

25 June 2024

Dear LGFA stakeholder

### Statement of Intent 2024-2027

Please find attached the Statement of Intent (SOI) for the 2024-27 period.

LGFA remains focused on delivering strong results for our council borrowers and shareholders.

For our borrowing councils and CCOs we seek to optimise funding terms and conditions by

- Achieving savings in borrowing costs
- Provide longer dated funding and
- Provide certainty of access to markets.

For our shareholders we are focused on

- Delivering a strong financial performance
- Monitoring asset quality and
- Enhancing our approach to treasury and risk management.

The following points regarding the 2024-27 SOI are worth noting:

- We are needing to strengthen the financial and capital position of LGFA given
  - the weakening credit outlook for the sector<sup>1</sup>
  - the additional borrowing by councils and CCOs that has led to increase borrowing costs incurred by LGFA e.g. the cost of offshore issuance, Approved Issuer Levy, legal and issuance expenses, a larger amount of liquid assets to ensure liquidity and NZX listing fees.

We propose to do this by increasing the base on-lending margin by 5 bps (0.05%) and to increase the Borrower Notes percentage to 5%. This will improve our profitability, retained earnings, capital base and preserve our high level of creditworthiness.

- As with previous years, there remains uncertainty within the SOI forecasts relating to the amount of both council loans and LGFA bonds outstanding as this depends upon the magnitude and timing of council borrowing. The actual amount of borrowing will be influenced by the ability of councils to deliver on the capex projections in their Long Term Plans ("LTPs"), any cost increases as we well as the amount of Central Government assistance in funded capex delivery.
- The Local Water Done Well reform programme ("LWDW") is progressing with the second (of three) Bills currently passing through Parliament. There remains uncertainty for the sector

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<sup>1</sup> S&P Global Ratings have placed twenty-one councils and two CCO on negative outlook, and they comprise 39% of the LGFA loan book.

