# **SDI Limited**

ABN: 27 008 075 581

# **Corporate Governance Statement**

The Board is committed to achieving and demonstrating the highest standards of corporate governance. The Board continues to refine and improve the governance framework and practices in place to ensure they meet the interests of shareholders. SDI Limited ("SDI") substantially complies with the ASX Corporate Governance Council's Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations 4<sup>th</sup> Edition (the "Principles"). This Corporate Governance Statement discloses the extent to which SDI has followed the Recommendations set out in the Principles (the "ASX Recommendations") for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Copies of SDI's Corporate Governance Charter, this Corporate Governance Statement and key corporate governance policies are available in the Corporate Governance section of SDI's website at <a href="https://www.sdi.com.au/au/corporate-governance/">www.sdi.com.au/au/corporate-governance/</a>.

# 1: Lay Solid Foundations for Management and Oversight

## a) Role of the Chairman

The Chairman of SDI's Board of Directors (the "Board") is responsible for leadership of the Board and for the efficient organisation and conduct of the Board's functions.

The Chairman facilitates the effective contribution of all Directors and promotes constructive and respectful relations between Directors and between Board and management.

## b) Role of the Board and Management

The Board is responsible for the corporate governance of SDI. The Board provides strategic guidance to SDI and effective oversight of management. The Board guides and monitors the business and affairs of SDI on behalf of the shareholders by whom they are elected and to whom they are accountable. The respective roles and responsibilities of the Board and management are further detailed in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

The Board has delegated responsibility for day-to-day management of SDI to the CEO.

The responsibilities expressly reserved to the Board and the responsibilities delegated to management are set out in detail in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

# c) Role of Committees of the Board

The Committees of the Board oversee various areas and act by examining relevant matters and making recommendations to the Board. Currently there are two committees of the Board: the Audit Committee and the Remuneration Committee. Summaries of the roles and responsibilities of each of these current committees are provided in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter. Details of Directors' attendances at meetings of these committees are shown in the Directors' Report contained in SDI's Annual Report.

The Board retains the ultimate oversight and decision-making power in respect of the roles and responsibilities carried out by these committees.

#### d) Role of Company Secretary

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

The Company Secretary is responsible for developing and maintaining the information systems and processes that enable the Board to fulfil its role. The Company Secretary is also responsible to the Board for ensuring that Board procedures are complied with and advising the Board on governance matters.

All Directors have access to the Company Secretary for advice and services. Independent advisory services are retained by the Company Secretary at the request of the Board or Board committees.

The Board appoints and removes the Company Secretary.

#### e) Election & Re-election of Directors & Appointment of Directors & Executives

SDI undertakes appropriate checks before appointing a person as a Director or before putting forward to shareholders a candidate for election as a Director; and provides shareholders with all material information in its possession relevant to a decision on whether to elect or re-elect a Director. These checks in relation to Directors, including checks undertaken when SDI appoints Senior Executives\*, are detailed in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter

\*In this document, except in the section below headed "Diversity Policy", the expression "Senior Executive" means an executive who is a member of the key management personnel of SDI, including executive directors but excluding non-executive directors.

During the year ended 30 June 2024, SDI had formal written appointments in place with each of its non-executive Directors and Executive Directors, except in relation to SDI's non-executive Director & Chairman because of the long-standing nature of the Chairman's appointment and the trust that exists between the Chairman and SDI. In relation to the non-executive Director & Chairman, the Board does not believe any alternative governance practices are appropriate.

During the year ended 30 June 2024, SDI had written agreements with all its Senior Executives setting out the terms of their appointment.

#### f) Diversity Policy

SDI has a Diversity Policy which is available in the Corporate Governance section of SDI's website.

The Diversity Policy includes requirements for the Board to set measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity. The Board has set the following measurable objectives for achieving gender diversity in respect of the year ended 30 June 2024 and subsequent years.

SDI seeks to improve, to the extent it is practicable and appropriate, the representation of women:

- in the SDI Group's total workforce
- among its senior executives (defined as executives that report directly to the CEO), and
- on its Board.

The Board assesses annually its progress in achieving these objectives, by comparing the percentage representation of women in the above categories as at 30 June 2024 with last year's percentage. As at 30 June 2024, women represented:

- 59% of the SDI Group's total workforce (58% last year)
- 25% of senior executives (25% last year), and
- one position on the Board (there was one last year).

# g) Evaluation of the Board, its Committees, Directors and Senior Executives

Performance evaluations of the Board, its Committees, independent non-executive Directors, executive Directors and Senior Executives take place at least annually in compliance with an established evaluation process. Additional detail is set out in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

Except as mentioned below, all the above performance evaluations have taken place in respect of the year ended 30 June 2024.

There was no formal evaluation process in relation to the non-executive Director & Chairman during the year ended 30 June 2024, given the Chairman's status as founder and majority shareholder of SDI and the trust that exists between SDI and the Chairman. There is an alternative, informal approach to the evaluation of the Chairman, which is set out in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

## 2: Structure the Board to be effective and add value

## a) Current Directors

The current Board consists of four independent non-executive Directors, one non-executive Director & Chairman and two executive Directors. The names of the members of the Board are set out below:

- Dr Geoffrey Macdonald Knight is an independent non-executive Director: appointed 2 August 2013
- Mr Gerald Allan Bullon is an independent non-executive Director: appointed 2 August 2013
- Mr Cameron Neil Allen is an independent non-executive Director: appointed 4 October 2013
- Mr Gerard Desmond Kennedy is an independent non-executive Director; appointed 4 October 2013
- Mr Jeffery James Cheetham is a non-executive Director and the Chairman: appointed as a Director 27 June 1985
- Ms Samantha Jane Cheetham is an executive Director: appointed 17 December 1999
- Mr John Joseph Slaviero is an executive Director and the Company Secretary: appointed 4 October 2013 and 2 July 2001 respectively

Details of the Board members' experience, expertise and qualifications are set out in the Directors' Report within SDI's Annual Report.

#### b) Composition of the Board

The Board's policy is that the Board needs to have an appropriate mix of skills, knowledge, experience, expertise, independence and diversity to be well equipped to help SDI navigate the range of challenges SDI faces.

The Board's composition is determined based on criteria set out below.

The Board seeks to ensure that:

- At any point in time, its membership represents an appropriate balance between Directors with experience and knowledge of SDI and Directors with an external or fresh perspective
- There is a sufficient number of Directors to serve on Board committees without overburdening the Directors or making it difficult for them to fully discharge their responsibilities, and
- The size of the Board is appropriate to facilitate effective discussion and efficient decision-making.

For the year ended 30 June 2024, the Board had a Board skills matrix, which is detailed in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

In accordance with the ASX Listing Rules, SDI must hold an election of Directors each year.

# c) Board Committees

To ensure that the responsibilities of the Board are upheld and executed to the highest level, the Board has the following Board committees:

- <u>Audit Committee</u>: this Committee oversees and reviews the financial reporting and audit process, the system of internal control and management of financial risks, risk management, the maintenance of audit independence and the appointment of external auditors.
- Remuneration Committee: this Committee reviews and makes recommendations on remuneration strategy, policies and practices applicable to Key Management Personnel (KMP) and Executive Directors, with a particular focus on performance-based remuneration that reflects increased shareholder value through the achievement of agreed organisational goals.

SDI has a small Board (seven Directors and an alternate Director) and, given SDI's relatively small size, it is neither practical nor efficient to have a Nomination Committee. It does not have one as such. The Board fulfils the role of the Nomination Committee. The Board employs written processes to address succession issues relating to members of the Board, including the CEO, and to ensure that the Board has the appropriate balance of skills, knowledge, experience, independence and diversity to enable it to discharge its duties and responsibilities effectively. The Board's responsibilities in this context are set out in detail in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

Both the Audit Committee and the Remuneration Committee have charters in place, which are reviewed periodically. The Board may establish other committees from time to time to deal with matters of special importance. The Committees have access to SDI's executives and management as well as independent advice. Copies of the minutes of each committee meeting are made available to the full Board, and the Chairman of each committee

provides an update on the outcomes at the Board meeting that immediately follows the committee meeting.

## d) Independent Decision-making

The Board recognises the important contribution independent Directors make to good corporate governance. All Directors, whether independent or not, are required to act in the best interests of SDI and to exercise unfettered and independent judgment.

The Board has adopted specific principles in relation to Director independence and considers the following, at least annually, to determine if a Director is independent:

## Whether the Director:

- is employed, or has previously been employed in an executive capacity by SDI or any of its subsidiaries, and there has not been a period of at least three years between ceasing such employment and serving on the Board
- receives performance-based remuneration (including options or performance rights) from SDI or any
  of its subsidiaries, or participates in an employee incentive scheme of SDI
- is, or has been within the last three years, in a material business relationship e.g. as a supplier, professional adviser, consultant or customer with SDI or any of its subsidiaries, or is an officer of, or otherwise associated with, someone with such a relationship
- is, represents, or is or has been within the last three years an officer or employee of, or professional adviser to, a substantial holder in SDI
- has close personal ties with any person who falls within any of the categories described above
- has been a director of SDI for such a period that their independence from management and substantial holders may have been compromised.

#### Annually:

- each independent non-executive Director of SDI completes an Independence Questionnaire, which
  questions the Directors in relation to the above matters, and
- the Board assesses their responses to determine whether the Board considers the Directors to be independent.

Based on the above process, the Board is of the view that each independent non-executive Director of SDI is independent.

For the year ended 30 June 2024, SDI's non-executive Director & Chairman was not an independent Director, as SDI's size is relatively small and the Chairman is chosen based on their experience, expertise, and background in the industry and their ability to enhance SDI's future strategic direction. As an alternative to the Chairman being an independent Director, SDI's Board takes comfort from the Board having a majority of independent directors and SDI's Audit Committee having only independent directors. The Chairman ceased being the Managing Director of SDI on 1 July 2016.

## e) Induction and Professional Development

All new Directors participate in a formal induction process co-ordinated by the Company Secretary. This induction process includes briefings on SDI's finances, strategy, operations, risk management, governance framework and key developments in SDI and the industry and environment in which it operates. The induction process is set out in detail in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

Legal, governance and accounting updates are periodically given to the Board. Directors are also able to attend professional development courses should they wish to.

Periodically, SDI's Board reviews whether there is a need for existing Directors to undertake professional development to maintain the skills and knowledge needed to perform their role as directors effectively.

## f) Access to Information

The Board is provided with the information it needs to discharge its responsibilities effectively and all Directors have complete access to management through the Chairman, CEO or Company Secretary at any time.

In certain circumstances, each Director has the right to seek independent professional advice at SDI's expense, within specified limits, or with the prior approval of the Chairman.

# 3: Instil a culture of acting lawfully, ethically and responsibly

## a) Values & standards of behaviour

SDI's values comprise:

- **Passion** We show pride, enthusiasm and dedication in everything that we do.
- Accountability We accept our individual and team responsibilities and we meet our commitments. We take responsibility for our performance in all of our decisions and actions.
- Respect We treat everyone with respect and dignity. We build trusted relationships with our
  colleagues, customers and suppliers.
- Teamwork We recognize that the best solutions come from working together with colleagues, customers and suppliers.
- Innovation We are committed to innovation in every area of our work from products to processes.
   We never give up on looking for ways to improve. We strive to be the best.

The values mentioned above and the standards of behaviour set out in SDI's Code of Conduct:

- help define what type of organisation SDI aspires to be and what SDI expects of its staff to achieve this
  aspiration, and
- create a link a path between:
  - SDI's mission why it exists, and
  - SDI's strategic and operational goals what SDI hopes to achieve.

## b) Code of Conduct

For the year ended 30 June 2024, SDI had a Code of Conduct:

- which sets out the SDI values and standards of behaviour expected of SDI's Directors, managers, employees and contractors
- to help achieve SDI's mission and strategic and operational goals.

The Code of Conduct is available in the Corporate Governance section of SDI's website.

This Code of Conduct also emphasises that any material breaches of, or any material incidents in relation to, the Code will be reported to SDI's Audit Committee.

# c) Whistleblower Policy

For the year ended 30 June 2024, SDI had a Whistleblower Policy which is available in the Corporate Governance section of SDI's website.

SDI has a process in place to help ensure that any material incidents in relation to the Whistleblower Policy will be reported to SDI's Audit Committee.

# d) Anti-bribery and corruption

SDI has plans to introduce an Anti-bribery and Corruption Policy. However, in respect of the year ended 30 June 2024, although the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Combatting Foreign Bribery) Act 2024 has been passed, as the Attorney-General's guidance in relation to this legislation is yet to be finalised SDI has decided not to prepare such a policy at this time.

As an alternative, SDI deals with bribery briefly within its Employee Handbook and remains vigilant against this risk.

# 4: Safeguard the integrity of corporate reports

# a) Audit Committee

SDI has a formally constituted Audit Committee. The committee has four members and comprises only independent non-executive Directors. The committee Chairman is an independent Director who is appropriately qualified and financially literate and who is not also Chairman of the Board.

The Audit Committee Charter is detailed in the Corporate Governance Charter. The committee assists the Board

in fulfilling its corporate governance responsibilities regarding:

- the integrity of financial reporting
- compliance with legal and regulatory obligations
- risk management, in particular:
  - monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of SDI's risk management framework, and
  - bringing to the Board's attention details regarding SDI's key strategic, financial, operational and compliance risks
- the effectiveness of SDI's internal control framework, and
- oversight of the independence of the external auditors.

The names, experience and qualifications of those appointed to the Audit Committee, their attendance at meetings of the committee and the number of times the committee met throughout the year ended 30 June 2024 are included in the Directors' Report within SDI's Annual Report.

The Audit Committee keeps the Board up to date on all matters relevant to the committee's roles and responsibilities.

Before the Board approves SDI's reports for each financial period, the CEO and the Chief Operating Officer/Chief Financial Officer declare to the Board that:

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

#### b) External Auditor

The Audit Committee oversees the relationship with the external auditor. In accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the lead Audit Partner on the audit is required to rotate at the completion of a 5-year term.

The external auditor attends the Annual General Meeting and is available to answer shareholder questions about the conduct of the audit and the preparation and content of the auditor's report.

#### c) Verifying the integrity of Periodic Corporate Reports

Where SDI's periodic corporate reports are not subject to audit or review by SDI's external auditor ("Periodic Corporate Reports"), SDI has a process which seeks to ensure that such reports are materially accurate, balanced and provide investors with appropriate information to make informed investment decisions. In summary, this process involves the following:

- SDI's Board approves all Periodic Corporate Reports
- initial reviews of Periodic Corporate Reports are conducted by:
  - SDI's COO/CFO in the case of all Periodic Corporate Reports
  - SDI's CEO in the case of most Periodic Corporate Reports, and
  - other senior SDI staff, as appropriate.

# 5: Make Timely and Balanced Disclosure

For the year ended 30 June 2024, SDI had a Continuous Disclosure Policy, available on SDI's website, to ensure compliance with SDI's continuous disclosure obligations under the ASX Listing Rules and the Corporations Act and so all investors have equal and timely access to material information concerning SDI – including its financial position, performance, ownership and governance.

SDI Board members receive copies of all material market announcements promptly after they have been made.

SDI's Annual Report includes relevant information about the operations of SDI during the year, key financial information, changes in the state of affairs and indications of future developments. The Annual Reports for the current year and for previous years are available under the Investor Information section of SDI's website at: <a href="https://www.sdi.com.au/au/company/investor-information/">www.sdi.com.au/au/company/investor-information/</a>.

The half-year and full-year financial results are announced to the ASX and are available to shareholders via SDI and ASX websites.

New and substantive\* investor or analyst presentations are announced to the ASX ahead of the presentation.

\* Examples of "substantive" presentations include results presentations and the types of presentations typically given at annual general meetings, investor days and broker conferences.

All announcements made to the market, and related information (including presentations to investors and information provided to analysts or the media during briefings) are made available to all shareholders under the Investor Information section of SDI's website after they are released to the ASX. All ASX announcements, media releases and financial information are available on SDI's website within one day of public release.

# 6: Respect the Rights of Shareholders

#### a) General

SDI provides information about itself and its governance to its shareholders via its website.

The Company Secretary and the Financial Controller/Corporate Affairs have been nominated as the persons responsible for communications with the ASX.

All Senior Executives have an ongoing obligation to advise the Company Secretary of any material non-public information which may need to be communicated to the market.

## b) Promoting effective two-way communication

SDI has procedures in place that promote effective communication with shareholders and an investor relations program that facilitates effective two-way communication with shareholders:

- SDI makes all ASX announcements available via its website. In addition, shareholders who are registered receive email notification of ASX announcements.
- Shareholders are able to communicate with SDI by using its general email address: info@sdi.com.au
- When relevant, investor relations issues are raised and discussed at Board meetings.
- Shareholders are encouraged to participate at shareholder meetings and investor meetings refer to paragraph (d) below.
- Shareholders have the option of receiving and sending electronic communications refer to paragraph (e) below.

## c) Annual General Meetings

The Notice of Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be provided to all shareholders and posted on SDI's website. Notices for general meetings and other communications with shareholders are drafted to ensure that they are honest, accurate and not misleading and that the nature of the business of the meeting is clearly stated and explained where necessary.

In respect of the year ended 30 June 2024, given SDI's current major shareholdings, SDI did not have a policy that all substantive resolutions at a meeting of security holders were decided by a poll rather than a show of hands. As an alternative, substantive resolutions are generally decided by a poll when Directors are not permitted to vote. Also, under SDI's Articles of Association, security holders present and representing not less than 10% of the total voting rights may demand a poll.

#### d) Encouraging participation by shareholders at shareholder and investor meetings

SDI facilitates and encourages participation at meetings of SDI's shareholders in several ways:

- SDI encourages full participation by shareholders at the AGM to ensure a high level of Director accountability to shareholders and shareholder identification with SDI's strategy and goals.
- The AGM provides an opportunity for shareholders to hear the Chairman and CEO provide updates on

SDI's performance, to ask questions of the Board and its Auditors and to vote on resolutions being put before the meeting.

 For shareholders unable to attend, a link to an on-line AGM question form accompanies the Notice of Meeting, giving shareholders the opportunity to forward questions and comments to SDI or the external auditor prior to the AGM.

SDI also encourages shareholders to participate at investor meetings. Before the release of SDI's full-year and half-year results, SDI arranges an investor conference call and shareholders are given an opportunity to register for these calls.

#### e) Electronic communications

SDI gives shareholders the option of receiving and sending communications electronically. In particular:

- SDI's Share Register gives shareholders the option to receive all communications electronically.
- Shareholders are able to communicate with SDI electronically via SDI's website.
- Shareholders are also able to communicate with the Share Register via the Share Register's website.

# 7: Recognise and Manage Risk

#### a) Risk Management

The Board considers identification and management of key risks associated with the business as vital to maximising shareholder wealth.

The Board has issued a Risk Management Policy, which is available at the Corporate Governance section of SDI's website

The Board has introduced a Risk Management Framework, which includes an underlying Risk Management Process, which aims to ensure that SDI's key strategic, financial, operational and compliance risks are identified, managed and monitored. Internal Risk Workshops are central to this Framework, which generally occur annually.

SDI has a small Board and it is neither practical nor efficient to have a Risk Committee. It does not have one as such. The Board is responsible for overseeing the implementation, monitoring and review of SDI's Risk Management Framework. SDI's Audit Committee carries out certain risk-related responsibilities, including:

- monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of SDI's Risk Management Framework
- bringing to the Board's attention details regarding SDI's key strategic, financial, operational and compliance risks, and
- · keeping the Board up to date regarding the above.

In particular, the Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing SDI's Risk Management Framework at least annually to satisfy itself that it continues to be sound, as expected by ASX Recommendation 7.2.

A risk appetite has not been set by the Board for the year ended 30 June 2024, given SDI's relatively small size. As an alternative, SDI's Board relies on the risk management approach described in this Sect. 7(a) and in additional detail within SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

The Audit Committee has reviewed SDI's Risk Management Framework for the year ended 30 June 2024 and has satisfied itself that the framework continues to be sound.

## b) Internal Audit Function

SDI does not have an internal audit department due to its relatively small size. However, the Board has processes for evaluating and continually improving its governance, risk management and internal control processes, which are set out in detail in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

### c) Environmental and social risks

One of the Board's objectives is to establish and maintain a culture of environmental and social responsibility.

SDI has a risk management process which aims to identify, manage and monitor all key risks, including environmental and social risks. Further details are set out in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

SDI is not aware of having any material exposure to environmental or social risks.

# 8: Remunerate Fairly and Responsibly

## a) Remuneration

SDI has a formally constituted Remuneration Committee. The committee comprises 5 members, 4 of whom are independent directors.

The Remuneration Committee is chaired by an independent director.

The role of the Remuneration Committee, as set out in detail in the Corporate Governance Charter, is to provide advice and assistance to the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities in respect of remuneration policies, performance enhancement systems and fair and responsible rewards for individual performance. The Charter and responsibilities of the Remuneration Committee are set out in detail in SDI's Corporate Governance Charter.

The names and qualifications of those appointed to the Remuneration Committee, their attendance at meetings of the Committee and the number of Committee meetings held during the year are included in the Directors' Report.

SDI's remuneration arrangements, as set out in the Remuneration Report in the Annual Report, are designed in such a way that they:

- motivate executives to pursue the long-term growth and success of SDI; and
- demonstrate a clear relationship between executive performance and remuneration.

The remuneration arrangements, which set the terms and conditions for KMP, were developed by the Remuneration Committee after seeking professional advice from independent consultants and were approved by the Board. The Remuneration Report in SDI's Annual Report separately discloses SDI's practices regarding the remuneration of non-executive directors and the remuneration of executive directors and other executives.

All executives receive a base salary, superannuation, fringe benefits, performance incentives and retirement benefits. The Remuneration Committee reviews executive packages annually by reference to company performance, executive performance, comparable information from industry sectors and other listed corporations and independent advice. The performance of executives is measured against criteria agreed half-yearly which are based on individual KPI's and achievement of the Company's budget. These arrangements are designed to attract the highest calibre executives and reward them for performance which results in long-term growth in shareholder value.

The Board expects that the remuneration structure implemented will result in SDI being able to attract and retain the best executives. It will also provide executives with the necessary incentives to work to grow long-term growth in shareholder value.

Further information about SDI's remuneration strategy and policies and their relationship to SDI's performance can be found in the Remuneration Report which forms part of the Directors' Report, together with details of the remuneration paid to KMP.

## b) Equity-based Remuneration

The Board has a set policy on whether participants are permitted to enter into transactions which limit the economic risk of participating in equity-based remuneration schemes. SDI does not permit such transactions.

This Corporate Governance Statement has been approved by the Board and is current as at 26 September 2024.