

# G. Glossary

Term	Definition
Accountability	The responsibility of public sector entities to achieve their objectives of delivering reliable financial reporting, effective and efficient operations, compliance with applicable laws, and reports to interested parties.
Audit by arrangement	An audit by the Auditor-General of an entity that is not a public sector entity, conducted at the request of a minister or a public sector entity and with the consent of the entity.
<i>Auditor-General Act 2009</i>	An Act of the State of Queensland that establishes the responsibilities of the Auditor-General, the operation of the Queensland Audit Office, the nature and scope of audits to be conducted, and the relationship of the Auditor-General with parliament.
Australian accounting standards	The rules by which financial statements are prepared in Australia. These standards ensure consistency in measuring and reporting on similar transactions.
Capital expenditure	Expenditure to acquire assets or improve the service potential of existing assets that are capitalised to the balance sheet (which means that the cost of the asset can be allocated over the years for which the asset will be in use).
Controlled entity	An entity controlled by another entity. The controlling entity can dominate decision-making in relation to financial and operating policies so as to enable that other entity to assist in achieving the objectives of the controlling entity.
Deficiency	When internal controls are ineffective or missing, and are unable to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the financial statements. A deficiency may also result in non-compliance with policies and applicable laws and regulations and/or inappropriate use of public resources.
Emphasis of matter	A paragraph included with an audit opinion to highlight an issue of which the auditor believes the users of the financial statements need to be aware. The inclusion of an emphasis of matter paragraph does not modify the audit opinion.
Modified audit opinion	A modified opinion is expressed when financial statements do not comply with the relevant legislative requirements and Australian accounting standards and, as a result, are not accurate and reliable.
Net assets	Total assets less total liabilities.
Net debt	Total borrowings less cash at bank.
Qualified audit opinion	An opinion issued when the financial statements as a whole comply with relevant accounting standards and legislative requirements, with the exceptions noted in the opinion.  These exceptions could be the effect of a disagreement with those charged with governance, a conflict between applicable financial reporting frameworks, or a limitation on scope that is considered material to an element of the financial report.



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Significant deficiency	A deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in an internal control that requires immediate remedial action.
Unmodified audit opinion	An unmodified opinion is expressed when financial statements are prepared in accordance with the relevant legislative requirements and Australian accounting standards.

