

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

ABN 67 073 167 361

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

ABN 67 073 167 361

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For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

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Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Directors' Report

30 June 2026

The directors present their report on Financial Counselling Australia Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2026.

Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during, or since the end of, the year are:

Kylie Maree Holford	(Resigned on 03 October 2025)
Jocelyn Joy Furlan	(Resigned on 27 January 2026)
Carly Newcombe	
Delia Rickard	
Carolyn Louise Piper	(Resigned on 03 October 2025)
Timothy Andrew Barnett	
Vicki Penner	
Carol Eapen	(Appointed on 18 November 2025)
David Berry	(Appointed on 27 January 2026)
Geoff Cornwall	(Appointed on 18 November 2025)

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

All members of the Board are volunteers and receive no payment for their work as board and committee members. Board members are reimbursed expenses that are incurred in the course of their duties as board members in accordance with company policy. Furthermore, reasonable costs may be incurred from time to time to ensure the continued professional development of board members.

Principal activities

The principal activities of Financial Counselling Australia Limited (FCA) during the financial year was to:

- be the National voice for the profession;
- support the financial counselling profession by providing tools and resources to help financial counsellors in their work;
- advocate on behalf of the clients of financial counsellors for a fairer marketplace that will prevent poor outcomes for consumers and fix existing issues; and
- support the work of financial capability workers around Australia.

Financial Counselling Australia (FCA) also:

- coordinates the ten agencies that collectively deliver the National Debt Helpline financial counselling service;
- operates the equivalent service for small business - the Small Business Debt Helpline;
- manages contracts to expand and enhance access to financial counselling. These projects include the provision of the chat facility on the National Debt Helpline website and to develop the technology that allows National Debt Helpline financial counsellors to directly book appointments for clients with a face-to-face financial counsellor (the appointment booking project);
- operates STEPS, which allows student financial counsellors to complete their placement hours in a simulated environment; and
- pilots the use of Open Banking in financial counselling casework to improve accuracy and efficiency.

No significant changes in the nature of the Company's activities occurred during the financial year.

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Directors' Report

30 June 2026

Short term objectives

The Company's short-term objectives are to:

1. Continue to work for stable and adequate funding for the financial counselling sector through building our data capacity, fostering strong relationships, and improving service delivery.
2. Work collaboratively with the State and Territory financial counselling associations on policy issues, training and professional development and in lifting professional standards in the financial counselling sector.
3. Continue to support the provision of chat on the National Debt Helpline website, the further rollout of the appointment booking project nationally, the effective management of STEPS, the coordination of the financial counselling response in areas affected by natural disasters.
4. Deliver the small business telephone and chat financial counselling service, the Small Business Debt Helpline.

Long term objectives

The Company's long-term strategic goals are:

1. Financial counselling services better meet Australia's needs
2. A high-quality, stable, diverse and nationally connected workforce
3. Financial counselling is well known and highly valued
4. Fairer markets and fairer treatment

Review of operations

Increased cost of living continued to be a feature across the year, with increased interest rates, rental, insurance and essential services cost driving an increase in demand for financial counselling services. Firmer action in debt collection by the Australian Taxation Office was also a factor driving demand, particularly for clients who are small business owners.

Calls and chats to the National Debt Helpline returned to pre-pandemic levels and are trending upwards, with the most common reason for seeking assistance remaining as housing stress.

Major Projects

Financial counselling services better meet Australia's needs

- We ran the Small Business Debt Helpline and coordinated the National Debt Helpline phone, chat and website. We also continued the process of rolling out an appointment booking service, enabling clients to book face-to-face services via the National Debt Helpline.
- We advocated for better funding for more stable and adequate funding from the Federal Government. We collaborated on a project with the newly established Financial Counselling Industry Fund to work towards a proposed measure for unmet need.
- Piloted Open Banking technology to streamline financial counselling, reducing the time spent gathering and analysing client financial data and preparing Statements of Financial Position.

A high-quality, stable, diverse and nationally connected workforce

- We secured funding for and completed research for a National Workforce Strategy (2026 -2030). The research and consultation will provide the evidence-base for the strategy.
- We secured coordinated support for financial counsellors working with disaster-affected people, First Nations people and people affected by gambling harm, and we coordinated support for financial capability workers.
- We maintained information, resources and training on the password protected, FCA Toolkit website for financial counsellors including sector updates and a weekly newsletter.

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Directors' Report
30 June 2026

Review of operations (continued)

- We supported the workforce pipeline by running a simulated placement program for students of the Diploma of Financial Counselling.
- We finalised a series good practice guides for the sector and finished work on an updated Code of Ethical Practice.

Financial counselling is well known and highly valued

- Financial counselling has featured regularly in the media and other public forums in relation to a variety of issues. We carried out campaign promoting the National Debt Helpline which contributed to an increase in demand and drove a significant increase of traffic to the NDH website.
- We continued to run hardship webinars for creditor and other stakeholders and the Day in the Life program.
- We convened a national conference attracting nearly 900 people from the financial counselling sector, Industry and government. Along with a high-calibre plenary, the conference provided a variety of workshops and training sessions.

Fairer markets and fairer treatment

FCA was involved in advocacy in a number of areas, including:

- Australian Taxation Office approaches to debt collection
- Small business non-bank lending harms
- Insurance claims handling
- Strata debt reform
- Improving hardship practices across sectors
- Community ID for First Nations people
- Deceased Estates and Superannuation accessibility for First Nations People
- Prevention of and responses to 'Scambling' in First Nations Communities

and a variety of other issues across financial services, energy, telecommunications, gambling harm and government services (Centrelink and Child Support).

Information on directors

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

Carly Newcombe

Qualifications

Experience

Diploma in Community Service (Financial Counselling)

Carly came to financial counselling in 2011 and is a senior financial counsellor who has covered many different specialities of the work throughout her career. She is currently working as a Financial Abuse Specialist with CWES Centre for Women's Economic Safety. Carly has been an FCA board director since 2023, was the Chairperson of Financial Counselling Victoria (FCVic) for 3 years and a former Board member before that. Carly has previously served as FCVic Representative on the FCA Representative Council.

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Directors' Report

30 June 2026

Information on directors (continued)

Delia Rickard

Qualifications

BA, LLB

Experience

Delia has worked in the area of consumer protection for the last 30 years. She has held senior roles at both ASIC and the ACCC and was most recently the Deputy Chair of the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission from 2012 until early 2023. Throughout that time, she regularly worked with Financial Counselling Australia. In 2011, Delia was awarded the Public Service medal for her work in consumer protection and financial services. She was also awarded the inaugural Law Council of Australia Consumer Rights award and the SOCAP lifetime achievement award.

Timothy Andrew Barnett

Qualifications

BSc Econ (Government) with Honours, 2.1 London School of Economics 1981

Experience

Tim has pursued a career in politics and NGO management, working in 5 countries. He has been a New Zealand Member of Parliament (1996-2008), a local government councillor in London (1982-88); NZ Labour Party General Secretary (2012-15). He has also been CEO of FinCap, of a national volunteering agency and a local legal advice agency. He has worked for Tuhoe, a Maori iwi/tribe, and was Chief of Staff for Hon Selena Uiho, now Leader of the Opposition in the Northern Territory, 2020-24. Back in 1988 he was inaugural CEO for Stonewall, working for LGBT rights in the UK.

Vicki Penner

Qualifications

B. Applied Business (Management), Dip. Community Services (Financial Counselling)

Experience

Vicki is the Queensland Manager of Gambling Help Services at Relationships Australia Queensland and has over 20 years' experience in community services and financial counselling. Previously Queensland Manager of The Salvation Army's Moneycare program, she has also held executive roles with Financial Counselling Queensland (FCQ). Prior to entering the community services sector, Vicki worked in recruitment and financial management within the commercial construction industry. She brings broad experience across leadership, governance, business and financial management.

Carol Eapen

Qualifications

BSc(Hons); Chartered Accountant (ICAEW - England and Wales, and CAANZ); Diploma of Community Services (Financial Counselling)

Experience

Carol worked as a Chartered Accountant at KPMG for 24 years, primarily in London and Singapore. After relocating to Australia in 2003, Carol volunteered, and was then employed, as a Financial Counsellor. Carol is currently employed by the Salvation Army Moneycare. Carol volunteered for many years on the Management Committee of FCQ, in various positions including Treasurer and Vice President. Carol has also served as a non-executive director of various organisations, including the Brisbane based charity, Micah Projects Ltd.

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Directors' Report
30 June 2026

Information on directors (continued)

David Berry	
Qualifications	Bachelor of Business (Banking & Finance); Master of Banking
Experience	David is the CEO of The Compensation Scheme of Last Resort Ltd, a not for profit established by the Federal Government to support victims of financial misconduct. He previously held the role of CEO of Way Forward Debt Solutions Ltd, a not for profit established by the four major banks, ABA and Financial Counselling Australia with a focus on assisting people in financial hardship. He is a former General Manager at NAB and ANZ, and has extensive experience in all aspects surrounding credit and debt. He is an experienced executive and non-executive director having served on Boards of Bank subsidiaries, Industry Associations and Not for Profit organisations.
Geoff Cornwall	
Qualifications	Tertiary and post grad quals in Management; Business/Economics; Surveying; Company Director; Financial Counselling
Experience	Director for 8 years on Port Kembla Port Corporation Board; Chair of Financial Counsellors Association of NSW (FCAN) for 3 years; Treasurer of FCAN for 2 years; Deputy Chair of FCAN for 1 year; Director FCA 1 year; various Management Committees member

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Directors' Report

30 June 2026

Meetings of directors

During the financial year, 11 meetings of directors (including committees of directors) were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

Directors' Meetings		
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Kylie Maree Holford	1	1
Jocelyn Joy Furlan	5	5
Carly Newcombe	11	8
Delia Rickard	11	10
Carolyn Louise Piper	2	2
Timothy Andrew Barnett	11	11
Vicki Penner	11	10
Carol Eapen	11	10
David Berry	11	9
Geoff Cornwall	11	9

Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

Finance, Audit and Risk Subcommittee Meetings		
	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Timothy Andrew Barnett	3	1
Kylie Maree Holford	2	2
Jocelyn Furlan	3	3
David Berry	2	2
Vicki Penner	5	5

Members' guarantee

Financial Counselling Australia Limited is a company limited by guarantee. In the event of, and for the purpose of winding up of the company, the amount capable of being called up from each member and any person or association who ceased to be a member in the year prior to the winding up, is limited to ? 10 for members that are corporations and ? 10 for all other members, subject to the provisions of the company's constitution.

At 30 June 2026 the collective liability of members was \$70 (2025: \$70).

Events after the reporting date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Auditor's independence declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 60-40 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012, for the year ended 30 June 2026 has been received and can be found on page 8 of the financial report.

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Directors' Report
30 June 2026

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Signed by:
Tim Barnett
Director:
228D68910E09487.....
Timothy Andrew Barnett

Signed by:
David Berry
Director:
52E5B212A86C4FD.....
David Berry

Dated this Monday the 12th day of October 2026

**AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION
UNDER 307C OF THE CORPORATIONS ACT 2001
TO THE DIRECTORS OF FINANCIAL COUNSELLING AUSTRALIA LIMITED**

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, during the year ended 30 June 2026 there have been:

- (i) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
- (ii) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Horizon Nexus (Audit) Pty Ltd'.

Horizon Nexus (Audit) Pty Ltd
ABN 33 692 918 577

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'W. Tarrant'.

Wayne Tarrant

Director

Melbourne, 12 October 2026

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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**Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026**

		2026	2025
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	4	7,998,985	7,427,308
Depreciation expense	5	(119,191)	(72,242)
Computer and IT expenses		(605,210)	(397,030)
Consulting fees		(298,085)	(385,354)
Employee benefits expense	5	(4,877,501)	(4,226,256)
Event expenses		(865,882)	(542,295)
Project funding expenses		(980,391)	(1,045,773)
Travel and accomodation expenses		(175,761)	(249,219)
Other expenses		(224,830)	(185,329)
Finance expenses		(39,562)	(1,841)
(Deficit)/Surplus before income tax		(187,428)	321,969
Income tax expense	2(e)	-	-
(Deficit)/Surplus for the year		(187,428)	321,969
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax		-	-
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year		(187,428)	321,969

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**Statement of Financial Position
As At 30 June 2026**

	Note	2026 \$	2025 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	2,757,953	2,851,212
Trade and other receivables	7	181,777	178,514
Other financial assets	8	657,361	630,000
Other assets	9	186,212	104,968
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		3,783,303	3,764,694
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	10	39,130	48,245
Right-of-use assets	11	749,762	4,146
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		788,892	52,391
TOTAL ASSETS		4,572,195	3,817,085
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	12	605,535	344,686
Lease liabilities	11	90,550	4,804
Provisions	13	350,347	385,678
Deferred income	14	1,093,830	1,170,577
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		2,140,262	1,905,745
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities	11	687,222	-
Provisions	13	73,003	52,204
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		760,225	52,204
TOTAL LIABILITIES		2,900,487	1,957,949
NET ASSETS		1,671,708	1,859,136
EQUITY			
General reserves	2(h)	600,000	600,000
Accumulated funds		1,071,708	1,259,136
TOTAL EQUITY		1,671,708	1,859,136

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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**Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026****2026**

	General Reserves	Accumulated Funds	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2025	600,000	1,259,136	1,859,136
Deficit for the year	-	(187,428)	(187,428)
Balance at 30 June 2026	600,000	1,071,708	1,671,708

2025

	General Reserves	Accumulated Funds	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2024	400,000	1,137,167	1,537,167
Surplus for the year	-	321,969	321,969
Transfers to reserves	200,000	(200,000)	-
Balance at 30 June 2025	600,000	1,259,136	1,859,136

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

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Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from grants	8,038,702	5,793,961
Receipts from other sources	119,046	1,412,201
Payments to suppliers and employees	(8,206,477)	(8,549,195)
Interest received	65,555	137,264
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	16,826	(1,205,769)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(16,234)	(23,082)
Purchase of financial assets	(27,361)	(630,000)
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(43,595)	(653,082)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Repayment of lease liabilities	(66,490)	(55,646)
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	(66,490)	(55,646)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	(93,259)	(1,914,497)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	2,851,212	4,765,709
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	6 2,757,953	2,851,212

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

The financial report covers Financial Counselling Australia Limited as an individual entity. Financial Counselling Australia Limited is a not-for-profit Company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements comply with the recognition and measurement requirements of Australian Accounting Standards, the presentation requirements in those Standards as modified by AASB 1060 General Purpose Financial Statements - Simplified Disclosures for For-Profit and Not-for-Profit Tier 2 Entities (AASB 1060) and the disclosure requirements in AASB 1060. Accordingly, the financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures.

Historical cost convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions. Material accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the financial statements are presented below and have been consistently applied unless stated otherwise.

The financial statements, except for the cash flow information, have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs, modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities. The amounts presented in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

2 Material Accounting Policy Information

(a) Revenue and other income

Revenue is brought to account when earned and to the extent that it relates to the subsequent period it is disclosed as a liability.

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities

The Company applies Australian Accounting Standards AASB 15 and AASB 1058.

AASB 15 involves the use of a five-step recognition model for recognising revenue, the steps are:

Step 1 - Identify the contract with the customer.

Step 2 - Identify the sufficiently specific performance obligations to be satisfied.

Step 3 - Measure the expected consideration;

Step 4 - Allocate that consideration to each of the performance obligations in the contract.

Step 5 - Recognise revenue.

AASB 1058 measures income by reference to the fair value of the asset received. The asset received, which could be a financial or non-financial asset, is initially measured at fair value when the consideration paid for the asset is significantly less than fair value, and that difference is principally to enable the entity to further its objectives. Otherwise, assets acquired are recognised at cost.

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(a) Revenue and other income (continued)

AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (continued)

Where the asset has been measured at fair value, AASB 1058 requires that elements of other Accounting Standards are identified before accounting for the residual component. These standards are:

- AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers
- AASB 16 Leases
- AASB 1004 Contributions
- AASB 137 Provisions, Contingent Liabilities & Contingent Assets
- AASB 9 Financial Instruments

Donations

Donations are recognised as revenue when the organisation gains control, economic benefits are probable and the amount of the donation can be measured reliably.

Interest Received

Interest revenue is recognised on a time proportional basis taking into account the interest rates applicable to the financial assets.

All receipts are stated net of Goods and Services Tax.

(b) Property, plant and equipment

Plant and equipment are brought to account at cost less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses. The carrying amount of property, plant and equipment is reviewed annually by directors to ensure it is not in excess of the recoverable amount of these assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to their present values in determining recoverable amounts.

The cost of fixed assets constructed within the Company includes the cost of materials, labour, borrowing costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Subsequent costs are included in the assets carrying amount or recognised as a separate asset, as appropriate, only when it is probable that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the company and the cost of the asset can be measured reliably. All other repairs and maintenance are charged to the income statement during the financial period in which they are incurred.

Increases in the carrying amount arising on the revaluation of land and buildings are credited to a revaluation reserve in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against fair value reserves directly in equity; all other decreases are charged to the income statement.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(b) Property, plant and equipment (continued)

The depreciable amount of all fixed assets including building and capitalised lease assets, but excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over their useful lives to the Company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Properties held for investment purposes are not subject to depreciation.

The assets residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date. An assets carrying amount is written down immediately to its recoverable amount if the assets carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposal are determined by comparing proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the income statement.

Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight-line basis over the asset's useful life to the Company, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Depreciation rate
Office equipment	30%

(c) Impairment of non-financial assets

At each reporting date, the company reviews the carrying values of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs to sell and value-in-use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the income statement.

Where it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, the company estimates the recoverable amount of the cash generating unit to which the asset belongs.

(d) Leases

Leased Assets

For any new contracts entered on or after 1 July 2019, the Company considers whether a contract is, or contains a lease. A lease is defined as 'a contract, or part of a contract, that conveys the right to use an asset (the underlying asset) for a period in exchange for consideration'. To apply this definition the Company assesses whether the contract meets three key evaluations which are whether:

- the contract contains an identified asset, which is either explicitly identified in the contract or implicitly specified by being identified at the time the asset is made available to the Company;
- the Company has the right to obtain substantially all the economic benefits from use of the identified asset throughout the period of use, considering its rights within the defined scope of the contract; and
- the Company has the right to direct the use of the identified asset throughout the period of use.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(d) Leases (continued)

The Company assess whether it has the right to direct 'how and for what purpose' the asset is used throughout the period of use.

Measurement and recognition of leases as a lessee

At lease commencement date, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability on the balance sheet. The right-of-use asset is measured at cost, which is made up of the initial measurement of the lease liability, any initial direct costs incurred by the Company, an estimate of any costs to dismantle and remove the asset at the end of the lease, and any lease payments made in advance of the lease commencement date (net of any incentives received).

The Company depreciates the right-of-use assets on a straight-line basis from the lease commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term.

The Company also assesses the right-of-use asset for impairment when such indicators exist.

At the commencement date, the Company measures the lease liability at the present value of the lease payments unpaid at that date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease if that rate is readily available or the Company's incremental borrowing rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability are made up of fixed payments (including in substance fixed), variable payments based on an index or rate, amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee and payments arising from options reasonably certain to be exercised.

Subsequent to initial measurement, the liability will be reduced for payments made and increased for interest. It is remeasured to reflect any reassessment or modification, or if there are changes in in-substance fixed payments.

When the lease liability is remeasured, the corresponding adjustment is reflected in the right-of-use asset, or profit and loss if the right-of-use asset is already reduced to zero.

The Company has elected to account for short-term leases and leases of low-value assets using the practical expedients. Instead of recognising a right-of-use asset and lease liability, the payments in relation to these are recognised as an expense in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Accounting for Leases under AASB16

The adoption of this new Standard has resulted in the Company recognising a right-of-use asset and related lease liability in connection with all former operating leases except for those identified as low-value or having a remaining lease term of less than 12 months from the date of initial application.

The new Standard has been applied using the modified retrospective approach, with the cumulative effect of adopting AASB 16 being recognised in equity as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings for the current period. Prior periods have not been restated.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(d) Leases (continued)

For contracts in place at the date of initial application, the Company has elected to apply the definition of a lease from AASB 117 and has not applied AASB 16 to arrangements that were previously not identified as lease under AASB 117.

The Company has elected not to include initial direct costs in the measurement of the right-of-use asset for operating leases in existence at the date of initial application of AASB 16, being 1 January 2019. At this date, the Company has also elected to measure the right-of-use assets at an amount equal to the lease liability adjusted for any prepaid or accrued lease payments that existed at the date of transition.

Instead of performing an impairment review on the right-of-use assets at the date of initial application, the Company has relied on its historic assessment as to whether leases were onerous immediately before the date of initial application of AASB 16.

On transition, for leases previously accounted for as operating leases with a remaining lease term of less than 12 months and for leases of low-value assets the Company has applied the optional exemptions to not recognise right-of-use assets but to account for the lease expense on a straightline basis over the remaining lease term.

For those leases previously classified as finance leases, the right-of-use asset and lease liability are measured at the date of initial application at the same amounts as under AASB 117 immediately before the date of initial application.

On transition to AASB 16 the weighted average incremental borrowing rate applied to lease liabilities recognised under AASB 16 was 5%.

The Company has benefited from the use of hindsight for determining the lease term when considering options to extend and terminate leases.

(e) Income tax

By virtue of its aims as set out in the constitution, the Company qualifies as an organisation specifically exempt from income tax under Section 50 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

(f) Employee benefits

Short-term benefits

The provisions for employee entitlements to wages, salaries, annual and paid maternity leave represent obligations resulting from employees' services provided up to reporting date, calculated at undiscounted amounts based on wage and salary rates, including related on-costs, which the Company expects to pay at the end of each reporting period.

Long-term benefits

The provision for employee entitlements to long service leave represents the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made resulting from employees' services provided up to reporting date.

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

ABN 67 073 167 361

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(f) Employee benefits (continued)

Superannuation

Superannuation contributions are made by the Company to approved superannuation funds for all employees. The costs are charged as employee expenses as they are incurred. The Company has no legal obligation to cover any shortfall in the superannuation funds' obligations to provide benefits to employees on retirement.

(g) Financial instrument

Initial Recognition and Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions to the instrument. For financial assets, this is equivalent to the date that the Company commits itself to either purchase or sale of the asset (i.e. trade date accounting is adopted).

Financial instruments are initially measured at fair value plus transactions costs, except where the instrument is classified 'at fair value through profit or loss', in which case transaction costs are expensed to profit or loss immediately.

Classification and Subsequent Measurement

Finance instruments are subsequently measured at either of fair value, amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, or cost. Fair value represents the amount for which an asset could be exchanged or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties. Where available, quoted prices in an active market are used to determine fair value. In other circumstances, valuation techniques are adopted.

Amortised cost is calculated as (i) the amount at which the financial asset or financial liability is measured at initial recognition (ii) less principal repayments (iii) plus or minus the cumulative amortisation of the difference, if any, between the amount initially recognised and the maturity amount calculated using the effective interest method; and (iv) less any reduction for impairment.

The effective interest method is used to allocate interest income or interest expense over the relevant period and is equivalent to the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash payments or receipts (including fees, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life (or when this cannot be reliably predicted, the contractual term) of the financial instrument to the net carrying amount of the financial asset or financial liability. Revisions to expected future net cash flows will necessitate an adjustment to the carrying value with a consequential recognition of an income or expense in profit or loss.

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(g) Financial instrument (continued)

Financial assets at fair value through the profit and loss

Financial assets are classified at "fair value through profit or loss" when they are held for trading for the purpose of short-term profit taking, or where they are derivatives not held for hedging purposes, or when they are designated as such to avoid an accounting mismatch or to enable performance evaluation where a Company of financial assets is managed by key management personnel on a fair value basis in accordance with a documented risk management or investment strategy. Such assets are subsequently measured at fair value with changes in carrying value being included in profit or loss.

Held-to-maturity investments

Held-to-maturity investments are non-derivative financial assets that have fixed maturities and fixed or determinable payments, and it is the entity's intention to hold these investments to maturity. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Held-to-maturity investments are included in non-current assets, except for those which are expected to mature within 12 months after the end of reporting period. If during the period the Company sold or reclassified more than an insignificant amount of the held-to-maturity investments before maturity, the entire held-to-maturity investments would be tainted and reclassified as available-for-sale.

Financial liabilities

Non-derivative financial liabilities are recognised at amortised cost, comprising original debt less principal payments and amortisation.

Fair value

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

Impairment

At the end of each reporting period, the entity assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether an impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the entity no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset. Financial liabilities are derecognised where the related obligations are either discharged, cancelled or expired. The difference between the carrying value of the financial liability, which is extinguished or transferred to another party and the fair value of consideration paid, including the transfer of non-cash assets or liabilities assumed, is recognised in profit or loss.

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

2 Material Accounting Policy Information (continued)

(h) Reserves

In line with best practice, the Company holds the equivalent of 3 months recurring expenditure in reserve. This is reviewed annually. Cash equating to the reserves amount is deposited in a dedicated bank account with a one year term.

(i) Adoption of new and revised accounting standards

None of the new standards and amendments to standards that are mandatory for the first time for the financial period beginning 1 July 2025 affected any of the amounts recognised in the current period and are not likely to affect future periods.

(j) New accounting standards for application in future periods

The following standards have been issued but are not yet mandatory for the Company:

AASB 18 - Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements.

Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2027. This standard introduces new defined subtotals in the statement of profit or loss (e.g., operating profit, profit before financing and income tax) and requires disclosure of management-defined performance measures.

The Company is currently assessing the impact of AASB 18. Based on preliminary analysis, adoption is expected to affect presentation and disclosure only, with no material impact on recognition or measurement of amounts.

3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The directors make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

Key estimates - Impairment

The Company assesses impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Company that may lead to impairment of assets.

Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is determined.

Key judgments - Provision for impairment of receivables

The management believe that all accounts receivable are recoverable, and therefore no provision for impairment has been made.

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

4 Revenue

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Grants	6,557,983	5,844,046
Conference fees	566,324	547,200
Conference sponsorships	640,628	671,291
Interest income	85,236	137,264
FCF Secretariat fee	108,000	144,000
Other income	40,814	83,507
Total revenue	7,998,985	7,427,308

5 Result for the Year

The result for the year includes the following specific expenses:

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
<i>Employee benefits expense</i>		
Personnel expenses	4,877,501	4,226,256
<i>Depreciation expenses</i>		
Property, plant and equipment	25,349	21,855
Right-of-use assets	93,842	50,387
	119,191	72,242

6 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	1,967,926	723,768
Term deposits	790,027	2,127,444
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,757,953	2,851,212

7 Trade and Other Receivables

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	162,096	97,122
Sponsorship receivable	-	50,000
Interest receivable	19,681	31,392
Total trade and other receivables	181,777	178,514

The Company's trade and other receivables have been reviewed for indicators of impairment. No trade receivables were found to be impaired.

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

8 Other Financial Assets

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Term deposits	657,361	630,000
Total financial assets	657,361	630,000

9 Other Assets

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Prepayments	181,078	99,834
Rental bonds	4,034	4,034
Other deposits	1,100	1,100
Total other assets	186,212	104,968

10 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Office equipment		
At cost	121,403	116,032
Accumulated depreciation	(82,273)	(67,787)
Total office equipment	39,130	48,245
Total property, plant and equipment	39,130	48,245

Movements in carrying amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Office Equipment \$
Year ended 30 June 2026	
Balance at the beginning of year	48,245
Additions	16,234
Depreciation expense	(25,349)
Balance at the end of the year	39,130

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

11 Leases

(a) Right-of-use assets

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Premises		
At cost	839,458	155,210
Accumulated depreciation	(89,696)	(151,064)
Total right-of-use assets	749,762	4,146
		Premises \$
Year ended 30 June 2026		
Balance at the beginning of year		4,146
Additions to right-of-use assets		839,458
Depreciation charge		(93,842)
Balance at the end of year		749,762

(b) Lease liabilities

	2026 \$	2025 \$
Current lease liabilities	90,550	4,804
Non-current lease liabilities	687,222	-
Total lease liabilities	777,772	4,804

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year \$	1 - 5 years \$	> 5 years \$	Total undiscounted lease liabilities \$	Lease liabilities included in this Statement Of Financial Position \$
2026					
Lease liabilities	138,375	775,181	42,092	955,648	777,772
2025					
Lease liabilities	4,829	-	-	4,829	4,804

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2026**11 Leases (continued)****(c) Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**

The amounts recognised in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income relating to interest expense on lease liabilities and short-term leases or leases of low value assets are shown below:

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Interest expense on lease liabilities	39,562	1,841
Depreciation expense	93,842	50,387
	133,404	52,228

(d) Statement of Cash Flows

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Total cash outflow for leases	(106,079)	(55,646)

12 Trade and Other Payables

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade payables	312,743	88,970
GST payable	171,153	116,860
Employee benefits payable	107,739	124,947
Sundry payables and accruals	13,900	13,909
Total trade and other payables	605,535	344,686

13 Provisions

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Annual leave	295,422	290,941
Long service leave	54,925	94,737
Total current provisions	350,347	385,678

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
NON-CURRENT		
Make good on leased premises	10,000	10,000
Long service leave	63,003	42,204
Total non-current provisions	73,003	52,204

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

13 Provisions (continued)

Provision for employee benefits represents amounts accrued for annual leave and long service leave. The current portion for this provision includes the total amount accrued for annual leave entitlements and the amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have vested due to employees having completed the required period of service.

Based on past experience, the Company does not expect the full amount of annual leave or long service leave balances classified as current liabilities to be settled within the next 12 months. However, these amounts must be classified as current liabilities since the Company does not have an unconditional right to defer the settlement of these amounts in the event employees wish to use their leave entitlement.

The non-current portion for this provision includes amounts accrued for long service leave entitlements that have not yet vested in relation to those employees who have not yet completed the required period of service.

14 Deferred income

	2026 \$	2025 \$
CURRENT		
<i>Government grants received in advance</i>		
Department of Industry - Small Business Debt Helpline	-	6,109
Department of Social Services - Appointment Availability	-	280,965
Department of Social Services - Chat - National Debt Helpline	1	16,676
Department of Social Services - Data Strategy	-	25,974
Department of Social Services - Financial Counselling and Financial Capability - Capability Building Funding	328,123	442,550
Department of Social Services - STEPS	-	66,963
	328,124	839,237
 <i>Revenue received in advance</i>		
ANZ Bank (funds held)	479,571	226,485
Ecstra	25,835	37,148
Workforce strategy	215,300	67,707
	720,706	331,340
 Conference sponsorship	45,000	-
Total deferred income	1,093,830	1,170,577

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

15 Financial Risk Management

The Company's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, local money market instruments, short-term investments, accounts receivable and payable and bank loans.

The Company does not have any derivative instruments at 30 June 2026.

The totals for each category of financial instruments, measured in accordance with AASB 9 as detailed in the accounting policies to these financial statements, are as follows:

	Note	2026 \$	2025 \$
Financial assets			
Held at amortised cost			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	2,757,953	2,851,212
Trade and other receivables	7	181,777	178,514
Other financial assets	8	657,361	630,000
Total financial assets		3,597,091	3,659,726
Financial liabilities			
Held at amortised cost			
Trade and other payables	12	605,535	344,686
Lease liabilities	11	777,772	4,804
Provisions	13	423,350	437,882
Total financial liabilities		1,806,657	787,372

i. Credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk, excluding the value of any collateral or other security, at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for doubtful debts, as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Position and notes to the financial statements.

ii. Liquidity risk

The Company manages liquidity risk by monitoring forecast cash flows and ensuring that adequate borrowing facilities are maintained.

iii. Interest rate risk

The finance committee meets on a regular basis to analyse the interest rate exposure in the context of the most recent economic conditions and forecasts.

16 Key Management Personnel Disclosures

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of the Company is \$453,026 (2025 \$544,576).

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Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2026

17 Auditors' Remuneration

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
Remuneration of the auditor Horizon Nexus (Audit) Pty Ltd (2025: MVAB Assurance), for:		
- auditing the financial statements	13,000	12,500
- assistance with financial statements	1,500	1,500
Total	14,500	14,000

18 Capital Commitments

The Directors of the company foresee no immediate future capital commitments.

19 Contingencies

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company did not have any contingencies at 30 June 2026 (30 June 2025:None).

20 Related Parties

(a) Transactions with related parties

Transactions between related parties are on normal commercial terms and conditions no more favourable than those available to other parties unless otherwise stated.

The following transactions occurred with related parties:

	2026	2025
	\$	\$
<i>Secretariat fee</i>		
FCF	108,000	144,000
<i>Grants paid to FCA</i>		
Grant for Employee Assistance Program Fees for Financial Counsellors	52,500	10,750

(b) Loans to/from related parties

There were no loans to or from related parties at the current or previous reporting date.

21 Events After the End of the Reporting Period

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

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Notes to the Financial Statements **For the Year Ended 30 June 2026**

22 Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the company is:

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

469 La Trobe Street

Melbourne VIC 3000

Financial Counselling Australia Limited

ABN 67 073 167 361

Directors' Declaration

In the directors' opinion:

- 1. The financial statements and notes, as set out on pages 9 to 28, are in accordance with the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profit Commission Act 2012* and:
 - a. comply with Australian Accounting Standards - Simplified Disclosures Standard; and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company.
- 2. There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Signed by:
Tim Barnett
Director
228D68810E09487.....
Timothy Andrew Barnett

Signed by:
David Berry
Director
52E5B212A86G4FD.....
David Berry

Dated this Monday the 12th day of October 2026

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Financial Counselling Australia Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial report of Financial Counselling Australia Limited ("the Company"), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and the cash flow statement for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the directors' declaration.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report of the Company is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* ("the ACNC Act"), including:

- (a) giving a true and fair view of the Company's financial position as at 30 June 2026 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (b) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulations 2022.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report.

We are independent of the Company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* and the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional & Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* ('the Code') that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Information Other Than the Financial Report and Auditor's Report Thereon

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2026 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion or any form of assurance conclusion thereon. In connection with our audit of the financial report, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, we consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the Financial Report

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the directors are responsible for assessing the Company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

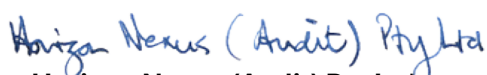
As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists

related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.


Horizon Nexus (Audit) Pty Ltd



Wayne Tarrant
Director

Melbourne, Victoria

Date: 12 October 2026