

**USER GUIDE
TO THE
PORTFOLIO BUDGET STATEMENTS**

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The purpose of the *2017-18 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) 2017-18 (or Appropriation (Parliamentary Departments) Bill (No. 1) 2017-18 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.

Enhanced Commonwealth Performance Framework
- key components of relevant publications

Portfolio Budget Statements (May)
Portfolio based

Supports Annual Appropriations. Informs Senators and Members of Parliament of the proposed allocation of other resources to **government outcomes and programs**.

Provides links to **relevant programs** undertaken by other Commonwealth entities.

Provides high level performance information for current, ongoing programs, particularly a **forecast of performance for the current year**.

Provides **detailed** prospective performance information for proposed new budget measures that require a **new program** or **significantly change an existing program**.

Corporate Plan (August)
Entity based

Primary planning document of a Commonwealth entity.

Sets out the **purposes** of the entity, the **activities** it will undertake to achieve its purposes and the **results** it expects to achieve over a minimum four year period.

Describes the **environment** in which the entity **operates**, the **capability** it requires to undertake **activities** and a discussion of **risk**.

Explains how the entity's **performance** will be **measured** and **assessed**.



Annual Performance Statement (October following year)
Entity based

Included in the Commonwealth entity's Annual Report. Focuses on **recent performance**.

Reports on the **actual performance results** for the year against the **forecasts** made in the **corporate plan** and **Portfolio Budget Statements**, and provides other performance information relevant to the entity.

Provides an **analysis** of the factors that **contributed** to the **entity's performance results**.