



Summary of updates for the Australian Government Charging Policy 2026

Australian Government Charging Policy 2026 replaces the Australian Government Cost Recovery Policy 2014 and Australian Government Charging Policy 2015 from 1st October 2026.

The following are the key changes to the Charging Policy:

- a. Consolidating three existing policies into a single, simpler policy to streamline requirements, with improved formatting and infographics to support compliance.
- b. The consolidation of 9 principles into 6, comprising effectiveness, efficiency, transparency, accountability, stakeholder engagement, and performance. This simplifies expectations, streamlines the policy and reduces complexity, consistent with the Government's regulatory reform agenda.
- c. Requiring Portfolio Charging Review (PCR) reports to be sent to the Minister for Finance to confirm delivery against the agreed Terms of Reference.
- d. Reduce internal administration by discontinuing the biennial charging survey. Comparable data will instead be collected through more frequent PCRs.
- d. PCRs to be undertaken on a 3-year cycle instead of 5-yearly, to enable more timely consideration by Government of opportunities for new or amended charging.
- e. Confirm that regulatory cost recovery prices must be adjusted in accordance with changes in expenses and reviewed annually. This supports the collection of non-taxation revenue in line with the relevant government policy decision and will ensure that revenue is better aligned to entity expenses.
- g. Remove the requirement for Finance to agree a low rating in a Charging Risk Assessment where charging is being updated (i.e. not new charging). This provides simpler on-going administration and implementation as entities will be able to make timelier administrative reviews and amendments.