

ANNUAL REPORT **2020 - 2021** 

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THE FINANCIAL COUNSELLORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW ACKNOWLEDGES THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS, CUSTODIANS AND ELDERS OF THE LANDS ACROSS AUSTRALIA AND PARTICULARLY THE GADIGAL PEOPLE OF THE EORA NATION, PAST AND PRESENT, ON WHOSE TRADITIONAL LAND THE FINANCIAL COUNSELLORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW OFFICE IS SITUATED.

# FCAN Chair's Message

My report to you is a continuation of where we left off last year in every sense of the word. Who knew that lockdowns, working from home and restrictions on most parts of our life would become normal? Who would have thought that among all this we would be able to join our peers from around the country in Darwin, only to then find ourselves separated yet again. Now, a first for financial counselling in Australia, we're going into the brave new world of becoming avatars in a virtual FCAN conference.

We've had another year of natural disasters, floods, storms and tornadoes wreaking havoc within already diminished communities and yet our services have not faced the onslaught of hardship we expected but been a lot quieter than usual.

The FCAN Board have continued on in our mission of "supporting, sustaining and enhancing the profession" in all we have been doing, from explaining and putting into practice the National Professional Supervision policy, bringing our voice to the Save Safe Lending campaign, providing a lot of useful CPD opportunities and liaising with government departments to create a better understanding of what we do and just how instrumental we can be in changing lives.

The intern program has been supported by a dedicated Development officer who has overseen this program in NSW and the ACT and then was retained by FCAN to continue that development to include independent trainees. We believe he has been successful in this role.

Bi-monthly Managers and Team Leaders meetings have provided an opportunity to air views on issues such as introducing interns into their organisations, working through Covid policies and how coming out of Covid may look with more flexibility around workplaces, given consideration. The National Professional Supervision policy has been on the agenda at these meetings this year.

The National Professional Supervision policy has provided a change to practises which had developed from when there were few financial counsellors or agencies and where peer and line management supervision was more of a necessity than a choice. Now it has been recognised that line management and lack of supervisee involvement in choice of supervisor is not best practice and may not allow for the free exchange of ideas so important to good supervision. NSW has always held that good supervision along with good training and continuation of training, leads to highly proficient financial counsellors.

FCAN works closely with FCA. Earlier this year we provided support and direct contacts with government ministers during the Save Safe lending campaign and of course as a member of that peak body, through the Representative Council and the FCA Board, we assist in developing and forming policy. For some time we have been working on a committee with what started as the bushfire small business helpline and is now a general small business helpline. This committee has assisted in putting together the small business handbook and has modified the e-learning tools to make them available to all financial counsellors who already work with small business or would like to learn how.

FCAN is also working in a state peak group whose aim is to consider a national membership and how this works around the life of a financial counsellor from trainee to life member. This would not have been considered several years ago but now we are doing more phone and video counselling and even working from within other states both in counselling and supervision; a national membership just makes sense.

A number of FCAN policies and procedures have also necessarily been updated including one which allowed our AGM and general meetings to held via an online platform. The complaints policy and the accreditation process have also been amended for compliance and ease of use.

A funding and advocacy committee has been looking at opportunities for FCAN to be promoted in its own right and not just part of a national peak. Forays have been made into a number of government departments and work continues to build a strong partnership with Services NSW. Unfortunately with Covid lockdowns and redeployment of government staff, there is yet to be outcomes from much of this work.

The FCAN website has been rebuilt and will be operational from next year. This will allow for more interactivity.

The newsletter continues to provide information about policy and legislative changes, CPD and job opportunities but we hope it will grow to be more interactive and make a statement of who we are as an organisation and the great individuals, therein. The Sharkwatch editorial team do a great job of bringing together important information to assist us in our work in a format which is easily accessible.

Advocacy doesn't just happen nationally but FCAN can work in areas which give a bigger voice and create action to change as well. This is the sort of thing that the special interest groups will be able to achieve, as well as providing a way of networking. FCAN will be talking to members who work in specialty areas about these groups next year.

There is already the ATSI Connection, convened by FCAN which advocates on behalf of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within NSW.

Last year, a Stress and Burnout report was finalised which indicated that mostly, financial counsellors were well supported by their agencies and their levels of stress were not massive. We have commissioned another of these reports for next year and it will be interesting to see those findings given 2020 and 2021 taking us to places (not literally) that we couldn't ever have imagined going.

On behalf of the Board I'd like to thank each and every one of you for all your hardwork and your willingness to change up your usual practises in order to bring our fantastic service to so many people within NSW.

Pauline Smith FCAN Chair

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### Pauline Smith (Chair)

Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Kempsey Neighbourhood Centre's Mid North Coast Financial Counselling Service.

Pauline has been a Board member since 2016 and has served as Chair for the past two years where she has worked to increase both the profile and professionalism of financial counselling in NSW.

She is the national financial counsellor consumer advisor to ASIC and sits on the Super Consumers Policy reference committee. She also represents FCAN in the Small Business and Disaster Recovery areas and is involved in many other policy committees.

A financial counsellor since 1999, Pauline works in Taree and leads a team of 10 working the length of the Mid North Coast, from Forster to Grafton.

#### Kylie Holford (Deputy Chair)

Occupation: Financial Counsellor, VERTO

Kylie has worked as a Financial Counsellor in Central Western NSW since 2014 and is also employed by ICAN Learn as a trainer for the Diploma of Financial Counselling. Kylie joined the Board in 2017 and is an appointed position on the FCA Board, and a member of the Sylvan Implementation Working Group. Kylie was previously employed in the job services and disability support sectors and is passionate about helping people experiencing hardship. Kylie is a Director on the Financial Counselling Australia Board.

#### **Robert Benton**

#### Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Uniting Dubbo

Rob joined the FCAN Board in 2015 and has been a Financial Counsellor since 2009, working for Lifeline Central West, Salvation Army Moneycare and more recently on the National Debt Helpline in Dubbo for Uniting. Rob has worked in the Finance industry for over 40 years, has owned a business and been an active board member in service clubs, a chamber of commerce & NGO's, such as Royal Far West, NALAG & a neighbourhood centre. Additionally, as a Gambling Counsellor he was an active representative on various industry reference and working groups.

#### **Tony Cameron**

# Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Central Coast Region Financial Counselling Service

Tony has worked as a financial counsellor in the Central Coast, Hunter and Sydney areas for the past 10 years. Tony has qualifications from a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in Sociology and Education, Diplomas in Community Service and Financial Counselling, Aboriginal and Family Community Counselling and in Small Business. Prior to working in Financial Counselling he worked in the community sector in direct support, referral and advocacy roles in family and community organisations in Port Stephens and Hunter areas. Tony is passionate about assisting disadvantaged people and members of FCAN.

#### Jennifer Daley

## Occupation: Financial Counsellor, CatholicCare Willcannia-Forbes

Jennifer is a proud Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander woman from Western NSW and has worked for CatholicCare (previously known as Centacare) since 2009. Jennifer is based in Broken Hill and outreaches to Menindee and Dareton. Over the past four years Jennifer has chaired the FCAN ATSI Connection Network.

#### Maria Hatch

## Occupation: Financial Counsellor and Manager of Financial Counselling Hunter Valley Project Inc.

Maria has worked as a Financial Counsellor for 29 years and has managed Financial Counselling Hunter Valley Project Inc. since 1994. Maria has organised the Hunter FCAN member meetings since 1994 and over the last ten or so years has served terms as an FCAN Board member and Director. Maria has also been an active board member of Maitland Neighbourhood Centre and has sat on various other boards over her years as a Financial Counsellor. Prior to this Maria worked with women and children in crisis.

#### Tracey Iskra

# Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Illawarra Legal Centre Inc.

Tracey has been a financial counsellor since 2013. She has worked as a solicitor in a large national law firm, a small firm and within a community legal centre, as a barrister in sole practice and as a sessional teacher in a university law faculty. For many years, Tracey's legal work had an emphasis on banking and finance litigation and insolvency. Among other positions, Tracey has been an elected alderman (later councillor) of a large city council and served as a board member of an area health service.

#### **Rovind Kant**

## Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Salvation Army Moneycare

Rovind transitioned to the financial counselling sector 11 years ago, initially with CatholicCare in Northern Territory. His background prior to financial counselling was in finance, insurance, mortgages, business and engineering. He has served on boards of other not for profit charity organizations for the past 16 years and is passionate about social justice within the financial counselling framework. He has worked at Salvation Army Moneycare since 2013 where he assumes financial counselling, supervision and leadership responsibilities.

## David Coorey, Independent Co-opted Director

David has more than 20 years' experience as a solicitor working predominantly in the area of consumer law. This includes 16 years experience working with vulnerable clients at Legal Aid NSW, as well as large scale litigation experience (Freehills) and more recently as a decision maker (Ombudsman) at Australian Financial Complaints Authority. He has held Directorships at Financial Ombudsman Service (FOS), Insurance Ombudsman Service and been appointed as Consumer Representative to Insurance Council of Australia and ASIC Customer Advisory Panel. David is currently employed as Special Counsel – Consumer law at Carroll & O'Dea Lawyers.

## David Ross, Independent Co-opted Director

David's career has encompassed executive and board appointments in sales management and general management in companies operating in sectors including information technology, private education and distribution. His experience included a period as a board member of a public company listed on the Australian Stock Exchange and he was a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (FAICD). Since semi-retirement, David has worked as a volunteer Financial Counsellor, assisted FCAN as its interim EO in 2015, and prior to that as a volunteer Lifeline telephone counsellor.

#### **INCOMING DIRECTORS**

#### **Graham R Smith**

## Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Edgeworth Neighbourhood Centre

Graham is currently employed as a financial counsellor for the Community Management Advisory Project which is connected to Edgeworth Neighbourhood Centre in Newcastle. His previous employers have been Muru Mittigar and Samaritans Foundation in Newcastle, having worked in the sector for the last eleven year

Graham served as FCAN Chair from 2013 to 2019 and was a member of the FCA Sector Leaders Forum and FCA Representative Council during that time. He has extensive working experience within the community/welfare sector that spans back to the late 1970's. He has worked with disadvantaged communities in Western Sydney on a broad acre public housing estate, in rural areas of NSW as a youth worker and in Central Australia, where he spent 6 years living on remote Aboriginal communities in the Great Sandy and Great Victorian deserts running community development programs.

#### Danielle Whyte

#### Occupation: Financial Counsellor, Salvation Army Moneycare

Danielle has 12 months experience working as a solicitor for the Financial Rights Legal Centre and 10 years' experience as a financial counsellor. This work developed her passion for reform and advocacy within the sector and has contributed to providing casework for the Financial Services Royal Commission, numerous senate enquiries as well as the independent review of the Australian Banking Association Code of Banking Practice. Her experience as a financial counsellor and solicitor has been the foundation for further development opportunities in the area of consumer credit law and she has assisted in researching specific projects for Moneycare. Danielle is also a Project Manager for the Our Backyard (Car to Home Project), which seeks to support men, women and children who are rough sleeping in their cars.

# **Directors' Report**

The directors present this report on Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The names of each person who has been a director during the year and to the date of this report, unless otherwise stated, are:

		BOARD MEETINGS		
Directors	Position	No. Eligible to attend	No. Attended	
Pauline Smith	Chair (appointed 25/9/20)	11	10	
Kylie Holford	Deputy Chair (appointed 25/9/20)	11	11	
Robert Benton	Treasurer (appointed 25/9/20)	11	11	
Tony Cameron (appointed 24/9/20)		9	9	
Jennifer Daley		11	9	
Maria Hatch	Membership Secretary (appointed 25/9/20)	11	10	
Tracey Iskra		11	11	
Rovind Kant (appointed 24/9/20)		9	9	
David Coorey (appointed 16/4/21)	Co-opted Director	2	2	
David Ross	Co-opted Director	11	10	

The FCAN Constitution requires that The Board must meet, either in person or by telephone, at least four (4) times in each period of twelve (12) months.

The FCAN Constitution requires that at each annual general meeting 50% of the Elected Directors are subject to retirement by rotation. A retiring Director is eligible for re-election if their continuous term of office does not exceed six years.

## **PUBLIC OFFICER**

Jo Parker holds the position of Public Officer.

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

FCAN is registered with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission (ACNC) as a Public Benevolent Institution.

The objectives of FCAN are to ensure that:

- Financial Counsellors in NSW are supported to comply with best practice;
- the financial counselling sector has secure, stable and sustainable funding;
- financial counselling has a high profile;
- vulnerable consumers have an effective voice;
- the Association is a strong, adaptive organisation that is valued by members, government and other stakeholders.

## LIMITATION OF MEMBERS LIABILITY

The liability of a member of the association to contribute towards the payment of the debts and liabilities of the association or the costs, charges and expenses of the winding up of the association is limited to the amount, if any, unpaid by the member in respect of membership of the association.

## **AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION**

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 30 June 2019 has been received and is included in the financial report.

The directors' report is signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

PAULINE SMITH CHAIRPERSON

Signed in Sydney, this 12th day of November 2021

# Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW

ABN 71 720 817 858

Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2021

# Financial Counsellor's Association of NSW Inc Management Committee Members' Report For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2021

## **Management Committee Members**

The names of the members of the management committee and responsible persons in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report are available by contacting the organisation or at the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Charity Register subject to valid reasons for this information being withheld.

## Review of operations and principal activities

The organisation was incorporated in 1989 as a not-for-profit association and supports, enhances & sustains the financial counselling profession. There have been no significant changes in the nature of the organisation's operations or activities during the year.

# Significant changes in the state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the organisation during the year.

## **Operating result**

For the year ended 30 June 2021 the result was a surplus of \$108,299 compared to a surplus of \$18,672 for 2020.

## Events arising since the end of the reporting period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year that significantly affected or may significantly affect the organisation's operations, the result of those operations or the organisations state of affairs in future financial years.

## **Future developments**

The management committee members believe it would be prejudicial to the interest of the organisation to disclose information relating to potential developments.

## **Environmental legislation**

The organisation's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulation under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory.

## **Dividends**

The organisation is a non-profit organisation and the Constitution prohibits the payment of dividends.

# **Management Committee Member benefits**

No management committee member has received or has become entitled to receive, during or since the financial year, a benefit because of a contract made by the organisation or related body organisation with a management committee member. This statement excludes a benefit included in the aggregate amount of emoluments received or due and receivable by a management committee member shown in the organisation's accounts, or the salary of an employee of the organisation or a related organisation.

# Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc **Management Committee Members' Report** For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2021

# Proceedings on behalf of the organisation

No person has applied for leave of court to bring proceedings on behalf of the organisation or intervene in any proceedings to which the organisation is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the organisation for all or any part of those proceedings. The organisation was not party to any such proceedings during the year.

## **Auditor's independence declaration**

A copy of the auditor's independence declaration as required under section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 follows this report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Management Committee:

Name:

Pauline Smith

Position:

Chairperson

Date:

30 August 2021

Location: Sydney

Name:

Kylie Holford

Position:

Deputy Chairperson

Date:

30 August 2021

Location: Sydney

# DAVID A. BEDDOE

BCom(UoN), LLM/LP(UTS), MPH(Syd)
SOLICITOR AND BARRISTER

**CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT** 

Buddo

P: 1 Main Road Edgeworth NSW 2285

**M:** 0491 066 234

E: david.beddoe@icloud.com

Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc Auditor's Independence Declaration to the Management Committee of Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2021

In accordance with the requirements of section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, as lead auditor for the review of Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc for the year ended 30 June 2021, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) No contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the review; and
- b) No contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the review.

D A Beddoe

Auditor

27 August 2021

# FINANCIAL COUNSELLORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2021

		2021	<u>2020</u>	
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AS AT 01 JULY 20	\$	820,658.29	\$	801,985.44
ADD: RESULT FOR THE PERIOD	\$	108,299.68	\$	18,672.85
	\$	928,957.97	\$	820,658.29
THESE FUNDS ARE REPRESENTED BY:				
CURRENT ASSETS				
BOND ON PREMISES	\$	646.40	\$	500.00
OPERATING ACCOUNTS	\$	494,751.15	\$	363,572.31
INVESTMENT ACCOUNTS	\$	550,439.01	\$	•
PETTY CASH	\$	447.95	\$	299.70
PREPAYMENTS	\$	21.09	\$	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
TRADE DEBTORS	\$	63,229.00	\$	12,044.66
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	\$1	\$1,109,534.60 \$1,128,672.2		1,128,672.24
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
ACCRUED EXPENSES	\$	_	\$	687.45
ANNUAL LEAVE PROVISION	\$	23,146.76	\$	12,537.78
AUDIT FEE PAYABLE	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
CONFERENCE FEES IN ADVANCE	\$	30,381.93	\$	, -
CONFERENCE SPONSORSHIP IN ADVANCE	\$	69,750.00	\$	-
CREDIT CARD PAYABLE	\$	3,666.94	\$	2,411.58
FUNDS IN ADVANCE	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
GRANTS IN ADVANCE	\$	-	\$	238,219.42
GST PAYABLE	\$	8,076.27	\$	22,747.31
LONG SERVICE LEAVE PROVISION	\$	6,803.12	\$	-
MEMBERSHIP FEES IN ADVANCE	\$	24,045.45	\$	13,299.88
PAYG PAYABLE	\$	2,370.27	\$	2,404.27
PAYROLL LIABILITIES	\$	308.71	\$	-
SUPERANNUATION PAYABLE	\$	2,027.18	\$	5,706.26
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	\$	180,576.63	\$	308,013.95
ACCUMULATED FUNDS AS ABOVE	\$	928,957.97	\$	820,658.29

# FINANCIAL COUNSELLORS' ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC

# STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

		<u>2021</u> <u>202</u>		<u>2020</u>
INCOME				
CASH FLOW BOOST (ATO)	\$	17,708.00	\$	12,900.00
CONFERENCE FEES & SPONSORSHIP	\$	-	\$	195,940.84
GRANTS (FINANCE, SERVICES, INNOVATION)	\$	395,718.21	\$	382,766.22
INTEREST	\$	5,385.47	\$	12,546.09
MEMBERSHIP FEES	\$	34,365.13	\$	29,715.20
OTHER FUNDING / SPONSORSHIP	\$	22,000.00	\$	15,000.00
PROFESSIONAL INCOME	\$	2,225.00	\$	1,656.82
PROJECT SUPPORT FUNDING	\$	130,000.00	\$	-
RENT	\$	13,059.96	\$	13,059.96
SUNDRY INCOME	\$	1,059.30	\$	-
TOTAL INCOME FOR PERIOD		621,521.07	\$	663,585.13
ODEDATING EVERNBITURE				
OPERATING EXPENDITURE	Φ.	000.04	Φ.	004.40
ACCOUNTING FEES	\$	699.84	\$	621.16
ADMINISTRATIVE & LEGAL FEES	\$	1,153.23	\$	3,200.29
AMENITIES	\$	1,896.97	\$	2,008.80
AUDIT FEES	\$	5,000.00	\$	5,000.00
BANK & MERCHANT FEES	\$	1,482.75	\$	967.41
CLEANING, REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	\$	180.00	\$	-
COMPUTER, SOFTWARE & IT EXPENSES	\$	12,142.46	\$	7,556.58
CONSULTANCY	\$	15,000.00	\$	16,000.00
DESIGN, PRINTING, & STATIONERY	\$	7,108.10	\$	10,768.89
DONATIONS	\$	7.00	\$	32.00
ELECTRICITY	\$	3,157.29	\$	3,355.90
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE EXPENSES	\$	5,795.80	\$	18,488.99
EXECUTIVE OFFICER EXPENSES	\$	2,667.82	\$	4,281.72
INSURANCE	\$	7,784.05	\$	8,628.37
OFFICE EXPENSES	\$	2,597.06	\$	2,434.71
POSTAGE	\$	722.18	\$	817.18
RENT	\$	65,616.99	\$	60,637.39
SCHOLARSHIPS	\$	23,671.25		25,960.00
STAFF ACCOMMODATION & TRAVEL	\$	265.19	\$	72.05
SUBSCRIPTIONS & MEMBERSHIPS	\$	809.05	\$	1,381.75
SUNDRY EXPENSES	\$	0.03	\$	5,894.78
TELEPHONE & INTERNET	\$	10,761.73	\$	7,799.73
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES FOR PERIOD	\$	168,518.79	\$	185,907.70
PROGRAM EXPENDITURE				
CONFERENCE COSTS	\$	_	\$	110,435.82
CATERING	Ф \$	-	φ \$	1,522.87
CATENING	Φ	-	Φ	1,522.07

RESULT TO ACCUMULATED FUNDS	\$ 108,299.68	\$ 18,672.85
TOTAL EXPENSES FOR PERIOD	\$ 513,221.39	\$ 644,912.28
TOTAL WAGES EXPENDITURE FOR PERIOD	\$ 307,172.83	\$ 305,616.95
WORKERS COMPENSATION	\$ 3,576.83	\$ 3,576.83
WAGES & SALARIES	\$ · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	260,396.55
SUPERANNUATION (EMPLOYEES)	\$ 24,777.12	
SUPERANNUATION (CONTRACTORS)	\$ 594.78	\$ 133.65
STAFF TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT	\$ -	\$ 1,170.00
RECRUITMENT	\$ -	\$ 9,750.00
LONG SERVICE LEAVE PROVISION	\$ 6,803.12	\$ -
FIRST AID ALLOWANCE	\$ 435.82	\$ 446.20
ANNUAL LEAVE PROVISION	\$ 10,608.98	\$ 5,513.87
WAGES EXPENDITURE		
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES FOR PERIOD	 37,529.77	\$ 153,387.63
	 	·
WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT	\$ _	\$ 4,712.38
TRAINING COSTS	\$ 37,529.77	
PROJECT EXPENSES	\$ _	\$ 18,031.76

#### 1. General information

The financial statements cover Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc, an incorporated association in New South Wales. The organisation is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes under Australian Accounting Standards and a registered charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*.

Principal place of business is at Sydney, New South Wales 2000.

The financial report was authorised for issue by the Management Committee.

## 2. Changes in accounting policies

#### New and revised standards that are effective for these financial statements

A number of new and revised standards became effective on or after 1 July 2020. The adoption of these amendments has not had a material impact on the entity.

# Accounting Standards issued but not yet effective and not been adopted early by the entity

A number of new and revised standards have been issued but are not yet effective and have not been adopted early by the entity. The Management Committee are currently assessing the impact such standards will have on the entity.

## 3. Summary of significant accounting policies

#### Financial reporting framework

The special purpose financial statements of the entity have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991*. The management committee has determined that the entity is not a reporting entity as it is unlikely that there are users that are unable to command the preparation of reports tailored so as to satisfy all of their information needs.

## **Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical cost unless otherwise stated in the notes. The accounting policies that have been adopted in the preparation of this report are as follows:

#### Revenue

Revenue comprises revenue from government grants, donations, client contributions and interest income.

Revenue is measured by reference to the fair value of consideration received or receivable by the entity for goods supplied and services provided, excluding sales taxes, rebates and trade discounts.

Revenue is recognised when the amount of revenue can be measured reliably, collection is probably, the costs incurred or to be incurred can be measured reliably, and when the criteria for each of the organisation's different activities have been met.

## Foreign currency

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated to the functional currency at exchange rates at the date of transactions. Amounts outstanding are translated at year end.

## **Operating expenses**

Operating expenses are recognised in profit or loss upon utilisation of the service or at the date of their origin.

#### Income tax

No provision for income tax has been raised as the entity is exempt from income tax as a registered charity under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.

# Cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand equivalents includes cash on hand, deposits held at-call with banks, other short-term highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

## Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any provision for impairment. Trade receivables are generally due for settlement within 30 days.

# Property, plant and equipment

Each class of property, plant and equipment is carried at cost or fair value, less, where applicable, accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses.

## Plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and any impairment losses. In the event the carrying amount of plant and equipment is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, the carrying amount is written down immediately to its estimated recoverable amount recognised either in the profit or loss.

## **Depreciation**

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets is depreciated over the asset's useful life to the entity commencing from the time the asset is held ready to use.

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at the end of each reporting period.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains or losses are included in the financial statements.

## **Impairment of assets**

At the end of each reporting period the entity determines whether there is an evidence of an impairment indicator for non-financial assets.

Where and indicator exists and regardless for indefinite life intangible assets and intangible assets not yet available for use, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated.

Where assets do not operate independently or other assets, the recoverable amount of the relevant cash generating unit (CGU) is estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or CGU is the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and the value in use. Value in use is the present value of the future cash flows expected to be derived from an asset or cash generating unit.

Where the recoverable amount is less than the carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Reversal indicators are considered in subsequent periods for all assets which have suffered an impairment loss.

## **Financial Instruments**

Financial instruments are recognised initially using trade date accounting, i.e. on the date that the entity becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

## Financial assets

Financial assets are divided into the following categories which are described in detail below:

- Loans and receivables;
- Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss;
- Available-for-sale financial assets; and
- Held-to-maturity investments.

Financial assets are assigned to the different categories on initial recognition, depending on the characteristics of the instrument and its purpose. A financial instrument's category is relevant to the way it is measured and whether any resulting income and expenses are recognised in the profit or loss or in other comprehensive income.

All income and expenses relating to financial assets are recognised in the financial statements.

## Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise principally though the provision of goods and services to customers but also incorporate other types of contractual monetary assets. After initial recognition these are measures at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. Any change in their value is recognised in the financial reports.

The entity's trade and other receivables fall into this category of financial instruments.

Significant receivables are considered for impairment on an individual asset basis when they are past due at the reporting date or when objective evidence is received that a specific counterparty will default.

The amount of the impairment is the difference between the net carrying amount and the present value of the future expected cash flows associated with the impaired receivable.

In some circumstances, the entity renegotiates repayment terms with customers which may lead to changes in the timing of the payments, the entity does not necessarily consider the balance to be impaired, however assessment is made on a case-by-case basis.

## Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments and fixed maturity. Investments are classified as held-to-maturity if it is the intention of the entity's management to hold them until maturity.

Held-to maturity investments are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, with revenue recognised on an effective yield basis. In addition, if there is objective evidence that the investment has been impaired, the financial asset is measured at the present value of estimated future cash flows. Any changes to the carrying amount of the investment are recognised in the financial statements.

#### Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities are classified as either financial liabilities 'at fair value through profit or loss' or other financial liabilities depending on the purpose for which the liability was acquired.

The entity's financial liabilities include borrowings, trade and other payables, which are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

## Impairment of financial assets

At the end of the reporting period the entity assesses whether there is any objective evidence that a financial asset or group of financial assets is impaired.

## Financial assets at amortised cost

If there is objective evidence that an impairment loss on financial assets carried at amortised cost has been incurred, the amount of the loss is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of the estimated future cash flows discounted at the financial assets original effective interest rate.

Impairment on loans and receivables is reduced through the use of an allowance account, all other impairment losses on financial assets at amortised cost are taken directly to the asset.

Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited against other expenses in profit or loss.

## Available-for-sale financial assets

A significant or prolonged decline in value of an available-for-sale asset below its cost is objective evidence of impairment, in this case, the cumulative loss that has been recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified from equity to profit or loss as a reclassification adjustment. Any subsequent increase in the value of the asset is taken directly to other income.

#### Trade and other payables

These amounts represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the entity prior to the end of the financial year and which are unpaid. Due to the short-term nature they are measured at amortised cost and are not discounted. The amounts are unsecured and are usually paid within 30 days of recognition.

## Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Receivables and payables are stated inclusive of GST.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the statement of financial position.

## **Employee benefits**

Provision is made for entity's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period. Employee benefits that are expected to be wholly settled within one year have been measured at the amounts to be paid when the liability is settled.

Employee benefits expected to be settled more than one year after the end of the reporting period have been measured at the present value of estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits. In determining the liability, consideration is given to employee wage increases and the probability that the employee may satisfy vesting requirements. Cashflows may be discounted using market yields on high quality corporate bond rates incorporating bonds rated AAA or AA by credit agencies, with terms to maturity that match the expected timing of cashflows. Changes in the measurement of the liability are recognised in profit or loss.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the entity has a legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result, and that outflow can be reliably measured. Provisions recognised represent the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation at the end of the reporting period.

# **Comparative figures**

Where required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

## Significant management judgement in applying accounting policies

When preparing the financial statements, management undertakes a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions about the recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses.

# **Estimation uncertainty**

Information about estimates and assumptions that have the most significant effect on recognition and measurement of assets, liabilities, income and expenses is provided. Actual results may be substantially different.

## Useful lives of depreciable assets

Management reviews its estimates of the useful lives of depreciable assets at each reporting date, based on the expected utility of the assets. Uncertainties in these estimates relate to technical obsolescence that may change the utility of certain software and IT equipment.

The entity has certain financial assets which are measured at fair value. Where fair value has not been able to be determined based on quoted price, a valuation model has been used. The inputs to these models are observable, where possible, however these techniques involve significant estimates and therefor fair value of the instruments could be affected by changes in these assumptions and inputs.

## Impairment

In assessing impairment, management estimates the recoverable amount of each asset or cash-generating units, based expected future cash flows and uses an interest rate to discount them.

Estimation uncertainty relates to assumptions about future operating results and the determination of a suitable discount rate.

#### 4. Related Parties

The entity's related parties include its key management personnel and related entities. Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties.

## 5. Contingent liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2021 (2020: None).

## 6. Subsequent events

No adjusting or significant non-adjusting events have occurred between the reporting date and the date of authorisation of these accounts.

## 7. NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991

As a registered charity under the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 (the Act), the entity is required to disclose income and expenses from fundraising appeals. Donations and fundraising in this note follow the definition in the Act. As such, there may be some differences in the classification of items compared to the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

Further, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income records transactions on an accruals-basis, while the Act requires fundraising income and expenses to be disclosed on a cash-basis. Therefore, donations and fundraising income and expenses in this note, have been adjusted to reflect cash received/used during the year.

## a) Details of aggregated gross income and total expenses from fundraising appeals

	2021	2020	
	\$	\$	
Fundraising income	0.00	0.00	
Fundraising expenses	0.00	0.00	
Net surplus from fundraising activities	0.00	0.00	

# b) Nature of fundraising appeals and application of net surplus

Fundraising appeals primarily consisted of donations from the community. The net surplus generated from fundraising activities was applied to the charitable purposes of the organisation.

# Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc **Responsible Entities' Declaration** For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2021

The Responsible Persons declare that in the Responsible Persons' opinion:

- a) The financial statements and notes are in accordance with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012, including:
  - giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the year ended on that date; and
  - ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Reduced Disclosure Requirements and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013; and
- b) there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2013.

Name:

Pauline Smith

Position:

Chairperson

Date:

30 August 2021

Location: Sydney

Name:

Kylie Holford

Position:

Deputy Chairperson

Date:

30 August 2021

Location: Sydney

# Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc Responsible Entities' Declaration under the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2021

The Responsible Persons declare that in the Responsible Persons' opinion:

- a) the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and associated notes gives a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals for the financial year ended 30 June 2021;
- b) the statement of financial position and associated notes gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals conducted by the organisation as at 30 June 2021;
- c) the provisions of the *NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991* and Regulations and the conditions attached to the authority have been complied with during the financial year ended 30 June 2021; and
- d) the internal controls exercised by the organisation are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the organisation from any of its fundraising appeals during the financial year ended 30 June 2021.

Name:

Pauline Smith

Position:

Chairperson

Date:

30 August 2021

Location:

Sydney

Name:

Kylie Holford

Position:

Deputy Chairperson

Date:

30 August 2021

Location:

Sydney

# DAVID A. BEDDOE

BCom(UoN), LLM/LP(UTS), MPH(Syd)
SOLICITOR AND BARRISTER
CERTIFIED PRACTISING ACCOUNTANT

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Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc Independent Auditor's Review Report to the Members of Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc For the Financial Year Ended 30 June 2021

I have reviewed the accompanying financial report, being a special purpose financial report of Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2021, the statement of profit and loss and other comprehensive income, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and the responsible entities' declaration.

## Responsible Entities' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The responsible entities of the registered entity are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 3 to the financial report is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* (ACNC Act) and the needs of the members. The responsible entities' responsibility also includes such internal control that the responsible entities determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a financial report that gives a true and fair view and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express a conclusion on the financial report based on my review. I conducted my review in accordance with Auditing Standard on Review Engagements ASRE 2415 Review of a Financial Report: Company Limited by Guarantee or an Entity Reporting under the ACNC Act or Other Applicable Legislation or Regulation, in order to state whether, on the basis of the procedures described, anything has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial report does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the ACNC Act including: giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and its performance for the period ended on that date; and complying with the Australian Accounting Standards and the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2013 (ACNC Regulation).

ASRE 2415 requires I comply with the ethical requirements relevant to the review of the financial report. A review of a financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for the financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. I am not able to obtain or provide assurance that I would become aware of each and every significant matter and it is on this basis I express my financial review opinion.

# Report for the requirements of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991

I have reviewed the financial report as required by Section 24(2) of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991. My procedures included obtaining an understanding of the internal control structure for fundraising appeal activities and examination, on a test basis, of

evidence supporting compliance with the accounting and associated record keeping requirements for fundraising appeal activities pursuant to NSW Charitable Fundraising Regulations 2015.

Because of the inherent limitations of any assurance engagement, it is possible that fraud, error or non-compliance may occur and not be detected. A review is not designed to detect all instance of non-compliance with requirements described in the above-mentioned Acts and Regulations as it is not performed continuously throughout the period and procedures performed in respect of compliance with these requirements are undertaken on a test basis. The conclusion expressed in the report has been formed on the above basis.

## In my opinion:

- a) the financial report of the entity has been properly drawn up and associated records have been properly kept during the financial year ended 30 June 2021; in accordance with:
  - i. sections 20(1), 22(1-2), 24(1-3) of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Act 1991; and
  - ii. sections 10(6) and 11 of the NSW Charitable Fundraising Regulations 2015.
- b) The money received as a result of fundraising appeals conducted by the entity during the financial year ended 30 June 2021 has been properly accounted for and applied, in all material respects in accordance with the above-mentioned Act and Regulations.

#### Conclusion

Based on my review nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the financial report of Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW Inc does not satisfy the requirements of Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act* 2012 including:

- a) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2021 and of its financial performance for the year 2021; and
- b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards to the extent described in Note 3, and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2013*.

## **Basis of Accounting**

Without modifying above, I draw attention to Note 3 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared for the purpose of fulfilling the responsible entities' financial reporting responsibilities under the ACNC Act. As a result, the report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Budda

D A Beddoe

Auditor

27 August 2021





The Financial Counsellors' Association of NSW appreciates the financial support provided by the Financial Counselling Services Program administered by the NSW Department of Finance, Services and Innovation (Fair Trading).

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