[CLIENT:BUSINESSNAME] [CUSTOM:POSTALADDRESS] [CUSTOM:POSTALCITY] [CUSTOM:POSTALREGION] [CUSTOM:POSTCODE] [CUSTOM:POSTALCOUNTRY]

Dear [PRIMARYCONTACT:NAME],

#### **Re: Engagement of our services**

Further to our recent discussions, we are pleased to accept the appointment as your accountant and now set out our understanding of the scope and terms of this engagement for the following entities:

- Company
- Trust
- Individual

We will be responsible for the following:

- [DELETE ANY ACTIVITIES NOT RELEVANT TO YOUR ENGAGEMENT]
- Preparation of the Annual Financial Accounts, including the Profit and Loss Statement and the Balance Sheet, commencing with the [insert year] financial year.
- 2. Preparation of Income Tax Returns.
- 3. Preparation of the Company's ASIC Annual Statement.
- 4. Preparation of the Company's Solvency Statement. (we note you will be responsible for determining the appropriateness signing the solvency statement)
- 5. Preparation of Company Minutes etc. to comply with statutory requirements.
- 6. Preparation of ASIC documents for changes to company information as required from time to time
- 7. Review and assist in preparation of your BAS/GST, PAYGW and PAYGI obligations to the ATO as agreed.
- Preparation of WorkCover Obligations with respect to Rateable Remuneration when specifically requested
- 9. Preparation of Taxable Payment Reporting obligations when specifically requested
- 10. Preparation of PAYG Payment Summaries & PAYG Payment Summary Statements when specifically requested
- 11. Preparation of your FBT Return and any FBT Declarations when specifically requested
- 12. Review of your financial accounts to ensure consistency with the FBT return.
- 13. When requested, advising or instructing staff on the maintenance of the accounting and internal control systems.
- 14. Advice as requested from time to time.
- 15. Preparation of management accounts to be relied upon by the director/(s) when specifically requested

## [DELETE ANY ACTIVITIES NOT RELEVANT TO YOUR ENGAGEMENT]

With respect to Corporate Secretarial engagements we will be responsible for:

- 1. Preparation of ASIC Forms as required from time to time to effect company changes
- 2. Lodgement of signed ASIC Forms
- 3. Preparation of Draft Solvency Declarations for your consideration

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# 4. Preparation of ASIC Annual Review Statement

# [DELETE ANY ACTIVITIES NOT RELEVANT TO YOUR ENGAGEMENT REMOVE IF SAGE BUSINESS ARE NOT REGISTERED OFFICE]

With respect to Corporate Secretarial engagements you will be responsible for:

- 1. Review of ASIC Forms to ensure all contents are correct prior to signing
- Obtaining signatures of documentation and returning to our office 3 working days prior to lodgement deadlines to avoid penalties for late lodgement
- 3. Review the Draft Solvency Declaration and sign after assessing company solvency
- 4. Payment of Annual ASIC fees direct to ASIC by due date as required.
- 5. Should you require any changes to your company register additional ASIC fees may be charged.

Specifically excluded from this engagement is advice & service in relation to:

- 1. Preparation and advice on Land Tax obligations
- 2. Preparation and advice on Stamp Duty obligations
- 3. Preparation of Payroll Tax obligations
- 4. Preparation of Payroll Related Duties outside those specifically identified as being included in this engagement
- 5. Calculations & lodgements of documentation in relation to industry specific requirements (eg Co-Invest, Incolink, etc)
- 6. All ASIC related documents and transactions (Remove if we are registered ASIC Agent)

You will be responsible for payments to be made to ASIC, ATO and other statutory authorities as required. Unless specifically authorised in writing, this engagement does not extend to us handling any of your money in the capacity as our client.

If we are requested to provide other specific service(s) they will be the subject of a separate engagement letter and thus a separate fee.

This work will be conducted in accordance with the relevant professional and ethical standards issued by the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB) and with Corporations Law & the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993 (where this legislation is relevant to the task).

We understand that an audit of the Financial Accounts is not required, and therefore we will not be expressing an opinion as to the truth and fairness of those statements. However, we will inform you of any such material matters that come to our attention.

To help us complete the elements of this engagement in an appropriate manner you will need to provide us with various information from time to time. We would request that this information be provided within the requested time frames, however should you be in a position where you cannot meet a time frame please advise our team as soon as you become aware of this situation.

## **Responsibilities**

You or your staff will be responsible for maintaining and regularly balancing all books of accounts, and the maintenance of an adequate accounting and internal control system. You also acknowledge that the reliability, accuracy and completeness of the accounting records are your responsibility and that you have disclosed to us all material and relevant information.

Our involvement in this type of engagement will not disclose fraud, defalcations or other irregularities which may occur. However, any material weaknesses in the accounting or internal control systems which come to our notice will be drawn to your attention.

Please be aware that:

(a) you are responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the particulars and information provided in relation to taxation services and this responsibility rests with you;

(b) any advice given to you is only an opinion based on our knowledge of your particular circumstances; and (c) a taxpayer has obligations under self assessment to keep full and proper records in order to facilitate the preparation of accurate returns. It is the taxpayer's responsibility to keep those records for five (5) years.

Any information acquired by us in the course of our engagement is subject to strict confidentiality requirements. Information will not be disclosed by us to other parties except as required or allowed for by law or professional standards, or with your express consent. Our files may, however, be subject to review as part of the quality control review program of CPA Australia which monitors compliance with professional standards by its members. We advise you that by signing this letter you acknowledge that, if requested, our files relating to this engagement will be made available under this program. Should this occur, we will advise you. The same strict confidentiality requirements apply under this program as apply to us.

We may collect Personal Information about your representatives, your clients and others when we provide services to you. If we do, you agree to work with us to ensure that we both meet the obligations that we each may have under the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) (as amended) (**Privacy Act**). The obligations may include notifying the relevant person to whom the personal information relates who we are and how we propose to use their personal information. Where you have collected personal information, you confirm that you have collected the personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act, that you are entitled to provide this personal information to us and that we may use and disclose the personal information for the purpose/s we provide our services to you. We will handle personal information in accordance with the Privacy Act.

A taxpayer is responsible under self assessment to keep full and proper records in order to facilitate the preparation of a correct return. Whilst the Commissioner of Taxation will accept claims made by a taxpayer in an income tax return and issue a notice of assessment, usually without adjustment, the return may be subject to later review. Under the taxation law such a review may take place within a period of up to four (4) years after tax becomes due and payable under the assessment. Furthermore, where there is fraud or evasion there is no time limit on amending the assessment. Accordingly, you should check the return before it is signed to ensure that the information in the return is accurate.

Where the application of a taxation law to your particular circumstances is uncertain you also have the right to request a private ruling which will set out the Commissioner's opinion about the way a taxation law applies, or would apply, to you in those circumstances. You must provide a description of all of the facts (with supporting documentation) that are relevant to your scheme or circumstances in your private ruling application. If there is any material difference between the facts set out in the ruling and what you actually do the private ruling is ineffective.

If you rely on a private ruling you have received, the Commissioner must administer the law in the way set out in the ruling, unless it is found to be incorrect and applying the law correctly would lead to a better outcome for you. Where you disagree with the decision in the private ruling, or the Commissioner fails to issue such a ruling, you can lodge an objection against the ruling if it relates to income tax, fuel tax credit or fringe benefits tax. Your time limits in lodging an objection will depend on whether you are issued an assessment for the matter (or period) covered by the private ruling.

## **Involvement of Others**

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We may involve third party contractors or outsourced service providers in providing various aspects of your accounting work. These services may include:

- Accounting file preparation and/ or Data entry into our accounting systems
- Auditing of accounts (including Self-Managed Super Funds)
- Actuarial (pension) analysis
- Financial Planning & Dealing with Financial Institutions
- Home Loan, Business Loan & Personal Loan Services
- Investment & Insurance Services

## **Storage of Personal Information**

By agreeing to this engagement and accepting these services you understand and acknowledge that from time to time Sage Business Group may use internet and cloud based storage services. The server systems for these storage services may be based overseas on occasions.

#### **Ownership of Documents**

The final Financial Statements, Income Tax Returns and any other documents which we are specifically engaged to prepare, together with any original documents given to us by you, shall be the property of you. Any other documents brought into existence by us including general journals, working papers, the general ledger, draft financial statements and copies of tax returns, will remain our property at all times.

#### Lien on Documents

In relation to any subsequent termination of our services, you are advised that we shall be entitled to retain all documents belonging to you and any related parties we act for until payment is received in full for all outstanding fees.

#### **Fees**

Our fees, which will be billed as work progresses, are based on the time required by the individuals assigned to the engagement, the experience and expertise required for the particular task plus direct out-of-pocket expenses.

Any additional fee for an additional service not covered in the scope of this engagement will be the subject of a separate engagement letter under separate fee arrangements.

Accounts for services provided will be forwarded to you as work in progress. Where appropriate, we will provide you with an upfront price estimate of including both the fees and payment terms confirmed in writing (including email correspondence). In any case, where there is not a specific agreement for a task, payment of any account is required to be made within 14 days of invoice date unless special alternative arrangements are made with our Finance Officer no later than 5 working days <u>prior</u> to the due date.

It is our requirement that the owners/directors of the business personally guarantee the payment of all accounts for professional fees, including out-of-pocket expenses rendered by us from time to time. Signing of this engagement letter is taken as your agreement to this requirement.

#### Period of Engagement

This engagement will start on from the date this document is signed. The first period for which we will be responsible is the 2018/2019 tax year. If there are earlier periods requiring our professional services, we will arrange for a terms of engagement to be signed specifying the period in question.

This engagement document will be effective for future years unless we issue an amended one to you.

## Limitation of Liability

Our liability is limited by a scheme approved under Professional Standards Legislation. Further information on the scheme is available from the Professional Standards Councils' website: http://www.professionalstandardscouncil.gov.au.

Please sign and return the attached copy of this letter to indicate that it is in accordance with your understanding of the arrangements.

If you would like to discuss any matters in relation to the terms of our engagement or the contents of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact our office on 03 9744 7144.

Yours faithfully

[CUSTOM:JOBMANAGER]

Acknowledged and signed on behalf of [CLIENT:BUSINESSNAME] by

Name and Title

Name and Title

Date

Date