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For immediate release

## **Takeovers Panel welcomes new General Counsel**

The Takeovers Panel recently announced the appointment of Mark Cunliffe as General Counsel to the Panel.

Mr Cunliffe joins the Panel from Bell Gully, where he held the position of Senior Associate in the corporate department since 2012. Prior to joining the Panel, he practised in Simpson Grierson in Wellington and Travers Smith in London.

Mr Cunliffe has extensive experience in corporate and commercial law, with a particular focus on M&A and takeovers as well as commercial agreements. In terms of industry sectors, Mr Cunliffe's private practice experience focused on the ICT and energy sectors.

As General Counsel, Mr Cunliffe helms the Panel's legal and enforcement team. He also works closely with Mr Andrew Hudson, the Panel's Chief Executive, on the Panel's policy and public understanding functions.

Said Mr Hudson, "We are pleased to have someone with Mark's calibre join our team. We're confident that Mark's extensive experience in corporate and commercial transactions will strengthen our team's expertise".

### About the Panel

The Panel is an independent Crown entity established under the Takeovers Act 1993 to administer and enforce the Takeovers Code. The Code ensures that all shareholders have a fair opportunity to participate in control-change transactions in Code companies (such as takeovers and allotments or acquisitions of parcels of shares), and that those shareholders have adequate information to make informed decisions about control-change transactions.

For further information on the Panel, please visit [www.takeovers.govt.nz](http://www.takeovers.govt.nz)

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