

### **ASX ANNOUNCEMENT**

# 30 September 2022

## 2022 Extraordinary General Meeting - Chairman's Address

Thorn Group Limited (ASX: TGA) (**Thorn**) attaches the Chairman's address to be delivered at Thorn's 2022 Extraordinary General Meeting (**EGM**) today.

The EGM materials will be available on Thorn's website www.thorn.com.au.

This release has been authorised by the Company Secretary.

End of Release.

For further information, please contact:

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#### ABOUT THORN GROUP LIMITED (ASX: TGA, www.thorn.com.au)

Thorn is a diversified financial services company providing funding solutions for small to medium businesses. Thornmoney is a provider of working capital and business asset lending solutions, working in partnership with Australian brokers and accountants. Thorn has been listed on ASX since 2006.

# CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS THORN GROUP LIMITED EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING 2022 30 September 2022

Good morning everyone, my name is Warren McLeland and I am the Chairman of Thorn. On behalf of the Board and staff of Thorn, I welcome our shareholders who have made time to attend today's Extraordinary General Meeting.

We are convening our meeting today on land which the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation are the traditional custodians and I pay my respects to the Elders, past, present and emerging.

As it is now 10.00am and our Company Secretary has advised me that a quorum is present, I formally declare the meeting open.

I am joined by your other directors, Paul Oneile, Deputy Chairman and Dr Allan Sullivan who are attending virtually. Also present with me in Sydney is Thorn's Chief Executive Officer, Pete Lirantzis and our Company Secretary & General Counsel, Alexandra Rose. We also welcome Mark Nicholaeff, from our External Auditor, UHY Haines Norton.

I refer to the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19 August 2022. The minutes are with the Company Secretary and available for inspection upon request.

The Board has, in the period following the sale of the Consumer Finance business in December 2021 and the restructure of the Thorn ABS Warehouse Trust No. 1 on 3 August 2022, continued to assess capital management initiatives and Thorn's ability to return surplus funds to shareholders.

We have consistently said that we intend to return the balance of the proceeds of sale from the Consumer Finance business to shareholders at an appropriate time.

The Board has evaluated various options for returning excess capital to shareholders and determined a capital return, together with the consolidation of shares is the optimal method. The Board has determined that the proposed capital management initiatives which are to be voted on today are in the best interests of shareholders, including for the reasons set out in the Notice of Meeting.

Collectively, shareholders have already received a total return of capital of approximately \$63 million for the last two financial years, including a special dividend of \$23.79 million paid to shareholders in February, a final dividend of \$3.4 million paid to shareholders in July and a further special dividend of \$10.4 million paid to shareholders in September. When combined with the \$41.7 million capital return we are seeking approval for today, the total return since October 2020

will exceed \$104 million.

This meeting has been convened in order for shareholders to vote on two important resolutions concerning the proposed return of capital to shareholders and the proposed consolidation of shares, both of which are set out in detail in the Notice of Meeting.

We are seeking approval of shareholders to return approximately \$41.72 million to shareholders by way of a capital return of \$0.12 per existing share. We are also seeking approval to undertake an equal and proportionate share consolidation of every 10 shares into 1 share.

Following consultation with ASX and to satisfy CHESS requirements, Thorn agreed to propose an amendment to Resolution 2 - Consolidation of Shares, as it is shown on the notice of meeting, in order that the record date for the consolidation becomes 10 October 2022 rather than 7 October 2022. This was announced to ASX on 5 September 2022.

If both resolutions are approved, entitlements to participate in the capital return will be determined on a pre-share consolidation basis. The capital return will be paid to shareholders on 14 October 2022. The consolidation will occur on 10 October and the consolidated shares will commence trading on a normal settlement basis on 14 October 2022.

The Board unanimously recommends that shareholders vote in favour of the resolutions.

Before we proceed to the formal business of the meeting, I would like to express gratitude to my Board colleagues and our senior management team and our financial and legal advisors for their dedication and hard work preparing for today's achievement.

Thank you shareholders, that concludes my remarks.