

Technical Alert

26 August 2026

Proposed revised APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business*

Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board Limited (APESB) invites comments from stakeholders on an exposure draft of the proposed revised APES GN 40 *Ethical Conflicts in the Workplace – Considerations for Members in Business* (APES GN 40), to replace the existing APES GN 40 (Issued March 2020).

The proposed key changes in the revised APES GN 40 include:

- the addition of guidance on the preparation and presentation of sustainability information by Members in Business to align with Section 220 *Preparation and Presentation of Information* of the Code;
- the addition of guidance on tax planning activities undertaken by Members in Business to align with Section 280 *Tax Planning Activities* of the Code and the addition of guidance on using the work of an external expert to align with Section 290 *Using the Work of an External Expert* of the Code;
- the removal of four case studies that have been superseded or are no longer relevant (Extant Case Studies 3 – Inappropriate small expense claim, 4 – Unlicensed Software, 10 – Valuing Share Options and 12 – Inducements for non-disclosure of information);
- the addition of eight new case studies addressing areas including compliance with the fundamental principles, tax planning activities, using the work of an external expert and preparation and presentation of information; and
- the addition of new definitions such as External Expert, Sustainability Assurance Practitioner and Sustainability Information, to align with APES 110.

The proposed revised APES GN 40 will be effective as of the date of issue.

The Exposure Draft provides details of the proposed guidance and is available on the APESB website: www.apesb.org.au. Specific comments and feedback on the proposed guidance should be received by the APESB no later than **20 October 2026**.

– ENDS –

Technical Enquiries:

Mr. Channa Wijesinghe
Chief Executive Officer
Email: channa.wijesinghe@apesb.org.au
Phone: 03 9642 4372