

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

As at 31 December 2020

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At Seeka, we conduct our business safely and ethically, within the legal and regulatory framework, so we can deliver the best outcomes for our growers, clients, employees, shareholders, customers and the communities we operate in.

Seeka's Board and management are committed to best practice governance and Seeka has adopted the recommendations in the [NZX Corporate Governance Code 2020](#) (the Code) as set out in this corporate governance statement. The Board regularly reviews Seeka's corporate governance structures against the eight principle recommendations in the Code, and considers Seeka's practices and procedures substantially meet Code recommendations. Any exceptions are noted in this governance statement, and listed on page 9 of this annual report.

Seeka's governance policies are available on Seeka's website, see [Seeka.co.nz/co.nz/corporate-governance](https://seeka.co.nz/co.nz/corporate-governance).

The Board approved this governance statement on 26 February 2021.

Principle 1. Code of ethical behaviour

"Directors should set high standards of ethical behaviour, model this behaviour and hold management accountable for these standards being followed throughout the organisation."

Seeka commits to high ethical standards in all dealings undertaken by the Group's directors, employees and suppliers. We are a produce business that connects growers with customers. Our business spans cultural, regulatory and country boundaries, and our directors and management understand that high ethical standards deliver the best outcomes for our growers, clients, employees, shareholders, customers and communities.

Our commitment to ethical dealings is captured by Seeka's core brand attribute "founded on relationships."

[Seeka's Code of Ethics](#) is included in employee induction packs, is available on Seeka's intranet, and the code's principles and objectives are promoted to staff each year including at staff meetings. The code outlines how directors and management are to consistently act with honesty and integrity, and model high ethical standards to all employees and stakeholders, adhering to the principle "we do what we say and are accountable for what we do."

The Code of Ethics provides clear guidance on:

- Conflicts of interest
- Proper use of Seeka information, assets and property
- Conduct, valuing individuals' differences and respecting all stakeholders
- Dealing with gifts or gratuities
- Whistle blowing for safe reporting of potential wrong doing
- Compliance with laws and Seeka policies
- Managing breaches of Seeka's Code of Ethics

Seeka also has a strict [Insider Trading Policy](#) prohibiting the direct or indirect dealing in Seeka financial products when holding inside information, plus a duty of confidentiality that protects the dissemination and use of confidential company information.

The Insider Trading Policy defines black-out periods during which restricted persons are prohibited from trading in Seeka shares unless provided with a specific exemption by the Board. Each black-out period starts 30 days prior to and finishes the first trading day after key events; being the half-year and full-year balance dates, and the release to the NZX of any announcement relating to an offer in Seeka shares. Restricted persons includes all directors, executive officers, members of the management executive team and their administrative staff, any trusts and companies controlled by such persons, and advisors.

Prior to trading in Seeka shares, directors must notify the chair of the Board, and the chair must notify the chair of the audit and risk committee.

No breaches of the Code of Ethics or Insider Trading Policy were reported in the year.

Principle 2. Board composition and performance

"To ensure an effective board, there should be a balance of independence, skills, knowledge, experience and perspectives."

Seeka's Board commits to acting in the best interest of the company, to deliver benefits to stakeholders and grow shareholder returns.

Board charter and responsibilities

The [Board Charter](#) sets out the Board's structure, appointments, remuneration, committees and process for performance review, along with the duties and responsibilities of the Board and chief executive officer. Seeka's Board is primarily responsible for:

- Robust and effective health and safety systems and standards
- Establishing corporate objectives and strategies
- Monitoring management's implementation of Seeka's strategies
- Approving budgets and monitoring financial performance
- Managing risk to Seeka's business
- Ensuring timely and transparent stakeholder and market communication

The Board delegates the chief executive officer to lead and manage Seeka's operations, including being the company's principal representative. The chief executive officer is not a Board member.

Board composition

Seeka's [Company Constitution](#) specifies that the Board has a minimum of three and a maximum of seven directors, with provision for an eighth to be appointed between annual shareholder meetings. Directors are to contribute a mix of complementary skills that support Seeka's objectives and strategies, with at least two being independent, and at least two ordinarily residing in New Zealand. To maintain proper separation between governance and management, all directors are non-executive and the constitution has no provision for a managing director.

Seeka's Board currently has seven directors, led by the independent chairman Fred Hutchings. Non-independent director Amiel Diaz is the only director residing overseas.

The following table summarises director qualifications, skills and experience.

	Qualification	Executive leadership	Financial	Legal	Kiwifruit industry	Governance	Cultural	International markets	Brand management	Technology	Property valuation
Fred Hutchings	BBS, FCA	●	●			●				●	●
Martyn Brick	BAGCom	●	●		●	●		●			●
John Burke	BAGSc	●	●		●	●					●
Ratahi Cross		●			●	●	●				
Amiel Diaz	BA, BSc, CPA, CISA	●	●				●	●		●	
Cecilia Tarrant	BA/LLB Hons, LLM	●	●	●		●					
Ashley Waugh	BBS	●	●			●		●	●	●	

Director independence

The Board's Charter follows [NZX Listing Rules](#) to determine the independence of a director. Directors must inform the Board of all relevant information and the Board confirms director independence at least annually.

Two directors are appointees of large shareholders and deemed non independent;

- Amiel Diaz, representative of Seeka's shareholder Sumifru Singapore Pte Limited, and former shareholder Farmind Corporation of Japan, and
- Ratahi Cross, representative of Seeka shareholder Te Awanui Huka Pak Limited and is the chairman of the Ngai Tukairangi Trust, a large kiwifruit grower supplying Seeka.

As Seeka's foundation business is kiwifruit, the Board considers experience in the kiwifruit industry a core competency. Three directors have extensive experience in kiwifruit production and handling, and through their extensive interests in kiwifruit orchards that supply Seeka are considered non-independent directors;

- Martyn Brick
- John Burke, and
- Ratahi Cross

The Board has three independent directors;

- Fred Hutchings, Board chair and remuneration committee chair
- Ashley Waugh, audit and risk committee chair, and
- Cecilia Tarrant, sustainability committee chair

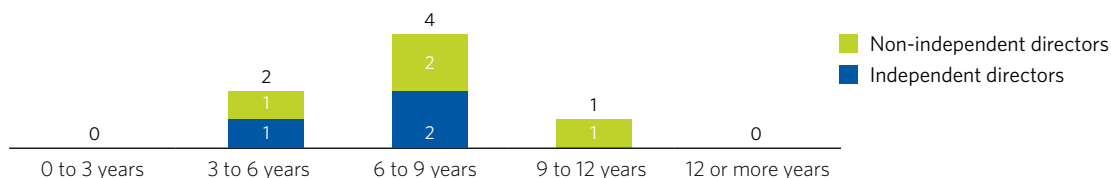
Director appointments and induction

As required, the chairman establishes a nominations committee to review the Board's composition and performance, and recommend people with complementary skills to join the Board. Nominees can be appointed by the Board, with the appointment to be approved by shareholders at the next annual shareholder meeting, or nominated and elected to the Board by shareholders at the annual shareholder meeting. The Board provides guidance to shareholders on a candidate's suitability for appointment or reappointment.

Directors enter a written agreement covering the term of their appointment and are provided with detailed information about Seeka, the Group's strategies, policies and procedures, and any other training or other support that will help the director become a fully-functioning member of the Board.

The chair undertakes an annual assessment of Board, director and committee performance, seeking assistance, as required, from the nominations committee and external advisors.

Director tenure



While there is no maximum term, the Board annually reviews director length of service and any potential impact on director independence. When the Board recommends the re-election of a director whom has served longer than 12 years, they will explain to shareholders their rationale for supporting re-election. All current directors have served terms shorter than 12 years.

Director profiles

Director profiles are listed on Seeka's website (see [Seeka.co.nz/investors](https://seeka.co.nz/investors)), and are included on page 84 of this annual report. Full disclosure of director interests according to section 140 (2) of the Companies Act 1993 are listed on page 86 of this annual report.

Diversity

Diversity is the range of attributes held by members of a group. Seeka's Board believes diversity within the Board and the company provides a deeper understanding of stakeholders, broadens the range of skills available to Seeka, and will lead to improved business performance.

The Board works to optimise diversity across director members, while managing an efficient governance process. The Board's focus is on diversity in culture and ethnicity, business skills and innovative thinking as these attributes are key to understanding the operating environment of our key clients, creating unique solutions, and improving stakeholder outcomes and shareholder returns. Notably Ratahi Cross of Ngai Tukairangi is a lecturer in Māori history, Amiel Diaz is a Filipino businessman based in Asia, and Martyn Brick, John Burke, Cecilia Tarrant and Ashley Waugh have rural backgrounds.

The following table reports gender composition of the Board and senior management team as at 31 December 2020.

	FY20		FY19	
	Female	Male	Female	Male
Directors	1	6	1	6
Senior managers	2	5	2	5
Total	3	11	3	11

Diversity policy

Seeka is committed to providing an inclusive environment that supports a diversity of thinking and skills. Aspects of diversity include gender, ethnic background, religion, marital status, culture, disability, economic background, education, language, physical appearance and sexual orientation.

During the year ended 31 December 2020, Seeka performed in adherence to the principles of our [Diversity Policy](#).

Professional development

Directors are supported to undertake professional development through individual training and by attending relevant courses.

Evaluation of board, committee and director performance

The Board Charter specifies that the chairman undertakes an annual review of Board, committee and director performance. The chairman's 2020 review found that the Board, committees and directors have fulfilled all their duties and responsibilities for sound corporate governance as specified by the Board Charter.

Principle 3. Board committees

"The board should use committees where this will enhance its effectiveness in key areas, while still retaining board responsibility."

The Board has established three permanent committees and will form ad-hoc committees to efficiently and effectively carry out key governance functions, while retaining ultimate responsibility for all decisions and actions.

All committees operate under written charters which define the role, authority and operations of the committee. All Seeka directors and committee members are non-executive, and Seeka management and other employees may only attend committee meetings when invited by the committee. The Board reviews the sustainability, remuneration and nominations committee charters biennially and the audit and risk committee charter annually.

Committee membership and workload management

Seeka is governed by a seven-member non-executive Board with three independent directors. To provide effective and transparent committee governance, while managing workload across Board members, Seeka's committee charters ensure each committee is chaired by an independent director, with committee members drawn from both independent and non-independent directors that furnish the best skill set. The audit and risk committee charter specifies a majority of independent directors.

The current standing committees are:

Audit and risk

Composition	Role	Members	Charter
Independent chair with a minimum of two other directors. The committee must have a majority of independent directors, with at least one having an accounting or financial background. The chair may not be the Board chair.	Examines financial reporting, compliance, external and internal auditing, risk management and risk insurance.	Ashley Waugh, chair John Burke Fred Hutchings	Audit and risk committee charter

Sustainability

Composition	Role	Members	Charter
A minimum of two directors appointed by the Board. No management members, but the chief executive or delegate to be invited to meetings.	Ensure Seeka uses an appropriate reporting framework, provide strategic guidance on targets, measures and performance, and examines the strategic implications of climate change.	Cecilia Tarrant, chair John Burke Fred Hutchings	Sustainability committee charter

Remuneration

Composition	Role	Members	Charter
Independent chair with a minimum of two other directors. When not an appointed member, the Board chair will be an ex-officio member.	Examines the performance, remuneration and succession planning of the chief executive officer, the remuneration of senior managers, company-wide employee remuneration policy and human resource plans and policies.	Fred Hutchings, chair Ratahi Cross Cecilia Tarrant	Remuneration committee charter

In addition, the chair periodically establishes an ad-hoc nominations committee.

Nominations

Composition	Role	Members	Charter
Independent chair with a minimum of two other directors.	Examines the directors' terms of engagement, Board succession planning, seeks and evaluates nominees, and advises the Board on director appointments.	Appointed by the Board.	Nominations committee charter

In the event of a takeover offer, the Board Charter provides for the formation of an ad-hoc initial response committee and an independent takeover response committee to enact the procedures and protocols of the Board's Takeover Response Manual.

Initial response committee

Composition	Role	Members
Independent directors.	Manage the initial response to an unexpected takeover notice.	Fred Hutchings Cecilia Tarrant Ashley Waugh

Independent takeover response committee

Composition	Role	Members
Directors that are independent of the bidder and of the bid.	Manage the takeover response and act in the interests of all shareholders.	Appointed by the Board.

To date there has been no need to convene an initial response committee meeting or form an independent takeover response committee.

While the Board considers the current range of committees comprehensively manages the governance of Seeka's business, and provides the best outcomes for shareholders and other stakeholders, the Board Charter allows ad-hoc committees to be formed as required to aid Board decision making.

The following table reports Board and committee meeting attendance in 2020.

	Board		Audit and risk		Sustainability		Remuneration	
	Meetings	Attended	Meetings	Attended	Meetings	Attended	Meetings	Attended
Fred Hutchings	12	12	12	12	3	3	3	3
Martyn Brick	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
John Burke	12	12	12	11	3	3	-	-
Ratahi Cross	12	12	-	-	-	-	3	3
Amiel Diaz	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cecilia Tarrant	12	12	-	-	3	3	3	3
Ashley Waugh	12	12	12	12	-	-	-	-

Principle 4. Reporting and disclosure

"The board should demand integrity in financial and non-financial reporting, and in the timeliness and balance of corporate disclosures."

Seeka's Board is committed to keeping investors and the wider market fully informed of all material information concerning the company's operating environment and business performance. In addition to all information required by law and NZX Listing Rules, Seeka provides stakeholders with a mid-year performance update, along with regular operational updates to supplying clients.

Seeka's Continuous Disclosure Policy covers the classification, timing and release of material information to investors and other stakeholders. The chair of the Board, chair of the audit and risk committee, chief executive and chief financial officer (the disclosure committee) are responsible for identifying material information between Board meetings, with continuous disclosure covered at every Board meeting.

As stewards of more than 300 orchards in New Zealand and Australia, Seeka is committed to applying industry best practices and international guidelines for all asset management, backed up by rigorous auditing. This includes certification to the international GLOBALG.A.P standard for good agricultural practice that focuses production and supply management on the consumer's demand for safe food. See www.globalgap.org.

Seeka as an employer is focused on sustainable land management that supports long-term employment and wealth creation in our rural communities, and has formally implemented the GLOBALG.A.P GRASP module with its extended social standards for worker health, safety and welfare. See www.globalgap.org/uk_en/for-producers/globalg.a.p.-add-on/grasp/.

In New Zealand, Seeka has partnered with all supplying growers to form independent, grower-controlled entities that manage grower fruit returns; kiwifruit growers appoint Seeka Growers Limited as their agent for the supply of kiwifruit to Seeka, with avocado growers appointing AvoFresh Limited. See www.seeka.co.nz/seeka-grower-council and www.seeka.co.nz/avofresh.

Seeka Growers Limited and AvoFresh Limited manage market returns in independent bank accounts, approve all service distributions and grower payments, and publish independently-audited annual statements. Seeka is represented on the entities' controlling councils, provides management support, and ensures grower representatives are kept informed on market conditions, industry issues and Seeka's operational performance for their fruit.

Seeka complies with the financial reporting requirements prescribed by the Companies Act 1993, Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 and the NZX Listing Rules. Seeka also considers environmental, social and governance concerns, and discloses to the markets any environmental factors that may materially affect operations.

In August 2020, Seeka formed a sustainability committee to provide strategic guidance on Seeka's sustainability framework, targets, measures and performance. Seeka is working to measure then incrementally improve our environmental performance and the associated governance processes. We know our orcharding and supply chain operations influence our environment, and we are actively addressing the risks and opportunities of climate change. The sustainability committee provides guidance to the Seeka Agile Sustainability Team (SAST), which was formed in 2019 to develop Seeka's environmental and social policy and processes, and to deliver incremental improvements to the business. Drawing together staff who are passionate about sustainability from all areas of our operations, and working with external advisors, Seeka's sustainability team is working to integrate sustainability into the hearts and souls of our employees and deliver projects that reduce Seeka's environmental footprint. Seeka's second annual [Sustainability report](#) is included in this document.

Principle 5. Remuneration

"The remuneration of directors and executives should be transparent, fair and reasonable."

Director remuneration

In accordance with the Board Charter, the chair uses independent professional advice and market information to review director remuneration within a two year period, with shareholders having to approve any increase to the pool available to pay directors' fees. Approval was last sought in April 2018, when the pool limit was set at \$450,000 per annum, with the Board withdrawing a resolution to increase the pool in 2020, in response to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Directors are remunerated by fixed fees that are set according to expected time commitments and responsibilities as determined by the Board. Directors receive no equity-based remuneration, and receive no performance or retirement benefits. Directors are not required to own Seeka shares.

The following table reports the allocation of the pool at the date of this report, and directors' fees paid during the financial year. No other benefits were provided to directors during the year.

	Position	Base director fee	Chair fee	Audit and risk committee chair fee	Director fees paid during the year
Fred Hutchings	Chair	\$56,500	\$43,500		\$100,000
Ashley Waugh	Director, Audit and risk committee chair	\$56,500		\$11,000	\$67,500
Martyn Brick	Director	\$56,500			\$56,500
John Burke	Director	\$56,500			\$56,500
Ratahi Cross	Director	\$56,500			\$56,500
Amiel Diaz	Director	\$56,500			\$56,500
Cecilia Tarrant	Director	\$56,500			\$56,500
Total		\$395,500	\$43,500	\$11,000	\$450,000

The base director fee includes committee membership, with the Board chair and chair of the audit and risk committee receiving a chair's fee.

Chief executive officer remuneration

The review of the chief executive's remuneration is undertaken by the remunerations committee with the remuneration package the responsibility of the Board.

Michael Franks was appointed chief executive in 2006. His remuneration package comprises a fixed annual remuneration that covers base salary, vehicle, Kiwisaver contributions, medical and life insurance, and an at-risk annual performance incentive.

The following table reports chief executive remuneration in 2020.

	Base salary	Benefits ¹	Annual performance incentive ²	Total remuneration
Michael Franks	\$668,914	\$50,609	\$114,064	\$833,587

1. Benefits are delivered through vehicle, Kiwisaver contributions, medical and life insurance.

2. Performance incentive earned from FY19 and paid in 2020.

Performance incentive

The chief executive officer's performance incentive has a maximum value of 72% of fixed remuneration for achieving annual targets set by the Board, including financial performance, strategic goals, health and safety, and risk management. For the 2019 financial year, chief executive officer Michael Franks earned an \$114,064 performance incentive. This payment was made in 2020.

For the 2020 financial year, the chief executive officer earned a \$388,988 performance incentive. This payment will be made in 2021.

Employee share scheme

At balance date, the chief executive had 8,000 shares allocated April 2019 at \$4.76 per share under the 2019 employee share scheme. These shares vest 2022.

Principle 6. Risk management

"Directors should have a sound understanding of the material risks faced by the issuer and how to manage them. The board should regularly verify that the issuer has appropriate processes that identify and manage potential and material risks."

The Board considers risk management an important governance function to protect stakeholders, build long-term wealth in our communities and optimise shareholder value. The Board retains ultimate responsibility for risk management, with the audit and risk committee providing a specific focus on material risks as defined in the Audit and Risk Committee Charter.

While no risk management system can completely remove business and financial risks, our goal is to ensure material risks are appropriately identified and managed within acceptable levels. We accomplish this through a strategic focus, active management, contingency planning and a sensible balance between costs and anticipated benefits. Wherever appropriate, the processes are consistent with AS/NZS 31000:2009 Risk Management Principles and Guidelines.

Financial statements and key operational measures are prepared monthly and reviewed by the Board throughout the year to assess business performance against budget and forecasts.

The Board composition includes directors with long-term experience in New Zealand's kiwifruit industry, and Australian and Asian produce handling and marketing. Board meetings include periodic site visits in New Zealand and Australia (when practicable with regard to Covid-19 travel restrictions) to ensure all directors understand the Group's operating environments when assessing material risk.

The Board's complementary skill set and understanding of the core business have allowed it to implement strategies to mitigate risk associated with being a New Zealand kiwifruit handler by diversifying operations across multiple products, expanding into the Australian market and sourcing revenue from more points along the value chain. Since the incursion of the kiwifruit vine-killing disease Psa in 2010, Seeka has transformed from being a New Zealand kiwifruit handler to become an Australasian produce business involved in the growing, handling, supply and marketing of multiple products.

Seeka has appropriate insurance cover, as available, for property damage to its offices, post harvest processing and fruit handling facilities, along with insurance cover for hail damage to crops.

The Brown Marmorated Stink Bug (BMSB; *Halyomorpha halys*) remains one of the top pests of concern for New Zealand's horticultural industry. A native to China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan, and accidentally introduced in the United States in the mid-1990s, adult BMSB feed on fruit and make them unmarketable. The Ministry of Primary Industries is working with industry groups along with the public to prevent the unintended import of BMSB, including eradication protocols if BMSB are detected in New Zealand. Seeka personnel and supplying growers are informed on how to identify BMSB and the immediate actions to be undertaken if the pest is found.

Communicable diseases are a risk to labour availability, food safety and market access. Seeka works with industry bodies, the Government, community agencies and international groups to secure reliable labour. Risk to food safety and market access is managed through Seeka's full orchard-to-market track and trace service, which includes a register of all orchard visits and finger-scanner access to post harvest facilities. Tracing from point of origin to point of sale allows Seeka to manage risk from contagion and ensures our markets can have confidence in the safety of our supply chain and our products. Seeka's response to the communicable disease Covid-19 is detailed in the following health and safety section.

Health and safety

The Board is responsible for health and safety across Group operations, with the chief executive appointing a health and safety manager to ensure Seeka complies with legislation and operates industry best practice across the Group, while also supporting the management of health and safety risks by clients and suppliers. The Board reviews performance against set targets at each meeting.

In 2020 Seeka confronted a new challenge to our health and safety systems, as Covid-19 threatened community health and disrupted business systems.

Prior to Covid-19's detection in New Zealand, Seeka formed a Covid-19 response committee to protect our people and prepare our business. We worked with health professionals to secure personal protective equipment and implement social distancing protocols to mitigate risk. We secured more-spacious accommodation for RSE workers and organised quarantine housing, which was later used to isolate suspected contacts of a confirmed community case.

During harvest, Seeka initiated new protective measures to keep our people safe as we worked to deliver an essential service. This included designating operational "bubbles", onsite personnel temperature logging, provision of personal protective equipment, two-metre screening, enlarged break areas, 24-hour cleaning and remote management. We were part of a community effort that kept our whānau safe as collectively we worked to clear our growers' crops and supply the world with safe, healthy food. Over the Level-4 lockdown period, Seeka paid \$12.2m in direct salary and wages, along with a further \$3.0m to picking contractors, and had no recorded cases of Covid-19 in our workforce.

Over the full year, the Group employed more than 3,000 people working in multiple complex environments. Group salary and wages equate to 1,680 full time equivalents.

The following table reports key health and safety measures and targets in 2020.

	2020 Annual threshold	2020 Actuals
Total recordable injury frequency rate ¹	Less than 4.5	4.5
Notifiable injuries	0	3
Notifiable injuries including incidents	1	3
Severity rate ²	Less than 4.5	11.4

1. Total recordable injury frequency rate (TRIFR) is a key measure that compares total lost time injuries and medical treatments against the total number of hours worked.

$$\text{TRIFR} = (\text{number of recordable lost time and medical treatment injuries}) \times 200,000 / (\text{number of employee hours worked}).$$

2. Severity rate = (number of lost time injuries) / (number of days lost).

Principle 7. Auditors

“The board should ensure the quality and independence of the external audit process.”

Seeka's Audit and Risk Committee Charter outlines Seeka's commitment to an independent audit process that provides shareholders and the markets with objective, robust, clear and timely financial reporting.

The audit and risk committee in consultation with management and the external auditor reviews the efficiency and effectiveness of the external audit process, and provides a formal channel of communication between the Board, senior management and the external auditor. The audit and risk committee:

- Oversees the independence of the auditor and ensures they conduct their operations free from any actual or perceived impairments, and
- Monitors the provision of any services beyond the auditor's statutory audit services.

For financial year 2020, Pip Cameron of [PricewaterhouseCoopers \(PwC\)](#) was the external auditor for Seeka Limited. Pip Cameron will complete her five-year term as Seeka's Auditor at the end of the 2020 financial year and Troy Florence of PwC will be the Auditor for FY21. The last audit partner rotation was in FY16.

PwC has confirmed its independence to the audit and risk committee, and that its independence was not compromised during the reporting period. PwC auditors attend the annual shareholder meeting to answer any shareholder questions about the audit.

During the year, PwC was paid \$340,000 for audit fees and expenses, and \$111,000 for tax compliance, pooling and consultancy work.

Internal audit

Seeka has a number of internal controls overseen by the audit and risk committee to ensure the integrity of key financial and operational data. This includes data access, internal financial controls, adequate resourcing, targeted internal audit programmes and monitoring management's response to external audit findings.

Due to the size of Group operations, rather than operating a dedicated financial audit function, Seeka uses its compliance team to conduct internal audit processes and monitor operational compliance, along with independent providers to regularly test the integrity of the Group's financial systems. Directors also pay attention to matters raised by PwC, the external auditor.

Principle 8. Shareholder rights and relations

“The board should respect the rights of shareholders and foster constructive relationships with shareholders that encourage them to engage with the issuer.”

Seeka's shareholders include a significant number of grower clients, employees, suppliers and people living in our rural communities. Seeka maintains open channels of communication with a diverse range of groups to uphold our key brand attribute of delivering excellence to all stakeholders.

The Board is motivated and committed to transparent and regular reporting and engagement with shareholders including:

- Annual and interim reports
- Market announcements
- Annual shareholder meeting
- Mid-year stakeholder meeting
- Ad-hoc investor presentations
- Attendance of directors at seasonal grower roadshows held throughout the catchment for each produce type
- Clear access to investor information on the company's website, see [Seeka.co.nz/investors](https://seeka.co.nz/investors)
- Open access to senior managers via phone and email, see [Seeka.co.nz/senior-management-team](https://seeka.co.nz/senior-management-team)

Shareholders are actively encouraged to attend the annual shareholder meeting and mid-year stakeholder update, either in person or when practicable via the virtual online portal, where they can raise matters for discussion by directors and senior management. Shareholders vote on major decisions which affect Seeka at the annual shareholder meeting. Voting is by poll, conducted by the Company's registrar Link Market Services and overseen by the company's auditor PwC, on a one share, one vote principle.

Shareholders are provided with copies of the annual report, and are encouraged to receive electronic communication by contacting our registrar Link Market Services, see [Linkmarketservices.co.nz](https://linkmarketservices.co.nz). Notices of shareholder meetings are posted on the NZX website and Seeka's website. Where circumstances allow, Seeka sends notices of shareholder meetings at least 20 working days prior to the meeting. A link to Seeka's announcements can be directly accessed from Seeka's website, see [Seeka.co.nz/nzx-announcements](https://seeka.co.nz/nzx-announcements).

When raising new capital, when practical the Board will offer a scheme that allows existing shareholders to further invest in the Company so they can maintain their relative proportion of Seeka's issued shares.

Seeka's current and historical share price is located on the NZX website, see nzx.com/instruments/SEK

Corporate calendar

In the normal course of business, the Board reports to the following schedule.

End of year market announcement	Late February
Dividend payment	April
Annual shareholder meeting	April
Dividend payment	October
Stakeholder update	October

Differences in practice to NZX Code

The following table summarises the material differences between Seeka's corporate governance and the Code during the year. Where there are differences, these have been approved by the Board.

Principle	Concerning	Key difference	Period of non compliance
2. Board Composition and Performance	2.8	A majority of the board should be independent directors.	At all relevant times
		The Board Charter specifies a minimum of two independent directors.	
		As Seeka's foundation business is kiwifruit, the Board considers it appropriate to have a mix of directors with extensive experience in kiwifruit production and handling, who in the normal course of business would supply Seeka with produce from their ongoing orcharding interests. The Board must also appropriately represent large shareholders.	
		The specified minimum of two independent directors provides the flexibility to meet these two criteria, while also ensuring Board decisions reflect the best interests of Seeka and its security holders.	
		Currently, four directors are deemed non-independent; two for their extensive interests in orchards that supply Seeka (industry expertise), one an appointee of a large shareholder (market expertise), and one that has extensive interests in orchards that supply Seeka as well as being an appointee of a large shareholder (industry expertise).	
		Three of the seven directors (a minority) are independent.	
3. Board Committees	3.3	Remuneration committee should have a majority of independent directors.	At all relevant times
	3.4	Standing nominations committee with a majority of independent directors.	At all relevant times
4. Reporting and Disclosure	4.3	Non-financial disclosures, including environmental, economic and social sustainability risks.	At all relevant times
		Seeka currently provides extensive reports on non-financial information to shareholders and other stakeholders. Seeka's sustainability team under the guidance of the Board sustainability committee is developing a formal environmental, social and governance (ESG) reporting framework, with the second ESG report published in this document .	
8. Shareholder Rights and Relations	8.5	Notices of shareholder meetings given at least 20 working days prior to meeting	31 March 2020
		Following implementation of Alert Level 4, on 31 March 2020 Seeka withdrew its notice for a physical annual shareholders meeting and issued a new notice for an online meeting to be held 17 April 2020. The new notice was issued less than 20 working days prior to the meeting. Seeka intends to provide shareholders with at least 20 working days' notice of shareholder meetings where practicable.	

