

1 April 2019

INITIAL INFORMATION FOR CREDITORS

WITS HOLDINGS PTY LTD ACN 050 322 284 (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ("THE COMPANY") TRADING AS WADLEY'S

The purpose of this document is to provide you with information about the voluntary administration of the Company and your rights as a creditor.

APPOINTMENT OF VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATORS

Ms Kate Warwick, Mr Joseph Hansell and I, Ross Blakeley, were appointed as Joint and Several Administrators of the Company on 28 March 2019 by a resolution of the Company's Director.

The Administrators have assumed control of the assets and trading of the Company. The business has continued to trade whilst an urgent critical review of its operations and financial position is undertaken.

The Administrators have requested the Director to prepare a report on the Company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances.

If you are a supplier or employee, you should have received a separate communication on how this appointment impacts your ongoing dealings with the Company. Please refer to *Important statements for all creditors and suppliers* attached.

A copy of our Declaration of Independence, Relevant Relationships and Indemnities ("**DIRRI**") is attached. The DIRRI assists you to understand any relevant relationships that we have, and any indemnities or upfront payments that have been provided to us. We have considered each relationship and it is our opinion that none of the relationships disclosed in the DIRRI result in a conflict of interest or duty or affect our independence.

VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION

Voluntary administration is a process under the law which allows companies unable to pay their debts, or likely to become unable to pay their debts, to appoint an independent, qualified person (called a voluntary administrator) to take control of the Company and its operations. This process allows breathing space to work out the best outcome for all stakeholders and involves the voluntary administrators calling creditors'

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meetings over the following 20 business days at which creditors decide the future of the Company. Ultimately, the creditors will determine if the Company should:

- a) Be returned to the Director;
- b) Be placed into liquidation; or
- c) Enter into a Deed of Company Arrangement ("**DOCA**").

According to the Company's records, you may be a creditor of the Company.

WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR DEBT?

All creditors of the Company are now creditors in the voluntary administration. As a creditor, you have certain rights, although your debt will be dealt with in the voluntary administration. Further information regarding your rights as a creditor is enclosed with this circular.

It is important to note that a voluntary administration creates restrictions on creditors being able to enforce their rights. You generally cannot enforce your claim, recover your property, enforce your security, commence an action to place the company into liquidation or act on a personal guarantee. Please refer to *Important statements for all creditors and suppliers* attached.

If you have leased property to the Company, have a retention of title claim or hold a Personal Property Security Registration in relation to the Company, please contact my staff as soon as possible. Further information is enclosed - please refer to *Requirements for parties with security interests and other claims* attached.

MEETINGS OF CREDITORS

As voluntary administrator, I am required to hold two meetings of creditors.

First Meeting of Creditors

When a Company enters into voluntary administration, the Administrators are required to convene a first meeting of creditors within eight (8) business days after the commencement of the voluntary administration.

The First Meeting of the Creditors will be held at **10:30 AM (AEST) on 9 April 2019**.

In this regard, please find enclosed the following documents:

- a) Notice of First Meeting of Creditors of the Company under Administration;
- b) Form - Appointment of Proxy; and
- c) Formal Proof of Debt or Claim Form.

If you intend to appoint another person to act on your behalf at the meeting, or you are a corporate creditor,

you are required to complete and return the enclosed proxy form appointing your representative to FTI Consulting, GPO Box 538, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 or by email to witsholdings@fticonsulting.com no later than 2:00 PM (AEST) on 8 April 2019.

You can appoint the Chairperson of the meeting as your general or special proxy in which case you direct the Chairperson how you wish your vote to be cast. If you choose to do this, the Chairperson must cast your vote as directed.

Creditors are required to lodge proofs of debt no later than 2:00 PM (AEST) on 8 February 2019, failing which they may be excluded from voting at the meeting. A Proof of Debt or Claim Form is attached for this purpose. Proofs of Debt may be sent to FTI Consulting, GPO Box 538, MELBOURNE VIC 3001 or by email to witsholdings@fticonsulting.com no later than 2:00 PM (AEST) on 8 April 2019.

General information regarding the conduct of meetings of creditors and the completion of proxy forms and proof of debt forms is enclosed and can also be found on our website at <http://www.fticonsulting-asia.com>.

Statutory notices and advertisements about the Company will be published on ASIC's Published Notices website at www.insolvency notices.asic.gov.au.

Second Meeting of Creditors

A second meeting of creditors will be held, at which creditors will vote on the future of each of the Company. Details of that meeting and a Report to Creditors on the Company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances will be sent to you in due course.

TRADING AND WAY FORWARD

As indicated, the Company is continuing to trade whilst the Administrators undertake an urgent critical review of the Company's operations and financial position to confirm if it is possible to continue trading during the voluntary administration. That review will also consider the key issues that will impact and the options available for the Company and therefore its stakeholders, beyond the short term.

It is the Administrators' experience and view that being able to continue to trade maintains and maximises the options for a company and therefore its creditors and other stakeholders. An immediate close down will limit or eliminate certain options, for example, to potentially offer creditors a return on their debts from profits from ongoing future trading.

The Company's ability to continue to trade hinges on having the support of its existing creditors and suppliers, together with other stakeholders including customers, employees, financiers and lessors. Such support can take many forms but critically includes existing suppliers and creditors being willing to continue to supply the Company on the most favourable terms possible.

A restructure plan implemented through a DOCA is one of the options the Administrators will explore with the Director and shareholder and any other party who may seek to propose a DOCA. At this stage, it is not possible to predict if such a restructure is possible and what form it may take, and thus how, when and to

what extent the claims of creditors that exist against the Company as at the appointment of the Administrators are addressed. Other possible options, such as a sale of the business are also being explored.

Any restructure plan and proposal, together with other options and the results of the Administrators' investigation into the affairs of the Company, will be outlined and conveyed to creditors ahead of the second meeting of creditors.

The Administrators are committed to working with you and all other stakeholders to find the best outcome for all stakeholders and the Company. Your ongoing support during the Administration is critical to maximising options and outcomes.

COSTS OF THE VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION PROCESS

Attached to this circular is our Initial Remuneration Notice, which provides you with information about how the Administrators propose to be paid for undertaking the voluntary administration.

We will seek approval of our remuneration at the second meeting of creditors. We will provide you with further information regarding our remuneration before that meeting, detailing the tasks that we have attended to and anticipate further attending to, and the costs of those tasks.

If you have any information that you consider may help in the administration of the Company, please contact us. Our details are attached – please refer to *Administrators' background and contact details*.

Yours faithfully

WITS Holdings Pty Ltd

(Administrators Appointed)



Ross Blakeley

Administrator

NOTICES AND ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED IN THIS CIRCULAR

The administration will be conducted on the basis of the information contained in the following notices and attachments:

- **Administrators' background and contact details**
- **Important statements for all creditors and suppliers**
- **Requirements for parties with security interests and other claims**
- **Administrators' trading procedures.** This includes the specimen signatures of the Administrators and their authorised persons.
- **Details and notices for the first meeting of creditors**
 - Notice of First Meeting of Creditors of the Company under Administration;
 - Form - Appointment of Proxy;
 - Formal Proof of Debt or Claim Form (for voting purposes);
 - Guidance notes for completing proxy and proof of debt or claim forms.
- **Independence and remuneration disclosures**
 - Initial advice to creditors – basis of remuneration;
 - FTI Consulting Standard Rate schedule; and
 - The Administrators' Declaration of Independence, Relevant Relationships and Indemnities.
- **Information sheets about your rights and the voluntary administration process**
 - Information regarding your rights as a creditor;
 - Information sheet called *"Insolvency information for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders"*;
 - Additional information sheets on the administration process can be obtained at www.asic.gov.au (search for "insolvency information sheets") or www.arita.com.au/creditors.

ADMINISTRATORS' BACKGROUND AND CONTACT DETAILS

ABOUT US

Kate Warwick, Ross Blakeley and Joseph Hansell are Senior Managing Directors at FTI Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd. They are Registered Liquidators and also Professional Members of the Australian Restructuring Insolvency and Turnaround Association.

FTI Consulting specialises in corporate finance and restructuring and is part of FTI Consulting, Inc. a global business advisory firm dedicated to helping organisations protect and enhance enterprise value. You can find out more at www.fticonsulting-asia.com.

CREDITOR ENQUIRIES – FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS AND GENERAL MATTERS

For queries about the forthcoming meeting or the administration generally, please contact this office by one of the following methods:

Telephone: (03) 9604 0665

Email: witsholdings@fticonsulting.com

Post: GPO Box 538, MELBOURNE VIC 3001

IMPORTANT STATEMENTS FOR ALL CREDITORS AND SUPPLIERS

NO ADOPTION OF ANY CONTRACTS OR ASSUMPTION OF LIABILITIES OF THE COMPANY BY THE ADMINISTRATORS

The Administrators are not personally adopting, and will not adopt, any agreement or contract that you may have with the Company. The Administrators will not be liable for any liability of the Company under any agreement or contract with you.

Any payments made by the Administrators for any goods or services does not constitute, nor in any way imply, adoption of any contract or an assumption of any liability of the Company by the Administrators.

EXISTING DEBTS AND CLAIMS CANNOT BE PAID BY ADMINISTRATORS

The Administrators cannot pay any creditor's debts or claims that arise from circumstances or arrangements that were in place with the Company before the Administrators' appointment. Payment of these amounts will depend on the outcome of the administration.

NO SET-OFF AGAINST PRE-APPOINTMENT DEBTS OR CLAIMS

Any amounts due from you to the Company must not under any circumstances be set-off against amounts due from the Company to you.

PROTECTION OF COMPANY PROPERTY AND GENERAL RESTRICTIONS ON THIRD PARTY RIGHTS DURING THE ADMINISTRATION

Without leave of the Court, or the Administrators' written consent:

- A proceeding in a court against the Company or in relation to any of its property cannot be begun or proceeded with;
- Except for perishable property – owners, lessors and creditors with security interests in the Company's property, cannot enforce their security interest, sell any such property they hold, and are not entitled to take possession or otherwise recover such property; and
- No enforcement process in relation to property of the Company can be begun or proceeded with.

See sections 440B to 440F of the Corporations Act 2001 for further details.

REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTIES WITH SECURITY INTERESTS AND OTHER CLAIMS

PARTIES WHO ARE REQUIRED TO CONTACT US

Please contact our office on (03) 9604 0600 as soon as possible if you:

- Have supplied any goods or collateral to the Company and you have registered a security interest in such property on the Personal Property Security Register ("PPSR");
- Are otherwise claiming security or proprietary rights in any asset or property owned by or in possession of the Company;
- Lease or hire goods or property to the Company;
- Are claiming a lien over property of the Company; and/or
- Have commenced legal proceedings against the Company.

We will be writing to all parties who have registered a security interest on the PPSR.

PARTIES WITH PMSI, RETENTION OF TITLE AND CONSIGNMENT CLAIMS OVER PROPERTY

Parties with these claims are requested as soon as possible to:

1. Give us details of the items supplied to the Company (including any features by which that property is able to be identified, for example - serial number/s) and which remain unpaid for; and
2. Provide details of your registration on the PPSR with all relevant supporting documents.

GENERAL STATEMENT

The Administrators will consider the information and details provided to them in support of any claims. Where a claim is valid and not disputed, the Administrators will comply with their obligations at law. This should not be interpreted as, in any way, limiting or restricting the rights of the Administrators or the Company, whose rights are expressly reserved.

Please note the Administrators may require payment of their reasonable expenses and remuneration incurred in the identification, preservation and distribution of property to secured parties, purchasers and/or other persons that the property belongs to. This also includes circumstances where property (such as inventory, for example) is made available for collection.

Affected parties should seek their own advice as applicable and as they deem appropriate.

ADMINISTRATORS' TRADING PROCEDURES

PURCHASE ORDER TO BE ISSUED TO SUPPLIERS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES

The Company will raise a purchase order for goods and services that are required during the period of the administration. Goods supplied or services rendered to the Company after our appointment will be paid in accordance with these procedures provided that:

1. A purchase order has been issued for the applicable good or service;
2. The purchase order has been signed by the Administrators or our authorised signatories. The specimen signatures of our authorised representatives for this purpose are included with this circular; and
3. The Administrators' liability does not exceed the amount specified on the purchase order.

NEW ACCOUNTS AND OTHER ACCOUNTING PROCEDURES TO BE FOLLOWED

Suppliers must comply with the following procedures:

1. Close any existing accounts against the Company. These accounts will be for goods supplied and services rendered up to and including the date of appointment;
2. Open a new account for the Company with the words "Administrators Appointed" added after the Company's name. This new account is to be used for goods supplied and services rendered to the respective Company during the period of the administration;
3. Update contact details for the Company within your systems to also include the Administrators' contact details; and
4. Please ensure your invoices include the Administrators' purchase order number. This will likely be a new number sequence to help demarcate pre and post-appointment orders.

PAYMENTS AND ACCEPTANCE OF LIABILITY FOR GOODS OR SERVICES

Validly authorised liabilities created after our appointment in accordance with these procedures will be paid in accordance with your/the Company's usual terms unless we determine otherwise.

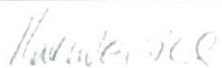
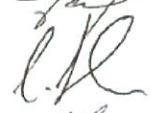
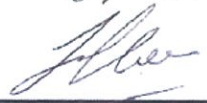
All payments made by the Company or Administrators must be applied against liabilities incurred by the Administrators. These payments cannot be set-off against any other claims against or liabilities incurred by the Company.

If you have current orders or bookings with the Company (including goods in transit or pending delivery), you will need a new purchase order to be issued in accordance with these procedures (and before any goods or services are provided) before the Administrators will accept liability.

It is your responsibility to contact us if you require clarification about any of these arrangements.

The following persons are authorised to sign purchase orders for the Company:

Schedule Specimens of Authority Signatures

Name	Authority Limit	Signature
Kate Warwick	Unlimited	
Ross Blakeley	Unlimited	
Joseph Hansell	Unlimited	
Ian Morton	\$10,000	
Jonathan Chee	\$10,000	



ASIC
Australian Securities &
Investments Commission

Insolvency information for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders

This information sheet (INFO 39) lists ASIC's information sheets for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders affected by a company's insolvency.

We have produced these with endorsement from the Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association (ARITA).

The information sheets give a basic understanding of the three most common company insolvency procedures – liquidation, voluntary administration and receivership – as well as the independence requirements for external administrators and approving external administrator remuneration. There is also a glossary of commonly used insolvency terms.

List of information sheets

- [INFO 41](#) Insolvency: A glossary of terms
- [INFO 42](#) Insolvency: A guide for directors
- [INFO 43](#) Insolvency: A guide for shareholders
- [INFO 45](#) Liquidation: A guide for creditors
- [INFO 46](#) Liquidation: A guide for employees
- [INFO 54](#) Receivership: A guide for creditors
- [INFO 55](#) Receivership: A guide for employees
- [INFO 74](#) Voluntary administration: A guide for creditors
- [INFO 75](#) Voluntary administration: A guide for employees
- [INFO 84](#) Independence of external administrators: A guide for creditors
- [INFO 85](#) Approving fees: A guide for creditors

Where can I get more information?

Further information is available from the [ARITA website](#). The ARITA website also contains the [ARITA Code of Professional Practice for Insolvency Practitioners](#).

This is **Information Sheet 39 (INFO 39)** updated on 1 September 2017. Information sheets provide concise guidance on a specific process or compliance issue or an overview of detailed guidance.

Last updated: 01/09/2017 10:57



ASIC
Australian Securities &
Investments Commission

Voluntary administration: A guide for creditors

If a company is in financial difficulty, it can be put into voluntary administration.

This information sheet (INFO 74) provides general information for unsecured creditors of companies in voluntary administration. It covers:

- [who is a creditor](#)
- [the purpose of voluntary administration](#)
- [the voluntary administrator's role](#)
- [effect of appointment](#)
- [voluntary administrator's liability](#)
- [creditors' meetings](#)
- [voting at a creditors' meeting](#)
- [company returned to directors](#)
- [liquidation](#)
- [deed of company arrangement](#)
- [approval of administrator's fees](#)
- [proposals to creditors without a meeting](#)
- [committee of inspection](#)
- [directors and voluntary administration](#)
- [other creditor rights](#)
- [queries and complaints](#)

Who is a creditor?

You are a creditor of a company if the company owes you money. Usually, a creditor is owed money because they have provided goods or services, or made loans to the company.

A retail customer of a company in voluntary administration may also be a creditor if they have partly or fully paid for goods or services that they have not received.

An employee owed money for unpaid wages and other entitlements is a creditor.

A person who may be owed money by the company if a certain event occurs (e.g. if they succeed in a legal claim against the company) is also a creditor, and is sometimes referred to as a 'contingent' creditor.

There are generally two categories of creditor - secured and unsecured:

- A secured creditor is someone who holds a security interest, such as a mortgage, in some or all of the company's assets, to secure a debt owed by the company. Lenders usually require a security interest in company assets when they provide a loan. Security interests over personal property other than land are registered on the Personal Property Securities Register (PPSR) if the creditor wants to ensure their security interest is enforceable and accorded priority in an insolvency. You can search the PPSR to find out if anyone holds a security interest (other than a mortgage over land) in the company's assets.

- An unsecured creditor is a creditor who does not hold a security interest in the company's assets.

Employees are a special class of unsecured creditors. Their outstanding entitlements are usually paid in priority to the claims of other unsecured creditors. If you are an employee, see [Information Sheet 75 Voluntary administration: A guide for employees \(INFO 75\)](#).

All references in this information sheet to 'creditors' relate to unsecured creditors unless otherwise stated.

The purpose of voluntary administration

Voluntary administration is designed to resolve a company's future direction quickly (the below table summarises the process). An independent and suitably qualified person (the voluntary administrator) takes full control of the company to try to work out a way to save either the company or its business.

If it isn't possible to save the company or its business, the aim is to administer the affairs of the company in a way that results in a better return to creditors than they would have received if the company had instead been placed straight into liquidation. A mechanism for achieving these aims is a deed of company arrangement.

A voluntary administrator is usually appointed by a company's directors, after they decide that the company is insolvent or likely to become insolvent. Less commonly, a voluntary administrator may be appointed by a liquidator, provisional liquidator, or a secured creditor.

The voluntary administration process

Step	What happens
Appointment of voluntary administrator	A decision to appoint a voluntary administrator for a company can be made by: • the directors (by resolution of the board and in writing) • a secured creditor (with a security interest in all or substantially all of the company's property), or • a liquidator (or provisional liquidator). Voluntary administration begins on the appointment of the voluntary administrator.
First meeting of creditors	The voluntary administrator must hold the first meeting of creditors within eight business days of being appointed, unless the court allows an extension of time. At least five business days notice of the meeting must be given to creditors. Creditors can vote at this meeting to: • replace the administrator, and/or • create a committee of inspection.
Voluntary administrator's investigation and report	The voluntary administrator must investigate the company's affairs and report to creditors on alternatives.

Step	What happens
Second meeting of creditors – meeting to decide company's future	The voluntary administrator must hold the meeting to decide the company's future within 25 business days of being appointed (or 30 business days if the appointment is around Christmas or Easter), unless the court allows an extension of time. At least five business days notice of the meeting must be given to creditors. Creditors can decide at this meeting to: • return the company to the control of the directors • accept a deed of company arrangement (the deed must be signed by the company within 15 business days following the meeting, unless the court allows an extension of time), or • put the company into liquidation (this happens immediately, and the administrator becomes the liquidator).

A company in voluntary administration may also be in receivership: see [Information Sheet 54 Receivership: A guide for creditors](#) (INFO 54).

The voluntary administrator's role

After taking control of the company, the voluntary administrator investigates and reports to creditors on the company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances, and on the three options available to creditors. These are:

- end the voluntary administration and return the company to the directors' control
- approve a deed of company arrangement through which the company will pay all or part of its debts and then be free of those debts
- wind up the company and appoint a liquidator.

The voluntary administrator must give an opinion on each option and recommend which option is in the best interests of creditors.

In doing so, the voluntary administrator tries to work out the best solution to the company's problems, assesses any proposals put forward by others for the company's future, and compares the possible outcomes of the proposals with the likely outcome in a liquidation.

A creditors' meeting is usually held about five weeks after the company goes into voluntary administration to decide on the best option for the company's future. In complex administrations, this meeting may be held later if the court consents.

The voluntary administrator has all the powers of the company and its directors. This includes the power to sell or close down the company's business or sell individual assets in the lead up to the creditors' decision on the company's future.

Another responsibility of the voluntary administrator is to report to ASIC on possible offences by people involved with the company.

At the end of their administration, the voluntary administrator must lodge a detailed account of receipts and payments (known as the 'end of administration return'). A copy of this account of receipts and payments may be obtained by searching the [ASIC registers](#) and paying the relevant fee.

Although the voluntary administrator may be appointed by the directors, they must act fairly and impartially.

Effect of appointment

The effect of the appointment of a voluntary administrator is to provide the company with breathing space while the company's future is resolved. While the company is in voluntary administration:

- unsecured creditors can't begin, continue or enforce their claims against the company without the administrator's consent or the court's permission
- owners of property (other than perishable property) used or occupied by the company, or people who lease such property to the company, can't recover their property
- except in limited circumstances, secured creditors can't enforce their security interest in the company's assets
- a court application to put the company in liquidation can't be commenced
- a creditor holding a personal guarantee from the company's director or other person can't act under the personal guarantee without the court's consent.

Voluntary administrator's liability

Any debts that arise from the voluntary administrator purchasing goods or services, or hiring, leasing, using or occupying property, are paid from the available assets of the company as costs of the voluntary administration. If there are insufficient funds available from asset sales to pay these costs, the voluntary administrator is personally liable for the shortfall. To have the benefit of this debt protection as a provider of goods or services to a company in voluntary administration, you should ensure you receive a purchase order authorised in the manner advised by the voluntary administrator.

The voluntary administrator must also decide whether to continue to use or occupy property owned by another party that is held or occupied by the company at the time of their appointment.

Within five business days after their appointment, the voluntary administrator must notify the owner of property whether they intend to continue to occupy or use the property and, if they do not intend to continue to occupy or use the property, the location of that property (if known). If the voluntary administrator decides to continue to occupy or use the property, they will be personally liable for any rent or amounts payable arising after the end of the five business days.

Creditors' meetings

Two meetings of creditors must be held during the voluntary administration.

First creditors' meeting

The voluntary administrator must hold the first creditors' meeting within eight business days after the voluntary administration begins.

At least five business days before the meeting, the voluntary administrator must notify as many creditors as practical in writing and advertise the meeting. The advertisement must appear on [ASIC's published notices website](#).

The voluntary administrator must send to creditors, with the notice of meeting, declarations about any relationships they may have, or indemnities they have been given, to allow creditors to consider the voluntary administrator's independence and make an informed decision about whether to replace them with another voluntary administrator of the creditors' choice.

The purpose of the first meeting is for creditors to decide two questions:

- whether they want to form a committee of inspection, and, if so, who will be on the committee
- whether they want the existing voluntary administrator to be removed and replaced by a voluntary administrator of their choice.

A committee of inspection may be formed to assist and advise the voluntary administrator. The committee of inspection also monitors the conduct of the voluntary administration, may approve certain steps in the administration and may give directions to the voluntary administrator. The voluntary administrator must have regard to, but is not always required to comply with, such directions.

A creditor who wishes to nominate an alternative voluntary administrator at the first meeting must approach a registered liquidator before the meeting and get a written consent from that person that they would be prepared to act as voluntary administrator. The proposed alternative administrator should give to the meeting declarations about any relationships

they may have or indemnities they have been given. The voluntary administrator will only be replaced if the resolution to replace them is passed by the creditors at the meeting.

To be eligible to vote at this meeting, you must lodge details of your debt or claim with the voluntary administrator (discussed further below).

This meeting can be chaired by either the voluntary administrator or one of their senior staff.

Second creditors' meeting (to decide the company's future)

After investigating the affairs of the company and forming an opinion on each of the three options available to creditors (outlined above), including an opinion as to which option is in the best interests of creditors, the administrator must call a second creditors' meeting. At this meeting, creditors are given the opportunity to decide the company's future.

This meeting is usually held about five weeks after the company goes into voluntary administration (six weeks if the appointment is around Christmas or Easter).

However, in complex voluntary administrations, often more time is needed for the voluntary administrator to be in a position to report to creditors. In these circumstances, the court can approve an extension of time to hold the meeting.

The voluntary administrator must chair this meeting.

In preparation for the second meeting, the voluntary administrator must send creditors the following documents at least five business days before the meeting:

- a notice of meeting
- the voluntary administrator's report
- the voluntary administrator's statement.

These will be accompanied by:

- a claim form (usually a 'proof of debt' form)
- a proxy voting form.

The meeting must also be advertised on [ASIC's published notices website](#).

Either or both the first and second creditors' meeting may be held using telephone or videoconferencing facilities.

Voluntary administrator's report

You should read the voluntary administrator's report before you attend the second meeting or decide whether you want to appoint someone else to vote on your behalf at that meeting. This report must give sufficient information to explain the company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances, to enable you to make an informed decision about the company's future.

The report should also provide an analysis of any proposals for the future of the company, including the possible outcomes, as well as a comparable estimate of what would be available for creditors in a liquidation.

Voluntary administrator's statement

The voluntary administrator's statement must include the voluntary administrator's opinion, with reasons, on each of the options available to creditors, as well as an opinion on which option the voluntary administrator believes is in the best interests of creditors. As noted above, the options are:

- end the voluntary administration and return the company to the directors' control
- approve a deed of company arrangement (if one is proposed)
- wind up the company and appoint a liquidator.

The voluntary administrator's statement must also include such other information known to the voluntary administrator that will allow you to make an informed decision about each of the options above.

The statement must also advise whether there are any voidable transactions (such as unfair preferences, unfair loans, insolvent trading, etc.) where money or property may be recoverable by a liquidator, if one were appointed.

If there are proposals for a deed of company arrangement, the voluntary administrator must provide creditors with a statement giving enough details of each proposal to enable creditors to make an informed decision. The types of proposals allowed in a deed of company arrangement are very flexible.

Typically, a proposal will provide for the company to pay all or part of its debts, possibly over time, and then be free of those debts. It will often provide for the company to continue trading. How these things will happen varies from case to case, as the terms allowed in a deed of company arrangement are also very flexible. The contents of a deed of company arrangement are discussed below.

You should insist on being provided with as much information about the terms of the proposed deed as possible before the creditors' meeting. The minimum contents of a deed of company arrangement, discussed below, provide a guide on the information you might request if it hasn't already been provided.

You should also contact the voluntary administrator before the meeting if you believe the voluntary administrator's report or statement do not contain sufficient information to enable you to make a decision about the company's future.

Voting at a creditors' meeting

To vote at any creditors' meeting you must lodge details of your debt or claim with the voluntary administrator. Usually, the voluntary administrator will provide you with a form called a 'proof of debt' to be completed and returned before the meeting.

The chairperson of the meeting decides whether or not to accept the debt or claim for voting purposes. The chairperson may decide that a creditor does not have a valid claim. In this case, they may not allow the creditor to vote at all. If the chairperson is in doubt whether to accept the debt or claim, they must mark the vote as objected to and allow the creditor to vote subject to the vote being declared invalid if the objection is sustained. This decision is only for voting purposes. It is not relevant to whether a creditor will receive a dividend.

An appeal against a decision by the chairperson to accept or reject a proof of debt or claim for voting purposes may be made to the court within 10 business days after the decision.

A secured creditor is entitled to vote for the full amount of their debt without having to deduct the value of their security interest.

Voting by proxy

You may appoint an individual as proxy to attend and vote at a meeting on your behalf. Creditors who are companies will have to nominate a person as proxy so that they can participate in the meeting. This is done using a form sent out with the notice of meeting. The completed proxy form must be provided to the voluntary administrator before the meeting.

An electronic form of proxy may be used if the liquidator allows electronic lodgement, provided there is a way to authenticate the appointment of the proxy (e.g. by scanning and emailing a signature or using a digital signature).

You can specify on the proxy form how the proxy is to vote on a particular resolution and the proxy must vote in accordance with that instruction. This is called a 'special proxy'. Alternatively, you can leave it to the proxy to decide how to vote on each of the resolutions put before the meeting. This is called a 'general proxy'.

You can appoint the chairperson to represent you either through a special or general proxy. The voluntary administrator or one of their partners or employees must not use a general proxy to vote in favour of a resolution approving payment of the voluntary administrator's fees.

Manner of voting

A vote on any resolution put to a creditors' meeting may be taken by creditors stating aloud their agreement or disagreement, or by a more formal voting procedure called a 'poll'.

If voting is by verbally signalling agreement, the resolution is passed if a majority of those present indicate agreement. It is up to the chairperson to decide if this majority has been reached.

After the vote, the chairperson must tell those present whether the resolution has been passed or lost. If the chairperson is unable to determine the outcome of a resolution on verbal agreement, they may decide to conduct a poll.

Alternatively, a poll can be demanded by the person presiding at the meeting or by a person participating and entitled to vote at the meeting. If a poll is demanded, it must be taken immediately.

The chairperson will determine how this poll is taken.

If you intend to demand that a poll be taken, you must do so before, or as soon as, the chairperson has declared the result of a vote taken by voices.

When a poll is conducted, a resolution is passed if both:

- more than half the number of creditors who are voting (in person or by proxy) vote in favour of the resolution
- those creditors who are owed more than half of the total debt owed to creditors at the meeting vote in favour of the resolution.

This is referred to as a 'majority in number and value'. If a majority in both number and value is not reached under a poll (often referred to as a deadlock), the chairperson has a casting vote.

Chairperson's casting vote

When a poll is taken and there is a deadlock, the chairperson may use their casting vote (except for resolutions to approve their remuneration) either in favour of or against the resolution. Where the resolution relates to their removal as voluntary administrator, the chairperson may only exercise the casting vote in favour of their removal. The chairperson may also decide not to use their casting vote, in which case the deadlocked resolution is not passed.

The chairperson must inform the meeting, and include in the written minutes of meeting that are lodged with ASIC, of the reasons why they exercised their casting vote in a particular way or why they chose not to use their casting vote.

If you are dissatisfied with how the chairperson exercised their casting vote or failed to use their casting vote, you may, in specified circumstances, apply to the court for a review of the chairperson's decision. The court may vary or set aside the resolution or order that the resolution is taken to have been passed.

Votes of related creditors

If directors and shareholders, their spouses and relatives and other entities controlled by them are creditors of the company, they are entitled to attend and vote at creditors' meetings, including the meeting to decide the company's future.

If a resolution is passed or defeated based on the votes of these related creditors and you are dissatisfied with the outcome, you may, in specified circumstances, apply to the court for the resolution to be set aside and/or for a fresh resolution to be voted on without related creditors being entitled to vote. Certain criteria must be met before the court will make such an order (e.g. the original result of the vote being against the interests of all or a class of creditors).

Deciding how to vote at the second meeting

How you vote at the meeting on the three possible options, including any competing proposals for a deed of company arrangement, is a commercial decision based on your assessment of the company and its future prospects, and your personal circumstances. The information provided by the voluntary administrator, including opinions expressed, will assist you. However, you are not obliged to accept the administrator's recommendation.

If you do not consider that you have been given enough information to decide how to vote, and particularly whether to vote for any deed proposal, you can ask for a resolution to be put to creditors that the meeting be adjourned (up to a maximum of 45 business days in total) and for the administrator to provide more information. You must make this request before a vote on the company's future. This resolution must be passed for the adjournment to take place.

Creditors also have the right, when a deed of company arrangement is proposed and considered at the meeting, to negotiate specific requirements into the terms of the deed – including, for example, how the deed administrator is to report to them on the progress of the deed.

Any request to vary the deed proposal to include such requirements should be made before the deed proposal is voted on.

Minutes of meeting

The chairperson must prepare minutes of each meeting and a record of those who were present at each meeting.

The minutes must be lodged with ASIC within 10 business days of the meeting. A copy of the minutes of meeting may be obtained by searching the [ASIC registers](#) and paying the relevant fee.

Company returned to directors

If the company is returned to the directors, they will be responsible for ensuring that the company pays its outstanding debts as they fall due. It is only in very rare circumstances that creditors will resolve to return the company to the control of its directors.

Liquidation

If creditors resolve that the company go into liquidation, the voluntary administrator becomes the liquidator unless creditors vote at the second meeting to appoint a different liquidator of their choice. The liquidation proceeds as a creditors' voluntary liquidation with any payments of dividends to creditors made in the order set out in the *Corporations Act 2001* (Corporations Act). To find out more, see [Information Sheet 45 Liquidation: A guide for creditors](#) (INFO 45).

Deed of company arrangement

If creditors vote for a proposal that the company enter a deed of company arrangement, the company must sign the deed within 15 business days of the creditors' meeting, unless the court allows a longer time. If this doesn't happen, the company will automatically go into liquidation, with the voluntary administrator becoming the liquidator.

The deed of company arrangement binds all unsecured creditors, even if they voted against the proposal. It also binds owners of property, those who lease property to the company and secured creditors, if they voted in favour of the deed. In certain circumstances, the court can also order that these people are bound by the deed even if they didn't vote for it. The deed of company arrangement does not prevent a creditor who holds a personal guarantee from the company's director or another person taking action under the personal guarantee to be repaid their debt.

Contents of the deed

Whatever the nature of the deed of company arrangement, it must contain certain information, including:

- the name of the deed administrator
- the property that will be used to pay creditors
- the debts covered by the deed and the extent to which those debts are released
- the order in which the available funds will be paid to creditors (the deed of company arrangement must ensure that employees have a priority in payment of outstanding employee entitlements unless the eligible employees agree by a majority in both number and value to vary this priority)
- the nature and duration of any suspension of rights against the company
- the conditions (if any) for the deed to come into operation
- the conditions (if any) for the deed to continue in operation
- the circumstances in which the deed terminates.

There are also certain terms that will be automatically included in the deed, unless the deed says they will not apply. These are called the 'prescribed provisions'. They include such matters as the powers of the deed administrator, termination of the deed and the appointment of a committee of creditors (called a 'committee of inspection').

The voluntary administrator's report should tell you which prescribed provisions are proposed to be excluded or varied, and, if varied, how.

Monitoring the deed

It is the role of the deed administrator to ensure the company (or others who have made commitments under the deed) carries through these commitments. The extent of the deed administrator's ongoing role will be set out in the deed.

Creditors can also play a role in monitoring the deed. If you are concerned that the obligations of the company (or others) under the deed are not being met, you should take this up promptly with the deed administrator. Matters that may give rise for concern include deadlines for payments or other actions promised under the deed being missed.

Creditors also have the right when a deed of company arrangement is proposed and considered at the second meeting to negotiate consequences of failure to meet such deadlines into the terms of the deed. Any request to vary the deed proposal to include such consequences should be made before the deed proposal is voted on.

A director must notify the deed administrator if they become aware that there has been, or is likely to be, a material contravention of the deed. In addition, the deed administrator must give notice to creditors as soon as practicable after becoming aware of the material contravention or if there is likely to be a material contravention of the deed.

A deed administrator must lodge with ASIC a detailed list of their receipts and payments (known as the annual administration return) annually on the anniversary of their appointment and at the end of their administration. A copy of the receipts and payments may be obtained by searching the [ASIC registers](#) and paying the relevant fee.

Note: If the deed of company arrangement commenced prior to 1 September 2017, the deed administrator will continue to lodge the six-monthly *Form 524 Presentation of accounts and statement* until the six-month period ending on the first anniversary of their appointment date. Thereafter, they will lodge the annual administration return.

Varying the deed

The deed administrator can call a creditors' meeting at any time to consider a proposed variation to the deed. The proposed resolutions must be set out in the notice of meeting sent to creditors.

The deed administrator must also call a meeting to consider a resolution to vary the deed if:

- the committee of inspection directs it (where there is a committee of inspection)
- creditors pass a resolution requiring the deed administrator call a meeting
- at least 25% in value of creditors direct the deed administrator to do so in writing
- less than 25% but more than 10% in value of creditors direct the deed administrator to do so in writing and they provide security for the cost of holding the meeting.

The deed administrator is not required to comply with a direction by the committee of inspection or creditors to call a meeting if that direction is not reasonable.

If the deed administrator considers the direction is not reasonable, they must notify the person or body that gave the direction and set out the reasons why it is not reasonable. In this circumstance, the deed administrator may still convene a meeting to consider varying the deed if the person or body who gave the direction agree to pay the costs of calling and holding the meeting.

Payment of dividends under a deed

The order in which creditor claims are paid depends on the terms of the deed. Sometimes the deed proposal is for creditor claims to be paid in the same priority as in a liquidation. Other times, a different priority is proposed.

The deed must ensure employee entitlements are paid in priority to other unsecured creditors unless eligible employees have agreed to vary their priority.

Before you decide how to vote at the creditors' meeting, make sure you understand how the deed will affect the priority of payment of your debt or claim.

You may wish to seek independent legal advice if the deed proposes a different priority to that in a liquidation, or if creditors approve such a deed.

Establishing your claim under a deed

How debts or claims are dealt with under a deed of company arrangement depends on the deed's terms. Sometimes the deed incorporates the Corporations Act provisions for dealing with debts or claims in a liquidation.

Before any dividend is paid to you for your debt or claim, you will need to give the deed administrator sufficient information to prove your debt. You may be required to complete a claim form (this is called a 'proof of debt' in a liquidation). You should attach copies of any relevant invoices or other supporting documents to the claim form, as your debt or claim may be rejected if there is insufficient evidence to support it.

If a creditor is a company, the claim form should be signed by a person authorised by the company to do so.

When submitting a claim, you may ask the deed administrator to acknowledge receipt of your claim and advise if any further information is needed.

If the deed administrator rejects your claim after you have taken the above steps, first contact the deed administrator. You may also wish to seek your own legal advice. This should be done promptly. Depending on the terms of the deed, you may have a limited time in which to take legal action to challenge the decision.

If you have a query about the timing of the payment, discuss this with the deed administrator.

How a deed comes to an end

A deed may come to an end because the obligations under the deed have all been fulfilled and the creditors have been paid. Alternatively, the deed may set out certain conditions where the deed will automatically terminate.

The deed may also provide that the company will go into liquidation if the deed terminates due to these conditions being met.

Another way for the deed to end is if the deed administrator calls a meeting of creditors (either on their own initiative or at the direction of creditors or the committee of inspection if one has been formed), and creditors vote to end the deed. This may occur because there has been a breach of the deed or it appears unlikely that the terms of the deed can be fulfilled.

At the same time, creditors may be asked to vote to put the company into liquidation.

The deed may also be terminated if a creditor, the company, ASIC or any other interested person applies to the court and the court is satisfied that:

- creditors were provided false and misleading information on which the decision to accept the deed proposal was made
- the voluntary administrator's report left out information that was material to the decision to accept the deed proposal
- the deed cannot proceed without undue delay or injustice
- the deed is unfair or discriminatory to the interests of one or more creditors or against the interests of creditors as a whole.

If the court terminates the deed as a result of such an application, the company automatically goes into liquidation.

Approval of administrator's fees

Both a voluntary administrator and deed administrator are entitled to be paid for the work they perform. Generally, their fees will be paid from available assets, before any payments are made to creditors. They may have also arranged for a third party to pay any shortfall in their fees if there aren't enough assets.

The fees cannot be paid until the amount has been approved by creditors, a committee of inspection or the court. Creditors, the voluntary administrator/deed administrator or ASIC can ask the court to review the amount of fees

approved. Alternatively, the voluntary administrator or deed administrator may put a proposal to creditors to approve their fees without holding a meeting.

If you are asked to approve fees, either at a general meeting of creditors or at a meeting of a committee of inspection, the voluntary administrator or deed administrator must give you, at the same time as the notice of the meeting, a report that contains sufficient information for you to assess whether the fees claimed are reasonable. This report should be in simple language and set out:

- a summary description of the major tasks performed or likely to be performed
- the costs of completing those tasks and how those costs were calculated
- the periods when funds will be drawn to pay the fees
- the estimated total amount, or range of amounts, of total fees
- an explanation of the likely impact the fees will have on any dividends to creditors
- such other information that will assist in assessing the reasonableness of the fees claimed.

If you are in any doubt about how the fees were calculated, ask for more information.

Apart from fees, the voluntary administrator and deed administrator are entitled to reimbursement for out-of-pocket expenses that have arisen in carrying out their administration. This reimbursement may require creditor, committee of inspection or court approval.

For further information, see [Information Sheet 85 Approving fees: A guide for creditors](#) (INFO 85).

Proposals to creditors without a meeting

Instead of convening a creditors' meeting, the voluntary administrator or deed administrator can put proposals to creditors by giving notice in writing.

This notice must be given to each creditor who would be entitled to receive notice of a meeting and:

- include a statement of the reasons for the proposal and the likely impact the proposal will have on creditors
- invite the creditor to either:
 - vote 'yes' or 'no' for the proposal
 - object to the proposal being resolved without a meeting
- specify a reasonable time for creditors' replies to be received by the administrator.

To vote on the proposal, a creditor must lodge details of their debt or claim with the administrator and complete the voting documents provided by the administrator.

Creditors can vote 'yes' or 'no' on the proposal and/or object to the proposal being resolved without a creditors' meeting. You should return your response to the administrator within the time specified in the notice, which must be at least 15 business days after the notice is given to creditors.

A resolution is passed if the majority of creditors in number and value who responded to the notice voted 'yes' and if not more than 25% in value of the creditors who responded objected to the proposal being resolved without a creditors' meeting.

The administrator should provide creditors enough information to allow them to make an informed decision about the proposal. A creditor should contact the administrator to obtain further information if they think it necessary for them to make a decision.

The administrator must lodge with ASIC a statement about the outcome of the proposal. A copy of the outcome of the proposal may be obtained by searching the [ASIC registers](#) and paying the relevant fee.

Committee of inspection

A committee of inspection may be formed to assist and advise the voluntary administrator or deed administrator. The committee of inspection also monitors the conduct of the voluntary administrator or deed administrator, may approve

certain steps in the voluntary administration or deed administration and may give directions to the voluntary administrator or deed administrator. The voluntary administrator or deed administrator must have regard to, but is not always required to comply with, such directions.

In a voluntary administration, the committee may be formed at the first creditors' meeting.

All creditors are entitled to stand for committee membership. Members appointed to the committee of inspection represent the interests of all creditors.

If a creditor is a company, the creditor can nominate, in writing, an individual to represent it on the committee.

A person can be appointed as a member of the committee of inspection:

- by resolution of creditors
- by a creditor or group of creditors owed at least 10% of the value of creditors' claims
- by an employee or group of employees owed at least 50% in value of outstanding employee entitlements.

A member of the committee of inspection must not directly or indirectly derive any profit or advantage from the external administration of the company.

A committee of inspection has various powers and functions, including to:

- approve the remuneration of the voluntary administrator or deed administrator
- direct the voluntary administrator or deed administrator to convene a meeting of creditors
- request the voluntary administrator or deed administrator to give information, provide a report or produce a document
- obtain specialist advice or assistance (with the prior approval of the voluntary administrator, deed administrator or the court) that the committee considers desirable relating to the conduct of the voluntary administration or the deed administration.

The external administrator or deed administrator is not required to comply with a direction to convene a meeting or give information if that request is not reasonable.

A committee of inspection can determine its own procedures and exercises its powers through resolutions passed at meetings of the committee. A resolution is passed by a majority in number of its members present at a meeting. The committee of inspection can only act if a majority of its members attend.

Minutes of meetings of the committee of inspection must be prepared and lodged with ASIC.

ASIC is entitled to attend a meeting of the committee of inspection.

Directors and voluntary administration

Directors cannot use their powers while the company is in voluntary administration. They must help the voluntary administrator, including providing the company's books and records, and a report about the company's business, property, affairs and financial circumstances, as well as any further information about these that the voluntary administrator reasonably requires.

If the company goes from voluntary administration into a deed of company arrangement, the directors' powers depend on the deed's terms. When the deed is completed, the directors regain full control, unless the deed provides for the company to go into liquidation on completion.

If the company goes from voluntary administration or a deed of company arrangement into liquidation, the directors cannot use their powers. If creditors resolve that the voluntary administration should end, control of the company goes back to the directors.

Other creditor rights

Request for information

Creditors can, by resolution passed at a meeting of creditors or individually, request the voluntary administrator or deed administrator to give information, provide a report or produce a document.

The voluntary administrator or deed administrator must comply with this request if:

- the information, report or document is relevant to the administration
- the voluntary administrator or deed administrator would not breach their duty if they comply with the request
- the request is reasonable.

If the voluntary administrator or deed administrator, acting in good faith, believes it is not reasonable to comply with the request they must notify the requesting party and set out their reason for believing the request is not reasonable.

The voluntary administrator or deed administrator may consider the request not reasonable if, for example, complying with the request would substantially prejudice the interests of one or more creditors, the information would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings or if the administration does not have sufficient funds to pay the cost of complying with the request.

If there are insufficient funds, the voluntary administrator or deed administrator may decide to comply with the request if the requesting party agrees to pay the cost of providing the information.

Appoint a reviewing liquidator

Creditors can resolve to appoint a reviewing liquidator to carry out a review into fees and/or costs incurred by the voluntary administrator or deed administrator. In addition, one or more creditors with the agreement of the voluntary administrator or deed administrator may appoint a reviewing liquidator.

Note: A creditor can also apply to ASIC in the approved form for it to appoint a reviewing liquidator (see Form 5605 *Application for ASIC to appoint a reviewing liquidator*).

This review is limited to:

- remuneration approved within the six months before the reviewing liquidator is appointed
- costs or expenses incurred during the 12-month period before the reviewing liquidator is appointed (unless the voluntary administrator or deed administrator agrees to a longer period).

The reviewing liquidator must be a registered liquidator. A creditor who wishes to appoint a reviewing liquidator must approach a registered liquidator to get a written consent from that person that they would be prepared to act as reviewing liquidator. The person must also make a written declaration about any relationships they or their firm may have that might affect their independence to act as reviewing liquidator.

The voluntary administrator or deed administrator, and their staff, must cooperate with the reviewing liquidator.

If creditors pass a resolution to appoint a reviewing liquidator, the reviewing liquidator's costs form part of the expenses of the external administration of the company. If one or more creditors appoint the reviewing liquidator with the consent of the voluntary administrator or deed administrator without passing a resolution, the reviewing liquidator's costs are borne by the creditor(s) appointing the reviewing liquidator.

Queries and complaints

You should first raise any queries or complaints with the voluntary administrator or deed administrator. If this fails to resolve your concerns, including any concerns about their conduct, you can lodge a report of misconduct with ASIC – see [How to complain](#).

Lodging your report of misconduct online ensures the quickest response from ASIC to your concerns.

ASIC usually does not become involved in matters of a voluntary administrator's or deed administrator's commercial judgement.

Reports of misconduct against companies and their officers can also be made to ASIC.

If you cannot report misconduct to ASIC online, you can contact us on 1300 300 630.

Where can I get more information?

For an explanation of terms used in this information sheet, see [Information Sheet 41 *Insolvency: A glossary of terms*](#) (INFO 41). For more on external administration, see the related information sheets listed in [Information Sheet 39 *Insolvency information for directors, employees, creditors and shareholders*](#) (INFO 39).

Further information is available from the [Australian Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association \(ARITA\) website](#). The ARITA website also contains the [ARITA Code of Professional Practice for Insolvency Practitioners](#).

Important notice

Please note that this information sheet is a summary giving you basic information about a particular topic. It does not cover the whole of the relevant law regarding that topic, and it is not a substitute for professional advice. You should also note that because this information sheet avoids legal language wherever possible, it might include some generalisations about the application of the law. Some provisions of the law referred to have exceptions or important qualifications. In most cases your particular circumstances must be taken into account when determining how the law applies to you.

This is **Information Sheet 74 (INFO 74)** updated on 1 September 2017. Information sheets provide concise guidance on a specific process or compliance issue or an overview of detailed guidance.

Last updated: 01/09/2017 07:51

DETAILS AND NOTICES FOR THE FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS

- **Notice of the First Meeting of Creditors of Company under Administration**

The agenda for the meeting is set out in the notice. Please arrive at the meeting venue at least 15 minutes before the scheduled commencement time in order to sign-in.

Telephone facilities are available for those creditors wishing to attend by telephone. If you wish to attend by telephone can you please contact (03) 9604 0600 no later than **2:00 PM on 8 April 2019** so that the necessary arrangements can be made.

- **Form - Appointment of Proxy**

This form should be completed if you intend to appoint another person to act on your behalf at the meeting, or if you are a corporate creditor.

- **Formal Proof of Debt or Claim form**

This form allows you to tell us what you are owed by the Company. You must send us a completed form if you wish to vote for the value of your debt at the meeting.

Return to:

FTI Consulting
GPO Box 538
MELBOURNE VIC 3001
Email: witsholdings@fticonsulting.com

**WITS HOLDINGS PTY LTD ACN 050 322 284
(ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ("THE COMPANY")**

**NOTICE OF FIRST MEETING OF CREDITORS OF THE
COMPANY UNDER ADMINISTRATION**

1. On 28 March 2019, the Company, under Section 436A, appointed Kate Warwick, Ross Blakeley and Joseph Hansell of FTI Consulting, Level 21, 600 Bourke Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000, as Joint and Several Administrators of the Company.
2. Notice is now given that a first meeting of the creditors of the Company will be held at 10:30 AM (AEST) on 9 April 2019 at Karstens Melbourne, 123 Queen Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000 and Karstens Sydney, Level 1, 111 Harrington Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000.
3. The purpose of the meeting is to determine:
 - (a) Whether to appoint a committee of inspection; and
 - (b) If so, who are to be the committee's members.
4. At the meeting, creditors may also, by resolution:
 - (a) Remove the administrator(s) from office; and
 - (b) Appoint someone else as administrator(s) of the Company.

Dated this 1st day of April 2019.



Ross Blakeley
Administrator
C/- FTI Consulting
Level 21, 600 Bourke Street
MELBOURNE VIC 3000

FORM - APPOINTMENT OF PROXY
WITS HOLDINGS PTY LTD (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED)
ACN 050 322 284 ("THE COMPANY")

I/We (name)

.....

of (address)

.....

a creditor of the Company, appoint (add name and address of proxy)

.....

or in his/her absence (add alternate proxy)

as my/our ☐ general proxy OR ☐ special proxy to vote at the meeting of creditors to be held at 10:30 AM (AEST) on 9 April 2019 at Karstens Melbourne, 123 Queen Street, MELBOURNE VIC 3000 and Karstens Sydney, Level 1, 111 Harrington Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000 or at any adjournment of that meeting.

Voting instructions - for special proxy only	For	Against	Abstain
Resolution			
1. To appoint a committee of inspection.	☐	☐	☐
2. To remove the Administrators and appoint someone else as administrator(s) of the above company.	☐	☐	☐

Dated:

.....
Name and signature of authorised person

.....
Name and signature of authorised person

CERTIFICATE OF WITNESS – only complete if the person given the proxy is blind or incapable of writing.

I, of
certify that the above instrument appointing a proxy was completed by me in the presence of and at the request of the person appointing the proxy and read to him before he attached his signature or mark to the instrument.

Dated: Signature of witness:

Description: Place of residence:

FORM 535 - FORMAL PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM (GENERAL FORM)

Subregulation 5.6.49(2)
Corporations Act 2001

WITS HOLDINGS PTY LTD (ADMINISTRATORS APPOINTED) ACN 050 322 284 (THE 'COMPANY')

To the Voluntary Administrators of Company Pty Ltd

1. This is to state that the Company was on 28 March 2019, and still is, justly and truly indebted to:

Name of Creditor: _____

Address of
Creditor: _____

Debt Owed: \$ _____ and _____ cents

Particulars of the debt are:

Date	Consideration (state how the debt arose)	Amount (incl. GST) \$ c	GST \$ c	Remarks (include details of voucher substantiating payment)
------	---	---------------------------------	---------------	---

2. To my knowledge or belief the creditor has not, nor has any person by the creditor's order, had or received any satisfaction or security for the sum or any part of it except for the following: *(insert particulars of all securities held. If the securities are on the property of the company, assess the value of those securities. If any bills or other negotiable securities are held, show them in a schedule in the following form.)*

Date	Drawer	Acceptor	Amount	Due Date
------	--------	----------	--------	----------

3. * I am the creditor personally OR

3. * I am employed by the creditor and authorised in writing by the creditor to make this statement OR

3. * I am the creditor's agent authorised in writing to make this statement in writing.

** Omit if inapplicable*

I know that the debt was incurred for the consideration stated and that the debt, to the best of my knowledge and belief, remains unpaid and unsatisfied.

Dated: _____

Name of authorised Person

Signature of Authorised person

Occupation

Address

Email

Telephone

☐ I/we nominate to receive electronic notification of notices or documents by email at the following address:

Email address: _____

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR COMPLETING PROXY AND PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM FORMS

APPOINTMENT OF PROXY FORM

A person can appoint another person to attend the meeting on their behalf by completing the Form of proxy.

If the creditor is a company or a firm, a person needs to be appointed to represent the company.

This representative needs to be appointed by completing the Form of Proxy in accordance with section 127 of the Corporations Act 2001 ("the Act"). Alternatively, the appointed person must be authorised to act as a representative for the company per section 250D of the Act.

The Form of proxy is valid only for the meeting indicated (or any adjournment).

You may appoint either a general proxy (a person who may vote at their discretion on motions at the meeting) or a special proxy (who must vote according to your directions). If you appoint a special proxy, you should indicate on the form what directions you have given. In many instances, there will be a box or section on the proxy form where you can mark how you want your proxy to vote for you.

If you are unable to attend the meeting and you do not have a representative who can attend on your behalf, you may if you wish appoint the Chairperson of the Meeting as your proxy. The Chairperson can be appointed as a general proxy or a special proxy. This is entirely your choice.

FORMAL PROOF OF DEBT OR CLAIM FORM

The proof of debt submitted during an Administration is used for voting purposes at any meetings of creditors and also to help establish the overall level of creditor claims in the administration.

Admission of your proof for voting purposes does not mean that the Administrator has agreed with your proof for the purpose of making a dividend distribution.

You should include a description of how your debt/claim arose, whether you are claiming a security interest in property and if you have any guarantees and indemnities for the debt. If you need more space, you can attach any additional details you wish to include – just make sure that you mention this on the form so we know what you've attached and how many pages.

You should provide supporting documents that substantiate what you are owed by the Company. This may include things like account statements, unpaid invoices and their corresponding purchase orders, PPSR registration, agreements/terms of trade, contracts, lease or hire agreements, court order or judgment, guarantee or loan document, emails/other correspondence with the Company.

If you need help in completing the forms or if you are uncertain what information you should attach, please email or telephone the nominated FTI Consulting contact person.

INITIAL ADVICE TO CREDITORS – BASIS OF ADMINISTRATORS' REMUNERATION

REMUNERATION METHODS

There are four basic methods that can be used to calculate the remuneration charged by an insolvency practitioner. They are:

Time based / hourly rates

This is the most common method. The total fee charged is based on the hourly rate charged for each person who carried out the work multiplied by the number of hours spent by each person on each of the tasks performed.

Fixed fee

The total fee charged is normally quoted at the commencement of the voluntary administration and is the total cost for the voluntary administration. Sometimes a practitioner will finalise a voluntary administration for a fixed fee.

Percentage

The total fee charged is based on a percentage of a particular variable, such as the gross proceeds of assets realisations.

Contingency

The practitioner's fee is structured to be contingent on a particular outcome being achieved.

METHOD PROPOSED

We propose that our remuneration is calculated on a time basis. We believe this method is appropriate as it ensures that only the actual work performed is charged for. There are also various tasks required to be completed which do not involve the realisation of assets, such as reporting to ASIC, undertaking investigations, corresponding with creditors and answering their queries, and completing other statutory tasks required by law.

ESTIMATE OF REMUNERATION FOR THE VOLUNTARY ADMINISTRATION

We estimate our remuneration for undertaking the voluntary administration will be approximately \$200,000 (exclusive of GST), subject to the following variables which may have a significant effect on this estimate and that we are unable to determine until the voluntary administration has commenced:

- The full scope and extent of necessary work (from experience, unforeseen matters typically arise and may require us to perform additional work beyond that currently anticipated).

Prior to our appointment, we provided an estimate of the cost of the administration to the Director. This estimate is consistent with the estimate provided to the Director prior to our appointment.

EXPLANATION OF HOURLY RATES

The rates for our remuneration calculation are attached together with a general guide showing the qualifications and experience of staff that will be engaged in the voluntary administration and the role they take in the voluntary administration. The hourly rates charged encompass the total cost of providing professional services and should not be compared to an hourly wage.

DISBURSEMENTS

Disbursements are divided into three types:

- Externally provided professional services - these are recovered at cost. An example of an externally provided professional service disbursement is legal fees.
- Externally provided non-professional costs such as travel, accommodation and search fees - these are recovered at cost.
- Internal disbursements such as photocopying, printing and postage. These disbursements, if charged to the voluntary administration, would generally be charged at cost; though some expenses such as telephone calls, photocopying and printing may be charged at a rate which recoups both variable and fixed costs.

I am not required to seek creditor approval for disbursements paid to third parties, but must account to creditors. However, I must be satisfied that these disbursements are appropriate, justified and reasonable.

I am required to obtain creditors' consent for the payment of internal disbursements not charged at cost, prior to these disbursements being paid from the administration. These disbursements typically include photocopying, printing and facsimile costs.

Details of the basis of recovering internal disbursements in this voluntary administration are provided below. Full details of any actual costs incurred will be provided with future reporting.

Nature of Disbursement	Rate (excluding GST)
Advertising and search fees	At cost
Couriers and deliveries	At cost
Postage	At cost
Printing and photocopying	\$0.50 (b/w); \$1.00 (colour) per page
Facsimile	\$1.50 (local); \$4.50 (international) per page
Staff travel – mileage	Cents per km method (per ATO rates)
Other staff travel/out of pockets	At cost
Storage of records (including boxes)	At cost

FTI Consulting Standard Rates effective 1 March 2017
(excluding GST)

Typical classification	\$/hour	General guide to classifications
Senior Managing Director	625	Registered/Official Liquidator and/or Trustee, with specialist skills and extensive experience in all forms of insolvency administrations. Alternatively, has proven leadership experience in business or industry, bringing specialist expertise and knowledge to the administration.
Managing Director	580	Specialist skills brought to the administration. Extensive experience in managing large, complex engagements at a very senior level over many years. Can deputise for the appointee. May also be a Registered/Official Liquidator and/or Trustee. Alternatively, has extensive leadership/senior management experience in business or industry.
Senior Director	570	Extensive experience in managing large, complex engagements at a very senior level over many years. Can deputise for the appointee, where required. May also be a Registered/Official Liquidator and/or Trustee or have experience sufficient to support an application to become registered. Alternatively, has significant senior management experience in business or industry, with specialist skills and/or qualifications.
Director	510	Significant experience across all types of administrations. Strong technical and commercial skills. Has primary conduct of small to large administrations, controlling a team of professionals. Answerable to the appointee, but otherwise responsible for all aspects of the administration. Alternatively, has significant senior management experience in business or industry, with specialist skills and/or qualifications.
Senior Consultant 2	440	Typically an ARITA professional member. Well developed technical and commercial skills. Has experience in complex matters and has conduct of small to medium administrations, supervising a small team of professionals. Assists planning and control of medium to larger administrations.
Senior Consultant 1	380	Assists with the planning and control of small to medium administrations. May have the conduct of minor administrations. Can supervise staff. Has experience performing more difficult tasks on larger administrations.
Consultant 2	360	Typically CAANZ qualified (or similar). Required to control the tasks on small administrations and is responsible for assisting with tasks on medium to large administrations.
Consultant 1	315	Qualified accountant with several years experience. Required to assist with day-to-day tasks under the supervision of senior staff.
Associate 2	280	Typically a qualified accountant. Required to assist with day-to-day tasks under the supervision of senior staff.
Associate 1	260	Typically a university undergraduate or graduate. Required to assist with day-to-day tasks under the supervision of senior staff.
Junior Associate	185	Undergraduate in the latter stage of their university degree.
Administration 2	185	Well developed administrative skills with significant experience supporting professional staff, including superior knowledge of software packages, personal assistance work and/or office management. May also have appropriate bookkeeping or similar skills.
Junior Accountant	155	Undergraduate in the early stage of their university degree.
Administration 1	155	Has appropriate skills and experience to support professional staff in an administrative capacity.

The FTI Consulting Standard Rates above apply to the Corporate Finance & Restructuring practice and are subject to review at 1 January each year.

**Declaration of Independence,
Relevant Relationships, and Indemnities ("DIRRI")**

**WITS Holdings Pty Ltd (Administrators Appointed)
ACN 050 322 284 ("Company")**

This document requires the Practitioners appointed to an insolvent entity to make declarations as to:

- A. Their independence generally;
- B. Relationships, including
 - i. The circumstances of the appointment;
 - ii. Any relationships with the Company and others within the previous 24 months;
 - iii. Any prior professional services for the Company within the previous 24 months;
 - iv. That there are no other relationships to declare; and
- C. Any indemnities given, or up-front payments made, to the Practitioner.

This declaration is made with respect to ourselves, our fellow Senior Managing Directors and FTI Consulting (Australia) Pty Ltd ("FTI Consulting" or "Firm") and associated entities.

A. INDEPENDENCE

We, Kate Warwick, Ross Blakeley and Joseph Hansell of FTI Consulting have undertaken a proper assessment of the risks to our independence prior to accepting the appointment as Joint and Several Administrators of the Company in accordance with the law and applicable professional standards. This assessment identified no real or potential risks to our independence. We are not aware of any reasons that would prevent us from accepting this appointment.

B. DECLARATION OF RELATIONSHIPS

i. Circumstances of appointment

On 13 March 2019, Mr Michael Naphtali, a Senior Advisor to FTI Consulting contacted Ms Warwick and Mr Michael McCreadie of FTI Consulting in relation to the Company. On the same date, a meeting was held with Mr Grant Fowler, the Company's Director, Mr Naphtali, Ms Warwick and Mr McCreadie. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the current financial position of the Company and the options available to it.

On 14 March 2019, a consulting engagement with the Company and its related entities A.C.N. 615 484 369 Pty Ltd, Clarinda Pty Ltd, Mason Place Pty Ltd and WITS Group Australia Pty Ltd, was entered into whereby FTI Consulting would be engaged to undertake a preliminary, high level assessment of the Group's financial position in order to determine what options may exist for the Group to provide the best outcome for the Group's stakeholders.

On 14 March 2019, the Director, Mr Sal Algeri of Deloitte, Ms Warwick and Mr McCreadie had a meeting to further discuss the current financial position of the Company and projected trading performance and the options available to it. Mr Algeri had recently conducted a review of the Company.

On 18 March 2019, Mr Ian Morton and Mrs Debora Baker, both of FTI Consulting, attended the Company's premises in Campbellfield, Victoria, where they met with the Company's Director, Chief Financial Officer, Mr Steven Campbell and Operations Manager, Mr Paul Wilken to commence the consulting engagement.

On 20 March 2019, a teleconference call was held with the Director, Mr Naphtali, Ms Warwick and Mr McCreadie to further discuss the Company's financial position and options available to it.

On 21 March 2019 and 22 March 2019 further meetings were held with the Director, Ms Warwick, Mr McCreadie and Mr Morton to further discuss the Company's financial position, including the option of and the steps involved in appointing Voluntary Administrators to the Company.

On 26 March 2019, Ms Warwick, Mr McCreadie and Mr Morton met with the Director, the Chief Financial Officer and the Operations Manager to discuss the preliminary findings from the consulting engagement and options for the Company and the wider Group. The meeting was summarised in an email from Mr McCreadie to the Director.

On 27 March 2019, Ms Warwick, Mr McCreadie, Mr Naphtali and Mr Morton met with the Director to further discuss options for the Company and the Group including the possible appointment of a Voluntary Administrator.

On 28 March 2019, a Consent to Act as Administrators was provided to the Director.

Various financial and business information was provided by the Company in person and by email as part of the above. Further, additional correspondence outside of those listed above occurred, which were immaterial in nature and related primarily to the scheduling of meetings and teleconferences.

No remuneration has or will be invoiced and recovered for any time expended by this Firm for work conducted prior to the Voluntary Administration to the Company or its related entities. The original consulting engagement has been effectively terminated and superseded by the appointment as Voluntary Administrators.

In our opinion, these meetings do not affect our independence for the following reasons:

- (a) The Courts and relevant professional bodies recognise the need for practitioners to provide advice on the insolvency process and the options available and do not consider that such advice results in a conflict or is an impediment to accepting the appointment;
- (b) The nature of the advice provided to the Company is such that it would not be subject to review and challenge during the course of our appointment;
- (c) No advice has been given to the Director in their capacity as Director of the Company, or in relation to their personal circumstances; and
- (d) The pre-appointment advice will not influence our ability to be able to fully comply with the statutory and fiduciary obligations associated with the appointment as Joint & Several Administrators of the Company in an objective and impartial manner.

We have provided no other information or advice to the Company, its Director and advisors prior to our appointment beyond that outlined in this DIRRI.

ii. Relevant Relationships (excluding Professional Services to the Insolvent)

Neither we, nor any other Senior Managing Director of FTI Consulting or associate of FTI Consulting, have, or have had within the preceding 24 months, any relationships with the Company, an associate of the Company, a former insolvency practitioner appointed to the Company, or any person or entity that has security over the whole, or substantially the whole of the Company's property, except as detailed below:

Name	Nature of relationship	Reasons
Westpac Banking Corporation ("Westpac"), holder of registered security interests over the Company's assets.	FTI Consulting provides consultancy and business advisory services to Westpac from time to time which includes acting in receivership and investigating accounting roles, with respect to other non related entities.	The other work that FTI Consulting undertakes for Westpac will not influence our ability to be able to fully comply with the statutory and fiduciary obligations associated with our appointment as Voluntary Administrators of the Company in an objective and impartial manner.

iii. Prior Professional Services to the Insolvent

Neither we, nor any other Senior Managing Director of FTI Consulting or associate of FTI Consulting have provided any professional services to the Company in the previous 24 months.

iv. No other relevant relationships to disclose

There are no other known relevant relationships, including personal, business and professional relationships, from the previous 24 months with the Company, an associate of the Company, a former insolvency practitioner appointed to the Company or any person or entity that has security over the whole or substantially whole of the Company's property that should be disclosed.

C. INDEMNITIES AND UP-FRONT PAYMENTS

We have not been indemnified in relation to this administration, other than any indemnities that we may be entitled to under statute and we have not received any up-front payments in respect of our remuneration or disbursements.

Dated: 1 April 2019



Kate Warwick



Ross Blakeley



Joseph Hansell

NOTE:

1. If circumstances change, or new information is identified, I am/we are required under the Corporations Act 2001 and the ARITA Code of Professional Practice to update this Declaration and provide a copy to creditors with my/our next communication as well as table a copy of any replacement declaration at the next meeting of creditors.
2. Any relationships, indemnities or up-front payments disclosed in the DIRRI must not be such that the Practitioner is no longer independent. The purpose of components B and C of the DIRRI is to disclose relationships that, while they do not result in the Practitioner having a conflict of interest or duty, ensure that creditors are aware of those relationships and understand why the Practitioner nevertheless remains independent.