



WHAT

The ESS Team has released a new ESS Portal feature that enables you to identify all outstanding audit recommendations and ACP responses.



WHY

The change reduces Auditor reliance on ACPs providing a full list of outstanding recommendations and aims to make it simpler to retrieve the recommendations when quoting or preparing detailed scopes of works.

The change also improves IPART's ability to track ACP responses to audit recommendations and assess whether there are residual or emerging risks that require administrative action ahead of the next audit.



WHO

Auditors, ACPs and IPART will have access to the new feature.

Auditors will enter recommendations in the ESS Portal during the draft audit report stage to mirror the recommendations contained in the draft report.

Once you have submitted the final report, and the ACP receives the Scheme Administrator's acknowledgement letter, the ACP will be able to view and respond to the recommendations on its accreditation dashboard.



HOW

In the Auditor portal the auditor will be able to see all previous recommendations that have been made for an ACP's accreditation, and which recommendations remain to be assessed for a particular audit.



WHEN

The feature is available immediately. You may complete any current draft reports without using the feature but ask that you use the feature for all new audits.



WHAT NEXT

We will release an updated ESS Portal user guide with instructions on how to use the new feature.

We have identified a small number of user experiences that we are aiming to improve in the next update. In the meantime we welcome your feedback on the new feature.