

# **2021 Corporate Governance Statement**

The Board of Copper Strike Limited (the "Company") is responsible for the overall corporate governance of the Group. The Board believes that good corporate governance helps ensure the future success of the Company, adds value to stakeholders and enhances investor confidence.

The Board has created a framework for managing the Company including adopting relevant internal controls, risk management processes and corporate governance policies and practices which it believes are appropriate for the Company's business and which are designed to promote the responsible management and conduct of the Company. In establishing its corporate governance framework, the Board has referred to the 4th edition of the ASX Corporate Governance Councils' Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations (ASX Recommendations).

The ASX Listing Rules require listed companies to prepare a statement disclosing the extent to which they have complied with the Recommendations during the reporting period. The Recommendations are not prescriptive, such that if a company considers a recommendation to be inappropriate having regard to its own circumstances, it has the flexibility not to follow it. Where a company has not followed all the Recommendations, it must identify which Recommendations have not been followed and provide reasons for not following them.

The Corporate Governance Statement (**Statement**) discloses the extent to which Copper Strike Limited has followed the Recommendations, or where appropriate, indicates a departure from the Recommendations with an explanation. This Statement should be read in conjunction with the material on our website <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a>, including the 2021 Annual Report.

This statement is current as of 31 August 2021 and has been approved by the Board of Directors of the Copper Strike Limited.

# PRINCIPLE 1: LAY SOLID FOUNDATIONS FOR MANAGEMENT AND OVERSIGHT Recommendation 1.1 - Role of the Board and Management

The role of the Board is to approve the strategic direction of the Company, guide and monitor the management of the Company and its businesses and oversee the implementation of appropriate corporate governance with respect to the Company's affairs. The Board aims to protect and enhance the interests of its shareholders, while taking into account the interests of other stakeholders.

The Board has a formal Board Charter which is available on our website at <a href="www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The Board Charter sets out the specific responsibilities of the Board including requirements as to the Board's responsibilities, functions and composition, the role of the Company Secretary and details of the Board's performance review.

The Board is supported by management and delegates authority to management for specific activities. The Board maintains ultimate responsibility for strategy, control and risk profile of the Company.

## **Recommendation 1.2: Appointment of Directors**

The Company has guidelines for the appointment and selection of the Board which require the Board to undertake appropriate checks before appointing a person or putting forward to security holders a candidate for election, as a Director.

We provide our shareholders with all material information relevant to a decision on whether or not to elect or re-elect a Director through a number of channels, including via the notice of meeting and other information contained in the 2021 Annual Report.



#### **Recommendation 1.3: Appointment Terms**

Each director and senior executive (where applicable) is party to a written agreement with the Company which sets out the terms of that Director's or senior executive's appointment, including the remuneration entitlement and performance requirements. Directors also receive a deed of indemnity, insurance, and access. Details of executive contracts in place (where applicable) are detailed in the Company's Annual Remuneration Report in the 2021 Annual Report.

#### **Recommendation 1.4: Company Secretary**

The Board is supported by the Company Secretary, whose role includes supporting the Board on governance matters, assisting the Board with meetings and directors' duties, and acting as an interface between the Board and senior executives across the Group. The Board and individual Directors have access to the Company Secretary.

Under the Company's governance framework, the Company Secretary is accountable to the Board, through the Chair, on all matters regarding the proper functioning of the Board. The Board is responsible for the appointment of the Company Secretary.

Details regarding our Company Secretary, including experience and qualifications, is set out in the Directors' Report in our 2021 Annual Report.

# **Recommendation 1.5: Diversity Policy**

The workforce of the Company comprises individuals with diverse skills, backgrounds, perspectives and experiences and this diversity is valued and respected. To demonstrate the Company's commitment to developing measurable objectives to achieve diversity and inclusion in its workplace, the Company has implemented a Diversity Policy which can be viewed on our website at <a href="www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The proportion of women on the Board, in senior executive positions and women across the entire organisation as at 30 June 2021 was as follows:

- Women on the Board 0%
- Women in senior executive positions 0%
- Women across the entire organisation 0%

Due to the current size and composition of the organisation the Board does not consider it appropriate to provide measurable objectives in relation to gender at this time, and as such, does not comply with the Recommendation in its entirety. The Company is committed to ensuring that the appropriate mix of skills, expertise, and diversity are considered when employing staff at all levels of the organisation and when making new senior executive and Board appointments and is satisfied that the composition of employees, senior executives and members of the Board is appropriate.

# Recommendation 1.6: Board, Committees and Individual Directors Performance Assessment

The Board is committed to formally evaluating its performance, the performance of any Committees and individual Directors, as well as the governance processes supporting the Board. The Board completes this through an annual assessment process.

The review process involves:

- completion of a questionnaire/survey by each director, facilitated by the Company Secretary;
- the preparation and provision of a report to each director with feedback on the performance of the



Board based on the survey results; and

• The Board meeting to discuss any areas and actions for improvement.

A formal performance evaluation was not undertaken during FY21 due to the Company undergoing changes to its Board of Directors during the financial year. The Company intends on completing an annual performance assessment for FY22. Although no formal performance review was undertaken during FY21, the Board meet regularly and informally assesses its performance on an ongoing basis.

#### Recommendation 1.7: Senior Executive Performance Assessment

Senior Executives are appointed by the Board and their Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) contain specific financial and non-financial objectives.

These KPI's are reviewed annually by the Board. The performance of each Senior Executive against these objectives is evaluated annually.

The Board does not currently have any Senior Executives. Therefore, there was no performance evaluation undertaken during the reporting period by the Company in accordance with the process.

#### PRINCIPLE 2 - BOARD STRUCTURE

#### **Recommendation 2.1: Nomination Committee**

The Board considers that the Company is not currently of a size, nor are its affairs of such complexity, to justify the establishment of a separate nominations committee. The Board fulfils the roles and responsibilities in relation to nomination.

The duties of the Board in relation to nomination are the same that would otherwise be fulfilled by a Nomination Committee to address any issues and continuously review the range of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to ensure that the Board can discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively. The Board Charter sets out the procedures adopted by the Board to satisfy itself of the matters which may otherwise be dealt with by Committees.

The Board Charter may be viewed at the Company's website at <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The Company does not meet this Recommendation in its entirety.

#### **Recommendation 2.2: Board Skills Matrix**

Our objective is to have an appropriate mix of expertise and experience on our Board so that it can effectively discharge its corporate governance and oversight responsibilities. It is the Board's view that the current directors possess an appropriate mix of relevant skills, experience, expertise and diversity to enable the Board to discharge its responsibilities and deliver the Company's strategic objectives, which include technical, financial and commercial experience.

To the extent that any skills are not directly represented on the Board, they are augmented through management and external advisors.

Full details of each Directors' relevant skills and experience are set out in the 2021 Directors' Report.

#### **Recommendation 2.3: Independent Directors**

An independent director is a Non-Executive Director who is not a member of management and free from any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with, or could reasonably be perceived to materially interfere with, the independent exercise of judgement.



The Board regularly assesses the independence of each Non-Executive Director in light of the information which each Director is required to disclose in relation to any material contract or other relationship with the Company in accordance with the director's terms of appointment, the Corporations Act 2001, and the Board Charter.

When appointing an independent Director or reviewing the independence of its Directors, the Board will have regard to the definition of an independent Director and the factors set out in the Recommendations, in particular the factors relevant to assessing the independence of a director set out in Recommendation 2.3.

As at the date of this report, the Board's assessment of each current Director is set out below.

Name	Position	Appointment date	Status
Mark Hanlon	Non-Executive Chairman	25/11/2020	Independent
Brendan Jesser	Non-Executive Director	06/06/2014	Independent
Anthony McIntosh	Non-Executive Director	25/11/2020	Independent

All three Directors of the Board are deemed to be independent Directors, being Mr Mark Hanlon (Non-Executive Chairman), Mr Brendan Jesser (Non-Executive Director) and Mr Anthony McIntosh (Non-Executive Director).

The Board considers all Directors to be independent having regard to the indicia in Box 2.3 in the ASX Recommendations. The Board has also considered the holdings of shares in the Company by Mr Hanlon, Mr Jesser and Mr McIntosh and is of the opinion that their respective interests in shares would not materially interfere with, or could be reasonably perceived to interfere with, the independent exercise of their judgement in their position as a Director. The Board also considers that all Directors are otherwise free from any business or other relationship that could materially interfere with, or reasonably be perceived to interfere with, the independent exercise of their judgement, and that they are able to fulfil the role of an independent Director for the purposes of the ASX Recommendations.

#### **Recommendation 2.4: Majority Independence**

As at the date of this Statement, all Directors are deemed independent and the Company does have a majority of independent directors.

Further information regarding our Directors, including their experience and qualifications, is set out in the Directors' Report of our 2021 Annual Report.

#### **Recommendation 2.5: Board Chair**

The Chair, Mark Hanlon was appointed to the position on 25 November 2020 and is considered an independent Director. The Chair provides leadership to the Board in relation to all Board matters and is responsible for ensuring that the Board meets its responsibilities under the Board Charter. His role is set out in more detail in the Board Charter.

The roles of the Chair and Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director are anticipated to be exercised by different individual's if/when a Chief Executive Officer/Managing Director are appointed.

## **Recommendation 2.6: Induction, Education and Training**

New Directors are provided with copies of all relevant documents and policies governing the Company's business, operations and management, at the time of joining the Board. All Directors are provided with ongoing professional development and training opportunities to enable them to develop and maintain their skills and knowledge.

Directors are also encouraged to personally undertake appropriate training and refresher courses as appropriate to maintain the skills required to discharge their obligations to the Company.



# PRINCIPLE 3 – ACT ETHICALLY AND RESPONSIBLY Recommendation 3.1: Statement of Values

The Company's values are the guiding principles and norms that define what type of organisation it aspires to be and what it requires from its directors. The Company's values and statement of values are currently being defined and designed and will be disclosed on the Company's website. Any material breach of the Company's policies, including a breach of the Code of Conduct, is raised, and reviewed at each Board meeting.

The Company's Board is responsible for instilling these values across the organisation.

#### **Recommendation 3.2: Code of Conduct**

The Board recognises the need to observe the highest standards of corporate practice and business conduct. Accordingly, the Board has adopted a Code of Conduct designed to ensure that:

- High standards of corporate and individual behaviour are observed by all Employees in the context of their employment or engagement with the Group;
- Employees are aware of their responsibilities to the Group under their contract of employment and always act in an ethical and professional manner; and
- All persons dealing with the Group, whether it be employees, shareholders, suppliers, can be guided by the stated values and practices of the Group.

The Code of Conduct can be found on our website at <a href="www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The Code of Conduct sets out the Company's policies on various matters including ethical conduct, business conduct, compliance, privacy and security of information.

# **Recommendation 3.3: Whistleblower Policy**

The Whistleblower Policy demonstrates that the Company is committed to the highest standards of conduct and ethical behaviour in all of its business activities. The Company supports a culture of honest and ethical behaviour in ensuring good corporate compliance and governance. The policy sets out, amongst other things, instances of suspected misconduct which can be reported to the internal and external parties and summarises the protections offered to whistleblowers.

Any material breach of the Company's policies, including any breach of the Whistleblower Policy, is raised at each Board Meeting or earlier if required.

The Whistleblower Policy can be found on our website at <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

### Recommendation 3.4: Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy

The Anti-Bribery and Corruption Policy demonstrates that the Company is committed to maintain high standards of integrity and accountability in conducting its business. The Company has adopted an Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy. This Policy is aimed at establishing controls to ensure compliance with all applicable anti-bribery and corruption regulations and to ensure that the Company's business is conducted in a socially responsible manner. The Policy provides information and guidance to employees on how to recognise and deal with bribery and corruption issues.

Any material breach of the Company's policies, including any breach of the Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy, is raised at each Board Meeting or earlier if required.



The Anti-bribery and Corruption policy can be found on our website at <a href="www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

# PRINCIPLE 4 – SAFEGUARD INTEGRITY IN CORPORATE REPORTING Recommendation 4.1: Audit Committee

The Board considers that the Company is not currently of a size, nor are its affairs of such complexity, to justify the establishment of a separate audit committee. All matters which might otherwise be delegated to an audit committee are dealt with by the full Board. The Board Charter sets out the procedures adopted by the Board to satisfy itself of the matters which may otherwise be dealt with by Committees.

The Board Charter may be viewed at the Company's website at <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The Company does not meet this Recommendation in its entirety.

#### **Recommendation 4.2: Assurances**

The Non-Executive Chairman and Company Secretary provide an annual declaration to the Board prior to the Board's approval of the Company's full year financial results. This process was followed for the 2021 full year financial results, where the Non-Executive Chairman and Company Secretary provided a declaration to the Board that, in their opinion, the financial records have been properly maintained and that the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Group, and their opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal control which is operating effectively. On this basis, the 2021 full year financial results were approved by the Board.

### Recommendation 4.3: Verification of integrity of periodic corporate reports

Our external auditor, William Buck Audit (Vic) Pty Ltd (William Buck) attends our AGM and a representative is available to answer shareholder questions about the conduct of the audit and the preparation and content of the auditor's report.

William Buck's independence declaration is contained in the Directors' Report in our 2021 Annual Report.

The effectiveness, performance and independence of the external auditor is reviewed annually by the Board.

Any periodic corporate report the Company releases to the market that is not audited or reviewed by an external auditor is reviewed and approved by the Board so that it is satisfied the report in question is materially correct, balanced and provides investors with appropriate information to make an informed investment decision. Following review by the Board of Directors the report is formally approved prior to release.

# PRINCIPLE 5 – MAKE TIMELY AND BALANCED DISCLOSURE

# **Recommendation 5.1: Continuous Disclosure Policy**

We are committed to providing information to shareholders and to the market in a manner that is consistent with the meaning and intention of the ASX Listing Rules and the Corporations Act.

To comply with these obligations, the Board has adopted a Continuous Disclosure Policy (**Policy**), which is available on our website at <a href="www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section. This Policy sets out the key obligations of directors and employees in relation to the Company's continuous disclosure requirements.

The Board has overarching responsibility for compliance with continuous disclosure obligations and Board approval is required for certain key matters (as set out in the Policy) and matters may be referred to the Board for approval by any director or the Company Secretary.



The Board is committed to the promotion of investor confidence by ensuring that trading in the Company's securities takes place in an efficient, competitive and informed market and in compliance with our Securities Trading Policy. In accordance with continuous disclosure obligations under the ASX Listing Rules, the Company has procedures in place to ensure that all price sensitive information is identified, reviewed by management and disclosed to the ASX in a timely manner. The Company website includes a link to all information disclosed to the ASX.

### Recommendation 5.2: Provide Board with copies of all material market announcements

The Company has set up External notifications so that all board members receive a notification from ASX as soon as an announcement has been released. The Company also circulates all price sensitive announcements to the Board ahead of the release being made.

#### **Recommendation 5.3: Investor Presentations**

In accordance with the recommendation, the Company ensures that all new and substantive presentations are released to the market ahead of the presentation to enable security holders the opportunity to participate in the presentation. The Company discloses these processes in the Company's Continuous Disclosure Policy available on the Company's website.

# PRINCIPLE 6 – RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF SECURITY HOLDERS Recommendation 6.1: Information and Governance

The Company provides information about itself and its governance to investors via its website at www.copperstrike.com.au.

The Company maintains a separate investor page on our website to provide shareholders with links to annual and interim reports, ASX announcements, presentations and other key information.

#### **Recommendation 6.2: Investor Relations**

We endeavour to communicate with shareholders and other stakeholders in an open, regular and timely manner so that the market has sufficient information to make informed investment decisions.

Through its Shareholder Communications Policy, we aim to provide information that will allow existing shareholders, potential shareholders and financial analysts to make informed decisions about the Group's intrinsic value and meet its obligations under the ASX's continuous disclosure regime.

Our investor relations program includes:

- issuing regular written shareholder communications such as quarterly financial reporting and an Annual Report to address the Company's strategy and performance;
- sending and receiving shareholder communications electronically;
- maintaining the Board and corporate governance and investor sections on our website including posting all announcements after they have been disclosed to the market;
- promoting two-way interaction with shareholders, by supporting shareholder participation at general
  meetings including encouraging shareholders to send their questions to the Company prior to the annual
  general meeting and responding to their questions and feedback; and
- ensuring that continuous disclosure obligations are understood and complied with throughout the Group.

Shareholder queries should be referred to the Company Secretary in the first instance.

Our Shareholder Communications Policy is available on our website at <a href="www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.



## **Recommendation 6.3: Shareholder Meeting Participation**

Shareholders are forwarded the Company's Annual Report, if requested (it is otherwise made available on the Company's website), and documents relating to each general meeting, being the notice of meeting, any explanatory memorandum and a proxy form and shareholders are invited to attend these meetings.

The Board regards each general meeting as an important opportunity to communicate with shareholders and it provides a key forum for shareholders to ask questions about the Company, its strategy and performance. At shareholder meetings, the Company will provide an opportunity for shareholders and other stakeholders to hear from and put questions to the Board, management and if applicable our external auditor.

## Recommendation 6.4: All substantive resolutions at a security holder meeting are decided by poll

In order to ascertain the true will of the Company's security holders attending and voting at its security holder meetings, whether attendance is in person, electronically or by proxy or other representative, in most situations where this can be achieved the company will conduct the voting procedure by a poll.

### **Recommendation 6.5: Electronic Communication with Shareholders**

Shareholders are encouraged to take advantage of the benefits of electronic communications by electing to receive communication from the Company and its share registry, Automic, electronically.

Shareholders queries should be referred to the Company Secretary at first instance.

# PRINCIPLE 7 – RECOGNISE AND MANAGE RISK Recommendation 7.1: Risk Committee

Due to the current size of the Company and the Board, the Board fulfils the roles and responsibilities in relation to risk. The duties of the Board in relation to risk are the same that would otherwise be fulfilled by a Risk Committee, including ensuring that the Company has an appropriate risk management framework and associated internal compliance and control procedures. The Board Charter sets out the procedures adopted by the Board to satisfy itself of the matters which may otherwise be dealt with by Committees.

The Board Charter may be viewed at the Company's website at <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The Company does not meet this Recommendation in its entirety.

#### **Recommendation 7.2: Risk Management Framework**

The Company's risk management framework is supported by the Board of directors and management team. The Board is responsible for approving and reviewing the Company's risk management framework. Management are responsible for monitoring that appropriate processes and controls are in place to effectively and efficiently manage risk.

The Company regularly undertake reviews of its risk management framework to establish an effective and efficient system for:

- (i) identifying, assessing, monitoring and managing risk; and
- (ii) disclosing any material change to the Company's risk profile.

The Board continually monitors the Company's risk management framework. A full review of the risk management framework will be undertaken during FY22.



The Company does not meet this Recommendation in its entirety.

#### Recommendation 7.3: Internal Audit

The Company did not have an internal audit function for the past financial year. Due to the size of the Company, the Board does not consider it necessary to have an internal audit function.

The Board monitors the need for an internal audit function having regard to the size, location and complexity of the Company's operations. The Board will periodically conduct an internal review of financial systems and recommended processes and systems are developed where they are considered to require improvement. If in future an internal audit function is warranted then the Board will give due regard to the ASX Recommendation and the establishment of an internal audit function.

The Company does not meet this Recommendation in its entirety.

#### Recommendation 7.4: Economic, Environmental and Social Sustainability Risk

The Company is not subject to any particular or significant single economic, environmental and social sustainability risk. The Company is subject to a range of general economic risks, including macro-economic risks, general business conditions, changes in technology and many other factors.

The Board does not believe the Company has any material exposure to economic and social sustainability risks at the present time.

# PRINCIPLE 8 – REMUNERATE FAIRLY AND RESPONSIBILITY Recommendation 8.1: Remuneration Committee

The Board considers that the Company is not currently of a size, nor are its affairs of such complexity, to justify the establishment of a separate remuneration committee. The Board fulfils the roles and responsibilities in relation to remuneration. The duties of the Board in relation to remuneration are the same that would otherwise be fulfilled by a Remuneration Committee, including setting the level of Non-Executive Director fees and the level and nature of remuneration for Executive Directors and other Senior Executives (if applicable) of the Company. The Board Charter sets out the procedures adopted by the Board to satisfy itself of the matters which may otherwise be dealt with by Committees. The Board Charter may be viewed at the Company's website at <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.

The Company does not meet this Recommendation in its entirety.

#### **Recommendation 8.2: Remuneration Policies and Practices**

Details of the Company's remuneration practices for its Directors and senior executives are disclosed in the Remuneration Report in the Company's Annual Report.

Separate disclosure regarding the remuneration of the Company's directors (executive and non-executive) is disclosed in the Company's Annual report, as lodged with the ASX and issued to shareholders.

# **Recommendation 8.3: Equity Based Remuneration Scheme**

While the Company does not have a formally adopted Equity Based Remuneration Scheme, from time to time the Company may issue securities to Directors. As such the Company has a Securities Trading Policy, which prohibits Directors, Officers and employees, from entering into transactions (whether through the use of derivatives or otherwise), engaging in short selling or other hedging arrangements, which limits the economic risk related to the Company's securities. A copy of the Company's Securities Trading Policy is available on the Company's website at <a href="https://www.copperstrike.com.au">www.copperstrike.com.au</a> in the Corporate Governance section.