



Foreword

At EY, we strive to simplify complex accounting and reporting requirements for our clients. With that in mind, this publication brings together the significant changes in accounting standards, legal and regulatory requirements, as well as key enablers to help you respond to the changing landscape.

As the global economic disruption due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak continues, entities are trying to communicate the financial effects of this crisis on their IFRS financial statements for annual or interim reporting periods. With the interim reporting period fast approaching, the impact of the disruption from COVID-19 continues to permeate all aspects of business. Users of financial information, including regulators, are therefore continuing to focus on changes to key performance indicators of financial condition and operating performance while also reimagining the new normal.

This publication highlights some of the key considerations for preparer of interim financial information.

We also discuss recent IFRS updates including, among other things:

- IFRS accounting considerations of the Coronavirus outbreak;
- COVID-19-Related Rent Concessions amendment to IFRS 16 Leases;
- Narrow-scope amendments to three IFRSs and Annual improvements.

From a company law and regulatory perspective, we also provide updates to Amendments to UK GAAP and the Companies Registration Office (CRO) update on filing date for annual returns.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss how your company is impacted by any of the topics in this publication, please get in touch with your EY contact, who will be supported by the individuals below.



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Section 1: International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS)

Interim reporting

As the COVID-19 outbreak continues and the new normal evolves, the pandemic presents several challenges for companies who are in the process of preparing their interim financial statements. For users of interim financial statements, one of the more important matters is having the information necessary to understand an entity's specific risks and uncertainties.

IAS 34 Interim Financial Reporting requires an entity to include an explanation of events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance of the entity since the end of the last annual reporting period. Information disclosed in relation to those events and transactions should also update the relevant information presented in the most recent annual financial report. Furthermore, depending on the circumstances, specific disclosures related to COVID-19 may be required in the interim financial statements.

Given the economic fallout from the COVID-19 pandemic, many entities are expected to conclude that an impairment test is necessary at the date of the interim financial reporting, as well as a need to update the assumptions used in the going concern assessment and other key estimates, including fair value measurements. Historical results are unlikely to provide a basis for future cash flows and therefore management will likely need to consider additional sources of information when evaluating the reasonableness of the assumptions used.

Our publication below summarises three key financial reporting issues that have the potential to impact interim reporters.



Three key issues facing interim reporters in 2020

Section 1: International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) Interim reporting

Regulators and standard-setters are also monitoring the application of accounting standards and issuing guidance considering the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and its effect on interim reporting. For example, the European Securities Markets Authority (ESMA) has issued a public statement on transparency of COVID-19 disclosures in IAS 34 interim financial statements - with an objective to promote transparency and consistent application of European requirements for the information provided in the half-yearly financial reports under the current circumstances related to the COVID-19 outbreak.

With respect to the presentation of COVID-19 related items in the statement of profit or loss, ESMA calls for caution regarding any separate presentation of the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic in issuers' profit or loss statement as, due to their pervasiveness, such separate presentation may not faithfully present issuers' overall financial performance, position and/ or cash-flows, thus being to the detriment of users' understanding of the financial statements.



ESMA Calls For Transparency On Covid-19 Effects In Half-Yearly Financial Reports

The Board of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) has also issued a public statement highlighting the importance to investors and other stakeholders of having timely and high quality information about the impact of COVID-19 on issuers' operating performance, financial position and prospects.

COVID-19 has the potential to impact many other areas of reporting including sustainability and longterm value disclosures. Entities will need to ensure that consistent judgements and assumptions are applied and disclosed across these and other relevant areas, including financial reporting.



IOSCO Statement on Importance of Disclosure about COVID-19

International GAAP® Disclosure Checklist for Interim Condensed Financial Statements - IFRS in issue at 31 May 2020

This checklist is applicable for any interim periods of entities with a 31 December 2020 year end. It also captures disclosure requirements for IFRS standards and interpretations in issue at 31 May 2020.



International **GAAP®** Disclosure Checklist for Interim Condensed Financial Statements - IFRS in issue at 31 May 2020

IFRS accounting considerations of the Coronavirus outbreak

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to significantly impact the world economy. While some countries have started to emerge from lockdown, the disruption to businesses as a consequence of the pandemic is still significant.

Our July 2020 edition of Applying IFRS, Accounting considerations of the coronavirus pandemic provides accounting considerations for the financial effects of the coronavirus when preparing annual or interim IFRS financial statements in 2020. Disclosure considerations for interim financial reporting are also covered in this publication. The matters discussed are by no means exhaustive and their applicability depends on the facts and circumstances of each entity.



Applying IFRS, Accounting considerations of the coronavirus pandemic (Updated July 2020)

Previous editions in our Applying IFRS, Accounting considerations of the coronavirus pandemic series include:



Accounting considerations of the coronavirus outbreak (Updated April 2020)



Accounting considerations of the coronavirus outbreak (Updated March 2020)



Accounting considerations of the coronavirus pandemic (February 2020)

While the February 2020 edition addresses the financial effects of the COVID-19 outbreak in preparing IFRS financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019, the later editions provide guidance on a number of additional accounting and reporting considerations for the effects of the COVID-19 outbreak in the preparation of IFRS financial statements for the annual or interim reporting periods ending in 2020.

Applying IFRS - Impact of coronavirus on alternative performance measures and disclosures

Entities may consider using alternative performance measures (APMs) and disclosures to communicate the impact of the coronavirus outbreak. This **Applying IFRS** contains reminders for the relevant IFRS requirements for the inclusion of APMs, and regulators' guidelines for APMs. It also discusses ways of reflecting the impact of the outbreak in APMs and disclosures.



Applying IFRS - Impact of coronavirus on alternative performance measures and disclosures

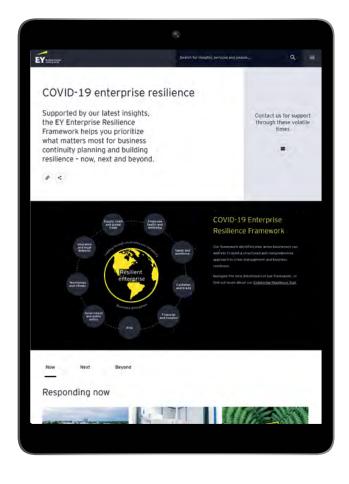
IFRS accounting considerations of the Coronavirus outbreak

Responding to COVID-19

To assist entities as they navigate the business challenges imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, we are offering a 30-day free trial to EY Atlas Client Edition, as well as a three-month extension for current subscribers.

EY Atlas Client Edition, is our accounting research platform that provides users direct access to a range of tools, content and financial reporting information. This online accounting guidance, information and thought leadership is an especially useful research tool as companies complete financial close processes in a time of unprecedented disruption.

Furthermore, on our Responding to COVID-19 client support page, you will find our latest articles and webcasts that have been developed across our service lines and sectors, which can help support your response to COVID-19 volatilities.



EY Ireland COVID-19 Business Leaders Webinar are also available below.



EY Business Leaders webinar: Enhancing financial reporting in a virtual world



EY webcast: A virtual audience with Mr Paschal Donohoe TD, Minister for Finance & Public Expenditure and Reform

The webinars are updated on an ongoing basis. Keep an eye on the dedicated EY Ireland COVID-19 response website where we continue to share our latest insights and guidance.

¹ The free trial is available to both EY clients and non-EY clients.

IASB amends IFRS 16 for COVID-19 related rent concessions

On 28 May 2020, the International Accounting Standards Board (the IASB or Board) issued Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions - amendment to IFRS 16 Leases (the amendment). The Board amended the standard to provide relief to lessees from applying IFRS 16 guidance on lease modification accounting for rent concessions arising as a direct consequence of the covid-19 pandemic. The relief applies to lessees only; lessors are required to apply the existing requirements of IFRS 16.

The amendment applies to annual reporting periods beginning on or after 1 June 2020. While the IASB permits early application of the amendment, including in financial statements not yet authorised for issue at 28 May 2020, the EU-endorsement² has not taken place yet. As such, EU entities are not permitted to use such amendments until post endorsement.

Our Applying IFRS: Accounting for COVID-19 related rent concessions (June 2020) discusses how IFRS 16, including the recently issued amendments to IFRS 16's lessee guidance, is applied to rent concessions and is intended to help entities consider the effects of applying it.



IASB amends IFRS 16 for COVID-19 related rent concessions



Applying IFRS: Accounting for COVID-19 related rent concessions (June 2020)

Sale and leaseback transactions with variable payments

An issue highlighted during the implementation of IFRS 16 Leases is how a seller-lessee should account for a sale and leaseback transaction with variable payments that do not depend on an index or rate.

In June 2020, the IFRS Interpretations Committee (IFRIC) issued a final agenda decision highlighting that a seller-lessee must consider how variable payments affect the initial measurement of the right-of-use asset, the amount of gain or loss that relates to the rights transferred to the buyer-lessor and, thus, the related liability.

Separately, the IASB plans to propose an amendment to IFRS 16 to specify the subsequent accounting by a seller-lessee of the liability that arises in such a transaction."



Sale and leaseback transactions with variable payments

² EFRAG recommends the endorsement of the amendment and has submitted its endorsement advice to the European Commission.

Narrow-scope amendments to three IFRSs and Annual improvements

The IASB, in May 2020, issued a package of small amendments that includes narrow-scope amendments to three Standards as well as the Board's Annual Improvements.

- Amendments to IFRS 3 Business **Combinations** update a reference in IFRS 3 to the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting without changing the accounting requirements for business combinations.
- Amendments to IAS 16 Property, Plant and Equipment prohibit a company from deducting from the cost of property, plant and equipment amounts received from selling items produced while the company is preparing the asset for its intended use. Instead, a company will recognise such sales proceeds and related cost in profit or loss.
- Amendments to IAS 37 Provisions. Contingent Liabilities and **Contingent Assets** specify which costs a company includes when assessing whether a contract will be loss-making.
- Annual Improvements make minor amendments to IFRS 1 Firsttime Adoption of International Financial Reporting Standards, IFRS 9 Financial Instruments, IAS 41 Agriculture and the Illustrative Examples accompanying IFRS 16 Leases.

All amendments are effective 1 January 2022.

Applying IFRS - Accounting for cloud computing costs

As the use of technology, data and connectivity expands, cloud computing arrangements are becoming more common. IFRS standards, however, do not contain explicit guidance on a customer's accounting for cloud computing arrangements or costs to implement them, so judgement will be required to account for these costs.

This publication discusses how an entity might account for a cloud computing arrangement, including the costs to implement the arrangement, and is intended to help entities consider the requirements in the various IFRS standards.

The views we express in this technical guidance represent our perspectives as of July 2020. We may identify additional issues as we continue to analyse application of the various IFRS standards, and our views may evolve during that process.



Applying IFRS -Accounting for cloud computing costs

Amendments to IFRS 3 - Reference to the Conceptual Framework

In May 2020, the International Accounting Standards Board issued Amendments to IFRS 3 Business Combinations - Reference to the Conceptual Framework. The amendments are intended to replace a reference to the Framework for the Preparation and Presentation of Financial Statements, issued in 1989, with a reference to the Conceptual Framework for Financial Reporting, issued in March 2018, without significantly changing its requirements.

In addition, the Board added an exception to the recognition principle of IFRS 3 to avoid the issue of potential 'day 2' gains or losses arising for liabilities and contingent liabilities and it clarified existing guidance in IFRS 3 for contingent assets.



Amendments to IFRS 3 -Reference to the Conceptual Framework

IFRS Update of standards and interpretations in issue at 30 June 2020

IFRS Update is an overview of upcoming changes in standards and interpretations issued by the IASB and the IFRS IC, as at 30 June 2020, that will be effective for the first time for reporting periods ended at that date or thereafter. It also summarises key features of selected IASB projects and recent IFRS IC agenda decisions.



IFRS Update of standards and interpretations in issue at 30 June 2020

EFRAG Endorsement Status Report

The latest EFRAG endorsement status report provides an overview of IFRS Standards and IFRS interpretations pending endorsement. It includes mention of the IASB effective date, an indication of when the various decisions, including final endorsement, are expected to be made and of whether the timetable is compatible with the IASB effective date.

The report further contains a list of all IFRS, amendments to IFRS and IFRS Interpretations endorsed in the EU, providing for each of them the date when it became effective in the EU, the date the endorsement decision was made and the date when it was published in the Official Journal of the European Union.



EFRAG Endorsement Status Report

EY IFRS Core Tools

EY IFRS illustrative financial statements

EY publishes a series of illustrative financial statements to assist reporting entities in the preparation of their own financial statements. The illustrative financial statements are intended to reflect transactions, events and circumstances that we consider to be most common for a broad range of companies across a wide variety of industries. Certain disclosures are included in these financial statements merely for illustrative purposes, even though they may be regarded as items or transactions that are not material for Good Group; a fictitious, large publicly listed manufacturing company.

Commentaries are also provided to explain the basis for the disclosure or to address alternative disclosures not included in the illustrative financial statements. For a more comprehensive list of disclosure requirements, do refer to EY's Online International **GAAP®** Disclosure Checklist.



Good Group - Interim consolidated financial statements (March 2020)



Good Group illustrative financial statements (December 2019)



Good Firsttime Adopter (International) Limited (December 2019)



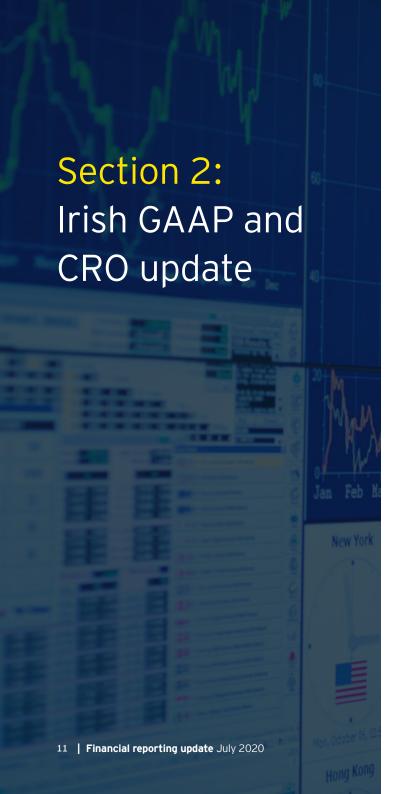
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Good Real Estate Illustrative Financial Statements 2019

Other EY IFRS technical resources including practical technical guidance, latest thinking and tools from EY financial reporting professionals are available here.



Amendments to UK & Irish GAAP

The FRC, in May 2020, completed its annual review of FRS 101 Reduced Disclosure Framework and made minor amendments, for consistency, to the disclosure exemptions relating to the statement of cash flows. The amendment provides a disclosure exemption for qualifying entities from part of paragraph 24(b) of IFRS 6. A qualifying entity may take advantage of this disclosure exemption from when IFRS 6 is applied (in accordance with paragraph 34.11). A similar amendment is made to FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland for qualifying entities.

CRO Update Regarding Filing Date for Annual Returns

The Registrar of Companies has extended the filing of annual returns for all companies until 31 October 2020. Entities that are required to file with the Registry of Friendly Societies also have their filing dates extended to 31 December 2020. The extensions are updates to the CRO announcement in March 2020 whereby the Registrar announced all annual returns would be deemed to have been filed on time if all elements of the annual return were filed by 30 June 2020.

The CRO announcement is available here.

Contact us

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