

RSM Bird Cameron Partners

Chartered Accountants

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Auditor's Independence Declaration

to the Directors of Fremantle Community Financial Services Limited

In relation to our review of the interim financial report of Fremantle Community Financial Services Limited for the half-year ended 31 December 2005, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 or any applicable code of professional conduct.



RSM BIRD CAMERON PARTNERS
Chartered Accountants



D WALL
Partner

Perth, WA
Dated: 15 March 2006

INDEPENDENT REVIEW REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FREMANTLE COMMUNITY FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED

Scope

The financial report and directors' responsibility

The financial report comprises the balance sheet, income statement, statement of changes in equity and cash flow statement, accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the directors' declaration for Fremantle Community Financial Services Limited (the company), for the half-year ended 31 December 2005.

The directors of the company are responsible for preparing a financial report that gives a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the company, and that complies with Accounting Standard AASB 134 "Interim Financial Reporting", in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the financial report.

Review approach

We conducted an independent review of the financial report in order to make a statement about it to the members of the company, and in order for the company to lodge the financial report with the Bendigo Stock Exchange and the Australian Securities and Investments Commission.

Our review was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards applicable to review engagements, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to our attention that would indicate that the financial report is not presented fairly in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Accounting Standard AASB 134 "Interim Financial Reporting" and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, so as to present a view which is consistent with our understanding of the company's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

A review is limited primarily to inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures applied to the financial data. These procedures do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, thus the level of assurance is less than given in an audit. We have not performed an audit and, accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Independence

We are independent of the company, and have met the independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the Corporations Act 2001. We have given to the directors of the company a written Auditor's Independence Declaration, a copy of which is included in the Directors' Report.

Statement

Based on our review, which is not an audit, we have not become aware of any matter that makes us believe that the financial report of Fremantle Community Financial Services Limited during the half-year is not in accordance with:

- (a) the Corporations Act 2001, including:
 - (i) giving a true and fair view of the financial position of the company at 31 December 2005 and of its performance for the half-year ended on that date; and
 - (ii) complying with Accounting Standard AASB 134 "Interim Financial Reporting" and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
- (b) other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia.



RSM BIRD CAMERON PARTNERS
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D WALL
Partner

Perth, WA
Dated: 15 March 2006