Sustainable Finance Framework

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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INTRO TO CBUS PROPERI

Executive Summary

Cbus Property strives to contribute to the future development of the sustainable finance market by utilising sustainable debt instruments to support its property development and investment activities.

By issuing sustainable debt instruments, Cbus Property aspires to generate and demonstrate support for the transition to a low carbon economy, and mitigate the risks posed by climate change.

Overall, Cbus Property's goal is to pursue and promote sustainable finance instruments in order to assist in building a sustainable tomorrow and creating buildings of the future to deliver value to its customers, communities, and Cbus members. The purpose of Cbus Property's Sustainable Finance Framework (Framework) is to outline how Cbus Property intends to issue and manage sustainable finance instruments across its development projects and investment portfolio.

This Framework has been developed in alignment with the voluntary guidelines issued by the International Capital Market Association (ICMA), Loan Markets Association (LMA), Asia-Pacific Loan Market Association (APLMA) and the Climate Bonds Initiative (CBI). These market standards are accepted as best practice in the global capital markets. Cbus Property will update this document as markets evolve.





Introduction to Cbus Property

Cbus Property is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cbus, the industry superannuation fund for the construction, building and allied industries, with funds under management exceeding \$68 billion at 31 December 2021. Cbus has more than 785,000 members nationally.

Cbus Property is one of Australia's leading integrated property businesses. It is a national award-winning property investor and developer which is responsible for the performance and management of all aspects of the Cbus direct property investment business.

Cbus Property's core business reflects a commitment to investing in the property and construction industry that employs its members.

Cbus Property's portfolio includes major investments and developments in the commercial, retail, and residential sectors and currently exceeds \$6.0 billion, with a further \$5.0 billion of development work underway.

For more information about Cbus Property's business, development projects or investment portfolio, please **visit the Cbus Property website**.

Artist Impression 435 Bourke Street. Melbourne





Approach to Sustainability

Since its inception in 2006, Cbus Property has built a strong reputation by delivering leading sustainable development projects and managing an investment portfolio that sets the benchmark for sustainable buildings.

As the direct property development arm of Cbus, Cbus Property is committed to delivering and managing world-leading sustainable buildings, that generate positive outcomes for the environment, our communities, our suppliers, our customers, our tenants and our members.

NTRO TO CBUS PROPERTY

Achievements

For more information on Cbus Property's approach to sustainability and our annual sustainability report, please **visit the Cbus Property website**.





Relaunched its Sustainability Strategy, setting ambitious new goals out to 2025.



Highest rated NABERS Energy and Waste office portfolio by the NABERS Sustainable Portfolios Index.



Fast-tracked the Cbus Property 2030 Net Zero Carbon commitment to 2022.



G R E S B

Achieved a GRESB 5 Star rating, and ranked amongst the top one per cent of all participants.



Launched a WELL Portfolio program, implementing the WELL building standard across our entire managed commercial office portfolio.



Cbus Property's commercial office investment portfolio is powered by renewable electricity.

Sustainability Strategic Framework

Cbus Property's sustainability strategic framework is structured around three key themes, which are:

Better Buildings

Creating and managing world-leading sustainable buildings. Delivering positive outcomes for the environment, our communities, our suppliers, our customers, our tenants, and our members.

Investing in People

Creating healthy, happy, and inclusive communities for people to work and live.

Future Ready

Being ready to tackle the opportunities and risks of the future. Implementing robust systems that future-proof our investments, and therefore safeguard the long-term value of our business.

Cbus Property has an Environment, Social, and Governance (ESG) policy which also underpins this Sustainable Finance Framework. The ESG policy applies to all employees and requires the company to take an active role in managing ESG risks and act responsibly in relation to its impact on the environment and society. Cbus Property has a robust process for monitoring our ESG activities, reporting on our performance, and where possible, measuring our positive impacts.



Sustainability Strategy Targets

Cbus Property strives to be a leader in sustainable investment, development and management of commercial, retail and residential buildings and is committed to "building a sustainable tomorrow by creating the buildings of the future today".

In 2021, Cbus Property refreshed its Sustainability Strategy and set out a series of ambitious targets to create a new standard for sustainable commercial and residential buildings. These targets are summarised to the right (retail property targets are in the process of being established).



FINANCE FRAMEWORK

Sustainable Finance Framework

Cbus Property's Sustainable Finance Framework (the "Framework") sets out the expected process by which the Group in its capacity as borrowers, intends to issue and manage its sustainable finance products.

Sustainable finance products may include:

- Use of Proceeds instruments: such as Green Bonds and Loans
- General Corporate Purposes instruments: Sustainability Linked Bonds and Loans
- Any appropriate instruments (including bonds, loans, derivatives, and guarantees) that may be designated as sustainable finance from time to time.

This Framework is established in accordance with the Asia Pacific Loan Market Association

Governance

Cbus Property's Sustainability Committee is an executive-level management committee, responsible for overseeing the development and implementation of Cbus Property's Sustainability Strategy. The Sustainability Committee is the body responsible for governing the Sustainable Finance Framework, including: ("APLMA")/ Loan Market Association ("LMA")/ Loan Syndications and Trading Association ("LSTA")/ Green Loan Principles ("GLP") and Sustainability Linked Loan Principles. Similarly, for bonds, the International Capital Markets Association ("ICMA") Green Bond Principles and Sustainability Linked Bond Principles. Sustainable Finance may refer to loans, bonds, guarantees, derivatives, and any other sustainable finance labelled instrument.

The aforementioned principles are voluntary process guidelines that are accepted as the key guidelines for the issuance of sustainable finance products globally. Cbus Property is committed to maintaining alignment to industry best practice, and therefore will update this document as sustainable finance markets continue to grow and evolve.

- Identifying & assessing proposed eligible assets
- > Assessing against the Framework
- > Annual review of the Framework
- > Internal annual reporting
- Managing eligible assets register and proceeds allocation
- External reporting



Second Party Opinion

A second party opinion has been provided by Ernst & Young, Australia to provide assurance that this Framework aligns with the following:

- Applicable market standards and principles; and
- Cbus Property's business operations and Sustainability Strategy.

Furthermore, each time Cbus Property undertakes a transaction under this Framework, it will seek one or more of the following options to review the Framework (if necessary) and the underlying eligible assets on a pre-issuance basis:

- Assurance from an independent assurer;
- Second party opinion from an appropriately credentialed provider; and/or
- Certification from the Climate Bonds Initiative ("CBI") if relevant.

The assurer, for each transaction, will confirm that:

- The Sustainable Finance
 Framework is aligned to the relevant market principles;
- Proceeds have been earmarked to the pool of eligible assets (or will be earmarked in the case of pre-issuance assurance) in accordance with the Framework.

Green Instruments

Use of Proceeds

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Green Bonds and Green Loans are any type of instrument where the funds borrowed are allocated exclusively to finance or refinance in part or in full, assets, projects or activities that contribute to the decarbonisation of the economy and deliver sustainable outcomes.

At its discretion, Cbus Property may include other proceeds-based financial instruments such as, guarantees, derivatives, trade and deposit products. The green instrument (green loan and bond) principles have four core components for alignment with the Green Bond Principles, which are:

- Use of Proceeds;
- > Process for Evaluation and Selection;
- > Management of Proceeds; and
- Reporting.



Use of Proceeds

The foundation of Green Bonds and Green Loans is the utilisation of the proceeds for an eligible asset or project, where the proceeds or an equivalent amount will be exclusively applied. Use of Proceeds instruments under this Framework may take the form of:

- Green Bonds in accordance with the ICMA Green Bond Principles, and where appropriate, the Climate Bonds Standard & Certification Scheme (CBS) published by the CBI;
- Green Loans in accordance with the LMA / APLMA Green Loan Principles, and where appropriate, the CBS; and/or
- Other green instruments that will follow the structure of the relevant certification body.

Eligible assets are selected based on the criteria specified on the following page. The criteria have been established in alignment with the ICMA Green Bond Principles, the LMA/APLMA Green Loan Principles, with Cbus Property's sustainability strategy key focus areas, and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).

The net proceeds will be applied exclusively to assets that meet the categories and eligibility criteria which are included in the table on the following page. The identification of eligible assets is subject to the process outlined in the section on **Page 11**. TABLE 1 - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR GREEN LOANS

CLIMATE CHANGE

RESILIENCE

CATEGORY	ALIGNMENT TO SUSTAINABILTY FRAMEWORK	EXAMPLE USE OF PROCEEDS	SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
Green Buildings		Green buildings either existing and/or planned, that deliver low carbon and environmentally efficient outcomes, including upgrades, which meet regional, national or internationally recognised standards or certifications including:	9 MORTH MONTH
	SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS & CERTIFICATION	 For Australian commercial office assets (greater than 10,000 square metres) where design began after 1 May 2020, a NABERS Energy minimum 5.5 Star or above to comply with the Australian National Construction Code requirements. 	11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES
		› For other office assets, a NABERS Energy minimum 5 Star or above.	▲∎₫⊞
		 Green Building Council of Australia Green Star 'Design and As Built' and/or 'Performance' certifications minimum 5 Star, or above or any equivalent criteria introduced in the future, including Green Star Buildings. 	
		› Australian multi-residential apartment assets require at least NatHERS 7 stars.	
		 Commercial buildings and assets certified by CBI as aligned to the Climate Bonds Standard (CBS) under the Low Carbon Buildings Criteria. 	
		 Property upgrades, including energy efficiency investments, and/or refurbishments of buildings that achieve a minimum carbon emissions reduction for CBS certification including the Commercial Buildings and Low Carbon Buildings – Property Upgrade criteria. 	
		 Any other buildings or assets that are certified as meeting CBS eligibility criteria, including criteria that may be introduced in the future. 	
		> Any other asset that obtains a Green Building label that is considered an equivalent standard to the above.	
Renewable Energy	CLIMATE CHANGE RESOURCE EFFICIENCY &RESPONSIBILITY	 Investments in renewable energy such as solar PV, energy storage solutions. This also includes transmission and support infrastructure for renewable energy. 	7 stream and the stre
Energy Efficiency	CLIMATE CHANGE RESOURCE EFFICIENCY 6 RESPONSIBILITY	 Assets or projects that develop processes and products/technology that reduce energy consumption of the underlying asset. For example, upgrading existing or building new energy-efficient assets, energy storage, district cooling/ heating, HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning) systems, lighting, smart grids, appliances, and products. Electrification of existing assets. 	12 tototati according to the formation of the formation
Pollution Prevention and Control	CLIMATE CHANGE MATERIALS	 Proceeds directed towards technologies and processes that reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and waste reduction and/or recycling efforts. 	13 anne
Sustainable Water	(APA)	› Proceeds directed towards sustainable urban drainage and stormwater management systems of buildings.	6 AND EARLEN
and Wastewater Management	RESOURCE EFFICIENCY & RESPONSIBILITY	 Capture and use of non-potable water such as rainwater harvesting and reuse, greywater and blackwater treatment, and measures to reduce potable water use. 	Q
Climate Adaptation		 Proceeds directed towards enhancing building resilience to climate change such as adaptation measures to acute and chronic climate impacts. 	13 cum

Process for Asset Evaluation & Selection

All investments that are financed / refinanced with proceeds from the green instruments must meet and continue to meet one or more of the relevant criteria set out in the eligible green asset criteria shown in **Table 1** on previous page. Verification against these criteria will be conducted by an approved third-party assurer in the pre-issuance and post-issuance certification report, and annual reporting against this Framework.

The register of eligible assets is also evaluated on an annual basis against the criteria outlined in **Table 1**. Any changes to the asset register will require annual external review and input from a qualified assurance provider to ensure the eligible assets continue to align and conform to the eligibility criteria. The outcome from any change in the asset register will be disclosed annually – refer to **'Reporting'** for further detail.



Management of Proceeds

The net proceeds from each sustainable finance transaction will be managed by Cbus Property's treasury team, who will maintain an internal register of information, including:

- Funding Transaction: key information including issuer entity, transaction date, the principal amount of proceeds, maturity date, interest or coupon, the ISIN number (if applicable) etc.; and
- Use of Proceeds: amount, purpose, and destination of proceeds.

Information shall also include:

- Summary detail of eligible green assets to which the proceeds of the sustainable finance transaction have been allocated in accordance with this Framework:
- Confirmation of the Cbus Property ESG Committee's endorsement that the project is considered to be an eligible green asset;

- The aggregate amount of proceeds of sustainable finance transactions earmarked to eligible assets;
- The remaining balance of unallocated proceeds yet to be earmarked;
- > Estimated environmental benefit; and
- > Other necessary information.

It is intended that net proceeds from each sustainable finance transaction will not exceed the total value of the respective eligible asset. The value of an eligible asset will be quantified by the capital employed at the most recent reporting date (for development assets) or book value (for stabilised assets). Pending allocation, or in the event of unallocated proceeds, the net proceeds from the funding transactions may be held centrally and invested in cash, cash equivalents or liquid securities in accordance with Cbus Property's Financial Risk Management Policy.

Reporting

General Reporting

Cbus Property recognises the importance of transparency and disclosure and will report the following information annually to lenders

(where relevant): This document and related reporting is published on **the Cbus Property website**.

TABLE 2 - REPORTING FRAMEWORK

ITEM	FREQUENCY
Framework and Second Party Opinion on Framework	 > Upon the establishment of the Framework and/or the green financial instrument; > Any time when the Framework undergoes a significant update.
Assurance Statements) If and when required by lenders.
Climate Bond Initiative Certification (if applicable)	 At issuance of any CBS-certified Green Bond or Green Loan.
Use of Proceeds Reporting	Annually for all outstanding Green Bonds or Green Loans. This will include: • A list of the Eligible Assets being financed or
	 refinanced, including description and asset value. Confirmation that the Eligible Assets meet the eligibility criteria under this Framework, including if relevant, information on the characteristics, green rating/certification (NABERS, Green Star, NatHERS, etc.), and performance of the eligible assets.
	 Confirmation that the net proceeds have been allocated to earmarked eligible assets;
	 Disclosure of any unallocated proceeds; Where applicable, impact reporting will be incorporated within 'Use of Proceeds' reporting.

INTRO TO CBUS PROPERTY

Impact Reporting

Cbus Property may also choose to report on various qualitative and quantitative indicators and metrics that demonstrate the positive impact derived from the green assets.

Any instance of impact reporting will be accompanied by the disclosure of the underlying methodology and assumptions in the determination of the quantitative metrics. Potential impact metrics may include:

TABLE 3 - POTENTIAL IMPACT METRICS FOR GREEN USE OF PROCEEDS

ІТЕМ	POTENTIAL IMPACT METRICS
Green Buildings	> NABERS, NatHERS, and/or Green Star Rating.
Renewable Energy	 On-site solar generation capacity (MW). On-site and off-site renewable electricity generation (MWh).
Energy Efficiency	 Reduction (per cent) in energy consumption against a baseline year. Total energy (GJ).
Pollution Prevention and Control	 Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions (tCO2-e). Reduction (per cent) in Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions. Retired carbon offsets (tCO2-e).
Sustainable Water and Wastewater Management	 Reduction (per cent) in potable water consumption against a baseline year. Total potable water consumption (kL). Non-potable water used (kL and per cent of overall water consumption).
Climate Adaptation	> Expenditure on climate change adaption measures (\$).

Sustainability Linked Instruments

General Corporate Purposes

Sustainability Linked Loans and Bonds are instruments that are used to incentivise the achievement of ambitious, sustainable outcomes, ones that are material to Cbus Property's Sustainability Strategy. The instruments are based on predetermined sustainability performance targets (SPTs) and measured by predefined key performance indicators (KPIs), which measure sustainability improvements over the term of the Sustainability Linked Loan. Instead of determining specific uses of proceeds, the proceeds of any Sustainability Linked Bonds or Loans will be available for general corporate purposes unless otherwise stated. At its discretion, Cbus Property may include other performance-based labelled financial instruments, such as guarantees, derivatives, trade and deposit products.

The Sustainability Linked Loan and Bond principles have five core components that are addressed in this Framework:

- Selection of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs);
- Calibration of Sustainability Performance Targets (SPTs);
- > Financial Characteristics;
- Reporting; and
- > Verification



Selection of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

TABLE 4 - POTENTIAL KPIS FOR CREATING SUSTAINABILITY LINKED LOANS

SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

POTENTIAL KPIs

Better Buildings



& RESPONSIBILITY



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RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY CHAIN

- SUSTAINABILITY CLIMATE CHANGE STANDARDS & CERTIFICATION
- Carbon emissions reduction
- Renewable energy usage
- Energy efficiency
- > Water consumption and reuse
- > Waste reduction, diversion from landfill, circular economy
- Externally rated environmental performance (e.g. NABERS, Green Star or equivalent)

Investment in People



Diversity and inclusion

- > Cleaning Accountability Framework (CAF)
- Community investment
- > Indigenous participation pathways
- Health and wellbeing performance ratings (WELL certified)
- Improvement in external ESG performance rating benchmarks
- > Climate resilience and adaptation

Artist impression 435 Bourke Street, Melbourne EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



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RESILIENCE

INNOVATION

Future Ready

GOVERNANCE

& TRANSPARENCY

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Financial Characteristics

A key characteristic of a Sustainability Linked Loan is the inclusion of financial components to encourage the achievement of the selected SPT(s). This may include both penalties and/or incentives, depending on the transaction.

Margin adjustments or coupons, as well as the effective date(s) and reporting mechanisms will be defined and set out in the relevant loan documentation for each transaction.

Reporting

Cbus Property will endeavour to provide reporting in line with best market practice, with scope, detail, and frequency to be specified in the relevant instrument's documentation (available prior to financial close).

At a minimum, Cbus Property commits to annual reporting, which will be made available to the respective lenders/investors and will include performance against SPTs and KPIs.

Calibration of Sustainability Performance Targets (SPTs)

Sustainability Performance Targets (SPTs) need to demonstrate a high level of ambition towards achieving positive sustainable outcomes. SPTs will be derived from the list of KPIs specified on the **previous page** and are to be identifiable, measurable, and meaningful to Cbus Property's broader sustainability strategy. SPTs will include relevant criteria, such as timelines, baselines, comparison to benchmarks or verified science-based reference points and be based on recent performance.

Verification

Appropriate independent and external verification on the performance against each SPT and KPI will be undertaken for each Sustainability Linked Bond or Loan on issue.

Verification activities will include obtaining a second party opinion of this Framework, post-signing verification, as well as ongoing assurance of performance in relation to the selected SPTs for each issuance, to ensure alignment against the Sustainability Linked Bond or Loan principles described on **Page 14**. Within the documentation for each Sustainability Linked Bond and Loan, SPTs will be clearly defined, including calculation methodologies and assumptions, historic data and/or industry benchmarks, and any key factors beyond the control of Cbus Property that may impact the achievement of the SPTs.



About this Document

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Document Administration

Owner	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
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External Reviewer	Ernst & Young, Australia (EY)
Review Cycle	Annually

Key Supporting Documents

All publicly available documents and reports are found on **Cbus Property's website**.

CBUS PROPERTY KEY SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS	TYPE OF DOCUMENT
Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) Policy	Policy (internal)
Financial Risk Management Policy	Policy (internal)
Annual Sustainability Report	Report (publicly available)
Modern Slavery Statement	Report (publicly available)
Charter of Selection and Conduct Criteria for Consultants and Principal Contractors	Policy (publicly available)

Glossary

APLMA	Asia-Pacific Loan Market Association
CBI	Climate Bonds Initiative
CBS	Climate Bonds Standard
ESG	Environment, Social & Governance
GBCA	Green Building Council of Australia
GLP	Green Loan Principles
HVAC	Heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning
ICMA	International Capital Market Association
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
LMA	Loan Market Association
LSTA	Loan Syndications and Trading Association
MW or MWh	Megawatt, or megawatt-hour
NABERS	National Australia Built Environment Rating System
NatHERS	Nationwide House Energy Rating Scheme
SPTs	Sustainable Performance Targets
tCO2-e	Tonnes carbon dioxide equivalent
UN SDGs	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals
WELL	WELL Certification, WELL Building Institute™











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