



**Professional Standards
Council of Queensland**

Financial statements
for the year ended
30 June 2017

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Statement of comprehensive income

Year ended 30 June 2017

Operating result	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Income from continuing operations			
User charges and fees	B1-1	527	523
Other revenues		18	31
Total income from continuing operations		545	554
Expenses from continuing operations			
Supplies and services	B2-1	502	1,064
Total expenses from continuing operations		502	1,064
Operating result for the year		43	(510)
Other comprehensive income		-	-
Total comprehensive income		43	(510)

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Statement of financial position

As at 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1	677	1,013
Receivables	C2	9	30
Total current assets		686	1,043
Total assets		686	1,043
Current liabilities			
Payables		146	546
Other current liabilities		56	56
Total current liabilities		202	602
Total liabilities		202	602
Net assets		484	441
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		484	441
Total equity		484	441

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

Statement of changes in equity

Year ended 30 June 2017

	Accumulated surplus \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance as at 1 July 2015	951	951
Operating result for the year	(510)	(510)
Balance as at 30 June 2016	441	441
Operating result for the year	43	43
Balance at 30 June 2017	484	484

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

Statement of cash flows

Year ended 30 June 2017

	Notes	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Inflows:</i>			
User charges and fees		527	495
Interest receipts		19	31
GST input tax credits from ATO		110	40
<i>Outflows:</i>			
Supplies and services		(902)	(601)
GST paid to suppliers		(90)	(60)
Net cash provided by operating activities		(336)	(95)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		(336)	(95)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		1,013	1,108
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	C1	677	1,013

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2017

Section 1. About the Council and this financial report

A1. BASIS OF FINANCIAL STATEMENT PREPARATION

A1-1. General information

The Professional Standards Council (“the Council”) is a Queensland Government Entity established under the *Professional Standards Act 2004* and controlled by the State of Queensland, which is the ultimate parent.

The head office and principal place of business of the Council is Level 17, 50 Ann Street, BRISBANE QLD 4000.

A1-2. Compliance with prescribed requirements

The Professional Standards Council has prepared these financial statements in compliance with section 43 of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009*.

These financial statements are general purpose financial statements and have been prepared on an accrual basis in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and interpretations.

With respect to compliance with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations, the Council has applied those requirements applicable to not-for-profit entities, as the Council is a not-for-profit entity. Except where stated, the historical cost convention is used.

A1-3. Presentation

Currency and rounding

Amounts included in the financial statements are in Australian dollars and rounded to the nearest \$1,000 or, where that amount is \$500 or less, to zero, unless disclosure of the full amount is specifically required.

Comparatives

Comparative information has been restated where necessary to be consistent with disclosures in the current reporting period.

Current/non-current classification

Assets and Liabilities are classified as either ‘current’ or ‘non-current’ in the Statement of Financial Position and associated notes.

Assets are classified as ‘current’ where their carrying amount is expected to be realised within 12 months after the reporting date. Liabilities are classified as ‘current’ when they are due to be settled within 12 months after the reporting date, or the department does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement to beyond 12 months after the reporting date.

A1-4. Authorisation of financial statements for issue

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Chair, Professional Standards Council and Executive Director, Financial Services Branch of Department of Justice and Attorney-General at the date of signing the Management Certificate.

A1-5. The reporting entity

The financial statements include the value of all income, expenses, assets, liabilities and equity of the Council. The Council does not control any other entities.

A2. OBJECTIVES OF THE COUNCIL

The objectives of the Professional Standards Council are to promote consumer protection and excellence in professional standards by encouraging the self-regulation of occupational groups through Professional Standards Schemes.

a) Professional Standards Schemes

Professional Standards Schemes apply to members of occupational associations that administer professional standards schemes approved by the Councils. Professional Standards Schemes:

- › Recognise those occupational associations who implement robust risk management strategies;
- › Limit occupational liability for members of occupational associations who carry professional indemnity insurance and/or business assets which comply with the association's standard of insurance and are at (or above) the level of the limitation of liability amount (cap); and
- › Entitle participating members of the occupational association to use the Cover of Excellence logo (only permitted where the scheme has been approved before February 2014 and remains in force).

b) The Professional Standards Councils

The Professional Standards Councils were constituted under state and territory professional standards legislation, with the mandate to approve Professional Standards Schemes. There are a total of eight Councils, one for each Australian state and territory. Each Council consists of eleven members, who are nominated and appointed pursuant to the Professional Standards Agreement.

c) The Queensland Council

The Professional Standards Council was established under the *Professional Standards Act 2004* (the Act). The Council is responsible for determining the limitation of liability. When doing so, the Council must consider the claims history of each association member and the need to adequately protect consumers. The Council's other functions are set out in section 43 of the Act, and are in summary:

- › To advise the Minister about publication in the Gazette, amendments to, or revocation of a scheme; the operation of the Act; and anything else about the occupational liability of members of occupational associations;

- › To advise occupational associations about insurance policies relating to limitation of liability;
- › To encourage and assist in the improvement of occupational standards of members of occupational associations;
- › To encourage and assist in the development of self-regulation of occupational associations;
- › To monitor the occupational standards of members of participating occupational associations;
- › To monitor the compliance by an occupational association with its risk management strategies;
- › To publish advice and information about the functions of Council;
- › To conduct forums, approved by the Minister, on issues of interest to members of occupational groups;
- › To collect, analyse and provide the Minister with information on issues and policies about the standards of occupational groups; and
- › To start proceedings in its own name for the prosecution of an offence against the Act or for injunctive or other relief for the offences.

d) Funding of the Council

The Council is fully funded through the following:

- › A fee of \$5,000 is payable to the Council for a Professional Standards Scheme application for approval, amendments or revocation as per the *Professional Standards Regulation 2007*;
- › The annual fee of \$50 for each member of occupational associations participating in a Professional Standards Scheme as per the *Professional Standards Regulation 2007*; and
- › The interest on accumulated funds.

Section 2. Notes about our financial performance

B1. REVENUE

B1-1. User charges and fees

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Annual fees	527	523
Total	527	523

Accounting Policy – User Charges

User charges and fees controlled by the Council are recognised as revenues when the revenue has been earned and can be measured reliably with a sufficient degree of certainty. This involves either invoicing for related goods/services and/or the recognition of accrued revenue. User charges and fees are controlled by the Council where they can be deployed for the achievement of Council objectives.

Where membership fees are received in advance they are recognised as an unearned revenue. The revenues are recognised as they are earned over the annual scheme period.

B2. EXPENSES

B2-1. Supplies and services

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Secretariat support*	502	1,064
Total	502	1,064

Accounting policy – supplies and services

Supplies and services represent secretariat support provided by the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation, New South Wales. The total cost of secretariat support proportionately shared among the eight Councils is determined by the percentage of revenue each Council has received. These costs comprise employment costs, other operating expenses, grants administered, occupancy costs and depreciation and amortisation of assets solely procured for the

Councils and held by the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation, New South Wales. In 2016-17 Queensland's percentage is 15.17% (2016: 15.84%).

External audit fees as shown in note B2-1 represents 15.17% of the total expected external audit fees for the consolidated eight jurisdictional Professional Standards Councils and does not represent the actual audit costs incurred for the Professional Standards Council of Queensland. External audit fees of the Professional Standards Council of Queensland are paid to the Queensland Audit Office and relate to the 2016-17 financial statements.

* Included in the secretariat support is an amount of \$5,100 for external audit fees (2016: \$5,100). There are no non-audit services in this amount.

Section 3. Notes about our financial position

C1. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
Cash at bank	677	1,013
Total	677	1,013

Accounting policy – cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Cash Flows, cash assets include all cash and cheques received but not banked at 30 June 2017.

Interest earned on cash held with the Commonwealth Bank ranging between 1.45% and 1.7% in 2017 (2016: 1.7% and 2.1%). If interest rates changed by +/-1% from the year end rates applicable to the Council's financial assets, with all other variables held constant, the Council would have a surplus and equity increase/(decrease) of \$7,000 (2016: \$10,000). This is mainly attributable to the Council's exposure to variable interest rates on its cash deposited in interest bearing accounts.

C2. RECEIVABLES

	2017 \$'000	2016 \$'000
GST receivable	–	20
Interest receivable	1	2
Other	8	8
Total	9	30

Trade debtors are recognised as amounts due at the time of sale or service delivery i.e. the agreed purchase/contract price. Settlement of these amounts is required within 30 days from invoice date. Where an annual fee is not settled within 30 days after the due date, simple interest at the rate of 0.05% per day is payable on the outstanding balance until that balance is paid. The interest is payable on and from the day after the 30 days ends, until and including the day the amount is paid.

The collectability of receivables is assessed periodically with provision being made for impairment. All known bad debts were written-off as at 30 June 2017.

Other debtors generally arise from transactions outside the usual operating activities of the Council and are recognised at their assessed values. Terms are a maximum of three months, no interest is charged and no security is obtained.

Associations are responsible for self-calculating amounts due at the time of sale or delivery (i.e. regulated timings and regulated prices) per *Professional Standards Regulation 2007*. Where Associations do not provide data for this liability to be estimated (per *Professional Standards Regulation 2007*) historical and trend data is used by the Council to estimate this liability. No such estimates were required during this reporting period.

Section 4. Notes about risk and other accounting uncertainties

D1. FINANCIAL RISK DISCLOSURES

Recognition

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position when the Council becomes party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument.

Classification

Financial instruments are classified and measured as follows:

- › Cash and cash equivalents – held at fair value through profit and loss (Note C1)
- › Receivables – held at amortised cost (Note C2)
- › Payables – held at amortised cost

The Council does not enter into transactions for speculative purposes, nor for hedging. Apart from cash and cash equivalents, the Council holds no financial assets classified at fair value through profit or loss.

D2. CONTINGENCIES

The Professional Standards Council has no material contingencies at 30 June 2017.

D3. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE DATE

The Professional Standards Council does not have any favourable or unfavourable events occurring between the reporting date and the date when the financial report is authorised for issue.

Section 5. Other information

E1. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES

Details of Key Management Personnel

As from 2016-17, the council's responsible Minister is identified as part of the department's KMP, consistent with additional guidance included in the revised version of AASB124 Related Party Disclosures. The Minister is the Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills.

KMP remuneration policies

Ministerial remuneration entitlements are outlined in the Legislative Assembly of Queensland's Members' Remuneration Handbook. The council does not bear any cost of remuneration of Ministers. The majority of Ministerial entitlements are paid by the Legislative Assembly, with the remaining entitlements being provided by Ministerial Services Branch within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet.

As all Ministers are reported as KMP of the Queensland Government, aggregate remuneration expenses for all Ministers is disclosed in the Queensland General Government and Whole of Government Consolidated Financial Statements as from 2016-17, which are published as part of Queensland Treasury's Report on State Finances.

All (eight) national Professional Standards Council sit in unison. All Professional Standards Councils members' remuneration is paid by the Department of Finance, Services and Innovation, New South Wales, as per the Inter-Departmental Services Agreement 2016 and is disclosed in the combined states and territories Professional Standards Councils 2016-17 Annual Report. The Professional Standards Councils' expense as per the Inter-Departmental Services Agreement 2016 for remuneration was \$8,252 (2016: \$9,628). This expense is included in Secretariat Support (Note B2-1).

E2. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

No transactions with related parties have materially affected the Council's operating result of financial position.

E3. NEW AND REVISED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The Council did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2016-17. Those new and amended Australian accounting standards that were applicable for the first time in the 2016-17 financial year had no significant impact on the Council's financial statements.

The Council is not permitted to early adopt a new or amended accounting standard ahead of the specified commencement date unless approval is obtained from Queensland Treasury. Consequently, the Council has not applied any Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective. The Council applies standards and interpretations in accordance with their respective commencement dates.

E4. TAXATION

The Council is a State body as defined under the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936* and is exempt from Commonwealth taxation with the exception of Fringe Benefits Tax (FBT) and Goods and Services Tax (GST). Where applicable, FBT and GST are the only taxes accounted for by the Council. GST credits receivable from the ATO are recognised (refer Note C2).

Certificate of the Professional Standards Council

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to section 62(1) of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, relevant sections of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009* and other prescribed requirements. In accordance with section 62(1)(b) of the Act we certify that in our opinion:

- (a) the prescribed requirements for establishing and keeping the accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- (b) the statements have been drawn up to present a true and fair view, in accordance with prescribed accounting standards, of the transactions of the Professional Standards Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2017 and of the financial position of the Council at the end of that year; and
- (c) these assertions are based on an appropriate system of internal controls and risk management processes being effective, in all material respects, with respect to financial reporting throughout the reporting period.



Barry Davis CPA
Executive Director, Financial Services
Department of Justice and Attorney-General



Iain Summers
On behalf of the Chair,
Professional Standards Council

28 August 2017

Independent auditor's report

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Council Members of the Professional Standards Council

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Professional Standards Council.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended
- b) complies with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009 and Australian Accounting Standards.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including summaries of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the certificates given by the Executive Director and Chair.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General of Queensland Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

I am independent of the entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General of Queensland Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Responsibilities of the entity for the financial report

The council members are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2009 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the council members determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The council members are also responsible for assessing the entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the entity or to otherwise cease operations.

Independent auditor's report

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the entity.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the entity's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. I base my conclusions on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the council members regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

In accordance with s.40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, for the year ended 30 June 2017:

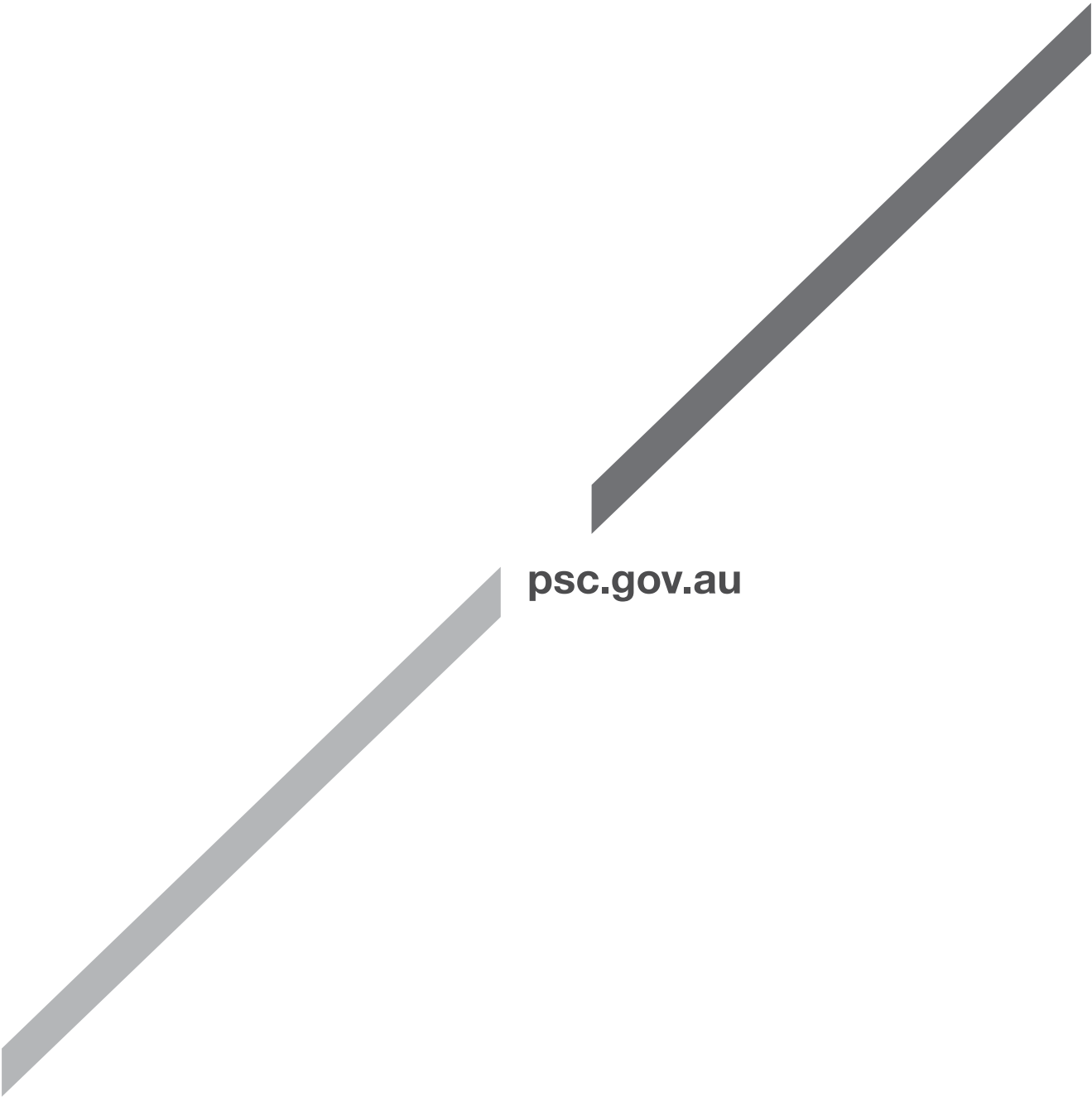
- a) I received all the information and explanations I required.
- b) In my opinion, the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts were complied with in all material respects.



Nick George
as delegate of the Auditor-General



Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane



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