

Professional Standards
Council of Queensland

Financial Statements

For the year ended 30 June 2024

Protecting consumers
by improving professional
standards.



**Professional Standards Council Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024**

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For information in relation to the Council's financial statements please call (07) 3738 9012 or email Paula.Werner@justice.qld.gov.au.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COUNCIL
Statement of Comprehensive Income
for the year ended 30 June 2024

OPERATING RESULT	Note	2024	2023
		\$'000	\$'000
Income from continuing operations			
User charges and fees	B1-1	412	421
Other revenue		33	22
Total Income from continuing operations		445	443
Expenses from continuing operations			
Supplies and services	B2-1	398	426
Total expenses from continuing operations		398	426
Operating result for the year		47	17
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
		-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME		47	17

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COUNCIL
Statement of Financial Position
as at 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	C1	718	578
Receivables	C2	11	9
Total current assets		729	587
Total assets		729	587
Current liabilities			
Payables	C3	231	136
Total current liabilities		231	136
Total liabilities		231	136
Net assets		498	451
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		498	451
Total equity		498	451

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COUNCIL
Statement of Changes in Equity
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Accumulated Surplus	TOTAL
	\$'000	\$'000
Balance as at 1 July 2022	434	434
Operating result from continuing operations	17	17
Balance at 30 June 2023	451	451
Operating result from continuing operations	47	47
Balance at 30 June 2024	498	498

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COUNCIL
Statement of Cash Flows
for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$'000	2023 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
<i>Inflows:</i>			
User charges and fees		411	419
Interest receipts		32	20
GST input tax credits from ATO		30	40
<i>Outflows:</i>			
Supplies and services		(303)	(404)
GST paid to suppliers		(30)	(40)
Net cash used in operating activities		140	35
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		140	35
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		578	543
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	C1	718	578

The accompanying notes form part of these statements.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

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 not-for-profit statutory body 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 2, St James Centre, 111 Elizabeth Street, Sydney New South Wales, 2000.

A1-2 COMPLIANCE WITH PRESCRIBED REQUIREMENTS

The Professional Standards Council has prepared these financial statements in compliance with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* and the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019*.

These general purpose financial statements are prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures. The financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of all Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations applicable to not-for-profit entities, and the presentation requirements in those standards as required by AASB 1060.

The financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis, with the exception of the Statement of Cash Flows which is prepared on a cash basis. Except where stated, the historical cost convention is used as the measurement basis.

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 reflects the audited 2022-23 financial statements.

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 Council does not have the right at the end of the reporting period to defer settlement to beyond 12 months after the reporting date. All other assets and liabilities are classified as non-current.

A1-4 AUTHORISATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR ISSUE

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Chairperson, Professional Standards Council and Executive Director, Financial Services Branch of the 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.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

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).

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 2011*.

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 2017*;
- The annual fee of \$50 for each member of occupational associations participating in a Professional Standards Scheme as per the *Professional Standards Regulation 2017*;
- Interest payable on unpaid annual fees as per the *Professional Standards Regulation 2017*; and
- The interest on accumulated funds.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

SECTION 2 NOTES ABOUT OUR FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE
--

B1 REVENUE

B1-1 USER CHARGES AND FEES

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Application fees	-	5
Annual fees	412	416
Total	412	421

Accounting Policy - User Charges and Fees

User charges and fees are pursuant to the *Professional Standards Regulations 2017*. Application fees are recognised on receipt. Annual fees are recognised over the annual scheme period, with accruals raised where regulated fees have not been received at 30 June. Where a scheme year is not equal to the fiscal year, a portion of the revenue is deferred (contract liability) until the next fiscal year. There is no deferred revenue required to be shown as at 30 June 2024.

B2 EXPENSES

B2-1 SUPPLIES AND SERVICES

Secretariat support charges*	397	425
Bank charges	1	1
Total	398	426

Accounting Policy - Supplies and Services

*This represents secretariat support provided by the Department of Customer Service, 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 recognised. These costs include employment costs, remuneration of all members of all eight Councils, other operating expenses, occupancy costs and depreciation and amortisation of assets solely procured for the Councils and held by the Department of Customer Service, New South Wales. In 2024, Queensland's percentage is 8.36% (2023: 8.89%).

Included in secretariat support charges is an amount of \$7,500 for external audit fees (2023: \$6,500). External audit fees as shown in note B2-1 represents 8.36% 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 2023-24 financial statements. There are no non-audit services included in this amount.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

SECTION 3 NOTES ABOUT OUR FINANCIAL POSITION

C1 CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2024	2023
	\$'000	\$'000
Cash at bank	718	578
Total	718	578

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 as well as deposits held at call with financial institutions (Queensland Treasury Corporation - Cash Fund Facility).

Cash held in 2024 with the Commonwealth Bank earned interest at a rate between 4.10% to 4.95% (2023: 0.80% to 4.05%), and with the Queensland Treasury Corporation at a rate between 4.49% to 5.26% (2023: 1.92% to 4.17%). 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 \$7,180 (2023: \$5,780). This is mainly attributable to the Council's exposure to variable interest rates on its cash deposited in interest bearing accounts.

C2 RECEIVABLES

Interest receivable	3	2
Annual fees receivable	8	7
Total	11	9

Trade debtors, being amounts receivable as per the *Professional Standards Regulations 2017* are recognised as amounts due at the time of sale or service delivery i.e. the regulated price. Settlement of these amounts is required within 30 days in order to avoid regulated simple interest at the rate of 0.05% per day being 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 expected credit losses. Expected credit losses have been assessed as not material. All known bad debts were written-off as at 30 June 2024.

C3 PAYABLES

Trade creditors	231	136
Total	231	136

Trade creditors include 2023-24 secretariat support charges for the period 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2024. Trade creditors are recognised upon receipt of the goods or services ordered and are measured at the nominal amount. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled on 30 day terms.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

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 - (Note C1)
- Receivables - held at amortised cost (Note C2)
- Payables - held at amortised cost (Note C3)

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

D2 CONTINGENCIES

The Professional Standards Council has no material contingencies as at 30 June 2024.

D3 COMMITMENTS

There are no commitments to report as at 30 June 2024.

D4 EVENTS OCCURRING AFTER THE REPORTING 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.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

SECTION 5
OTHER INFORMATION

E1 KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL (KMP) DISCLOSURES

Details of Key Management Personnel

The Council's responsible Minister is identified as part of the Council'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 the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence.

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, which are published as part of Queensland Treasury's Report on State Finances.

In accordance with the *Professional Standards Agreement 2011*, the remuneration for the Professional Standards Councils members is set by the NSW government in line with NSW guidelines. In accordance with the *Inter-Departmental Service Agreement*, the NSW government manages payroll processing for the eight Professional Standards Councils. Total remuneration, including superannuation for the Councils' key management personnel was \$266,063 (2023: \$257,841). The Council is required to fund 8.36% or \$22,243 (2023: 8.89% or \$22,922) of total key management personnel remuneration. This expense is included in secretariat support charges (Note B2-1).

No KMP remuneration packages provide for performance or bonus payments.

E2 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

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

E3 NEW AND REVISED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

The Council has not implemented any new or revised accounting standards during 2023-24 that have any material impact on the financial statements.

The Council did not voluntarily change any of its accounting policies during 2023-24.

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.

Professional Standards Council
Notes to the Financial Statements
for the year ended 30 June 2024

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.

E5 CLIMATE RISK DISCLOSURE

The State of Queensland, as the ultimate parent of Professional Standards Council, has published a wide range of information and resources on climate related risks, strategies and actions accessible via <https://www.energyandclimate.qld.gov.au/climate>

The Queensland Sustainability Report (QSR) outlines how the Queensland Government measures, monitors and manages sustainability risks and opportunities, including governance structures supporting policy oversight and implementation. To demonstrate progress, the QSR also provides time series data on key sustainability policy responses. The QSR is available via Queensland Treasury's website at <https://www.treasury.qld.gov.au/programs-and-policies/queensland-sustainability-report>

No adjustments to the carrying value of assets were recognised during the financial year as a result of climate-related risks impacting current accounting estimates and judgements. No other transactions have been recognised during the financial year specifically due to climate-related risks impacting the Professional Standards Council.

Professional Standards Council
Management Certificate
for the year ended 30 June 2024


These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to s.62(1)(a) of the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* (the Act), s.39 of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019* and other prescribed requirements. In accordance with s.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 financial 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 2024 and of the financial position of the Council at the end of that year; and

We acknowledge responsibility under s.7 and s.11 of the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019* for the establishment and maintenance, in all material respects, of an appropriate and effective system of internal controls and risk management processes with respect to financial reporting throughout the reporting period.



Paula Werner CPA
Executive Director, Financial Services
Department of Justice and Attorney-General



John Vines OAM
Chairperson
Professional Standards Council

27 August 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Council Members of Professional Standards Council

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

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

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, 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 material accounting policy information, and the management certificate.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019 and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General 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 (including independence standards)* (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 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 2019 and Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures, 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.

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 the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Statement

In accordance with s.40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, for the year ended 30 June 2024:

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

Prescribed requirements scope

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Financial Accountability Act 2009*, any other Act and the Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the entity's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.



David Adams
as delegate of the Auditor-General

29 August 2024
Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Professional Standards Councils Professional Standards Authority

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psc.gov.au



Queensland Government

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