



# Memorandum

<b>To:</b>	<b>AASB members</b>	<b>Date:</b>	1 July 2014
<b>From:</b>	<b>Angus Thomson</b>	<b>Agenda Item:</b>	16.1 (M139)
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Research Centre activities update</b>	<b>File:</b>	--

## Action

Note significant Research Centre activities since the May 2014 meeting.

## Research Report on lodged financial statements

AASB Research Centre staff spent much of their time since the May AASB meeting finalising Research Report No. 1 *Application of the Reporting Entity Concept and Lodgement of Special Purpose Financial Statements*, improving its internal consistency and accuracy. It was finally published on 20 June 2014. Staff are now in the process of considering how best to proceed now that the Research Report has been published (see agenda item 19).

## Superannuation Entities

AASB 105X *Superannuation Entities* was made on 5 June 2014, after a significant amount of staff time was spent on the Regulation Impact Statement (RIS) and its accompanying Business Cost Calculation (BCC) and clearing the RIS and BCC with the Office of Best Practice Regulation (OBPR).

## Conceptual Framework

The AASB's submission on the IASB's Discussion Paper *A Review of the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting* (incorporated in the AASB's ITC 29) was lodged with the IASB in mid-February. That submission addressed the key issues the AASB sought to raise.

Staff have now finalised its follow-up work addressing all of the specific questions asked in the IASB's DP that formed the basis of a supplementary paper to the AASB's submission on the DP. The supplementary paper was submitted to the IASB in early June.

## Business Combinations

The AASB's submission to the IASB on the post-implementation review of IFRS 3/AASB 3 *Business Combinations* is expected to be submitted in early July.

## Service Performance Reporting

At its April 2014 meeting the Board considered an AASB staff paper 'Future Directions of the AASB's Service Performance Reporting Project'.

The Board decided to use IPSASB ED 54 *Reporting Service Performance*, in combination with the AASB staff's research to date and the work of the NZASB as a basis for reorienting its work from 'green fields' research to developing an AASB ED of a proposed Standard. The Board agreed that its own work should not be tied to the IPSASB processes and should include within its scope both public sector and private sector not-for-profit entities.

This project has now been transferred to the standard-setting work program.

## **Amendments to AASB 1053**

AASB 2014-2 *Amendments to AASB 1053 – Transition to and between Tiers, and related Tier 2 Disclosure Requirements* was made on 23 June 2014.

AASB 2014-2 principally relates to amendments made to AASB 1 via AASB 2012-5 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Annual Improvements 2009–2011 Cycle*.

## **Liaison with IASB**

Research Centre staff discussed, in general terms, the IASB's research agenda with Alan Teixeira (Senior Director, Technical Activities) in early June in general terms. Alan noted some of the aspects of research projects that other national standard setters had agreed to address. Research Centre staff indicated the capacity/resources that the AASB might be able to devote to assisting the IASB in meeting its research agenda and the issues in which we have most interest/comparative advantage (for example, the more conceptual issues). Alan is to give further consideration to how the AASB might best be able to assist the IASB, which might involve a particular aspect of one or more IASB research projects. That assistance, which would effectively be under the direction of the IASB research staff, would be in addition to any other 'independent' work the AASB research staff might undertake in terms of thought leadership that could impact on IASB projects.

## **Other matters**

AASB research staff have also been engaged in monitoring the IASB's broader range of research projects and assisting in dealing with a range of standard-setting activities, including the complexities associated with the recent omnibus standard.