



28 July 2023

Corporate Governance and Intellectual Property Policy
Building, Resources and Markets
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment
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Tēnā koe

The New Zealand Food and Grocery Council (**NZFGC**) wishes to make this late submission on the *Consultation paper: Draft Incorporated Societies Regulations 2023 and proposed initial fees under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022* (the **Consultation paper**)

We appreciate the opportunity to have seen the exposure draft of the *Incorporated Societies Regulations 2023* albeit somewhat late in the process.

We echo and support the comments concerning privacy made by AuSAE. We appreciate that at section 12 of the Consultation paper, a commitment is given that the 'officer's physical address' provided in relation to applications for incorporation will not be made public on the register. This same arrangement needs to be made for any individual's address associated with registration, that they are not made public on the register.

We are concerned that, in relation to section 7(2) of the Consultation paper, consent to the use of an identical or almost identical name could be made on behalf of an incorporated society or body corporate by a person acting "under implied authority". Such a person should not have the ability to grant consent. This ability should only reside with a person acting under express authority.

In relation to annual returns (regulations 17-18) we strongly oppose the provision of the physical address of each officer of the society. It defies logic to not make the physical addresses public on the register then require they be included in the publicly available annual reports.

As proposed in our November 2022 submission, a two-tier system for registration fees during the transitional arrangements, pending the system-wide funding review of the registration office and as described in the AuSAE submission would be strongly supported.

Thank you for considering our submission and apologies we were unable to meet the deadline.

Ngā mihi nui



Raewyn Bleakley
Chief Executive