# **FY23** Corporate Governance Statement





Landcom is established under the Landcom Corporation Act 2001 (NSW) (Landcom Corporation Act) and operates under that Act and the State Owned Corporations Act 1989 (NSW) (State Owned Corporations Act).

### Landcom's Governance Model

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#### Board of Directors

Responsible for the performance and commercial success of Landcom. Oversees management of Landcom in the best interests of Stakeholders

#### Audit & Risk Management Committtee

Oversees appropriate financial and risk management frameworks

Responsible for day to day operations, including implementation of our Strategic Plan

#### Executive Committee

Responsible for managing Landcom's operations and delivering on our Strategic Plan

#### **NSW Government**

#### Shareholder Ministers

The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC TREASURER

The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC MINISTER FOR FINANCE

#### **Portfolio Minister**

The Hon Paul Scully MP MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND PUBLIC SPACES



#### People & Culture Committee

Oversees people strategies and Board composition, renewal and succession planning

#### **Chief Executive Officer**

### Lay solid foundations for management and oversight

#### Constitution and **Board Charter**

The Landcom Constitution sets out the procedures to be followed by the Landcom Board and Management in the conduct of the affairs of Landcom and reflects the requirements of the Landcom Corporation Act and the State **Owned Corporations Act** 

The Board is accountable to our Shareholder and Portfolio Ministers for the performance of Landcom against:

- The Statement of Corporate Intent under the State Owned Corporations Act;
- The Business Plan; and
- The Statement of Priorities for the purposes of section 11 of the Landcom Corporation Act 2001 and the Statement of Expectations for the purposes of TPG22-02.

In doing this, the Board aims to deliver on the NSW Government's housing objectives across metropolitan and regional NSW, including by:

- Maintaining high standards of public accountability and corporate governance;
- Ensuring the Government's investment of its capital is used effectively:
- Operating the business sustainably;
- Ensure robust procurement and employment practices that support the economic and social outcomes of the state; and
- Enhance the affordability and diversity of housing supply, with an increasing focus on regional housing.

The Landcom Board Charter, reviewed annually by the Board, reflects the Landcom Constitution and sets out the duties, independence requirements, ethical standards, and expectations of individual Directors, including procedures for declaring conflicts of interest

Full details of the roles and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the Board Charter



#### Director appointment and selection

Selection of a new director is conducted by NSW Treasury in accordance with 'Board Appointments for State Owned Corporations and Other Commercial Government Businesses - TPG23-06'. The process involves a review of the Board skills matrix to consider the experience of current Directors, identifying gaps in the Board's skills and engaging with NSW Treasury and the appointed recruitment consultant to identify and present appropriately skilled and experienced candidates, having regard to any gender or other diversity targets established by Government.

Following approval by the Shareholder Ministers on the strategy and approach for candidate identification, the candidates undergo a thorough process which involves a formal interview with a Board Candidate Assessment Committee panel appointed by NSW Treasury. This panel includes a Landcom Board representative, a NSW Treasury representative and the Recruitment Partner as an independent member. If the panel determines a candidate is suitable for appointment to the Board, comprehensive probity checks are undertaken of the potential appointee's character,

experience, qualifications, criminal and bankruptcy history.

Suitable candidates are recommended for Cabinet consideration by the Shareholder Ministers following consultation with the Portfolio Minister. Subject to the candidate's approval by Cabinet, the appointment is then approved by the Governor.

The Landcom Corporation Act requires Landcom's Board to consist of seven directors. The process of appointment of new directors is the responsibility of NSW Treasury.

The tenure of a director is determined by Cabinet and the Board acknowledges NSW Treasury's policy recommendation that two terms of three years each is the preferred tenure for directors.

#### **Company Secretary**

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

The Company Secretary works with the Chair to monitor and enhance corporate governance processes and to ensure that Board policies are followed.

All Directors have access to the Company Secretary for advice and information on governance matters.

The Company Secretary, on a day-to-day basis, reports to the Executive General Manager, Legal & Compliance.

#### **Diversity and inclusion**

The Board oversees Landcom's diversity and inclusion aspiration - to create a welcoming, safe, and inclusive work environment where all employees can fully contribute to do their best work. Landcom's **Diversity & Inclusion Policy** outlines Landcom's commitment to providing a workplace culture

that embraces equity, diversity, and inclusion at all levels of the corporation.

Landcom has continued to recognise that a key opportunity for promoting greater diversity and inclusion is by focussing on the acknowledgement and celebration of significant days, festivals, and events. The Landcom Diversity & Inclusion calendar prioritises selected events that reflect our strategic goals and the goals of our Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan.

Landcom has continued to deliver on the Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan which is overseen by the Executive Committee.

The Action Plan outlines a focus on three main pillars:

- 1. Create an environment that values diversity and inclusion;
- 2. Increase attraction, retention, and development of staff from diverse backgrounds initially prioritising women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, culturally and linguistically diverse people, people with disability and LGBTIQ+; and
- **3.** Reduce bias and embed diverse and inclusive practices into how we work.

To measure performance against the Diversity & Inclusion Policy, benchmarks have been set across four workforce diversity groups (gender, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander People, people whose first language spoken as a child was not English, and people with a disability) and have been reported against annually. Landcom has other metrics in place to monitor progress towards its diversity and inclusion aspiration such as female representation at key decision making levels, diversity of recruitment panels and I GBTIQ+

Performance against measurable objectives is included in the Annual Report.

Policy is available on Landcom's website: landcom.com.au

#### **Board Evaluation**

The Board is committed to undertaking performance reviews on an annual basis and an external and independent evaluation at least each alternate vear. or as otherwise determined by the Board from time to time. Recommendations arising from each review address common themes identified from the evaluation and the Board establishes a program to implement the recommendations.

The last Board Performance Review was conducted through external and independent service providers in March 2023.

#### Senior executive evaluations

The performance of senior executives is reviewed annually. including the setting of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) which are measurable and quantifiable. Performance against these KPIs is assessed during interim six-monthly reviews and regular check-ins.

During FY23, all staff participated in mandatory performance reviews and setting of individual performance and professional development plans.

The Board is responsible for reviewing the performance of the Chief Executive Officer against approved objectives. Following Alexander Wendler commencing as CEO on 30 May 2022, the CEO's performance plan was established in August 2022 and has been assessed in this way for the FY23 period.

The Diversity & Inclusion

#### Compliance with governance principles and disclosure requirements

The NSW Treasury policy and guidelines paper 'Guidelines for Governing Boards of Government Businesses — TPP17-10' provides a framework for the Government's expectations for standards of corporate governance that should be adopted by all governing boards of Government businesses which includes Landcom

TPP17-10 also sets out the disclosure requirements under relevant legislation, which includes an 'if not, why not' approach. If the Board considers any recommendation in TPP17-10 not appropriate, or Landcom has not adopted the recommendation, the Board must explain 'why not', and explain how its practices are consistent with the spirit of the relevant recommendation.

Landcom has adopted the standards of corporate governance contained in TPP17-10, except in relation to the following matter:

Have a board nomination committee with at least three members, a majority of whom are independent directors, an independent chair and a committee charter.

The Board notes that Director appointments are conducted by NSW Treasury in accordance with TPG23-06, which does not provide for nomination of Directors by the Landcom Board. Accordingly the People & Culture Committee's responsibilities are to prepare the Board skills matrix, develop the Board Plan and consult with NSW Treasury in identifying suitable candidates for appointment.

### **Board structure**

The Board should have a range of skills, experience, perspectives and diversity for it to properly understand and competently address significant current and emerging issues for Landcom and meet its statutory objectives.

#### Directors' independence, appointment date and government board appointments

Director	Independent	Year appointed	Number of Government Boards <sup>1</sup>
Peter Roberts (Chair) <sup>2</sup>	Yes	2018	1
Pamela Hanrahan (Deputy Chair)	Yes	2018	1
Trent Alston	Yes	2021	1
John Barbeler	Yes	2018	1
Susan MacDonald	Yes	2021	2
Selina Short	Yes	2021	1

1 As at 30 June 2023. Government Boards includes any Board or Committee positions held within Government or Local Government, including Landcom.

2 Peter Roberts resigned as Chair and Director of the Board effective 31 May 2023.

#### Board and Board Committee meeting attendance (FY23)

		ard 1 meetings)	(Meeting	ard s at short ice)	Manag	& Risk gement nittee		& Culture nittee
Director	Attended	Eligible to attend	Attended	Eligible to attend	Attended	Eligible to attend	Attended	Eligible to attend
Trent Alston	9	9	1	1	0	0	4	4
John Barbeler	9	9	1	1	5	5	0	0
Pamela Hanrahan	8	9	1	1	4	5	4	4
Susan MacDonald	9	9	0	1	4	4	0	0
Peter Roberts	8	9	1	1	0	0	3	4
Selina Short	9	9	1	1	0	0	4	4

Gender diversity breakdown for the Board at the start and end of the reporting period			
	1 July 2022	30 June 2023	
Female	50%	60%	
Male	50%	40%	

Details on the Directors are available on Landcom's website: landcom.com.au

#### **Director independence**

The composition of the Board, the independence of Directors and the limitation on Government Board appointments are all determined in accordance with the Board Charter having regard to the NSW Treasury's 'Guidelines for Governing Boards of Government Businesses — TPP17-10'.

The Company Secretary maintains a Register of Director's declarations of interests and associations including any previous relationships with Landcom that may impact their independence, which is reviewed at each Board meeting. Directors are also required to declare any conflicts of interest (perceived or actual) at the start of each Board meeting.

All Directors have no more than three Government Board appointments.

For these reasons, the Board considerers that there are no material impacts arising from the interests, positions, associations and relationships of each Director that hinders that Director's independence.

Succession plan and crisis management procedures

The Board, through its People & Culture Committee, considers Board succession planning on a regular basis.

In the event of a major event or crisis, the Board will follow internal protocols on crisis management which are reviewed annually and tested regularly as part of business continuity planning.

After two years of Landcom actively operating under its Business Recovery Plan to manage Landcom's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Business Continuity Team stood down in March 2022. Landcom's ongoing response to the pandemic is the responsibility of the Director, Health, Safety & Environment. Landcom also continues to follow its COVID-Safe Workplace Plan.

The Crisis Management Plan and Business Recovery Plan are reviewed annually to consider and test scenarios to prepare for the possibility of future crises. The Plans were last approved by the Board in January 2023.

The Crisis Management Plan and Business Recovery Plan are internal documents and not publicly available.

#### **Board Plan**

The Board Plan sets out the best structure for the Board to add value having regard to the current Board's composition, diversity, skills and expertise, cohesion and need for appropriate renewal while meeting future needs. The Board Plan draws upon inputs encompassing five key elements:

- Board performance evaluations;
- The Board skills matrix;
- Board policies, including the Diversity & Inclusion and Director Professional Development Policies:
- Consultation with relevant stakeholders, as deemed appropriate; and
- People & Culture Committee recommendations.



The Board Plan is an internal document and not publicly available.

The Board skills matrix identifies the number of Directors with skills and experience in areas considered most relevant for Landcom. The skills matrix is reviewed annually through a Director self-assessment methodology.

Directors who assessed their skill level as Advanced or Expert satisfied the capability requirement for inclusion in the matrix. Directors who assessed their skill level as Competent in any skill category have not been included in the matrix.



#### Board skills matrix as at 30 June 2023

**Skills and experience** 

Leadership and people	Leadership, organisational cult
Strategy	Strategy formulation and revie
Urban design and renewal	Design, architecture, planning,
Property development and project management	Large scale multi-purpose dev
Government	Public sector management, pu
Financial acumen	Financial accounting and repo
Risk management	Enterprise risk management, f
Commercial operations	Technology, procurement, con
Legal and regulatory	Contracts, property, dispute m
Corporate governance	Board membership, governand
Capital management	Capital management, corporat
Sustainability and corporate responsibility	Corporate social responsibility impact, climate risk mitigation
Work health and safety	Safety responsibilities and cult

#### Board induction and professional development

Landcom's Director Induction Program is designed to ensure that newly appointed Directors receive an appropriate induction through the provision of corporate governance documents, briefings and workshops with senior executives and visits to selected project sites. This program allows Directors to familiarise themselves with the Landcom business and its industry, thus allowing new Directors to contribute to decisionmaking at the earliest opportunity.

Briefings and workshops with the CEO and other senior executives assist new Directors with a timely understanding of:

• Landcom's business and business model;

- Landcom's relationship and interaction with Government, in particular Shareholder and Portfolio Minsters and NSW Treasury;
- Landcom's financial, strategic, operational, regulatory and risk management framework, plans and policies;
- Rights, duties and responsibilities of Directors;
- Roles and responsibilities of Management; and
- Roles and responsibilities of Board committees.

In addition to an appropriate initial induction, the Board has adopted a Professional Development Policy to support Directors in maintaining and enhancing their effectiveness, including:

No. of D	virectors (out of !	5)
lture, people management and develop	oment	5
iew, business planning	!	5
g, placemaking, housing affordability		5
evelopment, project management and d	elivery	4
public policy, regulation	:	3
orting, financial analysis		4
financial and non-financial risk manage	ement	5
ntract management, marketing		4
management, regulatory compliance		4
nce training		5
ate finance, funding, capital markets		4
ry, environmental and social sustainabili n	ty, social	5
Ilture, work health and safety risk mana	gement 4	4

- Site visits to understand Landcom's operations:
- Attendance at suitable governance seminars;
- Briefings to understand changes to industry and regulatory requirements, including regular health, safety & environment updates; and
- Engagement with Stakeholders to gain a greater understanding of trends in the property industry, urban development and demographics.



The Director Induction Program and Professional Development Policy (for Landcom's Board of Directors) are internal documents and not publicly available.

### **Board Committees**

The Board has two standing Committees to assist with discharging its responsibilities.

The Board determines the composition and membership of its Committees. Each Committee sets, reviews and updates its Charter annually for approval by the Board. The Committee Charters detail their respective purpose, membership criteria, role and responsibilities. A summary is set out below.

Audit & Risk Management Committee		
Details		
Composition	<ul> <li>Comprises three Directors, each of whom are independent non-executive directors.</li> <li>The Committee is chaired by an independent Chair who is not the Chair of the Board.</li> </ul>	
Membership as at 30 June 2023	<ul> <li>John Barbeler (Chair);</li> <li>Pamela Hanrahan; and</li> <li>Susan MacDonald.</li> </ul>	
Purpose and Responsibilities	<ul> <li>The Committee operates under a Charter and the role of the Committee is directed towards and includes oversight and review of the effectiveness of:</li> <li>Systems of internal control of Landcom;</li> <li>External accountability, reporting and financial management;</li> <li>The work health and safety framework;</li> <li>Risk management;</li> <li>External and internal audit capability; and</li> <li>Compliance with applicable legislation.</li> </ul>	

John Barbeler is a Fellow Certified Practicing Accountant and has extensive executive experience in managing the financial concerns of commercial operations.

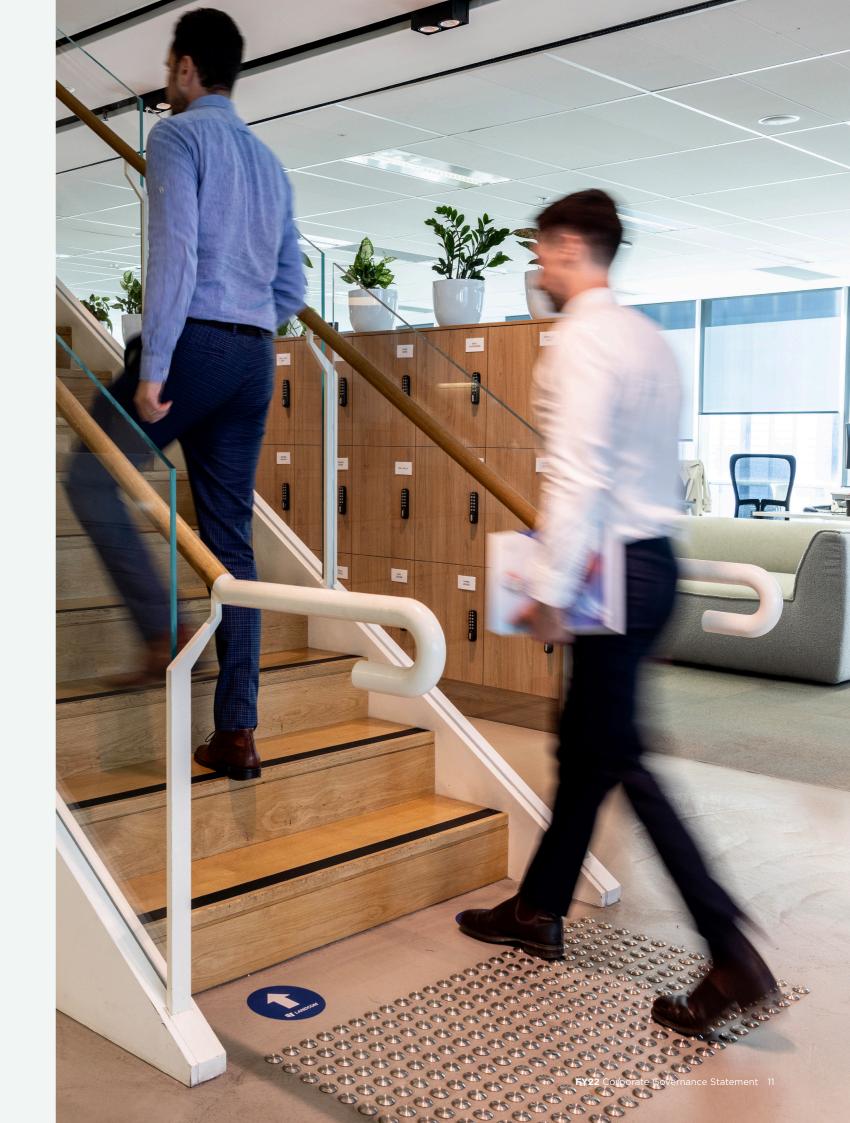
Full details of the roles and responsibilities for the Audit & Risk Management Committee are set out in the Committee Charter.

#### People & Culture Committee Details • Comprises three Directors, each of whom are independent non-executive directors. Composition • The Committee is chaired by an independent Chair who is not the Chair of the Board. Membership as at • Trent Alston (Chair); 30 June 2023 • Pamela Hanrahan; and • Selina Short. Purpose and The Committee operates under a Charter and is responsible for making Responsibilities recommendations to the Board with respect to: • Board Composition: Developing a composition framework for the Board having regard to the appropriate diversity, skills and expertise, tenure and cohesion in order to fulfill its responsibilities to Landcom, and as a consequence make appropriate recommendations to Government for the appointment of new Directors; and • People & Culture: Fulfilling its oversight responsibilities in relation to significant people and culture matters.

Full details of the roles and responsibilities for the People & Culture Committee are set out in the Committee Charter.

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The Committee Charters are available on Landcom's website: <u>landcom.com.au</u>



### Staff Code of Conduct

The Staff Code of Conduct is one of the ways Landcom puts its values into action to achieve our Strategic Directions. It sets the expectation that everyone who works for or on behalf of Landcom, including Directors, demonstrates high standards of conduct and ethics in the performance of their duties.

The Code provides quiding principles that are expected and required to be followed by every person, including Landcom's Directors, employees, secondees and contingent workers.



#### The Staff Code of Conduct is available on Landcom's website: landcom.com.au

### Safeguard integrity in corporate reporting

#### **CEO and CFO declaration**

The Board receives declarations twice a year for the half and full year financial periods in accordance with Section 41C of the Public Finance and Audit Act 1983 (NSW) and/or Section 23 of the State Owned Corporations Act (for half vear reports) from the CEO and Executive General Manager with functional responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer (Landcom's Executive General Manager, Finance & Commercial). The declarations confirm whether, in their opinion, the financial records of Landcom have been properly maintained, whether the financial statements comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of Landcom's financial position and performance, and whether any circumstances exist which may render the financial statements misleading or inaccurate.

### Make timely disclosure

#### **Disclosure policy**

Landcom has a Continuous Disclosure Policy which includes the following principles consistent with the NSW Treasury Policy 'Performance Reporting and Monitoring Policy for Government Businesses - TPP18-02':

- Landcom will make timely disclosures to Shareholder Ministers where Landcom becomes aware of any matters concerning Landcom or its operations, whether strategic, financial or non-financial performance outcomes, which might reasonably be expected to influence NSW Treasury or Shareholder Ministers' view of Landcom's outlook;
- Landcom will make timely disclosures to NSW Treasury where Landcom becomes aware of any matters concerning Landcom or its operations which may have the potential to cause a material variation of at least \$20m or 20 percent to Landcom's latest current year forecast Net Profit Before Tax, whichever is higher; and

 Landcom will make timely disclosures to the public and key stakeholders (including Landcom's Portfolio Minister) where Landcom becomes aware of any information concerning Landcom or its operations that a reasonable person would expect would be of significant interest or concern to those entities or that is likely to impact on the general public.

Full details of Landcom's continuous disclosure obligations are set out in the Continuous Disclosure Policy.

> The Continuous Disclosure Policy is available on Landcom's website: landcom.com.au

### Acknowledge the rights of shareholders

#### Processes for communication with shareholders

In collaboration with Landcom, NSW Treasury has prepared a Shareholder Engagement Plan to document through who, when and how Landcom's Shareholder Ministers and Landcom will engage, and to ensure that engagement between Landcom and its Shareholder Ministers is effective and supports their mutual goals.

Landcom may conduct additional briefings for our Shareholder Ministers as required.

The Chair and CEO attend halfvearly meetings with the Secretary of NSW Treasury. Additionally, Landcom's Management frequently interact with NSW Treasury as the representative of Landcom's Shareholder Ministers.

### **Recognise and manage risk**

#### **Risk Management** Framework

The Board has adopted a consolidated approach to risk management which incorporates governance, compliance, risk appetite and business continuity management. This approach is consistent with the Australian Standard AS ISO 31000:2018 Risk management - Guidelines. The Enterprise Risk Management Framework is reviewed at least annually for currency and to ensure the approach to risk management continues to be sound.

The Board oversees and annually reviews that an effective Enterprise Risk Management Framework is in operation and has delegated to Management responsibility for risk management activities, following a Three Lines Model:

• Line 1 – Ownership, Responsibility and Accountability: assessing, controlling and mitigating risk through management controls and internal control measures such as internal policies and procedures;

- Line 2 Oversight: identifying, documenting and reporting risks, developing policies, procedures and internal controls, and monitoring of risk through risk management, compliance and safety functions; and
- Line 3 Assurance: independent and objective assurance over all governance and risk management activities through an internal audit function.

The Enterprise Risk Management Framework was last approved by the Board in March 2023.

> The Enterprise Risk Management Framework is an internal document and not publicly available.

#### Internal audit

Landcom has co-sourced the internal audit function, led by Landcom's Director, Audit & Risk and supported by an external internal audit provider. The function provides the Audit & Risk Management Committee and senior management with independent, objective assurance around internal controls.



The Director, Audit & Risk functionally reports to the Chair of the Audit & Risk Management Committee and attends and reports to each meeting of the Audit & Risk Management Committee against the internal audit plan, as approved by the Audit & Risk Management Committee.

#### Material risk

Landcom is exposed to a range of political, economic, industrial, commercial and operational, legal and regulatory, social, technological, sustainability and environmental risks which could have an adverse effect on Landcom's future. These risks may vary over time and from project to project. Landcom puts processes in place to reduce inherent risks and manage residual risks, including the Executive Committee of Landcom participating in quarterly risk workshops to review Landcom's Strategic Risk Register and Operational Risk Register.

## Schedule of documents

Document	Last reviewed	Next review	Link
Board Charter	March 2023	March 2024	<u>https://www.landcom.com.au/assets/About/</u> Board-Charter-Approved-31-March-2023.pdf
Diversity & Inclusion Policy	September 2021	September 2023	<u>https://www.landcom.com.au/assets/ Policies/Diversity-Inclusion-Policy-October- 2021-v2.pdf</u>
Crisis Management Plan	March 2023	March 2024	Internal document only
Business Recovery Plan	March 2023	2024	Internal document only
Board Plan	September 2021	September 2023	Internal document only
Director Induction Program	April 2023	April 2025	Internal document only
Professional Development Policy (for Landcom's Board of Directors)	April 2023	April 2025	Internal document only
Audit & Risk Management Committee Charter	November 2022	November 2023	<u>https://www.landcom.com.au/assets/Policies/</u> <u>Audit-and-Risk-Management-Committee-</u> Charter-v9-approved-25-November-2022.pdf
People & Culture Committee Charter	August 2023	August 2024	<u>https://www.landcom.com.au/assets/ Policies/People-Culture-Committee-Charter- approved-31-August-2023.pdf</u>
Code of Conduct	June 2022	January 2024	<u>https://www.landcom.com.au/assets/</u> Policies/Code-of-Conduct-June-2022.pdf_
Continuous Disclosure Policy	September 2022	September 2023	<u>https://www.landcom.com.au/assets/ Policies/Continuous-Disclosure-Policy-v8- approved-30-Sep-2022.pdf</u>
Enterprise Risk Management Framework	March 2023	March 2024	Internal document only







Creating more affordable and sustainable communities

#### landcom.com.au