

# Reporting information to the public

SAICA webcast

27 May 2020





# Disclaimer

***The views and opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the individual. Official positions of the ASB on accounting matters are determined only after extensive due process and deliberation.***



# Content

- Background to research
- Who is “the public”?
- What information do they need?
- What is currently available?
- Why is the public not receiving the information they need?
- Board’s conclusion



# Background to research

- Public = key user of GRAP FS

**BUT**

- Only interested in certain parts
  - May be unable to understand and interpret
- Board agreed to research:
    - Information needs of public
    - Whether simplified reporting of key info outside FS would meet public's needs

# Who is “the public”?

For purpose of the research:

Individuals & businesses / representatives that:

- provide resources to government (e.g. taxes, levies & other fees)
- receive services from government
- have interest in work done by government
- aim = holding government accountable

E.g. municipal rate payers (individuals & businesses), indigent service recipients, the media

# What information do they need?

1

“Follow the money”

2

Service delivery

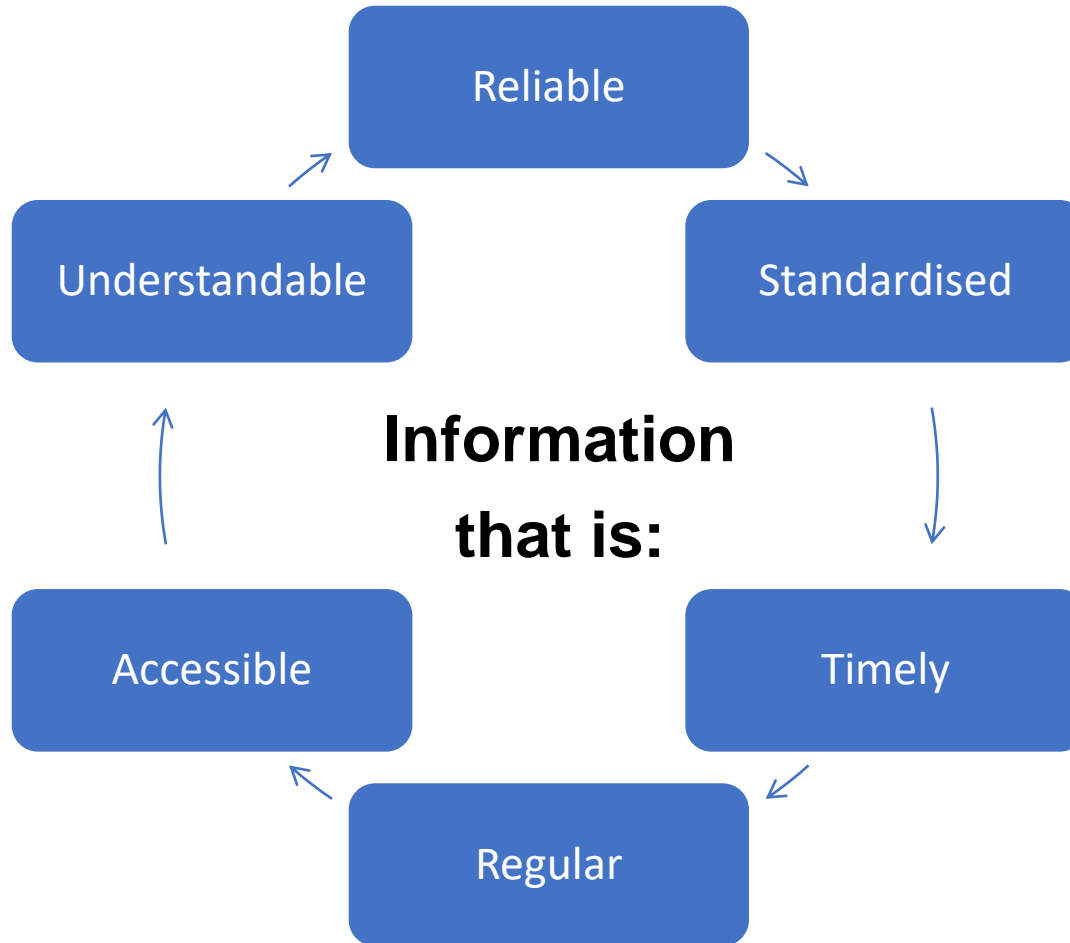
3

Capital expenditure

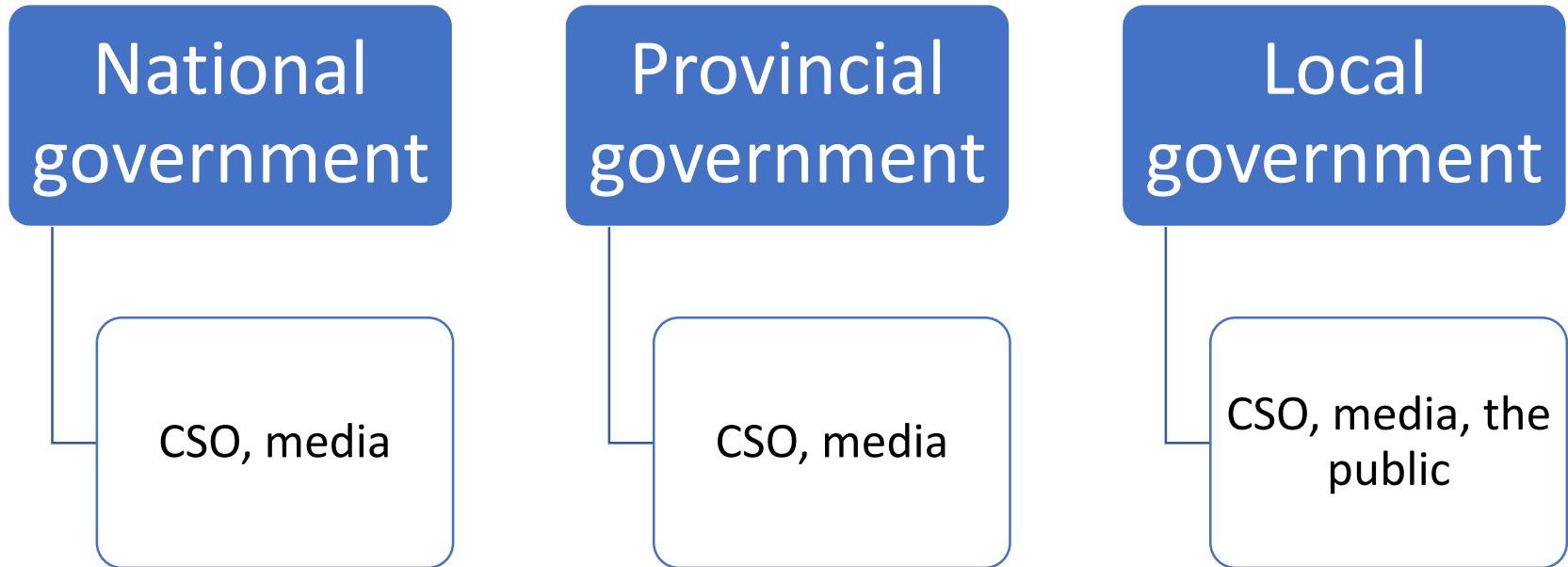
4

Financial viability

# What information do they need? (continued)



# What information do they need? (continued)





# What information is currently available?

- Many platforms where government reports information to the public
  - All levels of government
  - Budget, actual and performance information
  - Some in process of being developed
- Legislated reporting requirements
  - Not all information is public

# Why is the public not receiving the information they need?

Many challenges in current environment

- Language used to report
- Accessibility
- Reliability of information
- Locating information



# Possible solution?

One report

Simple and concise

Timely

Reliable

Information that affects their daily lives

Can hold the right level of government  
accountable

Assurance



# Board's conclusion

## 1. Publish research....

- Emphasise public engagement is crucial
  - Influence behaviour
- Awareness of information available, reported in a manner they want, i.e. communication issue

## 2. Include in work programme consultation 2024-2026

## Contact details

Tel: (011) 697-0660

Fax: (011) 697-0666

Email: [info@asb.co.za](mailto:info@asb.co.za)

Website: [www.asb.co.za](http://www.asb.co.za)

