

ISSUES REGISTER FOR APESB PROFESSIONAL PRONOUNCEMENTS

Current as at 1 March 2019

Note to Stakeholders

The following is a summary of issues raised by stakeholders in relation to APESB pronouncements. Issues have been compiled by standard or guidance note, with the intended response and current status. Members of the professional accounting bodies, firms, professional bodies and other stakeholders are encouraged to report to APESB via the APESB website (www.apesb.org.au then Standards & Guidance/Issues Register) any new issues that need to be addressed by APESB when a pronouncement is next updated or reviewed.

Issues are entered into the register when brought to the attention of APESB by external stakeholders or through identification during internal reviews of the standard or guidance note. The issue remains on the register until it has been resolved to the satisfaction of the Board.

	APES 110 : Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants Issues Register			
No.	Issue	Response	Current Status	
110.1	Technical staff have identified an error in the numbering of paragraphs 120.13 A1, which should be 120.12 A2, and 120.12 A2, which should be 120.13 A1.	This issue has been noted.	APESB will incorporate this amendment into the next revision of the Code.	
110.2	Technical Staff are aware that some jurisdictions are reconsidering what services a firm can provided to an audit client. The Independence requirements in APES 110 may need to be updated if a major jurisdiction prohibits auditors from performing non-assurance services for an audit client.	This issue has been noted.	APESB will monitor international developments to determine if changes are required to the Independence provisions of the Code.	

APES 205 : Conformity with Accounting Standards Issues Register No. Response **Current Status** Issue Technical Staff have identified the need to consider any 205.1 These issues have been noted. This matter will be considered in the next potential implications of the AASB's differential reporting revision of APES 205. project on APES 205. The AASB's project and resulting changes will impact on the provisions in APES 205 relating to Members' financial reporting responsibilities and the references to AASB's conceptual framework. The Technical Staff have identified amendments required to Issue identified as part of the APESB will incorporate these editorials into 205.2 the Definitions section in APES 205 due to the previous revision of APES 310. the next revision of the standard. Auditing Standards (AUSs) being finally replaced by ASAs. This change affects the definitions of 'AuASB', 'Auditing and Assurance Guidance' and 'Auditing and Assurance Standards'. Technical Staff have identified the need to update the defined This matter will be considered in the next 205.3 This issue has been noted in the term, 'Statement of Accounting Concepts' by removing 2018 Annual Review of APES 205 revision of APES 205. reference to the withdrawn SAC 2. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This matter will be considered in the next 205.4 The issue has been noted. were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This revision of APES 205. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 205 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 210: Conformity with Auditing and Assurance Standards Issues Register No. Issue Response **Current Status** The Technical Staff have identified amendments required to Issue identified as part of the The relevant amendments required to the 210.1 the Definitions section in APES 210 due to the previous revision of APES 310. Definitions section are included in the Auditing Standards (AUSs) being replaced by ASAs. This exposure draft on APES 210 issued 1 March 2019. change affects the definitions of 'AuASB', 'Auditing and Assurance Guidance' and 'Auditing and Assurance Standards'. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes 210.2 This issue has been noted. The relevant amendments are included in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This the exposure draft on APES 210 issued 1 has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all March 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 210 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 215: Forensic Accounting Services Issues Register No. Response **Current Status** Issue 215.1 Paragraph 3.1 of APES 215 currently requires Members to This issue was considered during The relevant amendment is included in the the 2016 Annual Review of APES comply with Section 100 of the Code and relevant law. This exposure draft on APES 215 issued 1 March 2019. paragraph could be updated to refer to both laws and 215. regulations. 215.2 Technical Staff has identified the need to consider the This issue has been noted. The relevant amendment is included in the implications of the NOCLAR provisions of the Code to APES exposure draft on APES 215 issued 1 March 2019. 215. 215.3 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted. The relevant amendment is included in the were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This exposure draft on APES 215 issued 1 March has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 220 : Taxation Services Issues Register Current Status No. Issue Response As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes 220.1 This issue has been noted. The relevant amendments are included in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This the exposure draft on APES 220 issued 1 has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all March 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 225 : Valuation Services Issues Register No. Response **Current Status** Issue 225.1 A Stakeholder gueried whether the Valuation Services This issue has been noted. A proposed amendment is included in the exposure draft on APES 225 issued 1 March examples in Appendix 1 should include additional guidance in respect of circumstances in which a Member in Public Practice 2019. should hold an AFSL. This issue has been noted. 225.2 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes The relevant amendments are included in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This the exposure draft on APES 225 issued 1 has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all March 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 225 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 230: Financial Planning Services Issues Register Current Status No. Issue Response APESB released a consultation paper on the 230.1 Members in Public Practice who provide credit advice are This matter has been raised in the Six Month Review of APES 230. regulated under the National Consumer Credit Protection Act post-implementation review of APES 230, and not the Corporations Act 2001. APES 230 requires which included questions relating to Members to act in the best interests of their Client, which is application of best interest duty defined in the standard as Division 2 of Part 7.7A of the requirements. Corporations Act. APESB subsequently reviewed submissions While Members in Public Practice providing credit advice can to the consultation paper and undertook further engagement with key stakeholders to comply with the general obligation to act in their Client's best inform this review. interest, they cannot comply with the remaining obligations defined in Division 2. However, ASIC has stated in RG 175.239 that satisfying the safe harbor of Section 961B in Division 2 is APESB is in the process of analysing the final report of the Royal Commission into not the only way to demonstrate an individual is acting in their Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation Client's best interest. and Financial Services Industry to ascertain the impact of the recommendations on APES 230. We favourably note that Commissioner Hayne recommended that the Best Interest Duty should be extended to credit activities. APESB will incorporate the editorials in the 230.2 The Technical Staff review identified editorial amendments to The required change has been the definition of "Member in Public Practice". raised in the Six Month Review of next revision of APES 230. APES 230. Technical Staff have identified the need to consider the This issue has been noted. FASEA released their Code of Ethics in 230.3 potential implications on APES 230 of the planned Code of February 2019. APESB is currently Ethics for professional planners to be developed by the analysing the impacts, if any, this will have Financial Adviser Standards and Ethics Authority (FASEA). on APES 230.

APES 230: Financial Planning Services Issues Register Response **Current Status** No. Issue 230.4 Some stakeholders continue to raise issues in respect of the The Board discussed this issue APESB released a consultation paper on the professional fees requirements in APES 230 and their and determined to engage with key post-implementation review of APES 230, effectiveness in practice. stakeholders to explore the issues. which included questions relating to application of best interest duty requirements. APESB subsequently reviewed submissions to the consultation paper and has undertaken further engagement with key stakeholders. APESB is in the process of analysing the final report of the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry to ascertain the impact of the recommendations on APES 230. APESB is in the process of analysing the 230.5 Technical Staff have identified the need to consider the This issue has been noted. final report of the Royal Commission into potential implications on APES 230 of the findings from the Royal Commission into Misconduct in the Banking, Misconduct in the Banking, Superannuation and Financial Services Industry to ascertain Superannuation and Financial Services Industry. the impact of the recommendations on APES 230. Technical Staff are also monitoring the implementation of laws and regulations by the government stemming from the findings at the Royal Commission.

APES 230 : Financial Planning Services Issues Register Current Status No. Issue Response 230.6 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted in the This matter will be considered in the next were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This 2018 Annual Review of APES 225. Irevision of APES 230. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 230 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 305: Terms of Engagement Issues Register Current Status No. Response Issue 305.1 A stakeholder noted that section 4 of APES 305 could refer to This issue was raised and The relevant amendments are included in legal requirements such as the Financial Services Guide. considered during the 2016 Annual the exposure draft on APES 305 issued 1 Review of APES 305. March 2019. Technical Staff note that Members are required to include details of relevant legislation in paragraph 4.4(c). To ensure all legal requirements are captured this paragraph could be amended to include a specific reference to regulations. Paragraph 4.8 of APES 305 provides guidance on specifying 305.2 This issue was raised and The relevant amendments are included in fees and billing agreements in an Engagement Document. A considered during the 2016 Annual the exposure draft on APES 305 issued 1 stakeholder suggested that the guidance could be clarified by Review of APES 305. March 2019. including references to how fees are calculated, and the need to disclose referral fees or commissions. Technical Staff identified that the definition of Engagement This issue was considered during The relevant amendments are included in 305.3 Document in APES 305 refers to it being in a written form. the 2016 Annual Review of APES the exposure draft on APES 305 issued 1 Paragraph 3.5 outlines that the terms of engagement can be in 305. March 2019. the form of an electronic communication. Including a definition of the term 'Writing' will assist in clarifying that written form may include electronic formats. The definition would be consistent with the definition of 'Writing' in APES 220 Taxation Services. Technical Staff have identified the need to consider potential This issue has been noted. 305.4 The relevant amendments are included in revisions to APES 305 relating to the NOCLAR provisions of the exposure draft on APES 305 issued 1 the Code, including appropriate amendments to engagement March 2019. letters to address NOCLAR provisions.

APES 305: Terms of Engagement Issues Register **Current Status** No. Issue Response This issue has been noted in the 305.5 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes The relevant amendments are included in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This 2018 Annual Review of APES 305. Ithe exposure draft on APES 305 issued 1 has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all March 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 305 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 310: Dealing with Client Monies Issues Register Response **Current Status** No. Issue A Stakeholder noted that the revised APES 310 does not have The issue has been noted. APESB will consider this issue in the next 310.1 an example of a limited assurance engagement report revision of APES 310. Currently members are able to utilise the example of a limited assurance engagement report in ASAE 3100 Compliance Engagements available here if they require an example. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This matter will be considered in the next 310.2 This issue has been noted. were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This revision of APES 310. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements, including APES 310, and this will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 315 : Compilation of Financial Information Issues Register No. Issue Response **Current Status** Technical Staff have identified the need to consider the APESB will consider this matter at the next 315.1 This issue has been noted. implications of the NOCLAR provisions of the Code to APES revision of APES 315. 315, including the need to update the guidance relating to engagement letters for compilation engagements. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes 315.2 This issue has been noted. This matter will be considered in the next were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This revision of APES 315. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 315 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 320: Quality Control for Firms Issues Register No. Issue Response **Current Status** 320.1 Technical Staff have noted that as part of its Audit Quality This issue has been noted. APESB notes that the IAASB has issued the initiative, the IAASB is currently undertaking a project that aims relevant Exposure Drafts on ISQM 1 and to enhance ISQC1 and develop the proposed new standard ISQM 2. ISQC2. ISQC1 remains as the standard for managing Quality Control at the Firm level. The proposed new standard ISQC2 is APESB will be undertaking a stakeholder intended to strengthen the requirements and guidance in consultation process to inform its submission respect of engagement quality reviews, including clarifying the to the IAASB. criteria for selecting engagement quality reviewers and their responsibilities. APES 320 conforms with ISQC1, with some changes to accommodate Australian legislation and environment and fit within the structure of APESB standards. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted. This matter will be considered in the next 320.2 were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This revision of APES 320. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 320 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 325: Risk Management for Firms Issues Register Response **Current Status** No. Issue 325.1 Technical Staff has identified the need to consider the APESB will consider this matter in the next These issues have been noted. implications of the NOCLAR provisions of the Code and the revision of APES 325. impact of changes to ISQC 1 noted in Issue 320.1 to APES 325. 325.2 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted. This matter will be considered in the next were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This revision of APES 325. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 325 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 330 : Insolvency Services Issues Register

No.	Issue	Response	Current Status
330.1	In February 2016, new legislation affecting insolvency services was issued - the <i>Insolvency Law Reform Act 2016</i> (Cth). The Act will become effective in two tranches in 2017 - from 1 March in respect of promoting competency and professionalism among insolvency practitioners, and from 1 September in respect of enhancing insolvency administration processes. Shortly APESB will need to review APES 330 to ensure the standard reflects the new legislation.	This matter has been noted during the 2016 Annual Review of APES 330.	In November 2018 APESB issued an Exposure Draft 04/18 incorporating amendments to address these changes. Comments close on 1 March 2019.
330.2	Paragraph 3.1 of the standard currently requires Members to comply with Section 100 of the Code and relevant law. This paragraph could be updated to refer to both laws and regulations to ensure consistency with other APESB standards.	This issue was noted during the 2016 Annual Review of APES 330.	This amendment has been addressed in the current Exposure Draft 04/18.
330.3	The definition of Professional Bodies in APES 330 needs to be updated to replace the reference to the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia with Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.	This issue was noted during the 2016 Annual Review of APES 330.	This amendment has been addressed in the current Exposure Draft 04/18.
330.4	Technical Staff have identified the need to consider the implication of the NOCLAR provisions of the Code to APES 330.	This issue has been noted.	This amendment has been addressed in the current Exposure Draft 04/18.

APES 330 : Insolvency Services Issues Register Current Status Response No. Issue As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes 330.5 This issue has been noted. These amendments have been addressed in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This the current Exposure Draft 04/18. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 330 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 345: Reporting on Prospective Financial Information Prepared in Connection with a Public Document **Issues Register** No. Issue Response **Current Status** 345.1 Technical Staff have identified the need to remove the This issue has been noted in the The relevant amendment is included in the duplicated word, 'action,' in Paragraph 8.5. 2018 Annual Review of APES 345 exposure draft on APES 345 issued 1 March 2019. 345.2 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted. The relevant amendments are included in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This the exposure draft on APES 345 issued 1 has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all March 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 345 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES 350 : Participation by Members in Public Practice in Due Diligence Committees in Connection with a Public Document Issues Register

No.	Issue	Response	Current Status
350.1	The Technical Staff have identified amendments required to the Definitions section in APES 350 due to the previous Auditing Standards (AUSs) being finally replaced by ASAs. This change affects the definitions of 'AuASB', 'Auditing and Assurance Guidance' and 'Auditing and Assurance Standards'.	Issue identified as part of the revision of APES 310.	The relevant amendment is included in the exposure draft on APES 350 issued 1 March 2019.
350.2	Technical Staff have identified the need to include a definition for the term, 'written,' to improve the technology neutrality of the Standard.	Issue noted as part of the 2018 Annual Review of APES 350	The relevant amendment is included in the exposure draft on APES 350 issued 1 March 2019.
350.3	As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES 350 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.	This issue has been noted.	The relevant amendments are included in the exposure draft on APES 350 issued 1 March 2019.

APES GN 20: Scope and Extent of Work for Valuation Services **Issues Register Current Status** No. Response Issue 20.1 As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted in the The relevant amendments are included in were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This 2018 Annual Review of APES GN the exposure draft on APES GN 20 issued 1 has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all 20. March 2019. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES GN 20 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019. 20.2 APESB has determined to include an interpretation paragraph This issue has been noted in the The relevant amendments are included in in section 1 Scope and application of all pronouncements, that 2018 Annual Review of APES GN the exposure draft on APES GN 20 issued 1 clarifies the use of similar words which should have equal 20. March 2019. application (i.e. singular includes plural, one gender includes another and words referring to persons includes corporations or organisations). APES GN 20 does not contain this interpretation paragraph. Technical Staff's review of APES GN 20 has identified the These issues have been noted in The relevant amendments are included in 20.3 need to process minor amendments that are editorial in nature, the 2018 Annual Review of APES the exposure draft on APES GN 20 issued 1 including enhancements to the Scope and application GN 20. March 2019. paragraph to incorporate: · A paragraph which sets out the Objectives for the guidance note (to be consistent with other APESB pronouncements); and A cross-reference to the recently released APES GN 21

Valuation Services for Financial Reporting.

	APES GN 21 : Valuation Services for Financial Reporting Issues Register			
No.	Issue	Response	Current Status	
21.1	were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This	This issue has been noted in the 2018 Annual Review of APES GN 21.	The relevant amendments are included in the exposure draft on APES GN 21 issued 1 March 2019.	

APES GN 30 : Outsourced Services Issues Register No. Response **Current Status** Issue 30.1 A Professional Body has raised the issue of whether APES This issue was noted and At its November 2017 meeting, the Board GN 30 is effective and used by Members in Public Practice in considered during the 2017 annual approved the project plan to undertake a review of APES GN 30. review of APES GN 30 to assess its a proper manner. effectiveness and use by Members. The Professional Body has suggested that APESB conduct a survey of its use and consider whether transforming it into a In accordance with the project plan, APESB sought engagement from a wide range of Standard would make it more effective. stakeholders including clients, the professional bodies, regulators, outsourced service providers, and accounting firms. The majority of stakeholders preferred to retain APES GN 30 as a guidance note. The Board considered a suggestion that it should be a requirement to obtain client approval on the use of outsourced services. It was noted that this would impose a higher level of obligation than set out for all services under APES 305 Terms of Engagement. The Board will consider this suggestion further once consultation is completed. The Board requested that further consultation be undertaken, in particular with the clients' needs in mind.

APES GN 30 : Outsourced Services Issues Register				
No.	Issue	Response	Current Status	
30.2	As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES GN 30 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.	This issue has been noted.	This matter will be considered in the next revision of APES GN 30.	

	APES GN 31 : Professional and Ethical Considerations relating to Low Doc Offering Sign-offs Issues Register			
No.	Issue	Response	Current Status	
31.1	As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES GN 31 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.	This issue has been noted in the 2018 Annual Review of APES GN 31.	The relevant amendments are included in the exposure draft on APES GN 31 issued 1 March 2019.	

APES GN 40: Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace - Considerations for Members in Business **Issues Register** Response **Current Status** No. Issue 40.1 Technical Staff have noted the need to revise APES GN 40 to This issue was noted and At its August 2017 meeting, the APESB incorporate amendments relating to the NOCLAR standard and considered during the 2017 annual Board approved the proposal to undertake a project in 2018 for the revision of APES GN whistleblower protections legislation. review of APES GN 40. 40, to incorporate amendments in respect of APESB issued the NOCLAR amending standard in May 2017 the NOCLAR provisions of the Code and and will become effective from 1 January 2018, with early whistleblower protections legislation. adoption permitted. The project has been delayed. As of 1 March The Government intends to enact whistleblower protection 2019, the whistleblower legislation has passed through both houses of parliament legislation by mid-2018. and is awaiting Royal Assent. Once the legislation receives Royal Assent, Technical Staff will commence the review of APES GN 40 to determine the impacts, if any, of the new legislation. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes 40.2 This issue has been noted. This matter will be considered in the next were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This revision of APES GN 40. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES GN 40 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.

APES GN 41: Management representations Issues Register No. Issue Response **Current Status** Technical Staff has noted the need to revise APES GN 41 to At its November 2017 meeting, the APESB 41.1 This issue was noted and incorporate amendments relating to the NOCLAR standard. Board approved the proposal to undertake a considered during the 2017 annual review of APES GN 41. project in 2018 for the revision of APES GN APESB issued the NOCLAR amending standard in May 2017 41, to incorporate amendments in respect of and will become effective from 1 January 2018, with early the NOCLAR provisions of the Code and whistleblower protections legislation. adoption permitted. The project has been delayed. As of 1 March 2019, the whistleblower legislation has passed through both houses of parliament and is awaiting Royal Assent. Once the legislation receives Royal Assent, Technical Staff will commence the review of APES GN 41 to determine the impacts, if any, of the new legislation. As part of the Code restructure project, pervasive changes This issue has been noted in the This matter will be considered in the next 41.2 were made to the overall structure of the Code of Ethics. This 2018 Annual Review of APES GN revision of APES GN 41. has consequences for cross-references to the Code in all 41. APESB pronouncements. The consequential amendments to APES GN 41 will be addressed as part of the revision of all APESB pronouncements in 2019.