

THE COMPANIES ACT 2006  
COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION OF  
**ALPHI NETWORK LIMITED**

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#### PART 1 INTERPRETATION AND LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

##### **Defined terms**

1. In the articles, unless the context requires otherwise—
  - "articles" means the company's articles of association;
  - "bankruptcy" includes individual insolvency proceedings in a jurisdiction other than England and Wales or Northern Ireland which have an effect similar to that of bankruptcy;
  - "chairman" has the meaning given in article 12;
  - "chairman of the meeting" has the meaning given in article 25;
  - "Companies Acts" means the Companies Acts (as defined in section 2 of the Companies Act 2006), in so far as they apply to the company;
  - "director" means a director of the company, and includes any person occupying the position of director, by whatever name called;
  - "document" includes, unless otherwise specified, any document sent or supplied in electronic form;
  - "electronic form" has the meaning given in section 1168 of the Companies Act 2006;
  - "member" has the meaning given in section 112 of the Companies Act 2006;
  - "ordinary resolution" has the meaning given in section 282 of the Companies Act 2006;
  - "participate", in relation to a directors' meeting, has the meaning given in article 10;
  - "proxy notice" has the meaning given in article 31;

“special resolution” has the meaning given in section 283 of the Companies Act 2006; “subsidiary” has the meaning given in section 1159 of the Companies Act 2006; and “writing” means the representation or reproduction of words, symbols or other information in a visible form by any method or combination of methods, whether sent or supplied in electronic form or otherwise.

“VET” means Vocational Education and Training

Unless the context otherwise requires, other words or expressions contained in these articles bear the same meaning as in the Companies Act 2006 as in force on the date when these articles become binding on the company.

### **Objects of the company**

- 2.—(1) To encourage all Training providers, Colleges and other interested Stakeholders in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight to join and participate in a credible network organisation that Government funding bodies, will recognise, and consult with on issues and policy matters affecting the advancement of skills and education in the local economy.
- (2) To promote and advance Apprenticeships, Traineeships and other similar publicly funded teaching, learning and assessment programmes in keeping with the strategic direction and priorities of the Government.
- (3) To operate as a support network in the exchange of information, sharing of best practice and the resolution of issues and problems.
- (4) To secure a voice on other strategic learning and skills partnerships so as to be able to influence direction and decisions on issues which involve the development of learners or affect teaching, learning and assessment programmes of interest to the Network
- (5) The income and property of the company shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its objects as set out above. No portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise howsoever by way of profit, to members of the company.

### **Liability of members**

3. The liability of each member is limited to £1, being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he is a member or within one year after he ceases to be a member, for—
- (a) payment of the company’s debts and liabilities contracted before he ceases to be a member,
  - (b) payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and
  - (c) adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

## **PART 2**

### **DIRECTORS**

#### **DIRECTORS’ POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **Directors’ general authority**

4.—Subject to the articles, the directors are responsible for the management of the company’s business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the company.

#### **Members’ reserve power**

- 5.—(1) The members may, by special resolution, direct the directors to take, or refrain from taking, specified action.
- (2) No such special resolution invalidates anything which the directors have done before the passing of the resolution.

#### **Directors may delegate**

**6.**—(1) Subject to the articles, the directors may delegate any of the powers which are conferred on them under the articles—

- (a) to such person or committee;
- (b) by such means (including by power of attorney);
- (c) to such an extent;
- (d) in relation to such matters or territories; and
- (e) on such terms and conditions;

as they think fit.

(2) If the directors so specify, any such delegation may authorise further delegation of the directors' powers by any person to whom they are delegated.

(3) The directors may revoke any delegation in whole or part, or alter its terms and conditions.

### **Committees**

**7.**—(1) Committees to which the directors delegate any of their powers must follow procedures which are based as far as they are applicable on those provisions of the articles which govern the taking of decisions by directors.

(2) The directors may make rules of procedure for all or any committees, which prevail over rules derived from the articles if they are not consistent with them.

### **Management Committee**

**8.**—(1) There will always be the Management committee which is made up the Chairman, Vice chairman, Sub-group Chairs and the Treasurer who will be accountable to the General Membership. This committee will be responsible for the management of the company.

(2) The management committee will be supported by the Network Manager.

(3) Nominations for the positions must be submitted to the Network Manager 10 days prior to the Annual General Meeting.

(4) Members present at the Annual General Meeting shall elect the Officers from nominations received

(5) The appointed Officers shall serve from the time of appointment to the next Annual General Meeting. With the Agreement of members any office may be re-elected.

## **DECISION-MAKING BY DIRECTORS**

### **Directors to take decisions collectively**

**9.**—(1) The general rule about decision-making by directors is that any decision of the directors must be either a majority decision at a meeting or a decision taken in accordance with article 8.

(2) If—

- (a) the company only has one director, and
- (b) no provision of the articles requires it to have more than one director,

the general rule does not apply, and the director may take decisions without regard to any of the provisions of the articles relating to directors' decision-making.

### **Unanimous decisions**

**10.**—(1) A decision of the directors is taken in accordance with this article when all eligible directors indicate to each other by any means that they share a common view on a matter.

(2) Such a decision may take the form of a resolution in writing, copies of which have been signed by each eligible director or to which each eligible director has otherwise indicated agreement in writing.

(3) References in this article to eligible directors are to directors who would have been entitled to vote on the matter had it been proposed as a resolution at a directors' meeting.

(4) A decision may not be taken in accordance with this article if the eligible directors would not have formed a quorum at such a meeting.

### **Calling a directors' meeting**

**11.**—(1) Any director may call a directors' meeting by giving notice of the meeting to the directors or by authorising the company secretary (if any) to give such notice.

- (2) Notice of any directors' meeting must indicate—
  - (a) its proposed date and time;
  - (b) where it is to take place; and
  - (c) if it is anticipated that directors participating in the meeting will not be in the same place, how it is proposed that they should communicate with each other during the meeting.
- (3) Notice of a directors' meeting must be given to each director, but need not be in writing.
- (4) Notice of a directors' meeting need not be given to directors who waive their entitlement to notice of that meeting, by giving notice to that effect to the company not more than 7 days after the date on which the meeting is held. Where such notice is given after the meeting has been held, that does not affect the validity of the meeting, or of any business conducted at it.

### **Participation in directors' meetings**

- 12.**—(1) Subject to the articles, directors participate in a directors' meeting, or part of a directors' meeting, when—
  - (a) the meeting has been called and takes place in accordance with the articles, and
  - (b) they can each communicate to the others any information or opinions they have on any particular item of the business of the meeting.
- (2) In determining whether directors are participating in a directors' meeting, it is irrelevant where any director is or how they communicate with each other.
- (3) If all the directors participating in a meeting are not in the same place, they may decide that the meeting is to be treated as taking place wherever any of them is.

### **Quorum for directors' meetings**

- 13.**—(1) At a directors' meeting, unless a quorum is participating, no proposal is to be voted on, except a proposal to call another meeting.
- (2) The quorum for directors' meetings may be fixed from time to time by a decision of the directors, but it must never be less than two, and unless otherwise fixed it is two.
- (3) If the total number of directors for the time being is less than the quorum required, the directors must not take any decision other than a decision—
  - (a) to appoint further directors, or
  - (b) to call a general meeting so as to enable the members to appoint further directors.

### **Chairing of directors' meetings**

- 14.**—(1) The directors may appoint a director to chair their meetings.
- (2) The person so appointed for the time being is known as the chairman.
- (3) The directors may terminate the chairman's appointment at any time.
- (4) If the chairman is not participating in a directors' meeting within ten minutes of the time at which it was to start, the participating directors must appoint one of themselves to chair it.

### **Casting vote**

- 15.**—(1) If the numbers of votes for and against a proposal are equal, the chairman or other director chairing the meeting has a casting vote.
- (2) But this does not apply if, in accordance with the articles, the chairman or other director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

### **Conflicts of interest**

- 16.**—(1) If a proposed decision of the directors is concerned with an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the company in which a director is interested, that director is not to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum or voting purposes.

- (2) But if paragraph (3) applies, a director who is interested in an actual or proposed transaction or arrangement with the company is to be counted as participating in the decision-making process for quorum and voting purposes.
- (3) This paragraph applies when—
- (a) the company by ordinary resolution disapplies the provision of the articles which would otherwise prevent a director from being counted as participating in the decision-making process;
  - (b) the director's interest cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a conflict of interest; or
  - (c) the director's conflict of interest arises from a permitted cause.
- (4) For the purposes of this article, the following are permitted causes—
- (a) a guarantee given, or to be given, by or to a director in respect of an obligation incurred by or on behalf of the company or any of its subsidiaries;
  - (b) subscription, or an agreement to subscribe, for securities of the company or any of its subsidiaries, or to underwrite, sub-underwrite, or guarantee subscription for any such securities; and
  - (c) arrangements pursuant to which benefits are made available to employees and directors or former employees and directors of the company or any of its subsidiaries which do not provide special benefits for directors or former directors.
- (5) For the purposes of this article, references to proposed decisions and decision-making processes include any directors' meeting or part of a directors' meeting.
- (6) Subject to paragraph (7), if a question arises at a meeting of directors or of a committee of directors as to the right of a director to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes, the question may, before the conclusion of the meeting, be referred to the chairman whose ruling in relation to any director other than the chairman is to be final and conclusive.
- (7) If any question as to the right to participate in the meeting (or part of the meeting) should arise in respect of the chairman, the question is to be decided by a decision of the directors at that meeting, for which purpose the chairman is not to be counted as participating in the meeting (or that part of the meeting) for voting or quorum purposes.

#### **Records of decisions to be kept**

**17.** The directors must ensure that the company keeps a record, in writing, for at least 10 years from the date of the decision recorded, of every unanimous or majority decision taken by the directors.

#### **Directors' discretion to make further rules**

**18.** Subject to the articles, the directors may make any rule which they think fit about how they take decisions, and about how such rules are to be recorded or communicated to directors.

### APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

#### **Methods of appointing directors**

- 19.**—(1) Any person who is willing to act as a director, and is permitted by law to do so, may be appointed to be a director—
- (a) by ordinary resolution, or
  - (b) by a decision of the directors.
- (2) In any case where, as a result of death, the company has no members and no directors, the personal representatives of the last member to have died have the right, by notice in writing, to appoint a person to be a director.
- (3) For the purposes of paragraph (2), where 2 or more members die in circumstances rendering it uncertain who was the last to die, a younger member is deemed to have survived an older member.

#### **Termination of director's appointment**

- 20.** A person ceases to be a director as soon as—
- (a) that person ceases to be a director by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is prohibited from being a director by law;

- (b) a bankruptcy order is made against that person;
- (c) a composition is made with that person's creditors generally in satisfaction of that person's debts;
- (d) a registered medical practitioner who is treating that person gives a written opinion to the company stating that that person has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a director and may remain so for more than three months;
- (e) *[paragraph omitted pursuant to The Mental Health (Discrimination) Act 2013]*
- (f) notification is received by the company from the director that the director is resigning from office, and such resignation has taken effect in accordance with its terms.

### **Directors' remuneration**

- 21.**—(1) Directors may undertake any services for the company that the directors decide.  
(2) Directors are entitled to such remuneration as the members determine by simple majority at the AGM—  
(a) for their services to the company as directors, and  
(b) for any other service which they undertake for the company.  
(3) Subject to the articles, a director's remuneration may—  
(a) take any form, and  
(b) include any arrangements in connection with the payment of a pension, allowance or gratuity, or any death, sickness or disability benefits, to or in respect of that director.  
(4) Unless the directors decide otherwise, directors' remuneration accrues from day to day.  
(5) Unless the directors decide otherwise, directors are not accountable to the company for any remuneration which they receive as directors or other officers or employees of the company's subsidiaries or of any other body corporate in which the company is interested.

### **Directors' expenses**

- 22.** The company may pay any reasonable expenses which the directors properly incur in connection with their attendance at—  
(a) meetings of directors or committees of directors,  
(b) general meetings, or  
(c) separate meetings of the holders of debentures of the company,  
or otherwise in connection with the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their responsibilities in relation to the company.

## **PART 3**

### **MEMBERS**

#### **BECOMING AND CEASING TO BE A MEMBER AND RULES OF MEMBERSHIP**

### **Applications for membership**

- 23.** No person shall become a member of the company unless—  
(a) that person has completed an application for membership in a form approved by the Management Committee, and  
(b) the directors have approved the application.

### **Membership fees**

- 24.** The annual Membership fee shall be determined at the AGM and may be varied from time to time at a level to be agreed by the Members. The membership year will commence 1st August each year. The fee will be invoiced to the Member within three months of the AGM. Upon renewal, each Member must pay the annual membership fee within one month after the date of the invoice. If the Member fails to pay the membership fee within this time scale, then the privileges of membership shall be suspended until it is paid.

### **Rules of Membership**

**25.**—(1) Subject to the majority agreement of the members, membership is open to any organisation delivering Vocational Education and Training and contracting with Government agencies.

(2) Each Member shall be bound by this Constitution and by any further or additional rules that are made by the Members, in accordance with the Constitution, from time to time and notified in writing to the Member.

(3) Membership is to run for twelve months from 1st August each year.

(4) The Management or appointed sub-committee shall publish from time to time the benefits and privileges that are available to Members as a result of membership. These privileges shall be consistent with the objects and status of the Association. The Members, at a meeting of members, may agree to vary, suspend or withdraw these privileges at any time and will instruct the Management to notify all members in writing of any such changes. A Member shall not be entitled to any refund for any given financial year arising from any such changes to the privileges of membership.

(5) Members shall nominate either a Director or VET Senior Manager as their main representative to the Association and give that representative the necessary authority to vote on matters on behalf of their organisation. In addition, each member may nominate one named deputy. That deputy shall be either a VET Contracts Manager or other senior decision-maker within their organisation. Meeting attendance shall be restricted to two representatives per member.

(6) Members will be required to attend 50% of meetings in any twelve-month period.

(7) Members are required to respect the confidentiality of the views and information provided by any other Member.

(8) If any Member commits a material breach of these constitutional rules, then the Members have the power to suspend the privileges of membership for such period that they consider appropriate. In the case of a serious breach that is either not capable of remedy or which the Member fails to remedy having been given reasonable notice by the Management to do so, or if the Member becomes insolvent, then, in any of these cases, the Management Committee may terminate membership immediately by notice in writing to the offending Member.

(9) If there is any dispute about the operation of this constitution or if a Member objects to any action taken by the Association in connection with its membership, the matter shall be referred to the next available meeting of Members. The Member shall be entitled to attend the meeting to make representations. The management will notify the Member of the Membership's decision in writing as soon as possible after the meeting. This decision shall be binding on the Member.

### **Member meetings**

**26.** Member meetings will take place at a frequency determined by the committee of management but not less than at least twice a year and the Network Manager shall issue an Agenda at least 10 days prior to each meeting.

### **Discipline and Disputes**

**27.** Any Members considered by the Management or the general membership to have been guilty of conduct calculated to bring discredit to the Association shall be suspended from the Association, for a period determined by the Membership, or expelled, in a special meeting.

**28.** The Management shall settle all disputes between a Member and an Officer of the Association, unless the Management or member wishes to refer the matter directly to a special meeting. In this event the matter will be duly discussed and put to the vote. The majority vote of the members attending shall be final.

### **Termination of membership**

**29.**—(1) A member may withdraw from membership of the company by giving 28 days' notice to the company in writing.

(2) Membership is not transferable.

(3) A person's/Company's membership terminates when that person dies or when the company ceases to exist.

## ORGANISATION OF GENERAL MEETINGS

### Annual general meetings

**30.**—(1) The company must hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM) each year in addition to any other meetings held during the year.

- (a) The AGM must be held within three months of the year end.
- (b) The notice calling the AGM must specify that the meeting is the AGM.
- (c) The notice for the AGM must give 15 working days notice.

(2) Any proposal that a member wishes to have put to the vote at the AGM which, if implemented, would affect the running of the Association, should be submitted to the Network Manager in writing, 10 calendar days prior to the meeting. Any other matters affecting the running of the Association may be raised and then discussed at the AGM under "Any other business" but may not be voted upon.

(3) A special meeting shall be called at any time by the Network Manager at the request of the Management or on the written request of at least 10 Members of the Association. At least 5 days notice shall be given of any such meeting in writing to all Members. No business other than that named in the notice shall be brought before a special meeting.

### Attendance and speaking at general meetings

**31.**—(1) A person is able to exercise the right to speak at a general meeting when that person is in a position to communicate to all those attending the meeting, during the meeting, any information or opinions which that person has on the business of the meeting.

(2) A person is able to exercise the right to vote at a general meeting when—

- (a) that person is able to vote, during the meeting, on resolutions put to the vote at the meeting, and
- (b) that person's vote can be taken into account in determining whether or not such resolutions are passed at the same time as the votes of all the other persons attending the meeting.

(3) The directors may make whatever arrangements they consider appropriate to enable those attending a general meeting to exercise their rights to speak or vote at it.

(4) In determining attendance at a general meeting, it is immaterial whether any two or more members attending it are in the same place as each other.

(5) Two or more persons who are not in the same place as each other attend a general meeting if their circumstances are such that if they have (or were to have) rights to speak and vote at that meeting, they are (or would be) able to exercise them.

### Quorum for general meetings

**32.**—(1) No business other than the appointment of the chairman of the meeting is to be transacted at a general meeting if the persons attending it do not constitute a quorum.

(2) A Quorum for a special meeting or AGM shall consist either 6 Members or 20 per centum of all voting Members whichever is the lower number being present in person. This must include at least one Officer of the Management

### Chairing general meetings

**33.**—(1) If the directors have appointed a chairman, the chairman shall chair general meetings if present and willing to do so.

(2) If the directors have not appointed a chairman, or if the chairman is unwilling to chair the meeting or is not present within ten minutes of the time at which a meeting was due to start—

- (a) the directors present, or
- (b) (if no directors are present), the meeting,

must appoint a director or member to chair the meeting, and the appointment of the chairman of the meeting must be the first business of the meeting.

(3) The person chairing a meeting in accordance with this article is referred to as "the chairman of the meeting".

(4) The chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote if required.

### **Attendance and speaking by directors and non-members**

- 34.**—(1) Directors may attend and speak at general meetings, whether or not they are members.  
(2) The chairman of the meeting may permit other persons who are not members of the company to attend and speak at a general meeting.

### **Adjournment**

- 35.**—(1) If the persons attending a general meeting within half an hour of the time at which the meeting was due to start do not constitute a quorum, or if during a meeting a quorum ceases to be present, the chairman of the meeting must adjourn it.  
(2) The chairman of the meeting may adjourn a general meeting at which a quorum is present if—  
    (a) the meeting consents to an adjournment, or  
    (b) it appears to the chairman of the meeting that an adjournment is necessary to protect the safety of any person attending the meeting or ensure that the business of the meeting is conducted in an orderly manner.  
(3) The chairman of the meeting must adjourn a general meeting if directed to do so by the meeting.  
(4) When adjourning a general meeting, the chairman of the meeting must—  
    (a) either specify the time and place to which it is adjourned or state that it is to continue at a time and place to be fixed by the directors, and  
    (b) have regard to any directions as to the time and place of any adjournment which have been given by the meeting.  
(5) If the continuation of an adjourned meeting is to take place more than 14 days after it was adjourned, the company must give at least 7 clear days' notice of it (that is, excluding the day of the adjourned meeting and the day on which the notice is given)—  
    (a) to the same persons to whom notice of the company's general meetings is required to be given, and  
    (b) containing the same information which such notice is required to contain.  
(6) No business may be transacted at an adjourned general meeting which could not properly have been transacted at the meeting if the adjournment had not taken place.

## VOTING AT GENERAL MEETINGS

### **Voting: general**

- 36.**—(1) A resolution put to the vote of a general meeting must be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is duly demanded in accordance with the articles.  
(2) Each member shall have one vote on both a show of hands and in a poll.  
(3) No member shall be entitled to vote unless they have fully paid up all subscriptions fees and any other money payable to the company.

### **Errors and disputes**

- 37.**—(1) No objection may be raised to the qualification of any person voting at a general meeting except at the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote objected to is tendered, and every vote not disallowed at the meeting is valid.  
(2) Any such objection must be referred to the chairman of the meeting whose decision is final.

### **Poll votes**

- 38.**—(1) A poll on a resolution may be demanded—  
    (a) in advance of the general meeting where it is to be put to the vote, or  
    (b) at a general meeting, either before a show of hands on that resolution or immediately after the result of a show of hands on that resolution is declared.  
(2) A poll may be demanded by—  
    (a) the chairman of the meeting;  
    (b) the directors;  
    (c) two or more persons having the right to vote on the resolution; or

- (d) a person or persons representing not less than one tenth of the total voting rights of all the members having the right to vote on the resolution.
- (3) A demand for a poll may be withdrawn if—
  - (a) the poll has not yet been taken, and
  - (b) the chairman of the meeting consents to the withdrawal.
- (4) Polls must be taken immediately and in such manner as the chairman of the meeting directs.

### **Content of proxy notices**

- 39.**—(1) Proxies may only validly be appointed by a notice in writing (a “proxy notice”) which—
- (a) states the name and address of the member appointing the proxy;
  - (b) identifies the person appointed to be that member’s proxy and the general meeting in relation to which that person is appointed;
  - (c) is signed by or on behalf of the member appointing the proxy, or is authenticated in such manner as the directors may determine; and
  - (d) is delivered to the company in accordance with the articles and any instructions contained in the notice of the general meeting to which they relate.
- (2) The company may require proxy notices to be delivered in a particular form, and may specify different forms for different purposes.
- (3) Proxy notices may specify how the proxy appointed under them is to vote (or that the proxy is to abstain from voting) on one or more resolutions.
- (4) Unless a proxy notice indicates otherwise, it must be treated as—
- (a) allowing the person appointed under it as a proxy discretion as to how to vote on any ancillary or procedural resolutions put to the meeting, and
  - (b) appointing that person as a proxy in relation to any adjournment of the general meeting to which it relates as well as the meeting itself.

### **Delivery of proxy notices**

- 40.**—(1) A person who is entitled to attend, speak or vote (either on a show of hands or on a poll) at a general meeting remains so entitled in respect of that meeting or any adjournment of it, even though a valid proxy notice has been delivered to the company by or on behalf of that person.
- (2) An appointment under a proxy notice may be revoked by delivering to the company a notice in writing given by or on behalf of the person by whom or on whose behalf the proxy notice was given.
- (3) A notice revoking a proxy appointment only takes effect if it is delivered before the start of the meeting or adjourned meeting to which it relates.
- (4) If a proxy notice is not executed by the person appointing the proxy, it must be accompanied by written evidence of the authority of the person who executed it to execute it on the appointor’s behalf.

### **Amendments to resolutions**

- 41.**—(1) An ordinary resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution if—
- (a) notice of the proposed amendment is given to the company in writing by a person entitled to vote at the general meeting at which it is to be proposed not less than 48 hours before the meeting is to take place (or such later time as the chairman of the meeting may determine), and
  - (b) the proposed amendment does not, in the reasonable opinion of the chairman of the meeting, materially alter the scope of the resolution.
- (2) A special resolution to be proposed at a general meeting may be amended by ordinary resolution, if—
- (a) the chairman of the meeting proposes the amendment at the general meeting at which the resolution is to be proposed, and
  - (b) the amendment does not go beyond what is necessary to correct a grammatical or other non-substantive error in the resolution.

(3) If the chairman of the meeting, acting in good faith, wrongly decides that an amendment to a resolution is out of order, the chairman's error does not invalidate the vote on that resolution.

## PART 4

### ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

#### **Means of communication to be used**

**42.**—(1) Subject to the articles, anything sent or supplied by or to the company under the articles may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Act 2006 provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of that Act to be sent or supplied by or to the company.

(2) Subject to the articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a director in connection with the taking of decisions by directors may also be sent or supplied by the means by which that director has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents for the time being.

(3) A director may agree with the company that notices or documents sent to that director in a particular way are to be deemed to have been received within a specified time of their being sent, and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

#### **Company seals**

**43.**—(1) Any common seal may only be used by the authority of the directors.

(2) The directors may decide by what means and in what form any common seal is to be used.

(3) Unless otherwise decided by the directors, if the company has a common seal and it is affixed to a document, the document must also be signed by at least one authorised person in the presence of a witness who attests the signature.

(4) For the purposes of this article, an authorised person is—

- (a) any director of the company;
- (b) the company secretary (if any); or
- (c) any person authorised by the directors for the purpose of signing documents to which the common seal is applied.

#### **A right to inspect accounts and other records**

**44.** Members are entitled to inspect any of the company's accounting or other records or documents.

#### **Provision for employees on cessation of business**

**45.** The directors may decide to make provision for the benefit of persons employed or formerly employed by the company or any of its subsidiaries (other than a director or former director or shadow director) in connection with the cessation or transfer to any person of the whole or part of the undertaking of the company or that subsidiary.

#### **Dissolution**

**46.** The Association may at any time be dissolved by the consent of two thirds of the Members present, at a special meeting called for that purpose.

### DIRECTORS' INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE

#### **Indemnity**

**47.**—(1) Subject to paragraph (2), a relevant director of the company or an associated company may be indemnified out of the company's assets against—

- (a) any liability incurred by that director in connection with any negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the company or an associated company,

- (b) any liability incurred by that director in connection with the activities of the company or an associated company in its capacity as a trustee of an occupational pension scheme (as defined in section 235(6) of the Companies Act 2006),
- (c) any other liability incurred by that director as an officer of the company or an associated company.

(2) This article does not authorise any indemnity which would be prohibited or rendered void by

any provision of the Companies Acts or by any other provision of law.

(3) In this article—

- (a) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate, and
- (b) a “relevant director” means any director or former director of the company or an associated company.

## **Insurance**

**48.**—(1) The directors may decide to purchase and maintain insurance, at the expense of the company, for the benefit of any relevant director in respect of any relevant loss.

(2) In this article—

- (a) a “relevant director” means any director or former director of the company or an associated company,
- (b) a “relevant loss” means any loss or liability which has been or may be incurred by a relevant director in connection with that director’s duties or powers in relation to the company, any associated company or any pension fund or employees’ share scheme of the company or associated company, and
- (c) companies are associated if one is a subsidiary of the other or both are subsidiaries of the same body corporate.

