

### AGENDA - 115<sup>TH</sup> FRC MEETING

Date: 17 September 2025

**Time:** 09:30 – 15:30

Location: Level 16, 530 Collins Street, Melbourne (Commonwealth Treasury)

Financial Reporting Council (FRC) members will attend this meeting in person or via Microsoft Teams. Members of the public may attend the public session of the meeting on Teams by registering their interest at least 24 hours before the meeting. Please email <a href="mailto:secretariat@frc.gov.au">secretariat@frc.gov.au</a> with your:

- Name
- Affiliation
- Contact details

Iten	1	Report by	Time			
	PUBLIC SESSION					
1.	Introduction		09:30			
A.	Acknowledgement of country	Chair				
В.	Attendees and apologies					
C.	Declarations of interest					
2.	Matters for noting / action		09:35			
A.	Minutes of previous meeting (6 June 2025) and approval of FRC 2024-25 Annual Report	Chair				
В.	Action items	Secretariat				
3.	Environmental scan		09:40			
A.	Member reflections	All				
В.	FRC Stakeholder Engagement Strategy	Secretariat				
4.	Oversight of Australian accounting, auditing and sustainability standards per ASIC Act s 225(1) to (2A)		10:10			
A.	Australian Accounting Standards Board  1. Financial reporting update  2. Sustainability reporting update	AASB Chair				
В.	<ol> <li>Auditing and Assurance Standards Board</li> <li>Financial auditing and assurance update</li> <li>Sustainability auditing and assurance update</li> </ol>	AUASB Chair				
	Morning tea		10:50			
5.	Monitoring and influencing international developments per ASIC Act s 225(1A) and s 225(2C)(f)		11:10			

# OFFICIAL

Item		Report by	Time
A.	XRB update	XRB Chair	
В.	International developments (including recent media releases)	FRC	
6.	Nominations Committee report per ASIC Act s 225(2)(a) and s 225(2A)(a)	Rachel Grimes	11:40
7.	Auditor Review Working Group report	Chair	12:00
8.	Other business		12:30
A.	Correspondence received and sent	Chair	
B.	Key action items summary	Secretariat	
C.	Next meeting: 10 December 2025, Sydney	Chair	
	Lunch		13:00
	PRIVATE SESSION		
9.	Matters for private session		14:00
	Meeting close		15:00

#### **OFFICIAL**

#### **OUR PURPOSE**

The FRC oversees the effectiveness of the financial reporting framework in Australia. Its key functions include:

- the oversight of the accounting and auditing standards setting processes for the public and private sectors;
- providing strategic advice in relation to the quality of audits conducted by Australian auditors;
   and
- advising the Minister on these and related matters to the extent that they affect the financial reporting framework in Australia.

The FRC also monitors the development of international accounting and auditing standards, furthers the development of a single set of accounting and auditing standards for worldwide use and promotes the adoption of these standards.



# ITEM 1B 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

## **ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES**

The attendees and apologies for this meeting are listed below.

## **ACTION**

Participants – FRC members	Organisation	
Andrew Mills	Chair	
Keith Kendall	AASB Chair	
Doug Niven	AUASB Chair	
Rachel Grimes		
Pru Bennett		
Alison White		
Emma Herd		

Guests	Organisation
John Kensington	XRB
Wendy Venter	XRB
Claire LaBouchardiere	ASIC
Luci Tucker	ASIC
Justin Williams	AASB
Tiffany Tan	CPA Australia

Observers	Organisation
Jesse Chen	FRC Secretariat
Christie Yang	FRC Secretariat
Kim Demarte	Treasury

Apologies	Organisation
Amy Fox	Department of Finance



# ITEM 1C 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Attached are members' declarations of interest.

#### **ACTION**

FRC members to:

- declare any interest that may be relevant (having regard to the meeting agenda and functions of the FRC)
- confirm the accuracy of the attached Declarations of Interest.

## FINANCIAL REPORTING COUNCIL – REGISTER OF INTERESTS

as at 9 September 2025

FRC Member	Stakeholder / Professional / Organisational Affiliations	Employment / Other Positions Held	Other Interests
Mr Andrew Mills	Graduate member, Australian Institute of Company Directors Chartered Tax Advisor, The Tax Institute (Life) Fellow, CPA Australia Fellow, Australian Institute of Governance	Principal Fellow/Associate Professor, University of Melbourne Law School Chair, NSW Independent Planning Commission Member, The Board of Taxation Member, External Reporting Board (NZ) Member, Tax and Transfer Policy Institute Advisory Board Member, Melbourne Law School Tax Advisory Board Executive Committee Member, International Fiscal Association Australia Branch	Director and Secretary, Ajay Investments Pty Ltd Member of Ajay Superannuation Fund (SMSF) that holds interests in listed securities and PE partnerships Son is Director, EY QANTAS Chairmans Lounge
Dr Keith Kendall	Member, New Zealand Accounting Standards Board Member, Investment Committee, Royal Historical Society of Victoria Chartered Tax Advisor, The Tax Institute Member, CA ANZ Fellow, CPA Australia Graduate member, Australian Institute of Company Directors	Chair and CEO, Australian Accounting Standards Board Vice Chair, Asian-Oceanian Standard-Setters Group (AOSSG) Treasurer, Samuel Griffith Society Finance Director, Rugby Victoria	Director/shareholder/ beneficiary:
Mr Doug Niven	Fellow, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand	Chair and CEO, Auditing and Assurance Standards Board	Nil

FRC Member	Stakeholder / Professional / Organisational Affiliations	Employment / Other Positions Held	Other Interests
	Member, New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board	Member, IAASB and IESBA Stakeholder Advisory Council	
Ms Emma Herd		Director, EMLH Pty Ltd  Partner, Climate Change and Sustainability Services, Ernst and Young Oceania  Member, Queensland Land Restoration Fund Investment Panel Member, Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA) Green Star Advisory Committee Co-Chair, Australian Sustainable Finance Institute Taxonomy Technical Expert Group (ASFI TTEG)	Former CEO of Investor Group on Climate Change Former Environment Commissioner with the Greater Cities Commission Former Head of Sustainability and Executive Director at Westpac Institutional Bank Former Board Member, Carbon Market Institute
Ms Pru Bennett	Fellow Institute of Chartered Accountants Graduate Member Australian Institute of Company Directors Member Singapore Institute of Company Directors	Partner Brunswick Group  Member of the Advisory Council for Oasis Capital Hong Kong  Member of the Sustainability Advisory Council for Link REIT  Chair National Foundation for Australia China Relations Council Member Asian Corporate Governance Association  Member of the Monetary Authority of Singapore's Corporate Governance Advisory Council	Director of Bened Pty Limited Director of Milliam Pty Limited Director of Brunswick Advisory Pty Limited

FRC Member	Stakeholder / Professional / Organisational Affiliations	Employment / Other Positions Held	Other Interests
		Member of Deakin University Integrated Reporting Centre Advisory Board Board member Asian Investor Group on Climate Change	
Ms Rachel Grimes AM	Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors Fellow, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ) Fellow, Certified Practising Accountant Australia (CPAA) Fellow, Institute of Practising Accountant (IPA)	Director, Hub24 Limited  Director, Australian Payments Plus Limited  Director of the Accounting Professional Standards and Ethics Board (APESB)  Chair of Surfing Australia Finance and Risk Committee  Director, Angus Knight Pty Ltd  Member of the Board of Platinum Asset Management Limited  Member of the Board of DigiCo Infrastructure REIT  Member of the Boards of HMC Capital Partners No1 Pty Ltd, HMC Capital Partners No.2 Pty Ltd, HMC Capital Partners No.3 Pty Ltd	Director of 1972 Investments Limited (Holds one property and some Australian ASX listed shares by family)  Trustee of P Grimes Employee Provident Fund (Family SMSF owns Aust and International managed funds and listed shares)

FRC Member	Stakeholder / Professional / Organisational Affiliations	Employment / Other Positions Held	Other Interests
Ms Amy Fox	Fellow, CPA Australia, Fellow, Chartered Accountants Australia New Zealand, Graduate, Australian Institute of Company Directors	Department of Finance, Australian Government	Nil

FRC Member	Stakeholder / Professional / Organisational Affiliations	Employment / Other Positions Held	Other Interests
Ms Alison White	Deloitte	Partner, Assurance & Advisory; National Leader: Accounting & Corporate Reporting  Member, Property Council of Australia National Roundtable Member, Board of Advice of The University of Sydney – Discipline of Accounting, Governance and Regulation	



# ITEM 2A 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

## MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Attached are the minutes from the FRC meeting held on 6 June 2025, which have been published on the FRC website.

### **ACTION**

# **M**INUTES

**DATE:** 6 June 2025

**TIME:** 10:00 – 15:00

**Location:** Level 29, 201 Kent Street, Sydney & Microsoft Teams

ITEM	AGENDA ITEM		
PUBLIC S	Session		
1	Introduction		
1A	The Chair began with an acknowledgement of	country and welcomed all attendees to the meeting.	
1B	ATTENDEES AND APOLOGIES		
	Members in attendance:	Observers:	
	Andrew Mills (Chair)	Rebecca Waldron (Treasury)	
	Dr Keith Kendall (AASB Chair) - virtual	Ben Mills (Treasury)	
	Doug Niven (AUASB Chair)	Christie Yang (Treasury)	
	Michele Embling (XRB Chair)		
	Rachel Grimes - virtual		
	Emma Herd		
	Pru Bennett - virtual		
	Amy Fox		
	Alison White		
	Guests:	Apologies:	
	Justin Williams (AASB) - virtual	N/A	
	Stephen Taylor		
	Members of the public:		
	John Ngiam (CA ANZ) - virtual		
	Nick Dent (Department of Finance) - virtual		
1C	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST		
	The Chair noted the removal of the Chair of the Cemeteries and Crematoria NSW from his declaration of interest.		
2	MATTERS FOR NOTING/ACTION		

2A	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING – 5 MARCH 2025		
	The minutes of the 5 March meeting were approved prior to the meeting and were noted by members.		
2B	FRC STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-26		
	The FRC Strategic Plan 2025–26 was noted by members. The Secretariat will upload the strategic plan to the FRC website.		
2C	ACTION ITEMS		
	Members noted the action items from the March 2025 meeting.		
3	ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN		
3A	MEMBER REFLECTIONS		
	Rachel Grimes shared insights from recent engagements with small business practitioners regarding the relevance of financial reporting obligations and the application of the Code of Ethics to Al. Members agreed the FRC should hear from small business practitioners, alongside the peak bodies. Stephen Taylor encouraged the Nominations Committee to prioritise representation of small business perspectives from the AASB and AUASB.		
	Members discussed the growing use of AI in the financial reporting, auditing, and government sectors. Doug Niven noted the AUASB is preparing a guidance document for auditors on AI, with input from major firms and accounting bodies. Keith Kendall reported that the AASB is collaborating with CSIRO and is to launch a PhD program focused on AI's implications for financial reporting.		
	Amy Fox noted that the government is establishing governance frameworks by launching a platform to improve transparency on the use of AI in the public sector.		
3B	STAKEHOLDER REPORTS AND ENGAGEMENT		
	Members discussed the approach to stakeholder engagement.		
	<ul> <li>Members agreed that a clear stakeholder map would better guide engagement, ensuring the FRC targets both strategists and technical individuals.</li> </ul>		
	A combination of targeted roundtables and one-on-one meetings was supported.		
	<ul> <li>The need to improve small business and investor representation in stakeholder engagements was highlighted.</li> </ul>		
	The FRC Secretariat will work with the Chair to develop a stakeholder map / matrix identifying key stakeholders, methods of engagement, and frequency.		
4	OVERSIGHT OF AUSTRALIAN STANDARDS (ACCOUNTING AND AUDITING) PER ASIC ACT S 225(1) TO (2A)		
4A	AASB REPORT		
	In addition to the report in the Board papers, Keith Kendall provided a verbal update on the AASB's work:		

	The AASB continues to work on the not-for-profit Tier 3 reporting framework.						
	Sustainability reporting implementation remains a priority for the AASB.						
	<ul> <li>The AASB is engaging internationally, including with their Japanese and Koreal counterparts on sustainability</li> </ul>						
	<ul> <li>The AASB is working on further guidance in the coming months following the release of guidance on materiality by the ISSB.</li> </ul>						
4B	AUASB REPORT						
	In addition to his written report, Doug Niven provided a verbal update of the AUASB's developments in financial auditing, assurance, and sustainability:						
	The AUASB is progressing guidance on the assurance of sustainability disclosures.						
	<ul> <li>Engagement continues with the IAASB on global assurance standards, including the development of supplementary sustainability assurance reports.</li> </ul>						
	The AUASB is developing guidance on how AI is affecting assurance work.						
5	MONITORING AND INFLUENCING INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS PER ASIC ACT S 225(2)(E) TO (2)(F) AND S 225(2A)(F) TO (2A)(G)						
5A	XRB UPDATE						
	Michele Embling provided verbal updates:						
	<ul> <li>The XRB will shortly finalise two key accountability documents (2025-2030 Statement of Intent and 2025/256 Statement of Performance Expectations) that will set out the XRB's objectives for the coming years.</li> <li>The XRB will soon consult with larger not for profit entities to understand the reporting and assurance challenges of service performance reporting.</li> <li>Work continues with supporting the adoption of climate reporting. Reporting and assurance over Scope 3 emissions remains challenging. Michele noted that while there remains strong support for the objectives of climate and sustainability reporting, stakeholders are asking for a measured, phased approach to implementation.</li> </ul>						
5B	INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS						
	Members noted the information attached in the meeting pack.						
6	PUBLIC SECTOR ADVISORY GROUP (PSAG) PER ASIC ACT S 225(1A)						
6A	PUBLIC SECTOR ADVISORY GROUP						
	Amy Fox discussed key themes raised in the PSAG meeting held on 2 May 2025, including:  • Andrew Greaves replacing Jane Meade on the PSAG						

	<ul> <li>Discussions on the application of accounting standards to local governments, particularly in relation to depreciation expenses resulting in operating losses</li> </ul>
	particularly in relation to depreciation expenses resulting in operating losses
	<ul> <li>Ongoing work continues regarding the attractiveness of the public sector profession.</li> </ul>
6B	APPLICATION OF ACCOUNTING STANDARDS TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT
	Amy Fox noted that the discussion in the recent PSAG meeting explored various aspects of depreciation and asset valuation issues for local governments. The issue seems to be attributed to the provisioning of Commonwealth and state/territory granted assets to local governments which causes them to report an operating loss. PSAG members found this issue specific to local governments. However, depreciation expenses do not affect cash flow and there is a benefit in complying with them. The need for better education on depreciation was highlighted, alongside considerations of different funding arrangements for assets and financial performance ratios.  Justin Williams confirmed that the AASB has received correspondence in relation to this matter from Treasury, local government associations, and HoTARAC, and that the matter will be formally discussed at the next AASB board meeting. The AASB will continue working with Treasury, local governments, and state/territory finance departments to explore the application of accounting standards and whether policy measures are needed.
	The matter will be further examined by the AASB and relevant government agencies, with a view to develop educational materials and potentially better align accounting frameworks and public sector funding models.
7	NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT PER ASIC ACT S 225(2)(A) AND S 225(2A)(A)
7A & 7B	NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE UPDATE & PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE CHARTER
	Rachel Grimes AM and Justin Williams provided an update on the Nominations Committee's proposed amendments to the Nominations Committee Charter:
	<ul> <li>The Committee recommended amending its Charter to incorporate greater discretion and flexibility in managing appointments, particularly during the transitional period.</li> <li>The proposed amendments will:</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Enable the Nominations Committee to adjust appointment timelines, including temporary extensions, to accommodate delays in the new governance structure coming into effect.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Prevent unintended gaps in the membership of AASB and AUASB, ensuring business continuity.</li> </ul>
	The FRC members endorsed the proposed amendments to the Nominations Committee Charter.
8	PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO AASB AND AUASB CHARTER
	Justin Williams presented minor proposed amendments to the AASB and AUASB Charters. The FRC members endorsed the proposed amendments to the AASB and AUASB Charters.

9A	CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND SENT				
	Members noted the correspondence sent.				
9В	KEY ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY				
	FRC Secretariat to upload the FRC 2025-26 Strategic Plan to the FRC website.				
	<ul> <li>FRC Secretariat to work with the Chair, the AUASB and the AASB to develop a stakeholder engagement map/matrix, as well as outline cadence of outreach to stakeholders and preferred meeting format.</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>FRC Secretariat to work with the Chair on a recommendation to the Australian Government that it provides a further contribution to the IFRS Foundation in 2025- 26.</li> </ul>				
	<ul> <li>FRC members agreed to the proposed amendments to the Nominations Committee Charter.</li> </ul>				
10	NEXT MEETING				
	Next meeting will be held on 17 September 2025 at the Melbourne Treasury office.				



# ITEM **2**B **17 SEPTEMBER 2025**

# **ACTION ITEMS**

Attached are the action items from the FRC meeting held on 6 June 2025.

## **ACTION**

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **6 JUNE 2025 ACTION ITEMS**

	Action item	Owner	Status
1	FRC Secretariat to upload the FRC 2025-26 Strategic Plan to the FRC website.	Secretariat	Complete
2	FRC Secretariat to work with the Chair, the AUASB and the AASB to develop a stakeholder engagement map/matrix, as well as outline cadence of outreach to stakeholders and preferred meeting format.	Secretariat & Chair	Complete
3	FRC Secretariat to work with the Chair on a recommendation to the Australian Government that it provides a further contribution to the IFRS Foundation in 2025-26.	Secretariat	Complete
4	FRC members agreed to the proposed amendments to the Nominations Committee Charter. Nominations Committee to finalise the Nominations Committee Charter and AASB/AUASB Charter.	Nominations Committee	Complete

#### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **ONGOING MATTERS**

	Action item	Owner	Status
1	FRC members to use stakeholder engagement to identify people with appropriate skills to be AUASB/AASB candidates.	FRC	In progress
2	FRC to continue seeking targeted feedback on strategic issues through its stakeholder reports and one-on-one high level stakeholder engagement to monitor the matters referred to in the ASIC Act (such as professional ethics) on a periodic basis	FRC	In progress
3	Explore whether identified candidates for international roles should be put forward for nomination.	Secretariat	In progress
4	Secretariat to circulate relevant media clippings about financial reporting and audit to all FRC members.	Secretariat	In progress



# ITEM 3A 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

## **MEMBER REFLECTIONS**

Members to update the FRC with contemporary and relevant matters from their fields of expertise including domestic and international events that may impact the Australian financial space.

#### **ACTION**

• FRC to note contemporary and relevant matters.



# ITEM 3B 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

### FRC STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

The FRC has historically engaged with a broad variety of stakeholders in the financial reporting sector, including professional firms, regulators, professional accounting bodies and industry associations, through one-on-one meetings and receiving written submissions.

Regular stakeholder engagement enables the FRC to understand how stakeholders are interacting with Australia's accounting and auditing standards, and more recently, their experiences with the implementation of Australia's sustainability reporting regime. This enables the FRC to fulfil its functions under section 225 of the ASIC Act 2001 to, inter alia, oversee the effectiveness of Australia's financial reporting framework and the work of the AASB and AUASB.

On 28 April 2025, the FRC Secretariat sent a stakeholder report request to all stakeholders seeking their input on how the FRC can better engage with stakeholders and support more meaningful dialogue, in the context of meeting its stakeholder engagement objectives and feedback received from stakeholders on the FRC's form of engagement.

On 9 May 2025, the FRC trialled two stakeholder roundtables in Canberra – one with public sector financial reporting entities, and another with three private sector representatives. The FRC received positive feedback on these roundtable consultations, which enabled stakeholders to hear from each other.

At the 6 June 2025 FRC quarterly meeting, FRC members noted and discussed the input received from the stakeholders. As one of the action items from the June FRC quarterly meeting, the FRC Secretariat has developed the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (Attachment A) in collaboration with the Chair to better guide stakeholder engagement, ensuring the FRC identifies key stakeholders, effective methods of engagement and the appropriate frequency of engagement.

#### **ACTION**

- FRC to discuss:
  - 1. Are the stakeholder groups in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy accurate and suitable for further roundtable consultations?
  - 2. Is the suggested frequency and format of stakeholder engagement appropriate having regard to those stakeholders and the responses they have provided?
  - 3. Should all the stakeholders identified in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy continue to be stakeholders that the FRC engages with?

4. What should be the role of the current written stakeholder submissions? Should the FRC continue to request these of stakeholders or should they be sought on an exceptions basis? Will the summary and minutes of stakeholder meetings be sufficient for FRC members?

# FRC STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY



Stakeholder group	Discussion focus	Potential stakeholders	Stakeholder preferences	Proposed form of engagement
Government/quasi- government, Regulatory and Oversight Bodies	<ul> <li>accounting and auditing standards</li> <li>ethical obligations, audit quality</li> <li>public sector financial reporting</li> <li>implementation of new regulatory frameworks</li> <li>compliance expectations</li> <li>enforcement priorities</li> <li>regulatory reforms</li> <li>financial system resilience</li> <li>risk governance</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Accounting Professional &amp; Ethical Standards Board (APESB)</li> <li>Australasian Council of Auditors-General (ACAG)</li> <li>Australian Charities and Not-For-Profits         Commission (ACNC)</li> <li>ACT Audit Office</li> <li>Australian Prudential Regulation Authority         (APRA)</li> <li>Australian Securities and Investments         Commission (ASIC)</li> </ul>	Half yearly meetings, except for ACNC and APRA who prefer yearly meetings	One-on-one meetings held half yearly, except for ACNC and APRA
Corporate Governance bodies	<ul> <li>corporate         governance         standards</li> <li>director         responsibilities</li> <li>board effectiveness</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) Corporate Governance Council</li> <li>Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD)</li> <li>Business Council of Australia (BCA)</li> <li>Governance Institute of Australia</li> </ul>	No response received	Roundtable meeting held yearly

Investment, Superannuation & ESG Advocacy	<ul> <li>investment         stewardship</li> <li>ESG integration</li> <li>regulatory reform in         financial markets</li> <li>usefulness of         financial reports,         including         transparency of         investment         performance and         fees</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Australian Council of Superannuation Investors (ACSI)</li> <li>Australian Shareholders' Association (ASA)</li> <li>Association of Superannuation Funds of Australia (ASFA)</li> <li>Australian Investment Council (AIC)</li> <li>Super Members Council (SMC)</li> <li>Australian Sustainable Finance Institute (ASFI)</li> <li>Insurance Council of Australia</li> <li>Australian Banking Association</li> </ul>	No response received	Roundtable meeting held yearly
Professional Associations & Industry Groups	<ul> <li>policy impacts for association members</li> <li>advocacy on behalf of practitioners (such as accredited accountants and small business owners)</li> <li>operation of professional standards</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CA ANZ)</li> <li>CPA Australia</li> <li>Institute of Public Accountants (IPA)</li> <li>Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA)</li> <li>Group of 100</li> </ul>	Half yearly meetings for CA ANZ, BCA  Quarterly or half yearly meetings for IPA  Periodic meetings for CPA	One-on-one meetings held half yearly  Roundtables with the PABs on less sensitive topics to allow them to hear from each other
Professional Services & Accounting Firms	<ul> <li>policy impacts on professional practice</li> <li>audit execution</li> <li>reporting quality</li> <li>communication to clients</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>BDO Australia</li> <li>Bellchambers Barrett</li> <li>Bentleys</li> <li>Crowe Australasia</li> <li>Deloitte</li> <li>Ernst &amp; Young</li> <li>Grant Thornton</li> </ul>	Quarterly meetings for Deloitte, Grant Thornton	One-on-one meetings held half yearly  Engaging with Big 6 firms plus

	- scalability of new requirements	<ul> <li>KPMG</li> <li>Pitcher Partners</li> <li>PKF</li> <li>PwC</li> <li>RSM Australia</li> <li>William Buck</li> <li>Australian Public Policy Committee (APPC) – comprises BDO, Deloitte, EY, Grant Thornton, KPMG, PwC, CA ANZ and CPA Australia</li> </ul>		one or two midtier representatives  Receiving feedback from engagement undertaken by the AASB, AUASB and PABs with these and other firms
Thought Leadership, Research & Academic Institutions	- research and stakeholder feedback regarding financial reporting and auditing policy matters	- Business Reporting Leaders Forum	BRLF requested one-on-one quarterly meetings No response from APPC	One-on-one meetings held half yearly



# **ITEM 4A 17** SEPTEMBER **2025**

### **AASB CHAIR REPORT**

The AASB Chair provided a report covering the key activities undertaken by the AASB from  $Jun\ 2025 - Aug\ 2025$ .

### **ACTION**



# **ITEM 4B**

### **17** SEPTEMBER **2025**

#### **AUASB CHAIR REPORT**

The AUASB Chair provided a report covering the key activities undertaken by the AUASB from Jun 2025 – Aug 2025.

### **ACTION**



# **ITEM 5**A **17** SEPTEMBER **2025**

### **XRB UPDATE**

Update provided by Chair of the XRB.

## **ACTION**



# ITEM 5B 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

#### **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS**

**Attachment A** provides a summary of recent key media releases from professional accounting bodies and the Big 4 firms.

#### **ACTION**

#### **ATTACHMENT A**

#### **RECENT MEDIA RELEASES**

On 7 August, the Department of Finance (Finance) has published the final report:
 Examination of the ethical soundness of PricewaterhouseCoopers Australia, to complete
 its examination of the ethical soundness of PwC Australia. As a result of this
 examination, the mutual agreement under which PwC Australia did not bid for new
 Commonwealth work ceased on 15 July 2025.

#### **Digital Reporting**

On 5 August 2025, the Productivity Commission released its Interim Report into
 Harnessing data and digital technologies with a series of robust recommendations and
 proposals on key aspects of technology and data regulation. In its Interim Report, the
 Productivity Commission highlights the benefits of digital reporting including enhanced
 efficiency in extracting and analysing data from financial reports, which ultimately
 benefit report preparers and users.

#### **Artificial Intelligence**

EY recently published an article: How artificial intelligence can transform accounting,
noting that in order for the accountancy sector to be fully benefited from the use of AI,
it is crucial to address the potential errors in AI algorithm as one of the primary risks. In
the article, it also noted that the potential benefits of leveraging AI for audits are
significant, including enhance operational efficiency, strategic insights and risk
assessment by using AI algorithms to identify patterns within large data sets.

#### <u>International</u>

On 6 August, the UK's Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is set to review and assess the
sustainability reporting guidelines for asset manager, life insurers, and regulated
pension providers. The intent is to refine disclosure requirements and to ensure efficient
reporting under both Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) and
Sustainability Disclosure Requirements (SDR) rules.

2



#### ITEM 6

#### **17 SEPTEMBER 2025**

#### **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

#### **Appointments expiring on 31 December 2025**

On 31 December 2025, the appointments of 5 AASB members and 4 AUASB members will end. Under the updated *FRC Nominations Committee Charter* which was endorsed by the FRC in June 2025, appointments expiring on 31 December 2025 can be extended beyond a maximum third term until the merger of the FRC, AASB and AUASB. This will minimise the risk of the AASB or AUASB having insufficient members and addresses the risk of not finding suitable members for a short 6 month appointment.

AASB (5)	AUASB (4)
David Holland (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)	Andrew Porter (2 <sup>nd</sup> term)
Stephen Taylor (3 <sup>rd</sup> term)	Chi Mun Woo (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Adrian King (1st term)	Terence Jeyaretnam (1st term)
Liza Maimone (1 <sup>st</sup> term)	Jason Thorne (1 <sup>st</sup> term)
Mathew Nelson (1st term)	

On 7 August 2025, the Nominations Committee met and agreed to recommend to the FRC that the appointments of members expiring on 31 December 2025 be extended until 30 June 2026 (when the merger is proposed to occur), rather than recruiting externally.

#### **Appointment of Graeme Pinfold to AUASB**

Graeme Pinfold has been appointed as the NZAuASB Chair for three years from 1 September 2025 to 31 August 2028. By convention, the Chair of the NZAuASB is cross-appointed to the AUASB.

On 14 August 2025, a majority of FRC members approved the appointment of Graeme Pinfold to the AUASB from 1 September 2025 to 30 June 2026 via an out of session resolution (**Attachment A**). The legislative instrument for Graeme's appointment has since been registered and the FRC Chair has written a letter to congratulate Graeme on his appointment to the AUASB.

### **ACTION**

- Nominations Committee Chair, Rachel Grimes, to provide a verbal update.
- FRC members to vote on extending the appointments of 5 AASB members and 4 AUASB members from 31 December 2025 to 30 June 2026.
- FRC members to note Graeme Pinfold's appointment which commenced on 1 September 2025.



# ITEM 7 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

#### AUDITOR REVIEW WORKING GROUP REPORT

On 28 August 2025, the FRC held its inaugural Auditor Review Working Group meeting. Representatives from the AASB, AUASB, ASIC, CPA Australia, CA ANZ and the IPA who attended the first meeting welcomed the FRC's establishment of the Working Group. Treasury and the ACNC also attended the meeting as observers.

The agenda from the inaugural Working Group meeting is at **Attachment A**.

Working Group members discussed various policy issues, including the use of the Registered Company Auditor (RCA) designation, the pipeline of auditor talent and alternate ways to assess the competencies of prospective RCAs. Members noted previous consideration of these issues by the FRC and the professional accounting bodies (PABs).

Working Group members agreed to reconvene in two months. Ahead of the next Working Group meeting, the PABs and government entities will meet separately to progress research, consider previous work done and feedback received on these policy issues, and further refine the policy problem before identifying possible solutions.

#### **ACTION**

• FRC Chair, AASB Chair and AUASB Chair to share their reflections from the Auditor Review Working Group meeting on 28 August 2025.



#### **ATTACHMENT A**

#### Agenda for Auditor Review Working Group, 28 August 2025

- 1. Current state of the auditing sector
- 2. Attendees to discuss the RCA designation and auditing sector
- 3. History of RCAs and their purpose
- 4. Benefits and disadvantages of the RCA designation
- 5. Any other matters related to the auditing sector in general
- 6. Attendees' preferred level of participation and frequency



# ITEM 8A 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

- On 24 June 2025, the FRC Chair wrote to the Treasurer regarding digital financial reporting.
- On 25 June 2025, the FRC Chair wrote to the Treasurer regarding the International Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (IAASB).
- On 18 August 2025, the FRC Chair wrote to the incoming New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board Chair, Graeme Pinfold, on his appointment to the AUASB.

#### **ACTION**



# ITEM 8B 17 SEPTEMBER 2025

# **KEY ACTION ITEMS SUMMARY**

Secretariat to provide a summary of key action items from the 17 September 2025 meeting.

#### **ACTION**