



Audit Transparency Report
ELDERTON AUDIT PTY LTD
2023

Forward

Elderton Audit Pty Ltd ('Elderton') is dedicated to delivering high-quality audits to the business community. This Transparency Report for the year to 30 June 2023 is a public statement to management, directors, audit committees, regulators, and investors of our commitment to provide quality assurance services. It is prepared in accordance with the requirements set out in Section 332 of the *Corporations Act 2001*. It explains how Elderton is run and how we ensure that we perform audits of the highest quality.

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Legal structure and ownership

Elderton is responsible for the issue of this report.

Our authorised audit company is Elderton Audit Pty Ltd, which is owned by its directors, each of whom are highly qualified and experienced registered company auditors.

Governance

Elderton is governed by a Board, which is made up of the directors of Elderton. The Board meets regularly and its responsibilities include:

- Strategic planning and implementation
- Marketing
- Protecting and enhancing the brand
- Overseeing risk management and quality control
- Development and implementation of policies
- Management

Audit quality

Setting the right tone at the top is a key responsibility of the directors of Elderton, who are committed to maintaining a culture of honesty, integrity and quality. On every audit the assigned engagement director is responsible for the achievement of quality outcomes. However, every individual on the audit team makes a difference with their professional judgement, scepticism and technical expertise.

Elderton Group has demonstrated a commitment to implementing the International Standard on Quality Management (ISQM) 1, ensuring full compliance with the standard's requirements. This includes a comprehensive risk assessment process and the establishment of procedures to effectively mitigate these risks.

Elderton Group are committed to regulatory compliance and continuous improvement ensuring our ability to deliver consistent, high-quality products and services. Elderton Group's approach to ISQM1 implementation contributes significantly to operational transparency and instils confidence in our commitment to excellence.

Our audits are undertaken using CaseWare Working Papers and Audit Template (CaseWare), which are industry-accepted audit software tools. Including a suite of electronic software programs, checklists, and audit work papers, and a document management system; the use of CaseWare helps ensure our audits adopt a risk based approach tailored to meet the specific needs of the engagement, and are completed in accordance with auditing standards.

For audits and reviews of public interest entities (including listed companies) an engagement quality control reviewer (EQCR) is appointed upon commencement of the engagement. The EQCR is a Registered Company Auditor and is not part of the engagement team. The EQCR is required to complete and document their review of the audit file prior to issuance of the auditor's report.

It is Elderton's policy to regularly engage an external commercial organisation that provides quality control services to perform a review of a sample of audit files for compliance with auditing standards and other professional and technical requirements. Any identified areas for improvement are communicated to all assurance professionals and incorporated into in-house training programs.

Basford Consulting specialising in providing expert accounting and auditing advice and has been engaged by Elderton to review our internal monitoring and review processes. Basford Consulting is led by Wayne Basford and Susan Oldmeadow-Hall who have been technical accounting partners in several leading accounting practices.

The Australian Securities and Investments Commission (“ASIC”) has the responsibility for oversight of auditors in Australia. ASIC monitors compliance with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* as it relates to auditor independence and audit quality. The Chartered Accountants Australia & New Zealand (“CA ANZ”) has a Quality Review Program to monitor whether its members have quality control policies and procedures in place to comply with professional standards and legal requirements.

ASIC last performed a review of Elderton’s publicly-listed audit client in the year 2020. We are not permitted to disclose detailed findings from external reviews and readers are advised that no assumptions regarding the scope of, or findings from, any of the inspections be made.

Independence

All personnel, including administrative staff, are required to sign a representation letter when hired (and annually thereafter) as to whether they have any conflicts of interests under APES 110: *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* and Part 2M.4 – Div 3 – ‘Auditor Independence’ of the *Corporations Act 2001* with the audit clients of Elderton (any relationships that may create a potential threat to independence are required to be documented on the confirmation)

On each audit engagement, the engagement director considers relevant information about the client and evaluates the overall impact, if any, on independence requirements as part of the engagement acceptance and continuance decision.

On each audit engagement, all assurance professionals who are assigned to provide services as part of the engagement are required to confirm and document their independence of the audit client.

Our engagement director and EQCR rotation procedures comply with the requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and *APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants*. For audits of listed companies, the engagement director and EQCR are rotated after five consecutive years of service. Following rotation, these audit directors are not permitted to have any involvement in the audit engagement for a period of five years. To monitor compliance with these rotation procedures, a database is maintained that tracks audit director involvement on each listed company. The database is reviewed on an ongoing basis.

Periodically, directors and management review the adequacy and operation of the Elderton’s independence policies and procedures for compliance with legal and professional standards. The Board confirms that the internal quality control system was functioning and effective during the year ended 30 June 2023.

Continuing professional education (CPE)

All directors and qualified staff are required to keep up to date with the latest professional standards, including ethical and independence requirements. On an ongoing basis, the directors and management assess the audit team’s CPE needs and plan the team training after considering, among other things; CPE activities that interest each professional’s level of experience, client responsibilities, prior CPE training, new or emerging professional standards, and applicable legal and regulatory requirements. CPE includes presentations and webinars organised by external specialists, CA ANZ training courses, and in-house training sessions.

Graduates are provided with a range of learning opportunities, including on-the-job coaching from senior staff and experience-based learning. All assurance professionals are encouraged to complete the CA ANZ Chartered Accountants Program or CPA Program. We require all our assurance professionals to obtain a minimum of 20 hours of comprehensive audit and financial reporting learning and development per annum. Chartered Accountants are required to comply with the CPE requirements of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand. Detailed CPE records are maintained for each professional staff member.

Financial information

Our authorised audit company is Elderton Audit Pty Ltd. Revenue of this company is outlined below:

	Year ended 30 June 2023 (\$)
Audits of financial statements [^]	1,122,818.75
Other services provided	136,953.50
Total	1,259,772.25

[^] Comprises of revenue from the audit of financial statements of companies and disclosing entities only. Other assurance services are included within 'other services'.

Director remuneration

The Elderton director's remuneration reflects the market value of the position and is assessed periodically, based on both earnings growth of Elderton, as well as the director's personal performance in such areas as quality of work, leadership and management of staff, organisation of client work flow and compliance with company policy and procedures.

Public interest entities

The following is a list of audits conducted by the authorised audit company, Elderton for the year ended 30 June 2023. The list only includes audits of listed companies, listed registered schemes, authorised deposit-taking institutions within the meaning of the *Banking Act 1959*, and certain businesses regulated by APRA:

ASX Listed

Amex Resources Ltd
Auris Minerals Limited
Aruma Resources Limited
Balamara Resources Ltd
Bryah Resources Limited
Surefire Resources NL
Cosol Ltd
Emu NL
Classic Minerals Limited
Image Resources NL
Lucapa Diamond Company Limited
Magnetic Resources NL
Middle Island Resources Limited
Podium Minerals Limited
Kula Gold Ltd
Aspermont Ltd
Star Minerals Limited

AIM Listed

Mosman Oil and Gas Limited

