

## STATEMENT

1. This statement is issued by the Independent Panel of Aljunied-Hougang Town Council (the “**AHTC**”) in respect of the judgment of the Honourable Justice Kannan Ramesh in HC/S 668/2017 dated 11 October 2019 (the “**Judgment**”).

### Background

2. On 17 February 2017, Aljunied-Hougang Town Council (“**AHTC**”) announced the appointment of an Independent Panel to act as agents of AHTC under section 32(2) of the Town Councils Act (Cap. 329A) in compliance with a consent Order pronounced by the Court of Appeal in CA/CA 114 of 2015 of the same date.
3. The members of the Independent Panel are Mr Philip Jeyaretnam S.C., Mr N. Sreenivasan S.C. and Mr Ong Pang Thye.
4. The Independent Panel appointed David Chan of Shook Lin & Bok LLP to act for AHTC.
5. In a statement dated 25 July 2017, the Independent Panel announced, *inter alia*, that it had commenced proceedings in the High Court of Singapore, by way of HC/S 668/2017 (the “**Suit**”), against certain defendants with a view to recover the improper payments as reported in the Report on Improper Payments by KPMG dated 31 October 2016.
6. The Defendants in the Suit are Ms Sylvia Lim, Mr Low Thia Khiang, Mr Pritam Singh, Mr Chua Zhi Hon, Mr Kenneth Foo Seck Guan, Ms How Weng Fan (in her personal capacity and in her capacity as the representative of the state of Danny Loh Chong Meng) and FM Solutions & Services Pte Ltd.

### The Judgment

7. The Independent Panel notes the contents of the Judgment, which includes rulings by Ramesh J that, *inter alia*:
  - a. Ms Sylvia Lim, Mr Low Thia Khiang, Mr Pritam Singh, Mr Chua Zhi Hon, Mr Kenneth Foo Seck Guan and Ms How Weng Fan (in her personal capacity and in her capacity as the representative of the state of Danny Loh Chong Meng) committed various breaches of their duties to AHTC;
  - b. The Defendants are liable to compensate AHTC for the losses suffered by AHTC as a result of the Defendants’ breaches of their duties;

- c. The appropriate quantum of compensation to which AHTC is entitled shall be determined in the next stage of these proceedings.

Dated 11 October 2019

PHILIP JEYARETNAM S.C.    N. SREENIVASAN S.C.    ONG PANG THYE