INDEPENDENT COMMISSION AGAINST CORRUPTION

STATEMENT IN THE MATTER OF: OPERATION GALLEY

PLACE:

SYDNEY NSW

NAME:

Robert Nigel Dickson

ADDRESS:

Known to the Commission

OCCUPATION:

Managing Director

TELEPHONE NO: Known to the Commission

DATE:

10 March 2022

States: -

- 1. This statement made by me accurately sets out the evidence which I would be prepared, if necessary, to give in Court as a witness. The statement is true to the best of my knowledge and belief, and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false or do not believe to be true.
- 2. I am 64 years of age.
- 3. Since 2010, I have been the Managing Director of D. R. Design (NSW) Pty Ltd, trading as Dickson Rothschild. I hold qualifications in architecture and city planning. Dickson Rothschild provides architectural, urban design, planning and interior design services to clients.
- 4. On 21 February 2022 I signed a statement in the matter of Operation Galley.



5. In my statement on 21 February 2022 at points 101 – 102 I stated the following:

"On 31 May 2016 Dickson Rothschild issued Invoice 1624 regarding works performed on behalf of the client for Landmark Square. This included the following detail:

[Massing Analysis 09/05/16] Meeting with client, Meeting with major investor Mr Liu from Tangsha and Mayor of Hurstville and Cr Hindi at Market City, Prepared minutes of meeting and email.

I have checked my records for this date and around this time there were discussions with Elaine Tang and Andrew Chung discussing potential yields at the site for the purpose of informing investors. I do not have a strong independent recollection of this meeting as detailed in Invoice 1624 but I am confident the meeting did occur because it is included in the invoice but I haven't been able to locate any records recording this meeting including minutes of the meeting or related emails. I may or may not have attended this meeting."

- 6. I have taken some time to further review my records and consider my memory regarding this meeting on 9 May 2016 recorded in Invoice 1624 issued by Dickson Rothschild since signing this statement on 21 February 2022.
- I have a diary entry for a meeting for that date at 5c/124 Forest Road
 Hurstville regarding 1-5 Treacy Street Hurstville (the One) -Meeting re JRPP

Signatur Robert Nigel L	Witn	ness
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outcome. The invitation was from 4pm to 5.30pm. The invitation was from Luke at Gencorp. The meeting was attended to by Luke Trenfield, Brett Daintry, Elaine Tang and myself. I remember attending this meeting. It was to discuss the Panel Refusal of the modification application for that site.

- 8. The reference to 'minutes of meeting' for 9 May 2016 in Invoice 1624 I believe is in relation to that meeting at which time the client was considering an appeal at LEC on that application. It did occur later.
- 9. I now remember being invited to attend a dinner at Market Square after the

 Hurstville meeting. I remember it because Elaine drove me to Market City for
 the dinner in her car. It was all quite impromptu. I had taken the train to

 Hurstville and the lift enabled me to get to the dinner with her.
- 10. I now remember eating with the identified people in Invoice 1624 "investor Mr Liu from Tangsha and Mayor of Hurstville and Cr Hindi at Market City" in a Chinese restaurant now called Eight. It may have been that restaurant name at that time. I have checked the restaurant location online and believe it is located at Level 3, Market City, 9 13 Hay Street Haymarket NSW.
- 11. I remember the dinner a little and remember about 15 people in attendance.
- 12. I recall the meeting was in a private function room with a very large round table with a lazy susan. I believe it was a celebratory dinner with many



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courses served. Elaine and I arrived late and I think we were the last people seated in the room because Elaine had taken what I thought to be an unusual route to get to the restaurant. Elaine and I sat next to each other sort of opposite to Mr Liu as the honoured person at the dinner. We sat near the door because we were late. I recall Councillors Hindi and Badalati being visible to me at the table but I'm not sure whether they were sitting next to each other. Also present were two or three men who I thought were business associates of Mr Liu from mainland China who were to sitting next to Mr Liu. Philip was present and I think he was close to where I was sitting. I believe Kurt Vegners and Michael Gheorghiu may have been present, but I can't be certain. I can't recall if Miray Hindi was present at the dinner, but she may have been. There may have been two or three women present at the dinner, but the majority were men. I think Elaine's husband was also present and had come from work.

- 13. I do not know why Councillors Hindi and Badalati were present at this dinner.

 I recall both Councillors making positive comments about Landmark Square
 but I recall Councillor Hindi speaking more at the dinner than Councillor
 Badalati. I understood there was connection between the outcome at the most
 recent Council meeting and the dinner which was celebratory in nature.
- 14. I remember at the dinner there were conversations about the significance of the Landmark Square site and the opportunities it presented to Council.

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15. I remember filling in my timesheet about the event so that I could capture it accurately. I also now remember hearing from Philip Ly that the two Councillors travelled to China not long after this dinner.

EXHIBIT 1: I PRODUCE MY DIARY ENTRY FOR 9 MAY 2016



