

**User guide
to the
Portfolio Budget Statements**

User guide

The purpose of the *2025–26 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.

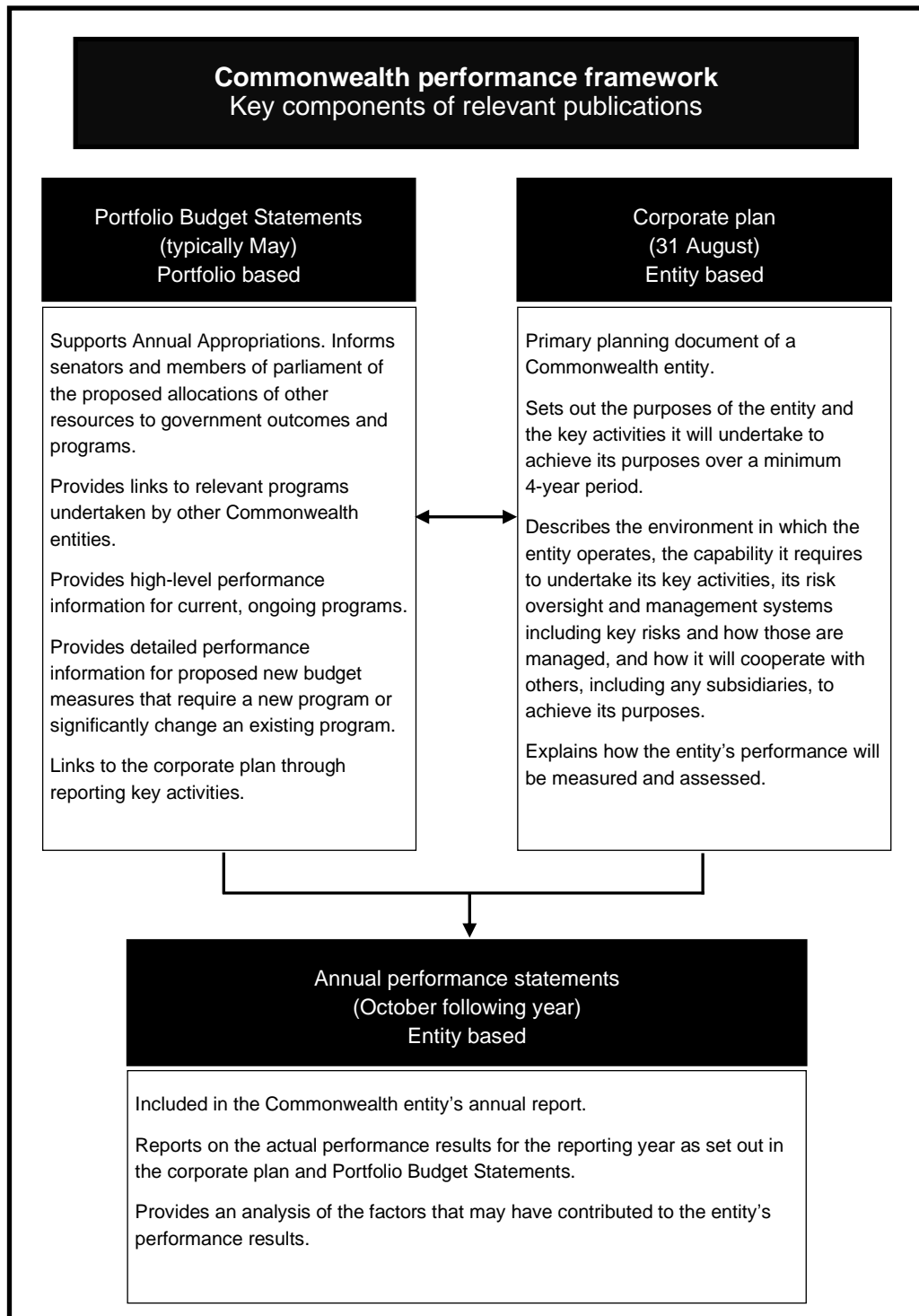
A key role of the PB Statements is to facilitate the understanding of proposed annual appropriations in Appropriation Bills (No. 1 and No. 2) 2025–2026 (or Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2025–2026 for the parliamentary departments) and related Supply Bills where they exist applicable to the 2025–26 Budget. 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.



Contents

User guide	vii
Finance Portfolio overview	3

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
- whole-of-Australian Government digital and data policy, including Digital ID policy
- regulatory reform policy
- Government Business Enterprises (GBEs) and commercial entities treated as GBEs
- overarching monitoring and advice on specialist investment vehicles
- commercial advice relating to significant Australian Government asset sales and purchases and other significant commercial matters
- 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*.

Figure 1: Finance portfolio structure and outcomes

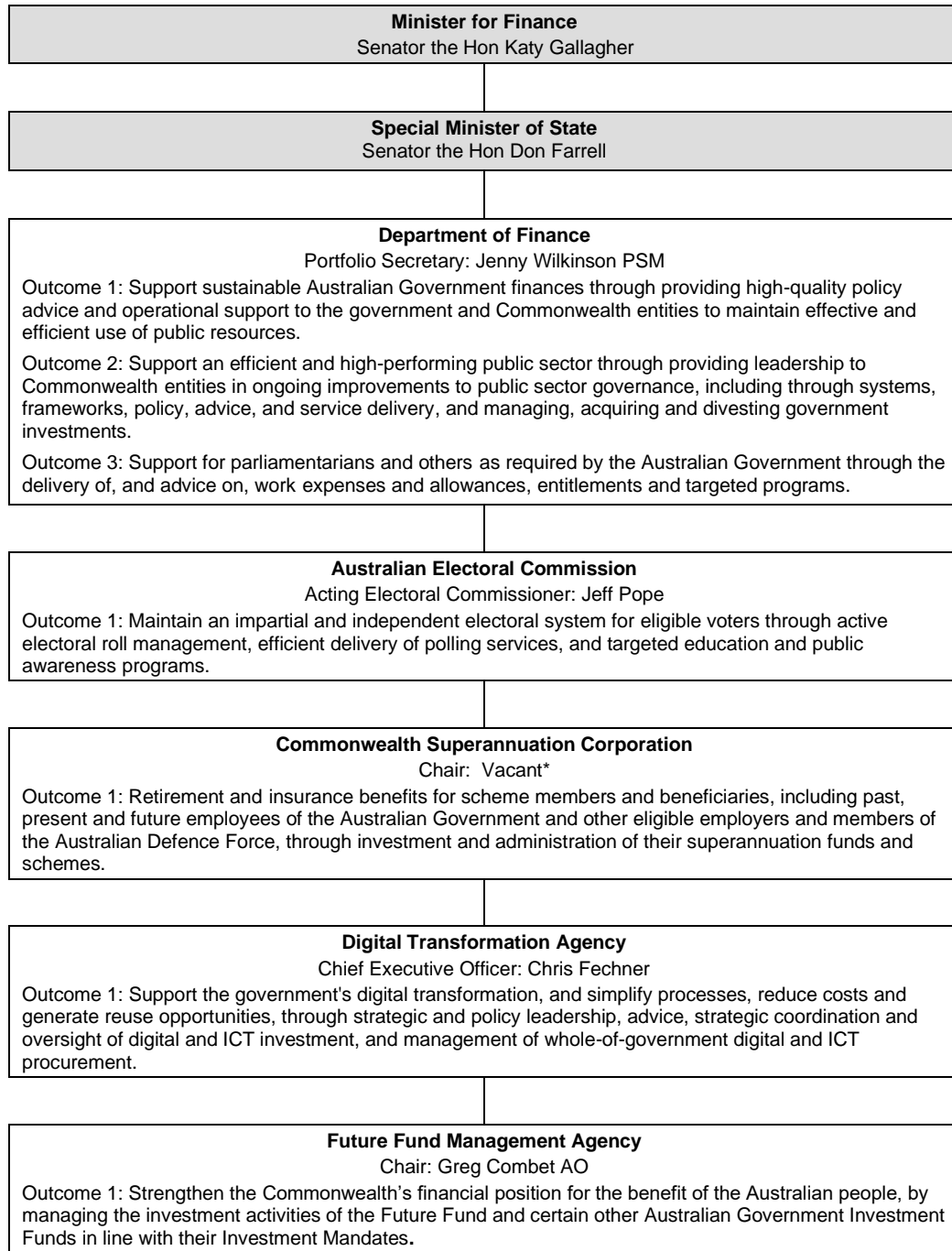
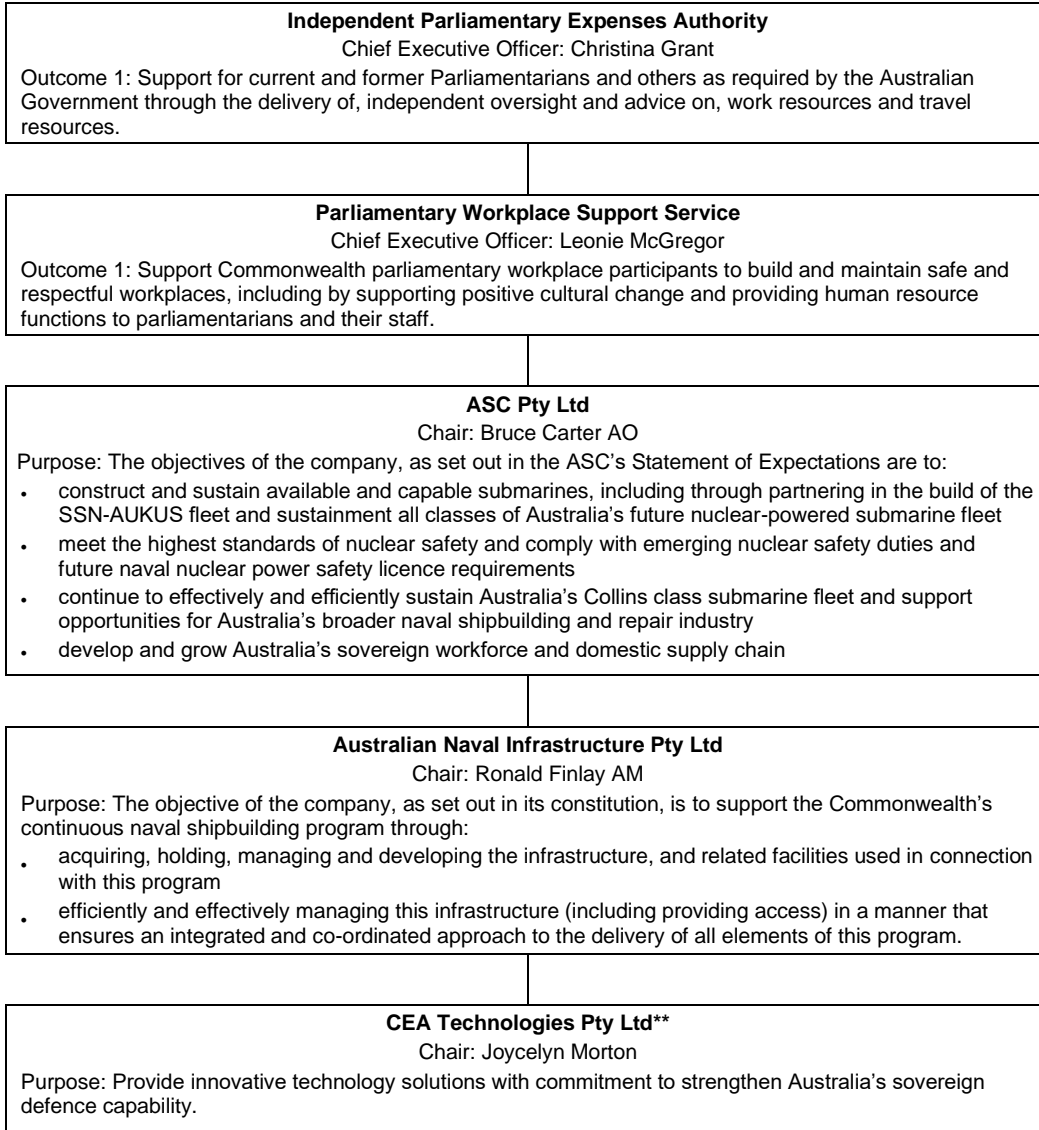


Figure 1: Finance portfolio structure and outcomes (continued)



* The Chair of the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation position is currently vacant. However, as announced by the Minister for Finance on 24 February 2025, Ms Janet Torney will commence as the Chair of the Commonwealth Superannuation Corporation on 31 March 2025.

** Established as a Commonwealth Company from 28 January 2025 when the Commonwealth became the majority shareholder.

