

Circular Details	Circular No 19-04 / 29 March 2019 / A637501
Previous Circular	Circular 18-38
Who should read this	General Managers / Financial accounting business areas
Contact	Policy Team / (02) 4428 4100 / code@olg.nsw.gov.au
Action required	Council/Joint Organisations to implement

Final Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (update 27) including Joint Organisations Supplement

What's new or changing

- The final Code of Accounting Practice and Financial Reporting (Code) (update 27) is available for preparing councils' 2018-19 financial statements.
- A Joint Organisation (JO) Supplement to the Code is available for preparing JO financial statements for the period from Proclamation to 30 June 2019.
- Councils should note key changes and JOs should note new requirements.

What this will mean for your council/JO

- The Code must be used by councils and JOs to prepare their annual financial statements in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2005*.

Key points

- Changes highlighted in yellow are new for this year. Commentary in red relates to Office of Local Government (OLG) requirements and commentary in blue relates to the Australian Accounting Standards.
- Key changes in this year's draft Code were highlighted in Circular 18-38.
- Extensive feedback received from the Audit Office, councils and others has resulted in a significant number of changes being made to the final Code.
- Councils should carefully review the *Summary of changes to the Code* (update 27) document in conjunction with the Code.
- The new JO Supplement to the Code will support JOs preparing financial statements for the first time.
- The introduction and overview of the Code provides guidance to JOs on the application of the JO Supplement.

Where to go for further information

- The OLG website has the Code (Update 27) comprising five documents:
 1. General Purpose Financial Statements
 2. Special Purpose Financial Statements
 3. Special Schedules
 4. Joint Organisations Supplement
 5. Appendices
- The *Summary of changes document to the Code* (update 27)
- The OLG Accounting Practice page can be found here: www.olg.nsw.gov.au/strengthening-local-government/supporting-and-advising-councils/accounting-practice



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