IFRS<sup>®</sup> Foundation

#### Management Commentary Overview of the Exposure Draft

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#### Welcome









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# Polling question 1



# Polling question 2

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Introduction

**Objectives-based approach** 

Areas of particular interest

Intended benefits and next steps

Appendix—Disclosure objectives for areas of content







### Why is the Board doing the project?

#### What is management commentary?



#### A financial report

- Complements financial statements
- Provides insights into a company's ability to create value and generate cash flows
- Aimed at investors and creditors
- May be useful for a wider range of stakeholders but is not aimed at them

IFRS Practice Statement 1 Management Commentary

#### **Challenges in reporting**

Generic information and lack of focus on what's important	Short-term focus
Fragmentation	Lack of balance
Increased interest in intangibles and ESG matters	Difficult to reconcile to financial statements



# Polling question 3

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### What is the IASB aiming to achieve?





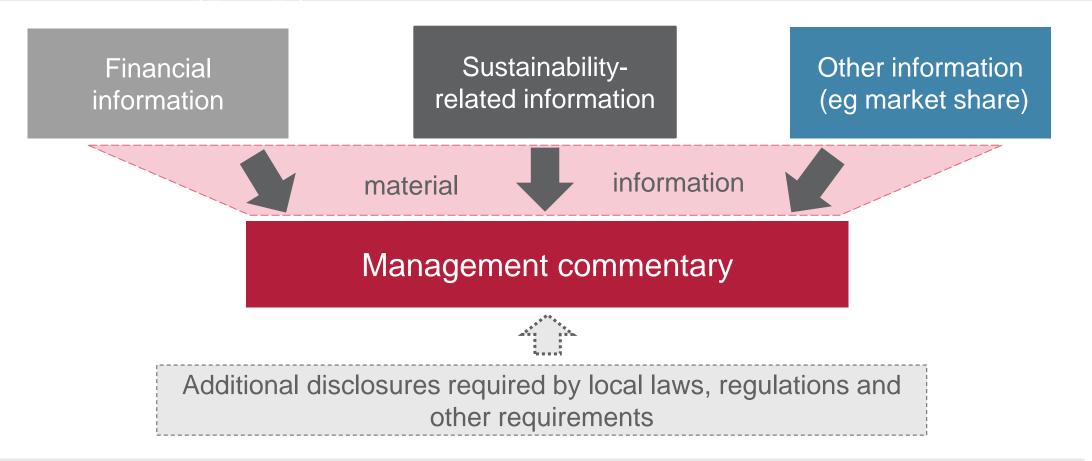
flexible to allow management to tell the company's unique story

rigorous to enable assessment of compliance

compatible with local laws and regulations and other narrative reporting requirements



### **Focal point for connectivity**





Can provide a reporting channel for information to be required by the proposed new International Sustainability Standards Board



### Who would apply the new framework?

Local **lawmakers or regulators** may decide to require compliance



**Companies** may choose to comply even if not required

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A company's financial statements can comply with IFRS Standards even if:

- they are not accompanied by management commentary
- management commentary does not comply with the Practice Statement



#### Statement of compliance

#### Unqualified

• Complies with all requirements

#### Qualified

- Complies with some, but not all, requirements
  - must identify departures and reasons for them

Provides useful information to investors and creditors about the **basis of preparation** 



## Objectives-based approach



## What is the IASB proposing?

**Comprehensive objectives-based framework** 

#### **Objective of management commentary**

**Disclosure objectives for areas of content** 

Requirements and guidance on selecting and presenting material information

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Proposals cover reporting on:

- long-term prospects
- intangible resources and relationships
- ESG matters

#### Areas of content

- Business model
- Strategy
- Resources and relationships
- Risks
- External environment
- Financial performance and financial position

#### Focus on key matters



#### The objective of management commentary



Management commentary provides information that:

 enhances understanding of the company's financial statements

what has affected the company

 provides insight into the company's ability to create value and generate cash flows

> what might affect the company, including in the long-term



Information is provided if **material** for investors and creditors' assessments of:

- the company's prospects for future cash flows
- management's stewardship of the company's resources



### **Disclosure objectives: the design**

## Disclosure objectives for each area of content

A headline objective

Assessment objectives

#### Specific objectives

Based on **investors and creditors**' information needs

Overall information needs

Assessments that rely on provided information

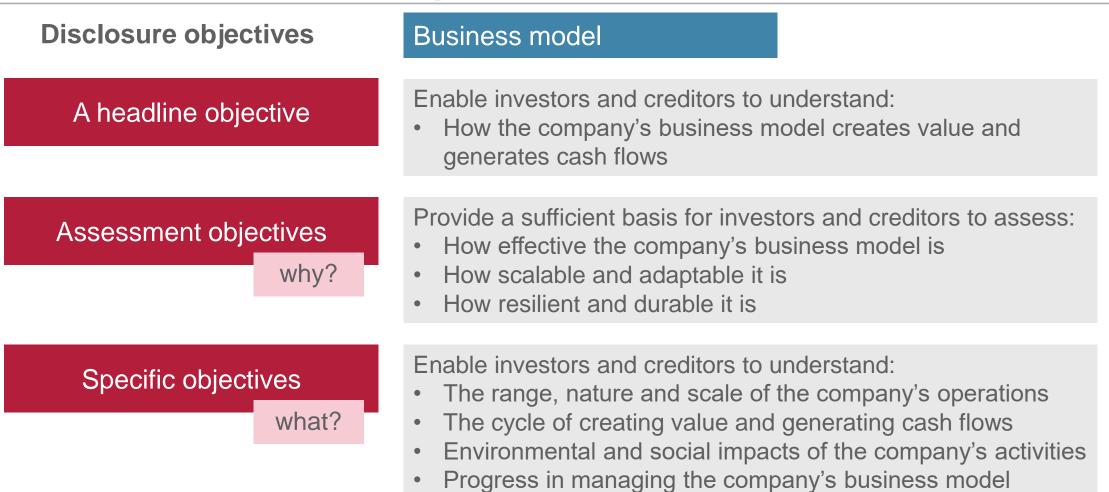
Detailed information needs

Basis for **preparers** to identity company-specific information

Basis for **regulators and auditors** to assess compliance



#### Disclosure objectives: Business model example



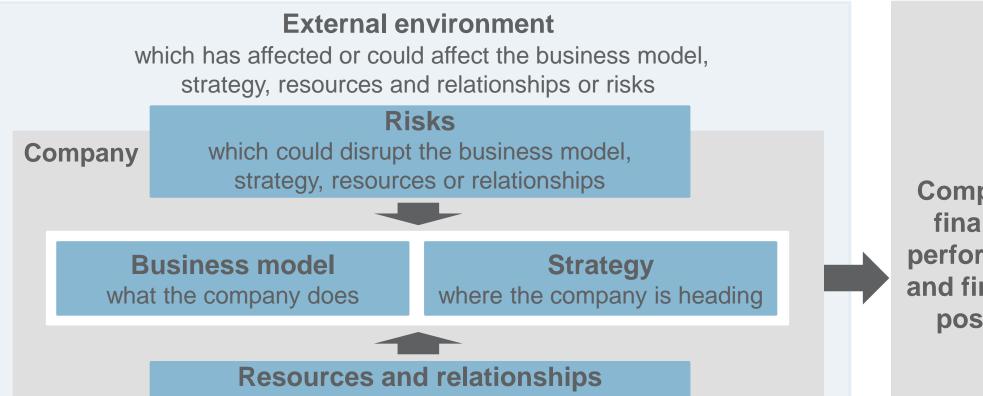


Refer to the Appendix for disclosure objectives for all areas of content



#### **Relationships between areas of content**





on which the business model and strategy depend

Company's financial performance and financial position



# Polling question 4



### Materiality and focus on key matters

#### Proposed tools to help preparers identify material information

#### **Key matters**

Fundamental to the company's ability to create value and generate cash flows, including in the long term

> Likely to be **monitored and managed** by management

Likely to be **pervasive** and relate to more than one area of content

Much (but not all) of the information material to investors and creditors will relate to key matters

#### Other proposals

- disclosure objectives and examples of information that might be material
- indications that information might be material
- guidance on aggregation
- guidance on uncertain future events



#### **Key matters**

What are key matters?

Fundamental to the company's ability to create value and generate cash flows

What makes key matters fundamental to the entity's ability to create value and generate cash flows?

Key features of the company's business model	Key aspects of management's strategy	Key resources and relationships	Key risks	Key factors and trends in the external environment	Key aspects of financial performance and financial position
Fundamentally underpin that ability	Are fundamental to sustaining and developing that ability	That ability fundamentally depends on them	Could fundamentally disrupt that ability	Fundamentally affect that ability	Fundamental to understanding that ability

Example: a company's ability to retain its competitive advantage provided by its cutting-edge technologies

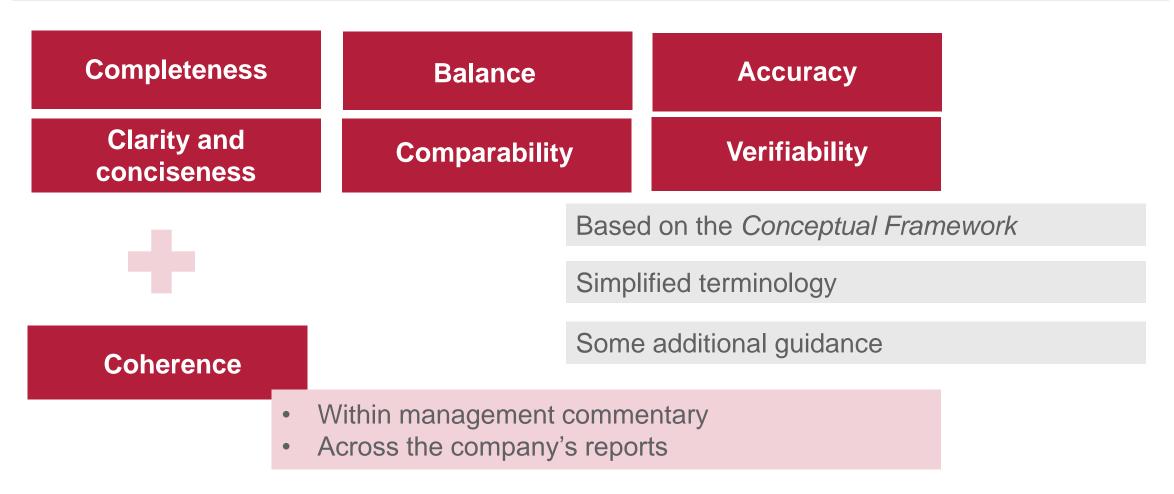


# Polling question 5

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### **Attributes of useful information**





## Areas of particular interest



### **Metrics**

#### Material information is likely to include metrics

- Derived from metrics managements uses to
  - monitor key matters
  - measure progress in managing those matters
- Depend on the company's activities and the industry in which it operates

Requirements for metrics	Examples of metrics for an area of content
<ul> <li>Relate to:</li> <li>clarity and accuracy</li> <li>comparability</li> <li>coherence</li> <li>management compensation</li> <li>forecasts and targets</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>For business model metrics may relate to:</li> <li>the scale of the company's operations</li> <li>the inputs involved in those operations</li> <li>environmental or social impacts of the company's activities</li> <li>effects of impacts on the company</li> </ul>



### Long-term prospects, intangible resources and ESG

Affect companies differently  $\rightarrow$  need to be discussed across management commentary



#### Dedicated appendix

- **Overview** of requirements and guidance to consider in providing information about:
  - environmental and social matters
  - intangible resources and relationships
  - matters that could affect the company's long-term prospects
- Examples of application in described fact patterns

Information is reported if **material** to investors and creditors

Help **preparers** identify material company-specific information and focus on what is important to investors and creditors



### **Reporting on long-term prospects**

# Examples of applicable requirements and guidance

- The objective of management commentary
- Guidance on materiality of information about uncertain future events
- Disclosure objectives for areas of content
- Descriptions and examples of key matters for areas of content

The proposals do not require management to include forecasts or targets

 but if they are included, the proposals include requirements for providing useful information about those forecasts or targets



### **Reporting on ESG or sustainability matters**

Examples of applicable requirements and guidance

- Environmental and social matters are covered by requirements and guidance throughout the Practice Statement
- Information provided would cover both:
  - effects of these matters on the company
  - environmental and social impacts of the company's activities if they have affected or could affect the company's ability to create value and generate cash flows
- Management commentary provides insights into a company's governance but it does not replace its governance report



## Sustainability frameworks:

- can help identify information that might be material
- immaterial information specified by those frameworks can be included if it does not obscure material information



### **Reporting on intangibles**

#### Examples of applicable requirements and guidance

- Covered by requirements and guidance on resources and relationships:
  - capture intangible resources and relationships not recognised in financial statements;
  - require focus on key intangible resources and relationships, for example, a group of specialist employees
- Matters related to key intangible resources and relationships might need to be discussed throughout management commentary, for example:
  - the scale of activities dependent on them
  - risks related to them
  - factors or trends in the external environment that could affect them.



## Intended benefits and next steps



### The intended benefits of the proposals

## Investors and creditors

- Focus on companyspecific matters that are fundamental to long-term prospects
- Financial, sustainability and other material information brought together in one coherent narrative
- Improved electronic reporting by enabling more granular tagging of information



- Clarity about investors and creditors' information needs
- **Flexibility** to tell the company's unique story
- Reporting based on the information management uses to manage the business
- Better guidance for making
   materiality judgements
- **Compatible** with local laws and regulations

## Regulators and auditors

- Reflect developments in narrative reporting and address gaps in current practice
- Designed to meet global capital markets needs
- Effective basis for enforcement and assessing compliance



# Polling question 6

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- Project information <u>https://www.ifrs.org/projects/work-plan/management-commentary/</u>
- The Exposure Draft can be found <u>here</u>
- The snapshot summarising the proposals in the Exposure Draft can be found <u>here</u>



## Appendix

Disclosure objectives for areas of content



### **Business model**

<b>Disclosure objectives</b>	Business model
A headline objective	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>How the company's business model creates value and generates cash flows</li> </ul>
Assessment objectives why?	<ul> <li>Provide a sufficient basis for investors and creditors to assess:</li> <li>How effective the company's business model is</li> <li>How scalable and adaptable it is</li> <li>How resilient and durable it is</li> </ul>
Specific objectives what?	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The range, nature and scale of the company's operations</li> <li>The cycle of creating value and generating cash flows</li> <li>Environmental and social impacts of the company's activities</li> <li>Progress in managing the company's business model</li> </ul>



### Strategy

Disclosure objectives	Strategy
A headline objective	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>Management's strategy for sustaining and developing the company's business model</li> </ul>
Assessment objectives why?	<ul> <li>Provide a sufficient basis for investors and creditors to assess:</li> <li>How effective the strategy is likely to be in developing the company's ability to create value and generate cash flows</li> <li>Management's ability to implement the strategy</li> </ul>
Specific objectives what?	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The drivers of the strategy, including the opportunities pursued</li> <li>The aims of strategy</li> <li>Milestones on the path towards those aims</li> <li>Plans for reaching the milestones and aims</li> <li>The financial resources required to implement the strategy and management's approach to allocating financial resources</li> <li>Progress in implementing the strategy</li> </ul>



#### **Resources and relationships**

Disclosure objectives	Resources and relationships
A headline objective	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The resources and relationships on which the company's business model and management's strategy depend</li> </ul>
Assessment objectives why?	<ul> <li>Provide a sufficient basis for investors and creditors to assess:</li> <li>The extent to which the business model and management's strategy depend on particular resources and relationships</li> <li>The company's ability to obtain the resources and maintain the relationships needed</li> </ul>
Specific objectives what?	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The nature of the company's resources and relationships and how the company deploys them</li> <li>How the company obtains its resources and maintains its relationships</li> <li>Factors that could affect the availability or the quality of the resources and relationships in the future, including in the long term</li> <li>Progress in managing the resources and relationships</li> </ul>



#### **Risks**

Disclosure objectives	Risks
A headline objective	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand the risks that could disrupt:</li> <li>The company's business model</li> <li>Management's strategy</li> <li>Resources and relationships</li> </ul>
Assessment objectives why?	<ul> <li>Provide a sufficient basis for investors and creditors to assess:</li> <li>The extent of the company's exposure to risks</li> <li>How effectively management monitors and manages the exposure to risks</li> </ul>
Specific objectives what?	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The nature of the risks to which the company is exposed</li> <li>The company's exposure to those risks</li> <li>How management monitors and manages the risks</li> <li>How management will mitigate disruption if it occurs</li> <li>Progress in managing risks</li> </ul>



### **External environment**

<b>Disclosure objectives</b>	External environment
A headline objective	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand how the company's external environmental has affected or could affect:</li> <li>The company's business model</li> <li>Management's strategy</li> <li>Risks</li> </ul>
Assessment objectives why?	<ul> <li>Provide a sufficient basis for investors and creditors to assess:</li> <li>How factors and trends in the external environment have affected or could affect the company</li> <li>How effectively management monitors and responds to those factors and trends</li> </ul>
Specific objectives what?	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The nature of factors and trends in the company's external environment</li> <li>How those factors and trends have affected or could affect the company</li> <li>How management monitors and plans to respond to those factors and trends</li> <li>Progress in responding to those factors and trends</li> </ul>



### Financial performance and financial position

Disclosure objectives	Financial performance and financial position
A headline objective	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>The company's financial performance and position reporting in the company's financial statements</li> </ul>
Assessment objectives why?	<ul> <li>Provide a sufficient basis for investors and creditors to assess:</li> <li>Drivers of the company's financial performance and position</li> <li>How performance and position compare with investors' previous expectations, and the extent to which they are indicative of the company's future ability to create value and generate cash flows</li> <li>The company's financial resilience</li> </ul>
Specific objectives what?	<ul> <li>Enable investors and creditors to understand:</li> <li>What factors have affected the company's financial performance and position in the reporting period or could affect them in the future</li> <li>How management has allocated financial resources in the reporting period</li> <li>How the company's financial performance and position compare with forecasts and targets</li> </ul>



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