

## CATALYST METALS LIMITED

ABN 54 118 912 495

### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

---

A description of the Company's main corporate governance practices is set out below. These practices, unless otherwise stated, were in place for the entire financial year. Copies of relevant corporate governance policies and charters are available in the corporate governance section of the Company's web-site at [www.catalystmetals.com.au](http://www.catalystmetals.com.au).

The Board and management are committed to high standards of corporate governance practices. Good corporate governance will evolve with the changing circumstances of a company and must be tailored to meet these circumstances.

This Corporate Governance Statement is current as at 30 June 2023 and has been approved by the Board of Directors.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

---

The Board is responsible for guiding and monitoring the Company on behalf of shareholders by whom they are elected and to whom they are accountable. The Board's primary role is to participate with management in formulating the strategic direction of the Company and to oversee the Company's business activities and management. The Company has established functions reserved for the Board and those delegated to senior management, as set out in the Board Charter. Day to day management of the Company's affairs and the implementation of corporate strategies are delegated by the Board to the Managing Director.

The Board Charter states that the Board is responsible for:

- approving the overall strategic direction and leadership of the Company;
- approving and monitoring management's implementation of objectives and strategies;
- approving the annual strategic plan and monitoring the progress of both financial and non-financial performance;
- the corporate governance of the Company, and
- overseeing the establishment and maintenance of a framework of internal control and appropriate ethical standards for the management of the Company.

In the event that a director of the Company is not proficient in the English language, the Board Charter sets out that board and corporate documents will be translated into the director's native language and a translator is to be present at all relevant board and shareholder meetings.

The Board is responsible for the appointment and removal of the Company Secretary. The Board Charter sets out that the Company Secretary is accountable to the Board on all matters relating to the proper functioning of the Board.

#### ***Board composition and independence***

The Board Charter states that the Board should be of an appropriate size and collectively have the skills, commitment and knowledge of the Company and the industry in which it operates, to enable it to discharge its duties effectively and to add value. The Charter also states that the Board is to comprise an appropriate mix of both executive and non-executive directors and that the roles of Chair and Managing Director are not combined.

The Company has a three member Board as at the date of this statement, comprising two non-executive directors, including the Chair. Mr Champion de Crespigny is not considered independent by virtue of his executive role in the Company. Mr Scrimgeour is not considered independent by virtue of his significant shareholding in the Company and neither is Mr Kay by virtue of financial remuneration received during the year.

The Board has adopted ASX recommended principles in relation to the assessment of directors' independence, which identifies shareholdings, executive roles, performance based remuneration or participation in an employee incentive scheme, contractual relationships and relationships with a substantial holder of the Company, which may affect independent status. The Board does not consider that length of service is a potential indicator that independence may have been compromised.

Under present circumstances, there is not a majority of directors classified as being independent, according to ASX guidelines. Board members should possess complementary business disciplines and experience aligned with the Company's objectives, with a number of directors being independent and where appropriate, major shareholders being represented on the Board. Where any director has a material personal interest in a matter, the director must declare their interest and is not permitted to be present during discussions or to vote on the matter.

The composition of the Board is considered suitable for the Company's current stage of development and nature of its operations and includes an appropriate mix of skills, expertise and experience relevant to the Company's current business operations. The Board does not currently maintain a formal matrix of Board skills and experience, however, the diversity of experience and assessment of any gaps in skills and experiences are a key consideration for any proposed appointment to the Board. Details of the experience, qualifications and term of office of directors are set out in the Directors' Report section of the 2023 annual report.

Having regard to the share ownership structure of the Company, it is considered appropriate by the Board that a significant shareholder may be represented on the Board and if nominated, hold the position of Chair. Such appointment would not be deemed to be independent under ASX guidelines. The Chair is expected to bring independent thought and judgement to their role in all circumstances. Where matters arise in which there is a perceived conflict of interest, the Chair must declare their interest and abstain from any consideration or voting on the relevant matter.

Each director and senior executive has an agreement in writing with the Company, which sets out the key terms and conditions of their appointment including their duties, rights and responsibilities. Directors have the right, in connection with their duties and responsibilities, to seek independent professional advice at the Company's expense, subject to the prior written approval of the Chair, which will not be unreasonably withheld.

### ***Performance assessment***

The Board has adopted a process for an annual self-assessment of its collective performance, the performance of individual directors and of Board committees. The Chair meets with each non-executive director separately to discuss individual performance and the Board as a whole discusses and analyses its performance over the previous 12 months and examines ways in which the Board can better perform its duties. No formal assessment was undertaken during the year, however, the Chair assesses the performance of the Board, individual directors and Board committees on an ongoing basis and undertakes informal appraisals with relevant directors.

The performance of senior executives is reviewed annually through a formal performance appraisal and individual meetings. The Board is collectively responsible for the evaluation of the Managing Director and the performance of other senior executives is reviewed annually by the Managing Director through performance appraisal meetings. Executive remuneration and other terms of employment are reviewed annually by the Board having regard to performance, relevant comparative information and where appropriate, expert advice. Changes in senior executive appointments have recently been made by the Company and therefore no formal evaluation of senior executive performance was undertaken during the year.

## **BOARD COMMITTEES**

---

The Board has established a separate Audit Committee. Matters determined by the committee are submitted to the full Board as recommendations for Board consideration.

Membership of the Audit Committee during the financial year comprised two non-executive directors, Mr Scrimgeour (chair) and Mr Stephen Boston, who resigned as a director on 8 August 2023. Details of the qualifications of committee members and attendance at Audit Committee meetings are set out in the Directors' Report section of the 2023 annual report.

The Audit Committee operates in accordance with a written charter. The Audit Committee oversees accounting and reporting practices and is also responsible for:

- reviewing statutory financial reports and all other financial information distributed externally;
- co-ordination and appraisal of the quality of the audits conducted by the external auditor;
- determination of the independence and effectiveness of the external auditor and assessment of whether non-audit services have the potential to impair auditor independence;
- reviewing the adequacy of the reporting and accounting controls of the Company;
- maintaining procedures for verifying the integrity of any periodic corporate reports which are released to the market and which have not been audited or reviewed by an external auditor.

The current size of the Board and the stage of development of the Company do not warrant the establishment of separate remuneration or nomination committees. The directors as a whole are responsible for the functions normally undertaken by these committees. With the recent growth of the Company during the financial year, the establishment of separate committees will be reconsidered by the Board.

The Board reviews all remuneration policies and practices for the Company, including overall strategies in relation to executive remuneration policies and compensation arrangements for any executive directors and senior management, as well as all equity based remuneration plans. The structure for the remuneration of non-executive directors and any senior executives is separate and distinct. Details of the Company's remuneration policies are set out in the Remuneration Report section of the 2023 annual report.

### ***Board nomination procedures***

The current size of the full Board permits it to act as the nomination committee and to regularly review membership. When a Board vacancy occurs, the Board identifies the particular skills, experience and expertise that will best complement Board effectiveness and then undertakes a selection process to identify candidates who can meet those criteria.

Prior to a candidate being considered for appointment as a director of the Company, appropriate enquiries are made as to the person's character, experience, education, criminal record and bankruptcy history. Shareholders are provided with relevant information on any directors standing for re-election at a general meeting of the Company, including relevant qualifications and experience.

New directors are provided with an induction including comprehensive briefings with the Chair and senior executives, visits to operating sites and provision of information on the Company including Company and Board policies.

All directors are expected to maintain the skills required to effectively discharge their obligations to the Company. Directors are encouraged to undertake professional development programmes and training to develop and maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as directors of the Company, which is reviewed on an annual basis.

## **CORPORATE REPORTING**

---

The Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer provide a declaration to the Board that the Company's external financial reports present a true and fair view of the Company's financial condition and operational results and that the declaration in relation to the integrity of the Company's external financial reports is founded on sound risk management and internal control systems and that those systems are operating effectively in relation to financial reporting risks.

The Audit Committee oversees procedures for the preparation of periodic corporate reports, including those not subject to audit and monitors the review and approval of such reports. Material non-audited periodic reports are prepared by, or under the supervision of, subject-matter experts from senior management before being reviewed and approved by the Managing Director, Chief Financial Officer and Technical Director, as applicable and then finally reviewed and authorised for release to the market by the Board.

The external auditors provide an annual declaration of their independence to the Board. The current audit engagement partner has conducted the audit since December 2019 with rotation due no later than five years from that date. The performance of the external auditors is reviewed annually.

### RISK MANAGEMENT

---

The Company does not have a separate internal audit function as the Board believes that existing internal controls and management systems provide sufficient assurance that the Company's risk management, governance and internal control processes are operating effectively. The Company will continue to review this assessment on a regular basis as the level of business operations continues to evolve and grow. Operational, financial, legal, compliance and strategic risks are managed as part of the day-to-day management of the Company's affairs with the support of relevant external professional advisers as required.

No separate risk committee has been established. The Board is responsible for the oversight of the Company's risk management and control framework. Responsibility for internal control systems and risk management is delegated to the appropriate level of management within the Company with the Managing Director having ultimate responsibility to the Board for the risk management and control framework. The Board works closely with management to identify and manage operational, financial and compliance risks which could prevent the Company from achieving its objectives.

The Company's risk management systems are evolving and it is recognised that the systems will develop with the growth in the Company's activities. Internal controls are designed to manage both the effectiveness and efficiency of significant business processes, the safeguarding of assets, the maintenance of proper accounting records and the reliability of financial and non-financial information.

The Board aims to review the risk management framework at least annually to satisfy itself that the framework continues to be sound and that the Company is operating with due regard to the risk appetite set by the Board. No formal report regarding the material risks and whether those risks are managed effectively was provided to the Board during the financial year as prior to recent senior executive appointments, the Board had direct responsibility for monitoring risk management.

The Company undertakes mining and mineral exploration activities and recognises that there are inherent risks in conducting its business operations. Material risks associated with economic, environmental and social sustainability include mining and operational risks, health and safety, community and environmental risks, mineral resource and ore reserve estimates, metal prices and exchange rate fluctuations, financing and working capital requirements, compliance and regulatory risks.

Some of these risks are beyond the Company's direct control and require risk mitigation strategies whilst other risks are directly within the control of the Company and are managed through operational and management systems and procedures.

The systems and processes implemented to manage material risks include monthly operations and financial reporting; regular reports to the Board by management and/or independent advisers outlining the nature of particular risks and related risk mitigation measures; clearly defined management responsibilities and organisational structure; delegated limits of authority; treasury and accounting controls and reconciliations; introduction of comprehensive management reporting systems; budgeting and strategic planning processes; segregation of duties; appropriate policies and procedures that are widely disseminated to employees; development of integrated management systems; and specific health and safety policies and procedures.

### CODE OF CONDUCT

---

The Company's Code of Conduct sets out a statement of the Company's identity, purpose and commitment to values, including the Company's primary objective of maximising shareholder returns through the exploration and mining of minerals whilst acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly. The Code of Conduct applies to all directors and employees and aims to guide compliance with the legitimate interests of all stakeholders. The code aims to encourage the appropriate standards of conduct and behaviour of the directors, employees and contractors of the Company. All personnel are expected to act with integrity and objectivity, striving at all times to enhance the reputation and performance of the Company. Material breaches of the Code are required to be reported to the Board.

The Company has established an Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy to provide a framework for the Company to conduct its business activities fairly, honestly and with integrity and in compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations. Any material breaches under the policy are required to be reported to the Board.

The Company has a Whistleblower Policy which provides an independent mechanism for the legitimate reporting of illegal or unethical practices by company employees. Any material incidents are required to be reported to the Board.

The Company's Share Trading Policy prohibits the purchase or disposal of securities by directors, senior executives and other designated persons in the period of one week prior to the release of quarterly reports and the Company's annual and half-year financial results. Any proposed trading to be undertaken must be notified in advance to the Chair, Chair of the Audit Committee or Company Secretary.

Where the Company grants securities under an equity based remuneration scheme, participants are prohibited from entering into arrangements for the hedging, or otherwise limiting their exposure to risk in relation to unvested shares, options or rights issued or acquired under the scheme.

### **EMPLOYMENT DIVERSITY**

---

The Board has adopted a Diversity Policy which is designed to encourage diversity in employment and in the composition of the Board, as a means of enhancing the Company's performance and organisational capabilities.

The Company is aiming to achieve an appropriate mix of diversity on its Board, in senior management and throughout the organisation. A summary of the proportion of females employed throughout the Company is as follows:

|                                | Actual<br>30 June 2023 |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|
| Whole organisation             | 13%                    |
| In senior management positions | 18%                    |
| Appointed to the Board         | Nil                    |

Senior management is defined as a professional or manager reporting to the Managing Director or a General Manager.

Measurable diversity objectives are yet to be established as the Board is continuing to assess meaningful and achievable targets based on the stage of development of the Company. The Company recognises the benefits of diversity in a competitive labour market and the importance of being able to attract and retain employees from the widest possible pool of available talent.

The appropriate mix of skills and diversity for membership of the Board is considered as part of ongoing nomination and succession planning and which recognises the value of balanced gender representation.

### **CONTINUOUS DISCLOSURE AND SHAREHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS**

---

The Company has a formal written policy for the continuous disclosure of any price sensitive information concerning the Company. Material information is lodged immediately with the ASX and then disseminated by posting on the Company's web-site. Copies of any material market announcements are provided to each member of the Board promptly after release of the announcement.

Any new or substantive presentations to be made to investors or analysts are firstly released to the ASX and included on the Company's web-site.

The Board has adopted a formal written policy covering arrangements to promote communications with shareholders and to encourage effective participation at general meetings. All substantive resolutions to be considered at shareholders meeting are decided by a poll rather than by a show of hands.

The Company and the share registry offer mechanisms for electronic communication by shareholders, including an e-mail alert facility available through the Company's web-site. The external auditor is required to attend annual general meetings and be available to answer shareholder questions about the conduct of the audit and the preparation and content of the audit report.

All shareholders are entitled to elect to receive a printed copy of the Company's annual report upon request. In addition, all market announcements, media briefings, details of shareholders' meetings, press releases and financial reports are made available on the Company's web-site.