

**Creating a brighter future  
for more home buyers.**



**Corporate Governance  
Statement 2025**

# About Helia



## Our purpose

**To accelerate financial wellbeing through home ownership, now and for the future.**



## Our vision

**To be the unparalleled leader in LMI.**



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# 1. Helia's corporate governance framework

## 1.1 Introduction

Sound corporate governance is essential to supporting Helia's business performance and sustainability. Helia's Board of directors (the Board) is committed to continuously improving the Company's governance framework, ensuring a broad focus across governance, remuneration, culture and accountability. This commitment is incorporated into interactions with Helia's shareholders, customers, employees, regulators, suppliers, home buyers and the community.

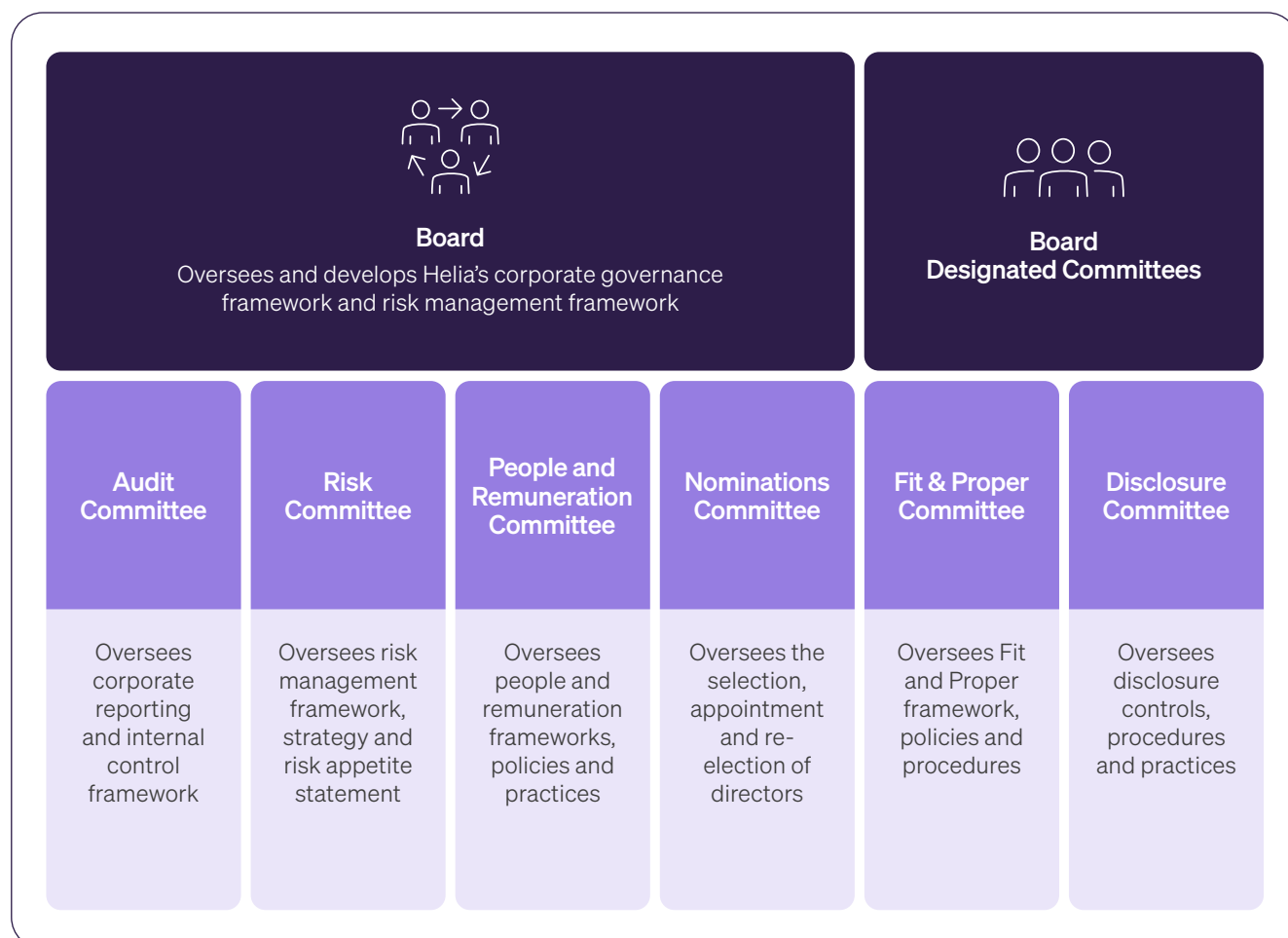
This Corporate Governance Statement (Statement) outlines the key aspects of Helia's corporate governance framework, including an explanation of practices that demonstrate compliance with the ASX Corporate Governance Council's Corporate Governance Principles and Recommendations (ASX Recommendations). Helia's governance practices are also underpinned by Helia's responsibilities as an entity regulated by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA), Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC) and the Reserve Bank of New Zealand (RBNZ), as well as Helia's obligations under the Corporations Act 2001 (Cth) (Corporations Act).

This Statement has been approved by the Board and is current as of 25 February 2025.

## 1.2 Overview of corporate governance framework

The Board has established four Board Committees to assist it to oversee and develop Helia's corporate governance policies and risk management framework: the Audit Committee, the Risk Committee, the People and Remuneration Committee and the Nominations Committee. These Board Committees meet the requirements under APRA's Prudential Standard CPS 510 Governance.

In addition, two Board-designated management committees have been established and report directly to the Board: the Fit and Proper Committee and the Disclosure Committee.



## 2. The Board — oversight and responsibility

### 2.1 The Board's key accountabilities

The Board is accountable to shareholders for the long-term performance of Helia and for embedding an effective corporate governance structure. The Board is ultimately responsible for developing and setting the strategic direction, risk appetite and the desired culture of the Company.

The other key accountabilities and responsibilities of the Board include:

- › demonstrating leadership, defining Helia's purpose and setting and overseeing management's implementation of Helia's strategic objectives;
- › approving Helia's statement of values ('Helia Behaviours') and Code of Conduct to underpin the desired culture;
- › reviewing, monitoring and approving financial and business strategies;
- › overseeing Helia's corporate governance and risk management frameworks (for both financial and non-financial risks);
- › reviewing and approving Helia's annual budget, financial statements and reports;
- › approving the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO) appointment and remuneration, and the remuneration of Helia's senior executives (Senior Leadership Team, or SLT);
- › approving appropriate performance scorecard measures and monitoring the progress of performance metrics and hurdles under Short Term Incentive (STI), STI Deferral and Long-Term Incentive (LTI) arrangements; and
- › annually evaluating the performance of the Board, committees and individual directors, with respect to effectiveness and to ensure that they are fulfilling their respective responsibilities.

A copy of the Board Charter is available at [helia.com.au](https://helia.com.au) in the Investor Relations section under 'Corporate Governance'.

### 2.2 Board composition

The Constitution provides that there will be a maximum of nine directors. As at 25 February 2025, the Board comprised seven directors. Six directors are non-executive directors and one is an executive director being the CEO and Managing Director of Helia. Biographies of the directors are contained in Helia's 2024 Annual Report (directors' report) and on Helia's website.

The Chair is responsible for ensuring that the Board fulfils its responsibilities. The Chair provides leadership to the Board, promotes constructive and respectful relations between directors and between the Board and management, and presides at meetings of the Board and of shareholders.

In accordance with the Board Charter, the chair is selected from the independent directors.

### 2.3 Director independence

The Helia Board is comprised of a majority of independent directors assessed in accordance with the definition of independence set out in the ASX Recommendations.

### 2.4 Directors' conflicts of interests

Directors have a continuing obligation to keep the Board advised of any interest that could conflict with the interests of Helia.

Directors are required to disclose any material personal interests in transactions or arrangements to which Helia is a party and are required to abstain from decision making with respect to these transactions and arrangements. The Board assesses conflicts on a case-by-case basis with reference to the particular circumstances involved.

Directors with potential conflicts do not serve on any committees that are appointed to oversee the implementation of transactions or arrangements with which the interests may conflict.

## 2.5 Board experience and skills

The Board has responsibility for ensuring that it has the necessary skills, experience and independence to meet its objectives and applicable regulatory requirements. Helia's size, market position, complexity and strategic focus areas are all factors taken into account when assessing the skills of directors. Helia's Fit and Proper Policy applies to all directors.

The collective skills of the Board and succession plans for directors are reviewed annually to ensure an appropriate balance of skills and experience.

The skills matrix below sets out the mix of skills that the Board currently has in place aligned to Helia's strategic priorities.

The skills matrix assists the Board in undertaking the director nomination and succession planning processes in an objective manner. Helia reviews the skills and experience of the Board on a regular basis to ensure they support the strategic direction of the Company.

Mortgage industry	Treasury/capital management/investment	Entrepreneurship
Retail banking	Financial/accounting	Technology
Operations/process management	Legal/regulatory	International experience
Corporations Act/ASX Listing Rules	Corporate governance	Environment, Social and Governance (ESG)
Board experience	Risk management	Insurance

## 2.6 Appointment process for directors

### Electing independent directors

The Board, through the Nominations Committee, assesses independent director candidates to fill a vacancy where one arises or if it considers that the Board would benefit from a new director. The desired skills coverage of the Board and the outcomes of the Board performance evaluation process (as described in section 4.2 below) are key considerations in determining Board appointments.

Factors considered by the Nominations Committee when recommending a person for appointment as an independent director include:

- › skills and qualifications;
- › fitness and propriety, including the assessment in accordance with Helia's Fit and Proper Policy;
- › independence, taking into consideration APRA's Prudential Standard CPS 510 Governance, and the ASX Recommendations;
- › the number of existing directorships and other commitments that may demand the attention of the appointee;
- › the nature of existing positions, directorships or other relationships and the impact that each may have on the appointee's ability to exercise independent judgement; and
- › the extent to which the appointee will contribute to the overall effectiveness of the Board.

### Appointment terms

All non-executive directors, including the Chair, have been appointed pursuant to formal appointment letters. The letters formally document the basis of each non-executive director's appointment including:

- › terms of appointment, including remuneration;
- › the role of the Board and of non-executive directors;
- › the right to obtain independent professional financial and legal advice, at Helia's expense, to assist with discharging their duties efficiently;
- › the right of access to management and Helia records; and
- › the requirement to abide by Helia's Code of Conduct and comply with Helia's Disclosure and Trading Policies.

Helia enters into an Access, Indemnity and Insurance Deed with directors as part of the appointment process.

## 2. The Board — oversight and responsibility (continued)

### Tenure

The Board recognises that Helia's interests are well served by having a mix of directors with varying degrees of board tenure. The Board regularly assesses whether each director has served on the Board for such a period that could, or could reasonably be perceived to, materially interfere with their ability to act in the best interests of Helia and, in the case of independent directors, whether his or her independence may have been compromised. This assessment takes place annually for any director who has served in that position for more than 10 years.

Board tenure conditions do not apply to the appointment or removal of the CEO and Managing Director.

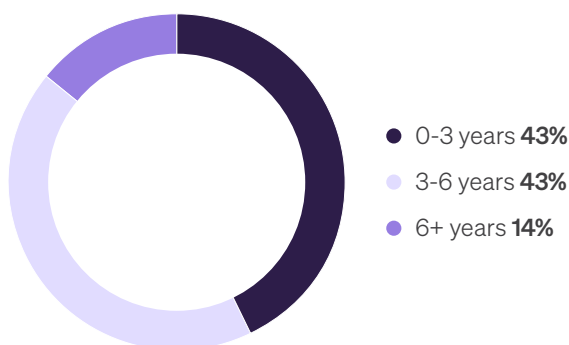
The composition of the Board and each director's date of appointment is provided in the table below. The breakdown of tenure of the Board as a whole (along with the average tenure) at 25 February 2025 is illustrated in the figure below.

Further information in relation to the experience and qualifications of the directors can be found in the Annual Report.

Director	Date Appointed	Length of Service
Leona Murphy	1 November 2022	2 years and 3 months
Pauline Blight-Johnston	2 March 2020	4 years and 11 months
Andrew Moore	15 July 2024	7 months
Alistair Muir	1 December 2021	3 years and 2 months
JoAnne Stephenson	15 July 2024	7 months
Andrea Waters	16 March 2020	4 years and 11 months
Duncan West	1 September 2018	6 years and 5 months

Average Board tenure is

**3.26 years**



### Shareholder information

The Board ensures that Helia provides to shareholders all material information in Helia's possession, including the information required under the Corporations Act and ASX Recommendations, relevant to a decision regarding the election of a director.

### 2.7 Director induction and education

Directors are required to maintain and develop the skills and knowledge required to perform their roles effectively. Each director must clearly understand the key functions of their individual role and the goals of the Board as a whole. This is achieved through several initiatives, including:

- › an induction and education program for new directors to ensure they are aware of the expectations of their role and are familiar with Helia's strategy. The program generally includes meetings with the Chair, CEO, relevant Board Committee members and the SLT. The Chair is responsible for inducting new directors and for ensuring they have appropriate access to the business and fellow directors;
- › provision of information to new directors pertaining to Helia's business strategy and to current issues before the Board;
- › participation in professional development programs;
- › obtaining additional perspectives from relevant external guest presenters at Board and Committee meetings; and
- › ongoing engagement with the SLT and other key business representatives on a regular basis.

The Board Charter and Committee charters set out objectives and provide details of the expectations placed on directors. In addition, the annual Board performance assessment process ensures that the objectives continue to be met.

## 2.8 Committees

### Committee governance

The Board has established four committees, each comprising representatives of the Board, to assist in the discharge of its functions. A charter for each Committee sets out its composition, authority and responsibilities and is reviewed periodically by the Board.

The role of the chair of each of the Audit Committee, Risk Committee and People and Remuneration Committee is exercised by an independent director who is not Chair of the Board. The role of the chair of the Nominations Committee is exercised by the Chair of the Board. Each Committee chair is responsible for reporting the outcome of all Committee meetings to the Board.

The Charter for each Helia Board Committee and the membership of each Board Committee is available at [helia.com.au](https://helia.com.au), in the Investor Relations section under 'Corporate Governance'.

The number of times each Board Committee met during 2024 and the individual attendances of the members at those meetings is shown in the directors' report, which forms part of Helia's Annual Report for the year ended 31 December 2024.

### People and Remuneration Committee

The People and Remuneration Committee assists the Board to fulfil its responsibility to shareholders and regulators in relation to people and remuneration matters, including culture, people capabilities & development, executive succession planning (other than the CEO and Managing Director), and remuneration of non-executive directors and senior executives of Helia.

The key responsibilities of the People and Remuneration Committee include to:

- › review and recommend to the Board for approval annually remuneration arrangements, including total fixed remuneration, bonus, equity awards, annual goals and objectives and annual budgets;
- › consult with the Board Risk Committee and Chief Risk Officer, to enable risk behaviours and outcomes to be appropriately reflected in remuneration outcomes, as outlined in Helia's Remuneration Policy and Consequence Management Framework;
- › regularly review Helia's remuneration framework to ensure alignment with Helia's Remuneration Policy and Guiding Principles;
- › oversee the development of executive succession plans in relation to senior management;
- › annually review and recommend to the Board the remuneration of independent directors and the fee pool to be recommended to shareholders;
- › recommend the annual Remuneration Report to the Board for approval and inclusion in Helia's Annual Report; and
- › annually review and recommend to the Board Helia's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Policy and the Company's Diversity Equity and Inclusion Strategy, including measurable objectives for achieving diversity and progress in achieving such objectives.

### Nominations Committee

The role of the Nominations Committee is to assist the Board in relation to the selection, appointment and re-election of directors, including the composition of the Board and Board Committees, and the performance, development and succession of directors.

The key responsibilities of the Nominations Committee include to:

- › review and recommend to the Board the attributes required to discharge competently the Board's duties at both the individual and collective (Board) level; including the size of the Board, specific qualities or skills and the appropriate mix of skills, experience, expertise and diversity, and desired Board composition in respect of the qualities and skills identified;
- › consider and make recommendations to the Board on the process for recruiting a new director and to make recommendations to the Board on the terms and conditions of appointment of directors to, and removal and retirement of directors from, the Board;
- › assess the independence of directors and Committee members; and
- › develop and implement succession planning for directors (excluding the CEO and Managing Director), taking into account the skills and expertise needed on the Board in future.

## 2. The Board — oversight and responsibility (continued)

### Risk Committee

The role of the Risk Committee is to assist the Board in its review, governance and oversight of the implementation and ongoing operation of Helia's Risk Management Framework and Strategy (RMFS) including:

- › monitoring the application of the RMFS by receiving regular reporting on the status of material risks;
- › recommending the adoption of policies and procedures on risk management to effectively identify, assess, monitor and manage risk within appetite; and
- › overseeing risk management, governance and operating structure within Helia's business;
- › recommend to the Board any changes to the RMFS, Risk Appetite Statement (RAS), including changes to Helia's risk appetite;
- › establish and maintain a Whistleblower Policy and ensure there is a process in place for ensuring eligible disclosers are aware of the policy and that there is a process for dealing with matters raised by the eligible disclosers under the policy;
- › oversight of risk culture and compliance with regulatory requirements;
- › assist the Board to review investment strategies and performance of investment managers and any deviations from mandates;
- › receive and consider reports from management on new and emerging sources of risk and the controls and mitigation measures that management has put in place to deal with those risks;
- › review and report to the Board on the effectiveness of Disaster Recovery (DR)/ Business Continuity Plans (BCP) and DR/ BCP testing, key technology and cybersecurity risks and mitigation strategies and policies;
- › review the performance and objectives of Helia's Chief Risk Officer (CRO) and ensure the CRO has unfettered access to the Board and the Committee;
- › monitoring reinsurance counterparty risk in respect of outwards reinsurance contracts entered into by the Company;
- › review and consider the outcomes of enterprise-wide stress testing; and
- › assist the Board in the effective oversight of market and liquidity risk practices within the context of Helia's Capital Management Framework & Strategy.

### Audit Committee

The role of the Audit Committee is to assist the Board in reviewing the effectiveness of Helia's corporate reporting framework. The key responsibilities of the Audit Committee include to:

- › review and make recommendations to the Board in relation to the adequacy of Helia's corporate reporting processes and internal control framework, including Helia's processes to verify the integrity of any periodic corporate report released to the market;
- › review financial statements and reports to determine whether the financial statements and reports provide a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Helia;
- › review and recommend to the Board the appointment and removal of the external auditor, the head of internal audit and the appointed actuary;
- › monitor and evaluate the independence and performance of the external auditor and the internal audit function;
- › review and approve the annual internal and external audit plans;
- › recommend to the Board the adoption of insurance liabilities after receiving advice from the appointed actuary; and
- › considering any whistleblower reports made by individuals who are entitled to make such a report in accordance with Helia's Whistleblowing Policy.

### Other Board-designated Committees

Additionally, Helia has a Fit and Proper Committee and a Disclosure Committee. The Fit and Proper Policy and Disclosure Policy are available at [helia.com.au](http://helia.com.au) in the Investor Relations section under 'Corporate Governance'.



## 3. SLT — management and leadership

### 3.1 Linking Board strategy and organisational functions

The Board delegates the day-to-day management and administration of Helia to the CEO and Managing Director. The CEO and Managing Director manages Helia in accordance with the strategies, plans and delegations reviewed and approved by the Board. Formal approvals are provided by the Board on an annual basis with respect to Helia's documented business plans, risk appetite statement and related frameworks.

The CEO and Managing Director is supported by the SLT members, each of whom reports directly to the CEO and Managing Director.

The CEO and Managing Director, and SLT provide the Board with accurate, timely and clear information to enable the Board to monitor the exercise of its delegated authority and to perform its own responsibilities. Recommendations are regularly made to the Board with respect to various issues including strategic business initiatives, financial considerations and risk management.

### 3.2 Designation of key management personnel status within the SLT

Within the SLT, five roles – CEO and Managing Director, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Chief Risk Officer (CRO), Chief Commercial Officer (CCO) and Chief Operating Officer (COO) have been deemed to be responsible for planning, directing and controlling the activities of Helia. These roles were designated as executive Key Management Personnel (KMP) and accordingly the remuneration report sets out details of their individual remuneration. The remuneration report is included in Helia's Annual Report.

### 3.3 Appointment of SLT

Employment agreements with the CEO and SLT set out the details of each of their appointments. A summary of key terms as they relate to executive KMP employment agreements is contained in the remuneration report.

All members of the SLT are required to comply with Helia's Fit and Proper Policy with respect to their skills, experience and integrity. Each member of the SLT is assessed in accordance with Helia's Fit and Proper Policy before being appointed. Fit and Proper reassessments are then completed annually.

### 3.4 Company Secretary

The Company Secretary plays an important role in ensuring a close link is maintained between the Board and the SLT, and in ensuring Helia operates within a robust corporate governance framework. The Board Charter provides for the Company Secretary to have a direct reporting line to the Chair of the Board.

The Company Secretary is also responsible for assisting the Board to comply with Board and Committee procedures and for providing advice to the Board in relation to Helia's constitution, governance matters and related regulatory requirements. These processes facilitate timely and effective decision making.

### 3.5 Senior leadership attestations – reporting and risk management

Helia's financial statements are reviewed and endorsed by the CEO and the CFO. Before approving Helia's financial statements for a financial period (full year and half year), the Board receives from the CEO and CFO a declaration that, in their opinion:

- › the financial records of Helia for the financial period have been properly maintained in accordance with the Corporations Act;
- › the financial statements and the notes for the financial period comply with the appropriate accounting standards and give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of Helia; and
- › the opinion has been formed on the basis of a sound system of risk management and internal controls which is operating effectively. Management reporting is provided to the CEO and CFO to assist them in forming this opinion.

## 4. Remuneration — performance and shareholder value

### 4.1 Remuneration practices

Helia's Remuneration Policy outlines the strategy, governance and structure of the Company's remuneration framework. Helia's remuneration strategy is to provide market competitive remuneration that helps attract, retain and motivate highly talented people, who are dedicated to achieving the business' objectives in a manner that is consistent with the long-term interests of the Company and its stakeholders. This strategy is supported by five guiding remuneration principles:

1. align management and shareholders interests;
2. link remuneration outcomes with sustainable company and individual performance;
3. encourage behaviour that aligns with Helia's expected behaviours, performance and risk management framework;
4. ensure remuneration is competitive and flexible to attract and retain quality talent; and
5. meet regulatory requirements and support strong governance and accountability.

The Remuneration Policy has been developed in line with relevant APRA Prudential Standards and ASX requirements. Remuneration practices for directors and the SLT are overseen by the Board, assisted by the People and Remuneration Committee.

Remuneration practices and outcomes for directors and executive KMP are set out in Helia's remuneration report. Helia's remuneration practices are consistent between executive KMP and other SLT members. The remuneration report for the 2024 financial year will be put to shareholders for a non-binding, advisory vote at the Annual General Meeting (AGM).

### 4.2 Performance evaluation of directors

#### Overview

In accordance with Helia's Board Performance and Renewal Policy, the Nominations Committee undertakes an annual evaluation of Board performance and effectiveness, including the Board, its committees and individual directors.

Helia's Board Performance and Renewal Policy sets out the key considerations in assessing the performance of the Board and of each individual director with reference to APRA CPS 510 Governance and the ASX Recommendations.

The Board recognises that the Company's interests are supported by having a mix of directors with diverse skills and experience. It also recognises the need for directors to continue to develop in order to fulfil their responsibilities and to maintain an appropriate balance of skills and experience.

The Board evaluates its performance through a combination of both internal peer assessments and externally facilitated assessments. The evaluation includes a review of Board and directors' functioning, the time spent by the Board considering matters, compliance with Board governance policies and whether the charters for the Board and its committees are being effectively met.

It considers the balance of skills, experience, independence and knowledge of the Board and how the Board works together.

The Board annually reviews each director's performance. The Chair of the Board manages the process and shares the results with each director. In respect of the Chair's performance, the Chair of the People and Remuneration Committee or their delegate provides feedback to the Chair. External independent advisers are engaged as deemed appropriate (at least once every three years) by the Board.

An external performance evaluation of the Board, its committees and individual directors was carried out in 2024 in accordance with the prescribed process.

### 4.3 Performance evaluation of SLT

The performance of members of the SLT is assessed through Helia's performance and development review (PDR) process. Helia's approach to performance evaluation for all employees is to encourage regular, constructive performance feedback as well as to conduct an overall assessment of performance against business goals and behaviours aligned to the Company values and risk culture. The individual performance and behaviour assessment is measured on 'what' was achieved as well as 'how' it was achieved. This provides a balanced assessment and links the annual assessment of performance to the individual's remuneration outcomes.

Risk culture is assessed by the Risk Committee based on the Risk Culture Dashboard (an assessment of organisational risk culture by the CRO) and individual risk goals and performance. Remuneration adjustments for risk management can be applied to the company-wide Short Term Incentive (STI) funding pool based on Risk Culture Dashboard modifier outcomes, on a collective or individual basis.

Adjustments can be upwards to +25% (in cases of positive risk management and affordability) or downwards to nil (in cases of poor risk management). Both STI and Long Term Incentive (LTI) plans are subject to Board discretion and in-year adjustments, malus and claw back.

All Helia's people, including the SLT, are required to set goals and development objectives in line with Helia's strategic objectives for each calendar year. Performance measures for these objectives are a mixture of financial, non-financial and risk-related indicators.

These measures align with Helia's business plan, reflect the individual's overall accountabilities and support Helia's organisational culture.

The CEO assesses the performance of each SLT member to ensure that the performance of the team is clearly aligned to Helia's business performance and the interests of shareholders.

The CEO's performance is assessed both via the PDR process and the annual Board performance and effectiveness evaluation process outlined above to assess performance in both capacities as a CEO and a Managing Director. CEO performance assessments are managed by the Board Chair.

A performance evaluation of the CEO and each member of the SLT was undertaken for 2024 in accordance with the process described above.

#### **4.4 Equity based remuneration scheme**

To ensure remuneration is aligned to the creation and enhancement of long-term shareholder value, certain Helia employees may be eligible to receive Helia equity.

SLT employees may be granted restricted shares or rights to shares under Helia's variable remuneration framework and the Helia Incentive Plan. Equity related to Long Term Incentive grants to the CEO require shareholder approval.

Any vesting of Long Term Incentive will be based on certain performance hurdles being met and all equity variable remuneration is subject to Board assessment of risk outcomes and conduct (on a collective and individual basis) based on evaluation of a number of data sources, including an independent assessment by the CRO. The People and Remuneration Committee and the Board may, at their discretion under Helia's Consequence Management Framework, adjust any deferred equity-based payments (to zero if appropriate), or exercise claw back of equity-based payments previously made, to protect the financial soundness of the Company; respond to misconduct, or inappropriate risk-taking behaviour; and/or other unforeseen or unintended consequences.

Helia's SLT equity-based remuneration plans are disclosed in the remuneration report, included within the 2024 Annual Report.

Non-SLT employees may be eligible to receive shares under the Employee Share Scheme (ESS). Under the ESS, eligible permanent employees with at least six months of tenure will receive a grant of \$1,000 of Helia shares, subject to a three-year trading restriction.

Employees participating in the Helia Incentive Plan are required to comply with the Incentive Plan rules. Employees participating in the ESS are required to comply with the Tax Exempt Share Plan rules and all employees are required to comply with Helia's Trading Policy.

# 5. Risk management — sustainable business practices

## 5.1 Risk Management Framework and Strategy

Helia's Risk Management Framework and Strategy (RMFS) comprises the totality of the frameworks, policies, strategies, people, processes and systems used to identify, measure, evaluate, monitor, report, and control or mitigate material risks, both current and emerging, and to support a sound risk culture. It is aligned to International Standard ISO 31000: 2018 Risk Management, as well as APRA CPS 220 Risk Management standards. The RMFS has been prepared in alignment to our strategic and business planning, is influenced by regulatory capital, funding and liquidity requirements, and considers external perspectives including customer (i.e. policyholder), investor and community expectations.

The Risk Committee, on behalf of the Board, is responsible for overseeing the implementation of Helia's RMFS and pursuit of strategic objectives within the limits set by the Board approved risk appetite. The Audit Committee provides further assurance through an objective review of the effectiveness of Helia's corporate reporting. These Board Committees are chaired by independent non-executive directors who have the necessary technical and industry knowledge to ensure they operate in accordance with their respective charters.

Annual reviews consider various matters such as the framework's effectiveness in managing risk, the alignment of Helia's strategy and risk appetite, the risk culture of the organisation, the appropriateness of policies that identify risks and controls, risk related reporting and how remediation recommendations are actioned. Each of these components were covered as part of the 2024 review process.

The key components of the risk management framework are set out below.

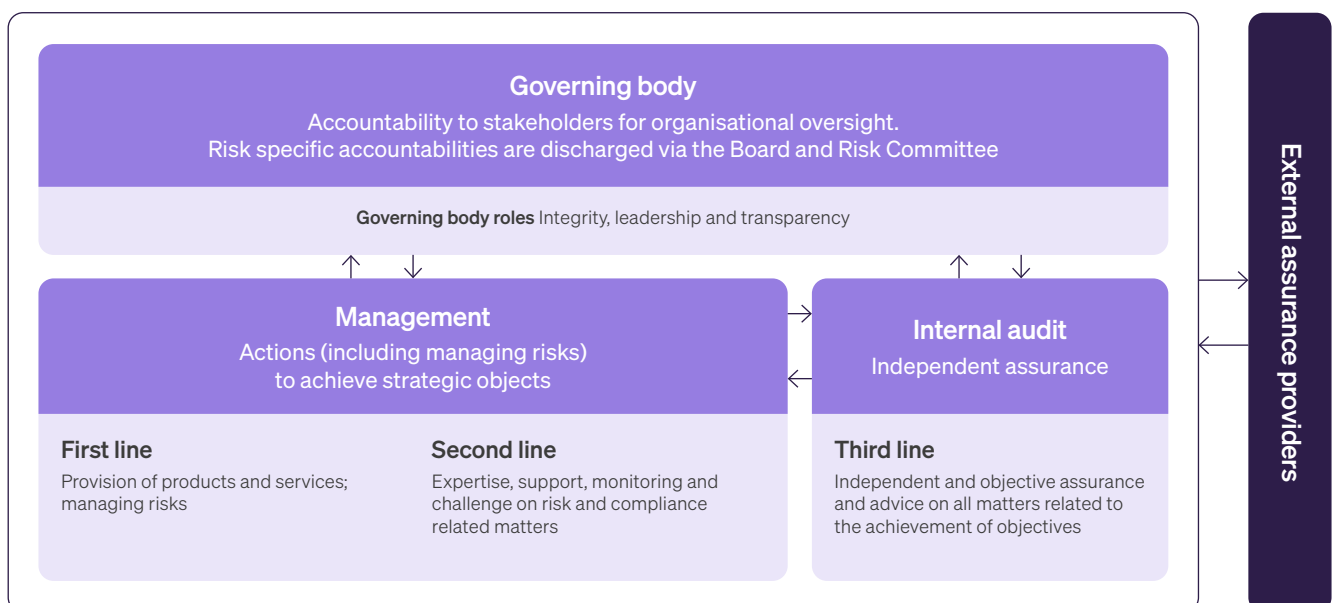
### Risk appetite statement

Helia's Risk Appetite Statement addresses the material risks faced by the Company and outlines the degree of risk that Helia is prepared to accept or pursue. The Board is responsible for setting and approving the Company's risk appetite.

### Three lines model

Helia adopts the Three Lines Model that supports and guides accountability for risk and compliance management, as outlined below.

<b>Business (First line)</b>	Our people are responsible for the effective management of risk in the provision of products and services to our customers. Openly communicate about issues and concerns, to proactively raise and manage risks, issues and opportunities, to understand the accountabilities and responsibilities of their role and to discharge these effectively including ensuring we remain within our Board approved risk appetite.
<b>Risk (Second line)</b>	The Risk function has independent oversight of business roles, operating as a trusted adviser to the wider organisation and is responsible for the provision of risk frameworks, policies, systems, tools and best practice that will assist our people manage the risk and control environment.
<b>Internal Audit (Third line)</b>	An independent internal audit function evaluates and verifies the adequacy and effectiveness of both the First and Second Line, with the aim of providing the Audit Committee and SLT assurance that Helia's end-to-end risk identification, management and controls are adequate and operating effectively.



## Risk culture

Our desired risk culture is one where we value our people speaking up, providing constructive challenge to decision making and escalating matters of concern. This is reinforced through our responsiveness to proactively managing risk issues, incidents and concerns.

It shapes the behaviours and judgements of our people and supports sound decision making and risk taking and enables key learnings to be integrated into our processes and outcomes. Our risk culture forms a key part of our organisational culture.

## Risk policies and processes

Helia has embedded policies and processes to ensure that risks are identified, assessed and effectively mitigated through the implementation of appropriate controls. Risk and control assessments are used to facilitate the development and prioritisation of any necessary risk mitigation action plans.

## 5.2 Governance, remuneration, culture and accountability

In 2024, the Company continued to develop and embed its governance, remuneration, culture and accountability practices. During this period Helia has:

- › enhanced the format and methodology of our internal risk culture assessment with refined metrics to align with industry best practice;
- › continued focus within the organisation on risk culture through internal employee surveys and participation in an APRA Industry wide risk culture survey;
- › embedded the Consequence Management Framework, establishing clear linkages between risk management, conduct and behaviours, and remuneration outcomes;
- › refreshed the Company's Remuneration Policy to ensure alignment with regulatory changes;
- › conducted an external Board Effectiveness Review which reviewed Helia's governance, culture and accountability practices to assess their effectiveness and identify areas for alignment to better practice.

The themes and recommendations arising from the results of the 2024 Employee Survey, APRA risk culture survey and the internal Board Effectiveness Review will be used to further enhance Helia's governance, remuneration, culture and accountability practices going forward.

Helia is compliant with APRA's Prudential Standard CPS 511 Remuneration obligations and the Financial Accountability Regime, which will come into effect for general insurers in March 2025.

## 5.3 Environmental, social and governance (ESG) risk

Helia takes its responsibility to manage risks associated with its business seriously, including ESG risk factors. Helia adopts a forward-looking approach to identifying, assessing and responding to ESG risks to enable long-term value creation.

Helia's Board has ultimate responsibility and oversight of sustainability strategy, including climate risks and opportunities, and all material disclosures. Management is accountable for developing strategy and allocating resources to deliver on ESG commitments, including climate-related opportunities. The delivery of Helia's sustainability strategy is supported by cross-functional working groups and committees to harness dedicated expertise and resources aligned with key priorities and initiatives.

In 2024, strategic focus areas included:

- › driving social wellbeing;
- › enhancing climate resilience; and
- › responsible corporate governance.

The Board and SLT are committed to identifying and assessing the impacts of its business products, services and operations on the environment and communities in which we operate, and to driving sustainable practices and outcomes.

ESG risk is included in Helia's overall risk management practices with climate risk recognised as a key risk in Helia's risk management framework. Helia is continuing to assess and respond to the risks and opportunities arising from climate change. As Helia looks to mitigate climate risk for its business, there is a focus on enhancing capabilities to assess, respond to, and share insights on the financial and non-financial risks relating to climate change.

## 5. Risk management — sustainable business practices (continued)

Each year, Helia publishes a Sustainability Report that is aligned with the Task Force on Climate-Related Disclosures (TCFD) and the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) Reporting Standards.

Further details on any material exposures Helia has to managing environmental or social risks, and Helia's approach to these risks can be found in the operating and financial review contained in the directors' report and in Helia's Sustainability Report, available in the sustainability section of the Helia website at [helia.com.au/about-helia/sustainability](https://helia.com.au/about-helia/sustainability).

### 5.4 Capital Management Framework and Strategy (CMFS)

The CMFS has also been developed to assist the Company with internal assessments of its capital requirements in the context of its business plan and includes consideration of stress and scenario testing.

#### Internal Capital Adequacy Assessment Process (ICAAP)

The overarching goal of Helia's approach to capital adequacy and management is to ensure there is sufficient capital at a reasonable cost to support Helia's business operations and strategy while:

- › meeting all of its obligations to policyholders and prudential requirements;
- › generating sufficient financial returns to shareholders in line with Helia's specified risk appetite; and
- › providing as broad a capital base as practical to ensure capital efficiency and flexibility.

#### Internal capital modelling process

As part of its ICAAP, Helia uses a risk-based approach to estimate the level of capital required to support the risks being taken in delivering its strategic objectives.

#### Monitoring of capital position

Helia undertakes three formal planning processes throughout the year:

- › business planning;
- › ICAAP Report, including capital stress testing; and
- › short and medium-term capital forecasting.

Capital planning is a key step in each of the above processes and incorporates Helia's business plan and insurance liability projections. Helia's capital requirements and solvency ratio are forecast under the APRA Prescribed Capital model.

#### Stress testing and scenario testing

The purpose of Helia's stress testing program is to estimate the extent of losses and the resultant capital impact that could emerge from the Helia portfolio in various economic scenarios.

#### Target capital buffers

As the quantum of the capital requirements and capital bases are dynamic, Helia manages capital to incorporate a target buffer range above its regulatory capital requirements.

#### Capital triggers and remediation

Incorporated within the capital reporting mechanisms, and to ensure the business is managed in accordance with its stated risk appetite, the business has established several capital 'trigger' points which are reviewed regularly. Capital triggers are intended to serve as early warning indicators to provide the Board and senior management with time to rectify issues and restore capital prior to any potential breach of target capital levels or regulatory requirements.

## 6. Communication with shareholders — transparency and accountability

### 6.1 Helia's website

Helia's website ([helia.com.au](http://helia.com.au)) provides shareholders with a variety of information and resources. This includes information about Helia's operations, biographies of directors and the SLT, an investor section with links to annual and half-year earnings releases and presentations, public announcements, a share price chart and investment calculator. The website also provides links to Helia's Corporate Governance Statement.

### 6.2 Shareholder and investor engagement

Helia is committed to accurate and timely communication with all shareholders and investors. This includes half year and full year financial results and investor conference calls, the AGM, ASX releases and associated disclosures on the Helia website. Helia also meets with shareholders and investors regularly throughout the year.

Shareholders have the option to send and receive communications with Helia and its share registry electronically. As at 31 December 2024, approximately 61% of shareholders had elected to receive all communications electronically including notification of the Annual Report.

Shareholders and investors can contact Helia's Investor Relations team at [investorrelations@helia.com.au](mailto:investorrelations@helia.com.au) or write to the Company Secretary at Helia, Level 26, 101 Miller Street, North Sydney NSW 2060, Australia.

### 6.3 Continuous disclosure

Helia is committed to the continuous disclosure of material information as a means of promoting transparency and investor confidence. The practices of Helia are designed to comply with the ASX Listing Rules and the requirements of the Corporations Act.

Helia has a Disclosure Policy to ensure that Helia complies with its continuous disclosure obligations and manages other communications with the media and financial markets. In accordance with the Disclosure Policy, Helia provides all Board members with copies of all material market announcements promptly after they have been made.

Helia's Disclosure Committee is responsible for overseeing Helia's disclosure controls, procedures and practices.

ASX announcements are available at [helia.com.au](http://helia.com.au), in the Investor Relations section under 'Announcements', and the Disclosure Policy is available in the Investor Relations section under 'Key policies'.

### 6.4 Participation at shareholder meetings

Helia has implemented policies and procedures to assist in facilitating an effective flow of information to shareholders, to encourage interaction with shareholders and participation at shareholder meetings. All substantive resolutions at meetings of shareholders are decided by a poll.

The Notice of AGM provides details in relation to items of business, voting rights and explanatory notes. The appointed auditor for Helia attends the AGM to respond to any shareholder questions relevant to the audit and corporate reporting for the prior financial year. These may include questions relevant to the conduct of the audit, the preparation of the appointed auditor's report, the accounting policies adopted by Helia and the independence of the appointed auditor.

### 6.5 Media relations

Helia also has set standards in respect of its approach to media relations, which are set out in Helia's Media Relations Policy. The policy sets out Helia's high-level requirements for engaging with the media, defines the standards to be adhered to in engaging with the media, and employees' responsibilities in this regard. A summary of the Media Relations Policy is available at [helia.com.au](http://helia.com.au) under 'Key policies'.

## 7. Working environment — ethics and a diverse and inclusive workplace

### 7.1 Code of conduct

The Board acknowledges the need for high standards of corporate governance practices and ethical conduct to be maintained by all directors and employees of Helia.

The Board has adopted the Code of Conduct, which sets the expected standards of professional behaviour, linked to Helia's behaviours, which are set out below. It guides our people to do the right thing in their behaviours, actions and decisions in the best interests of Helia.

A copy of the Code of Conduct is available at [helia.com.au](https://helia.com.au), in the Investor Relations section under 'Key policies'.

### 7.2 A diverse and inclusive workplace

At Helia, diversity, equity and inclusion are part of its business strategy. Helia's diversity, equity and inclusion objectives are grounded in the Company's behaviours. The way in which our people act and engage reflects the diverse and inclusive workplace, where everyone feels valued, empowered and motivated to contribute their best.

Helia recognises and values the contribution that people with different backgrounds, experiences and perspectives bring to our organisation. We believe diversity is a strength for effective teams and drives value for our shareholders, customers and employees.

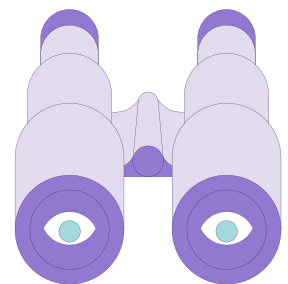
#### Own it

- › Focus on impact and help each other thrive
- › Come with ideas, take action, see it through
- › Do it well – every time
- › Face challenges, look for better ways and opportunities.



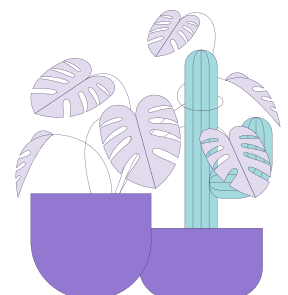
#### Rethink the everyday

- › Put yourself in the customer's mindset daily
- › Continuously improve the customer's experience
- › Keep an open mind and keep moving forward
- › Encourage curiosity and try new things.



#### Grow together

- › Customer at the centre of the conversation
- › Share your expertise and experiences openly
- › Invite and listen to different views
- › Do right by each other, our customers and communities.





## Progress in 2024

In 2024, Helia continued to drive its diversity and inclusion agenda. For 31 December 2024, our key metrics and deliverables include:

- › achieved gender pay parity for second consecutive year;
- › 50% female representation on the Board;
- › 38% female representation on the SLT (CEO and direct reports);
- › 38% female representation of women in management (excluding SLT);
- › WGEA Employer of Choice for Gender Equality for the 10th consecutive year;
- › employees received training across a range of diversity topics including strengthening our culture of inclusion through Allyship training and we continued delivery of our wellbeing@work series;
- › our Innovate level Reconciliation Action Plan was endorsed by Reconciliation Australia; and
- › continued focus on inclusive practices around hiring, mobility, training participation and performance and reward.

The following table summarises the proportion of men and women on the Board, in senior executive positions and across the Company as at 31 December 2024 compared to 31 December 2023.

	Board (including Managing Director)		Senior leadership team (CEO and direct reports)		Other management roles (excl. Senior Leadership Team)		Overall	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Female</b>	50%	50%	38%	38%	38%	43%	43%	43%
<b>Male</b>	50%	50%	62%	62%	62%	57%	57%	57%

## Pay equity

In 2024, Helia met gender pay parity, which is defined by the Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) as a gender pay gap between -5% and 5%. It is a significant milestone when compared to Helia's industry peers and compares favourably to the median employer pay gap of +29.3% (in favour of men) in WGEA's Industry Benchmark Report.

Achieving pay parity serves as a highly valued attraction, retention, and engagement tool where diversity, equity and inclusion metrics are becoming increasingly important to candidates and employees.

Helia's analysis suggests no systemic evidence of pay inequity at Helia on a like-for-like basis and remuneration competitiveness indicated women and men were paid close to, or slightly above the market median for their roles.

Each year, the Board commits to measurable diversity and inclusion objectives against which progress is reviewed. For the year ending 31 December 2024, Helia's diversity and inclusion objectives were supported by a number of targets including:

- › 40% female representation on the Board;
- › 40% female representation on the SLT; and
- › 40% female representation in other management roles.