

This page describes how to use the Bucket Lock feature, including working with retention policies and locking buckets. For details about this feature, see [Retention Policies and Bucket Lock \(/storage/docs/bucket-lock\)](/storage/docs/bucket-lock).

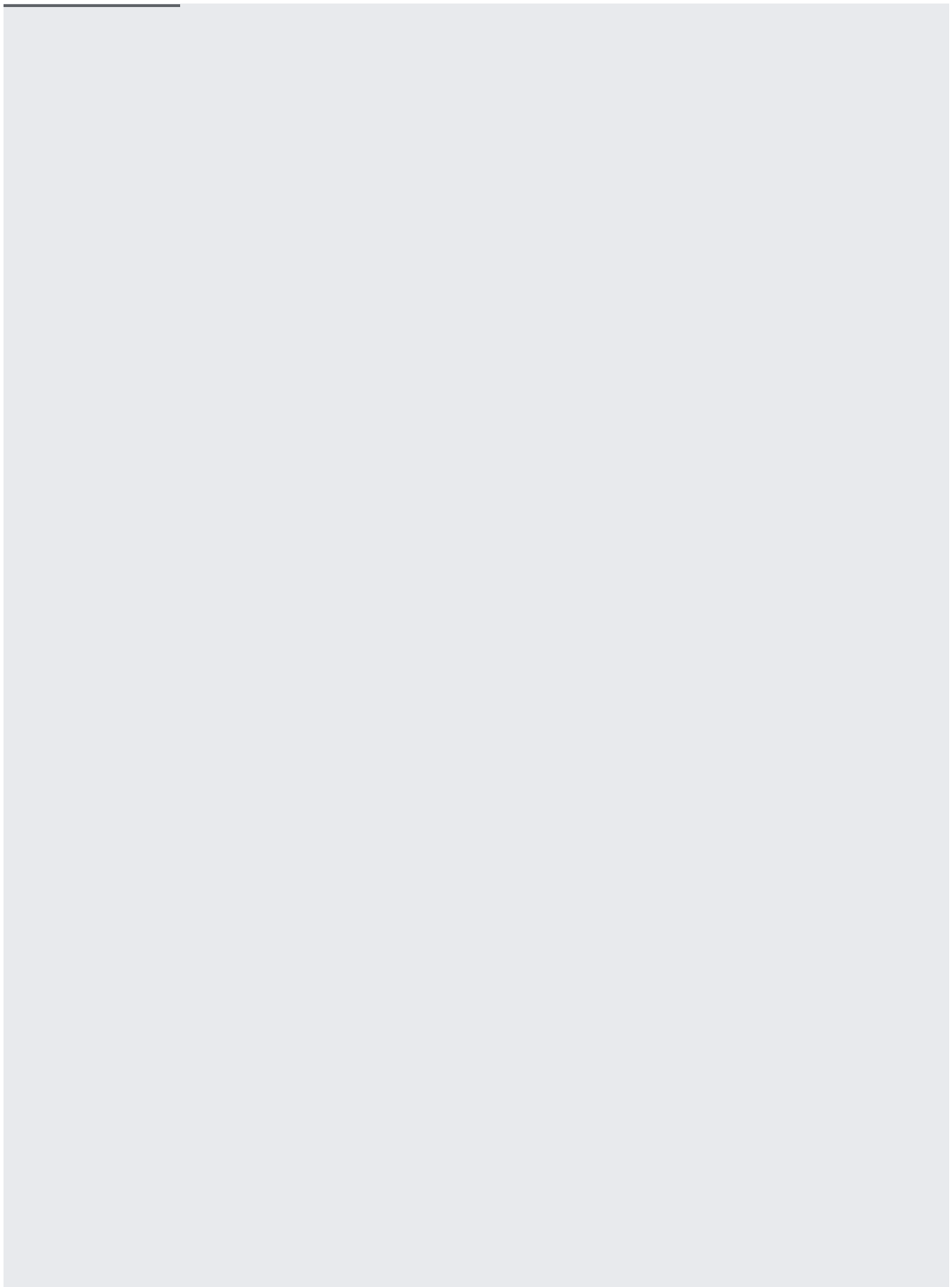
Before using this feature in Cloud Storage, you should:

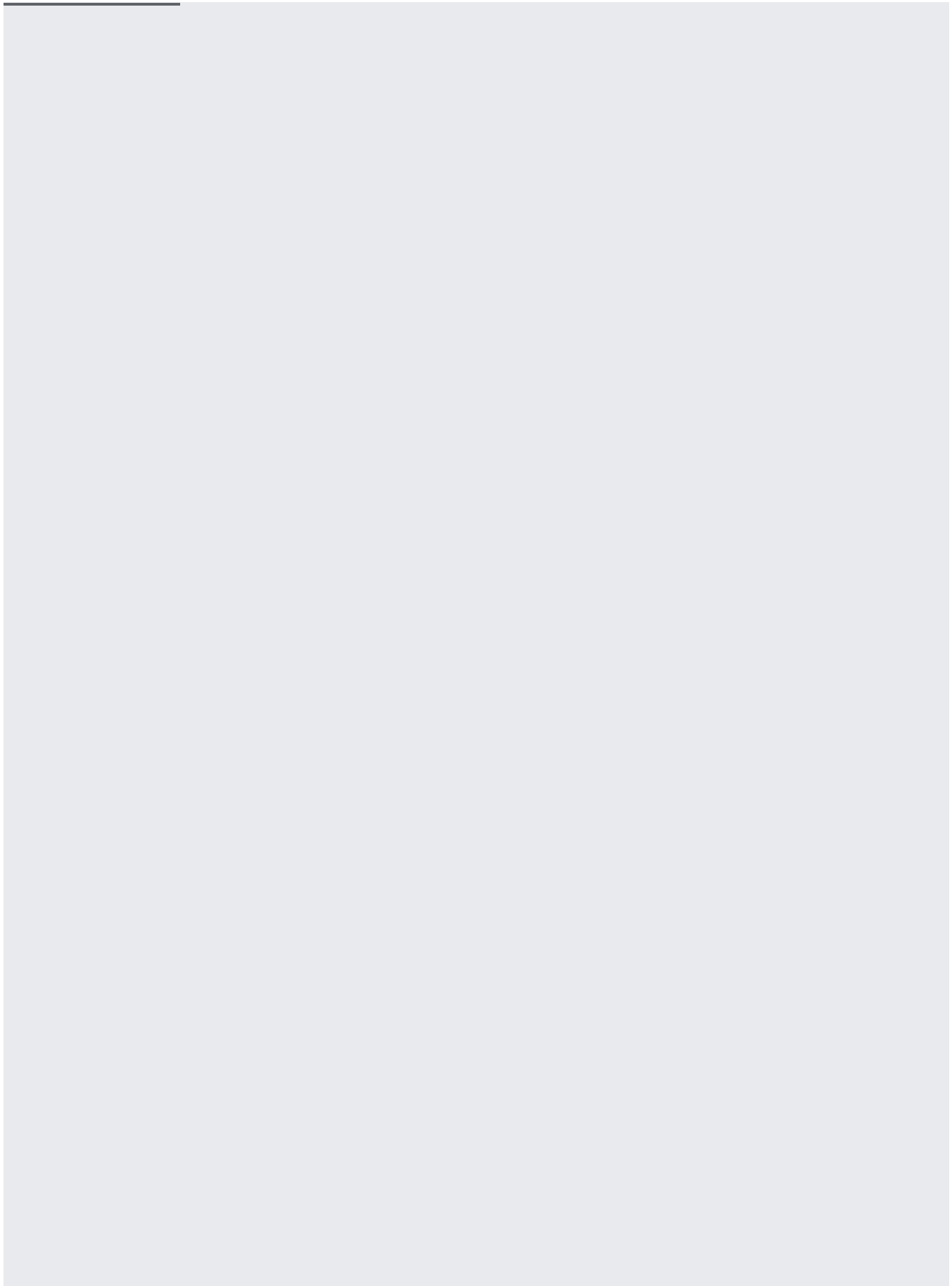
1. Have sufficient permission to view and update buckets in Cloud Storage:

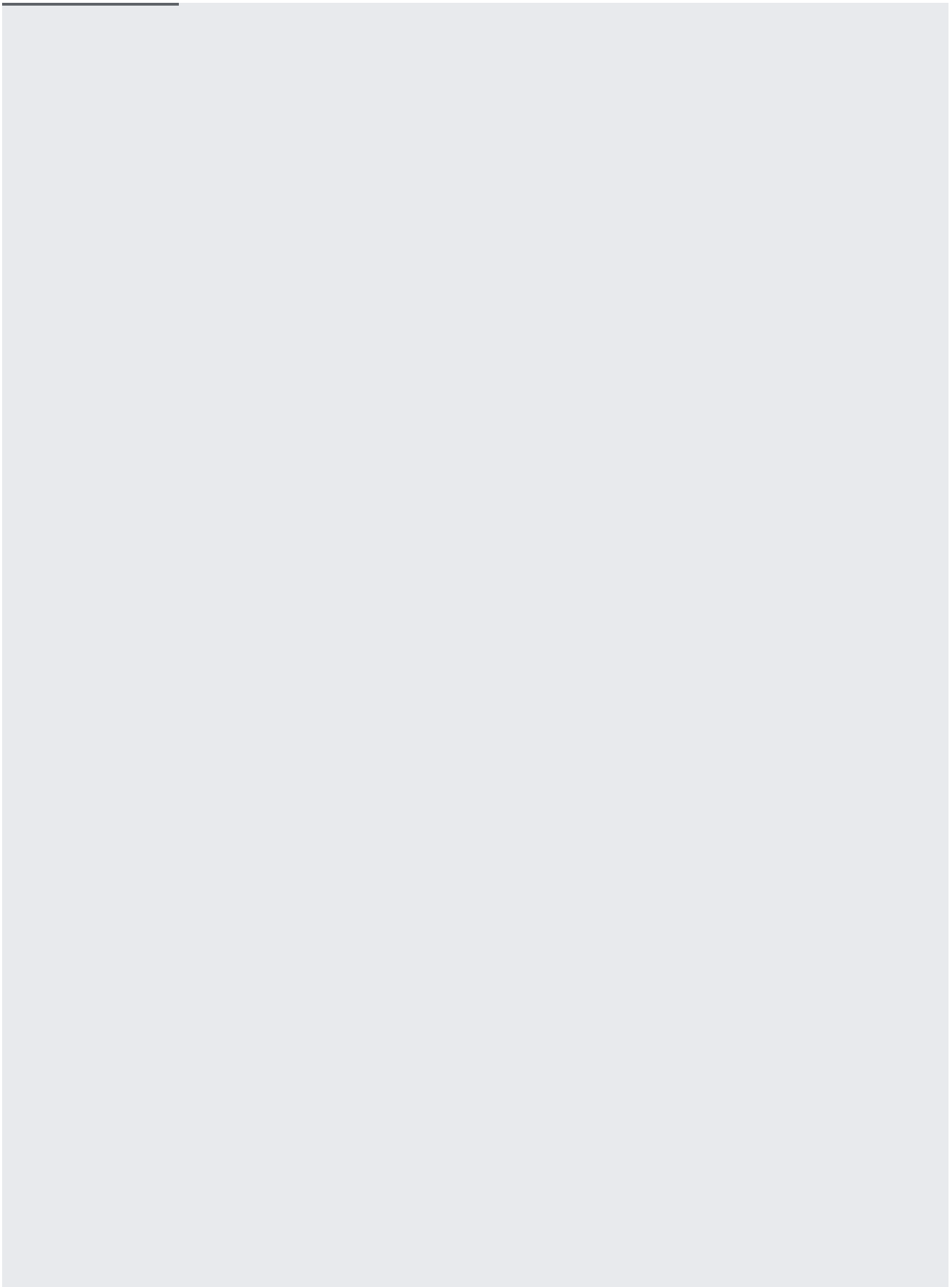
- If you own the project that contains the bucket, you most likely have the necessary permissions.
- If you use IAM, you should have `storage.buckets.update` and `storage.buckets.get` permissions on the relevant bucket. See [Using IAM Permissions \(/storage/docs/access-control/using-iam-permissions\)](/storage/docs/access-control/using-iam-permissions) for instructions on how to get a role, such as `roles/storage.admin`, that has these permissions.
- If you use ACLs, you should have OWNER permission on the relevant bucket. See [Setting ACLs \(/storage/docs/access-control/create-manage-lists#set-an-acl\)](/storage/docs/access-control/create-manage-lists#set-an-acl) for instructions on how to do this.

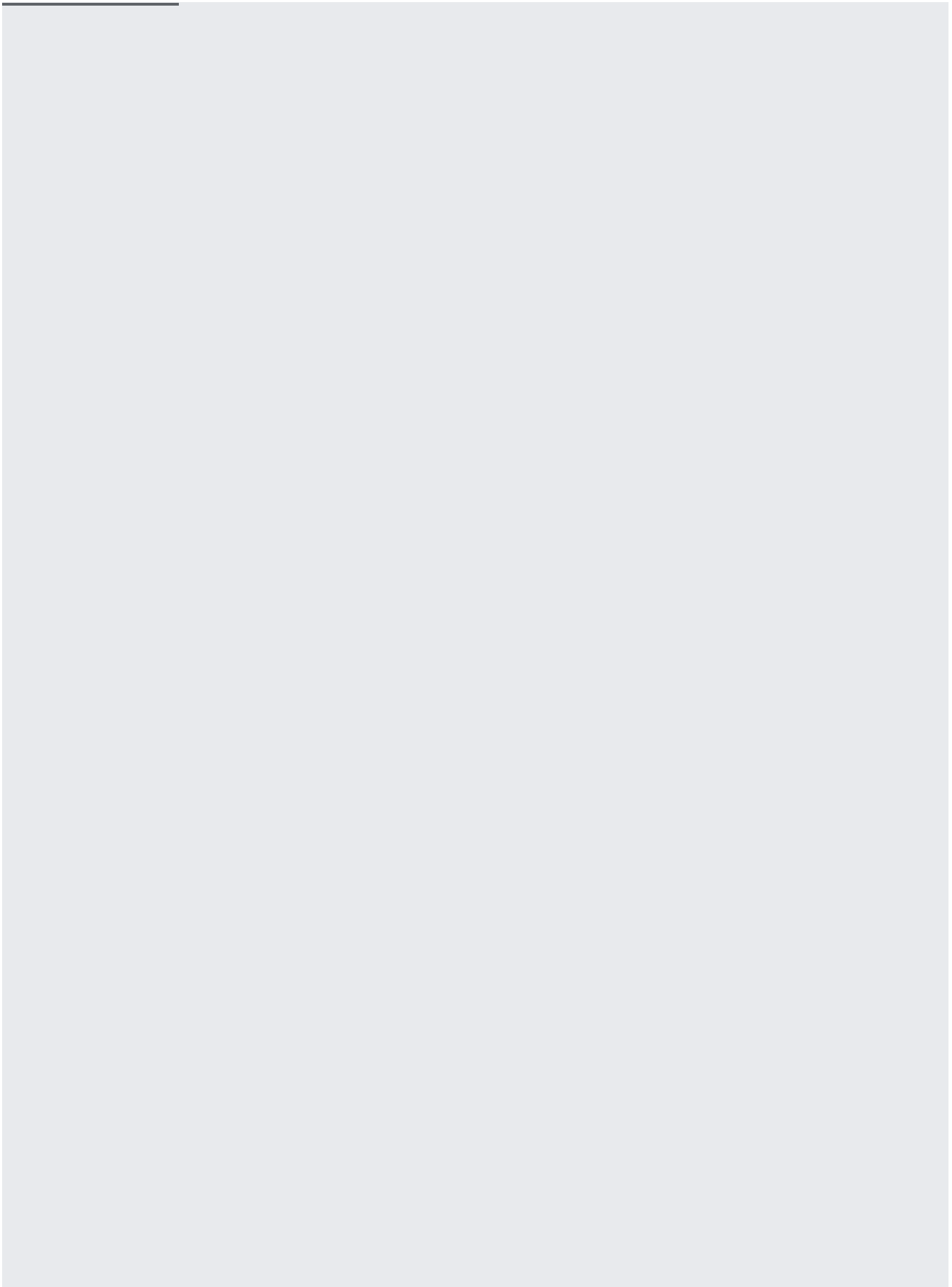
2. [Check that Object Versioning is disabled \(/storage/docs/using-object-versioning#check\)](/storage/docs/using-object-versioning#check) for the bucket.

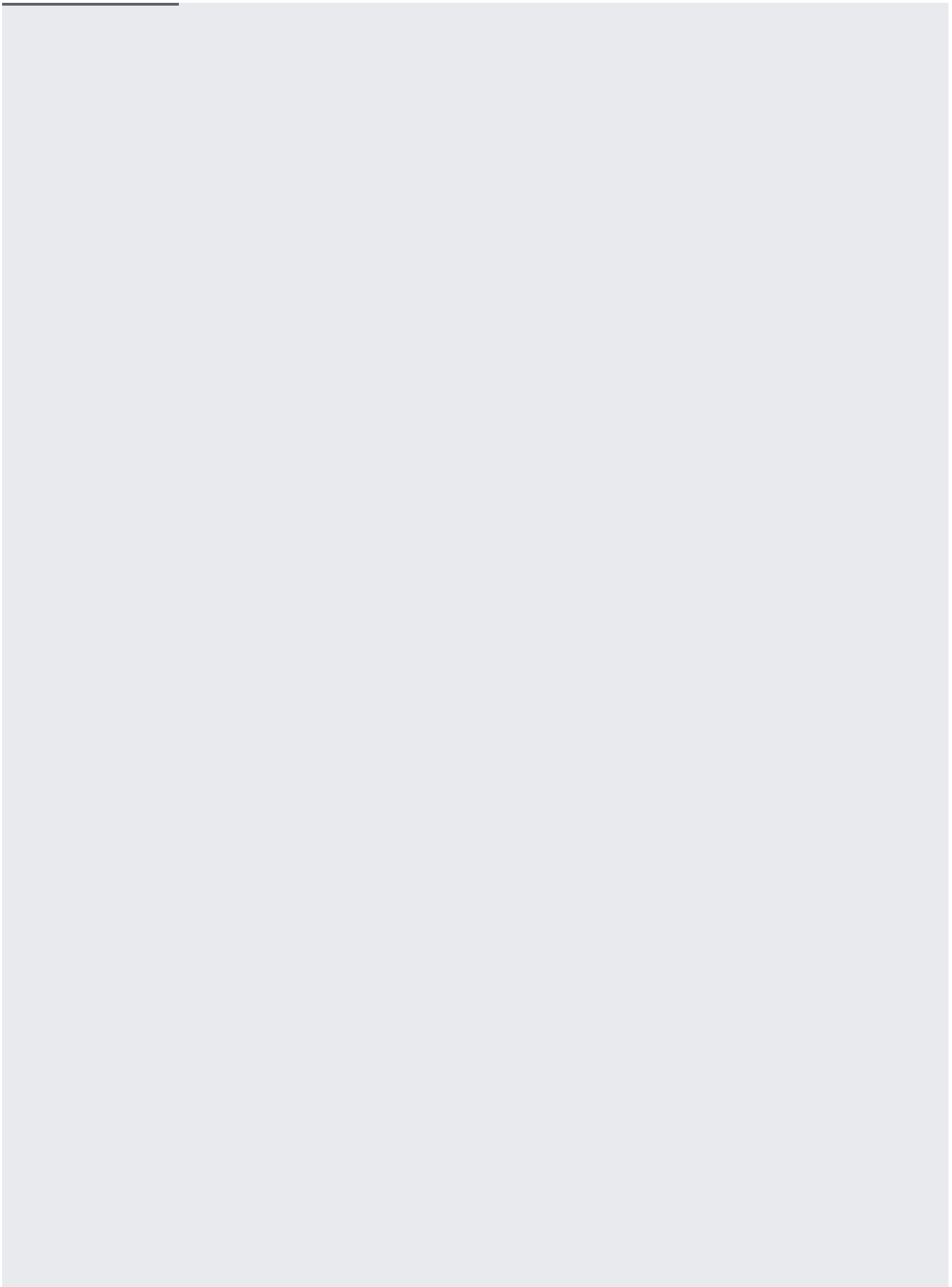
To set a retention policy on a bucket:

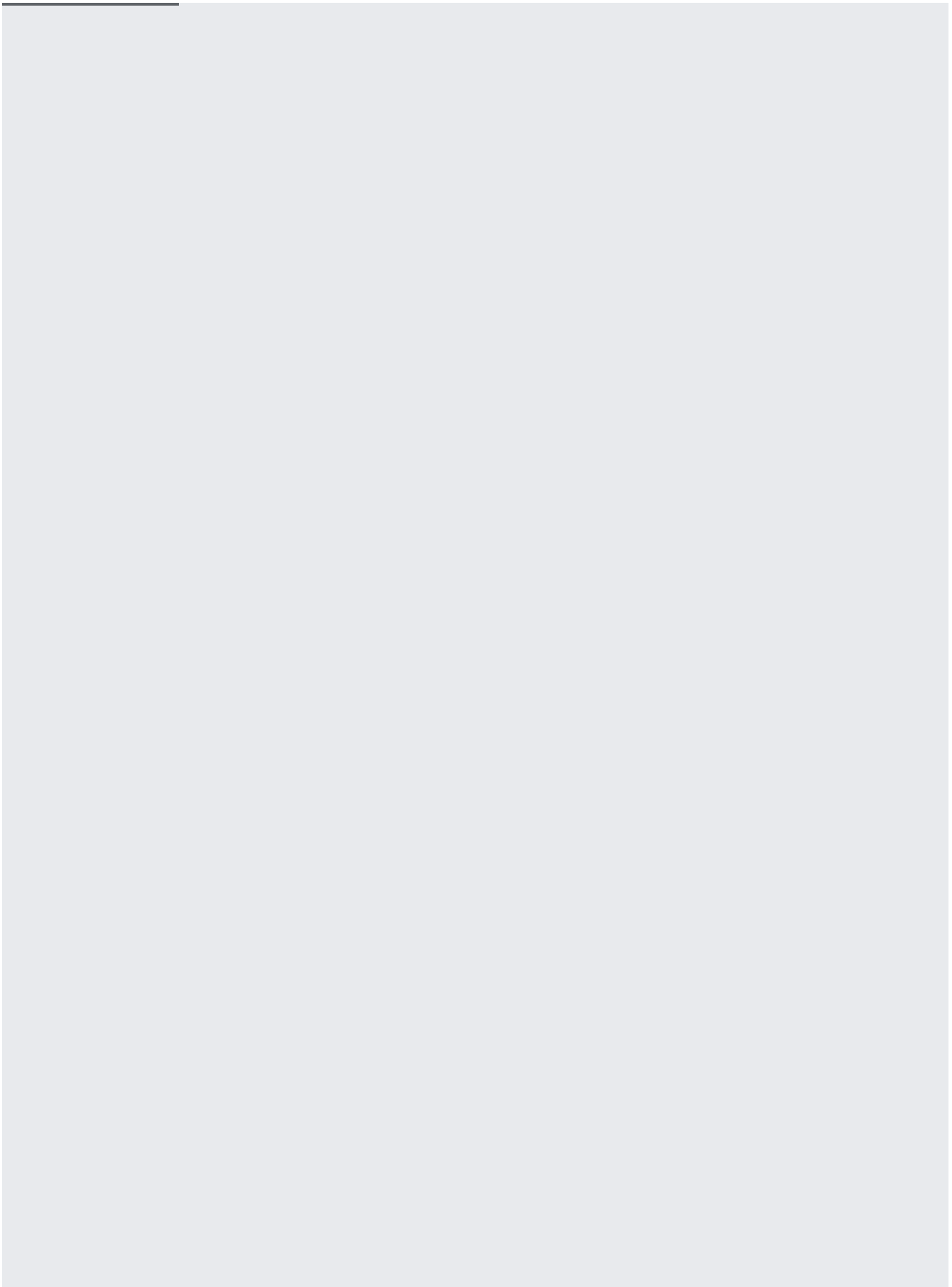


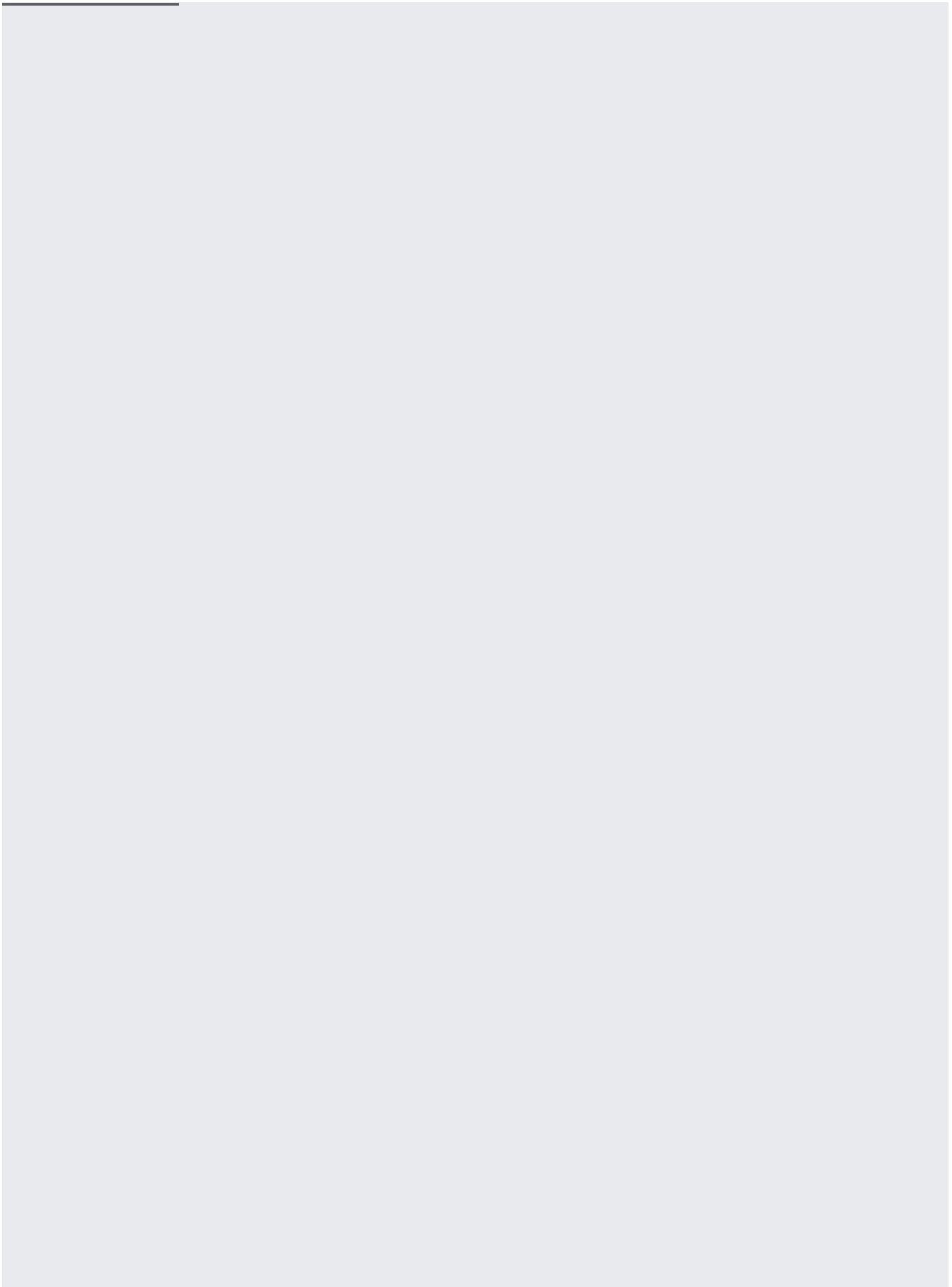




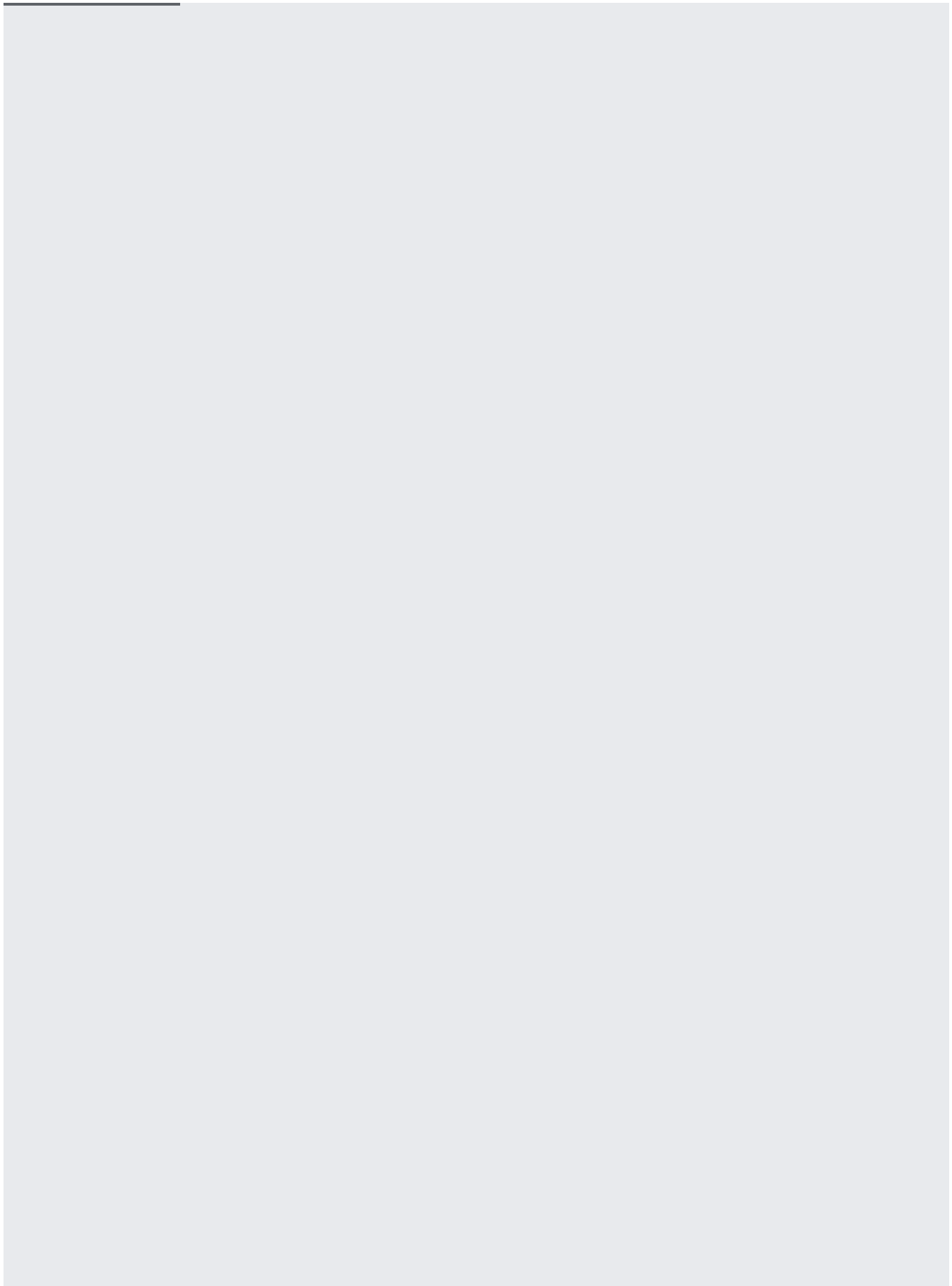


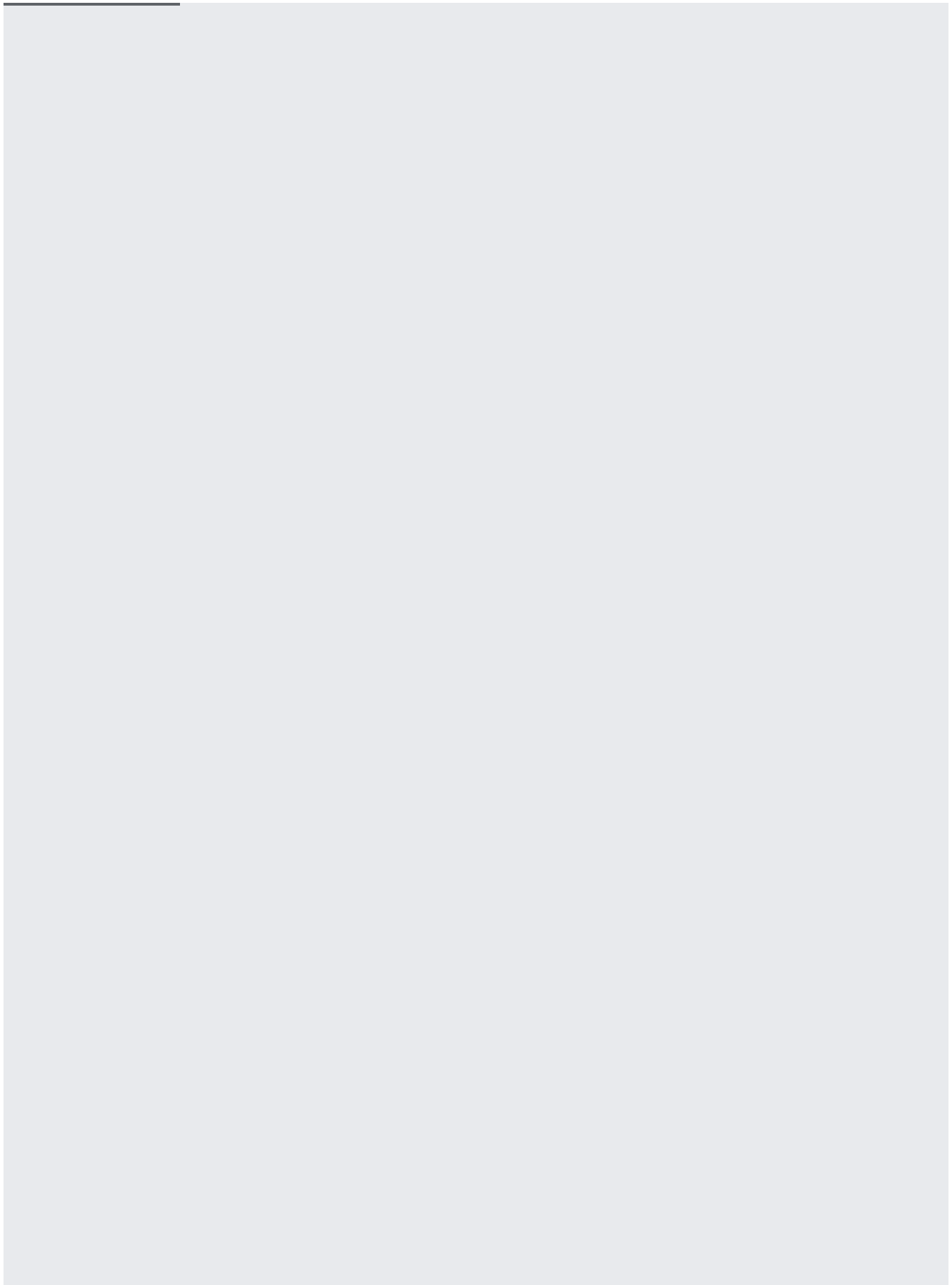


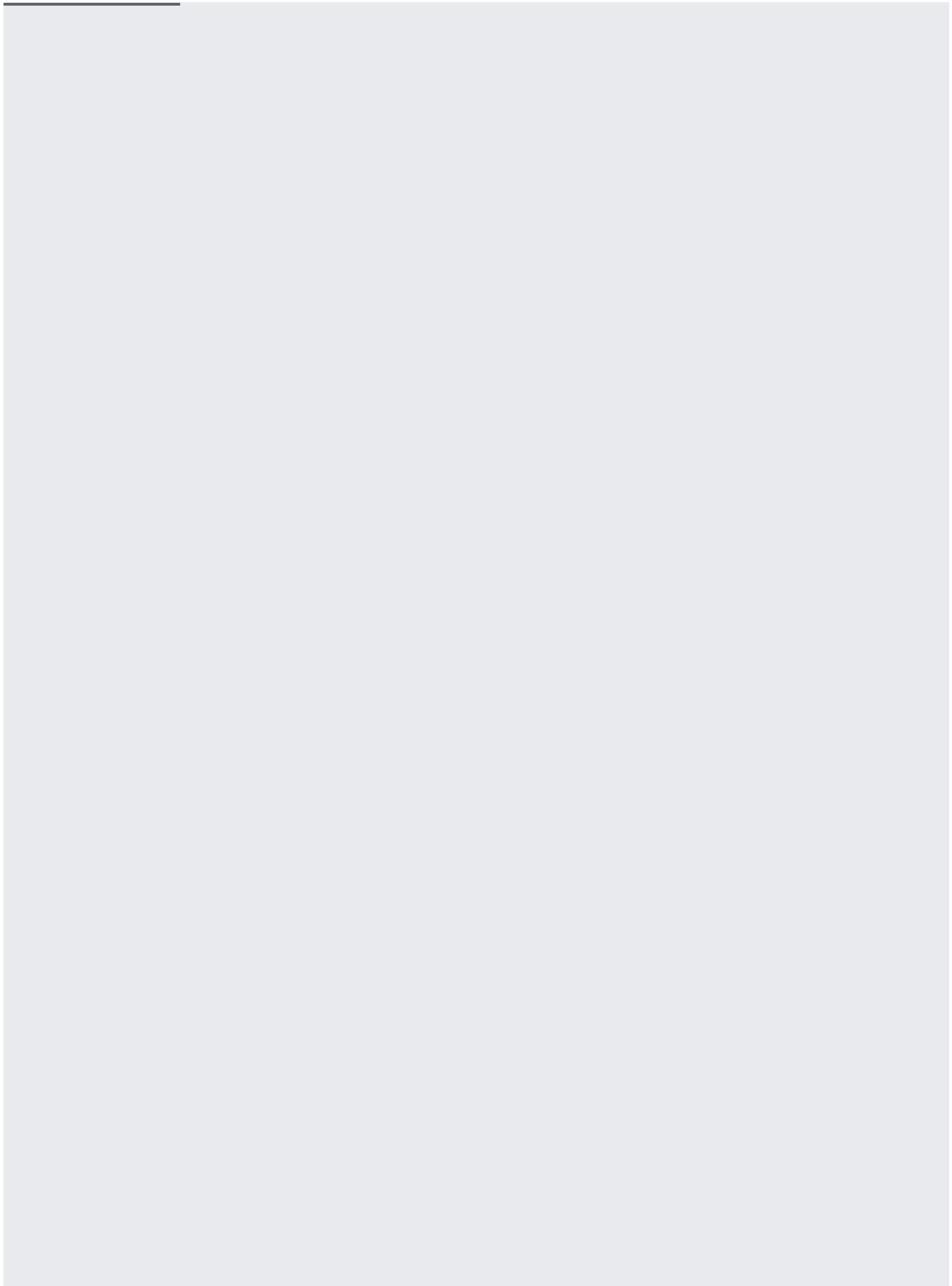


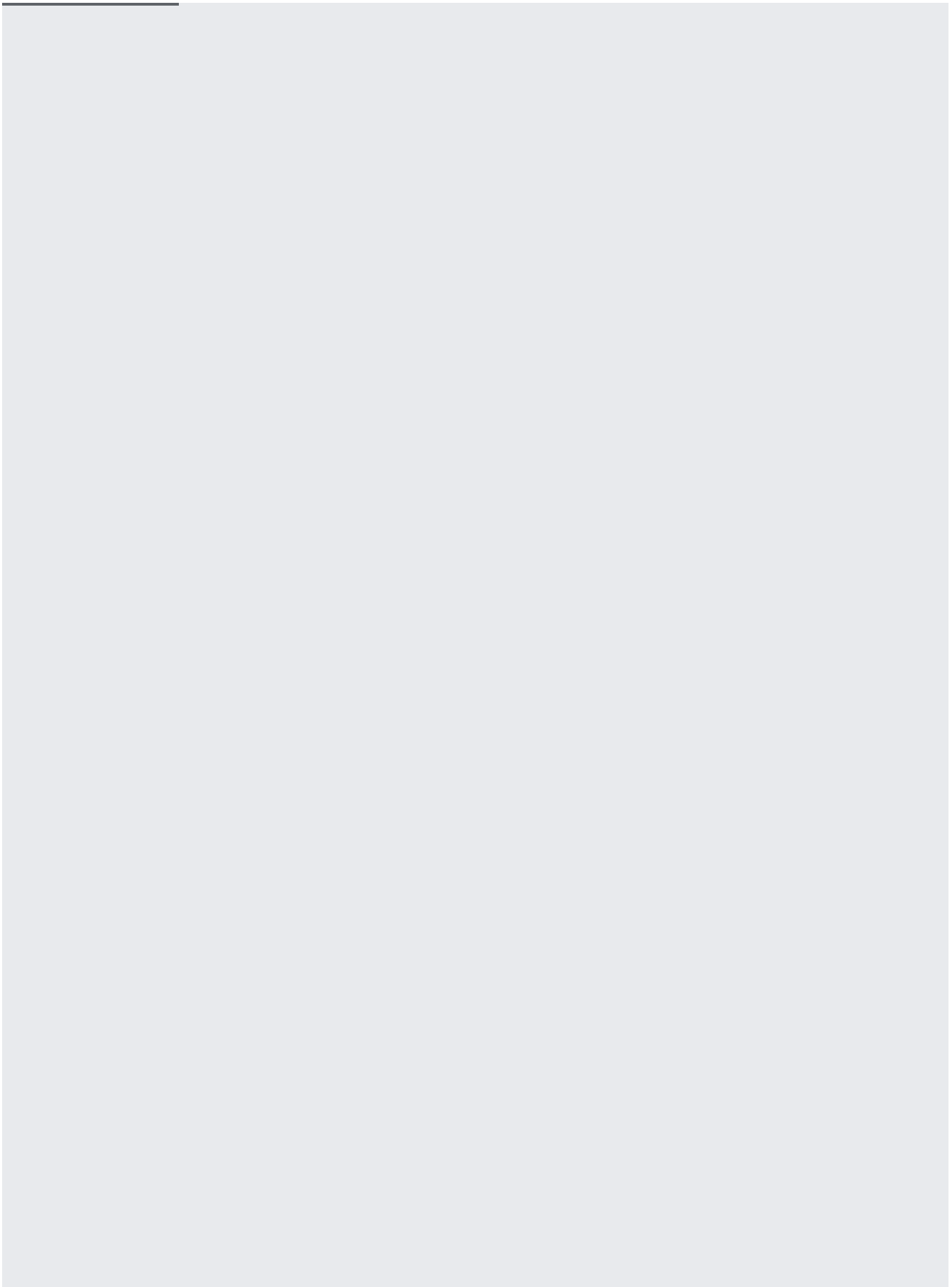


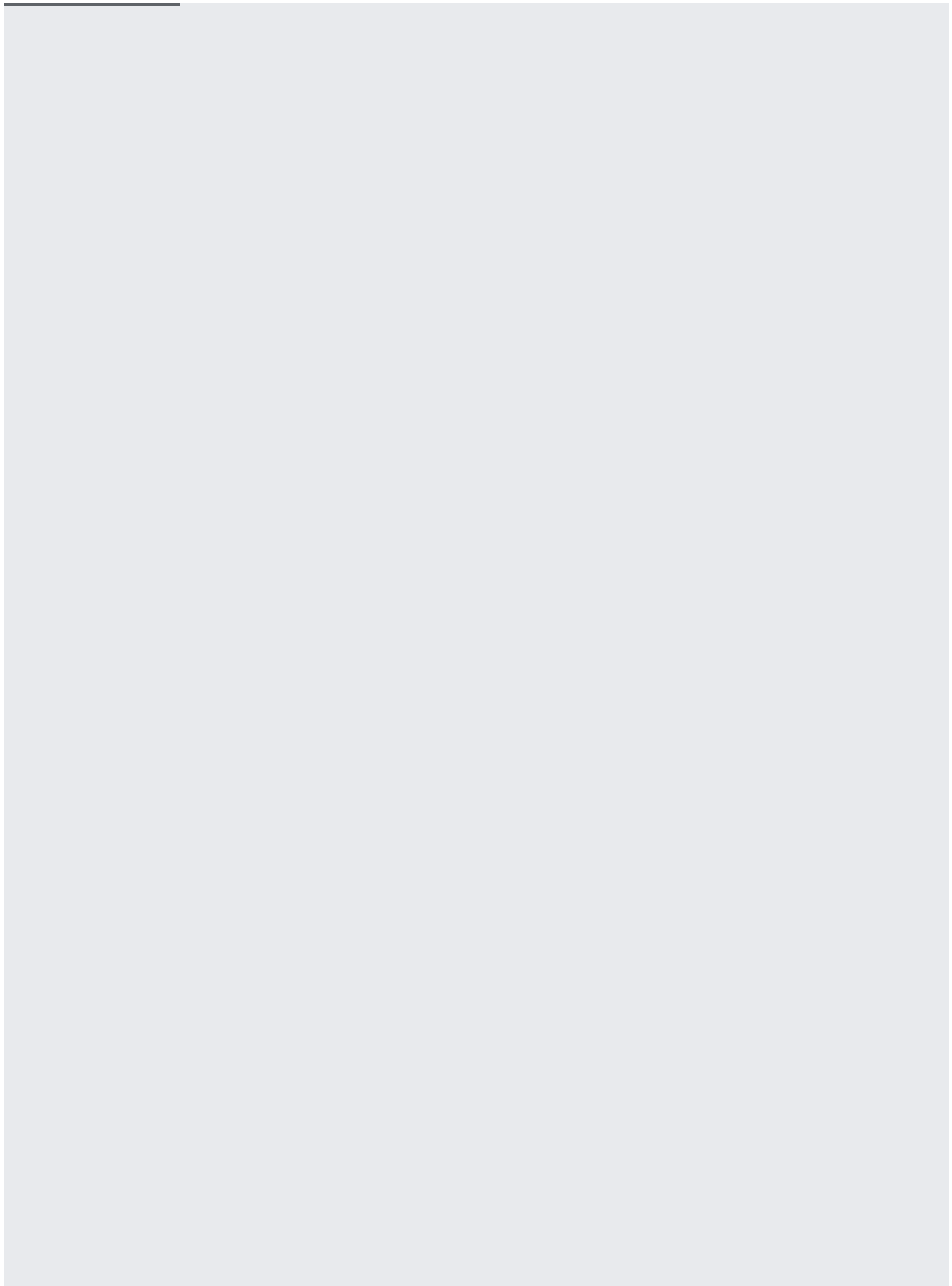
To remove a retention policy from a bucket:

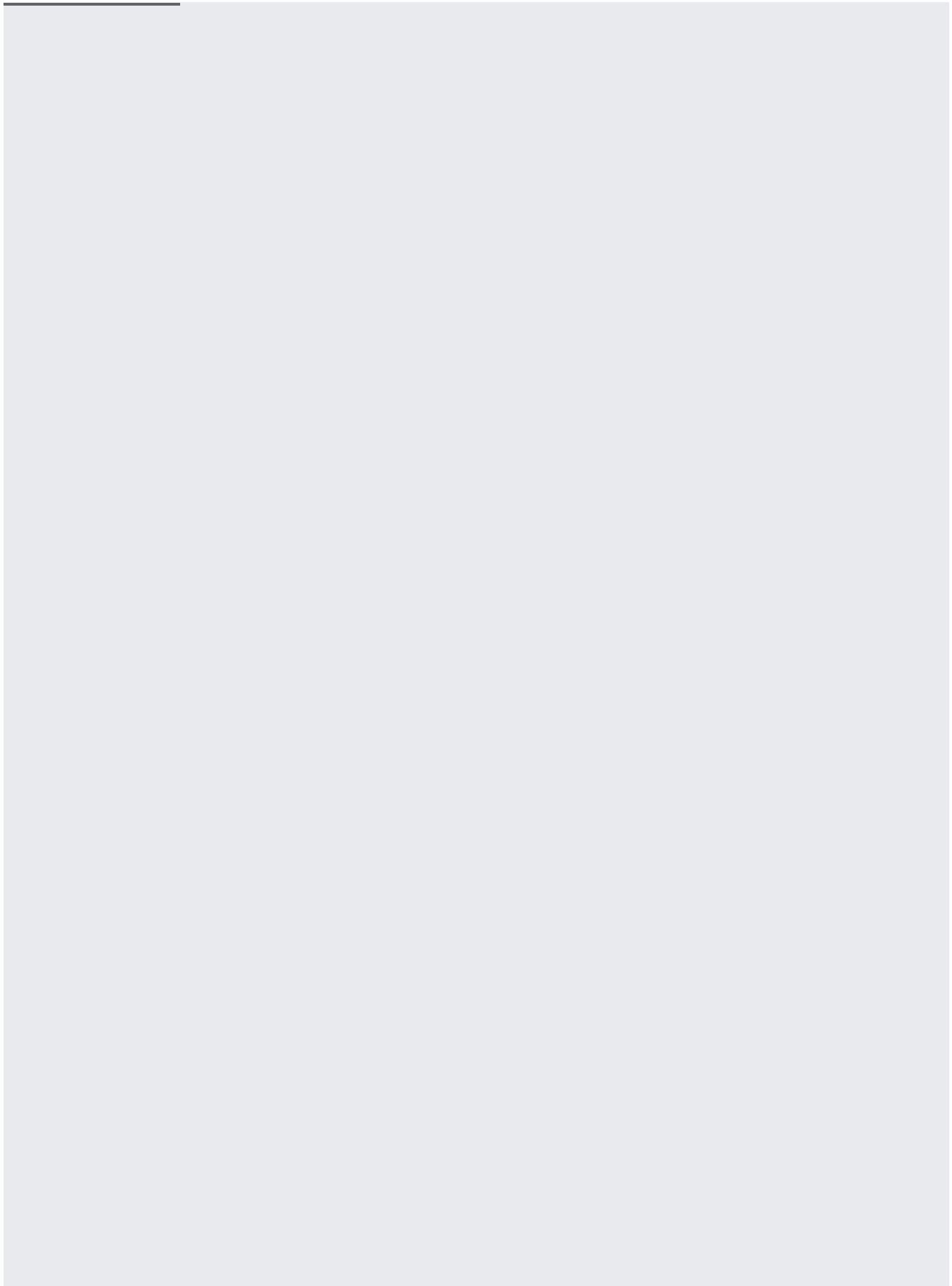












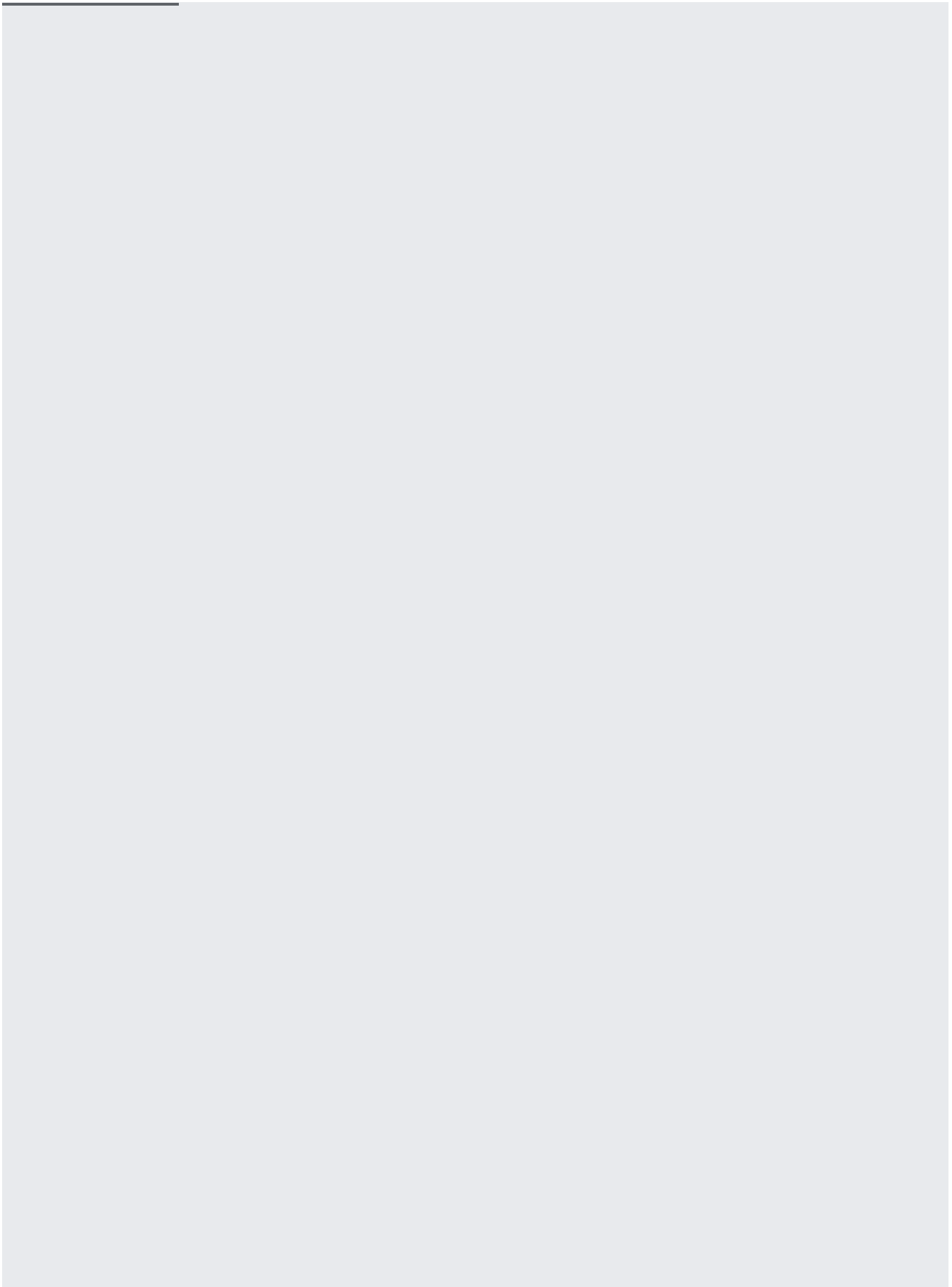
Warning: Locking a bucket is an irreversible action. Once you lock a bucket:

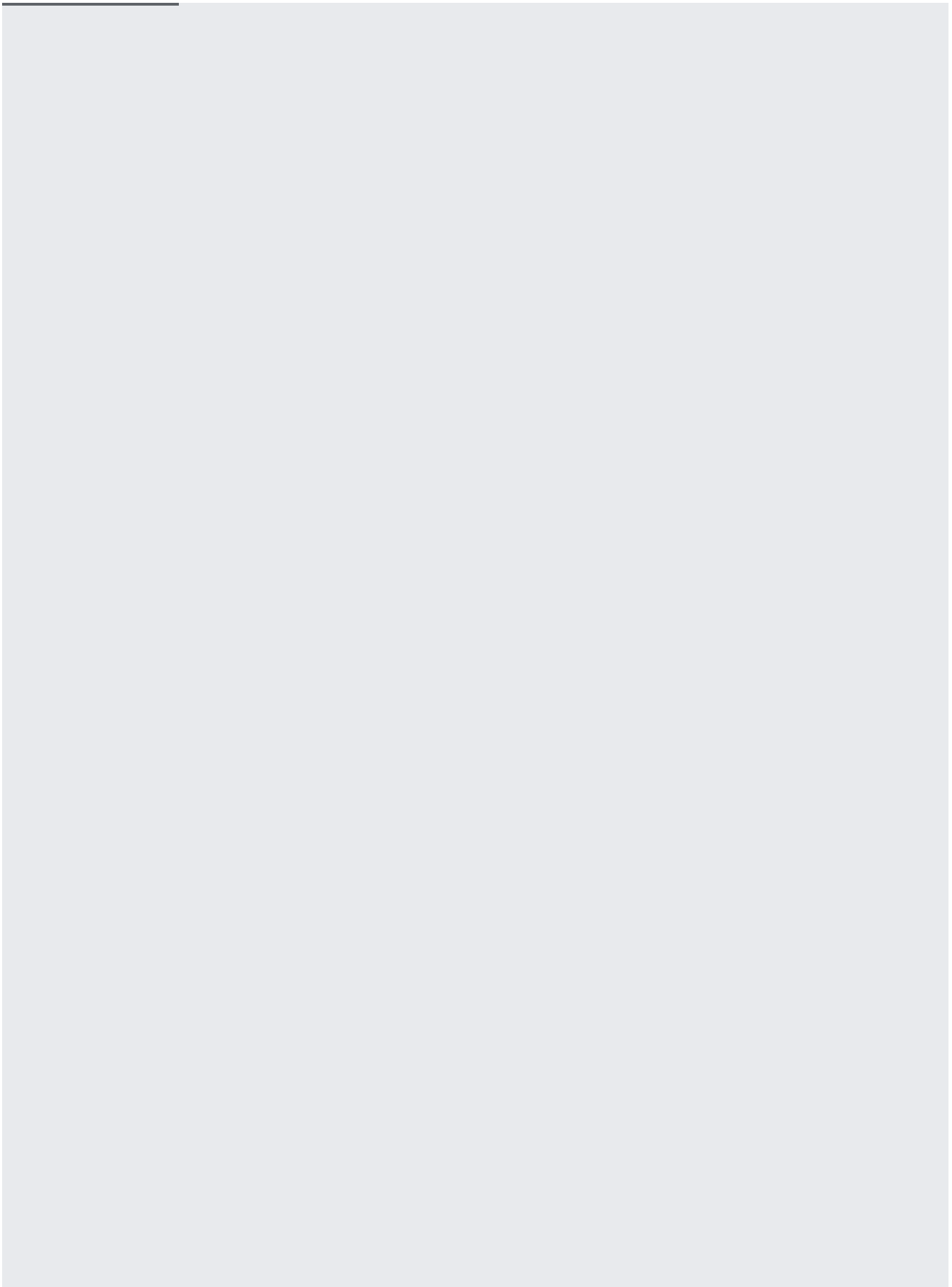
You cannot remove the retention policy from the bucket.

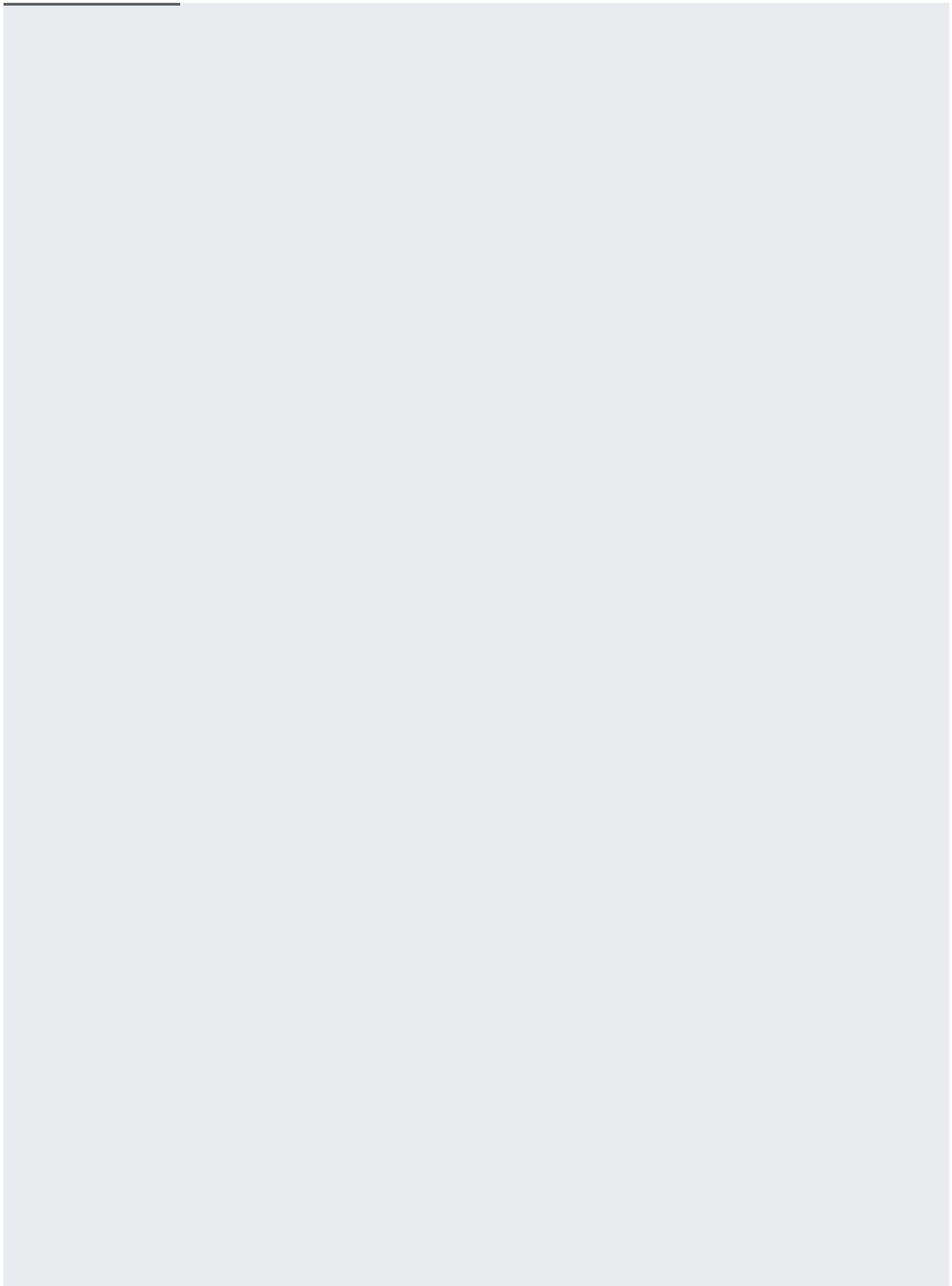
You cannot decrease the retention period for the policy.

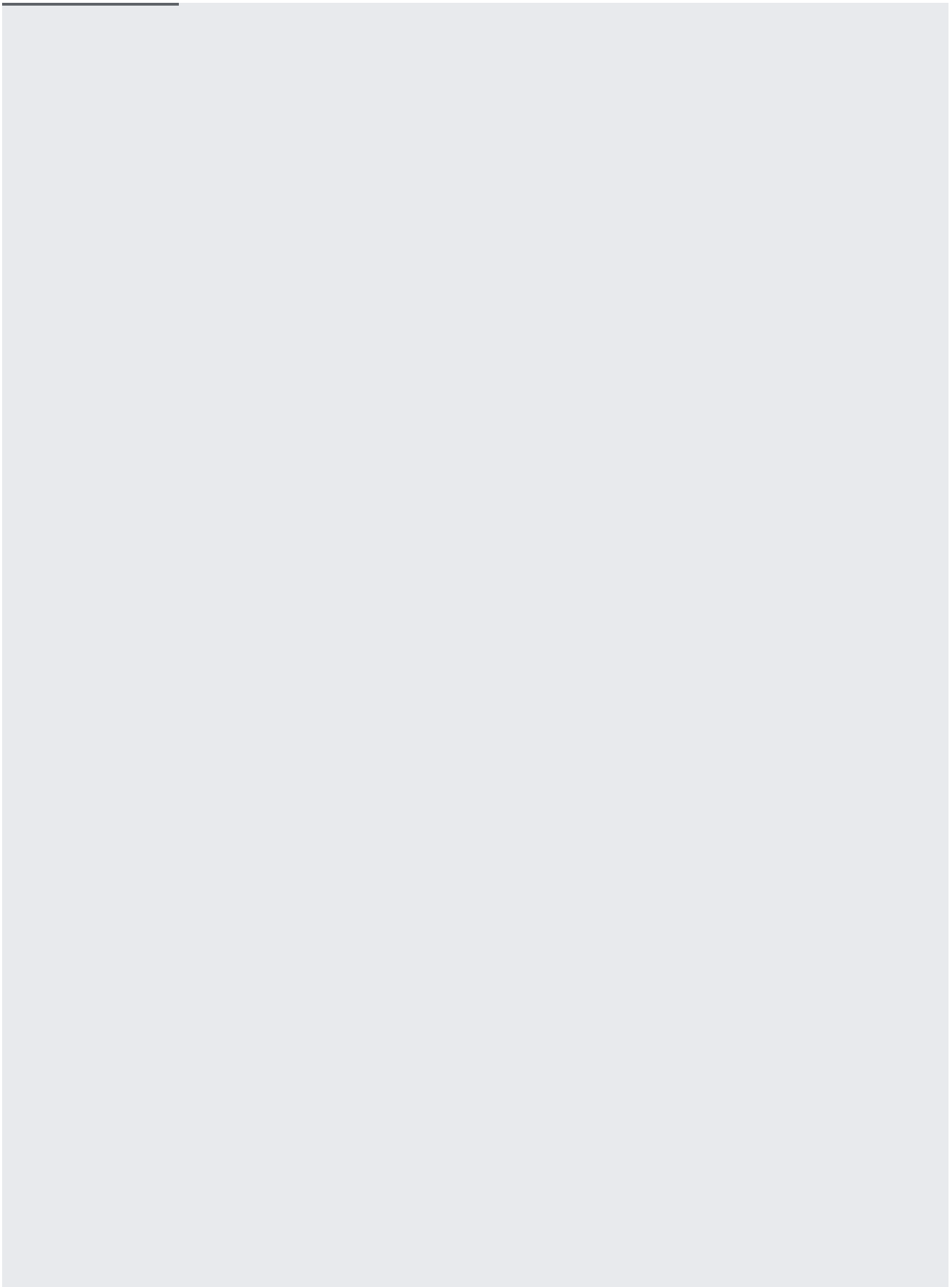
Once locked, you must delete the entire bucket in order to "remove" the bucket's retention policy. However, before you can delete a bucket, you must be able to delete all the objects in the bucket, which itself is only possible if all objects have reached the retention period set by the retention policy.

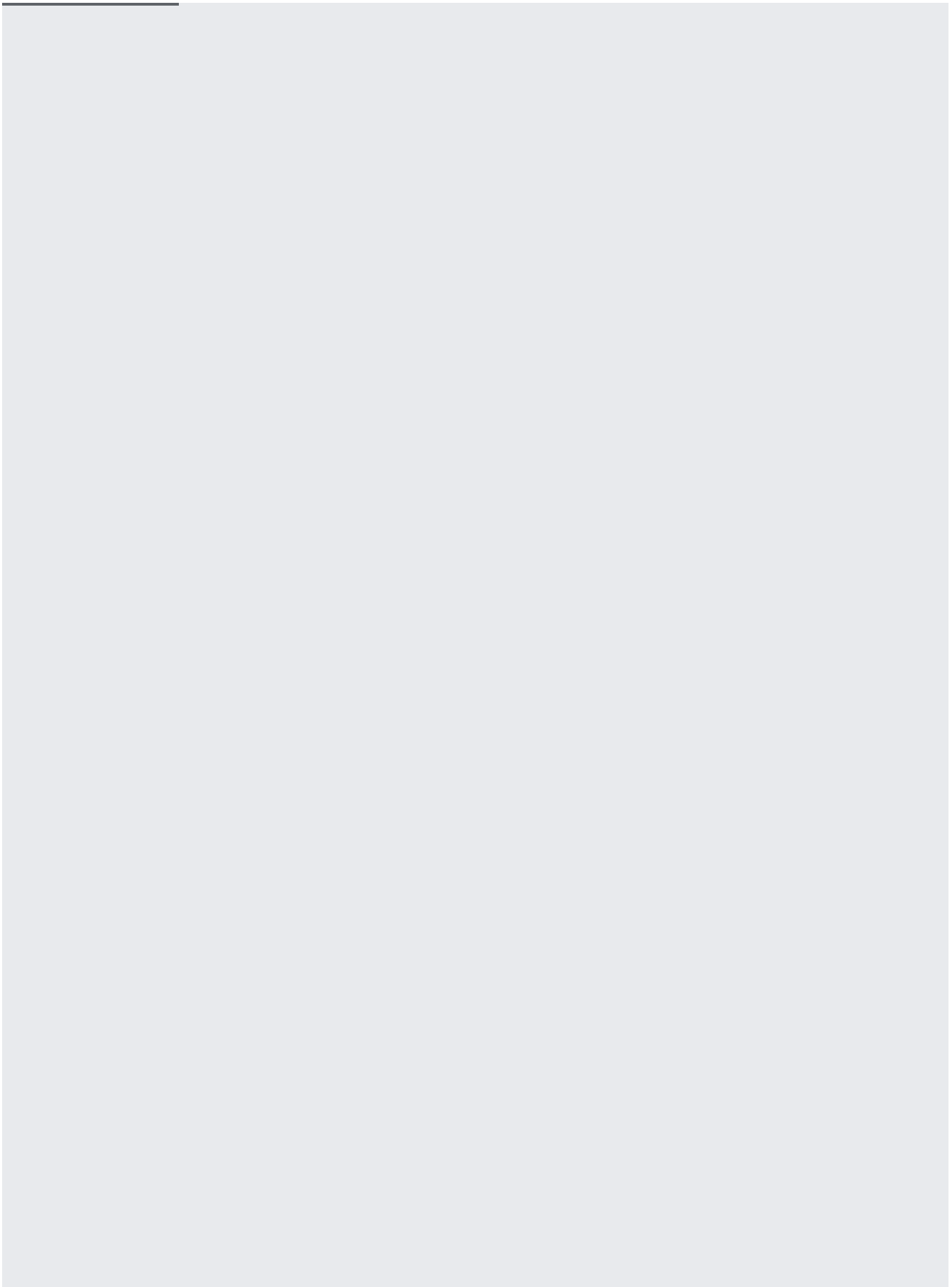
To lock a bucket and permanently restrict edits to the bucket's retention policy:

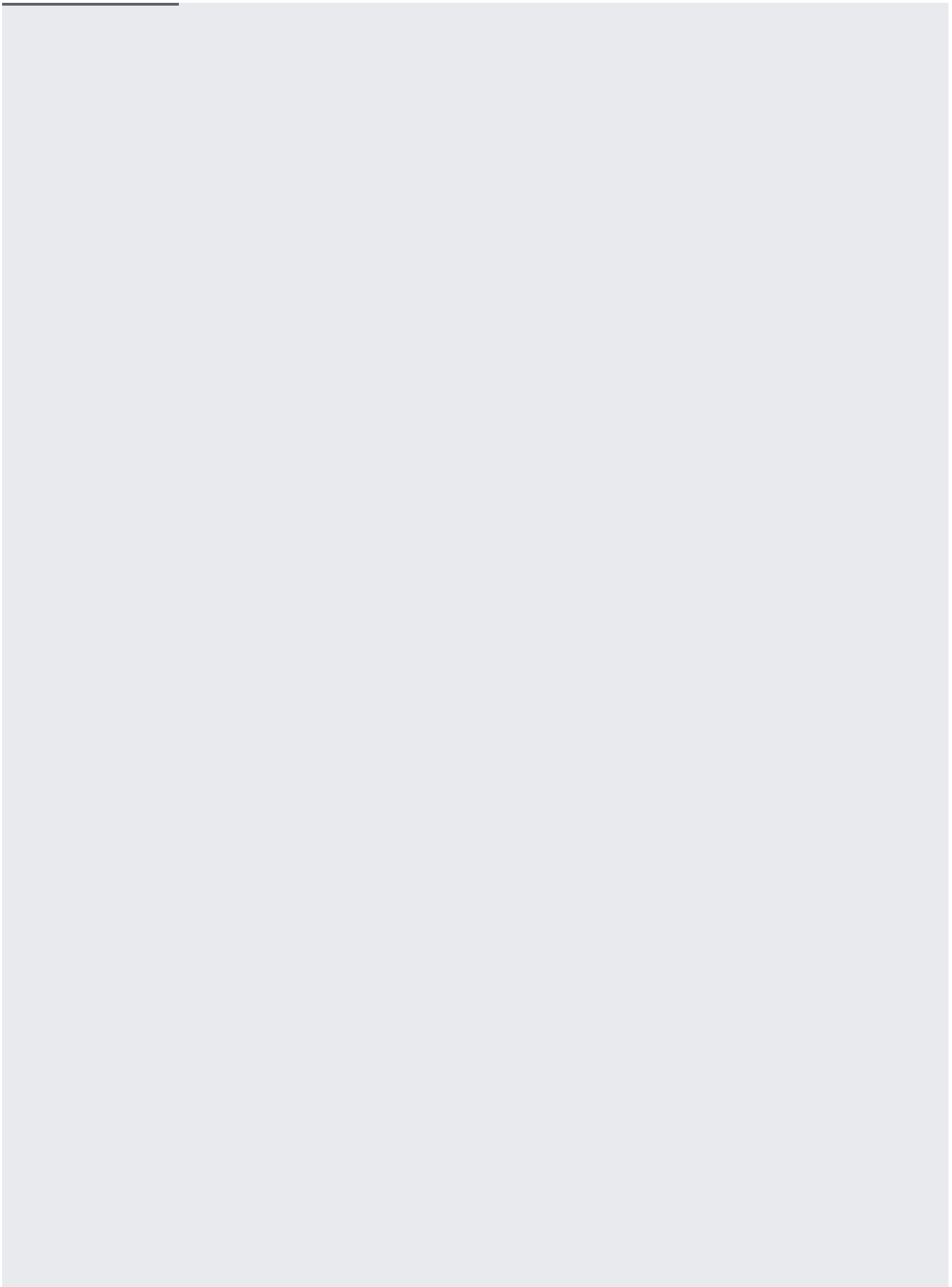


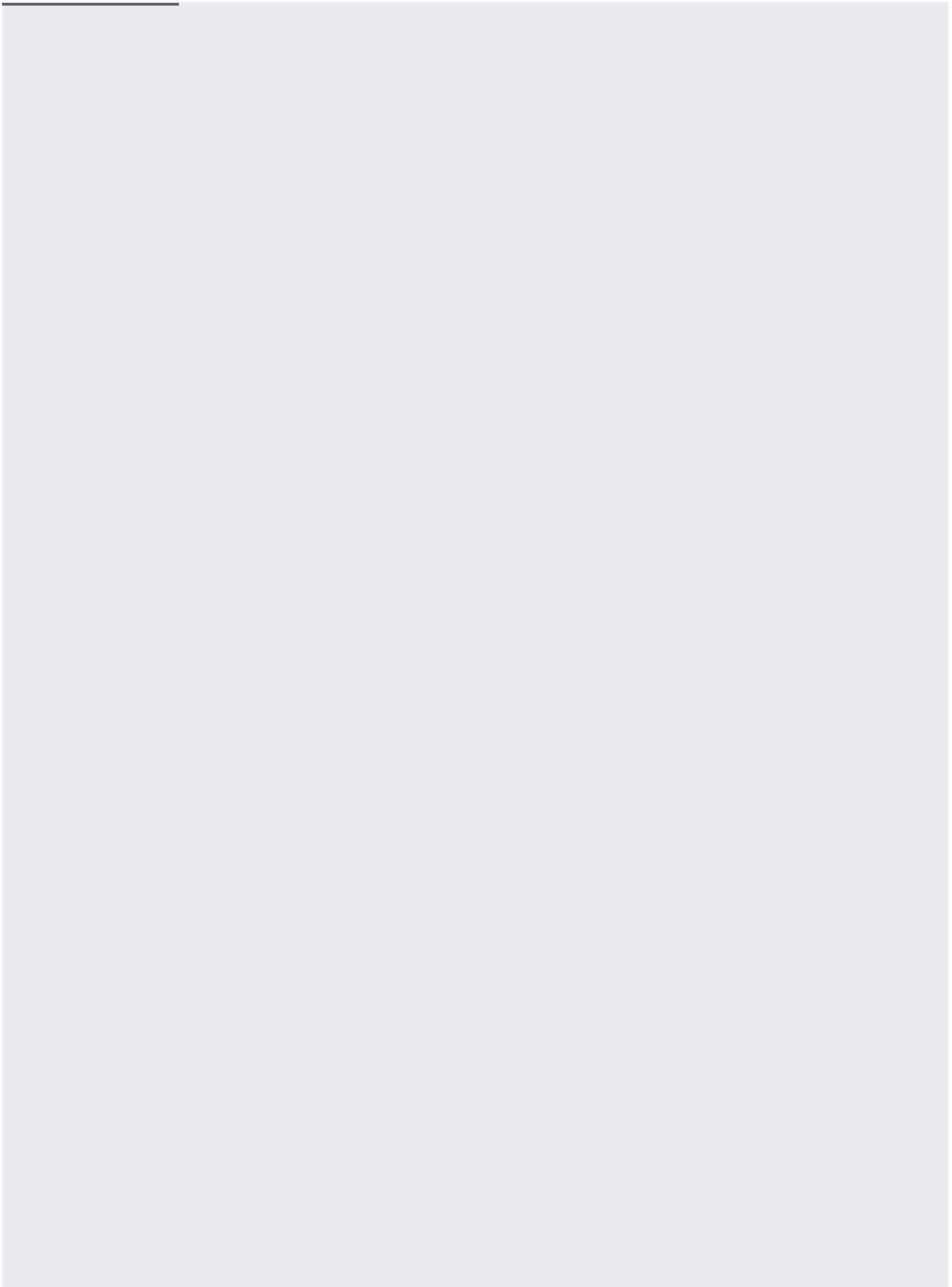




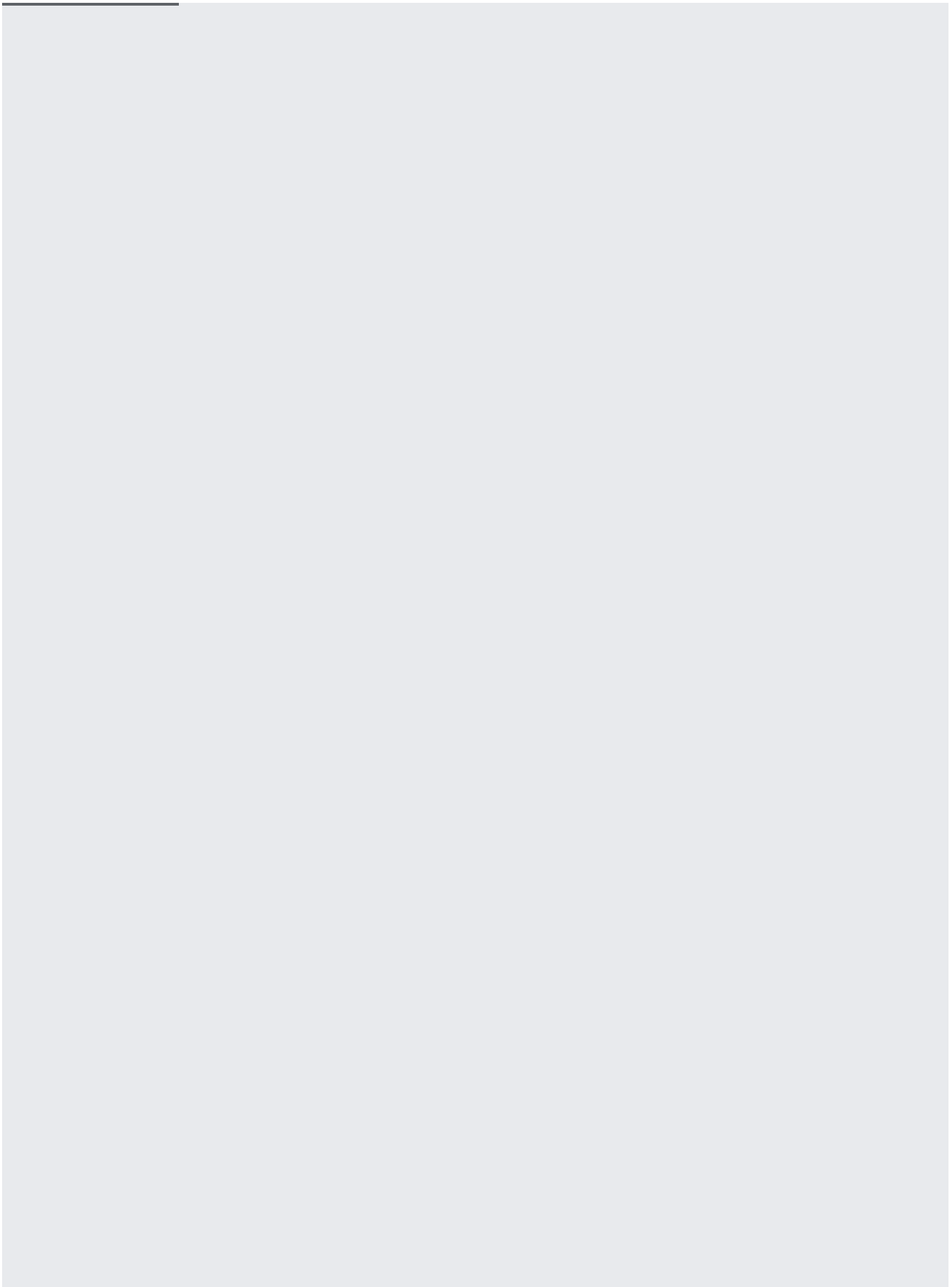


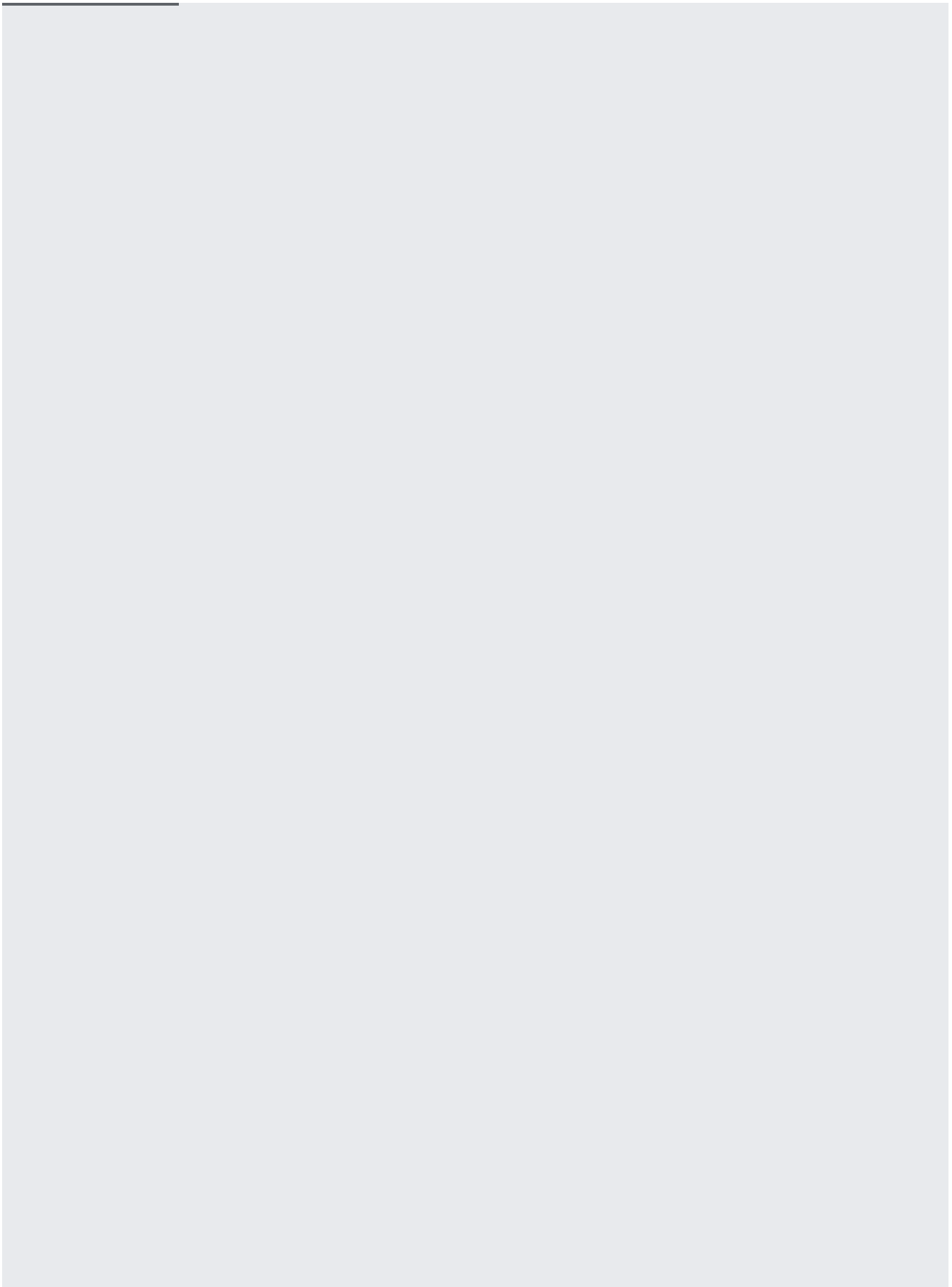


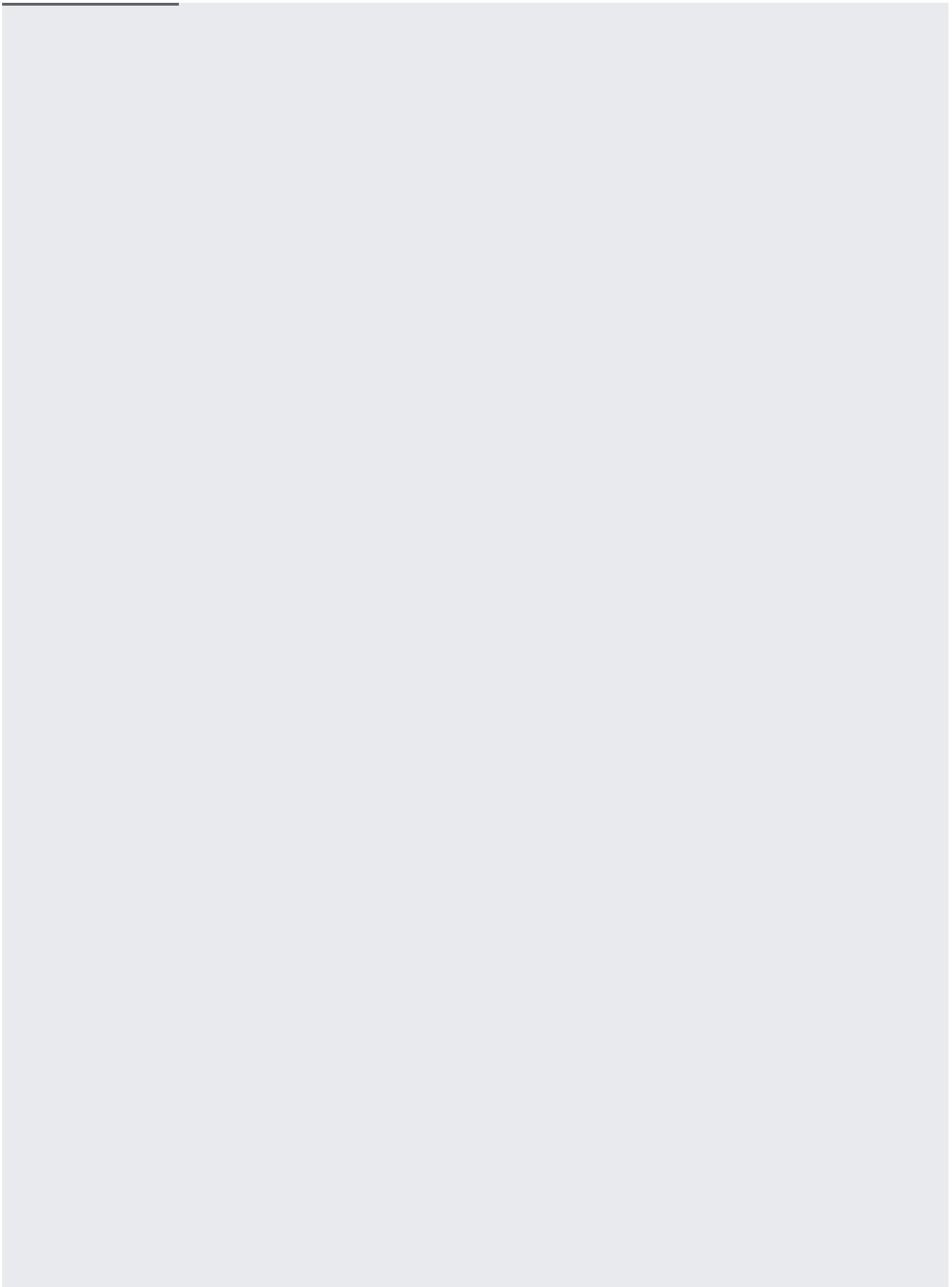


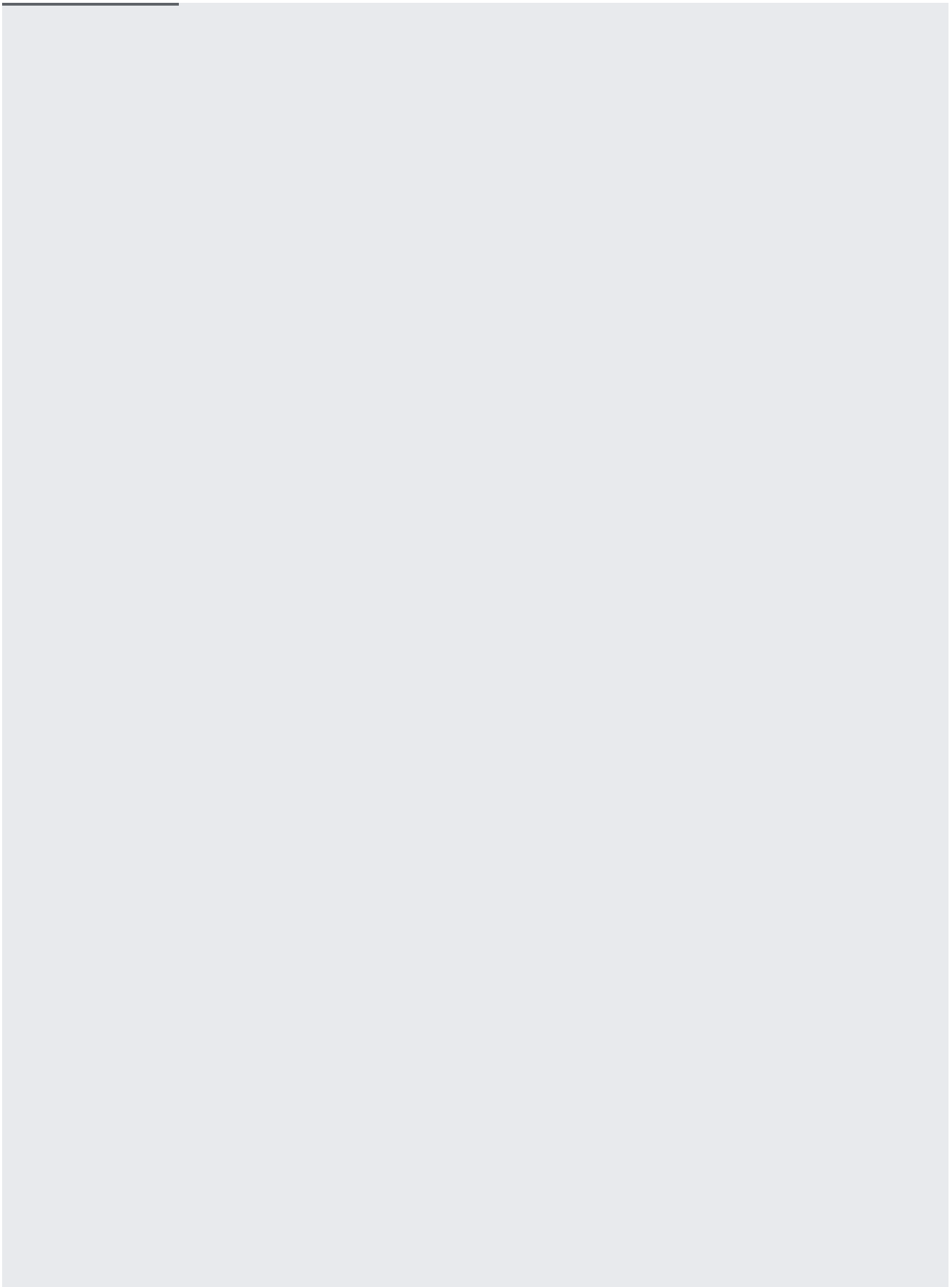


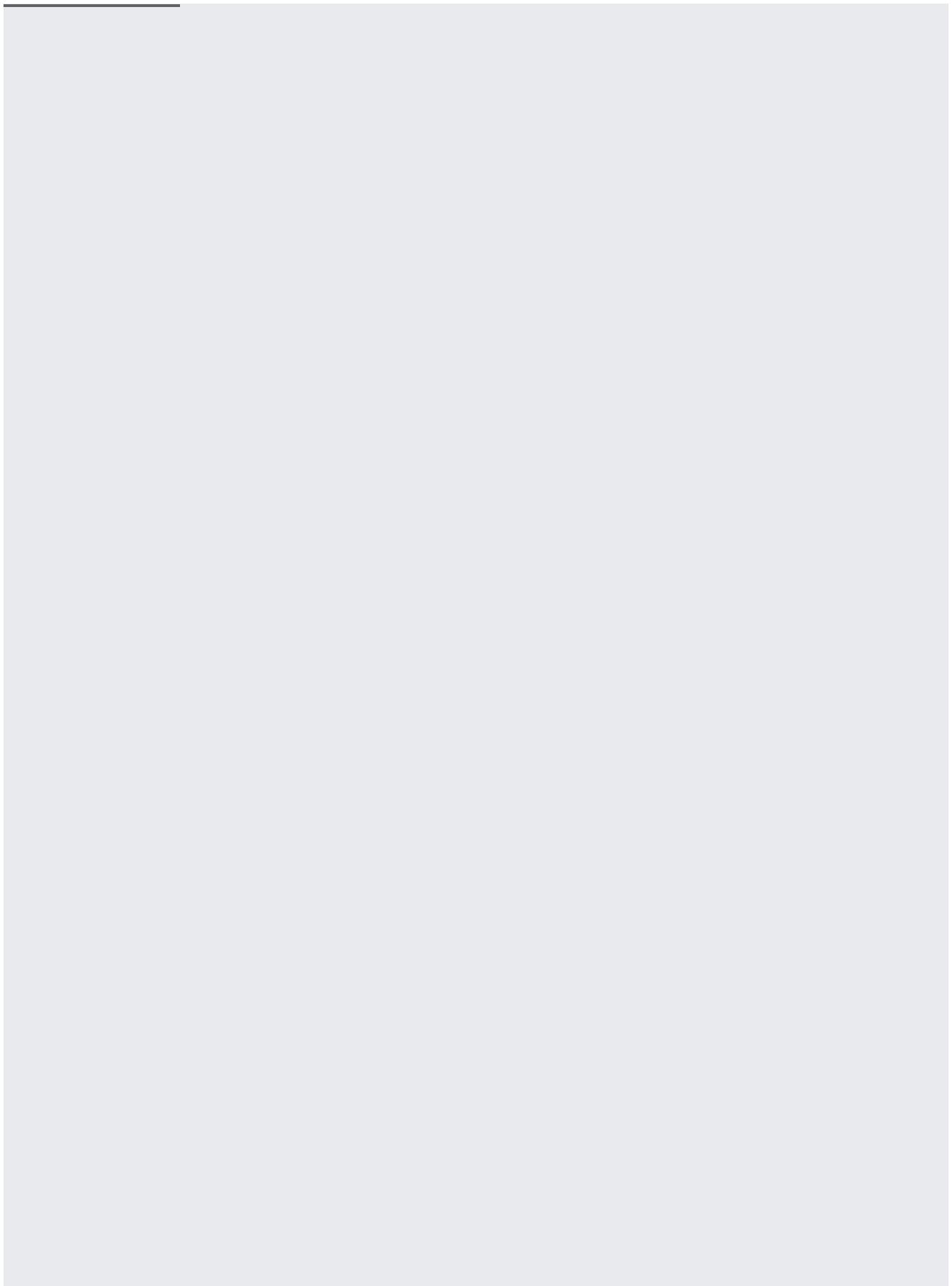
To view what, if any, retention policy is set on a bucket and whether that retention policy is locked:

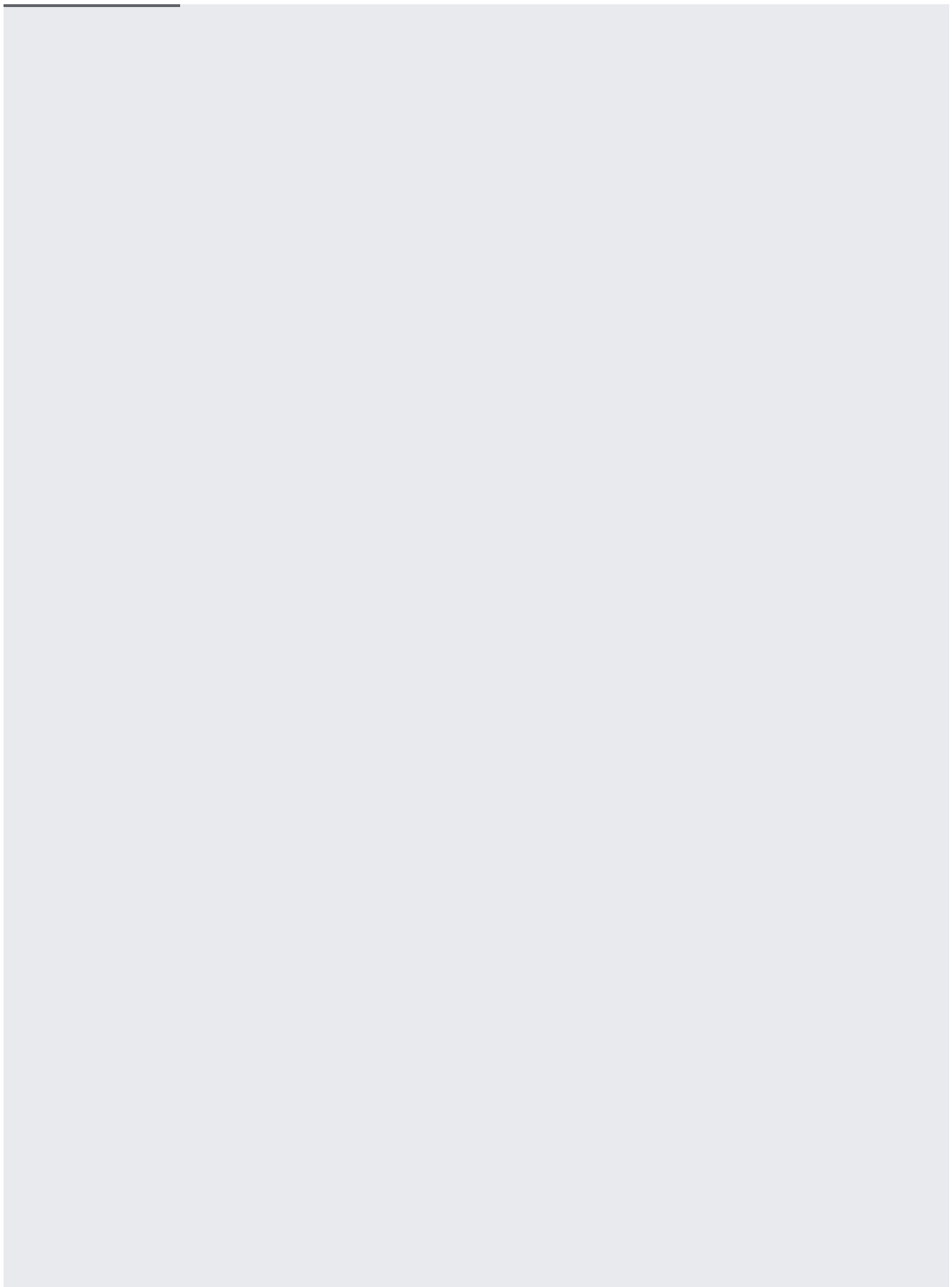












- [Learn more about retention policies](/storage/docs/bucket-lock/) (/storage/docs/bucket-lock).
- [Learn how to use object holds](/storage/docs/holding-objects/) (/storage/docs/holding-objects).
- [Learn about Object Lifecycle Management](/storage/docs/lifecycle/) (/storage/docs/lifecycle), which can automatically delete files once they reach their retention period.