

New Australian accounting pronouncements

For 30 June 2022 year-end reports



New and changed requirements

This publication provides an overview of the accounting pronouncements issued *as of 30 June 2022*, covering those that:

- ▶ **Must** be applied for the first time for 30 June 2022 year-ends
- ▶ **May** be applied early for 30 June 2022 year-ends

Implementing new accounting standards often impacts entities beyond their financial reporting function. This publication is intended to:

- ▶ Support better conversations about accounting changes with your stakeholders
- ▶ Help you respond in a timely manner to all accounting changes in your next financial report
- ▶ Keep you focused on future changes in financial reporting and their impact on your implementation efforts

Accounting change disclosures

Financial reports are required to:

- ▶ Present the impact of the initial application of new accounting standards applied
- ▶ Disclose the possible impact of the initial application of forthcoming accounting standards not yet applied, or otherwise indicate the reason for not doing so

However, Tier 2 entities, being those applying simplified disclosures, are not required to disclose the possible impact of accounting pronouncements issued but not yet effective.

Remain alert to further changes

This publication is updated as of 30 June 2022. Any pronouncements issued after this date (up until the date of authorisation of your financial report) must also be considered. Refer to the EY [In Balance](#) publication to stay informed of further changes.

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Financial instruments

AASB 2020-8 Amendments to AASs - Interest Rate Benchmark Reform - Phase 2

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021

The second phase of the project¹ addressing the financial reporting effects of Interbank offered rates (IBOR) reform has been completed. This phase focuses on issues that might affect financial reporting upon replacement of existing interest rate benchmarks, and amends the requirements in AASB 9 *Financial Instruments*, AASB 139 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*, AASB 7 *Financial Instruments: Disclosures*, AASB 4 *Insurance Contracts* and AASB 16 *Leases*.

The objective of the amendments is to minimise the financial reporting consequences of a change in benchmark interest rates that Australian Accounting Standards may otherwise require, such as the derecognition or remeasurement of financial instruments, and the discontinuation of hedge accounting.

Provided that the contractual interest rate remains substantially similar before and after the replacement, the amendments:

- ▶ Require changes to future cash flows that are directly required by the IBOR reform to be treated as if they were changes to a floating interest rate. Applying this expedient would not affect the carrying amount of the financial instrument. It also relieves entities of the need to assess whether modification or derecognition accounting applies under AASB 9 and AASB 139.
- ▶ Require changes to lease payments that are directly caused by the IBOR reform to be accounted for as a remeasurement of the

lease liability using a revised discount rate - being the original discount rate adjusted only for changes caused by the IBOR reform. A corresponding adjustment to the right-of-use-asset follows. This expedient exempts entities from remeasuring the lease liability using a newly determined discount rate otherwise required for lease modifications.

For IBOR reform, entities could alter hedge designation and documentation without discontinuing hedge accounting, provided that the hedge continues to meet other hedge accounting criteria. Permitted changes include redefining the hedged risk and redefining the description of the hedging instruments and/or the hedged items.

Insurers who are still applying AASB 139 would also be subject to the same mandatory reliefs.

Entities are required to provide disclosures that help readers understand the effect of the IBOR reform on the financial statements and risk management strategies, including the progress in completing the transition to alternative benchmark rates and how such transition is being managed.

These amendments apply retrospectively. However, restatement of prior periods is not required and only permitted if such restatement is possible without the use of hindsight. Earlier application of the amendments is permitted.

Resources

[Applying IFRS: IBOR Reform \(Updated May 2021\)](#)

[IFRS Developments Issue 174: IASB completes its IBOR reform programme \(September 2020\)](#)

¹ The first phase of the IBOR reform project dealt with urgent issues affecting financial reporting before the replacement of existing interest

rate benchmarks and was effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2020.

Financial instruments

AASB 2020-3 Amendment to AASB 9 - Fees in the '10 per cent' Test for Derecognition of Financial Liabilities (Part of Annual Improvements 2018-2020 Cycle)

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022

Under AASB 9, an existing financial liability that has been modified or exchanged is considered extinguished when the contractual terms of the new liability are substantially different, measured by the '10 per cent' test. That is, when the present value of the cash flows under the new terms, including any fees paid or received, is at least 10 per cent different from the present value of the remaining cash flows of the original financial liability.

The amendment to AASB 9 clarifies that fees included in the 10 per cent test are limited to fees paid or received between the borrower and the lender, including amounts paid or received by either on the other's behalf. When assessing the significance of any difference between the new and old contractual terms, only the changes in contractual cash flows between the lender and borrower are relevant. Consequently, fees incurred on the modification or exchange of a financial liability paid to third parties are excluded from the 10 per cent test.

For example, valuation and legal fees paid by the borrower to third-party consultants, will not be included in the 10 per cent test. However, if the modification is not determined to be an extinguishment, such costs would be capitalised and subsequently amortised with a revision to the effective interest rate.

These amendments are applied prospectively. Earlier application is permitted.

Group accounts

AASB 2014-10 Amendments to AASs - Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025²

The amendments to AASB 10 *Consolidated Financial Statements* and AASB 128 *Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures* clarify that a full gain or loss is recognised when a transfer to an associate or joint venture involves a business as defined in AASB 3 *Business Combinations*. Any gain or loss resulting from the sale or contribution of assets that does not constitute a business, however, is recognised only to the extent of unrelated investors' interests in the associate or joint venture.

These amendments are applied prospectively. Earlier application is permitted.

² AASB 2021-7 *Amendments to AASs - Effective Date of Amendments to AASB 10 and AASB 128 and Editorial Corrections* deferred the

effective date of AASB 2014-10 to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025.

Income taxes

AASB 2021-5 Amendments to AASs - Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023

AASB 112 *Income Taxes* requires entities to account for income tax consequences when economic transactions take place, rather than when income tax payments or recoveries are made. Accounting for such tax consequences, means entities need to consider the differences between tax rules and accounting standards. These differences could either be:

- ▶ Permanent - e.g., when tax rules do not allow a certain expense to **ever** be deducted

Or

- ▶ Temporary - e.g., when tax rules treat an item of income as taxable in **a period later than** when included in the accounting profit

Deferred taxes representing amounts of income tax payable or recoverable in the future must be recognised on temporary differences unless specifically prohibited by AASB 112. One of these circumstances, known as the initial recognition exception, applies when a transaction affects neither accounting profit nor taxable profit, and is not a business combination. Views differ about applying this exception to transactions that, on initial recognition, create both an asset and liability (and could give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary differences) such as:

- ▶ Recognising a right-of-use asset and a lease liability when commencing a lease
- ▶ Recognising decommissioning, restoration and similar liabilities with corresponding amounts included in the cost of the related asset

Some entities have previously recognised deferred tax consequences for these types of transactions, having concluded that they did not qualify for the initial recognition exception. The amendments to AASB 112 clarify that the exception would not normally apply. That is, the scope of this exception has been narrowed such that it no longer applies to transactions that, on initial recognition, give rise to equal amounts of taxable and deductible temporary differences.

The amendments apply from the beginning of the earliest comparative period presented to:

- ▶ All transactions occurring on or after that date
- ▶ Deferred tax balances, arising from leases and decommissioning, restoration and similar liabilities, existing at that date

The cumulative effect of initial application is recognised as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings or other component of equity, as appropriate.

Earlier application of the amendments is permitted.

Resource

[IFRS Developments Issue 191: IASB clarifies deferred tax accounting for leases and decommissioning obligations \(May 2021\)](#)

Insurance contracts

AASB 17 Insurance Contracts

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023³

AASB 17 replaces AASB 4, AASB 1023 *General Insurance Contracts* and AASB 1038 *Life Insurance Contracts* for for-profit entities. AASB 17 applies to all types of insurance contracts (i.e., life, non-life, direct insurance and reinsurance), regardless of the type of entity that issues them, as well as to certain guarantees and financial instruments with discretionary participation features.

In contrast to the requirements in AASB 4, which are largely based on grandfathering previous local accounting policies, AASB 17 provides a comprehensive accounting model for insurance contracts. The core of AASB 17 is the general model, supplemented by:

- ▶ A specific adaptation for contracts with direct participation features (the variable fee approach)
- ▶ A simplified approach (the premium allocation approach) mainly for short-duration contracts

The main features of the new accounting model for insurance contracts are as follows:

- ▶ The measurement of the present value of future cash flows, incorporating an explicit risk adjustment, remeasured every reporting period (the fulfilment cash flows)
- ▶ The concept of a Contractual Service Margin (CSM), representing the unearned profit on the insurance contracts to be recognised in profit or loss over the service period

³ AASB 2020-5 Amendments to AASs – Insurance Contracts (see next page) deferred the effective date of AASB 17 by two years to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023.

⁴ However, the AASB has issued ED 319 *Insurance Contracts in the Public Sector* which proposes to defer the effective date of AASB 17 for public sector entities to 1 July 2025. It also proposes several

- ▶ Certain changes in the expected present value of future cash flows are adjusted against the CSM and thereby recognised in profit or loss over the remaining service period
- ▶ The effect of changes in discount rates are reported in either profit or loss or other comprehensive income, determined by an accounting policy choice
- ▶ The presentation of insurance revenue and insurance service expenses in the statement of comprehensive income based on the concept of services provided during the period
- ▶ Amounts that are paid to a policyholder in all circumstances, regardless of whether an insured event happens (non-distinct investment components) are not presented in the income statement, but are recognised directly on the balance sheet

Entities are required to adopt AASB 17 using the full retrospective approach, however, if this is impracticable for a group of insurance contracts, either the modified retrospective approach or fair value approach may be used.

Earlier application is permitted, provided that the entity also applies AASB 9 on or before the date it first applies AASB 17.

AASB 17 does not apply to superannuation entities applying AASB 1056 *Superannuation Entities* and not-for-profit (NFP) public sector entities.⁴

Resources

[Applying IFRS 17: A closer look at the new Insurance Contracts Standard \(June 2021\)](#)

[Insurance Accounting Alert \(February 2022\)](#)

modifications to AASB 17 for public-sector entities in areas such as sub-grouping of insurance contracts, initial recognition, coverage period, scoping and the cash flows within the contract boundary. In addition to ED 319, the AASB issued a Fatal-Flaw Review Draft version of a Standard proposing consequential amendments to various AASB pronouncements for public sector entities.

Insurance contracts

AASB 2020-5 Amendments to AASs - Insurance Contracts

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2021

To aid implementation of the new insurance standard, the following key amendments were introduced:

- ▶ Deferring the effective date of AASB 17 for insurers by two years to annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023
 - ▶ AASB 4 was likewise amended to extend the expiry date of the temporary exemption from applying AASB 9 to annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023. This extension allows for continuing use of AASB 139 alongside AASB 4, AASB 1023 and AASB 1038 until AASB 17 becomes effective
 - ▶ Excluding from the scope of AASB 17 certain credit card contracts that provide insurance coverage for purchases made using the credit card
 - ▶ Providing an election to apply either AASB 17 or AASB 9 to contracts such as loans that include an agreement by the lender to compensate the borrower - by waiving some or all the payments due from the borrower - if a specified uncertain event occurs (for example, if the borrower dies)
 - ▶ Requiring insurance acquisition cash flows (such as commissions paid to brokers) to be allocated to related expected contract renewals, recognising those cash flows as an asset until contract renewal takes place
 - ▶ Requiring the expected profit on insurance contracts to be recognised in a pattern acknowledging both insurance coverage and any included investment-return or investment-related services
- ▶ Allowing the use of the risk mitigation accounting option when reinsurance contracts or non-derivative financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss, are used to mitigate the effects of the time value of money and other financial risks
 - ▶ Reducing a potential accounting mismatch by requiring the holder of a reinsurance contract to recognise a gain on that contract when it recognises a loss on initial recognition of an onerous group of insurance contracts covered by the reinsurance contract, or on the addition of further onerous contracts to that group
 - ▶ Simplifying the presentation of insurance and reinsurance contract assets and liabilities in the statement of financial position using broader portfolios of insurance contracts rather than narrower groups of insurance contracts
 - ▶ Introducing additional transition relief mechanisms

Resource

[*Insurance Accounting Alert \(June 2020\)*](#)

Insurance contracts

AASB 2022-1 Amendments to AASs - Initial Application of AASB 17 and AASB 9 - Comparative Information

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023

When insurers apply AASB 17 and AASB 9 for the first time in 2023, AASB 17 requires restatement of comparatives. However, under AASB 9, insurers may restate the comparatives only when hindsight is not required but cannot restate for financial assets derecognised before the application date of AASB 9. The accounting mismatch caused by financial assets derecognised during the comparative period is potentially significant and could make financial statements more difficult to understand.

The AASB amended AASB 17 to add a transition option "classification overlay". The overlay addresses the above accounting mismatches between financial assets and insurance contract liabilities in the comparative information presented on initial application of AASB 17.

If an entity elects to apply the classification overlay, it can only do so for comparative periods to which it applies AASB 17 (i.e., from transition date to the date of initial application of AASB 17). An entity that applies the classification overlay to a financial asset should:

- ▶ Use reasonable and supportable information available at the transition date to determine how the entity expects a financial asset would be classified and measured on initial application of AASB 9 (for example, using preliminary assessments performed to prepare for initial application of AASB 9)
- ▶ Present comparative information as if the classification and measurement requirements of AASB 9 had been applied to that financial asset

Resource

[Insurance Accounting Alert \(December 2021\)](#)

Leases

AASB 2021-3 Amendments to AASs – COVID-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2021

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, many lessors have granted rent concessions to lessees that impact lease payments.⁵

From the lessee's perspective, a change in lease payments that was contemplated in the original terms and conditions of the lease would not be accounted for as a lease modification. For example, it might be treated as a variable lease payment, with the effect of the rent concession recognised in profit or loss. In contrast, accounting for a lease modification generally requires a lessee to remeasure the lease liability by discounting the revised lease payments using a new discount rate.

Concerns were raised that assessing whether COVID-19 rent concessions are lease modifications could be challenging. Consequently, AASB 16 was amended⁶ in 2020, allowing lessees to not account for rent concessions as lease modifications, provided certain conditions are met.

In light of many other challenges lessees faced during the COVID-19 pandemic, AASB 16 was further amended to extend the coverage of this practical expedient from 30 June 2021 to 30 June 2022. Accordingly, if specified conditions are met, this expedient can be applied to rent concessions that reduce only lease payments originally due on or before 30 June 2022.

⁵ Rent concessions granted by a lessor can take many forms, including any combination of: a rent payment holiday, a reduction in lease payments for a period of time, a deferral of payments to a later date or other arrangements providing rent relief. A concession might also include a change to the lease term.

The specified conditions are:

- ▶ The change in lease payments results in revised consideration that is substantially the same as, or less than, the consideration immediately preceding the change
- ▶ There is no substantive change to other terms and conditions of the lease

A lessee that has **previously** established an accounting policy that applied the 2020 practical expedient would be required to apply the extended scope of the practical expedient to eligible contracts with similar characteristics and in similar circumstances.

A lessee that did not have eligible lease concessions previously can still decide whether to apply the practical expedient for the first time.

The amendment to AASB 16 is applied retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initial application recognised as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings or other component of equity, as appropriate, at the beginning of the annual reporting period in which the lessee first applies the amendment. Earlier application of the amendment is permitted.

Resources

[*IFRS Developments Issue 189: IASB extends relief for COVID-19 related rent concessions \(April 2021\)*](#)

[*Applying IFRS: Accounting for COVID-19 related rent concessions \(updated April 2021\)*](#)

[*IFRS Developments Issue 170: IASB amends IFRS 16 Leases for COVID-19 related rent concessions \(May 2020\)*](#)

⁶ AASB 2020-4 Amendments to AASs – COVID-19-Related Rent Concessions (effective from 1 June 2020).

Simplified Disclosures

AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements – Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities⁷

AASB 2020-2 Amendments to AASs – Removal of Special Purpose Financial Statements for Certain For-Profit Private Sector Entities

AASB 2021-1 Amendments to AASs – Transition to Tier 2: Simplified Disclosures for Not-for-Profit Entities

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2021

To reduce the cost of preparing general purpose financial statements (GPFS) while maintaining their usefulness, certain entities⁸ were permitted to apply reduced disclosure requirements (RDR). Those requirements were identified in each applicable Australian Accounting Standard.

The AASB developed AASB 1060, a new simplified disclosure standard based on *IFRS for Small and Medium-sized Entities*, to replace the RDR. These simplified disclosure requirements are now collated in a single disclosure standard.

Furthermore, changes were introduced such that the concept of special purpose financial statements has been removed for certain for-profit entities. Consequently, such entities previously not required to prepare GPFS will be required to do so. AASB 2020-2 makes consequential amendments to existing Australian Accounting Standards to emphasise this new requirement for the preparation of GPFS.

⁷ As amended by AASB 2020-7 *Amendments to AASs – COVID-19-Related Rent Concessions: Tier 2 Disclosures*, AASB 2021-3 and AASB 2020-9 *Amendments to AASs – Tier 2 Disclosures: Interest Rate Benchmark Reform (Phase 2) and Other Amendments*.

⁸ Under AASB 1053 *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards*, the RDR applied to the following entities:

Resources

[*For-profit entities moving from SPFS to GPFS \(April 2021\)*](#)

[*Quality Holdings \(Australian SDS\) Pty Ltd - illustrative financial statements for simplified disclosures \(for 30 June 2022\)*](#)

[*The time has come - Changes to Australian financial reporting \(April 2020\)*](#)

- (a) for-profit private sector entities that do not have public accountability;
- (b) not-for-profit private sector entities; and
- (c) public sector entities, other than the Australian Government and State, Territory and Local Governments.

First-time adoption of AAS

AASB 2022-2 Amendments to AASs - Extending Transition Relief under AASB 1

Effective for annual reporting periods ending on or after 30 June 2022

To assist first-time GPFS preparers, the AASB amended AASB 1 *First-time Adoption of Australian Accounting Standards* and AASB 1053 *Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards* to extend specific transition relief mechanisms:

- ▶ AASB 1 includes an option for subsidiaries transitioning to GPFS for the first time, to use carrying amounts included within the parent's consolidated financial statements⁹ prepared under Australian Accounting Standards. The amendments extend this option to situations where the parent prepared its financial statements under IFRS.

In addition, when a parent adopts GPFS later than its subsidiary, it must incorporate the subsidiary's results and financial position using the same carrying amount as in the subsidiaries' financial statements¹⁰ prepared under Australian Accounting Standards. This exemption has been extended to subsidiaries' financial statements prepared under IFRS.

These rules are equally applicable to amounts recognised for associates and joint ventures.

- ▶ AASB 1053 allows entities, that previously prepared unconsolidated special purpose financial statements, to apply the transition relief in AASB 1 when preparing consolidated GPFS (Tier 2) for the first time.¹¹

The amendments clarify that the AASB 1 transition relief also applies to for-profit private sector entities, that previously prepared unconsolidated Tier 2 RDR financial statements, when preparing consolidated Tier 2 SDS financial statements for the first time.

⁹ Based on the parent's date of transition to Australian Accounting Standards, if no adjustments were made for consolidation procedures and for the effects of the business combination in which the parent acquired the subsidiary.

¹⁰ After adjusting for consolidation and equity accounting adjustments and for the effects of the business combination in which the entity

acquired the subsidiary.

¹¹ This relief is available notwithstanding the financial statements already complying with all the recognition and measurement requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.

First time adoption of AAS

AASB 2020-3 Amendment to AASB 1 - Subsidiary as a First-time Adopter (Part of Annual Improvements 2018-2020 Cycle)

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022

Under AASB 121 *The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates*, an entity is required to determine its own functional currency, being the currency of the primary economic environment in which it operates. Where a group contains individual entities with different functional currencies, the group's consolidated financial statements are presented in a common currency through a translation process prescribed by AASB 121. Exchange differences arising from translating the results and financial position of the individual entities or foreign operations¹², commonly known as 'cumulative translation differences', are accumulated in a separate component of equity.

A subsidiary that adopts Australian Accounting Standards later than its parent is required to measure cumulative translation differences at its date of transition to Australian Accounting Standards either at zero or on a retrospective basis under AASB 1. Consequently, the subsidiary might have been required to keep two parallel sets of accounting records for cumulative translation differences based on different dates of transition to Australian Accounting Standards.

Acknowledging that some entities find this requirement burdensome, the AASB simplified the application of AASB 1, permitting a subsidiary to measure cumulative translation differences for all foreign operations at the carrying amount that would be included in the parent's consolidated financial statements, based on the parent's date

of transition to Australian Accounting Standards or IFRS¹³, excluding the impact of any adjustments made for consolidation procedures and for the business combination in which the parent acquired the subsidiary.

This exemption is also available to an associate or joint venture adopting Australian Accounting Standards later than its investor.

Earlier application is permitted.

¹² A foreign operation is an entity that is a subsidiary, associate, joint arrangement or branch of a reporting entity, the activities of which are based or conducted in a country or currency other than those of the reporting entity.

¹³ As amended by AASB 2022-2.

Accounting policies and estimates

AASB 2021-2¹⁴ Amendments to AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 134 Interim Financial Reporting and AASB Practice Statement 2 Making Materiality Judgements¹⁵ – Disclosure of Accounting Policies

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023

The amendments to AASB 101 *Presentation of Financial Statements* require disclosure of **material**¹⁶ accounting policy information, instead of **significant** accounting policies. Unlike 'material', 'significant' was not defined in Australian Accounting Standards. Leveraging the existing definition of material with additional guidance is expected to help preparers make more effective accounting policy disclosures. The guidance illustrates circumstances where an entity is likely to consider accounting policy information to be material. Entity-specific accounting policy information is emphasised as being more useful than generic information or summaries of the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards.¹⁷

The amendments to AASB Practice Statement 2 supplement the amendments to AASB 101 by illustrating how the four-step materiality process can identify material accounting policy information.

Earlier application of the amendments is permitted.

¹⁴ Refer to the [Catalogue](#) for the title and topics covered by this standard.

¹⁵ A Practice Statement is a non-mandatory guidance developed by the AASB.

¹⁶ Information is material if omitting, misstating or obscuring it could reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of

Resource

[IFRS Developments Issue 187: The Disclosure Initiative - IASB amends the accounting policy requirements \(February 2021\)](#)

AASB 2021-6 Amendments to AASs - Disclosure of Accounting Policies: Tier 2 and Other Australian Accounting Standards

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023

To be consistent with the amendments made by AASB 2021-2 to accounting policy disclosures, the AASB amended specific Australian Accounting Standards to improve the usefulness of accounting policy disclosures:

- ▶ AASB1049 *Whole of Government and General Government Sector Financial Reporting* and AASB 1054 *Australian Additional Disclosures* were amended to refer to material accounting policy information rather than significant accounting policies
- ▶ AASB 1060 was similarly amended, highlighting that information about the measurement bases for financial instruments is expected to be material

GPFS make on the basis of those financial statements, which provide financial information about a specific reporting entity.

¹⁷ AASB 7 was amended to highlight that information about the measurement basis for financial instruments is expected to be material accounting policy information. AASB 134 *Interim Financial Reporting* was updated to state that a complete set of financial statements as defined by AASB 101 include material accounting policy information.

Accounting policies and estimates

AASB 2021-2 Amendments to AASB 108 - Definition of Accounting Estimates

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023

An accounting policy may require items in the financial statements to be measured using information that is either directly observable, or estimated. Accounting estimates use inputs and measurement techniques that require judgements and assumptions based on the latest available, reliable information.

The amendments to AASB 108 clarify the definition of an accounting estimate, making it easier to differentiate it from an accounting policy. The distinction is necessary as their treatment and disclosure requirements are different. Critically, a change in an accounting estimate is applied prospectively whereas a change in an accounting policy is generally applied retrospectively¹⁸.

The new definition provides that 'Accounting estimates are monetary amounts in financial statements that are subject to measurement uncertainty.' The amendments explain that a change in an input or a measurement technique used to develop an accounting estimate is considered a change in an accounting estimate unless it is correcting a prior period error.

- ▶ For example, a change in a valuation technique used to measure the fair value of an investment property from market approach to income approach would be treated as a change in estimate rather than a change in accounting policy.

- ▶ In contrast, a change in an underlying measurement objective, such as changing the measurement basis of investment property from cost to fair value, would be treated as a change in accounting policy.

The amendments did not change the existing treatment for a situation where it is difficult to distinguish a change in an accounting policy from a change in an accounting estimate. In such a case, the change is accounted for as a change in an accounting estimate.

The amendments are applied prospectively. Earlier application is permitted.

Resource

[*IFRS Developments Issue 186: The IASB defines accounting estimates \(February 2021\)*](#)

¹⁸ A change in accounting policy is applied retrospectively except in the following circumstances:

- ▶ It is impracticable to do so.
- ▶ When an entity changes an accounting policy upon initial application of a new standard and there are specific transition

provisions that do not permit retrospective application of the new standard.

- ▶ When an entity changes its policy to revalue assets in accordance with AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment* or AASB 138 *Intangible Assets*.

Classification of liabilities

AASB 2020-1 Amendments to AASs – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023¹⁹

A liability is classified as current if the entity has no right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting period. The AASB recently issued amendments to AASB 101 to clarify the requirements for classifying liabilities as current or non-current, specifically:

- ▶ The amendments specify that the conditions which exist at the end of the reporting period are those which will be used to determine if a right to defer settlement of a liability exists.
- ▶ Management intention or expectation does not affect the classification of liabilities.
- ▶ In cases where an instrument with a conversion option is classified as a liability, the transfer of equity instruments would constitute settlement of the liability for the purpose of classifying it as current or non-current.

A consequence of the first amendment is that a liability would be classified as current if its repayment conditions failed their test at reporting date, despite those conditions only becoming effective in the 12 months after the end of the reporting period.

In response to this possible outcome, the AASB has proposed²⁰ further amendments:

- ▶ Specifying that conditions with which an entity must comply after the reporting period

do not affect the classification at the reporting date

- ▶ Adding presentation and disclosure requirements for non-current liabilities subject to conditions in the next 12 months
- ▶ Clarifying specific situations in which an entity does not have a right to defer settlement for at least 12 months after the reporting date
- ▶ Deferring the effective date of the original amendments to no earlier than 1 January 2024

These amendments are applied retrospectively. Earlier application is permitted.

Resources

[*IFRS Developments Issue 159: Amendments to classification of liabilities as current or non-current \(Updated July 2020\)*](#)

[*IFRS Developments Issue 198: classification of non-current liabilities with covenants-proposed amendments \(November 2021\)*](#)

¹⁹ AASB 2020-6 Amendments to AASs – Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current – Deferral of Effective Date pushed back the

effective date of AASB 2020-1 by one year to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2023.

²⁰ ED 316: Non-current Liabilities with Covenants.

Other topics

AASB 2020-3 Amendments to AASB 3 - Reference to the Conceptual Framework²¹

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022

When the revised Conceptual Framework was issued in 2018, its application to AASB 3 was excluded, requiring entities to apply the definitions of an asset and a liability (and supporting concepts) in the previous Framework.

This exemption responded to concerns that, in some cases, the revised definitions might change which assets and liabilities qualify for recognition in a business combination. As a consequence, post-acquisition accounting required by other standards could lead to immediate derecognition of such assets or liabilities, causing 'day 2 gains or losses' to arise, which do not depict economic reality.

The IASB has now assessed the impact of the revised definitions of assets and liabilities in the *Conceptual Framework* to business combinations, concluding that the problem of day 2 gains or losses would be significant only for liabilities that an acquirer accounts for after acquisition by applying IAS 37 *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets* or IFRIC 21 *Levies*.

The IASB updated IFRS 3 in May 2020 for the revised definitions of an asset and a liability and excluded the application of the *Conceptual Framework* to liabilities and contingent liabilities within the scope of IAS 37 or IFRIC 21.

The AASB released the equivalent amendments to AASB 3 in June 2020.

These amendments are applied prospectively. Earlier application is permitted.

²¹ *The Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting (Conceptual Framework)* describes the objective of, and the concepts for, general purpose financial reporting. The Conceptual Framework is not a

Resources

[IFRS Developments Issue 169: Amendments to IFRS 3 - Reference to the Conceptual Framework \(May 2020\)](#)

[Applying IFRS: IASB issues revised Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting \(April 2018\)](#)

AASB 2020-3 Amendment to AASB 141 - Taxation in Fair Value Measurements

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022

When using a present value technique to measure fair values of assets within the scope of AASB 141 *Agriculture*, taxation cash flows are not included. While AASB 13 *Fair Value Measurement* does not prescribe an entity to use a particular present value technique²² to measure fair value, it requires assumptions about cash flows and discount rates to be internally consistent. Depending on facts and circumstances, an entity applying a present value technique might measure fair value by discounting after-tax cash flows using an after-tax discount rate or pre-tax cash flows at a pre-tax discount rate.

The AASB has removed from AASB 141 the requirement to exclude taxation cash flows when measuring fair value. Such removal aligns with the principles of fair value measurement in AASB 13.

The amendment is applied prospectively. Earlier application is permitted.

standard, and none of the concepts override those in any standard or any requirements in a standard.

²² Present value techniques differ in how they adjust for risk and in the type of cash flows they use.

Other topics

AASB 2020-3 Amendments to AASB 116 - Property, Plant and Equipment: Proceeds before Intended Use

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022

Under AASB 116 *Property, Plant and Equipment*, net proceeds from selling items produced while constructing an item of property, plant and equipment²³ are deducted from the cost of the asset. The IASB's research indicated diversity in interpreting this requirement. As a result, AASB 116 was amended to prohibit an entity from deducting from the cost of an item of property, plant and equipment, the proceeds from selling items produced before that asset is available for use. An entity is also required to measure production costs of the sold items by applying AASB 102 *Inventories*. Proceeds from selling any such items, and the cost of those items, are recognised in profit or loss in accordance with applicable standards.

These amendments are applied retrospectively, but only to items of property, plant and equipment that are 'ready to use' on or after the beginning of the earliest period presented in the financial statements in which the entity first applies the amendments – 'ready to use' meaning the asset is in the location and condition necessary to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management. Earlier application is permitted.

Resource

[*IFRS Developments Issue 155: Revenue earned before an asset is ready for its intended use \(November 2019\)*](#)

²³ An item of property, plant and equipment under construction may be capable of producing saleable items (e.g., samples produced when testing whether the asset is functioning properly) while not yet capable

AASB 2020-3 Amendments to AASB 137 - Onerous Contracts - Cost of Fulfilling a Contract

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2022

AASB 137 *Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets* defines an onerous contract as a contract in which the unavoidable costs of meeting the obligations under the contract exceed the economic benefits expected to be received under it. Unavoidable cost is the lower of the cost of fulfilling the contract and any compensation or penalties arising from failure to fulfil it.

AASB 137 does not specify which costs to include in determining the cost of fulfilling a contract. Consequently, AASB 137 was amended to clarify that when assessing whether a contract is onerous, the cost of fulfilling the contract comprises all costs that relate directly to the contract, which includes both the:

- ▶ Incremental costs of fulfilling that contract (e.g., materials and labour)
- ▶ An allocation of other costs that relate directly to fulfilling contracts (e.g., depreciation of property, plant and equipment)

An entity shall apply these amendments to contracts for which it has not yet fulfilled all its obligations at the beginning of the annual reporting period in which it first applies the amendments (the date of initial application). Comparative information is not restated. Instead, the cumulative effect of initially applying the amendments is recognised as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings or other component of equity, as appropriate, at the date of initial application. Earlier application of the amendments is permitted.

of operating in the manner intended by management (i.e., before depreciation of the asset begins).

Other topics

AASB 2022-3 Amendments to AASs - Illustrative Examples for Not-for-Profit Entities accompanying AASB 15

Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 July 2022

AASB 2022-3 adds an illustrative example to AASB 15 on accounting for upfront fees received by NFP entities.

The basis of conclusions included within AASB 2022-3 also documents the AASB's decision to retain the temporary relief earlier provided to private sector NFP entities when measuring concessionary leases²⁴. As a result, private sector NFP entities can measure concessionary leases at cost on an ongoing basis. Although the relief is also still available to public sector NFP entities, any decision about its ongoing applicability has been deferred until further guidance on how to measure the fair value of concessionary leases is considered.

AASB 2022-4 Amendments to AASs - Disclosures in Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) of Certain For-Profit Private Sector Entities

Effective for annual reporting periods ending on or after 30 June 2022

Certain for-profit private sector entities remain eligible to prepare SPFS, these being entities required to prepare financial statements in accordance with AASs only by their constituting document or another document²⁵. AASB 2022-4 amends AASB 1054 and AASB 1057 to add additional disclosure requirements about the basis of preparation of such financial statements.

These new disclosures include:

- ▶ The basis of the decision to prepare SPFS
- ▶ Material accounting policies and any changes to those policies
- ▶ Whether or not subsidiaries, associates or joint ventures have been consolidated or equity accounted and the reasons for not doing so
- ▶ How any material accounting policy does not comply with recognition and measurement requirements of AASs
- ▶ Whether or not the financial statements comply overall with recognition and measurement requirements of AASs
- ▶ The reporting framework used, the type of entity and the type of financial statements²⁶

²⁴ AASB 16 paragraphs Aus25.1-Aus25.2 provide an accounting policy choice for NFP entities to initially measurement right-of-use assets arising under concessionary leases at cost or fair value.

²⁵ Being a document created before 1 July 2021 and not amended on or after that date.

²⁶ As required by AASB 1054.8-9

Interpretations and agenda decisions

The IFRS Interpretations committee (IFRIC) issued no recent interpretations. However, it issued several agenda decisions; whilst they do not add or change requirements in Australian Accounting Standards, entities are required to consider explanatory material in an applicable agenda decision when applying Australian Accounting Standards.

Entities need to consider the impact of each agenda decision, based on their circumstances, and possibly adopt a change in policy. Agenda decisions do not have commencement dates and so are effective when issued. However, entities are entitled to sufficient time²⁷ to assess impacts and make required changes. ASIC media releases and Q&As may also provide useful guidance on expectations about implementation timelines.

Below we summarise all IFRIC agenda decisions published during the period from 1 January 2021 to 30 June 2022.

Configuration or Customisation Costs in a Cloud Computing Arrangement - March 2021

The IFRIC discussed accounting for costs of configuring or customising a supplier's application software in a Software as a Service (SaaS) arrangement.²⁸

The committee noted that configuration and customisation costs cannot be capitalised when the customer does not control the software or when the configuration/customisation does not create an asset separate from the software. Such costs need to be expensed as and when incurred.

This agenda decision has an impact not only on costs in current and future periods but could also

impact previously incurred costs that should, or should not have been capitalised.

Resource

[Applying IFRS - Accounting for cloud computing costs \(July 2021\)](#)

Attributing Benefits to Periods of Service - May 2021

The IFRIC discussed how an entity attributes retirement benefits to periods of service for a defined benefit plan when the entitlement is subject to a minimum retirement age, and the benefit amount is capped by reference to a maximum period of service. Due to these constraints, services rendered before reaching a particular age do not affect the amounts of the benefits to be received on retirement.

Under IAS 19 *Employee Benefits*, benefits should be attributed to the periods of service commencing from the day when employee's services first lead to the benefit entitlement. This period should end when further service will not lead to a material further benefit.

Consequently, the Committee concluded that the entity attributes no retirement benefit for periods before entitlement and after retirement age.

Hedging Variability in Cash Flows due to Real Interest Rates - May 2021

The IFRIC discussed whether a hedge of the variability in cash flows arising from changes in a real interest rate could be accounted for as a cash flow hedge.

In this situation, an entity with a floating rate instrument enters an inflation swap²⁹. While not contractually specified, a nominal interest rate economically includes both a real interest rate and an inflation component.

²⁷ The IASB advised that "sufficient time" will depend on the particular facts and circumstances. Refer IFRS feature article: Agenda decisions - time is of the essence.

²⁸ Configuration involves the setting of various 'flags' or 'switches' within the software, or defining parameters, to set up the software's

code to function in a specified way. Customisation involves modifying the software to change or create more functionalities within the software.

²⁹ Which swaps the variable interest cash flows of the floating rate instrument for variable cash flows based on an inflation index.

An entity may designate an item in its entirety, or a component of an item, as a hedged item. A risk component may be designated if the risk component is separately identifiable and reliably measurable. However, the IFRIC observed that inflation risk cannot be considered as separately identifiable and reliably measurable unless it is contractually specified. To support its eligibility as a separate risk component, the real interest rate must represent an identifiable pricing element in setting the floating benchmark interest rate.

For the fact pattern discussed, the IFRIC concluded that there is no exposure to variability in cash flows that is attributable to changes in the real interest rate. As a result, the real interest rate does not meet the requirements in AASB 9 to be designated as an eligible hedged item.

Costs Necessary to Sell Inventories - June 2021

The IFRIC discussed what costs need to be included when estimating net realisable value of inventories.

In this discussion, the IFRIC noted that AASB 102 requirements do not permit an entity to limit costs necessary to sell inventories to only those that are incremental. There is a range of possibilities beyond the incremental cost approach: from direct costs at the point of sale (which might include, for example, a portion of the cost of internal sales staff or the cost of a special promotion campaign) to full costs (which might include costs such as depreciation or amortisation).

Therefore, an entity uses its judgment to determine which costs are necessary to complete the inventory and make the sale, considering specific facts and circumstances, including the nature of the inventory.

Resource

[*IFRS Developments issue 193 - Costs necessary to sell inventories \(July 2021\)*](#)

Preparation of Financial Statements when an Entity is No Longer a Going Concern - June 2021

The IFRIC discussed the accounting by an entity that is no longer a going concern. The IFRIC noted the following:

- ▶ When an entity is no longer a going concern, it cannot prepare financial statements (including those for prior periods that have not yet been authorised for issue) on a going concern basis.
- ▶ The IFRIC did not address whether such an entity restates comparative information, previously prepared on a going concern basis, to reflect the basis of accounting used for the current period's financial statements. No diversity in the application of IFRS Standards with respect to this issue was noted.

Non-refundable Value Added Tax on Lease Payments - October 2021

The IFRIC discussed lessee accounting for any non-refundable value added tax (VAT) charged on lease payments. The question is whether the lessee includes non-refundable VAT as part of the lease payments of a lease.

Outreach conducted by the IFRIC and comment letters on the tentative agenda decision provided limited evidence as to whether the issue is material or receiving diverse accounting treatment. For this reason, the IFRIC provided no guidance.

Accounting for Warrants that are Classified as Financial Liabilities on Initial Recognition - October 2021

The IFRIC discussed warrants that give the holder a right to buy a fixed number of the issuer's own equity instruments for an exercise price that will be fixed at a future date. Such warrants are initially classified by the issuer as a financial liability as the fixed-to fixed condition³⁰ is not met.

The question was whether the warrants should be reclassified as equity once the exercise price is fixed, as the fixed-for-fixed condition would at that stage be met.

The IFRIC noted that AASB 132 *Financial Instruments: Presentations* contains no general requirement for reclassifying financial liabilities or equity instruments when their contractual terms are unchanged.

However, the issue has been identified as a practice issue to be considered in the Financial Instruments with Characteristics of Equity (FICE) project.

Economic Benefits from Use of a Windfarm - December 2021

The IFRIC discussed whether an agreement between an electricity retailer and a windfarm generator contains a lease under IFRS 16.

Both parties are registered participants in an electricity market and make purchases and sales via the electricity grid. The agreement:

- ▶ Swaps the spot price received by the windfarm for electricity supplied to the grid for a fixed price for a 20- year period
- ▶ Transfers to the retailer all the renewable energy credits earned by the windfarm

The agreement, however, conveys neither the right nor the obligation for the retailer to obtain any of the electricity the windfarm produces and

supplies to the grid. The agreement results in the retailer settling the difference between the fixed price and the spot price of electricity the windfarm supplies to the grid.

Therefore, the IFRIC noted that this agreement does not contain a lease.

Targeted longer-term refinancing operations (TLTROs) transactions - March 2022

The IFRIC discussed how to account for the third program of the TLTRO of the European Central Bank. The TLTROs link the amount that a participating bank can borrow, and the interest rate the bank pays on each tranche of borrowings, to the volume and amount of loans it makes to non-financial corporations and households.

The IFRIC discussed whether the TLTRO's should be accounted for by the borrowing bank applying IFRS 9 or IAS 20 *Accounting for Government Grants and Disclosure of Government Assistance*, given they may have below-market interest rates.

The IFRIC observed that:

- ▶ IFRS 9 is the starting point, while IAS 20 provides an adequate basis to assess whether the TLTRO's contain a portion that is treated as a government grant, such as a below-market interest rate.
- ▶ Determining whether an interest rate is a below market rate requires judgement based on the specific facts and circumstances.

The IFRIC further considered the impact of conditions creating uncertainty about future interest rates, impacting the estimation of effective interest rates and measurement of the financial liability. This issue was considered too broad for IFRIC, which recommended that it be considered as a part of the post-implementation review of IFRS 9.

³⁰ Derivative financial instruments settled only by the issuer exchanging a fixed amount of cash (or another financial assets) for a fixed number of own equity instruments are classified as equity.

Demand Deposits with Restrictions on Use arising from a Contract with a Third Party - April 2022

The IFRIC discussed whether a demand deposit which is subject to contractual restrictions on use is a part of cash and cash equivalents.

In this situation, terms and conditions of the demand deposit do not restrict the use of the funds. However, the entity has a contractual obligation with a third party to keep specified amounts in the deposit account and to use the funds only for specified purposes.

The IFRIC noted that third party restrictions on use do not change the nature of the deposit. Therefore, it concluded that this demand deposit forms a part of cash and cash equivalents. When relevant, the entity presents this as an additional line item within the cash and cash equivalents note. The deposit should be classified as a current asset, unless restrictions over its exchange or use to settle a liability apply for at least 12 months from the reporting date.

Principal versus Agent: Software Reseller-May 2022

The IFRIC discussed whether a reseller of software licences is operating as a principal or agent.

In the situation considered, the reseller provides pre-sale advice to customers, negotiates price and places orders on behalf of each customer.

Should the reseller order software licences that do not meet customer needs, the customer can reject the order. If this happens, the reseller bears the loss as it cannot return the licences or resell them to another customer.

The software manufacturer provides the software licence under an agreement between the manufacturer and the customer.

The IFRIC noted that pre-sale advice is not an implicit promise in the contract with the customer. Therefore, the software licence is the

only promised good and service in the reseller's contract with the customer.

The IFRIC noted that the reseller would be a principal if it controlled the software licences before transferring them to customers.

It also noted that assessing whether the reseller obtains control of the software before transferring it to customers requires consideration of all facts and circumstances, which include the terms and conditions of the contracts between the reseller and the customer, the reseller and the software manufacturer, and the software manufacturer and the customer.

It was concluded that IFRS accounting standards provide an adequate basis to determine whether the reseller was a principal; however, no conclusion was reached for the fact pattern discussed.

Catalogue of new accounting pronouncements issued as of 30 June 2022

New pronouncements ³¹ that must be applied for 30 June 2022 year-ends	Effective date ³²	Page
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AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities	1 July 2021	11
AASB 2020-2 Amendments to AASs - Removal of Special Purpose Financial Statements for Certain For-Profit Private Sector Entities	1 July 2021	11
AASB 2020-7 Amendments to AASs - COVID-19-Related Rent Concessions: Tier 2 Disclosures	1 July 2021	11
AASB 2020-9 Amendments to AASs - Tier 2 Disclosures: Interest Rate Benchmark Reform (Phase 2) and Other Amendments	1 July 2021	11
AASB 2021-1 Amendments to AASs - Transition to Tier 2: Simplified Disclosures for Not-for-Profit Entities	1 July 2021	11
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AASB 2022-4 Amendments to AASs - Disclosures in Special Purpose Financial Statements (SPFS) of Certain For-Profit Private Sector Entities	30 June 2022 ³⁴	19

³¹ For full access to Australian Accounting Standards please visit <https://www.aasb.gov.au/>.

³² Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after this date, unless separately noted.

³³ Effective for annual reporting periods ending on or after this date.

³⁴ Effective for annual reporting periods ending on or after this date.

Catalogue of new accounting pronouncements issued as of 30 June 2022

New pronouncements ³⁵ that may be applied for 30 June 2022 year-ends	Effective date ³⁶	Page
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▶ Amendments to AASB 116, <i>Property, Plant and Equipment: Proceeds before Intended Use</i>		18
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▶ Amendments to AASB 7, AASB 101, AASB 134 and AASB Practice Statement 2		14
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AASB 2021-5 Amendments to AASs - Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction	1 January 2023	6
AASB 2021-6 Amendments to AASs - Disclosure of Accounting Policies: Tier 2 and Other Australian Accounting Standards	1 January 2023	14
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³⁵ For full access to Australian Accounting Standards please visit <https://www.aasb.gov.au/>.

³⁶ Effective for annual reporting periods beginning on or after this date.

Catalogue of IFRIC agenda decisions

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