

Cover Memo

Project: Conceptual Framework: Not-

for-Profit Amendments

Meeting: M212

Topic: Consideration of stakeholder

feedback on ED 334 and commence project redeliberations

Agenda Item: 3.0

Date: 15 April 2025

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Project Priority: High

Decision-Making: High

Project Status: Project redeliberations

Objective of this agenda item

The objective of this agenda item is for the Board to consider the feedback received on ED 334

Limiting the Ability of Not-for-Profit Entities to Prepare Special Purpose Financial Statements¹ and decide whether to continue its Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project and begin redeliberations on ED 334 with a view to issuing a final accounting standard.

Attachments

- 2 Papers concerning ED 334 and the Board's Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project are:
 - (a) Agenda paper 3.1 Due process whether to proceed with finalising ED 334;
 - (b) Agenda paper 3.2 Collation of feedback on ED 334;
 - (c) Agenda paper 3.3 Written submissions on ED 334 (supplementary paper); and
 - (d) Agenda paper 3.4 ED 334 Online survey instrument responses (supplementary paper).

Additionally, Agenda Paper 4.6 (Board only supplementary paper) provides an update of other feedback relevant to ED 334 received from regulators and other bodies.

Agenda papers 3.2, 3.3 and 3.4 detail the feedback received on ED 334. Having regard to the feedback received, Agenda Paper 3.1 seeks the Board's decision whether to continue with its Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project and begin redeliberations on ED 334 with a view to issuing a final accounting standard.

Background to ED 334

- ED 334, issued in October 2024, exposed the Board's proposals to extend the application of the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting (Conceptual Framework) to more not-for-profit (NFP) private and public sector entities. The proposals would bring a majority of Australian entities under the aegis of the same conceptual framework document for guiding the development of accounting policies.
- In conjunction with the proposals to extend the application of the *Conceptual Framework*, ED 334 proposed superseding Statement of Accounting Concepts SAC 1 *Definition of the Reporting Entity* to avoid inconsistency in use of the term 'reporting entity' within Australian

¹ Link to ED 334 on the AASB website.

accounting pronouncements. With the reporting entity concept set out in SAC 1 ceasing to be valid for many NFP entities, ED 334 proposed making consequential amendments to AASB 1057 *Application of Australian Accounting Standards* to extend the applicability of Australian Accounting Standards to certain NFP private and public sector entities. These amendments were proposed as part of the Board's review of the Australian financial reporting framework and in furtherance of its Not-for-Profit Private Sector Financial Reporting Framework project objectives. However, as the projects overlap in this regard, and given the nature of the proposed amendments, the Board decided² to expose these proposals in ED 334 together with its other proposed amendments to the *Conceptual Framework*.³

The comment period on ED 334 closed on 28 February 2025. This agenda item commences the next phase of the Board's Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project (project redeliberations).

Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project history

For Board member reference, a brief timeline of the project and related developments is set out below:⁴

| Date | Update |
|----------------|--|
| December 2017 | The Board considered how to approach incorporating a revised IASB Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting into the Australian accounting framework. |
| May 2018 | AASB Consultation Paper ITC 39 Applying the IASB's Revised Conceptual Framework and Solving the Reporting Entity and Special Purpose Financial Statement Problems is issued. |
| September 2018 | The Board decided to address improvement of the NFP financial reporting framework, including adoption of the IASB's revised conceptual framework document for NFP entities, as a separate project. |
| May 2019 | The AASB Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting and AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards — References to the Conceptual Framework is issued, applicable to forprofit private sector entities that have public accountability and are required by legislation to comply with Australian Accounting Standards. Other for-profit entities may voluntarily elect to apply the pronouncements. |
| March 2020 | AASB 2020-2 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards – Removal of Special Purpose Financial Statements for Certain For-Profit Private Sector Entities is issued. The Standard extends the applicability of Australian Accounting Standards to a broader set of for-profit private sector entities, through amending the Conceptual Framework and Australian Accounting Standards. |
| June 2020 | The Board approved a project plan for a Conceptual Framework: Notfor-Profit Amendments project. |

² Board Minutes of the 13-14 September 2023 AASB meeting

This decision allowed the Board to keep ED 335 *General Purpose Financial Statements – Not-for-Profit Private Sector Tier 3 Entities* contained to its Not-for-Profit Private Sector Financial Reporting Framework project proposals for a new reporting Tier.

⁴ For more information, refer to the <u>Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project summary.</u>

| Date | Update |
|----------------------------------|---|
| September 2020 | The Board made decisions on NFP modifications to make to the Conceptual Framework. |
| April 2021 | The Board made decisions affecting the timing of a revised conceptual framework for NFP entities. |
| September 2022 | AASB Discussion Paper Development of Simplified Accounting Requirements (Tier 3 Not-for-Profit Private Sector Entities) is issued. The Discussion Paper sought feedback on certain aspects that potentially had implications for the Board's Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project. |
| May 2023 – September 2024 | The Board made decisions related to its proposals to extend the Conceptual Framework to be applicable to NFP entities and to extend the population of NFP entities required to prepare general purpose financial statements. |
| October 2024 | The Board issued ED 334 for comment by 28 February 2025. |
| November 2024 – February 2025 | Staff conducted outreach on ED 334 jointly with outreach on ED 335 General Purpose Financial Statements – Not-for-Profit Private Sector Tier 3 Entities. |
| March 2025 | The Board received an update of the preliminary feedback on ED 334. |
| May 2025 (this meeting) | The Board decides whether to continue its Conceptual Framework: Not-for-Profit Amendments project and begin redeliberations of its project proposals. |