



HM Treasury

User and Preparer Advisory Group

Issue:	To provide the Board with a summary of the second meeting of the User and Preparer Advisory Group held on 25 th September 2020.
Impact on guidance:	N/A
IAS/IFRS adaptation?	N/A
Impact on WGA?	N/A
IPSAS compliant?	N/A
Interpretation for the public sector context?	N/A
Impact on budgetary and Estimates regimes?	N/A
Alignment with National Accounts	N/A
Recommendation:	The Board is invited to note the discussion points from the second meeting of the User and Preparer Advisory Group.
Timing:	Ongoing.

DETAIL

Background

1. The User and Preparer Advisory Group is a forum for users and preparers of government financial reporting to discuss developments within the financial reporting landscape.
2. The Group meets three times a year. This meeting was the second in 2020 and held on 25th September. A third meeting will not be held in 2020 as a result of the covid-19 pandemic.

3. FRAB agreed there would be no direct governance relationship between FRAB and the Group, but that FRAB would receive sight of the discussion points from each meeting and the forward plan.
4. Discussion at the Board effectiveness review meeting on 6th November, noted the importance of access to feedback from users and the User Preparer Advisory Group is one route of access.

Summary and recommendation

5. The group's discussion at this meeting focussed on receiving updates from members including HM Treasury, The Institute for Government and Parliamentary Scrutiny Unit. The group received an update from ACCA on a report examining user trust within government financial reporting and discussed in detail the publication of HM Treasury's Best Practice Report 2018-19.
6. The group agreed to identify examples of best practice in government financial reporting and highlight these at the next meeting. These would help support the bank of best practice examples used to encourage better quality reporting across government.
7. It was also agreed that the next meeting would be in January and follow the timeline of FRAB. The minutes of the meeting are attached as part of this paper.
8. The Board is invited to note the contents of this paper but is also invited to make any comments on the discussion points from the second meeting of the User and Preparer Advisory Group.

HM Treasury
19th of November 2020