



# **ASX Release**

## Securities Trading Policy

Following the release of Guidance Note 27 "Trading Policies" and in accordance with ASX Listing Rule 12.10, attached is the new Securities Trading Policy which was adopted by the Pioneer Credit Limited Board of Directors on Wednesday 27 May 2015.

#### About Pioneer Credit

Pioneer is an Australian financial services provider, specialising in acquiring and servicing unsecured retail debt portfolios.

These portfolios consist of people with financial obligations to Pioneer. These people become the cornerstone of Pioneer's business and are our customers.

We work closely with our customers who – for a range of reasons – have found themselves in financial difficulty. In the great majority of cases this has come about through a significant life event such as loss of job, serious health issues, marriage breakdown or domestic violence.

A key goal at Pioneer, as we work with our customers, is to see them achieve financial recovery and evolve as a 'new consumer'.

For further information about Pioneer see <u>www.pioneercredit.com.au</u>

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#### Pioneer Credit Limited ACN 103 003 505 (Company)

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- ensure Personnel (defined in clause 2) comply with their obligations under the insider trading provisions of the *Corporations Act 2001 (Cth)* (**Corporations Act**) and any dealings in securities are within both the letter and the spirit of the law, and meet industry best practice and market expectations;
- assist the Company in its disclosure and reporting obligations, while maintaining and promoting the Company's reputation;
- ensure that the reputation of the Company and its subsidiaries (**Group**) is not adversely impacted by perceptions of trading in the Company's securities at certain times, and to ensure a proper market for the Company's Securities is maintained that supports shareholder and investor confidence. Any perception that directors or employees may have traded on the basis of an unfair advantage and/or breached their legal obligations could have a significant impact on the personal reputation of those persons, and negatively affect the Company's standing in the market;
- set out the procedures that apply to trading in the Company's securities by persons covered by the policy including the following:
  - o periods when trading is prohibited;
  - o restrictions on trading;
  - exceptional circumstances when trading by Restricted Persons may be permitted during a Prohibited Period with prior written clearance;
  - o procedure to obtain written clearance to trade, including during a Prohibited Period; and
  - the trading that is excluded from the policy; and
- comply with the ASX Listing Rules.

This policy is for the protection of the Company and Personnel. If you do not understand any part of this policy, or the summary of the law relating to insider trading, or how it applies to you, you should contact the Company Secretary before trading in any securities covered by this policy. Ultimately it is **your** responsibility to make sure that none of your trading constitutes insider trading.



## 2. Who does this policy apply to?

This policy applies to:

- a) all Executive and Non-Executive Directors, officers, employees, contractors and consultants (collectively, **Personnel**) of the Group;
- b) Restricted Persons. A Restricted Person is a person who is:
  - i) a person having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Company, directly or indirectly, including any director (whether executive or otherwise) of the Company (**Key Management Personnel**);
  - ii) any employee, contractor or consultant of the Group nominated in writing by the Board or a delegate of the Board from time to time as a person to whom this policy applies; and
  - iii) a Connected Person of a person referred to in paragraphs i) or ii) above.

A **Connected Person** means a spouse or partner, child or step-child under 18 years, a parent, an unlisted body corporate which the persons controls or is director of, a trust of which the person is a trustee and of which he or she or any of the persons referred to above is a beneficiary or any other person over whom the person has significant influence or control. Where this policy requires a Restricted Person to do an act or thing, the relevant Restricted Person must do that act or thing in respect of the Connected Person.

## 3. What securities are covered by this policy?

This policy applies to trading in all securities issued by the Company, and includes the following types of securities:

- a) shares, share acquisition rights and options;
- b) debentures (including bonds and notes); and
- c) derivatives of any of the above (including equity swaps, futures, hedges and exchange-traded or over-the-counter options) whether settled by cash or otherwise,

(collectively, the Company Securities).

The insider trading provisions in the Corporations Act also apply to the securities of other entities if you have inside information about that entity. These other entities may include:

- a) suppliers or customers of the Group;
- b) joint venture partners; or



c) companies that the Company or another member of the Group has entered (or is planning to enter) into a transaction with, for example a takeover or asset sale.

For the purposes of this policy, to "trade" in securities means, whether as principal or agent:

- a) to apply for, acquire or dispose of securities; or
- b) to enter into an agreement to apply for, acquire or dispose of securities.

To "trade" also includes the exercise of an option or the conversion of a share acquisition right.

## 4. Insider trading prohibition

#### 4.1. What is Inside Information?

The principal insider trading prohibition in Australian law is contained in section 1043A of the Corporations Act.

**Inside Information** is information relating to the Company that:

- a) is not generally available; and
- b) if it were generally available, a reasonable person would expect it to have a material effect on the price or value of the Company's Securities.

Information is generally available if it:

- a) is readily observable; or
- b) has been made known in a manner, e.g. released to the ASX, likely to bring it to the attention of persons who commonly invest in securities and a reasonable period for that information to be disseminated has elapsed since it was made known.

A reasonable person would be taken to expect information to have a material effect on the price or value of securities if (and only if) the information would, or would be likely to, influence persons who commonly acquire securities in deciding whether or not to acquire or dispose of those securities. In other words, the information must be shown to be material to the investment decision of a reasonable hypothetical investor in the securities.

It does not matter how you come to know the Inside Information. For the purpose of the insider trading provisions of the Corporations Act, "information" is given a wide meaning and includes matters of supposition and other matters that are insufficiently definite to warrant being made known to the public and matters relating to the intentions, or the likely intentions of a person.



#### 4.2. Prohibited conduct

In summary, the Corporations Act prohibits three types of conduct relating to Inside Information:

- the direct or indirect acquisition or disposal of securities using Inside Information;
- the procurement of another person to acquire or dispose of securities using Inside Information; and
- communication of Inside Information to another person for the purpose of the other person acquiring or disposing of securities.

You must not, whether in your own capacity or as an agent for another, apply for, acquire or dispose of, or enter into an agreement to apply for, acquire or dispose of, any of the Company's Securities or listed securities of another entity, or procure another person to do so if you:

- a) possess Inside Information; and
- b) know or ought reasonably to know, that:
  - i) the information is not generally available; and
  - ii) if it were generally available, it might have a material effect on the price or value of the securities or influence a person's decision to buy or sell the securities.

Further, you must not either directly or indirectly pass on this kind of information to another person if you know, or ought reasonably to know, that the other person is likely to apply for, acquire or dispose of the securities or procure another person to do so.

#### 4.3. Consequences of insider trading

Engaging in "insider trading", can subject you to criminal liability, including substantial monetary fines and/or imprisonment. You may also be subject to civil liability, which may include being sued in an action initiated by another party or the Company, for any loss suffered as a result of insider trading. Insider trading is prohibited at all times.

## 5. Restricted Persons - Trading Windows and Prohibited Periods

In addition to the prohibitions on insider trading set out in the Corporations Act, Restricted Persons are prohibited from trading in Company Securities (except during a **Trading Window**) unless the circumstances are exceptional and the procedure for prior written clearance described in section 7 has been met (**Prohibited Period**).



The Company's Trading Windows are as follows:

Circumstance	Trading Window
Release of Full Year results to ASX	30 day period commencing 7 days after release of the results
Release of Half Year results to ASX	30 day period commencing 7 days after release of the results
Annual General Meeting (AGM)	30 day period commencing 7 days after the AGM

In addition to the prohibitions on insider trading set out in the Corporations Act, Restricted Persons must not trade in Company Securities within any period imposed by the Board from time to time, for example because the Company is considering matters that would require disclosure to the market but for Listing Rule 3.1A (Additional Prohibited Period), unless the circumstances are exceptional and the procedure for prior written clearance described in section 7 has been met. Restricted Persons must not disclose to anyone that an Additional Prohibited Period is in effect.

In <u>all cases</u> Restricted Persons must not trade or procure a third party to trade in the Company's Securities if they are in possession of Inside Information.

# 6. Exceptional circumstances when trading may be permitted subject to prior written clearance

A Restricted Person, who is not in possession of Inside Information, may be given prior written clearance to trade in Company Securities during a Prohibited Period in accordance with the procedure described in section 7:

- a) where the person is in severe financial hardship; or
- b) where there are other circumstances deemed to be exceptional by the person granting the prior written clearance.

The determination of whether a person is in severe financial hardship or whether there are other exceptional circumstances can only be made by the relevant Approving Officer in accordance with the procedure for obtaining clearance prior to trading set out in section 7. A person may be in severe financial hardship if he or she has a pressing financial commitment that cannot be satisfied otherwise than by selling the relevant Company Securities. A tax liability would not normally constitute severe financial hardship unless the person has no other means of satisfying the liability. A circumstance may be considered exceptional if the person in question is required by a court order or a court enforceable undertaking to transfer or sell, or accept a transfer of, the Company Securities or there is some other overriding legal or regulatory requirement for him or her to do so.



#### 7. Procedure for obtaining written clearance prior to trading

- 7.1 Except for the specified Trading Window (unless there is a specified Additional Prohibited Period during a Trading Window), Restricted Persons must not trade in Company Securities at any time, including in the exceptional circumstances referred to in section 6, unless the Restricted Person first obtains prior written clearance from:
- a) in the case of employees or contractors, the Managing Director or in his absence, the Chair;
- b) in the case of a director, the Chair or in his absence, the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee;
- c) in case of the Managing Director, the Chair or, in his absence, the Chair of the Audit Committee; or
- d) in the case of the Chair, the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee,

#### (each, an Approving Officer).

- 7.2 A request for prior written clearance under this policy should be made in writing using the form attached to this policy entitled 'Request for Prior Written Clearance to Trade in Company Securities' and given to the Approving Officer. The request may be submitted in person, by mail, by email or by facsimile. A Restricted Person must not deal in the Company's Securities unless they have received permission in writing from the Approving Officer.
- 7.3 Any written clearance granted under this policy will be valid for the period of 5 business days from the time which it is given or such other period as may be determined by the Approving Officer. The expiry time of the clearance will be stated in the clearance granted. Written clearance under this policy may be given in person, by mail, by email or by facsimile.
- 7.4 A Restricted Person must effect the instructions to trade within the stated expiry time and the trade must be executed within that time. If the trade is not executed within the 5 business day period, the clearance to trade lapses and the Restricted Person must submit a further request to the Approving Officer to trade.
- 7.5 Clearance to trade may be withdrawn if new information arises, or if there is a change in circumstances. The Restricted Person will be notified of any withdrawal in writing (which may be by email).
- 7.6 Clearance to trade is at the discretion of the Approving Officer, and may be given or refused without providing any reasons.
- 7.7 When considering a request from a Restricted Person for clearance to trade in accordance with clause 7.6, the Approving Officer will take into account a range of factors to determine if the risk of insider trading, or the appearance of insider trading is not a concern. These factors include but are not limited to whether:
- a) the Company is about to release any other financial information that the market may not expect;
- b) the Company will shortly release market sensitive information under ASX Listing Rule 3.1;



- c) the Company is considering a matter that is subject to ASX Listing Rule 3.1A; and
- d) the Restricted Person has access to or is likely to have access to other material information that has not been released to the market.

More generally, the Approving Officer will consider the specific circumstances of a request as a whole, in light of the underlying purpose of this policy, to both minimise the risk of insider trading and avoid any appearance of insider trading and possible reputational damage. The Approving Officer may seek professional advice to assist in making any decision. In most circumstances if the Company is about to release information that falls into the categories set out above, the Approving Officer will not grant permission to trade.

7.8 A refusal to grant permission to trade is final and binding on the person seeking the permission. If permission is refused, the person must keep that information confidential and not disclose it to anyone, to ensure that the Company manages its disclosure obligations in accordance with its policies, the ASX Listing Rules and the law.

#### 8. What trading is not subject to this policy?

The following trading by Restricted Persons is excluded from the restrictions outlined in section 5, but is subject to the insider trading provisions of the Corporations Act summarised in section 4 of this policy:

- a) transfers of Company Securities between a Restricted Person and their spouse, civil partner, child, step-child, family company, family trust or other close family member or of Company Securities already held into a superannuation fund or other saving scheme in which the Restricted Person is a beneficiary;
- b) an investment in, or trading in units of, a fund or other scheme (other than a scheme only investing in Company Securities) where the assets of the fund or other scheme are invested at the discretion of a third party;
- c) where a Restricted Person is a trustee, trading in the Company Securities by that trust provided that the Restricted Person is not a beneficiary of the trust and any decision to trade during a Prohibited Period is taken by the other trustees or by the investment managers independently of the Restricted Person;
- d) undertakings to accept, or the acceptance of, a takeover offer;
- e) a disposal of Company Securities arising from a scheme of arrangement;
- f) trading under an offer or invitation made to all or most of the security holders such as, a rights issue, a security purchase plan, a dividend or distribution reinvestment plan and an equal access buy-back, where the plan that determines the timing and structure of the offer has been approved by the Board. This includes decisions relating to whether or not to take up the entitlements and the sale of entitlements required to provide for the take up of the balance of entitlements under a renounceable pro rata issue;
- g) a disposal of Company Securities that is the result of a secured lender exercising their rights, for example, under a margin lending arrangement;



- h) the exercise (but not the sale of Company Securities following exercise) of an option or right under an employee incentive scheme or the conversion of a convertible security, where:
  - i) the final date for the exercise of the option or right, or the conversion of the security, falls during a Prohibited Period and the Company has been in an exceptionally long Prohibited Period or the Company has had a number of consecutive Prohibited Periods and the Restricted Person could not reasonably have been expected to exercise it at a time when free to do so; and
  - ii) the Restricted Person obtains prior written clearance to exercise the option or right, or convert the security, in accordance with the procedure set out in section 7 of this policy;
- i) trading under a non-discretionary trading plan for which prior written clearance has been provided in accordance with procedures set out in this policy and where:
  - i) the Restricted Person did not enter into the plan or amend the plan during a Prohibited Period; and
  - ii) the trading plan does not permit the Restricted Person to exercise any influence or discretion over how, when, or whether to trade;
- j) an acquisition of Company Securities under an employee incentive plan; and
- k) the vesting (but not the sale of Company Securities following the vesting) of Company Securities as a result of meeting performance hurdles, or release of Company Securities from holding lock or holding term in respect of Company Securities received by Restricted Persons as part of performance-based remuneration.

## 9. Long term trading

The Company wishes to encourage Restricted Persons to adopt a long term attitude to investment in Company Securities. Therefore, Restricted Persons must not engage in short term or speculative trading (buying and selling or selling and buying within a 6-month period) of Company Securities.

## 10. Hedging transactions

Restricted Persons must not enter into transactions or arrangements which operate to limit the economic risk of their security holding in the Company without first obtaining prior written clearance from the appropriate Approving Officer in accordance with the procedure set out in section 7.

Restricted Persons are prohibited from entering into transactions or arrangements which limit the economic risk of participating in unvested entitlements under any equity-based remuneration plan.



## 11. Margin loans and other secured lending

Restricted Persons must not enter into margin loan agreements or other secured lending arrangements in relation to Company Securities without first obtaining prior written clearance from the appropriate Approving Officer in accordance with the procedure set out in section 7.

## 12. Non-discretionary trading plans

Restricted Persons must not put in place a non-discretionary trading plan in respect of Company Securities without first obtaining prior written clearance from the appropriate Approving Officer in accordance with the procedure set out in section 7. Restricted Persons must not cancel any such trading plan during a Prohibited Period, unless the circumstances are exceptional and the procedure for prior written clearance set out in section 7 has been met.

## 13. Director notification requirements

Directors have agreed with the Company to provide details of changes in Company Securities they hold (directly or indirectly) to the Company Secretary as soon as reasonably possible to enable the Company to comply with its obligations under the ASX Listing Rules. Directors are referred to the Company's Director's Disclosure Obligations document and Director's Declaration of Interest Form.

If a change to a notifiable interest occurs during a Prohibition Period, the Company must tell ASX (in its Appendix 3Y filing) that this is the case, whether prior written clearance for the relevant dealing was provided and the date of such clearance.

## 14. Register of clearances

The Company Secretary must maintain a register of clearances given in relation to trading in Company Securities, except during a Trading Window.

The Company Secretary must report all notifications of trading in, and clearances given, in relation to trading in Company Securities to the next Board meeting of the Company.

## 15. Compliance & Consequences of breach

15.1 The Company has established processes to ensure Personnel are aware of, and understand their obligations under this policy, and to monitor and enforce compliance with the policy.



- 15.2 Measures in addition to those described in clauses 14 and 15.1 include:
- a) Personnel are provided with a copy of this policy and any amendments to the policy;
- b) sending email reminders of the start and finish dates for Prohibited Periods, one week before commencement of the period and immediately before commencement; and
- c) Restricted Persons are required to provide annual written confirmation that they are aware of and understand this policy and are in compliance with the policy.
- 15.3 Breach of the insider trading prohibition could expose you to criminal and civil liability. Breach of this policy (irrespective of whether the insider trading prohibition or any other law is breached) will also be regarded by the Group as serious misconduct which may lead to disciplinary action and/or dismissal.
- 15.4 This policy does not contain an exhaustive analysis of the restrictions imposed on, and the very serious legal ramifications of, insider trading. Restricted Persons who have queries on matters in this policy are encouraged to contact the Company Secretary.

#### **16.** ASX Listing Rule requirements

ASX Listing Rule 12.9 requires this policy to be disclosed to ASX. Where the Company makes a material change to this policy, the amended policy must be provided to ASX within 5 business days of the material changes taking effect, in accordance with ASX Listing Rule 12.10.

#### 17. Review of this policy

The Board will review this Securities Trading Policy at least annually, having regard to the changing circumstances of the Company, and the policy will be subject to Board approval if any updates are made.

Any amendments to this policy will be notified to affected persons in writing. If directors and senior executives have any comments or views concerning the operation or effectiveness of this policy, they should be communicated to the Company Secretary.

#### **18.** Securities Trading Policy history

25 February 2014	Securities Trading Policy adopted.
27 May 2015	Revised Securities Trading Policy approved.



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#### Request for prior written clearance to trade in Company Securities

#### Pioneer Credit Limited ACN 103 003 505 (Company)

I, , a director/ an employee/ a contractor/ a consultant (delete as appropriate) of the Company, request prior written clearance to trade in securities of the Company in accordance with the terms of the Company's *Securities Trading Policy* and provide the following information:

#### 1 Details of securities

Nature of dealing:	(insert here details of proposed dealing)
Number of securities:	
Class of securities:	
Name of registered holder:	

#### 2 Reason for request

Request to trade in exceptional circumstances

Please provide complete details of the circumstances which you wish to be considered as exceptional

I confirm that I have read and understood the Company's Securities Trading Policy and that the proposed dealing does not breach that policy or any legal obligations referred to in it, and in particular, that I am not in possession of any inside information in relation to the Company. I acknowledge that in accordance with the Company's Securities Trading Policy, I cannot trade in the Company's securities until clearance is given and I understand that any clearance given will be valid only for the period stated in the clearance.

Signed			
Name:		Date:	
OFFICE I	JSE – Clearance to be complete	ed by Approving Officer	
	Clearance given by:		
		Signature of Approving Officer	Date.
		from the date of clearance (default per s days from the date of clearance	riod)