

# Forager Australian Shares Fund

## Continuous Disclosure Policy

### Commitment

The Trust Company (RE Services) Limited (ACN 003 278 831), in its capacity as Responsible Entity ('the RE') for the Forager Australian Shares Fund ('the Fund') is committed to its continuous disclosure obligations under the Australian Securities Exchange ('ASX') Listing Rules and the Corporations Act 2001. In accordance with these requirements, the RE Board and the Board of Forager Funds Management Pty Ltd (ACN 138 351 345) ('the Manager') have adopted a Continuous Disclosure Policy ('the Policy'), which forms part of the Fund's corporate governance framework and practices.

### Policy

The Policy sets out the accountability, policies and procedures that govern the RE's handling of information, continuous disclosure and communications. The RE aims to provide timely, transparent and accurate information to its investors, regulators and wider stakeholders.

To encourage timely and investor friendly communications and to facilitate trading on an informed basis, it is intended that all of the communication shall be:

- factual and subject to internal review and approval before issue
- timely and expressed in a clear and objective manner
- comprehensive and not omit material information

The RE and the Manager shall not provide any personal advice and as such all communications with both retail and institutional investors must be factual information about the Fund and its investments. The Manager may express opinions about the outlook for the Fund and its securities (i.e. general advice) provided that there is a reasonable basis for doing so. When general advice is provided, it shall be accompanied by a general advice warning.

Any price sensitive information for public announcement shall be:

- lodged with ASX promptly, without delay after becoming aware of the information and before external disclosure elsewhere
- once lodged, ASX announcements may also be accessed from the Fund's FOR Investor Centre section of the website.

The Policy applies to the RE and the Manager, including all directors, senior management, employees and contractors.

### Accountability

Accountability for ensuring that all material information is communicated to the Fund's dedicated RE client service manager rests with all directors, senior management and their direct reports of the RE and the Manager.

The RE and the Manager will have primary responsibility for:

- referring any information it considers may give rise to disclosure obligations to the Fund's dedicated RE client service manager.
- approving any draft ASX announcements and providing them to the dedicated RE client service manager

- ensuring any information required to be disclosed through ASX is not released publicly until the dedicated RE client service manager has received formal confirmation of its release by ASX and communicated this to the RE and Manager
- educating directors and staff on continuous disclosure and promoting an understanding of compliance with disclosure obligations

The Fund's dedicated RE client service manager acts as the primary point of contact with ASX. The dedicated RE client service manager will have primary responsibility for:

- ensuring compliance with continuous disclosure requirements
- disclosing information to ASX based on information provided by the RE and the Manager

## Continuous Disclosure

### Obligations

The RE and the Manager must immediately disclose all information via an announcement to ASX of any information concerning the Fund that a reasonable person would expect to have a 'material' effect on the price or value of units in the Fund or would influence a person to trade in the units of the Fund. This information needs to be disclosed to ASX under Listing Rule 3.1 unless an exception applies at that time.

ASX Listing Rule 3.1 does not require disclosure if the information is confidential **and** if a reasonable person would not expect it to be disclosed **and** if one or more of the following applies:

- it is a trade secret
- it would be a breach of the law to disclose the information
- the information concerns an incomplete proposal or negotiation
- the information comprises of matters of supposition or is insufficiently definite;
- it is generated for internal management purposes;
- the information is confidential and ASX has not formed the view that the information has ceased to be confidential; or
- a reasonable person would not expect the information to be disclosed.

### Price Sensitive Information

Information which may be deemed to be price sensitive may include:

- significant changes in financial performance or expected financial performance of the Fund; or
- distribution declarations or guidance and changes in distribution policy.

If price sensitive information is inadvertently disclosed or an officer, employee or consultant becomes aware of information which should be disclosed, the matter must immediately be referred to the RE and the Manager.

## Procedures

### General disclosure

The dedicated RE client service manager will ensure that all ASX releases are reviewed and formally signed off by the RE and the Manager. The Manager will ensure that all Fund related marketing material and media releases are formally reviewed and signed off by the RE.

### Continuous Disclosure

All directors, senior management, employees and contractors of the RE or the Manager who become aware of information that should be considered material information and is not generally available must immediately notify the RE, the Manager or the dedicated RE client service manager.

The RE, the Manager or the dedicated RE client service manager will review and assess whether the information provided is materially price sensitive and determine whether it is required to be disclosed to ASX.

The Fund's dedicated RE client service manager will ensure that standard disclosures are made to ASX including for:

- appointment of directors
- change of directors' interest notices
- general meeting materials and results
- pro-forma financial reporting documents
- annual report and any other communications sent to investors
- substantial holdings notices including changes in substantial holdings
- applications for quotations of additional securities (e.g. Distribution Reinvestment Plan)

### **Analysts, Investors, Media and External Communications**

Presentations and periodic Fund reports to investors and analysts will be lodged with ASX and made available on the Forager website. Fund materials must be reviewed and signed off by the RE and the Manager as outlined in the Procedures section of the policy. Live media appearances may also be undertaken by the Chief Investment Officer or other senior personnel of the Manager.

No information is to be given to analysts, investors or the media before it has been confirmed as having been lodged with ASX. At investor presentations, a financial services guide must be made available where retail persons who are not existing investors may be present.

All directors, senior management, employees and contractors of the Manager or the RE meeting with third parties will be responsible for ensuring that no price sensitive information is disclosed unless it has been released to ASX. If price sensitive information is inadvertently disclosed the matter must immediately be referred to the RE and the Manager.

The Fund's website will be updated in a timely manner with new ASX releases and all information that may be of interest to investors, including the following:

- net asset value of the Fund
- periodic Fund reports
- investor presentations
- financial statements
- notices of general meeting
- recent distributions
- substantial holder notices
- financial services guide
- details on how to make a complaint – (in the FSG, which is available on Forager's website)

Investors with questions about their holdings should be referred to the Fund's registry or the Manager. The contact details for the Fund's registry must be provided on the Fund's website and in the annual report.

Questions relating to the Fund, its performance and other general investor inquiries should be directed to the Manager. If queries are made in Australia by a person who is not an existing investor, then the Manager's financial services guide must be provided to the person.

### **Trading Halts**

In the interests of maintaining a fully informed, fair and transparent market, or where confidentiality of price sensitive information is lost and the Fund is unable to make immediate disclosure, it may be necessary for the Fund to request a trading halt from ASX. The dedicated RE client service manager must consult with the RE and the Manager for any decisions relating to a trading halt, and the RE client services manager must seek approval from the Manager in relation to such decision to the extent it is possible to do so.

## **Investor complaints and inquiries**

Investor complaints must be dealt with in accordance with the RE's established procedures for handling complaints. Investor complaints should be made to the RE and all complaints should be recorded in the Fund's complaints register.

## **Compliance**

Compliance with this policy will be monitored as part of the RE and the Manager's periodic compliance review process.

Policy issued: 2 December 2016