

## AUSTRALIAN TAX ADVISER

2108: MAY 2021

# Mark Chapman Mark Chapman Consulting

## INFORMATION EXCHANGE CORPORATION

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### SECTION 1 — PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

### TEMPORARY FULL EXPENSING

The introduction of Temporary Full Expensing (TFE) last October has changed the landscape of Australian depreciation fundamentally. This article explains what TFE is, how it works and surveys the landscape to assess those depreciation provisions that carry on unaltered.

### ¶8.1 TFE defined

Temporary Full Expensing was introduced by a new section of the tax acts, Section 40-BB Income Tax (Transitional Provisions) Act 1997 (ITTPA)).

In simple terms, those businesses with an aggregated turnover of less than \$5 billion can immediately deduct the business portion of the cost of eligible new depreciating assets.

The eligible new assets must be first held, and first used or installed ready for use for a taxable purpose, between 7:30pm AEDT on 6 October 2020 (Budget night) and 30 June 2022. Immediate deductions can also be claimed for the full cost of improvements made to these assets and to existing eligible depreciating assets made during the same period (second element costs).

Only taxpayers that are business entities are eligible so other entities, such as investment property owners, employed individuals, etc., are excluded.

The deduction is reduced to the extent you use the asset for a non-taxable purpose (e.g. private use).

### ¶8.2 Eligible assets

A depreciating asset qualifies for full expensing if, after the Budget (7:30PM 6 October 2020) and on or before 30 June 2022, the entity:

- starts to hold the asset; and
- starts to use the asset, or have it installed ready for use, for a taxable purpose.
- has aggregated turnover of less than \$5 billion for the current year; and
- no balancing adjustment event happens to the asset in that year (e.g. it is not sold in the year).

Entities with aggregated turnover of \$50 million or more cannot fully deduct the cost of an asset where the entity had made a commitment in relation to the asset prior to the Budget time — even if the entity did not start to hold, and to use or have it installed ready for use, until after that time. For example, if a company contracts to purchase an asset on 1 October 2020 but the asset isn't delivered until 10 October 2020 and is installed ready for use on 20 October 2020, the company cannot claim TFE in respect of the asset if its turnover