

**CASH MARKET CLEARING**

**MANAGEMENT INCOME STATEMENT**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**30 JUNE 2023**

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**Management income statement – cash market clearing**

	<b>FY23</b>	<b>FY22</b>
	\$ Million	\$ Million
<b>Revenue</b>		
Cash market clearing	68.4	80.6
Revenue sharing rebate	-	(4.8)
Participation fees	0.1	0.1
Technical services	0.3	0.3
<b>Operating revenue</b>	<b>68.8</b>	<b>76.2</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Staff	(19.8)	(15.7)
Equipment	(2.8)	(2.7)
Occupancy	(0.7)	(0.6)
Administration	(4.2)	(3.1)
ASIC supervision levy	(0.2)	(0.4)
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<b>(27.7)</b>	<b>(22.5)</b>
<b>EBITDA</b>	<b>41.1</b>	<b>53.7</b>
Depreciation and amortisation	(0.6)	(0.9)
<b>EBIT</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>52.8</b>
Net interest income	5.9	0.7
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>46.4</b>	<b>53.5</b>
Tax expense	(13.9)	(16.0)
<b>Profit after tax</b>	<b>32.5</b>	<b>37.5</b>
<b>EBITDA margin</b>	<b>59.7%</b>	<b>70.5%</b>
Total Capital	270.1	294.5
<b>Return on capital</b>	<b>12.0%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>

## Notes to the management income statement

### Summary of significant accounting policies

This statement is the management income statement for the ASX cash market clearing activities. They have been prepared following the commitment made in the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia released by ASX on 18 July 2013 and updated on 12 October 2016.

This management statement was authorised by the Board of Directors of ASX Clear Pty Limited on 25 September 2023.

### Basis of preparation

This special purpose management statement has been prepared on the basis of the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia and the associated ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX Group entities for clearing and settlement of cash equities in Australia. As it is based on management information it does not comply with Australian Accounting standards.

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of this statement are outlined below.

### Revenue recognition

Consistent with the ASX financial statements, revenue is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to these activities and the revenue can be reliably measured. Revenue recognition policies have been consistently applied in each financial year. The specific allocation of revenues is described below.

**Cash market clearing** represents fees earned for the central counterparty clearing of cash market trades transacted on ASX and other venues. Cash market trades include equities, interest rates, warrants and exchange traded funds. Fees are based on a basis point charge on the value of the transaction. These fees are recognised at settlement date, which ordinarily occurs two days after trade date.

**Revenue sharing rebate** represents the amount of cash market clearing fees rebated to clearing participants. The amount of the rebate represents 50% of the growth in revenue (pre-rebate) from cash market clearing in the current period over the prior comparable period (pcp). Rebates are recognised in the period the revenue is earned.

**Participant fees** represent annual and initial fees paid by clearing participants for admission to or participation in ASX Clear Pty Limited. Fees are recognised in the period earned.

**Technical services** represents fees paid for technology connectivity to the ASX clearing and settlement platform. Fees paid to access the CHES platform have been allocated between cash market clearing and cash market settlement on an equivalent basis.

### Expense allocations

Operating expenses have been attributed to cash market clearing based on the ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX Group entities for clearing and settlement of cash equities in Australia. Costs have been attributed as either direct costs, being those that can be directly attributable to the activities specifically undertaken within cash market clearing, or indirect or common costs. Indirect costs are those costs incurred that are not directly attributable to activities within cash market clearing but are undertaken to indirectly support these activities. Attributions of costs have been performed at the individual cost centre for the different divisions within the ASX group of companies.

The attribution of direct and indirect costs by expense categories are described below. The attribution has been consistently applied in each financial year. The cost allocation and transfer pricing policy is available on the ASX website.

## **Notes to the management income statement (continued)**

### **Staff costs**

Direct staff costs have been attributed based on an analysis by division within ASX of the amount of time involved in direct cash market clearing activities. In some divisions this has resulted in an attribution based on the number of full-time equivalent staff costed at actual staff cost for different functions. In other divisions the allocation has been based on the percentage of time on average spent by staff performing cash market clearing activities.

Indirect staff costs have been attributed in two ways: For divisions where the indirect or common activities cannot be specifically identified to cash market clearing, their costs have been allocated on the same percentage as total direct staff costs for all other divisions. For divisions where activities can be estimated based on analysis of functions performed, they have received a percentage allocation on that basis. These estimates are based on various activity drivers which differ among the different divisions.

### **Equipment costs**

Direct equipment costs have been allocated on the basis of specific expenditure incurred on technology platforms supporting the cash market clearing activities. Where technology is shared with other activities, such as the cash market clearing and settlement platform, the allocation has been based on an estimate of the functionality related to each activity.

Indirect equipment costs, being those costs that support technology platforms that provide common services to many business activities, have been allocated on the same basis as total direct staff costs, as this is considered the most appropriate driver.

### **Occupancy costs**

Occupancy costs have been allocated on the basis of direct and indirect staff costs attributed to cash market clearing, as the overall staff costs reflect the appropriate allocation of premises.

### **Administration costs**

All administration costs have been attributed as indirect costs, as there are no specifically identifiable costs in this category for cash market clearing. Administration costs are common across many business units and include items such as stationery, travel, insurances and marketing. As these costs are common to and support many activities, they have been allocated on the basis of indirect staff costs. This is considered to be the most appropriate driver of the majority of this expenditure.

### **Net interest income**

Interest income reflects the investment earnings on the capital attributed to cash market clearing and the investment earnings from participant collateral lodged under cash market margining less interest paid to participants. Clearing participants receive the benchmark cash rate on balances lodged to support cash market positions. An interest charge has been applied on the difference between the liquidity requirement for cash market clearing and the default risk capital attributed, based on market interest rates for similar facilities. The liquidity requirement has been computed on a 'Cover 2' basis, consistent with the Financial Stability Standards. Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis.

## **Notes to the management income statement (continued)**

### **Capital**

The capital attribution to cash market clearing includes default risk capital and operational risk capital supporting the clearing activities, as well as invested capital in the technology infrastructure, required for the efficient operation of the clearing activities of similar scale.

The default risk capital attribution is based on the potential stress loss scenarios applicable to cash market clearing that are adopted in ASX's risk management framework. Default risk capital is in accordance with the Financial Stability Standards, calculated on a 'Cover 2' default basis.

Operational risk capital represents the amount of capital required for operational risk under the Financial Stability Standards.

Invested capital represents the cost of infrastructure supporting the cash market clearing. The value in the current period has been estimated based on the depreciated optimised replacement cost method which is a generally accepted method applied to regulated assets. Where technology infrastructure is shared with other activities, the allocation is on the same basis as that adopted in the allocation of equipment costs.

The capital attribution methodology has been consistently applied in each financial year.

### **Tax**

Tax expense represents a charge based on the applicable income tax rate.

## Directors' declaration

In the opinion of the directors of ASX Clear Pty Limited:

The management income statements and notes that are contained in pages 3 to 6 are in accordance with the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia released by ASX on 18 July 2013 and updated on 12 October 2016, including

- (i) Presenting fairly the management information for the cash market clearing activities of ASX Clear Pty Limited, and
- (ii) Complying with the ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX group entities for clearing and settlement of cash equities in Australia.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of directors.



Stephen W Knight  
Chairman  
ASX Clear Pty Limited

Sydney, 25 September 2023



## Independent auditor's report

To the directors of ASX Clear Pty Limited

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### Our opinion

We have audited the Management income statement (the "Statement") of ASX Clear Pty Limited (the "Company") for the year ended 30 June 2023. The Statement comprises:

- Management income statement – cash market clearing
- Notes to the management income statement
- Directors' declaration.

In our opinion the Statement is prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with the basis of preparation included in the Notes to the management income statement and the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia and the associated ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX Group entities for clearing and settlement of cash equities in Australia.

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### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Statement* section of our report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### *Independence*

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the statement in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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### Emphasis of matter - basis of accounting and restriction on distribution and use

We draw attention to the notes to the Statement which describes the basis of accounting. The Statement has been prepared on the basis of the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia and the associated ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX Group entities for clearing and settlement of cash equities in Australia. As a result, the Statement may not be suitable for another purpose. Our report is intended solely for the Company and its directors and should not be distributed to or used by parties other than the Company and its directors. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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## Responsibilities of the directors for the Statement

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the Statement in accordance with the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia and the associated ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX Group entities for clearing and settlement of Cash Equities in Australia. This includes determining that the Code of Practice for Clearing and Settlement of Cash Equities in Australia and the associated ASX internal cost allocation and transfer pricing policy between ASX Group entities for the clearing and settlement of Cash Equities in Australia is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the Statement in the circumstances, and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the Statement that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Statement

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the Statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the Statement.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the Statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates, if any, and related disclosures made by the directors.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'PricewaterhouseCoopers' in a cursive script.

PricewaterhouseCoopers

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alexandra Richardson' in a cursive script.

Alexandra Richardson  
Partner

Sydney  
25 September 2023