

AGENDA PAPER

Item Number: 2

Date of Meeting: 25 May 2015

Subject: Revision of APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business*

☒ Action required	☐ For discussion	☐ For noting	☐ For information
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Purpose

To obtain the Board's approval to issue the exposure draft for APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business*.

Background

In November 2013, APESB released amendments to the Australian Code APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) to align it with recent amendments to the international Code issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA).

As part of the annual review process, Technical staff performed a review of APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business* (APES GN 40) and identified the need to revise the definitions section of the guidance note to ensure consistency with the revised Code.

Consideration of Issues

Technical review of APES GN 40 resulted in a number of definitional changes and subsequent amendments to the text of the guidance note to remove references to the previously defined term *Professional Services*. In addition to these changes, the review of the guidance note lead to the development of an objectives of APES GN 40 (paragraph 1.1).

Subsequently, in accordance with APESB's *Due Process and Working Procedures Document* it is considered necessary to issue an Exposure Draft of APES GN 40 to enable stakeholders to provide feedback in relation to these proposed amendments.

The marked up version of APES GN 40 provided as Agenda Item 2 (a) reflects the changes incorporated to the existing Guidance Note to incorporate the new paragraph 1.1 and the consequential amendments flowing from the changes to the Code.

Staff Recommendation

Subject to the Board's editorials and review comments, the Board approve the Exposure Draft for APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business* for public comment for a 30 day comment period.

Material presented

Agenda Item 2 (a) Proposed ED: APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business* - marked up

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