



Changes to annual reporting requirements

Treasury annual reporting webpage updated

Treasury has updated its annual reporting webpage, including its Annual Report Compliance Checklist and Annual Report Frequently Asked Questions – see www.treasury.nsw.gov.au/Annual_Reporting/Annual_Reporting.

The only change since the previous (September 2019) update concerns revised annual reporting deadlines for 2019-20 due to COVID-19. Treasury advised CFOs of those deadline changes by email dated 07 September 2020, reproduced below.

Annual reporting deadline for 2019-20

The *Annual Reports (Departments) Act 1985* (ARDA) and the *Annual Reports (Statutory Bodies) Act 1984* (ARSBA) require annual reports to be submitted to the relevant Minister no later than four months from the end of the financial year (i.e. for 30 June year-ends: by 31 October). Due to COVID-19, Parliament enacted Schedule 2 to the *Government Sector Finance Act 2018*. This extended the annual report submission deadline for the 30 June 2020 financial year to as late as 30 April 2021.

This was intended as the latest possible date and Treasury has since determined that 30 November 2020 is an appropriate deadline. This balances the challenges in the current environment, with the need for timely publication. Treasury will therefore request that Executive Council approve a Regulation requiring that agencies with 30 June 2020 year-ends submit their 2019-20 annual reports by **30 November 2020**. A similar five-month deadline will also be set for agencies with a year-end other than 30 June 2020.

Accordingly, each agency required by ARDA or ARSBA to submit a 2019-20 annual report that has:

- a financial year ended on 30 June, must plan to submit that report to its Minister no later than 30 November 2020, and
- a financial year ended on a date other than 30 June, must plan to submit that report to its Minister no later than five months after that date.

You are reminded the ARDA and ARSBA both require that a Minister who receives an annual report to table that report in Parliament within one month of receipt. There is no change to that requirement for 2019-20.

If you require further information, please contact accpol@treasury.nsw.gov.au.