

5 March 2019

Mr David McPeak  
Principal  
International Accounting Education Standards Board

Via email – [davidmcpeak@iaesb.org](mailto:davidmcpeak@iaesb.org)

Dear Mr McPeak


**Comments – Proposed Revisions to IESs 2, 3, 4 and 8 –  
Information and Communications Technologies and Professional Skepticism**

We are pleased to provide our comments on the Exposure Draft dated December 2018 in relation to proposed changes to the IESs identified above. As a professional body representing over 120,000 members, we are overall supportive of the proposed amendments to IES 2, 3, 4 and 8. Appendix A provides an outline of our professional body, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand.

We have provided our responses in Appendix B to the specific questions raised in the Exposure Draft.

If you have any questions regarding this submission, please contact my colleague, Maryann Fisher via email at [Maryann.Fisher@charteredaccountantsanz.com](mailto:Maryann.Fisher@charteredaccountantsanz.com).

Yours sincerely



Simon Hann  
Group Executive Education & Learning

## Appendix A

### About us

Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand is made up of over 120,000 diverse, talented and financially astute professionals who utilise their skills every day to make a difference for businesses the world over.

Members of Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand are known for professional integrity, principled judgement and financial discipline, and a forward-looking approach to business. We focus on the education and lifelong learning of members, and engage in advocacy and thought leadership in areas that impact the economy and domestic and international capital markets.

We are represented on the Board of the International Federation of Accountants, and are connected globally through the Global Accounting Alliance, which brings together leading accounting professional bodies representing over 1,000,000 members, including members from Australia and New Zealand, Canada, England and Wales, Ireland, Scotland and South Africa.

## Responses to IAESB's Questions

## Question 1

**Do you support the proposed revisions to learning outcomes related to the areas of Information Communications & Technologies (“ICT”) and Professional Skepticism provided in Appendices A, B, C and D? If not, what changes would you suggest?**

Overall, subject to the following comments, CA ANZ is supportive of the proposed revisions which will increase the relevance of the learning outcomes as outlined in Appendices A, B, C and D:

Appendix	Relevant Paragraph	Comments for consideration
A – Proposed Changes to IES2, Initial Professional Development – Technical Competence	Paragraph 7(f)(iii) Apply ICT to support identification, reporting and management of risk in an organization.	We question whether there is a need to explicitly state “apply ICT” to support’ the identification, reporting and management of risk is an organisation? In a current business environment, use of ICT would be implicit.
D – Proposed Changes to IES8, Professional Competence for Engagement Partners Responsible for Audits of Financial Statements	Paragraph 6 – This IES is effective from January 2021	While supportive of the proposed changes to IES8, we do have some concerns around the implementation period. Licensed auditors have been required to comply with the revised IES8 since 1 July 2016. At a practical level, the shift from an input professional development model to an output/outcomes model has been a challenge for some of our members to implement. While most of the changes seem to be around clarification or providing further detail, due to the implementation challenge ‘on the ground’. We would suggest a longer implementation period for IES 8, for example to 2023, to allow for a period of stability following the initial adoption of IES8.

## **Question 2**

**Are there additional ICT and professional scepticism learning outcomes that you would expect from aspiring and professional accountants (See Appendix E)?**

No, there are no further additional ICT and professional scepticism learning outcomes we would expect from aspiring and professional accountants.

## **Question 3**

**Do you support the new definitions of Information and Communications Technologies, Intellectual Agility, and Professional Judgement added to the IAESB Glossary of Terms? If not, what changes would you suggest?**

Yes, we are supportive of the new definitions of Information and Communications Technologies, Intellectual Agility and Professional Judgement added to the IAESB Glossary of Terms.

## **Question 4**

**Are there any terms within the new and revised learning outcomes of IESs 2, 3, 4 and 8, which require further clarification (See Appendix E)? If so, please explain the nature of the changes?**

No further clarification is required.