



**Subject:** 131<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board - Highlights  
**Venue:** Dexus Place, Level 14, 385 Bourke Street, Melbourne VIC 3000 and via Zoom Teleconference  
**Meeting Date:** Tuesday 6 September 2022 9am – 5pm

**1. Agenda Consultation and 2022-23 Work Plan Update**

AUASB members were presented with a summary of feedback received from the main topics in the AUASB Agenda Consultation Paper. The Board were then taken through the revised AUASB Strategic Priority areas and key projects that have been included in 2022-23 AUASB Technical Work Program. The AUASB supported the development and publishing of a short feedback statement to communicate the outcomes of the AUASB's Agenda Consultation process.

**2. Sustainability Assurance**

The AUASB received an update on recent Sustainability reporting and assurance developments, including the actions being undertaken by the AASB, AUASB and joint AASB-AUASB Sustainability Reporting Project Advisory Panel. The AUASB received a summary of the IAASB's plans for a new Sustainability Assurance standard, which will be presented at the upcoming September 2022 IAASB meeting. The AUASB discussed how the new IAASB standard may impact existing AUASB standards and current Sustainability assurance engagements being performed in the Australian market. Recent developments related to climate change reporting and assurance in New Zealand were also discussed by the Board.

**3. IAASB Update and Discussion**

AUASB Technical Staff led a presentation to AUASB members covering the key issues on the IAASB's September 2022 Agenda. Board members provided feedback on a range of topics and discussed implications for the AUASB of the IAASB's proposals relating to Sustainability, Less Complex Entities, Going Concern, Fraud, Audit Evidence, and Disruptive Technology.

**4. Key Audit Matters reporting beyond Listed Entities – Project Plan**

The AUASB approved a project plan to develop and issue a consultation paper that considers whether ASA 701 *Communicating Key Audit Matters in the Independent Auditor's Report* should be expanded to require key audit matters (KAMs) beyond listed entities. The AUASB discussed that whilst feedback received to date was favourable in relation to the value of KAMs, we had not received consistent feedback that this reporting should be mandated for other types of entities, so it was appropriate to seek public feedback on this matter via a formal process, with the consultation paper to be reviewed and approved at the next AUASB meeting.

**5. GS 003 – Limited Scope Amendments**

The AUASB was provided with a summary of the process undertaken on GS 003 *Assurance Relating to Australian Financial Services Licences issued under the Corporations Act 2001* to establish the narrow scope amendments to the guidance statement. The AUASB approved the narrow scope amendments to GS 003, subject to some minor amendments which will be made by AUASB staff out of session.

**6. GS 023 – Engagement Leader Guidance Issues Paper**

The AUASB considered and gave their support for proposed further guidance for public sector auditors in applying ASA 220 *Quality Management for an Audit of a Financial Report and Other Historical Financial Information* in AUASB Guidance Statement GS 023 *Special Considerations – Public Sector Engagements*.

***The next AUASB regular meeting will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022.***

***AUASB Meetings are open to the public. Please register via the AUASB website ([www.auasb.gov.au](http://www.auasb.gov.au)) or send an email to [enquiries@auasb.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@auasb.gov.au) if you wish to attend.***