



<b>Project:</b>	<b>AASB Agenda Consultation</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	AASB August 2025 (M214)11
<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Upcoming AASB Agenda Consultation</b>	<b>Agenda Item:</b>	8.0
		<b>Date:</b>	29 July 2025
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		<b>Decision-Making:</b>	High
		<b>Project Status:</b>	Planning

## Objective of this paper

- 1 The objective of this agenda item is for the Board to:
  - (a) give initial consideration to the upcoming AASB Agenda Consultation process; and
  - (b) decide on the next steps, including agreeing on the project plan and timeline.

## Key questions for Board consideration

- 2 The Board will be asked the following questions:
  - (a) Do Board members agree with staff recommendation to commence the AASB Agenda Consultation? (see Question 2(b))

If the Board agrees with the staff recommendation to commence the AASB Agenda Consultation, the following questions will also be asked:

- (b) Do Board members agree with staff recommendation on the scope of the AASB Agenda Consultation? (see Question 3(b))
- (c) Do Board members agree that the AASB Agenda Consultation should cover the 2027-2029 period? (see Question 4(b))
- (d) Does the Board agree with the staff recommendations for the project plan and timeline? (see Question 5(b))

## Background

- 3 According to paragraph 7.2.2 of the [AASB's Due Process Framework for Setting Standards](#) (Due Process Framework), a formal agenda consultation process is expected to be undertaken at least every five years.
- 4 The previous AASB Agenda Consultation commenced in October 2021 with the release of [ITC 46 AASB Agenda Consultation 2022-2026](#), which invited stakeholder input on the AASB's domestic Work Program for the 2022-2026 period. The consultation concluded in August 2022, followed by the publication of a [Feedback Statement](#) summarising the input received and outlining the Board's decisions on its Work Program. With the five-year mark approaching since the last AASB Agenda Consultation, it is now timely to consider commencing the next AASB Agenda Consultation.
- 5 It is important to note that the IFRS Foundation (i.e. IASB and ISSB) will also conduct an Agenda Consultation. However, the scope of the AASB Agenda Consultation differs from that of the IFRS Foundation because the AASB Agenda Consultation focuses specifically on domestic reporting issues.
- 6 To inform Board discussions, this paper:
  - (a) explains the purpose and timing of the AASB Agenda Consultation (paragraphs 7-13);
  - (b) sets out the suggested scope of matters that may be considered during the AASB Agenda Consultation (paragraphs 14-16);
  - (c) considers the period to be covered by the AASB Agenda Consultation (paragraphs 17-19); and
  - (d) outlines the suggested next steps, including the proposed project plan and timeline for the Board's consideration (paragraphs 20 and 21).

## Purpose of the AASB Agenda Consultation

- 7 The AASB Agenda Consultation is a periodic strategic review that seeks stakeholder input to help the Board determine how best to prioritise its domestic standard-setting and research activities over the next Work Program period. This information helps the Board fulfil its missions and strategic objectives, as it provides the Board with information about how to allocate its limited resources to address topics that are of the highest priority to stakeholders. As the current AASB Work Program is full and many projects are in the pipeline, stakeholder feedback will influence how the Board prioritises future activities.
- 8 A periodic domestic Agenda Consultation also complements the Board's regular engagement and consultation activities with stakeholders, during which the Board obtains timely feedback on challenges stakeholders are facing. The AASB Agenda Consultation enables the Board to:
  - (a) **Identify new or emerging domestic reporting issues** that stakeholders consider a priority for the AASB to address;
  - (b) **Reconsider the priority and timing of existing projects**, taking into account changes in stakeholder needs, regulatory developments, and resource availability;
  - (c) **Understand stakeholder concerns with the current Australian reporting framework**, including areas that may lack clarity, consistency, or decision-usefulness;

- (d) **Assess the importance, urgency, and feasibility of potential future projects**, including whether the AASB is best placed to address the issue and the likely benefits of doing so; and
- (e) After considering stakeholder feedback and all other relevant information, **develop a well-balanced and focused Work Program**.

This is not an exhaustive list, but it reflects the key ways the AASB Agenda Consultation helps the Board determine where to focus its efforts over the next Work Program period.

- 9 The AASB Agenda Consultation process will focus on obtaining feedback from stakeholders on matters that are relevant to:
  - (a) public sector entities;
  - (b) not-for-profit entities; and
  - (c) Australian-specific issues relating to for-profit entities.
- 10 As the AASB Agenda Consultation focuses specifically on domestic reporting issues, any feedback that relates to the IFRS Foundation's work may be shared with the IFRS Foundation where appropriate.<sup>1</sup>

#### Question 1 for Board members

Question 1(a) Do Board members have any general questions or comments about the purpose of the AASB Agenda Consultation?

#### Timing of the AASB Agenda Consultation

- 11 The AASB has historically undertaken its Agenda Consultations after those conducted by the IFRS Foundation. For example, prior to issuing ITC 46 in October 2021, the IASB released its [Request for Information: Third Agenda Consultation](#) in March 2021.<sup>2</sup> Similarly, for the 2015 consultation, the AASB issued [ITC 34 AASB Agenda Consultation 2017-2019](#) in November 2015, after the IASB published its [Request for Views: 2015 Agenda Consultation](#)<sup>3</sup> in August 2015.
- 12 As noted at the May 2025 AASB meeting,<sup>4</sup> it was anticipated that the IASB would publish its Fourth Agenda Consultation document in Q4 2025. However, at the IASB and ISSB July 2025 meetings, the Boards discussed their respective plans for their next agenda consultations. Specifically, the ISSB decided to target late 2026 to initiate its agenda consultation process, and the IASB decided to delay its own agenda consultation to allow sufficient time to consider the implications of the ISSB's developments and to align with the

<sup>1</sup> This approach is consistent with paragraph 7.2.5 of the Due Process Framework.

<sup>2</sup> The Request for Information was reissued in Australia as [ITC 44 Request for Comment on the IASB Request for Information Third Agenda Consultation](#). ITC 44 sought feedback from stakeholders to inform the AASB's response to the IASB about the IASB's work plan for the 2022-2026 period.

<sup>3</sup> The Request for Views was reissued in Australia as [ITC 33 Request for Comment on IASB's Request for Views on 2015 Agenda Consultation](#).

<sup>4</sup> See [Agenda Paper 9.1](#) for the July 2025 AASB meeting

ISSB agenda consultation process.<sup>5,6</sup> As a result, the IASB and ISSB agenda consultations are now expected to run concurrently, with an RFI expected in 2027.<sup>7,8</sup>

- 13 Despite the revised timing of the IFRS Foundation agenda consultations, staff **recommend** commencing the AASB Agenda Consultation for the following reasons:
- (a) Whilst the IFRS Foundation is delaying its agenda consultations, feedback gathered through the AASB's Agenda consultation can help shape the Board's responses to the IFRS Foundation when its agenda consultations occur. Early insights from Australian stakeholders may also support the Board in influencing the direction of international standard-setting activities, including scoping topics for the IFRS Foundation's agenda consultations;
  - (b) When considering feedback from several AASB projects, the Board anticipated that further input would be gathered through the upcoming AASB Agenda Consultation in 2026. For example, when considering feedback received from the Post-implementation Review (PIR) of *Income of Not-for-Profit Entities*, the Board decided to seek additional input at the upcoming AASB Agenda Consultation on whether some concerns related to income recognition persist and whether these concerns have become more significant over time;<sup>9</sup> and
  - (c) Undertaking an AASB Agenda Consultation is an element of the AASB's due process. As priorities evolve and new challenges emerge, stakeholder input is critical to inform the Board's future agenda-setting decisions. While the Board regularly engages with stakeholders on specific projects and implementation issues, the AASB Agenda Consultation provides a strategic opportunity to reflect on longer-term priorities and to consider how the overall balance of future activities can best serve the public interest.

#### Question 2 for Board members

Question 2(a) Do Board members have any comments about the staff recommendation in paragraph 13 to commence the AASB Agenda Consultation?

Question 2(b) Do Board members agree with the staff recommendation to commence the AASB Agenda Consultation?

If no, what do Board members suggest as an alternative?

#### Scope of the AASB Agenda Consultation

- 14 As noted above, the AASB Agenda Consultation focuses on obtaining feedback from stakeholders on matters that are relevant to:
- (a) public sector entities;
  - (b) not-for-profit entities; and
  - (c) Australian-specific issues relating to for-profit entities.

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5 See [Agenda Paper 2](#) for the July 2025 ISSB meeting

6 See [Agenda Paper 24](#) for the July 2025 IASB meeting.

7 See [IASB Update July 2025](#)

8 See [ISSB Update July 2025](#)

9 <https://www.aasb.gov.au/media/y5xtuxi/feedbackstatementincomefor-nfp-09-24.pdf>

- 15 The scope of the previous AASB Agenda Consultation (ITC 46) was limited to financial and external reporting matters.<sup>10</sup> However, in recent years, the development of sustainability reporting standards—and the AASB's legislated responsibility for developing and issuing the Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards, which underpin both mandatory and voluntary disclosures—has expanded the Board's role. To ensure the Board receives sufficient feedback to assess and determine the appropriate balance of its priorities and Work Program, staff **recommend** that the AASB Agenda Consultation focus on Australian-specific matters relating to:
- (a) financial reporting;
  - (b) sustainability reporting; and
  - (c) other external reporting topics (e.g. service performance reporting).
- 16 However, in relation to sustainability reporting, staff consider it is important to clearly define the boundary of which sustainability-related items the Board may consider as part of the AASB Agenda Consultation acknowledging the resources (e.g. funding) available to the Board, the Board's legal mandate, policy directions being given to the Board as well as the ongoing sustainability-related legislative review. For example, as mandatory climate reporting is in its infancy in Australia, entities may be experiencing implementation issues. Whilst these matters are important to the AASB, staff **do not** consider them within the scope of the AASB Agenda Consultation. Instead, staff consider that such matters are more appropriately addressed through existing mechanisms such as the AASB S2 Implementation Advisory Panel or the forthcoming PIRs of AASB S1 *General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information* and S2 *Climate-related Disclosures*.

### Question 3 for Board members

Question 3(a) Do Board members have any comments about the recommended scope of the AASB Agenda Consultation set out in paragraph 15?

Question 3(b) Do Board members agree with the staff recommendation that the AASB Agenda Consultation should focus on Australian-specific matters relating to:

- (a) financial reporting;
- (b) sustainability reporting; and
- (c) other external reporting topics (e.g. service performance reporting)?

If no, what do Board members suggest as an alternative?

### Period covered by the AASB Agenda Consultation

- 17 The 2015 AASB Agenda Consultation covered a three-year period, while the 2021 AASB Agenda Consultation covered a five-year period, both in alignment with the Due Process Framework.

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<sup>10</sup> The topic of sustainability reporting was included in ITC 46 as part of a potential external reporting research project, rather than as a separate standalone topic.

- 18 The Board could continue with a five-year period being considered as part of the AASB Agenda Consultation and, if necessary, conduct the next AASB Agenda Consultation at an earlier time.
- 19 However, staff **recommend** considering a narrower timeframe for this AASB Agenda Consultation. Specifically, staff consider that a three-year period (i.e. 2027–2029) may be more appropriate, with a view to conducting a further AASB Agenda Consultation in 2029. While the Board receives ongoing feedback from stakeholders that informs the work it does on specific projects and considers implementation issues, the AASB Agenda Consultation provides the Board with an opportunity to reassess the Work Program in its entirety after considering stakeholder feedback.

#### Question 4 for Board members

Question 4(a) Do Board members have any comments about the period the AASB Agenda Consultation should cover?

Question 4(b) Do Board members agree with the staff recommendation in paragraph 19 that the AASB Agenda Consultation should cover the 2027-2029 period? If no, what do Board members suggest as an alternative?

#### Project plan and timeline

- 20 In general, staff **recommend** that the AASB Agenda Consultation be conducted in two phases:
- (a) Phase 1: Conduct a survey to gather initial feedback from stakeholders. This will help gauge the breadth of topics the Board could consider and identify potential matters for inclusion in the formal consultation document; and
  - (b) Phase 2: Issue an Invitation to Comment (ITC) to seek broader and more detailed feedback. Stakeholders could still provide input on other topics not explicitly covered in the ITC.
- 21 Staff **recommend** the following proposed timeline for the agenda consultation:

Step	Expected timing
<p>(a) Phase 1: Issue a survey to gather initial feedback from stakeholders. The survey would be available on the AASB website to all stakeholders, and its purpose would be to gather information about possible matters/topics for inclusion in the ITC.</p> <p>Staff envisage the survey would contain some background information to introduce the AASB Agenda Consultation process, provide examples of matters that could be included in the ITC and allow stakeholders the opportunity to provide initial feedback. The survey instrument will be open for feedback for approximately 30 days.</p> <p>Staff acknowledge that a comment period of at least 60 days is generally expected when requesting information from stakeholders (see paragraph 6.6(a) of the Due Process Framework). However, as the survey is an initial attempt at gathering high-level informal feedback to inform the ITC and</p>	August 2025 Board meeting

<p>stakeholders will have a further opportunity to provide input once the ITC is issued, staff consider a feedback period of approximately 30 days for the survey is justified.</p>	
<p>(b) The feedback received from the survey will be thematically analysed at the October 2025 Board meeting. Staff advise that this thematic analysis will be distributed <b>after</b> Board paper mailout, so that the survey can remain open for comment for approximately 30 days.</p> <p>Staff would not identify the source of the feedback (i.e. feedback would not be attributed to Stakeholder X) to encourage as many stakeholders as possible to provide initial high-level feedback.</p> <p>The Board would discuss the feedback gathered from the survey to decide on the content of the ITC.</p> <p>To support the Board's decision-making about the content of the ITC, staff will also draft a framework to support an objective and consistent decision-making process for consideration at the October 2025 Board meeting. For example, the framework will set out criteria to be considered by the Board when deciding how to respond to feedback, such as the issue's importance to stakeholders, the urgency of addressing it, interactions with other projects, and the availability of Board resources.</p>	<p>September/ October</p>
<p>(c) Phase 2: Following the October 2025 Board meeting, staff would draft the ITC for the Board's consideration and, if appropriate, approval to issue at the November 2025 Board meeting.</p> <p>The ITC would be issued before the end of December 2025 and would be open for comment for approximately 120 days.</p>	<p>October – November 2025</p>
<p>(d) Staff would conduct outreach activities in February and March 2026 to seek input and feedback from stakeholders.</p>	<p>February – March 2026</p>
<p>(e) Following the conclusion of outreach activities and the close of the ITC comment period, staff would analyse the feedback received and discuss the feedback with the Board in May 2026 so the Board can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) consider staffs' proposals and recommendations about how to respond to the feedback received; and</li> <li>(ii) consider the feedback in light of the Board's Work Program, strategic direction and balance of the AASB's activities for the [202X-20XX] period.</li> </ul>	<p>April – May 2026</p>
<p>(f) Following the May 2026 Board meeting and any Board decisions about the [202X-20XX] Work Program, staff will draft a Feedback Statement that summarises the feedback received from stakeholders and the Board's decisions for consideration by the Board at a future meeting.</p>	<p>TBD</p>

**Question 5 for Board members**

Question 5(a) Do Board members have any questions or comments about the proposed project plan and timeline staff recommend in paragraphs 20 and 21?

Question 5(b) Do Board members agree with the proposed project plan and timeline? If no, what do Board members suggest as an alternative?