



**FUNDING AGREEMENT  
FOR  
AUCKLAND SMALL BUSINESS FLOOD RELIEF PACKAGE**

**DATED** the            **day** of            **2023**

**BETWEEN**        The Sovereign in Right of New Zealand acting by and through the Chief Executive of the  
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (“**Ministry**”)

**AND**                **The Auckland Regional Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Incorporated)** of 90  
Symonds Street, Grafton, Auckland (“**Recipient**”)

**BACKGROUND**

The Ministry wishes to contribute to the Project by providing funding from the appropriation set out in the Details on the terms set out in this Agreement.

**AGREEMENT**

The Ministry will pay the Funding to the Recipient, and the Recipient accepts the Funding, on the terms and conditions set out in Schedule 1 (Details) and Schedule 2 (Funding Agreement Standard Terms and Conditions).

Signed by **Ross van der Schyff** the  
authorised delegate of the Chief  
Executive of the Ministry of Business  
Innovation and Employment:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed for and on behalf of **The  
Auckland Regional Chamber of  
Commerce & Industry (Incorporated)**  
by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Full Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Title

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**SCHEDULE 1 – DETAILS**

1      **Context**

1.1 Government has at times provided financial assistance and support for businesses in times of disasters. Recognising that adverse events are unique and affect communities and businesses in different ways, bespoke packages are developed for events at Ministerial discretion.

1.2 Over late January and early February 2023, Auckland city was subject to severe rainfall and flooding. In light of the flooding's impact on Auckland small businesses, the Government intends to contribute to a three-part recovery package to help affected small businesses get back on their feet and prepare for future disruptions of similar magnitude.

The three components of the Auckland Small Business Flood Relief package are:

1. advice for business continuity, and increased resilience to future disruptions (to be delivered under a separate funding agreement)
2. mental wellbeing support fund for small business owners and their employees, and
3. a discretionary fund to assist highly vulnerable businesses at high risk of closure.

(together 'the **Package**')

1.3 The Package is intended to be available to all flood-impacted small businesses in Auckland. The Government is also mindful of the desirability of supporting the growth of Māori and Pacific small businesses, and those of ethnic communities, and expects that these businesses will have access to the Package.

1.4 To this end, the Recipient will closely consult, and collaborate wherever possible, with Whāriki Māori business network, the Pacific Business Trust and migrant or ethnic business associations in the development of work programmes. Work programmes must be approved by the Steering Group and must deliver activities outlined in this Agreement.

1.5 The primary purpose of the funding support is for the direct benefit of flood-impacted small businesses. The Recipient will actively promote and deliver the two components of the Package that it is responsible for (the Mental Wellbeing Support Fund and the Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund) to all flood-affected small businesses, including non-members. Where possible, the Recipient will also promote the third part of the package (business continuity and resilience training and support).

## 2 **Governance**

2.1 The Recipient will participate in a Steering Group, that includes representatives of Auckland Business Chamber, Pacific Business Trust, Employers & Manufacturers' Association (Northern),

MBIE, Tātaki Auckland Unlimited, and Whāriki Māori business network. Other organisations may also be included as appropriate ('Steering Group').

2.2 The purpose of the Steering Group, governed by a Terms of Reference, is to is to maximise collaboration in service delivery, and ensure that local knowledge and networks are best utilised. It will be a forum for discussing strategic issues before final decisions are made and implemented. As noted below, the implementation plan for both components of the flood relief package must be agreed by the Steering Group before being implemented.

2.3 In addition, decisions on allocating the Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund must be agreed by an Evaluation Group of that Steering Group, as discussed below.

### 3 **Funding** (*clause 2, Schedule 2*)

3.1 This Agreement provides funding for a total amount of up to \$4,000,000 (plus GST if any), split between:

- Up to \$1,000,000 (plus GST if any) for mental wellbeing support, through a boost to the existing First Steps programme; and
- Up to \$3,000,000 (plus GST if any) for discretionary flood recovery disbursements, to support significantly impacted businesses that are especially vulnerable.

3.2 Administration cost will be incurred by the Recipient to deliver the Package. These can be up to 4% of the total funding. Funds will be sourced from within the total funding amount of \$4,000,000. Administration costs of the Recipient may include the costs to design, manage, and report on the two components of the Package.

### 4 **Project** (*clause 3, Schedule 2*)

4.1 The Recipient will implement and manage two components of the Package described from clause 4.3 to clause 4.13 below in consultation with stakeholder working groups for work programme design input and refer to Steering Group for key programme design decisions.

4.2 Each component of the package will have its own Working Group, operating as a subcommittee and reporting through to the Steering Group. The functions of each working group are described below.

*Mental wellbeing support fund (First Steps extension)*

- 4.3 The purpose of this component of the flood relief package is to provide wellbeing support to flood-impacted small business owners and their employees. This component will enable the reinstatement of 1:1 support from qualified health and wellbeing service providers through the First Steps mental wellbeing initiative, subject to approval by the Steering Group.
- 4.4 While the service will be promoted principally to individuals in Auckland, the Recipient will ensure that no person seeking support is turned away because they are located elsewhere in New Zealand. The service will be readily accessible, with minimal or no delays, at no cost to the business owners and employees.
- 4.5 The Recipient will establish a Working Group that includes representation from key delivery partners and the Auckland small business community to design the implementation plan. This Working Group will operate as a subcommittee of the Steering Group.
- 4.6 As part of establishing the Working Group, the Recipient will create a protocol to manage Working Group members' conflicts of interest, including a register to record all conflicts and how they are managed.
- 4.7 Before the funds are allocated for this component of the package, the Recipient will with support from the Working Group, draft an implementation plan, including a budget with breakdown of delivery costs, for the Mental Wellbeing Support Fund and submit it to the Steering Group for approval.

*Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund*

- 4.8 The Recipient will implement and manage a discretionary Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund of up to \$3,000,000 (plus GST if any). This funding will provide for a reserved discretionary fund that can only be drawn down for small businesses at high risk of closure due to the flooding, who face significant periods of time closed or who have very significant impact on their operations.
- 4.9 The Recipient will design and administer the discretionary fund, including by performing the following functions:

- establishing an equitable, timely and accessible process for Auckland small businesses to make a case for discretionary funding
- deciding on all disbursements in a timely, fair and transparent way
- disbursing the funding
- ensuring, to the extent possible, probity and fairness in respect of all disbursements, including robust management of any perceived or actual conflicts of interest
- publish the detail of all disbursements on the Recipient's website.

4.10 Qualifying small businesses must:

- have no less than one employee, and no more than 20, at the time of impact from flooding
- have been directly impacted by the flooding, including, but not limited to having sustained damage to property and been unable to trade during normal trading hours
- face significant cashflow issues due to continued challenges with customer access, ability to source stock, or operate as usual due to physical damage to equipment or premises, or delays in insurance assessment and repairs
- be an otherwise viable business both before and after the flooding, and
- commit to acting in line with employment law and with due regard to their employees.

4.11 The Recipient will ensure that each drawdown on the Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund is:

- no more than \$10,000 total per small business supported (excluding GST if any)
- for an amount proportionate to the true and actual financial challenges faced by the small business due to the floods
- applied for, and granted, no more than once per eligible small business.

4.12 Before implementing the Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund, the Recipient must draft and submit to the Steering Group for approval an implementation plan which will include (but is not limited to):

- how the Funding will be managed before and during distribution of this funding
- how the distribution of the Funding will be administered, including a list of authorised officers for fund distribution and delegated authorities

- proposed approaches and mechanisms for directly targeting the small businesses most in need of this support, and/or those that are more disadvantaged by typical delivery methods.
- criteria by which distributions by the Recipient will be assessed (which will reflect the criteria noted under clauses 4.10 and 4.11 Schedule 1 of this Agreement)
- a budget showing the breakdown of fair and reasonable costs associated with the delivery of the Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund.

4.13 The Recipient will establish a funding Evaluation Group, including representation from key delivery partners and the Auckland small business community, which will review proposals for relief funding. This funding Evaluation Group will operate as a subcommittee of the Steering Group. The funding Evaluation Group is not limited to passively reviewing funding proposals and should proactively engage with Auckland business communities to identify where the needs are greatest, where discretionary funding would make the biggest difference, and that the support provided fairly reflects the diversity of small businesses in the Auckland region.

## 5 **Subcontracting**

5.1 The Recipient may subcontract delivery of services within the Package. In all such cases, the Recipient remains responsible for delivery of the services and use of funds in accordance with this Agreement.

5.2 When considering any subcontracting, the Recipient will be alert to opportunities to leverage existing systems and expertise, to maximise participation of Māori and Pacific small businesses, and to ensure best value for money.

5.3 Any subcontracting in regard to the delivery of the Package must be agreed by the Steering Group.

## 6 **Payment terms** (clause 2, Schedule 2)

In instalments on the payment dates set out below, subject to completion of the relevant milestone to the Ministry's satisfaction:

<b>Instalment (plus GST (if any))</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Milestone</b>
<b>Mental Wellbeing Support Fund</b>		
\$500,000	On receipt of invoice from the	Agreement of the operational plan for the Mental Wellbeing



	Recipient	Support Fund by Steering Group.
Further payments for Mental Wellbeing Support Fund as agreed by Steering Group up to a total of \$500,000	On receipt of invoice from the Recipient	Mental Wellbeing Support Fund: Evidence to demonstrate ongoing demand, prioritisation of needs and amount required, provided to and agreed by the Steering Group.  May occur multiple times.
<b>Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund</b>		
\$1,500,000	On receipt of invoice from the Recipient	Agreement of the operational plan for the Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund by Steering Group.
Further payments for Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund as agreed by Steering Group up to a total of \$1,500,000	On receipt of invoice from the Recipient	Flood Recovery Disbursement Fund: Evidence of full funding amount required provided and agreed by Steering Group.  May occur multiple times.

7 **Commencement Date** *(clause 4.1 Schedule 2)*

The date the agreement is signed

8 **Completion Date** *(clause 2.6(b), Schedule 2)*

30 June 2023

9 **Reporting Requirements** *(clause 5.1, Schedule 2)*

Provided Weekly (day of week to be agreed) and within 20 Business Days of completion of the Project to the Steering Group and MBIE.

10 **Content of Report** *(clause 5.1, Schedule 2)*

The report must include:

- (a) progress of the Project, including achievement of Project Tasks (if any);
- (b) Delivery metrics, including grants approved, businesses supported, events held, funding disbursed;
- (c) a summary of expenditure to date, actual against budgeted;
- (d) plans for the next period;
- (e) any issues arising or expected to arise with the Project or this Agreement; and
- (f) any other information requested by the Ministry.

Item (d) is not required in the final report following completion of the Project.

**11 Unspent Funds**

11.1 The Recipient will return to the Ministry all Funding not spent and for which contractual liabilities have not yet been incurred as at the Completion Date.

**12 Address for Notices** (*clause 12.5, Schedule 2*)

<b>Ministry:</b>	<b>Recipient:</b>
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment 15 Stout Street PO Box 1473 WELLINGTON  Email address: Jacinda.Swain@mbie.govt.nz Attention: Jacinda Swain	The Auckland Regional Chamber of Commerce & Industry (Incorporated) 90 Symonds Street, Grafton, AUCKLAND  Email address: sbridges@chamber.co.nz Attention: Simon Bridges

## FUNDING AGREEMENT STANDARD TERMS AND CONDITIONS - SCHEDULE 2

### 1. Interpretation

1.1 In this Agreement, the following terms have the following meanings:

“**Agreement**” means this agreement, including Schedule 1 and this Schedule 2;

“**Business Day**” means any day not being a Saturday or Sunday or public holiday within the meaning of section 44 of the Holidays Act 2003;

“**Commencement Date**” means the commencement date set out in the Details or, if no commencement date is set out, the date of this Agreement.

“**Completion Date**” has the meaning given in the Details;

“**Confidential Information**” includes all information and data (in any form) concerning the organisation, administration, operation, business, clients, finance, and methods of the Ministry, including any information provided by the Ministry under or in connection with this Agreement;

“**Details**” means Schedule 1;

“**Funding**” means the funding amount set out in the Details;

“**GST**” means goods and services tax within the meaning of the Goods and Services Tax Act 1985;

“**Intellectual Property Rights**” includes copyright and all rights conferred under statute, common law or equity in relation to inventions (including patents), registered or unregistered trade marks and designs, circuit layouts, data and databases, confidential information, know-how, and all other rights resulting from intellectual activity;

“**Parties**” means the Ministry and the Recipient and their respective successors and permitted assigns;

“**Project**” means the project described in the Details; and

“**Project Tasks**” means the project tasks (if any) set out in the Details which must

be completed by the Recipient before a Funding payment is made by the Ministry.

1.2 References to clauses and Schedules are to clauses and Schedules of this Agreement and references to persons include bodies corporate, unincorporated associations or partnerships.

1.3 The headings in this Agreement are for convenience only and have no legal effect.

1.4 The singular includes the plural and vice versa.

1.5 “Including” and similar words do not imply any limitation.

1.6 References to a statute include references to that statute as amended or replaced from time to time.

1.7 Monetary references are references to New Zealand currency.

1.8 If there is any conflict of meaning between the Details and Schedule 2, Schedule 2 will prevail.

### 2. Funding

2.1 The Ministry must pay the Funding at the rate and in the manner set out in the Details. The Funding is the total amount payable by the Ministry for the Project.

2.2 The Recipient must provide a valid GST invoice to the Ministry for all Funding due in the manner set out in the Details. The invoice must:

- a. be sent directly to the Ministry in PDF format via email to [mbie.invoices@mbie.govt.nz](mailto:mbie.invoices@mbie.govt.nz);
- b. be copied to the relevant Ministry contact as set out in paragraph 13 of the Details;
- c. include sufficient information reasonably required to enable the Ministry to validate the claim for payment including a reference to this Agreement (under which the invoice is issued);
- d. be clearly and legibly marked to

Ministry staff as advised by the Ministry to the Recipient from time to time.

- 2.3 The Ministry is not obliged to make any payment under this Agreement until an invoice which complies with clause 2.2 has been received by it from the Recipient. Payments will be made to the credit of a bank account to be designated in writing by the Recipient.
- 2.4 The Funding is inclusive of all taxation except GST. The Ministry will be entitled to deduct any withholding tax required to be withheld by law from payments made to the Recipient and will not be required to gross-up or increase any such payments in respect of such amounts withheld.
- 2.5 The Recipient must use the Funding only to carry out the Project in accordance with this Agreement.
- 2.6 In consideration of the Funding, the Recipient must:
- (a) complete each Project Task (if any) by the relevant payment date set out in the Details;
  - (b) complete the Project to the Ministry's satisfaction by the Completion Date;
  - (c) carry out the Project in accordance with:
    - (i) the methodology (if any) set out in the Details;
    - (ii) the best currently accepted principles and practice applicable to the field(s) of expertise relating to the Project; and
    - (iii) all applicable laws, regulations, rules and professional codes of conduct or practice; and
  - (d) refund any unspent Funding to the Ministry within 10 Business Days of the Completion Date.
- 2.7 Where all of the monies received by the Recipient to carry out the Project (including the Funding) exceeds the total cost of the Project, the Recipient must refund to the Ministry the excess amount. The Recipient

is not required to refund, under this clause 2.7, any amount that exceeds the total amount of Funding.

### **3. Project Progress**

- 3.1 If:
- (a) the Ministry is not satisfied with the progress of the Project;
  - (b) the Recipient does or omits to do something, or any matter concerning the Recipient comes to the Ministry's attention, which, in the Ministry's opinion, may damage the business or reputation of the Ministry; or
  - (c) the Recipient breaches any of its obligations under this Agreement,
- the Ministry may (without limiting its other remedies):
- (d) renegotiate this Agreement with the Recipient; or
  - (e) terminate this Agreement immediately by notice to the Recipient, and clause 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 will apply.

### **4. Term and Termination**

- 4.1 Subject to clauses 4.2 and 4.3, this Agreement will commence on the Commencement Date and expire when:
- (a) the final report is completed and provided to the Ministry; and
  - (b) the Project is completed,
- to the satisfaction of the Ministry.
- 4.2 The Ministry may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving at least 10 Business Days' notice to the Recipient.
- 4.3 The Ministry may terminate this Agreement immediately by giving notice to the Recipient, if the Recipient:
- (a) is in breach of any of its obligations under this Agreement and that breach is not capable of being remedied;
  - (b) fails to remedy any breach of its obligations under this Agreement within 5 Business Days of receipt of

- notice of the breach from the Ministry;
- (c) does or omits to do something, or any matter concerning the Recipient comes to the Ministry's attention, which in the Ministry's opinion may cause damage to the business or reputation of the Ministry or of the Government of New Zealand;
  - (d) has given or gives any information to the Ministry which is misleading or inaccurate in any material respect; or
  - (e) becomes insolvent, bankrupt or subject to any form of insolvency action or administration.
- 4.4 Termination of this Agreement is without prejudice to the rights and obligations of the Parties accrued up to and including the date of termination.
- 4.5 On termination of this Agreement, the Ministry may (without limiting any of its other rights or remedies):
- (a) require the Recipient to provide evidence of how the Funding has been spent; and/or
  - (b) require the Recipient to refund to the Ministry:
    - (i) any of the Funding that has not been spent or committed by the Recipient. For the purposes of this clause, Funding is committed where it has been provided or promised to a third party for the purpose of carrying out the Project and the Recipient, after using reasonable endeavours, is unable to secure a refund or release from that promise (as the case may be); or
    - (ii) the proportion of the Funding that equates to the uncompleted part of the Project, as reasonably determined by the Ministry ; and/or
  - (c) if the Funding has been misused, or misappropriated, by the Recipient, require the Recipient to refund all Funding paid up to the date of termination, together with interest at the rate of 10% per annum from the date the Recipient was paid the money to the date the Recipient returns the money.
- 4.6 The provisions of this Agreement relating to termination (clause 4), audit and record-keeping (clause 5.2(b), (c) and (d)), warranties (clause 6), intellectual property (clause 7), confidentiality (clause 8), and liability and insurance (clause 9) will continue after the expiry or termination of this Agreement.
- 5. Reporting Requirements and Audit**
- 5.1 The Recipient must report on the progress of the Project to the Ministry:
- (a) as set out in the Details;
  - (b) as otherwise reasonably required by the Ministry; and
  - (c) in any format and on any medium reasonably required by the Ministry.
- 5.2 The Recipient must:
- (a) maintain true and accurate records in connection with the use of the Funding and the carrying out of the Project sufficient to enable the Ministry to meet its obligations under the Public Finance Act 1989 and retain such records for at least 7 years after termination or expiry of this Agreement;
  - (b) permit the Ministry, at the Ministry's expense, to inspect or audit (using an auditor nominated by the Ministry), from time to time until 7 years after termination or expiry of this Agreement, all records relevant to this Agreement;
  - (c) allow the Ministry reasonable access to the Recipient's premises or other premises where the Project is being carried out; and
  - (d) appoint a reputable firm of chartered accountants as auditors to audit its financial statements in relation to the use of the Funding;

## 6. Warranties

6.1 Each Party warrants to the other Party that it has full power and authority to enter into and perform its obligations under this Agreement which, when executed, will constitute binding obligations on it in accordance with this Agreement's terms.

6.2 The Recipient warrants that:

- (a) it is not insolvent or bankrupt and no action has been taken to initiate any form of insolvency administration in relation to the Recipient;
- (b) all information provided by it to the Ministry in connection with this Agreement was, at the time it was provided, true, complete and accurate in all material respects; and
- (c) it is not aware of any material information that has not been disclosed to the Ministry which may, if disclosed, materially adversely affect the decision of the Ministry whether to provide the Funding.

## 7. Intellectual Property

7.1 All Intellectual Property Rights in the reports provided under clause 5.1 will be owned by the Ministry from the date the reports are created or developed.

7.2 All intellectual property produced by the Recipient or its employees or contractors in relation to the Project is, on creation, jointly owned by the Ministry and the Recipient. Each Party may use (which includes modifying, developing, assigning, or licensing) such intellectual property without obtaining the prior consent of the other Party. On request, the Recipient must provide to the Ministry such intellectual property in any format, and on any medium, reasonably requested by the Ministry.

7.3 The Recipient must ensure that material created or developed in connection with the Project does not infringe the Intellectual Property Rights of any person.

## 8. Confidentiality

8.1 The Recipient must:

- (a) keep the Confidential Information confidential at all times;
- (b) not disclose any Confidential Information to any person other than its employees or contractors to whom disclosure is necessary for purposes of the Project or this Agreement;
- (c) effect and maintain adequate security measures to safeguard the Confidential Information from access or use by unauthorised persons; and
- (d) ensure that any employees or contractors to whom it discloses the Confidential information are aware of, and comply with, the provisions of this clause 8.

8.2 The obligations of confidentiality in clause 8.1 do not apply to any disclosure of Confidential Information:

- (a) to the extent that such disclosure is necessary for the purposes of completing the Project;
- (b) required by law; or
- (c) where the information has become public other than through a breach of the obligation of confidentiality in this clause 8 by the Recipient, or its employees or contractors, or was disclosed to a Party on a non-confidential basis by a third party.

8.3 The Recipient must obtain the Ministry's prior written agreement over the form and content of any public statement made by the Recipient relating to this Agreement, the Funding, or the Project.

## 9. Liability and Insurance

9.1 The Ministry is not liable for any loss of profit, loss of revenue or other indirect, consequential or incidental loss or damage arising under or in connection with this Agreement.

9.2 The maximum liability of the Ministry under or in connection with this Agreement whether arising in contract, tort (including negligence) or otherwise is the total amount which would be payable under this Agreement if the Project had

been carried out in accordance with this Agreement.

9.3 The Recipient (including its employees, agents, and contractors, if any) is not an employee, agent or partner of the Ministry or of the Chief Executive of the Ministry. At no time will the Ministry have any liability to meet any of the Recipient's obligations under the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 or to pay to the Recipient:

- (a) holiday pay, sick pay or any other payment under the Holidays Act 2003; or
- (b) redundancy or any other form of severance pay; or
- (c) taxes or levies, including any levies under the Accident Compensation Act 2001.

9.4 The Recipient indemnifies the Ministry against any claim, liability, loss or expense (including legal fees on a solicitor own client basis) ("loss") brought or threatened against, or incurred by the Ministry, arising from or in connection with a breach of this Agreement by the Recipient or the Project, or from the negligence or wilful misconduct of the Recipient, its employees or contractors.

9.5 Where the Recipient is a trustee, the Ministry acknowledges that the Recipient has entered into this Agreement as a trustee of the trust named in Schedule 1 in an independent capacity without any interest in any of the assets of the trust other than as trustee. Except where the Recipient acts fraudulently, the Recipient is liable under this Agreement only to the extent of the value of the assets of the trust available to meet the Recipient's liability, plus any amount by which the value of those assets has been diminished by any breach of trust caused by the Recipient's wilful default or dishonesty.

9.6 The Recipient must effect and maintain for the term of this Agreement:

- (a) adequate insurance to cover standard commercial risks; and

- (b) other insurance reasonably required by the Ministry.

The Recipient must, upon request by the Ministry, provide the Ministry with evidence of its compliance with this clause.

## **10. Dispute Resolution**

10.1 The Parties will attempt to resolve any dispute or difference that may arise under or in connection with this Agreement amicably and in good faith, referring the dispute to the Parties' senior managers for resolution if necessary.

10.2 If the Parties' senior managers are unable to resolve the dispute within 10 Business Days of it being referred to them, the Parties will refer the dispute to mediation or another form of alternative dispute resolution agreed between the Parties.

10.3 If a dispute is referred to mediation, the mediation will be conducted by a single mediator appointed by the Parties (or if they cannot agree, appointed by the Chair of LEADR New Zealand Inc.) and on the terms of the LEADR New Zealand Inc. standard mediation agreement (unless the Parties agree otherwise). The Parties will pay their own costs relating to any mediation or other form of alternative dispute resolution (unless they agree otherwise).

10.4 The Parties must continue to perform their obligations under this Agreement as far as possible as if no dispute had arisen pending final resolution of the dispute.

10.5 Nothing in this clause 10 precludes either Party from taking immediate steps to seek urgent relief before a New Zealand Court.

## **11. Force Majeure**

11.1 Neither Party will be liable to the other for any failure to perform its obligations under this Agreement by reason of any cause or circumstance beyond the Party's reasonable control including, acts of God, communication line failures, power failures, riots, strikes, lock-outs, labour disputes, fires, war, flood, earthquake or other disaster, or governmental action after the date of this Agreement ("Force

Majeure Event"). The Party affected must:

- (a) notify the other Party as soon as practicable after the Force Majeure Event occurs and provide full information concerning the Force Majeure Event including an estimate of the time likely to be required to overcome it;
- (b) use its best endeavours to overcome the Force Majeure Event; and
- (c) continue to perform its obligations as far as practicable.

## 12. General

12.1 A waiver by either Party of any rights arising from any breach of any term of this Agreement will not be a continuing waiver of any other rights arising from any other breaches of the same or other terms or conditions of this Agreement. No failure or delay on the part of either Party in the exercise of any right or remedy in this Agreement will operate as a waiver. No single or partial exercise of any such right or remedy will preclude any other or further exercise of that or any other right or remedy.

12.2 Assignment:

- (a) The Recipient must not assign, delegate, subcontract or transfer any or all of its rights and obligations under this Agreement. The Recipient remains liable for performance of its obligations under this Agreement despite any approved subcontracting or assignment.
- (b) If the Recipient is a company, any transfer of shares, or other arrangement affecting the Recipient or its holding company which results in a change in the effective control of the Recipient is deemed to be an assignment subject to clause 12.2(a).

12.3 This Agreement may only be varied by agreement in writing signed by the Parties.

12.4 If any part or provision of this Agreement is invalid, unenforceable or in conflict with the law, the invalid or unenforceable part or provision will be replaced with a provision which, as far as possible, accomplishes the original purpose of the part or provision. The remainder of the Agreement will be binding on the Parties.

12.5 Any notice to be given under this Agreement must be in writing and hand delivered or sent by email or registered post to the Parties' respective email address, postal address as set out in the Details. A notice is deemed to be received:

- (a) if personally delivered when delivered; or
- (b) if posted, three Business Days after posting;
- (c) if sent by email, at the time the email enters the Recipient's information system as evidenced by a delivery receipt requested by the sender and it is not returned undelivered or as an error,

provided that any notice received after 5pm or on a day which is not a Business Day shall be deemed not to have been received until the next Business Day.

12.6 This Agreement sets out the entire agreement and understanding of the Parties and supersedes all prior oral or written agreements, understandings or arrangements relating to its subject matter.

12.7 This Agreement may be signed in any number of counterparts (including emailed copies) and provided that each Party has signed a counterpart, the counterparts, when taken together, will constitute a binding and enforceable agreement between the Parties.

12.8 This Agreement will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of New Zealand.