



MARTIN CURRIE

29th October 2020

Manager
Market Conduct Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
Parkes ACT 2600

businesscomms@treasury.gov.au

Consultation on making permanent reforms in respect of virtual meetings and electronic document execution

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you on behalf of Martin Currie who is a global fund manager with A\$21bn in listed equity strategies under management. Of these assets, A\$10billion is in Australian equities and is managed by the Martin Currie Australia team. As such we consider ourselves to be able to represent stakeholder views to the draft legislation to make permanent changes to the Corporations Act 2001, in relation to virtual meetings and electronic document execution.

We believe virtual only meetings limit shareholders' abilities to engage with corporate officials, raise questions and hinder the transparent expression of views. Overall, we believe they reduce the transparency of the governance process.

We would not be supportive of virtual only meetings as this reform proposes.

Should you wish to discuss our submission further, please contact Megan Scott on mscott@martincurrie.com.au

Thank you

Megan Scott

Chief Operating Officer, Martin Currie Australia

Martin Currie Australia

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