directly to the GAC and GRC.

Material exposure to environmental or social risks

There are a number of material business risks that could adversely affect the Group and the achievement of the Group's financial performance objectives. Those risks and how those risks are managed by the Group are described in Note 18 to the financial statements in the 2023 Annual Report, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au

Challenger considers climate change risk both in terms of its investment decision-making and ownership practices, and how it manages the environmental impact from its direct operations.

Challenger's approach to climate change is outlined in its Climate Change Statement, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au

ESG risks and how they are managed by the Group are described in the Sustainability Report contained in Challenger's Annual Report, available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

Principle 8 – Remunerate fairly and responsibly

Group Remuneration Committee

The Board has established the Group Remuneration Committee (GRemCo), which is comprised of a majority of Independent Non-Executive Directors and must have at least three members. The GRemCo must be chaired by an Independent Non-Executive Director.

Details of the qualifications and experience of the members of the GRemCo are described in the Directors' Report contained in the 2023 Annual Report, which is available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

The GRemCo usually meets at least five times during the year, and additional meetings are scheduled as required. A copy of the GRemCo Charter can be found at:

 challenger.com.au

The members' names and details of attendance at meetings are set out on page 8.

The GRemCo is responsible for reviewing and making recommendations to the Board on:

- Challenger's remuneration, recruitment, retention and termination policies and procedures for senior executives;
- senior executives' remuneration and incentives;
- superannuation arrangements;
- the remuneration framework, including the reimbursement of expenses for Directors;
- whether there is any gender or other inappropriate bias in remuneration for directors, senior executives or other employees;
- the performance of the CEO, at least annually, including setting with the CEO goals for the coming year and reviewing progress in achieving those goals;
- the design of any incentive plan; and
- the design of any equity-based plan, including any performance hurdles.

Remuneration

Setting and overseeing remuneration policies and practices is a key responsibility of the Board. The policies and practices are aligned with the Group's vision, Challenger's values and overall business objectives, and take into account Challenger's long-term financial soundness and risk management framework.

The remuneration details for Key Management Personnel and Non-Executive Directors are included in the Remuneration Report, which is located in the 2023 Annual Report, available at:

 challenger.com.au/annualreport2023

Non-Executive Directors are not entitled to participate in Challenger incentive plans.

There are no termination payments to Non-Executive Directors on their retirement from office other than payments accruing from superannuation contributions comprising part of their remuneration.



