Are you ready for the new Accounting Standards?

Getting Governance and Accountability Right in the Not-for-Profit Sector Conference, November 22-23, 2012

Dr Carolyn Cordery, School of Accounting & Commercial Law <u>carolyn.cordery@vuw.ac.nz</u>.



Overview

- Proposed new accounting standards: challenges from the NFP sector
- Reporting entity as a case
- Working through reporting entity issues
- Simple Format Reporting Standards hand over to Megan...



Proposed new accounting standards: challenges from the NFP sector (1)

- http://xrb.govt.nz/Site/Financial_Reporting_Strategy/ASRB_History/Viability _of_a_NFP_Application.aspx
- Conceptual framework necessary for NFP and no IPSASB framework exists
 - But IPSAS acknowledges broader user base and need for accountability
- Distinguishing between liabilities and equity



Proposed new accounting standards: challenges from the NFP sector (2)

- Recognising services in kind and donated goods
- Uncompleted contracts at year end
- Relevant NFP examples required
- Service performance reporting necessary
- Defining the reporting entity, especially understanding inter-relationships

Reporting Entity Issues

- Charities may be registered as groups/single entities on the Charities Register
- Separate trusts may deliver services/hold investments
- Charity may have a number of branches and there is a demand for local accountability, not 'Head Office' statements



Recent example of this issue

- 'Head office' and 7 branches
- Financial accounts show only 'capitation' rather than all transactions
- To what do members belong?
- What role does 'Head Office' perform?

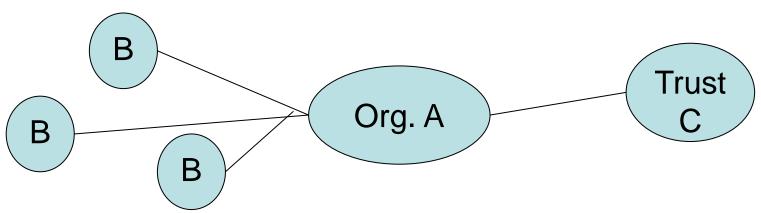


A suggested three-step process for reporting entities

- 1. What is the entity for which General Purpose Financial Reporting is required to be prepared?
- 2. What other entities do you have a relationship for financial reporting purposes?
- 3. What is the appropriate accounting treatment of that relationship in the reporting entity's General Purpose Financial Reporting?



Considering the risks and benefits tests – a discussion



- What types of financial risks would give rise to organisation A having a relationship with organisation B or C?
- What types of benefits would give rise to organisation A having a relationship with organisation B or C?

Summary

- Tier 1 and 2 (adapted IPSAS) under development and will bring some changes
- Tier 3 and 4 (Simple Format Reporting) aims to make some of the issues simpler
- Reporting Entity needs to be dealt with before working out which tier you are in!

