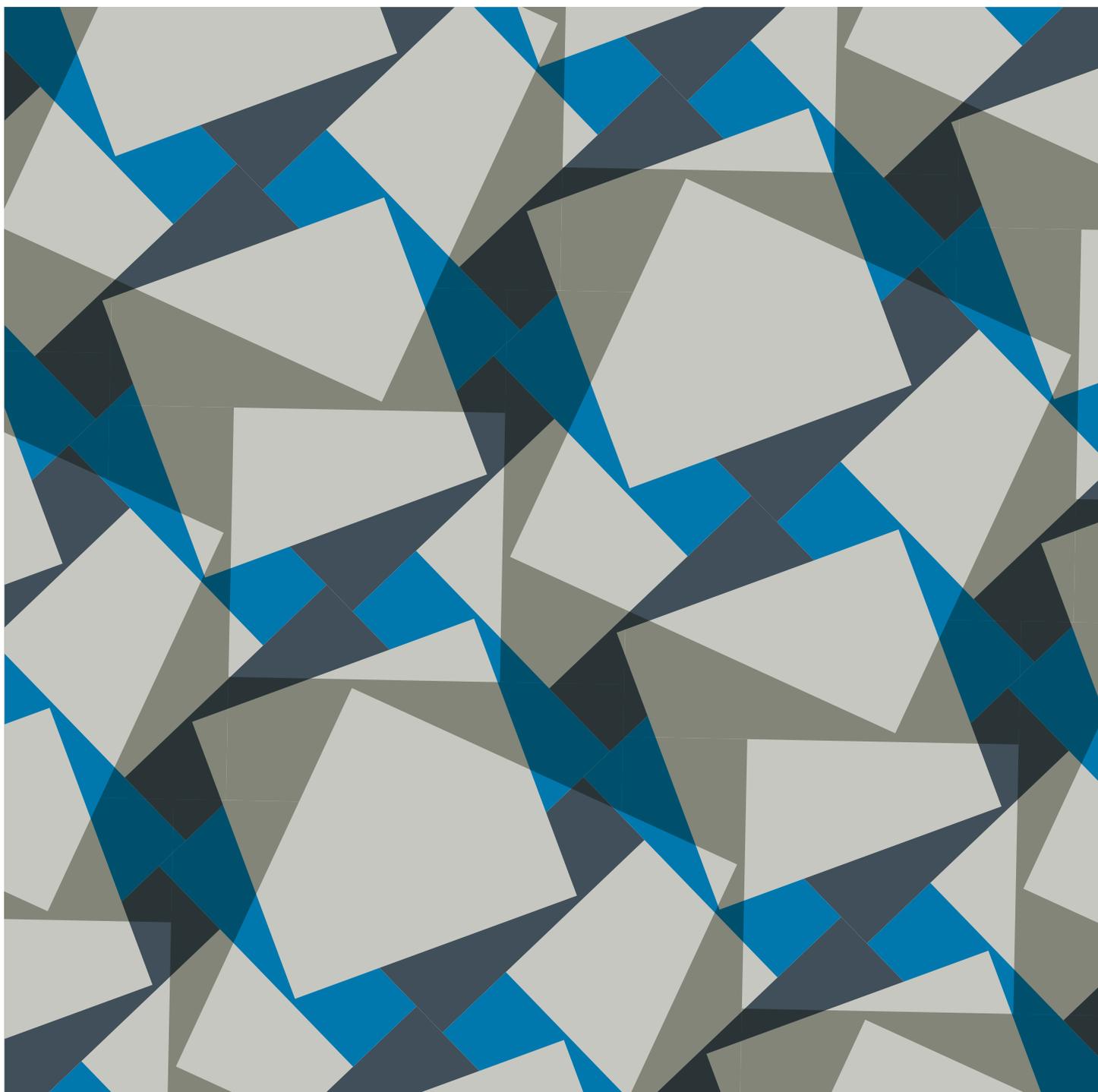


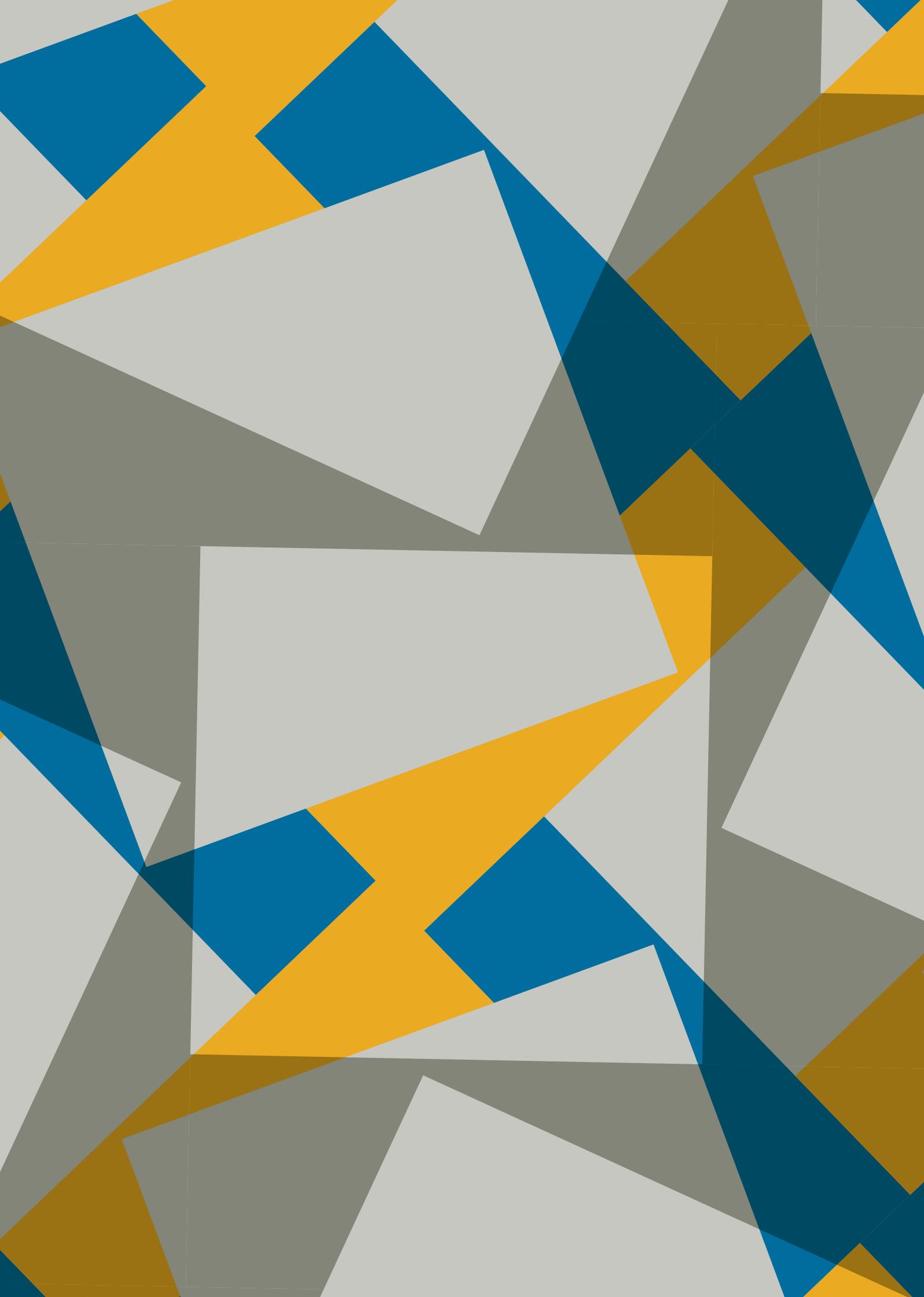
**Accounting
Professional &
Ethical Standards
Board Limited**

ACN 118 227 259

Annual Report

for the year ended
30 June 2021





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APESB's Strategic Plan 2021–2025

Vision:

We strive to achieve exemplary levels of professionalism and ethical behaviour in the accounting profession.

Statement of Purpose:

We develop and issue, in the public interest, high quality professional and ethical standards.

Values:

We are committed to being consultative and transparent in all our activities and work independently and resourcefully in the public interest.

We will promote professionalism and ethical behaviour and maximise the integrity of the accounting profession by:

Standards

Issuing professional and ethical standards that are relevant to members of the Professional Accounting Bodies while serving the public interest.

Strategies

- Develop and issue Standards and Guidance Notes
- Develop and issue appropriate guidance material to support the application of the pronouncements
- Monitor the external environment to ensure the issued pronouncements remain relevant and identify the need for new standards and guidance
- Ensure that the concepts of professionalism and public interest are the cornerstones of the standard-setting process
- Attract and retain an appropriate mix of skills, experience, knowledge and expertise to the Board, management and taskforces
- Ensure the organisation is governed, structured and resourced appropriately with transparent oversight

Engagement

Effectively engaging our key stakeholders, including professional accountants, the public, government bodies, regulators and the Professional Accounting Bodies.

Strategies

- Engage with key stakeholders across the profession in practice and business to provide leadership in respect of accounting, professional and ethical matters

- Adopt a communication strategy that facilitates a continuous process of engagement that takes advantage of appropriate platforms
- Raise awareness within targeted audiences: Members in Business, SMP/SMEs, and Universities
- Engagement and interaction with key regulators (i.e., ASIC, APRA, ATO, ACNC and NZ equivalents)
- Maintaining ongoing communication with the staff of the three major accounting bodies who are involved in professional standards, quality review and disciplinary activities

Influence

Influencing and responding to the national and international agenda in relation to professional and ethical standards.

Strategies

- Influence and engage with the work program of regulators, government bodies and other Australian standard setters
- Influence and engage with the work program of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) and contribute to the agenda of the IESBA National Standard Setter Group
- Identify future trends and emerging issues that have an impact on the accounting profession and professional standards, such as artificial intelligence and sustainability, in order to proactively develop solutions to capitalise on these opportunities

- Develop and maintain a communication and awareness raising program nationally and, as appropriate, internationally

Ethics Outreach

Promoting that professionalism and ethical conduct drive the behaviour of accountants and conducting outreach activities in collaboration with key stakeholders

Strategies

- Demonstrate leadership in ethical thinking and practice
- Promote to the public the professionalism and ethical conduct of accountants in the public sphere
- Raise awareness of APESB standards with Universities, the academic community and collaborate with the professional bodies in outreach activities to support emerging diverse young professionals
- Partner with the professional bodies to enhance the integration of APESB standards within continuing professional development programs and conduct specific outreach activities to engage with the SMP community
- Partner with the business community and influence debates on business ethics and professional standards

Key Achievements and Highlights for 2020 – 2021

In 2020-21, the Board:

- Established the future focus and priorities of APESB in the new strategic plan for 2021 – 2025.
- Completed the major strategic goals and objectives of the Board's 2016 – 2020 Strategic Plan.
- Ensured the currency of the Board's suite of pronouncements through the issue of amending standards, revised pronouncements and exposure drafts.
- Focused on providing practical resources for professional accountants addressing auditor independence, whistleblowing and the impacts of COVID-19.
- Provided input to develop global resources to deal with the challenges caused by the pandemic as a member of the IESBA's COVID 19 taskforce.
- Celebrated APESB's 15-Year Anniversary of setting professional and ethical standards, in the public interest, for Australia's accounting professionals.
- Increased awareness of APESB and our standards through broad outreach, including the thought leadership piece on business ethics.
- Provided multiple opportunities for stakeholders to engage on a range of topics related to professional and ethical matters.

APESB key achievements in each of the four pillars of our strategic plans (for 2016-2020 and 2021-2025) are as follows:

Standards

- Issued two Amending Standards to APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) to update provisions in Part 4B *Independence for Assurance Engagements Other than Audit and Review Engagements* and to promote the role and mindset expected of accountants.
- Issued revised APES 305 *Terms of Engagement*.
- Issued revised APES GN 30 *Outsourced Services*.
- Issued six exposure drafts relating to APESB pronouncements, including Exposure Drafts on EQR Objectivity and Fees provisions of the Code.
- Published three key guidance resources:
 - APES 110 *Code Prohibitions applicable to Auditors for all Audit and Review Engagements*.
 - *Applying the Code's Conceptual Framework in COVID-19 Circumstances for various services*.
 - *APESB Technical Staff Publication: Whistleblowing & Confidentiality*.

Engagement

- Hosted an online roundtable event for stakeholders on the IESBA's exposure draft proposing revisions to the definitions of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity (PIE), with IESBA Board Member, Mr Ian McPhee AO PSM co-presenting at the event.
- During the year, there was strong stakeholder engagement concerning SMSF issues with stakeholders, including presenting at the SMSF Association annual national conference, alongside Ms Kellie Grant, ATO Director of SMSF Auditors Portfolio, on the restructured Code of Ethics and Auditor Independence requirements.
- Engaged with regulatory stakeholders, professional bodies, and members to create awareness of the Independence Guide (5th Edition).
- Presented at conferences, forums and webinar events on matters related to professional standards.
- Extensive stakeholder engagement to discuss revisions to APES 320 *Quality Control for Firms* in light of the new Quality Management Standards issued by the AUASB.
- Taskforces were convened for APES 230 *Financial Planning Services* and APES 330 *Insolvency Services*.

Influence

International developments:

- Two submissions were made to the IESBA on projects relating to proposed revisions to the International Code.
- Participated at the IESBA's National Standard Setters Group online meetings held in October and November 2020 and May 2021.
- An active member of the IESBA's COVID-19 National Standards Setters Taskforce, which has developed multiple resources focused on the impact of COVID-19 on the professional and

ethical behaviour of professional accountants.

- Hosted IESBA Technology Taskforce Chair, Mr Brian Friedrich, who presented to the Board on the IESBA's Technology Project.
- Hosted NZAuASB's Chair, Mr Robert Buchanan, who presented to the Board on the NZAuASB's project on Non-Assurance Services.
- Continued engagement with NZAuASB on Trans-Tasman matters of mutual interest.

National developments:

- Participation in the Financial Reporting Council's (FRC's) Working Group to consider the Parliamentary Joint Committee Inquiry recommendations on the Regulation of Auditing in Australia.
- Collaboration with AUASB, AASB, ASIC, ATO, ARITA, and other stakeholders on projects of mutual interest.
- Two national submissions to FASEA on its proposed guide to the FASEA Code and one to the AASB on Disclosures in Special Purpose Financial Statements.

Outreach

- Hosted an international thought leadership event on *'Business Ethics, the pace of digitalisation and the accountants' role in a post-Covid environment'* with over 200 attendees from 26 countries to mark APESB's 15 Year Anniversary.
- Highlighted the importance of ethics in a published article for Global Ethics day in October 2020.
- Continual publication of our quarterly e-newsletter, *Professionalism*
- Regular social media updates on APESB activities via LinkedIn.

Taskforces

for the year ended
30 June 2021

Insolvency Services

Channa Wijesinghe
APESB (Chairman)

Robyn Erskine
Brooke Bird

Kim Arnold
ARITA

Julie Williams
Insolvency & Turnaround Solutions and
Institute of Public Accountants

Stephen Longley
PricewaterhouseCoopers

Natasha McHattan
ARITA

Karen McWilliams
Chartered Accountants Australia & New
Zealand

Dr John Purcell
CPA Australia

Financial Planning Services

Channa Wijesinghe
APESB (Chairman)

Robert Brown AM
ADF Financial Services Consumer Centre

Suzanne Haddan
BFG Financial Services

Bronny Speed
Accountants IQ Pty Ltd and Chartered
Accountants Australia & New Zealand

Vicki Stylianou
Institute of Public Accountants

Keddie Waller
CPA Australia

Achievements from APESB's Strategic Plan 2016-2020

Standards

Board Meetings held

29

Taskforce Meetings held

15

Successfully delivered the restructured Code project and related amendments to APESB's suite of pronouncements

Restructured Code	1
Standards.....	14
Guidance notes	6

Pronouncements issued

11

Consultation Papers issued

2

Guidance resources issued

6

Annual Reviews of Pronouncements

42

Engagement

Flagship events

An Evening with IESBA Chairman, Dr Stavros Thomadakis (2018)



Q&A video with IESBA member Sylvie Soulier (2020).



Roundtables, presentations and webinars

66

IESBA Global Roundtable 2018



Website hits

7.3 million

LinkedIn impressions

Over 358,000

eNewsletters issued

20

Influence

PJC Inquiry into Audit Regulation

Submissions..... **3**

Appeared before the PJC Inquiry

National Submissions

12

International Submissions

32

Annual IESBA National Standards Setters Meetings

6



Articles in Accounting Journals and other media

12

Ethics Outreach

Celebration of 10-year anniversary event



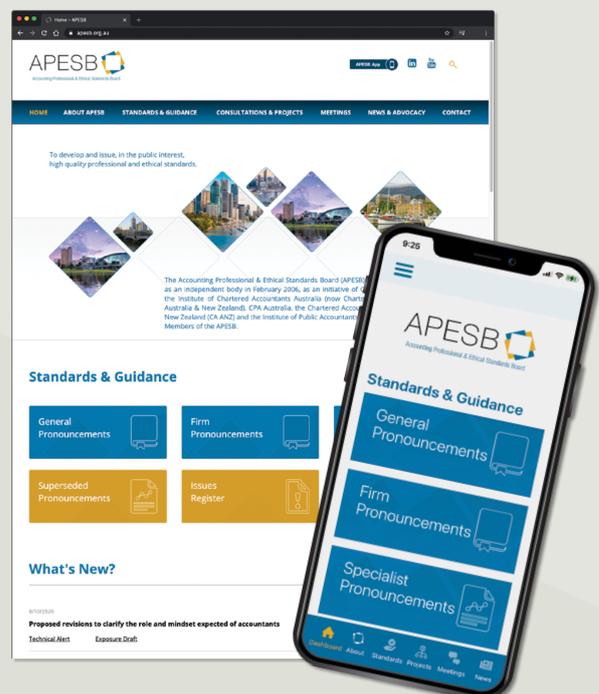
Monitoring Group consultations and roundtables

3

Dec 2017, June 2018 and May 2019



New website and apps released in 2020



APESB Fifteen-Year Anniversary Event

APESB hosted a thought leadership event on 21 May 2021 for its 15-year anniversary, where four esteemed international speakers came together to discuss business ethics, the pace of digitalisation and the accountants' role in a post-COVID environment.



The panel, moderated by APESB Chairman **Nancy Milne OAM**, was comprised of:



Dr. Stavros Thomadakis – Chairman, International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (IESBA)



Mr. Kevin Dancey CM – CEO, International Federation of Accountants (IFAC)



Dr. Attracta Lagan – Principal, Managing Values



Ms. Ming Long AM – Deputy Chair, Diversity Council Australia

Ms Milne launched APESB's 15 Year Anniversary Publication and reflected on APESB's operations over the last 15 years, and acknowledged the contribution of the Professional

Accounting Bodies, past and present Board members and staff, and the Taskforce Members.

The key themes from the panel discussion are:

Professional and business ethics are critical to successful decision-making

Professional ethics is the mechanism for the formation and preservation of trust in professional accountants. Trust is critical in tackling the pandemic and making good long-term and sustainable decisions, especially in unprecedented circumstances.

In such times, professional accountants should be mindful of the principles of the Code of Ethics as well as its spirit. Professional accountants need to have a critical mindset and resist pressure to misrepresent or to circumvent laws and regulations or to avoid transparency. The Code of Ethics must be used as an instrument for clear judgement, making sound decisions and undertaking ethical actions.

The evolution and rapid digitalisation of business processes and resources

The move to a digital future creates many opportunities for professional accountants, including an increased opportunity to deliver value to the client. However, professional accountants must be careful not to over rely on technology but should understand it and use it to augment their ability to apply professional judgement. This may mean gaining new skills and competencies and engaging or collaborating with experts such as data scientists.

Drivers of ethical behaviour in times of uncertainty and financial difficulty

The pandemic has highlighted the shortfalls of the current leadership/governance systems and economic model, including the large levels of casualised labour, human slavery in supply chains, discrimination still

occurring and business corruption impacting civil society.

The accountancy profession has significantly contributed to raising the ethical floor through integrated reporting, but more can be done. Business leaders are facing questions about the intersection of ethical conduct and commercial imperatives and the role of the marketplace in society.

Impacts of technology and COVID-19 on organisational culture and board oversight

The unexpectedness of the COVID pandemic has impacted organisational culture and board oversight. Organisational culture has evolved but is not yet settled with changing conditions affecting how people want to work. Leaders are grappling with determining the work environment and what leadership should be in this altered environment.

The ability of leaders and boards to work towards a new future will make organisations and society more resilient and organisations more valuable.

Climate Change and Sustainability

The discussion emphasised the pressing need for sustainability reporting frameworks. Many countries have climate targets, but there is no common framework, so it is difficult for those targets to be measured and compared. Professional accountants, as preparers, advisors and assurance providers, have the ability to come to grips with the complexity of reporting and drive the necessary change.

Mental health implications

Mental stress can undermine a professional accountant's ethical behaviour. Awareness of this issue and practical insights to support mental wellness is a current focus of the profession.

The event was attended live by over 200 people from 26 countries, with an additional 400 plus registrants accessing a recording of the session.



*Directors left to right:
Ms Nancy Milne OAM (Chairman), Mr Kevin Osborn, Mr Craig Farrow, Ms Claire Mackay, Mr Brian Morris,
Ms Rachel Grimes and Colin Murphy PSM*



*Staff left to right:
Mr Channa Wijesinghe (Chief Executive Officer/Company Secretary), Ms Jacinta Hanrahan (Principal), Mr Jon Reid (Senior Technical
Manager), Ms Rebecca Williams (Admin & Communications Officer), Ms Rachael Tiong (Assistant Technical Manager)
Absent: Ms Rozelle Azad (Accountant) and Ms Dolla Wilkinson (Bookkeeper)*

Chairman's Report

I am pleased to share the Board's accomplishments over the last financial year in what continues to be a challenging time for the accounting profession due to the COVID-19 pandemic. While the ongoing implications of the pandemic and its impact on communities and businesses continue, the accounting profession has played a critical role in the Australian economy.

The accounting profession's capacity to adapt to this fast-changing environment and uncertainty during the pandemic has been exemplary. APESB's robust suite of pronouncements equips the accounting profession with a solid foundation to act ethically and fairly during these challenging times. Over the last year, this base foundation and APESB's focus on releasing real-time guidance on the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have meant professional accountants have had the tools to adapt and respond.

APESB was pleased to collaborate with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA's) National Standard Setters COVID-19 Working Group to produce COVID-19 related resources. Collectively, the group drew upon the experience and learnings from multiple jurisdictions to generate insightful and practical resources.

Major achievements of 2016 – 2020 Strategy

While we move into a new strategic period in 2021, the Board successfully completed its 2016-2020 Strategy during the financial

year. Key achievements from the 2016-2020 strategic plan included refreshing the Constitution, issue of the restructured Code and revising APESB pronouncements to align with the restructured Code. In addition, there was strong engagement with the review of the international standard-setting framework initiated by the Monitoring Group and the Parliamentary Joint Committee Inquiry into Regulation of Auditing in Australia.

APESB's 2021 – 25 Strategy

The Board developed the future strategic direction for APESB, which is documented in the new Strategic Plan for 2021-2025. The Board acknowledges the valuable input provided by the professional accounting bodies to develop the Board's future strategy.

APESB's primary purpose will continue to be the development of professional and ethical pronouncements in the public interest. A key strategic theme will be the Board's focus on APESB pronouncements being readily known, easily understood, and quickly brought into practice. APESB is planning to develop resources and tools to assist accountants in understanding and

implementing APESB pronouncements. These resources will include a focus on digital technologies, artificial intelligence and sustainability.

APESB is aware that small-to-medium practitioners (SMPs) constitute a significant proportion of professional accountants in public practice. While there has been engagement with SMPs, we acknowledge that more can be done to engage with this sector, which will be a strategic focus in the coming years.

APESB's 15-Year Anniversary

In February 2021, APESB reached a key milestone with the completion of 15 years of operations. Over that period, APESB has delivered a world-class suite of professional pronouncements, including the Code of Ethics and other robust pronouncements covering non-assurance services, quality control, risk management and dealing with ethical conflicts in the workplace. These pronouncements are fundamental to the ethical standing of Australian professional accountants, whether the accountants are in public practice, commerce or business, government, or academia.

The valuable contributions of the professional accounting bodies, taskforce members, regulators and other stakeholders have ensured APESB develops standards and guidance notes that are practical and address relevant professional matters. The Board greatly appreciates the contributions of all past and present stakeholders and volunteer taskforce members for their knowledge, dedication, commitment to the development and maintenance of the APESB suite of pronouncements.

To mark the 15-year milestone of the operations, APESB held an online international panel discussion on business ethics, the pace of digitalisation, and the accountants' role in a post-COVID environment. I was pleased to moderate the panel of distinguished speakers, which comprised Dr Stavros Thomadakis (Chairman IESBA), Mr Kevin Dancey

CM (CEO IFAC), Dr Attracta Lagan (Principal of Managing Values), and Ms Ming Long AM (Deputy Chair of Diversity Council Australia). The discussion covered why professional and business ethics are critical to successful decision-making and the drivers of ethical behaviours in times of uncertainty and financial difficulties.

I wish to acknowledge the generosity of the panellists for their time and contributions to the event. I also want to thank the Directors and the Secretariat staff for their work in designing and running this thought-provoking and successful international event.

APESB Stakeholder engagement

APESB's projects over the past year, whether national or international, highlight that the best outcomes are achieved for the profession with collaboration. The Board of Directors acknowledges the valuable contributions made by the staff of the Professional Accounting Bodies, accounting firms, government and regulators, who engage with the Board and provide insights and different perspectives to APESB's public standards-setting process. We especially acknowledge the attendance of representatives from the Professional Bodies, regulators and other stakeholders who attend the APESB board meetings.

Board

APESB has been fortunate over the last 15 years to have been supported by talented and committed directors who play an active role in the work of this small national organisation. I want to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to the past and present board members, whose dedication and commitment have ensured that APESB is a highly effective National Standards Setter that is well recognised and respected in Australia and internationally.

There were no changes to the membership of the Board this financial year. I am pleased to have been re-appointed to Chair this Board for a second three-year term, commencing 1 January 2022. APESB director Brian Morris has also been re-appointed for a second three-year term effective from 1 January 2022.

Staff

The APESB Secretariat is a small and dedicated team led by Channa Wijesinghe (Chief Executive Officer/ Company Secretary). Channa is supported by Jacinta Hanrahan (Principal), Jon Reid (Senior Technical Manager), Rachael Tiong (Assistant Technical Manager), Rebecca Williams (Administration & Communications Officer), Rozelle Azad (Accountant) and Dolla Wilkinson (Bookkeeper).

The Secretariat has worked extremely hard over the last year to deliver the Board's strategy while experiencing Covid restrictions in Melbourne. They have executed the Board's strategy exceptionally well and continued to produce high-quality outputs for the benefit of the accounting profession. On behalf of the Board and stakeholders, I would like to thank them and acknowledge their commitment and dedication.

As APESB moves forward into our next strategic period, 2021-2025, the Board looks forward to continuing its public interest mandate to set and maintain professional and ethical standards to enhance the professionalism and ethical behaviour of the Australian accounting profession in a fast-evolving digital environment with an emphasis on sustainability. I look forward to sharing the Board's progress with you in the coming years.



Nancy Milne OAM
Chairman

27 October 2021

CEO's Report

The last financial year has been challenging for the APESB Secretariat with the ongoing pandemic and Covid restrictions in Melbourne. However, APESB has made excellent progress in its four strategic pillars of standards, engagement, influence and ethics outreach, as described below.

Standards

During the period, APESB completed work on two pronouncements that impacted the Code of Ethics and the pronouncements on Terms of Engagement and Outsourcing. In addition, two other exposure drafts were issued that will affect the Code and auditor independence.

We have supported and informed our stakeholders with various guidance publications on the pandemic. A resource on *Applying the Code's Conceptual Framework in COVID-19 Circumstances* was a successful collaboration between APESB and the International Ethics Standards Board of Accountants (IESBA), and I thank the IESBA NSS COVID Taskforce for their invaluable contributions to this project.

APESB Technical Staff also published new guidance on applying professional standards when facing COVID-19 circumstances in non-assurance engagements, a publication on the APES 110 Prohibitions for auditors for all audit and review engagements and a new resource on Whistleblowing and Confidentiality. These resources assist the accounting profession in complying with APESB pronouncements.

The Parliamentary Joint Committee (PJC) Inquiry into Audit Regulation

recommendations was released in November 2020. At the date of this report, the Federal Government's response to these recommendations is outstanding. However, as some of the matters impacted the auditor providing non-assurance services and audit fees, APESB will consider these recommendations as part of its current Non-Assurance Services and Fees projects.

A key project of the Secretariat this period has been on the quality management systems of firms providing non-assurance services. New Auditing Standards released by the Australian Auditing and Assurance Standards Board (AUASB) require firms that provide assurance services to amend their existing quality control approach to a continuous quality management system to address audit quality. Based on this development, the Board is revising APES 320 *Quality Control for Firms* to focus on quality management systems for firms that provide non-assurance services.

The new APES 320 will be based on the extant standard but will align with the new auditing standards on Quality Management at a component level. We have arrived at this proposed position after conducting extensive stakeholder engagement, and we thank the professional accounting bodies and those stakeholders who engaged with us on this topic.

Engagement

The APESB Secretariat has worked closely with the professional bodies and other stakeholders to promote awareness and understanding of the professional and ethical standards. This past year's engagement activities have included webinars, video presentations, roundtables, forums, and the publication of articles. We have also collaborated with the ATO and ASIC on issues regarding taxation services and SMSF auditor independence.

Influence

Internationally, the Board continued to influence the standard-setting projects of the IESBA with two submissions made. The submissions were in response to an exposure draft on the IESBA's *Proposed Revisions to the Definition of Listed Entity and Public Interest Entity* (PIE) and IESBA's stakeholder questionnaire to inform a post-implementation review of the Long Association Provisions in the IESBA Code. The outcome of these projects will drive future amendments to the Australian Code (APES 110).

APESB continued its work with the IESBA National Standards Setters' Taskforce to develop Covid related guidance material to assist the global accounting profession in dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic. The involvement of APESB with international standards setters benefit Australian professional accountants by ensuring local projects are at the forefront of international best practice.

Ethics Outreach

As noted in the Chairman's report, APESB marked its 15th year of operations with an international panel on business ethics which

APESB Publications

2020 – 2021

stakeholders in 26 countries attended. It was gratifying to note that many stakeholders who contributed to APESB's journey participated at this virtual event and appreciated the panellists' thought-provoking conversation.

Acknowledgements and future strategy

I take this opportunity to acknowledge the dedicated efforts of the APESB Secretariat team who, notwithstanding the Covid restrictions in Melbourne, has assisted the Board in delivering on its 2016-2020 strategic plan and the development of the Board's new 2021-2025 strategy to enable the accounting profession navigate these difficult times.

On behalf of the APESB Secretariat team, I place on record our appreciation of the input provided by the staff of the Professional Accounting Bodies, regulators, taskforce members, AUASB, AASB, and other stakeholders who contribute to APESB's standards development work program.

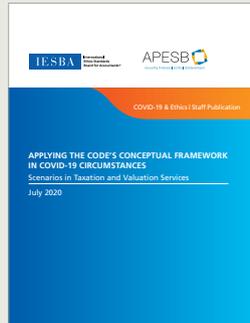
I look forward to delivering on the Board 2021-2025 Strategy as we navigate the post-Covid environment, focusing on APESB's three key strategic themes of awareness and understandability of APESB pronouncements, with an emphasis on the SMP sector, the use of digital technology, and addressing sustainability.



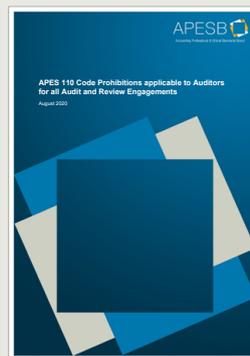
Channa Wijesinghe
Chief Executive Officer

27 October 2021

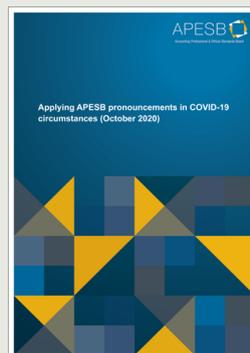
APESB issued four guidance publications during the year to assist professional accountants dealing with Covid related issues, auditor independence and whistleblowing. A summary of these publications is as follows:



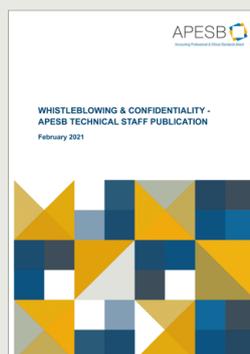
APESB CEO, Channa Wijesinghe represented the APESB in the IESBA's COVID-19 National Standard Setters Taskforce. This initiative led to the first APESB/IESBA joint publication to assist professional accountants in applying the IESBA Code of Ethics when facing issues created by the pandemic in respect of taxation and valuation services. The IESBA COVID-19 Taskforce has subsequently developed several valuable resources addressing fraud, money laundering, use of specialists' and ethical and auditing implications of government-backed business support schemes.



APESB issued expanded guidance for auditors, audit firms, professional accountants and other stakeholders in APES 110 *Code Prohibitions applicable to auditors for all Audit and Review Engagements*.



APESB issued additional guidance to support accountants applying APESB pronouncements when facing circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic, including scenarios covering taxation, valuation, insolvency and forensic accounting services for members in public practice and business.



APESB released guidance to support accountants when dealing with whistleblowing and related confidentiality concerns. *Whistleblowing & Confidentiality – APESB Technical Staff Publication* provides guidance on applying the Code of Ethics and other APESB pronouncements to circumstances that may lead to whistleblowing, using eight hypothetical scenarios.

Directors' Report

The directors of Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB or the company) present the financial report of the company for the year ended 30 June 2021. In complying with the provisions of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, the directors' report is as follows:

Principal Activities

The principal activities of APESB during the year were the development and issue, in the public interest, of professional and ethical standards that apply to the members of the Professional Accounting Bodies and the provision of a formal and rigorous forum for the consideration, promulgation and approval of professional and ethical standards in an open, timely, independent and proactive manner.

The company's objectives are to monitor and evaluate the robustness of professional and ethical pronouncements for professional accountants in Australia and develop additional pronouncements as required in the public interest. To achieve its objectives, the company has adopted the following strategies:

- Communicating and raising awareness of APESB pronouncements with our constituency;
- Engaging in and keeping up to date with international developments;
- Requesting input in terms of work plan inclusions from the Professional Accounting Bodies;
- Maintaining awareness of the business environment and legislative developments to identify opportunities where APESB should develop pronouncements in the public interest; and
- Engaging in stakeholder consultation when developing pronouncements for members.

The Chairman's and CEO's reports include further information on APESB's strategy and key achievements.

Results of Operations

The company's operations for the year ended 30 June 2021 resulted in a surplus of \$41,720 (2020: surplus \$87,393).

Review of Operations

The major focus of the company's operations for the year continued to be the review and maintenance of the APESB suite of pronouncements with appropriate engagement, influence and ethics outreach.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

There were no significant changes in the company's state of affairs during the financial year.

Environmental Issues

The company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or a State or Territory.

Future Developments

The company expects to maintain the present status and level of operations and hence, there are no likely developments in the company's operations. The company is continually updating, reviewing, and improving its management and governance practices to ensure that the company's strategic objectives are met.

Dividends

The company is limited by guarantee and its Constitution precludes the payments of dividends.

Events after the Reporting Period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or are likely to significantly affect the operations of the company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the company in future financial years.

Directors

The names and details of the company's directors in office during the financial year and until the date of this report are as follows. Directors were in office for the entire year unless otherwise stated. None of the directors listed had any special responsibilities during the year other than as noted below.

Nancy Milne OAM (Chairman)

Ms Nancy Milne OAM brings over 30-years' experience as a lawyer working on large commercial cases involving risk and compliance to her role as Chairman at APESB. As a partner at Clayton Utz, her accounting and indemnity work established her strength in stakeholder management, dispute resolution and governance. She has also developed an in-depth knowledge of the regulatory environment within the financial services sector.

Nancy holds a Bachelor of Law from the University of Sydney. She is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Nancy was a recipient of an Order of Australia Medal in 2008 for services to the legal sector and the community.

Since 2003, Nancy has taken up a variety of governance roles, focussing on improving business performance. She is Chair at the Securities Exchanges Guarantee Corporation, Deputy Chair at the State Insurance Regulatory Authority and a non-

Executive Director at ALE Property Group Limited. Nancy is a Director at Pacific Opera and the Benevolent Society. She is a Council Member for the Asbestos Safety and Eradication Agency Council and a Member of the Audit and Risk Committee, NSW Department of Customer Service.

Date of appointment: 1 January 2019

Kevin Osborn

Mr Kevin Osborn has worked in international financial markets where he held various global senior management positions with the USA's then fourth-largest Banking Corporation, Bank One, which is now part of JP Morgan Chase. He was also a former Non-Executive Director of Calgary-based Viterro and the Deputy Chairman of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank.

Kevin is a Foundation Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants.

Kevin is Chairman of VUCA Pty Ltd; Beerenberg Farm Advisory Board, Coppin Capital Pty Ltd and Power Community Ltd, and Deputy Chairman of the Port Adelaide Football Club. Kevin is a Director of Nut Producers Australia Pty Ltd, Pateka Pty Ltd, OSADA Pty Ltd, Carlisle Health Pty Ltd and Coppin Investment Partners Ltd.

Date of appointment: 18 March 2013

Craig Farrow

Mr Craig Farrow is Managing Director of Innvatio Advisory Pty Ltd and Consultant at Brentnalls SA Chartered Accountants. He is a past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants Australia (ICAA). Craig played a pivotal role in ICAA's historic merger with the New Zealand Institute of Chartered Accountants as the Executive Chair of the merger project that led to the creation of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.

Craig is a Fellow of both the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and the Australian Institute

of Company Directors and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Management (AIM). He is also a certified practicing manager and holds a Diploma of Financial Services.

Craig is the Chairman of Carlisle Health Pty Ltd, Centre State Exports Group, SRL Marketing Group, Doctor's Health SA, Resolution Minerals Ltd, Real Time Data Pty Ltd, Pinion Advisory Pty Ltd, and Mantina Quarries and Concrete. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Australian Technology Innovators Pty Ltd and Country and Outback Health SA. Craig is Group CFO at Raven/Cavity Sliders Group.

Date of appointment:
10 February 2015

Claire Mackay

Ms Claire Mackay is a Principal and Head of Advice at Quantum Financial, a leading independent financial planning firm. Previously, Claire worked in structured tax at PwC and Macquarie Bank, and she was an industry nominated Panel Adjudicator for the Financial Ombudsman Service.

Claire is admitted to the NSW Supreme Court; she holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Bachelor of Law from Macquarie University and a Master of Law from Sydney University. Claire is a qualified Chartered Accountant (SMSF and Financial Planning Specialist), a Certified Financial Planner, a Chartered Tax Advisor, and a Graduate Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Claire is a Director of the Australian Financial Complaints Authority, a member of the Finance Audit and Compliance Committee of Surf Life Saving NSW, the Professional Standards and Conduct Committee at the Financial Planning Association, and a member of RMIT's Program Advisory Committee for the School of Accounting.

Date of appointment: 1 July 2016

Brian Morris

Mr Brian Morris is the Principal of Morris Forensic, a specialist forensic accounting practice. Over the years, Brian has served on a variety of Board and Committee positions. From 1983 to 2014, he was a partner at Edward Marshall, specialising in audit, forensic accounting, valuations and management consulting services. He was also the firm's managing partner and Chairman of partners at various times.

Brian is a Fellow of both Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and CPA Australia and a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Brian is the Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee of the Courts Administrative Authority, a member of the Audit Committee of the Art Gallery of South Australia and the Editorial Committee of the Australian Accounting Review. He is a member of the Stratco Group Advisory Board.

Date of appointment: 1 January 2019

Rachel Grimes

Ms Rachel Grimes is the Chief Financial Officer of Challenger Limited. Rachel is a past President of the International Federation of Accountants (IFAC) (2016-2018). Prior to her international appointment, she was co-lead of the merger between Westpac and St George. She is a strong advocate for Diversity and Inclusion in the workplace and was a finalist in Westpac's internal Women of Influence Awards Inclusion & Diversity category from 2013 – 2015.

Rachel is a Fellow of the Institute of Public Accountants, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and CPA Australia. Rachel is the Chair of the Finance and Risk Committee of Surfing Australia and a Director of the Loreto Ministries Committee.

Rachel is the Director of Challenger Direct Pty Ltd, Challenger Financial Services Pty Limited, Challenger FM 2 Holdings Pty Limited, Challenger

Funds Management Holdings Pty Limited, Challenger Group Holdings Limited, Challenger Group Pty Limited, Challenger Group Services Pty Ltd, Challenger Inventory Finance Servicing Pty Limited, Challenger Life Company Holdings Pty Ltd, Challenger Mortgage Management Pty Ltd, Challenger Non-conforming Finance Pty Ltd, Challenger Originator Finance Pty Ltd, Challenger Securitisation Management Pty Ltd, Challenger Special Servicing Pty Ltd, Challenger Treasury Limited, Challenger Wholesale Finance Holdings Pty Limited, Howard Commercial Lending Pty Ltd, Challenger Home Loan Corporation Pty Ltd, Challenger Managed Investments (International) Pty Limited, Challenger Margin Lending Pty Ltd, Challenger Japan Holdings Pty Limited and Challenger Holdco2 Holdings Pty Ltd.

Date of appointment: 1 February 2019

Colin Murphy PSM

Mr Colin Murphy is the former Auditor General for Western Australia, where he served the Parliament of Western Australia for more than 11 years. Colin is also a past AUASB Board member.

Colin holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from the University of Western Australia. Colin is a Fellow, former Board member and Past State President of CPA Australia and a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Australia and New Zealand. He is also a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and President of the Institute of Public Administration Western Australia. Colin received CPA Australia's President's Award and a Meritorious Service Award and was also awarded the Public Service Medal (PSM) in the 2010 Australia Day Honours.

Colin is a Director of the Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Australia, Wajarri Enterprises Ltd, and an independent Director of Winja Wajarri Barna Limited. He is a Board member of South Metropolitan Health Services Board WA, ChemCentre Western Australia, the Financial Counsellors

Association Western Australia and Scouts WA.

Colin is the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, Department of Education Western Australia and the Audit and Risk Committee, Department of Justice Western Australia. He is also a Member of the Audit and Risk Committee, Catholic Education Commission.

Date of appointment: 1 May 2020

Chief Executive Officer & Company Secretary

Channa Wijesinghe

Mr Channa Wijesinghe is the Chief Executive Officer and Company Secretary of APESB. He is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, CPA Australia and the Governance Institute of Australia. Channa joined the APESB in January 2007. He is the founding Technical Director of the APESB and was subsequently appointed as the CEO in 2016. He manages the implementation of the Board's strategy, national and international stakeholder engagement, operations and technical work program.

Indemnification of Officers and Auditors

During the financial year, the company paid a premium in respect of a contract insuring the directors of the company (as named above), the company secretary and all executive officers of the company against a liability incurred as such a director, secretary or executive officer to the extent permitted by the *Corporations Act 2001*. The contract of insurance prohibits disclosure of the nature of the cover and the amount of the premium.

The company has not otherwise, during or since the financial year, except to the extent permitted by law, indemnified or agreed to indemnify an officer or auditor of the company or of any related body corporate against a liability incurred as such officer or auditor.

Directors' meetings

The following table sets out the number of directors' meetings held during the financial reporting year and the number of meetings attended by each director. During the financial reporting year, seven directors' meetings were held.

Director	Directors' Meetings	
	Number Eligible to Attend	Number Attended
Nancy Milne OAM	7	7
Kevin Osborn	7	7
Craig Farrow	7	7
Rachel Grimes	7	7
Claire Mackay	7	7
Brian Morris	7	7
Colin Murphy PSM	7	7

Proceedings on Behalf of the Company

No person has applied for leave of the Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the company, or to intervene in any proceedings to which the company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the company for all or part of those proceedings.

The company was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

The company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any out-standings and obligations of the company. At 30 June 2021, the number of members was 3 (2020: 3 members).

Auditor's Independence Declaration

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2021 has been received and can be found in the directors' report on page 18.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Nancy Milne OAM
Chairman

27 October 2021

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONAL & ETHICAL STANDARDS BOARDS LIMITED

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2021 there have been:

- i. No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in *the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, in relation to the audit, and
- ii. No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



ShineWing Australia
Chartered Accountants



Hayley Underwood
Partner

Melbourne, 27 October 2021

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Directors' Declaration

The directors of the company declare that:

- (1) The financial statements and notes as set out on pages 20 to 38 are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:
 - (a) comply with Accounting Standards, which, as stated in accounting policy Note 1 to the financial statements, constitutes explicit and unreserved compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*; and
 - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the company;
- (2) In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.



Nancy Milne OAM
Chairman

27 October 2021

Financial Statements

Statement of Comprehensive Income

for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue	2	1,341,000	1,539,000
Other income	2	47,503	80,991
Employee costs, directors fees and contractors		(1,003,299)	(1,018,730)
Employee benefits expense		(56,041)	(61,482)
Board meeting costs		-	(24,940)
Conferences and events		(95)	(13,352)
Taskforce meeting costs		-	(3,441)
Consulting fees		(10,000)	-
Depreciation and amortisation		(93,987)	(91,844)
Lease finance charges		(966)	(1,319)
Accounting and legal fees		(14,770)	(39,696)
Cleaning and outgoings		(34,041)	(32,452)
Information technology support and development		(30,163)	(28,079)
Marketing		(35,934)	(34,912)
Insurance		(12,624)	(12,124)
Postage, printing and stationary		(9,816)	(14,871)
Communications		(12,468)	(12,184)
Independence guide development costs		(113)	(48,655)
Website and app development costs		-	(64,773)
Other expenses		(32,466)	(29,744)
Surplus before income tax		41,720	87,393
Income tax expense	1(i)	-	-
Surplus after income tax		41,720	87,393
Surplus for the financial year		41,720	87,393
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-
Total comprehensive income for the year		41,720	87,393

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Financial Position

as at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash	4,16(a)	525,873	465,322
Financial Assets	5	946,892	939,777
Other assets	6	27,647	74,528
Total Current Assets		1,500,412	1,479,627
Non-Current Assets			
Financial assets	5	42,383	42,383
Property, plant and equipment	7	58,598	80,055
Right of use assets	8	136,506	202,029
Total Non-Current Assets		237,487	324,467
Total Assets		1,737,899	1,804,094
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	9	71,627	102,463
Lease liabilities	11	93,993	90,205
Provisions	10	114,924	105,334
Total Current Liabilities		280,544	298,002
Non-Current Liabilities			
Lease liabilities	11	106,126	200,119
Provisions	10	12,312	8,776
Total Non-Current Liabilities		118,438	208,895
Total Liabilities		398,982	506,897
Net Assets		1,338,917	1,297,197
Accumulated surplus		1,338,917	1,297,197
Total Equity		1,338,917	1,297,197

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Changes in Equity

for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Accumulated Surplus \$
Balance at 1 July 2019	1,209,804
Net surplus for the financial year	87,393
Other comprehensive income for the year	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	1,297,197
Balance at 1 July 2020	1,297,197
Net surplus for the financial year	41,720
Other comprehensive income for the year	-
Balance at 30 June 2021	1,338,917

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Statement of Cash Flows

for the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$	2020 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts from Professional Bodies		1,475,100	1,692,900
Receipts from other operating activities		37,500	50,000
Payments to suppliers and employees		(1,358,185)	(1,573,866)
Interest received		8,398	22,343
Net cash generated by operating activities	16(b)	162,813	191,377
Cash Flows from Investing Activities			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(7,006)	(8,382)
Net cash used in investing activities		(7,006)	(8,382)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Interest paid		(966)	(1,319)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(87,175)	(86,556)
Net cash used in financing activities		(88,141)	(87,875)
Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents		67,666	95,120
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Financial Year		1,447,482	1,352,362
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Financial Year	16(a)	1,515,148	1,447,482

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

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Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB or the Company) is an individual company, incorporated and domiciled in Australia. APESB is a not-for-profit company limited by guarantee. The address of its registered office and principal place of business is disclosed in note 20. The financial report was authorised for issue on 27 October 2021 by the Board of Directors.

Note 1: Statement of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are General Purpose Financial Statements that have been prepared in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, Australian Accounting Standards, Australian Accounting Interpretations and other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB).

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements that contain relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Compliance with Australian Accounting Standards ensures that the financial statements and notes also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards as issued by the IASB. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated. The functional and presentation currency of the Company is in Australian dollars.

The financial statements except for cash flow information have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report.

Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue

Revenue primarily consists of subscriptions paid by the Professional Accounting Bodies (Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, CPA Australia and the Institute of Public Accountants) in the form of transfers of resources to the company. Annual contributions are received based on the agreed budgeted activities of the Company for the year. Revenue is therefore recognised over time over any given year. The performance obligations are satisfied within the same period the funding is received resulting in no deferral of income. Income is remitted on 30 day net terms from the date of invoice.

Government grant income

The Company was eligible to receive government support by the means of the cash flow boosts net against the taxes payable to the Australian Tax Office. When the right to receive the income was established, the amount was immediately recognised in profit or loss.

Interest revenue

Revenue is recognised as interest accrues, using the effective interest rate method.

(b) Property, Plant and Equipment

Plant and equipment and leasehold improvements are measured on the basis of cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment. Cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to the acquisition of the item.

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including capitalised lease assets is depreciated on a straight line basis over the asset’s useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either the unexpired period of the lease or the estimated useful life of improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of fixed asset	Depreciation Rate
Leasehold improvements	14.29% - 20%
Lease assets	10%
Furniture	20%
Computer equipment	25% - 50%
Office equipment	25% - 33.3%

The assets’ residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

An asset’s carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the asset’s carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

(c) Leases

The Company as a lessee

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses if the contract contains or is a lease. If there is a lease present, a right-of-use asset and a corresponding lease liability are recognised by the Company where the Company is a lessee. However, all contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

Initially, the lease liability is measured at the present value of the lease payments still to be paid at commencement date. The lease payments are discounted at the interest rate implicit in the lease. If this rate cannot be readily determined, the Company uses the Government bond rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are as follows:

- fixed lease payments less any lease incentives;
- variable lease payments that depend on an index or rate, initially measured using the index or rate at the commencement date;
- the amount expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees;
- the exercise price of purchase options, if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options;
- lease payments under extension options if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise the options; and
- payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the exercise of an option to terminate the lease.

The right-of-use assets comprise the initial measurement of the corresponding lease liability as mentioned above, any lease payments made at or before the commencement date as well as any initial direct costs. The subsequent measurement of the right-of-use assets is at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Right-of-use assets are depreciated over the lease term or useful life of the underlying asset whichever is the shortest.

Where a lease transfers ownership of the underlying asset or the cost of the right-of-use asset reflects that the Company anticipates to exercise a purchase option, the specific asset is depreciated over the useful life of the underlying asset.

(d) Financial Instruments

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Company commits itself to either the purchase or sale of the asset (ie trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transaction costs. This includes trade receivables as they do not contain a significant financing component.

Classification and subsequent measurement

Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a debt instrument and of allocating interest expense in profit or loss over the relevant period.

Financial liabilities are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The effective interest rate is the internal rate of return of the financial asset or liability. That is, it is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash flows through the expected life of the instrument to the net carrying amount at initial recognition.

A financial liability cannot be reclassified.

Financial assets

Financial assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method where it meets the following conditions:

- the financial asset is managed solely to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms within the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding on specified dates.

Derecognition

Derecognition refers to the removal of a previously recognised financial asset or financial liability from the statement of financial position.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

A liability is derecognised when it is extinguished (ie when the obligation in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires).

The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable, including any non-cash assets transferred or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset is derecognised when the holder's contractual rights to its cash flows expires, or the asset is transferred in such a way that all the risks and rewards of ownership are substantially transferred.

All of the following criteria need to be satisfied for derecognition of a financial asset:

- the right to receive cash flows from the asset has expired or been transferred;
- all risk and rewards of ownership of the asset have been substantially transferred; and
- the Company no longer controls the asset (ie it has no practical ability to make unilateral decisions to sell the asset to a third party).

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss.

Impairment of financial assets

The Company recognises a loss allowance for expected credit losses on financial assets that are measured at amortised cost.

Expected credit losses are the probability-weighted estimate of credit losses over the expected life of a financial instrument. A credit loss is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due and all cash flows expected to be received, all discounted at the original effective interest rate of the financial instrument.

The simplified approach does not require tracking of changes in credit risk in every reporting period, but instead requires the recognition of lifetime expected credit loss at all times. Expected credit losses are measured with reference to and reflect:

- an unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined by evaluating a range of possible outcomes;
- the time value of money; and
- reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at the reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

Changes in expected credit losses from the previous reporting period are recognised in profit or loss as an impairment gain or loss.

No impairment on financial assets was recognised during the year ended 30 June 2021 (2020: Nil).

(e) Impairment of Assets

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying values of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the Statement of Comprehensive Income.

As a not-for-profit company where the future economic benefits of the asset are not primarily dependent on the asset's ability to generate net cash inflows, value in use is determined as the depreciated replacement cost of an asset.

(f) Employee Benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period.

Employee benefits expected to be settled wholly within 12 months together with benefits arising from wages, salaries and annual leave which may be settled after 12 months, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the net present value.

Contributions to defined contribution superannuation plans are expensed when incurred.

(g) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, bank deposits held at-call, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less and bank overdrafts.

(h) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of expense. Receivables and payables in the Statement of Financial Position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis, except for the GST component of investing and financing activities which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

(i) Income Tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the Company is exempt from income tax under Division 50 of the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1997*.

(j) Comparative Figures

Where required by Accounting Standards comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

(k) Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The directors evaluate estimates and judgements incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data obtained both externally and within the Company.

Lease term and Option to Extend under AASB 16

The lease term is defined as the non-cancellable period of a lease together with both periods covered by an option to extend the lease if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise that option; and also periods covered by an option to terminate the lease if the lessee is reasonably certain not to exercise that option. Whether an option is reasonably certain of being exercised is a key management judgement that the Company will make. The Company determined the likelihood to exercise the option looking at various factors such as which assets are strategic and which are key to future strategy of the Company.

Estimation of the incremental borrowing rate under AASB 16

The Company cannot readily determine the interest rate implicit in the lease, therefore, it uses its incremental borrowing rate (IBR) to measure the lease liability. The IBR is the rate of interest that the Company

would have to pay to borrow over a similar term, and with a similar security, the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset in a similar economic environment. The IBR therefore reflects what the Company 'would have to pay', which requires estimation when no observable rates are available (such as for subsidiaries that do not enter into financing transactions) or when they need to be adjusted to reflect the terms and conditions of the lease. The Company estimates the IBR using observable inputs when available.

(l) Economic Dependency

APESB is dependent on the Professional Accounting Bodies (CPA Australia, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand and the Institute of Public Accountants) for the majority of its revenue used to operate the business. As per clause 2.2 of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand, CPA Australia and APESB, funding is on a three year rolling cycle, reviewable annually.

At the date of this report the Board of Directors has no reason to believe the Professional Accounting Bodies will not continue to support APESB.

Note 2: Revenue

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Revenue from Professional Bodies		
Operating revenue	1,341,000	1,494,000
Independence guide funding	-	45,000
Total Revenue	1,341,000	1,539,000
Other Income		
Bank deposits interest revenue	6,973	18,491
COVID-19 cash boost	37,500	62,500
COVID-19 rent relief	3,030	-
Total Other Income	47,503	80,991
Total Revenue and Other Income	1,388,503	1,619,991

Note 3: Auditor's Remuneration

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Auditor's Remuneration		
— Audit services	14,250	14,000
— Other services	-	-
Total Auditor's Remuneration	14,250	14,000

Note 4: Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Cash at bank	525,773	465,222
Cash on hand	100	100
	525,873	465,322

Note 5: Financial Assets

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Term deposits at amortised cost	946,892	939,777
Non-Current		
Security deposits at amortised cost	42,383	42,383
	989,275	982,160

Note 6: Other Assets

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Accrued interest	1,293	2,718
PAYG receivable	-	27,474
Prepayments and deposits	26,354	44,336
	27,647	74,528

The Company has assessed the recoverability of amounts receivable and on the basis that no amounts are past due or are considered impaired, a provision for impairment of receivables is not required. Further there is no material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables.

Note 7: Property, Plant and Equipment

	Leasehold Improvements \$	Furniture \$	Computer Equipment \$	Office Equipment \$	Total \$
Gross Carrying Amount					
Balance at 1 July 2020	146,069	27,080	32,233	9,402	214,784
Additions	1,879	-	5,127	-	7,006
Disposals	-	-	(5,378)	-	(5,378)
Balance at 30 June 2021	147,948	27,080	31,982	9,402	216,412
Accumulated Depreciation					
Balance at 1 July 2020	(75,680)	(27,080)	(23,395)	(8,574)	(134,729)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(23,125)	-	(4,546)	(792)	(28,463)
Eliminated on disposal of assets	-	-	5,378	-	5,378
Balance at 30 June 2021	(98,805)	(27,080)	(22,563)	(9,366)	(157,814)
Net Book Value					
As at 1 July 2020	70,389	-	8,838	828	80,055
As at 30 June 2021	49,143	-	9,419	36	58,598
Gross Carrying Amount					
Balance at 1 July 2019	142,164	27,080	27,756	9,402	206,402
Additions	3,905	-	4,477	-	8,382
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	146,069	27,080	32,233	9,402	214,784
Accumulated Depreciation					
Balance at 1 July 2019	(53,562)	(27,080)	(20,218)	(7,548)	(108,408)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	(22,118)	-	(3,177)	(1,026)	(26,321)
Eliminated on disposal of assets	-	-	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2020	(75,680)	(27,080)	(23,395)	(8,574)	(134,729)
Net Book Value					
As at 1 July 2019	88,602	-	7,538	1,854	97,994
As at 30 June 2020	70,389	-	8,838	828	80,055

Note 8: Right of Use Assets

The company has a lease for office premises for a term of 7 years.

Options to extend or terminate

The option to extend or terminate is contained in office leases of the Company. This clause provides the Company opportunity to manage its lease in order to align with its operations. The extension or termination options are only exercisable by the Company.

AASB 16 related amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Position

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Right of use asset		
Leased office	267,552	267,552
Accumulated depreciation	(131,046)	(65,523)
Total right of use asset	136,506	202,029
Right of use asset - accumulated depreciation		
Leased office		
Balance at 1 July	(65,523)	-
Depreciation expense	(65,523)	(65,523)
Balance at 30 June	(131,046)	(65,523)

Note 9: Trade and Other Payables

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Trade payables	3,418	15,134
Other payables	247	3,993
Goods and services tax payable	24,512	23,336
PAYG payable	20,450	-
Audit fees payable	23,000	22,500
Accrued income - COVID 19 cash flow boost	-	37,500
	71,627	102,463

Note 10: Provisions

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Annual leave provision	43,125	39,769
Long service leave provision	71,799	65,565
	114,924	105,334
Non-Current		
Long service leave provision	12,312	8,776
	12,312	8,776
	127,236	114,110
Movement in Provisions	Annual Leave Provision \$	Long Service Leave Provision \$
Opening Balance at 1 July 2019	33,292	63,379
Additional provisions recognised	50,521	10,961
Reductions arising from payments	(44,044)	-
Closing Balance at 30 June 2020	39,769	74,340
Opening Balance at 1 July 2020	39,769	74,340
Additional provisions recognised	46,270	9,771
Reductions arising from payments	(42,914)	-
Closing Balance at 30 June 2021	43,125	84,111

Note 11: Lease Liabilities

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Unsecured		
Current	93,993	90,205
Non-current	106,126	200,119
	200,119	290,324

Significant leasing arrangements

Lease liabilities represent the discounted future rentals payable by the Company for office facilities at Level 11, 99 William Street, Melbourne, Victoria 3000 for an initial term of 7 years which expires on 31 July 2023. Thereafter there is an option for the Company to extend the lease for a further period of 3 years at the then prevailing market rate. The Company determined that the option to extend the lease is not sufficiently certain and accordingly, the option has not been included in the lease period used to determine the associated liability. The liability incorporates fixed annual increases in lease payments with no applicable variable components.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Future minimum lease payments

The future minimum lease payments arising under the Company's lease contract at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Not longer than 1 year	94,590	91,171
Longer than 1 year and not longer than 5 years	106,340	200,930
Greater than 5 years	-	-
	200,930	292,101

Short-term leases and leases of low value assets

Contracts that are classified as short-term leases (lease with remaining lease term of 12 months or less) and leases of low value assets are recognised as an operating expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease. Lease payments recognised as an expense for short-term leases and leases of low value assets are as follows:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Lease payments recognised as an expense	7,020	9,108
	7,020	9,108

Note 12: Contingent Liabilities

The directors are not aware of any material contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2021 (2020: Nil).

Note 13: Events after the Reporting Period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Note 14: Key Management Personnel Compensation

The aggregate compensation paid to directors and other key management personnel of the Company is set out below:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Short-term employee benefits ¹	593,627	593,627
Post-employment benefits ²	56,395	56,395
Other long-term benefits ³	6,234	5,796
	656,256	655,818

¹ Includes payments to directors for their services.

² Comprises payments to contributory superannuation funds.

³ Includes long-service leave provided during the year, not paid (inc on costs).

Aggregate compensation paid to directors and other key management personnel of the Company is comprised of the following amounts:

	Number	2021 \$	Number	2020 \$
Chairman	1	97,222	1	97,222
Directors	6	262,800	7	262,800
Chief Executive Officer	1	296,234	1	295,796
	8	656,256	9	655,818

Note 15: Related Party Transactions

(a) Equity Interests in Related Entities

The Company does not have any equity interests in related entities.

(b) Key Management Personnel Compensation

Disclosures relating to key management personnel compensation are set out in note 14.

(c) Key Management Personnel Loans

There are no loans to or from key management personnel.

(d) Transactions with Key Management Personnel

There are no transactions with key management personnel.

(e) Transactions with Members of the Company

All transactions with related parties were carried out on an "arms length" basis. Funding income received from the members of the Company during the year is as follows:

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand	447,000	513,000
CPA Australia	447,000	513,000
Institute of Public Accountants	447,000	513,000
	1,341,000	1,539,000

Note 16: Cash Flow Information

(a) Reconciliation of Cash

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Current		
Cash at bank	525,773	465,222
Cash on hand	100	100
	525,873	465,322
Cash at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cashflows is reconciled in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:		
Cash and cash equivalents	525,873	465,322
Term Deposits	946,892	939,777
Security deposit	42,383	42,383
	1,515,148	1,447,482

(b) Reconciliation of Cash Flows from Operations with Surplus for the reporting period

	2021 \$	2020 \$
Surplus for the year	41,720	87,393
<i>Non-Cash Flows:</i>		
Depreciation and amortisation expense	93,987	91,844
Other non-cash flows	(2,064)	-
Movement in Working Capital		
(Increase)/Decrease in other assets	46,881	(41,934)
Increase/(Decrease) in trade and other payables	(30,837)	36,635
Increase/(Decrease) in provisions	13,126	17,439
Net cash from operating activities	162,813	191,377

Note 17: Financial Risk Management

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, accounts payable and lease liabilities.

The Company does not have any derivative instruments as at 30 June 2021 (2020: Nil).

Specific Financial Risk Exposures and Management

The main risks the Company is exposed to through its financial instruments are interest rate risk, liquidity risk and credit risk.

The Board is responsible for monitoring the Company's compliance with its risk management strategy. The Board's overall risk management strategy is to assist the Company in meeting its financial targets while minimising potential adverse effects on financial performance. Risk management policies are approved and reviewed by the Board on a regular basis.

(a) Interest Rate Risk

The Company is not exposed to any fluctuations in interest rates, other than interest income earned on bank deposits. The Company monitors interest rate risk by effective oversight of the treasury transactions.

(b) Liquidity Risk

The Company manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate unutilised funds are maintained.

Financial liability and financial asset maturity analysis

	Fixed Interest Rate Maturing				Non Interest Bearing		Total	
	2021		2020		2021	2020	2021	2020
	<1 year	>1 year	<1 year	>1 year				
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Financial assets at amortised cost								
Cash and cash equivalents	525,873	-	465,322	-	-	-	525,873	465,322
Term deposits and security deposits	989,275	-	982,160	-	-	-	989,275	982,160
Other receivables	-	-	-	-	1,293	30,192	1,293	30,192
Total financial assets at amortised cost	1,515,148	-	1,447,482	-	1,293	30,192	1,516,441	1,477,674
Financial liabilities at amortised cost								
Trade payables	-	-	-	-	71,627	102,463	71,627	102,463
Lease liabilities	93,993	106,126	90,205	200,119	-	-	200,119	290,324
Total financial liabilities at amortised cost	93,993	106,126	90,205	200,119	71,627	102,463	271,746	392,787

(c) Credit Risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of collateral or other security, at the end of the reporting period to recognised financial assets, is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and notes to the financial statements. The Company does not have any material credit risk exposure to any single receivable or group of receivables under financial instruments entered into by the Company.

The Company manages credit risk by continuously monitoring its exposure to credit risk by dealing with reputable counter parties.

Notes to the Financial Statements

(d) Sensitivity Analysis

The following table illustrates sensitivities to the Company's exposures to changes in interest rates. The table indicates the impact on how surplus and equity values reported at the end of the reporting period would have been affected by changes in the relevant risk variable that management considers to be reasonably possible. These sensitivities assume that the movement in interest rates is independent of other variables.

	Surplus \$	Equity \$
Year ended 30 June 2021		
+2% in interest rates	27,594	27,594
-2% in interest rates	(6,739)	(6,739)
Year Ended 30 June 2020		
+2% in interest rates	25,533	25,533
-2% in interest rates	(17,761)	(17,761)

No sensitivity analysis has been performed on foreign exchange risk as the company is not exposed to foreign currency fluctuations.

(e) Net Fair Values

For all assets and liabilities the fair value approximates their carrying value.

Note 18: Capital Management

Management manages the capital of the Company to ensure that adequate cash flows are available to fund its activities. The Board ensures that the overall risk management strategy is in line with this objective. Management operates under policies approved and regularly reviewed by the Board of Directors. These include credit risk policies and cash flow policies. The Company's capital consists of an accumulated surplus, represented and supported by total assets, net of total liabilities.

The Company's capital is managed by assessing its financial risks and responding to changes in these risks. Investments are directed at ensuring minimal risk of capital loss on invested funds.

There have been no changes to the strategy adopted by management to manage the capital of the Company since the previous year.

Consistent with the previous financial year, APESB does not have any borrowings and funds its operations utilising subscriptions from its members.

APESB is not subject to any externally imposed capital requirements.

Note 19: Members' Guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the *Corporations Act 2001* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$10 each towards meeting any outstandings and obligations of the Company. At 30 June 2021 the number of members was 3 (2020: 3 members).

Note 20: Company Details

The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is Level 11, 99 William Street, Melbourne, Victoria, 3000.



Accountants & Advisors

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF ACCOUNTING PROFESSIONAL & ETHICAL STANDARDS BOARD LIMITED

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (the Company) which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, including:

- giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year then ended, and
- complying with Australian Accounting Standards and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013*.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We confirm that the independence declaration required by the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Association Act 2012*, which has been given to the directors of the Company, would be in the same terms if given to the directors as at the time of this auditor's report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2021, but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

ShineWing Australia

ShineWing Australia
Chartered Accountants

Hayley Underwood

Hayley Underwood
Partner

Melbourne, 28 October 2021

Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board

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