



SHERIDANS
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

HURST GROUP PTY LTD

(In Liquidation)

ACN 613 583 627

ATF THE HURST FAMILY TRUST

ABN 51 576 384 595

Formerly trading as Perth Dental Rooms

Report to Creditors

Section 70-40

Insolvency Practice Rules (Corporations) 2016

11 December 2025

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Enclosures

- (i) Proof of Debt or Claim form (see Section 6)

1. Introduction

- 1.1 I refer to Mr Bryan Hughes' appointment as Administrator of Hurst Group Pty Ltd ("the company") on 6 March 2025 and Liquidator on 2 April 2025, my appointment as Liquidator of the company on 11 September 2025, and to my Initial information for creditors dated 25 September 2025.
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to provide creditors with an update on the progress of the liquidation in accordance with Section 70-40 of the Insolvency Practice Rules (Corporations) 2016, and to advise creditors of the likelihood of a dividend being paid in the liquidation.

2. Receipts and payments

- 2.1 Please refer to Mr Hughes' Statutory Report to Creditors dated 12 August 2025 for a summary of receipts and payments in Mr Hughes' external administration of the company.
- 2.2 I note that following Mr Hughes' issuing of the report, a further \$4,752 of costs of the administration were paid, resulting in a nil balance at the date of my appointment.
- 2.3 The following is a summary of receipts and payments in my administration of the liquidation to date:

	\$
Receipts	
Return of employee superannuation ¹	1,270.20
GST refund	3,570.02
Interest income	5.96
	4,846.18
Payments	
Superannuation ¹	1,270.20
Insurance	23.71
Liquidator's disbursements	
ASIC Levy	265.00
Printing and photocopying	110.00
RP Data	105.00
Searches	2.00
Stationery	6.19
GST (net)	24.49
	1,806.59
Cash at bank as at 11 December 2025	3,039.59

¹ This relates to one employee who was employed during the voluntary administration to continue trading the business. The employee's superannuation details were incorrect resulting in the superannuation funds being returned. In October 2025 I made payments to the Australian Taxation Office in respect of the employee's superannuation.

3. Assets

- 3.1 Please refer to Mr Hughes' Statutory Report to Creditors dated 12 August 2025 for details of the company's assets.
- 3.2 I note that Mr Hughes did not seek completion of a Report on Company Activities and Property ("ROCAP") by Ms Clara Hurst, who was temporarily managing the company prior to the external administration.
- 3.3 Accordingly, reproduced below is Mr Hughes' estimate of the company's assets as at 27 March 2025, along with the asset realisations in his administration and my comments.

	Administrator's estimate \$	Realisations to date \$
Cash at bank	378,459	317,842
Motor vehicle	Unknown	-
Voidable transactions	N/A	436,100
Sale of business	Unknown	54,643
	378,459	808,585

Cash at bank

- 3.4 Mr Hughes realised \$317,842 of cash from the company's Bank of Queensland ("BOQ") bank account. This amount is a combination of funds held in the account at the date of appointment and income received while trading on the Perth Dental Rooms business.
- 3.5 I wrote to BOQ on 19 September 2025 requesting details of all bank accounts held by the company and copies of bank statements. I am yet to receive a response from BOQ and will continue to follow this up.

Motor vehicle

- 3.6 The Department of Transport records showed that the company owned a 2024 Porsche Cayenne 3 ("the vehicle") at the date of administration.
- 3.7 According to Mr Hughes, the vehicle was subject to finance held with BOQ. The vehicle was surrendered and subsequently sold at auction for \$179,538.12, resulting in an unsecured shortfall for the financier in the sum of \$68,810.74.
- 3.8 I note that I have, and continue to make, attempts to contact BOQ to confirm the details provided by Mr Hughes.

Voidable transactions

- 3.9 Mr Hughes recovered \$424,000 from Ms Hurst as a voidable transaction. The funds recovered had been transferred by Ms Hurst from the company to her personal offset account shortly prior to Mr Hughes' appointment.
- 3.10 Mr Hughes identified an unfair preference payment to his firm, 101 Advisory Pty Ltd, in the sum of \$12,100 in respect of advisory services provided prior to external administration. Mr Hughes, as director of 101 Advisory Pty Ltd, repaid this amount to the company.

3. Assets (cont.)

Sale of business

- 3.11 I understand that the company's business (including stock on hand, fixed assets and intangibles) was sold on the market to an unrelated third party for \$1.3 million.
- 3.12 There were no sale proceeds remaining after the payment of the following;
- (i) Selling costs (broker's fee);
 - (ii) Secured creditors;
 - (iii) Rent and outgoings for the premises; and
 - (iv) Employee entitlements.

4. Secured creditors

- 4.1 Please refer to Mr Hughes' Statutory Report to Creditors dated 12 August 2025 for details regarding the security interest registered against the company.
- 4.2 According to Mr Hughes, the following work was undertaken with respect to the company's secured creditors:

Credabl Pty Ltd

Credabl held nine registrations over all present and after-acquired property and other goods. As a result, Credabl was paid \$1,119,116 from the proceeds of the sale of the business and now has a residual unsecured claim in the sum of \$222,031.

Bank of Queensland

As noted in Section 3, BOQ held a security interest over the company's 2024 Porsche. BOQ realised the secured asset and subsequently has an unsecured claim for the shortfall on sale.

ANZ Banking Group

ANZ held a security interest in respect of a bank guarantee for a rental bond for the company's lease of the premises. The lease was transferred pursuant to the sale of the business and the bank guarantee was returned to ANZ.

I am not aware of any current secured creditors.

5. Priority creditors

- 5.1 Mr Hughes advised that there are no outstanding employee entitlements and that all priority creditors were paid in full on the sale of the business.
- 5.2 I note that the management accounts for the company show an amount owing in relation to superannuation. I am currently determining whether the management accounts are incorrect or whether this amount is payable.
- 5.3 If you were an employee of the company at the date of liquidation, or you have previously been employed by the company, you may be a creditor of the company for any or all of the following debts: outstanding wages, annual leave, long service leave, pay in lieu of notice, redundancy and/or superannuation.
- 5.4 If you are owed accrued entitlements, you may be eligible for assistance under the Federal Government's Fair Entitlements Guarantee Act 2012 ("FEG"). For further information regarding FEG, please call the FEG hotline: 1300 135 040 or go to the website: www.employment.gov.au/fair-entitlements-guarantee-feg. **Former employees have only 12 months from the date of liquidation (i.e. until 2 April 2026) to lodge a FEG claim and FEG has no discretion to extend this time.**
- 5.5 Please find enclosed a Proof of Debt or Claim form to enable any priority creditors who have not already done so to lodge their claim against the company. Note that any FEG claim must be lodged separately with FEG.

6. Unsecured creditors

- 6.1 Based on my current estimate, the company has 223 unsecured creditors, whose claims total \$4,385,060.
- 6.2 I have not identified any related party unsecured creditors.
- 6.3 If a Proof of Debt form is enclosed with this report, it means that I do not yet have a formal claim from you. Therefore, I request that you complete and return the enclosed form.
- 6.4 If there is no Proof of Debt form enclosed with this report, it means that I have already received your formal proof, and you are not required to lodge your claim again.

7. Dividend

- 7.1 The likelihood that a dividend will be paid to creditors will be affected by a number of factors including:
- (i) The size and complexity of the administration.
 - (ii) The amount of assets realisable and the costs of realising those assets.
 - (iii) The statutory priority of certain claims and costs.
 - (iv) The value of various classes of claims including secured, priority and unsecured creditor claims.
 - (v) The volume of enquiries by creditors and other stakeholders.
- 7.2 Based on information obtained to date, I consider it unlikely that there will be sufficient funds for a dividend to be paid to unsecured creditors.
- 7.3 If a dividend is payable, creditors will be contacted prior to payment of the dividend and will be asked to lodge a Proof of Debt. This will formalise creditors' claims against the company.

8. Reasons for the company's failure

- 8.1 I note that company's business ceased to trade on or around 30 April 2025, when the business was sold by Mr Hughes.
- 8.2 From my preliminary inquiries to date (see Section 9), I consider that the reasons for the company's failure are likely to be as follows:
- (i) The director's misuse of patient deposits.
 - (ii) Significant drawings, in excess of profits, from the company by the director.

9. Inquiries undertaken to date

- 9.1 On 8 October 2025 I submitted an initial statutory report to ASIC regarding my preliminary investigations into the company's affairs and potential misconduct of the director.
- 9.2 ASIC rely on liquidators' professional judgement as to whether it is desirable to prepare a supplementary statutory report to bring further information to ASIC's attention.
- 9.3 I have determined that it is necessary to lodge a further report with ASIC, and therefore on 23 October 2025 I submitted an application to ASIC's Assetless Administration Fund, requesting funding to prepare a supplementary report.
- 9.4 I have also made contact with the Bankruptcy Trustee of the Estate of David Hurst (Deceased), Mr Mark Roufeil, and remain in contact with Mr Roufeil regarding his administration of the estate and my administration of the liquidation.

9. Inquiries undertaken to date (cont.)

- 9.5 On 8 October 2025, I met with Ms Sarah Marshman of Slater and Gordon Lawyers to gain an understanding of the assistance Slater and Gordon is providing to some of the former patients of the Perth Dental Rooms business. I will continue to liaise with Ms Marshman regarding certain aspects of the liquidation.
- 9.6 In addition to the above, the following further inquiries have been made to date:
- (i) Reviewing the administration files provided to me by Mr Hughes on appointment and determining further work required.
 - (ii) Undertaking searches including a company search, PPSR search, vehicle search, director search and property search.
 - (iii) Contacting the Sheriff's Office to determine whether any recovery action has been undertaken on behalf of creditors.
 - (iv) Contacting the Child Support Agency to determine the company's outstanding liabilities.
 - (v) Contacting the Office of State Revenue and the Australian Taxation Office ("ATO") to determine the company's outstanding tax-related liabilities.
 - (vi) Requesting that the ATO provide me with access to the company's taxation records via the Business Portal.
 - (vii) Sending an initial notice to creditors, encouraging creditors to submit their claim against the company.

10. Further inquiries that may need to be undertaken

- 10.1 I am awaiting the outcome of my application to ASIC for funding and will liaise with ASIC regarding any further information required in support of my application.
- 10.2 I note the following further inquiries may also need to be undertaken:
- (i) Conducting further investigations into the company's affairs and the conduct of its officers.
 - (ii) Determining whether there are any possible recovery actions (see Section 11).
 - (iii) Lodging a supplementary report with ASIC detailing the additional findings of my investigations.
- 10.3 If creditors are aware of a particular matter that requires investigation, please contact this office immediately.

11. Possible recovery actions

I have not yet determined any possible recovery actions but note that the most common recovery actions available to a liquidator are as follows:

- (i) Insolvent trading.
- (ii) Unfair preferences.
- (iii) Uncommercial transactions.
- (iv) Unreasonable director-related transactions.

12. What happens next?

12.1 I will proceed with the liquidation, including:

- (i) Recovering any further available property.
- (ii) Completing my investigations into the company's affairs.
- (iii) Completing my reporting to the corporate insolvency regulator, ASIC.

12.2 I may write to creditors again with further information on the progress of the liquidation.

13. More information

Creditors can access information which may be of assistance on the following websites:

- (i) Sheridans at www.sheridansac.com.au/downloads/
- (ii) ARITA at www.arita.com.au/creditors
- (iii) ASIC at www.asic.gov.au (search for "insolvency information sheets")

14. Status summary of the liquidation

14.1 This report is a statutory report that a liquidator must provide to creditors within three months after appointment.

14.2 As such, the previous sections of this report are the usual and required sections that should be covered in such a report.

14.3 However, I have included this additional section to more succinctly and concisely report to creditors, particularly those creditors who are unfamiliar with such reports, the status of the liquidation.

14. Status summary of the liquidation (cont.)

14.4 In short, I now briefly summarise;

- (i) What I have done in the liquidation so far.
- (ii) Problems I have encountered.
- (iii) What I would like to do.

14.5 *What I have done so far*

- (i) Obtained some of the former liquidator's files, and reviewed and performed some initial analysis of those files.
- (ii) Corresponded with and sought further information from the former liquidator's lawyers.
- (iii) Made the usual basic enquiries customarily done in a liquidation.
- (iv) Received and initially reviewed claims from creditors.
- (v) Made enquiries of the purchaser of the company's business.
- (vi) Corresponded with the Bankruptcy Trustee of the Estate of David Hurst (Deceased), and submitted an initial claim.
- (vii) Met with and engaged with Slater and Gordon Lawyers.
- (viii) Prepared and submitted an initial report to ASIC regarding my preliminary investigations.
- (ix) Prepared and submitted an application to ASIC for funding for a proper and full investigation of the conduct of the director and the transactions of the company.

14.6 *Problems encountered*

- (i) Lack of funds. As noted at point 2.2, there were no funds remaining in the liquidation at the date of my appointment, and hence my application to ASIC for funding.
- (ii) I have not yet received all the former liquidator's files and records (in particular, the email records), despite repeated requests.
- (iii) I have been unable to obtain requested information and documentation from the former liquidator's lawyers.
- (iv) I am still awaiting requested information and bank statements from the company's bankers, BOQ.
- (v) Being able to arrange a meeting with the purchaser of the business (who has recently been overseas).

14. Status summary of the liquidation (cont.)

14.7 *What I would like to do*

- (i) A full and proper investigation of;
 - (a) The conduct of the director.
 - (b) The transactions of the company.
 - (c) The management of the company in the period from the date of the director's death until the company went into voluntary administration.
- (ii) Following on from a full and proper investigation;
 - (a) Further reports, if necessary, to ASIC and any other relevant authority.
 - (b) Identification of any recovery action or claims (other than against the director's bankrupt deceased estate).
- (iii) Review of the actions of the previous liquidator, including a review of;
 - (a) Transactions during the trade-on period.
 - (b) The terms of the sale of the business, and the utilisation of the sale proceeds.
- (iv) Meeting with creditors. I noted in my first report to creditors (dated 25 September 2025) that it was my intention to call a meeting of creditors once I had reviewed the former liquidator's administration files. The purpose of such a meeting would be for me to provide a summary of my findings to date and to hear and discuss creditors' concerns and queries. Obtaining the former liquidator's administration files has taken longer than expected however, I still intend to arrange this meeting with creditors early in the new year.

14.8 Except for the meeting with creditors, almost all of the work that I would like to do, scheduled above, is dependent on obtaining funding from ASIC.

If you wish to discuss the above matters, please contact Melissa Ledger or Winly Dinh of this office.

Yours faithfully



JENNIFER E. LOW
Liquidator of
Hurst Group Pty Ltd