User Guide To The Portfolio Budget Statements

User guide

The purpose of the 2023-24 Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements) is to inform Senators and Members of Parliament of the proposed allocation of resources to government outcomes by entities within the portfolio. Entities receive resources from the annual appropriations acts, special appropriations (including standing appropriations and special accounts), and revenue from other sources.

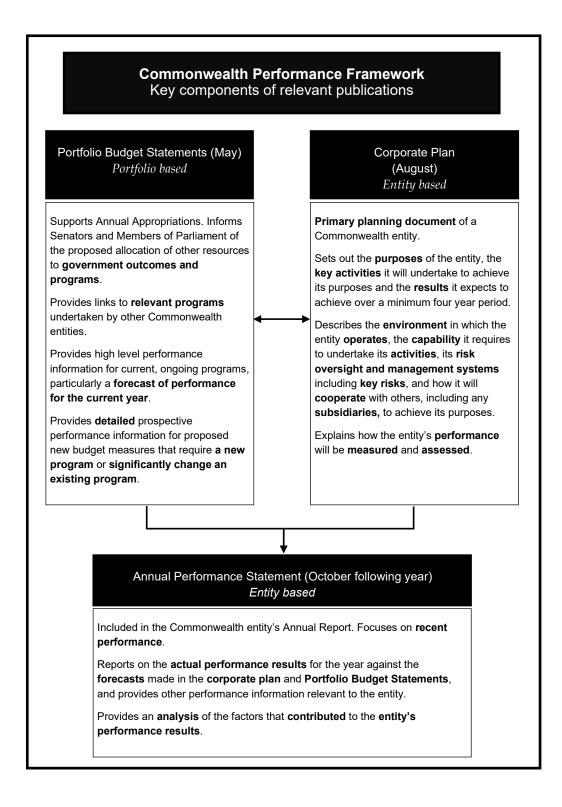
A key role of the PB Statements is to facilitate the understanding of proposed annual appropriations in Appropriation Bills (No. 1 and No. 2) 2023-24 (or Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2023-24 for the parliamentary departments). In this sense, the PB Statements are Budget related papers and are declared by the Appropriation Acts to be 'relevant documents' to the interpretation of the Acts according to section 15AB of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

The PB Statements provide information, explanation and justification to enable Parliament to understand the purpose of each outcome proposed in the Bills.

As required under section 12 of the *Charter of Budget Honesty Act 1998*, only entities within the general government sector are included as part of the Commonwealth general government sector fiscal estimates and produce PB Statements where they receive funding (either directly or via portfolio departments) through the annual appropriation acts.

The Commonwealth Performance Framework

The following diagram outlines the key components of the Commonwealth performance framework. The diagram identifies the content of each of the publications and the relationship between them. Links to the publications for each entity within the portfolio can be found in the introduction to Section 2: Outcomes and planned performance.



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Portfolio Overview

Finance Portfolio overview

Minister(s) and portfolio responsibilities

The Minister for Finance has overall responsibility for the Finance portfolio, and particular responsibility for the following:

- budget policy and process, including advice on expenditure across all government programs
- government financial accountability, governance and financial management frameworks, and general policy guidelines for Commonwealth statutory authorities
- · whole-of-Australian Government procurement policy and services
- · whole-of-Australian Government grants policy framework and guidelines
- whole-of-Australian-Government property policy and administration of property and land acquisition and related legislation, including non-Defence-owned property
- digital transformation and data policy
- regulatory reform policy
- Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and commercial entities treated as GBEs
- commercial advice relating to significant Australian Government asset sales and purchases and other significant commercial matters, including specialist investment vehicles
- policy and management of act of grace and waiver of debts requests
- administration of Comcover, the government's self-managed insurance fund, and risk policy
- Australian Government Investment Funds policy, including the Future Fund, and authorisation of payments from Australian Government Investment Funds to entities
- superannuation arrangements for Australian Government civilian employees and parliamentarians, and retirement benefits for governors-general, federal judges and Federal Court judges
- government campaign advertising

The Special Minister of State has particular responsibility for the following:

- the parliamentary business expenses framework and related legislation
- employment framework for members of parliament staff and related legislation
- electoral policy
- electoral matters (supported by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC))

For information on resourcing across the portfolio, please refer to Part 1: Agency Financial Resourcing in the *Budget Paper No. 4: Agency Resourcing*.

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Figure 1: Finance portfolio structure and outcomes **Minister for Finance** Senator the Hon Katy Gallagher **Special Minister of State** Senator the Hon Don Farrell **Department of Finance** Portfolio Secretary: Jenny Wilkinson PSM Outcome 1: Support sustainable Australian Government finances through providing high quality policy advice and operational support to the government and Commonwealth entities to maintain effective and efficient use of public resources. Outcome 2: Support an efficient and high-performing public sector through providing leadership to Commonwealth entities in ongoing improvements to public sector governance, including through systems, frameworks, policy advice, service delivery, and managing, acquiring and divesting government investments. Outcome 3: Support for parliamentarians and others as required by the Australian Government through the delivery of, and advice on, work expenses and allowances, entitlements and targeted programs.

Australian Electoral Commission

Electoral Commissioner: Tom Rogers

Outcome 1: Maintain an impartial and independent electoral system for eligible voters through active electoral roll management, efficient delivery of polling services, and targeted education and public awareness programs.

Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation

Chair: Garry Hounsell

Outcome 1: Retirement and insurance benefits for scheme members and beneficiaries, including past, present and future employees of the Australian Government and other eligible employers and members of the Australian Defence Force, through investment and administration of their superannuation funds and schemes.

Digital Transformation Agency

Chief Executive Officer: Chris Fechner

Outcome 1: Provide digital and ICT strategy, policy and architecture leadership, investment advice, delivery oversight, and strategic sourcing to drive government's digital transformation and deliver benefits to all Australians.

Future Fund Management Agency

Chair: Hon Peter Costello AC

Outcome 1: Strengthen the Commonwealth's financial position for the benefit of the Australian people, by managing the investment activities of the Future Fund and certain other Australian Government Investment Funds in line with their Investment Mandates.

Figure 1: Finance portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)

Independent Parliamentary Expenses Authority

Chief Executive Officer: Annwyn Godwin

Outcome 1: Support for current and former parliamentarians and others as required by the Australian Government through the delivery of, independent oversight and advice on, work resources and travel resources.

ASC Pty Ltd

Chair: Bruce Carter

Purpose: The objectives of the company, as set out in the Government's Statement of Expectation to ASC are:

- to enhance and maintain the Australian Defence Force's maritime capabilities
- support Australian Government policies in relation to the Australian naval shipbuilding and repair
 industry
- continue to be Australia's source of sovereign submarine industrial expertise and a key contributor to the broader naval shipbuilding enterprise.

Australian Naval Infrastructure Pty Ltd

Chair: Lucio Di Bartolomeo

Purpose: The objective of the company, as set out in its constitution, is to support the Commonwealth's continuous naval shipbuilding program through:

- acquiring, holding, managing and developing the infrastructure, and related facilities used in connection with this program
- efficiently and effectively managing this infrastructure (including providing access) in a manner that ensures an integrated and co-ordinated approach to the delivery of all elements of this program.