



# Annual Financial Report 30 June 2018

Local Authorities Superannuation Fund  
(operating as Vision Super)

ABN: 24 496 637 884

RSE: R1000603

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**Local Authorities Superannuation Fund**  
**Statement of Financial Position**  
**as at 30 June 2018**

	<i>Note</i>	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
<b>Assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents		39,766	22,660
Contributions receivable	6	8,340	2,580
Receivables		398	449
Units in Vision Pooled Superannuation Trust	3, 4	9,456,545	8,660,320
Deferred tax assets	18	11	9
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>9,505,060</b>	<b>8,686,018</b>
<b>Reserves/equity</b>			
Operational risk financial requirement reserves		950	950
Administration reserve		15,941	12,635
Insurance reserves		19,701	21,623
Other reserves		10,786	955
Defined benefits that are over/(under) funded	5, 9	258,968	248,113
<b>Total reserves/equity</b>		<b>306,346</b>	<b>284,276</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Benefits payable		25,843	35,564
Other payables		2,573	2,930
Income tax payable	17	45,774	49,726
Deferred tax liabilities	18	1,251	363
<b>Total liabilities excluding member benefits</b>		<b>75,441</b>	<b>88,583</b>
<b>Member benefit liabilities</b>			
Defined contribution member liabilities	5, 7	6,911,276	6,090,792
Amounts not yet allocated	5, 7	795	8,849
Defined benefit member liabilities	5, 8	2,211,202	2,213,518
<b>Total member benefit liabilities</b>		<b>9,123,273</b>	<b>8,313,159</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>9,505,060</b>	<b>8,686,018</b>

The above Statement of Financial Position should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Local Authorities Superannuation Fund  
Income Statement  
for the year ended 30 June 2018**

	<i>Note</i>	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
<b>Superannuation activities</b>			
Net changes in value of assets measured at fair value	13	776,844	826,175
Interest income		531	275
<b>Total net income</b>		<b>777,375</b>	<b>826,450</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
General administration expenses	15	(23,060)	(20,749)
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>(23,060)</b>	<b>(20,749)</b>
<b>Result from superannuation activities before income tax expense</b>		<b>754,315</b>	<b>805,701</b>
Income tax (expense)/benefit	17	123	92
<b>Results from superannuation activities after income tax expense</b>		<b>754,438</b>	<b>805,793</b>
Net benefits allocated to defined contribution members		(579,928)	(577,082)
Net change in defined benefit member liabilities	14	(164,800)	(188,227)
<b>Operating result after income tax</b>		<b>9,710</b>	<b>40,484</b>

The above Income Statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Statement of Changes in Member Benefits for the year ended 30 June 2018

	<i>Note</i>	DC Members \$000	DB Members \$000	Total \$000
<b>Opening balance as at 1 July 2016</b>		5,270,363	2,198,543	7,468,906
Contributions				
Employer		330,284	39,861	370,145
Member		179,325	4,665	183,990
Transfers from other superannuation plans		124,158	653	124,811
Income tax on contributions		(43,472)	(5,806)	(49,278)
<b>Net after tax contributions</b>		<b>590,295</b>	<b>39,373</b>	<b>629,668</b>
Net benefits allocated comprising:				
Net investment income		593,783	-	593,783
Net administration fees		(16,701)	-	(16,701)
		<b>577,082</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>577,082</b>
Benefits paid to members/beneficiaries		(248,911)	(117,415)	(366,326)
Transfers to other superannuation plans		(155,542)	(15,821)	(171,363)
Transfer to the ATO		(136)	(7)	(143)
Internal transfers from membership categories		78,529	(78,529)	-
Insurance premiums charged (including amounts transferred to the insurance reserves)	22	(20,537)	(221)	(20,758)
Other fees charged to members/DB sub-plans		(185)	(632)	(817)
Death and disability benefits credited to members		8,574	-	8,574
Transfers from reserves to members		109	-	109
Net change in defined benefit member liabilities	14	-	188,227	188,227
<b>Closing balance as at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>6,099,641</b>	<b>2,213,518</b>	<b>8,313,159</b>
<b>Opening balance as at 1 July 2017</b>		<b>6,099,641</b>	<b>2,213,518</b>	<b>8,313,159</b>
Contributions				
Employer		319,594	36,793	356,387
Member		129,168	4,047	133,215
Transfers from other superannuation plans		164,426	(22)	164,404
Income tax on contributions		(43,102)	(5,162)	(48,264)
<b>Net after tax contributions</b>		<b>570,086</b>	<b>35,656</b>	<b>605,742</b>
Net benefits allocated comprising:				
Net investment income		597,358	-	597,358
Net administration fees		(17,430)	-	(17,430)
		<b>579,928</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>579,928</b>
Benefits paid to members/beneficiaries		(249,288)	(95,680)	(344,968)
Transfers to other superannuation plans		(173,168)	(16,515)	(189,683)
Transfer to the ATO		(232)	-	(232)
Internal transfers from membership categories		91,356	(91,356)	-
Insurance premiums charged (including amounts transferred to the insurance reserves)	22	(20,942)	(214)	(21,156)
Other fees charged to members/DB sub-plans		(168)	(2,345)	(2,513)
Death and disability benefits credited to members		14,800	-	14,800
Transfers from reserves to members		58	3,338	3,396
Net change in defined benefit member liabilities	14	-	164,800	164,800
<b>Closing balance as at 30 June 2018</b>	<b>7, 8</b>	<b>6,912,071</b>	<b>2,211,202</b>	<b>9,123,273</b>

The above Statement of Changes in Member Benefits should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Local Authorities Superannuation Fund  
Statement of Changes in Reserves/Equity  
For the year ended 30 June 2018**

	Operational risk financial requirement reserves	Insurance reserves	Administration reserves	Other reserves	Total reserves	DB that are over/(under) funded	Total reserves/equity
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
						<i>Note 9</i>	
Opening balance as at 1 July 2016	950	20,782	8,750	1,499	31,981	211,920	243,901
Net transfers from/(to) DC member accounts	-		(109)	-	(109)	-	(109)
Net transfers from/(to) DB plans	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Operating result		841	3,994	(544)	4,291	36,193	40,484
Closing balance as at 30 June 2017	950	21,623	12,635	955	31,163	248,113	284,276
Opening balance as at 1 July 2017	950	21,623	12,635	955	36,163	248,113	284,276
Net transfers from/(to) DC member accounts	-		(58)		(58)	-	(58)
Net transfers from/(to) DB plans	-	(3,088)		(250)	(3,338)	15,756	12,418
Operating result	-	1,166	3,364	10,081	14,611	(4,901)	9,710
Closing balance as at 30 June 2018	950	19,701	15,941	10,786	47,378	258,968	306,346

The above Statement of Changes in Reserves/Equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

**Local Authorities Superannuation Fund**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the year ended 30 June 2018**

	<i>Note</i>	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Interest income received		531	275
Insurance premiums received from employers		198	204
Administration expenses paid		(23,366)	(16,893)
Death and disability proceeds received from insurer		15,684	8,574
Insurance premiums paid		(20,956)	(20,135)
Other expenses paid		-	(956)
Income taxes paid		6,924	(1,201)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>	<i>19</i>	<b>(20,985)</b>	<b>(30,132)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Sales of financial instruments		255,178	248,308
Purchases of financial instruments		(274,558)	(321,752)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from investing activities</b>		<b>(19,380)</b>	<b>(73,444)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Employer contributions received		350,626	371,206
Member contributions received		133,215	183,989
Transfers from/(to) other superannuation entities		164,404	124,811
Benefit payments to members and beneficiaries		(544,604)	(532,969)
Tax paid on contributions		(46,170)	(47,059)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities and cash equivalents</b>		<b>57,471</b>	<b>99,978</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>17,106</b>	<b>(3,598)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		22,660	26,258
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of year</b>		<b>39,766</b>	<b>22,660</b>

The above Statement of Cash Flows is to be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 1. General information about the Fund

#### (a) Operation of the Fund

Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund) was originally established under an Act of the Parliament of Victoria in 1947 and was established to provide superannuation benefits for members. The Fund's governing rules were transferred to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund Trust Deed dated 26 June 1998.

The majority of the Fund's members and participating employees are from the local government, water and community services sectors. As the Fund has public offer status, the Fund accepts contributions from a range of employers.

The Fund is a hybrid fund which consists of both an account-based (defined contribution) section and a defined benefit section. The Fund also provides pensions to members within both the accumulation and defined benefit sections of the Fund. The defined benefits section of the Fund was closed to new entrants on 31 December 1993 and all new entrants join the account-based section of the Fund.

Employer and employee contributions for account-based members are received on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings as required under the Superannuation Guarantee (SG) legislation (for the year ended 30 June 2018, this was 9.5%).

Employer contributions for defined benefit members are made at rates appropriate to ensure that benefits are fully funded. Contribution rates necessary to meet the Fund's defined benefit obligations are determined by the Trustee based on advice from the Fund Actuary.

Benefits of members in the defined benefit section are calculated using formulas as defined in the Trust Deed. Benefits of account-based members are equal to the members' account balance which is increased or decreased each year with any relevant contributions, their proportionate share of net investment income, any relevant fees and charges and income tax expense (including contributions tax).

The Trustee of the Fund is Vision Super Pty Ltd (VSPL). VSPL is the holder of an extended public offer class Registrable Superannuation Entity Licence (licence no. L0000239). In accordance with amendments to the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993, the Fund was registered with the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority on 12 December 2005 (registration no. R1000603).

The Fund is domiciled in Australia and the address of the Fund's registered office is Level 15, 360 Collins Street in Melbourne.

#### (b) Reporting entity

The Fund meets the definition of an investment entity in AASB 2013-5 *Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Investment Entities* as outlined in Note 2(e) and therefore does not need to present consolidated financial statements under AASB 10 *Consolidated Financial Statements*.

The reporting entity for the current and prior period for the purposes of these financial statements is the Fund only.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of the trustee on 21 September 2018.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies

Unless covered in other notes to the financial statements, the principal policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all years presented unless otherwise stated below.

#### (a) Basis of preparation

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations issued by the Australian Accounting Standards Board, the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993 and its regulations and the provisions of the Trust Deed.

The financial statements have been presented in Australian Dollars as this is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Fund operates. The Fund's performance is evaluated and its liquidity is managed in Australian Dollars. Therefore, the Australian Dollar is considered as the currency that most faithfully represents the economic effects of the underlying transactions, events and conditions.

All values have been rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$000) except where otherwise stated as the Fund is subject to ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors Reports) Instrument 2016/191.

The Fund is a not-for-profit entity for the purposes of preparing these financial statements.

#### (b) Statement of compliance

The financial statements comply with AASB 1056 - Superannuation Entities. Since AASB 1056 is the principal standard that applies to the financial statements of superannuation entities, other standards (including Australian International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS)) are also applied where necessary except to the extent that they differ from AASB 1056.

International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) form the basis of Australian Accounting Standards adopted by the AASB. Certain requirements of AASB 1056 differ from the equivalent requirements that would otherwise be applied under IFRS.

#### (c) New accounting standards and interpretations

There are no new accounting standards that are effective and applied for the first time in the current financial year.

There are no other standards which are not yet effective and that are expected to have a material impact on the Fund in the current or future reporting periods or on foreseeable future transactions.

#### (d) Reclassification of financial information

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current financial year amounts and other disclosures.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (e) Consolidation

The Fund is an investment entity and, as such, does not consolidate the entities it controls. Instead, interests in subsidiaries are classified as fair value through profit or loss and are measured at fair value.

An entity is defined as an investment entity in AASB 12 - Disclosure of Interest in Other Entities - if it:

- 1) Obtains funds from one or more investors for the purpose of providing those investor(s) with investment management services
- 2) Commits to its investor(s) that its business purpose is to invest funds solely for returns from capital appreciation, investment income, or both, and
- 3) Measures and evaluates the performance of substantially all of its investments on a fair value basis.

As the definition of investment management services is very broad, the Fund satisfies this definition. The Fund invests to obtain returns from capital appreciation and investment income. Under AASB 1056, the Fund is required to use fair value to value its investments. On this basis, the Fund meets the valuation criteria of the definition of investment entity. Therefore, the Fund satisfies the definition of an investment entity in AASB 12.

#### (f) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents in the Statement of Financial Position comprise cash at bank and short-term deposits with an original maturity of three months or less that are readily convertible to cash and subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value.

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above.

#### (g) Employer-sponsor receivables

An asset related to an employer-sponsor receivable is recognised to the extent there is a difference between a defined benefit member liability and the fair value of the assets available to meet that liability and the Fund has a contractual right to funding that meets the definition and recognition criteria for an asset under AASB 1056.

Refer to Note 6 for further details regarding contributions receivable.

#### (h) Receivables and payables

Receivables are carried at nominal amounts due which approximate fair value. Receivables are normally settled within 30 days. An allowance for uncollectible amounts is only made where there is objective evidence that the debt will not be collected. Objective evidence may include indications that the debtor or a group of debtors is/are experiencing significant financial difficulty, the probability that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation and observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows, such as changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

Payables are carried at nominal amounts which approximate fair value. They represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Fund prior to the end of the financial year that are unpaid when the Fund becomes obliged to make future payments in respect of the purchase of these goods or services. Payables are normally settled on 30 day terms.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (i) Financial assets and financial liabilities

##### (i) Recognition

The Fund recognises financial assets and financial liabilities on the date the Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within a time frame generally established by regulation or convention in the marketplace are recognised on the trade date (ie. on the date that the Fund commits to purchase or sell the asset). From this date, any gains or losses from changes in fair value are recorded.

##### (ii) De-recognition

The Fund derecognises a financial asset where:

- (i) The contractual rights to the cash flows from the financial asset expire
- (ii) It transfers the financial asset and the transfer qualifies for de-recognition in accordance with AASB 139,
- (iii) Either the Fund has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset or the Fund has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset but has transferred control of the asset.

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation specified in the liability's contract is discharged, cancelled or expired.

##### (iii) Measurement

Financial assets and financial liabilities are included in the Statement of Financial Position at fair value as at balance date and movements in the fair value of assets and liabilities are recognised in the Income Statement in the periods in which they occur.

##### *Initial recognition*

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit and loss are recorded initially at fair value (transaction price) in the Statement of Financial Position. All transaction costs on financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised immediately in the Income Statement.

Loans and receivables and financial liabilities (other than those classified at fair value through profit or loss) are measured initially at their fair value plus any directly attributable incremental costs of acquisition or issue.

For financial assets and liabilities where the fair value at initial recognition does not equal the transaction price, the Fund recognises the difference in the Income Statement unless specified otherwise.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (i) Financial assets and financial liabilities (continued)

##### (iii) Measurement (continued)

###### *Subsequent measurement*

Subsequent to initial recognition, all financial assets and financial liabilities classified at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value at year end with any changes in their fair value being recognised in the Income Statement as "Changes in fair value of financial assets and liabilities through profit or loss".

##### (iv) Offsetting financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the Statement of financial position when there is a legally enforceable right to offset the amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or realise the asset and settle the liability at the same time.

#### (j) Fair value measurement

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either:

- In the principal market for the asset or liability, or
- In the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability.

The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible by the Fund.

The fair value of an asset or liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in the economic best interest.

The Fund uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy. Refer to Note 4.

Fair value of investments has been determined as follows:

##### **Units in pooled superannuation trust**

Units in pooled superannuation trusts are valued at fair value based on the redemption price at balance date quoted by the Trustee of the pooled superannuation trust. This redemption price is based on the net market value of the underlying investments of the pooled superannuation trust. The fair value is not materially different to the net market value of those assets.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (k) Reserves

The Trustee maintains a number of reserves to provide the Trustee with access to funds to fund the expenses of the Fund and to protect the members' interests and mitigate the impact of an adverse event. These reserves are operated in accordance with the Fund's reserving policy and are held at the fund level.

The reserves maintained by the Fund include:

#### (i) Operational risk financial requirement reserve

This reserve is maintained in accordance with the requirements of Prudential Standard SPS 114 - Operational Risk Financial Requirement. This reserve is to cover costs associated with an operational risk such as risks of loss resulting from inadequate or failed internal processes, people and systems, or from external events. This includes legal risk but excludes strategic and reputational risk.

#### (ii) Insurance reserves

These reserves are generally used to pay insurance premiums to the insurer and to fund insurance claims reduction strategies implemented by the Fund and the development and implementation of improved insurance offerings.

#### (iii) Administration fee reserve

This reserve is used to pay the administration costs of the Fund.

#### (iv) Other reserves

The reserves include an unassignable receipts reserve and a general reserve. These reserves relate to amounts where it has been determined that it is not appropriate to allocate that amount to members due to a number of factors including equity, fairness and uncertainty. There is also a contributions tax reserve which relates to the contributions tax deducted from all taxable contributions received by the Funds and any other relevant receipts. This reserve is used to pay the contributions tax of the Fund and the tax rebates provided to members for deductible expenses and other tax concessions.

#### (l) Benefits paid/payable

Benefits paid/payable are valued at the amounts due to members at reporting date. Benefits paid/payable comprise pensions accrued at balance date and lump sum benefits of members who are due a benefit but had not been paid at balance date. Benefits rolled over within the Fund are not included as benefits payable. Benefits payable are generally settled within the legislated timeframes.

#### (m) Member benefit liabilities

Member benefit liabilities are measured at the amount of accrued benefits as at the reporting date.

Defined benefit member liabilities are measured as the amount of a portfolio of investments that would be needed as at the reporting date to yield future net cash inflows that would be sufficient to meet accrued benefits as at the date when they are expected to fall due.

Defined contribution member benefit liabilities are measured as the amount of member account balances as at the balance date.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (n) Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Fund and the revenue can be reliably measured regardless of when the payment is received. Revenue is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable taking into account contractually defined terms of payment and excluding taxes or duty. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised.

##### (i) Changes in fair values

Changes in the fair value of investments and derivatives are calculated as the difference between the fair value at sale, or at balance date, and the fair value at the previous valuation point and recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. All changes are recognised in the Income Statement.

##### (ii) Interest

Interest income on cash and cash equivalents is recognised in the Income Statement as it accrues on the amount of cash at bank.

#### (o) Contributions received and transfers from other funds

Contributions received and transfers from other funds are recognised in the Statement of changes in member benefits when the control of the contribution or transfer has transferred to the Fund. They are recognised gross of any taxes.

Contributions includes any funding call for the unfunded liability of the defined benefits plan and its interest component. The participating employers in the defined benefits plan are compelled by Participation Agreements with the Fund's Trustee to make contributions and fund any deficit.

#### (p) Group life insurance proceeds

Insurance claim amounts are recognised when the insurer has accepted the claim lodged and control of the asset has been attained.

#### (q) Expense recognition

Unless otherwise indicated, all expenses (including management fees and custodian fees) are recognised in the Income Statement on an accruals basis.

#### (r) Income tax

The Fund is a complying superannuation fund for the purposes of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. Accordingly, the concessional tax rate of 15% has been applied to the "standard component" of the Fund's taxable income. A rate of 45% is applied on any "non-arm's length component" that the Fund has. The non-arm's length component of taxable income refers to "non-arm's length income" reduced by allowable deductions. Non-arm's length income is made up of private company dividends, non-arm's length income and certain trust distributions. For the year ended 30 June 2018, there is no non-arm's length income.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (s) Income tax (continued)

Income tax is recognised in the Income Statement except to the extent that it relates to items recognised directly in members' funds in which case it is recognised in the Statement of Changes in Member Benefits.

Income tax that is recognised in the Income Statement for the year comprises current and deferred tax.

Current tax assets and liabilities are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities. The tax rates and tax laws used to compute the amount are those that are enacted or substantially enacted by the reporting date.

Deferred tax is provided on all temporary differences at the balance date between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes except:

- Where the deferred tax liability arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss
- When the taxable temporary difference is associated with investments in subsidiaries, associates or interests in joint ventures and the timing of the reversal of the temporary difference can be controlled and it is probably that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, carry-forward of unused tax assets and unused tax losses. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which deductible temporary differences, and the carrying forward of unused tax assets and unused tax losses can be utilised, except:

- Where the deferred tax asset relating to the deductible temporary differences arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor the taxable profit or loss.
- In respect of deductible temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, associates or interests in joint ventures in which case a deferred tax asset is only recognised to the extent that it is probable that the temporary difference will reverse in the foreseeable future and taxable profit will be available against which the temporary difference can be utilised.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

Unrecognised deferred tax assets are reassessed at each balance date and are recognised to the extent that it has become probable that sufficient taxable profit will allow the deferred tax asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled based on the tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance date.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset only if a legally enforceable right exists to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and the deferred tax assets and liabilities relate to the same taxable entity and the same taxation authority.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (s) Income tax (continued)

As it is expected that the Fund will be treated as a complying superannuation fund and its subsidiary Vision Pooled Superannuation Trust's (VPST's) taxable income is "standard income", income tax has been provided in the current year at the rate of 15%. If the Fund is subsequently deemed to be a non-complying fund for the current year or VPST has "special income", income tax will be payable at a rate of 45% on the Fund's taxable income.

The expense (and any corresponding liability) is brought to account in the period in which the assessments are received by the Trustee and are payable by the Fund.

#### (s) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenue, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) except:

- When the GST incurred on the sale or purchase of assets or services is not payable to or recoverable from the ATO, in which case the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of the expense, or
- When receivables and payables are stated with the amount of GST included.

The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the ATO is included as part of receivables or payables in the Statement of Financial Position.

Cash flows are included in the Statement of Cash Flows on a net basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to the ATO are classified as operating cash flows.

#### (t) No-TFN contribution tax

Where a member does not provide their tax file number to a fund, the fund may be required to pay no-TFN contributions tax at a rate of 32% which is in addition to the concessional tax rate of 15% which applies to the Fund's taxable income.

The no-TFN contributions tax liability recognised by the Fund will be charged to the relevant members' accounts. Where a tax offset is obtained by the Fund in relation to members' no-TFN contributions tax, the tax offset will be included in the relevant members' accounts.

#### (u) Superannuation contribution surcharge

The Superannuation Laws Amendment (Abolition of Surcharge) Act 2005 abolished both the superannuation contributions surcharge and the termination payment surcharge in respect of superannuation contributions and certain termination payment made or received on or after 1 July 2005. Assessment for surcharge in respect of contributions and payments for the year ended 30 June 2005 and prior years will continue to be issued and remain payable.

Superannuation contribution surcharge is levied on surchargeable contributions for a relevant year on the basis of the individual member's adjusted taxable income for that year. The liability for the Superannuation contributions surcharge is recognised when the assessment is received as the Trustee considers this is when it can be reliably measured.

Any superannuation surcharge liability is recognised by the Fund in the Statement of change in member benefits and is charged to the relevant members' accounts.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (v) Valuation dates

The investments held have been valued at 30 June 2018 based on valuations obtained from the Custodian taking into account information received post balance date.

For accumulation members, the benefit liability value is based on members' accounts value which is determined by using the daily unit price applicable as at 30 June 2018.

For defined benefits members, the benefit liability value is determined in accordance with Trust Deed and takes into accounts the members' salary and years of service subject to the minimum requisite benefit threshold.

#### (w) Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions

The preparation of the Fund's financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts recognised in the financial statements. However, uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that could require a material adjustment to the carrying amount of the asset or liability affected in the future.

The significant accounting policies have been consistently applied in the current financial year and the comparative period unless otherwise stated. Where necessary, comparative information has been re-presented to be consistent with current period disclosures. Significant accounting judgements, estimates and assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. If there are revisions to accounting estimates, they are recognised in the period which the estimate is revised and in any future period affects. In particular, information about significant areas of estimation, uncertainty and critical judgements in applying accounting policies and have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements are listed below:

Assessment as investment entity	The significant accounting judgements are discussed in Note 2(e).
Deferred tax asset recognition	The significant accounting judgements are discussed in Note 2(r).
Valuation of defined benefit member liabilities	The key assumptions are discussed in Notes 2(x) and 8.
Valuation of Investments	The key assumptions are set out in Notes 2(i) and 4.

#### (x) Valuation of defined benefit member liabilities

The amount of member liabilities in relation to defined benefits has been determined using actuarial valuation techniques and assumptions. An actuarial valuation involves making assumptions about the future. Actual developments in the future may differ from the assumptions. The assumptions include member turnover, future investment returns, pension indexation rates, mortality rates and future salary increases. Due to the complexities involved in the valuation and its long term nature, defined benefit member liabilities are highly sensitive to changes in these assumptions. The key assumptions are reviewed at each reporting date.

In determining the appropriate discount rate, the Fund Actuary considered an investment portfolio that reflects the opportunities reasonably available to the Fund in the investment markets, and also reflects the Fund's actual investments and investment strategy in respect of define benefit liabilities.

The mortality assumption is based on publicly available mortality tables. Future salary increases are based on the Wage Price Index produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics and in consultation with the employer-sponsors.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 2. Summary of significant accounting policies (continued)

#### (y) New accounting standards and interpretations

AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows has been amended by AASB 2016-2 and was effective from 1 July 2017. Under this amendment, entities are required to provide disclosures about changes in their liabilities arising from financing activities. There has been no material change in the financial statements from the adoption of this amendment.

A number of new standards, amendments to standards and interpretations are effective for annual periods beginning after 30 June 2016. They have not been applied in preparing the financial statements. Those may be relevant to the Trust are set out below. The Fund does not plan to adopt these standards early.

Accounting standards	Nature	Application date of standard	Application date for LASF
AASB 9 (2014) - <i>Financial Instruments</i>	<p>This standard addresses the classification, measurement and derecognition of financial assets and financial liabilities and introduces new rules for hedge accounting.</p> <p>In December 2014, the AASB made further changes to the classification and measurement rules and also introduced a new impairment model. These latest amendments now complete the new financial instruments standard.</p>	<p>1 January 2018</p> <p>Based on the transitional provisions in the completed IFRS 9, early adoption in phases was only permitted for annual reporting periods beginning before 1 February 2015. After that date, the new rules must be adopted in their entirety.</p>	1 July 2018
Interpretation 23 - <i>Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments</i>	<p>This interpretation clarifies how the recognition and measurement requirements of AASB 112 Income Taxes are applied where there is uncertainty over income tax treatments.</p>	1 January 2019	1 July 2019

Management has assessed the impact of the changes listed above and concluded that there would be no material change in the financial statements by adoption of the above standards.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 3. Investment in subsidiary

The Fund is not required to consolidate its subsidiary under AASB 2013-5 *Amendments to Australian Standards - Investment Entities*. The Fund invests in the following unconsolidated subsidiary:

Name of unconsolidated subsidiary	Principal place of business	2018 Ownership interest		2017 Ownership interest	
		%	\$000	%	\$000
Vision Pooled Superannuation Trust (VPST)	Australia	100%	9,456,545	100%	8,660,320

The underlining financial assets/liabilities held by VPST are as follows:

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
<b>Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss</b>		
Cash and deposits	1,058,901	820,823
Covered bonds	2,367	1,609
Discount securities	304,524	269,172
Fixed interest bonds	704,842	593,525
Floating rate notes	49,568	33,900
Listed equities	3,988,686	3,823,824
Listed investment companies	5,486	10,518
Listed property trusts	379,548	276,166
Listed unit trusts	47,942	47,032
Loans	-	2,250
Mortgage backed securities	2,105	2,301
Outstanding settlements	47,221	41,157
Preference shares redeemable	20,779	3,482
Unlisted equities	164,493	162,893
Unlisted managed investment scheme	2,914,755	2,669,456
Unlisted partnership	2,134	3,816
Forward foreign exchange contracts	1,039	20,896
Warrants	-	2,796
Options	5,134	4,692
Futures	258	21
<b>Total financial assets designated at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>9,699,782</b>	<b>8,790,329</b>
<b>Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss</b>		
<i>Financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss</i>		
Cash and Deposits	(3,118)	(3,356)
Outstanding settlements	(18,428)	(24,283)
Forward foreign exchange contracts	(31,616)	(4,810)
Futures	-	(88)
Options	(647)	(509)
<b>Total financial liabilities designated at fair value through profit or loss</b>	<b>(53,809)</b>	<b>(33,046)</b>
Net financial assets held by VPST at fair value through profit or loss	9,645,973	8,757,283
Non-financial liabilities of VPST/other amounts not allocated to unitholders	(189,428)	(96,963)
<b>Units held by LASF in VPST</b>	<b>9,456,545</b>	<b>8,660,320</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 4. Fair value of financial instruments

AASB 13 requires disclosure of fair value measurements using a three-level fair value hierarchy. The level within which the fair value measurement is categorised in its entirety is determined on the basis of the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement. Assessing the significance of a particular input requires judgement, considering factors specific to the asset or liability. The following table shows financial instruments recognised at fair value, categorised between those whose fair value is based on:

- Level 1 – Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 – Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable
- Level 3 – Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

The level in which instruments are classified in the hierarchy is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Assessment of the significance of an input requires judgement after considering factors specific to the instrument.

#### (a) Classification of investments at the Fund level

Units in Vision Pooled Superannuation Trust (VPST) are valued at fair value based on the redemption price of those units at reporting date which are based on the net market value of the underlying investments quoted by the investment managers. The significant inputs to calculate the price are market observable. Therefore, the Fund categorises these investments as Level 2 financial instruments.

	2018			Total
	Value at quoted market price (level 1) \$000	Valuation technique - market observable inputs (level 2) \$000	Valuation technique - non-market observable inputs (level 3) \$000	
Units in VPST	-	9,456,545	-	9,456,545
Total investment	-	9,456,545	-	9,456,545

	2017			Total
	Value at quoted market price (level 1) \$000	Valuation technique - market observable inputs (level 2) \$000	Valuation technique - non-market observable inputs (level 3) \$000	
Units in VPST	-	8,660,320	-	8,660,320
Total investment	-	8,660,320	-	8,660,320

Disclosure of the method and assumptions applied in determining the fair value for each class of financial assets and financial liabilities are included in Note 2(j). The fair value for each class of financial assets and financial liabilities equates to net market value.

#### (b) Transfers between hierarchy levels

There have been no transfers between Levels 1, 2 or 3 of the fair value hierarchy during the year.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 5. Assets attributable to each section of the Fund

The assets of the Fund are primarily used to support the account-based and defined benefit member liabilities and are attributable to each section as follows:

2018	Account-based plans \$000	Defined benefit plans \$000	Total \$000
Defined contribution member liabilities	6,911,276		6,911,276
Defined benefit member liabilities		2,211,202	2,211,202
Defined benefits that are (over) or under funded		258,968	258,968
Amounts not yet allocated	795		795
<b>Assets attributable to each section</b>	<b>6,912,071</b>	<b>2,470,170</b>	<b>9,382,241</b>

2017	Account-based plans \$000	Defined benefit plans \$000	Total \$000
Defined contribution member liabilities	6,090,792		6,090,792
Defined benefit member liabilities		2,213,518	2,213,518
Defined benefits that are (over) or under funded		248,113	248,113
Amounts not yet allocated	8,849		8,849
<b>Assets attributable to each section</b>	<b>6,099,641</b>	<b>2,461,631</b>	<b>8,561,272</b>

### 6. Contributions receivable

The Fund has contractual agreements with the employer sponsors to meet any shortfall for the defined benefit member's liabilities.

Contributions for defined benefits members' ongoing service are payable on the 21st day of the first month in each quarter.

Contributions for outstanding 2010 defined benefits unfunded liability accounts are payable by the year 2021.

The 2011 funding call resulted from Trustee's actuarial investigation as at 31 December 2011 were payable on 1 July 2013. Employers are offered a fifteen-year payment plan at the interest rate of 7.5% per annum.

The receivables are due from unrated entities.

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Ongoing service	5,665	157
Past service - 2010	377	350
Past service - 2011	2,201	2,073
Other contributions receivable	97	-
<b>Contributions receivable</b>	<b>8,340</b>	<b>2,580</b>

All amounts are expected to be recovered from the relevant employer-sponsors with the required time periods.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 7. Defined contribution member liabilities

The defined contribution member account balances are measured using unit prices determined by the Trustee based on the underlying investment option values applicable for the members.

Defined contribution members bear the investment risk relating to the underlying assets and unit prices or crediting rates used to measure the member liabilities. Unit prices are updated each business day. Unit prices for each business day are based on the most recently available information for that day, including market close prices for the domestic market and all applicable international markets.

As at 30 June 2018, \$795,000 (2017: \$8,849,000) had not been allocated to members. Defined contributions member liabilities are vested 100% in those members and are recognised as liabilities in accordance with AASB 1056.

The amount of the defined contributions member liabilities varies on a daily basis based on a number of factors including the investment markets. Refer to Note 23 for the Fund's management of investment risks.

### 8. Defined benefit member liabilities (accrued benefits)

The Fund has three (3) defined benefit sub-plans and engages a qualified actuary on a regular basis to measure the defined benefit member liabilities in each sub-plan. The Fund has no information that would lead to adjustments to the assumptions outlined below.

The actuarial valuation of member liabilities reflects the actuarial assessment of the benefits accrued up to the balance date and payable to members on retirement, resignation, death and disability (ie. the accrued benefits).

The valuation of the accrued benefits was undertaken by the Fund Actuary as part of an actuarial valuation as at 30 June 2018. The most recent comprehensive actuarial review was conducted as at 30 June 2017. This triennial actuarial assessment may result in an employer being required to make additional contributions to the sub-plan. The three defined benefit sub-plans are quarantined from the other assets of the Fund. In an event that the assets of a particular sub-plan are not adequate to provide for members' liabilities and if the employer contributions are insufficient, the defined benefit member liabilities are limited to the assets of the particular sub-plan.

Matthew Burgess of Willis Towers Watson has been engaged as the Fund Actuary to conduct the actuarial review as at 30 June 2018. A copy of the Actuarial Report as at 30 June 2018 for LASF Defined Benefit (LASF DB) will be available on the Fund's website when it is finalised. Copies of reports for 30 June 2017 for each defined benefit sub-plan are available on the Fund's website.

The following is a breakdown of the accrued defined benefits of the Fund:

	As at 30 June 2018 (final) \$m	As at 30 June 2017 (final) \$m
Accrued Benefits for		
- LASF DB	2,119.1	2,133.3
- City of Melbourne (CoM)	59.9	51.7
- Parks Victoria	32.2	28.5
	2,211.2	2,213.5

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 8. Defined benefit member liabilities (accrued benefits) (continued)

#### (a) Significant estimates

The Fund has identified three assumptions for which changes are reasonably possible and which would have a material impact on the amount of the liabilities.

The key financial assumptions used to determine the values of accrued for each of the sub-plans are as follows:

	LASF DB	2018 CoM	Parks Victoria
Net investment return	6.0%	2.0%	4.5%
Salary inflation	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
Price inflation	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%

	LASF	2017 CoM	Parks Victoria
Net investment return	6.5%	5.5%	6.0%
Salary inflation	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
Price inflation	2.5%	2.5%	2.5%

The defined benefit members' liabilities have changed in the current financial year primarily as a result of salary increases, additional service accrual and increased entitlements as a result of reaching the Fund's retirement age.

The Trustee manages the risks associated with the defined benefit sub-plans in a number of ways.

The Fund Actuary advises on these risks, including establishing suitable funding objectives. The Fund Actuary conducts regular actuarial investigations (at least every three years, or more frequently as required) of the defined benefit sub-plans at the Trustee's request. Taking into account the Trustee's funding objectives and the Fund's circumstances, the Fund Actuary recommends the required employer contribution levels.

In addition, management monitors the vested benefit positions of each defined benefit sub-plan regularly and reports quarterly to the Board on the vested benefit index (VBI) status of the each sub-plans. If the VBI for a sub-plan is below the relevant VBI shortfall limit, management will then engage the Fund Actuary to conduct a review to assist in developing a restoration plan to restore the relevant sub-plan to a VBI position above 100%.

The Trustee also uses sensitivity analysis to monitor the potential impact of changes to key variable about which assumptions need to be made. The Fund has identified three key assumptions (being the discount rate, the rate of salary adjustment and the inflation rate) for which changes are reasonably possible that would have a material impact in the amount of the defined benefit member liabilities.

- (i) The assumed discount has been determined based on the investment returns expected on an investment portfolio that reflects the opportunities reasonably available to the Fund in the investment markets and also reflects the Fund's actual investments and investment strategy in respect of defined benefit member liabilities. The assumed discount rate is different for each defined benefit sub-plan.
- (ii) The assumed annual salary adjustment has been determined in consultation with the employer-sponsors and a review of the recent salary experiences of the members of the DB sub-plans. The rate is the same for each of the defined benefit sub-plans.
- (iii) The assumed price inflation has been determined based on long-term estimates of the consumer price index (CPI).

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 8. Defined benefit member liabilities (accrued benefits) (continued)

#### (a) Significant estimates (continued)

The other variables about which assumptions have been made in measuring defined benefit member liabilities and for which changes are not considered reasonably possible, or which reasonably possible changes would not be expected to have a material effect include pension indexation rates, mortality rates and resignations.

The following are sensitivity calculations on a univariate basis for the investment return and rate of salary adjustment assumptions for each defined benefit plan:

Assumptions	Assumed at balance date	Reasonable possible changes	Amount of increase/(decrease) in defined benefit member liabilities \$'000
<b>LASF DB</b>			
Investment return	6.0% (2017: 6.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	(123,800) 143,600 (2017: (125,301)/145,302)
Salary adjustment rate	3.5% (2017: 3.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	55,700 (51,800) (2017: 59,530/(55,239))
Price inflation	2.0% (2017: 2.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	90,200 (77,600) (2017: 86,215/(74,110))
<b>CoM</b>			
Investment return	2.0% (2017: 5.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	(2,400) 2,600 (2017: (1,905)/2,088)
Salary adjustment rate	3.5% (2017: 3.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	2,600 (2,400) (2017: 2,104/(1,953))
Price inflation	2.0% (2017: 2.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	- - (2017: -/-)
<b>Parks Victoria</b>			
Investment return	4.5% (2017: 6.0%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	(1,300) 1,500 (2017: (1,226)/1,352)
Salary adjustment rate	3.5% (2017: 2.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	1,400 (1,200) (2017: 1,270/(1,188))
Price inflation	2.0% (2017: 2.5%)	+1.0% -1.0% (2017: +1.0%/-1.0%)	100 (100) (2017: 200/(200))

At balance date, 100% of the defined benefit member liabilities have vested (2017: 100%).

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 9. Defined benefit plans that are over or (under) funded

For the three defined benefit sub-plans, there were no unexpected events that changed the defined benefit member liabilities materially. The Trustee has no information that would lead it to adjust the assumptions around pension index rates, resignations and mortality which are all unchanged from the previous reporting period.

Based on the requirements of AASB 1056, the three defined benefit sub-plans are over/(under) funded as follows:

	<i>Ref</i>	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
LASF DB	<i>A</i>	249,008	228,837
CoM	<i>B</i>	6,153	13,433
Parks Victoria	<i>C</i>	3,807	5,843
		<u>258,968</u>	<u>248,113</u>

#### *Ref A*

LASF DB continues to remain in surplus. It is intended that the employer-sponsors will continue to make contributions based on the current funding arrangements which is consistent with the rates recommended by the Fund Actuary.

#### *Ref B*

CoM continues to remain in surplus. It is intended that the employer-sponsors will continue to make contributions based on the current funding arrangements which is consistent with the rates recommended by the Fund Actuary.

#### *Ref C*

Parks Victoria continues to remain in surplus. It is intended that the employer-sponsor will continue to make contributions based on the current funding arrangements which is consistent with the rates recommended by the Fund Actuary.

### 10. Funding arrangements

The employers have contributed to the Fund during the financial year at a rate of at least 9.5% (2017: 9.5%) of the gross salaries of those employees who were defined contribution members of the Fund.

The employers for the defined benefit members have contributed to the fund during the financial year based on the rate determined by the Trustee based on Fund Actuary advice.

As outlined above, the defined benefit funding requirements for the Fund are impacted by various financial and demographic factors including investment earnings, salary inflation, benefit claims experience and pensioner mortality rates. The funding arrangements are primarily dependent upon investment performance relative to salary growth and pension growth. The Fund has a current Funding and Solvency Certificate. The last actuarial investigation as at 30 June 2017 was completed on 30 November 2017. The next full actuarial review for the Fund is as at 30 June 2020. An annual review will be conducted each intervening year from 20 June 2017 onwards to satisfy the AASB 1056 reporting requirements.

It is anticipated that, following the completion of the 30 June 2018 actuarial review of the Fund, the Fund Actuary will not recommend any additional contributions be made by the participating employers as no funding deficiency has been identified to date.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 10. Funding arrangements (continued)

Following the completion of the 30 June 2014 actuarial review of the Fund, the Fund Actuary did not recommend any additional contributions be made by the participating employers as there was no funding deficiency identified.

On completion of the 31 December 2011 actuarial review of the Fund, the Fund's Actuary recommended that participating employers pay an additional contribution due to the funding deficiency identified as at 31 December 2011. The Trustee accepted the actuarial recommendations and informed the employers of the Defined Benefit plans of their share of the unfunded liability as at 31 December 2011.

For the LASF Defined Benefit Plan, the invoices issued were due and payable on 1 July 2013 with an option of a fifteen-year payment plan. The total invoiced amount was \$539 million, which comprised the unfunded accrued liability as at 31 December 2011 of \$406 million, estimated fund earnings accrued to 1 July 2013 on that unfunded accrued liability of \$53 million and contributions tax of \$80 million.

Of this amount, an amount of \$2.2 million remains as contributions receivable as at 30 June 2018 (2017: \$2.1 million). During the 2018 year, the employers of the Defined Benefit plan have paid \$9,508 (2017: \$1,191,140) of the total amount invoiced. The total payments received to 30 June 2018 represent 99.5% (2017: 99.5%) of total unfunded liability invoiced amount. Where an employer paid some/all of their invoiced amount prior to the due date of 1 July 2013, the amount of the invoice was discounted at the rate of 7.5% per annum (calculated daily) based on the expected long-term investment return on the assets of the LASF Defined Benefits Plan. The contributions receivable of \$2.2 million at 30 June 2018 (2017: \$2.1 million) represents the outstanding unfunded liability and annual interest charges which have been invoiced but not yet paid. These employers have entered into payment plans to pay these outstanding amounts.

Further details regarding the funding arrangements of the defined benefit plans are in Note 12.

Employees are also able to make voluntary contributions.

### 11. Guaranteed benefits

No guarantees have been made in respect of any part of the liabilities for accrued benefits.

### 12. Vested benefits

Vested benefits are benefits which are not conditional upon continued membership of the Fund (or any factor other than resignation from the Fund) and include benefits which members are entitled to receive had they terminated their Fund membership as at the balance date.

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Defined benefit plans	2,324,804	2,378,569
Accumulation plans (excluding amounts not yet allocated)	6,911,276	6,090,792
Total vested benefits	<u>9,236,080</u>	<u>8,469,361</u>
As compared to net assets available to pay benefits	<u>9,429,619</u>	<u>8,597,435</u>

Key results as at 30 June 2018, as estimated by the actuary, on the defined benefit sub-plans are as follows. The Discounted Accrued Benefits Index (DABI) and Minimum Requisites Benefits Index (MRBI) (Solvency basis) are calculated as part of each actuarial review.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 12. Vested benefits (continued)

Sub-plan	Results	30 June 2018	30 June 2017
LASF DB	VBI	106.0%	103.1%
	DABI	111.9%	110.9%
	MRBI	147.0%	143.7%
CoM	VBI	124.0%	123.5%
	DABI	n/a*	131.1%
	MRBI	n/a	169.1%
Parks Victoria	VBI	107.3%	107.7%
	DABI	n/a	120.5%
	MRBI	n/a	159.6%

\* The next triennial actuarial review for these plans is scheduled to be at 30 June 2020.

The main financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI for the defined benefit categories of the Fund are as follows:

	LASF DB		CoM		Parks Victoria	
	30 June 2018	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2017	30 June 2018	30 June 2017
Net investment return	6.0%	6.5%	2.0%	5.5%	4.5%	6.0%
Salary inflation	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
Price inflation	2.0%	2.5%	2.0%	2.50%	2.0%	2.50%

#### (a) LASF DB

An actuarial review of LASF DB has been carried out as at 30 June 2018 and was completed in September 2018. The last investigation was carried out as at 30 June 2017. This investigation concluded that the LASF DB was in a satisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2017 as defined in Superannuation Prudential Standard 160 (SPS160). A total service liability actuarial surplus of \$193.5 million was identified by the 2017 investigation. The total service liability actuarial surplus at 30 June 2018 of \$218.3 million has been identified by the 2018 actuarial review.

The actuarial review concluded that it is still appropriate for the sub-plan to self-insure its death and disability benefits. The self-insurance reserve is \$5 million (2017: \$6 million). Refer to Note 22.

The Trustee agreed the following funding plan that was recommended by the Fund's Actuary as part of the 30 June 2017 investigation. Under the plan, the Employers pay:

- Contributions equal to 9.5% of members' salaries, increasing with increases in the Superannuation Guarantee
- Additional contributions to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the Vested Benefits Index multiplied by the benefit), plus contributions tax
- Outstanding contributions in respect of calls made at the previous actuarial investigations, and

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 12. Vested benefits (continued)

#### (a) LASF DB (continued)

- Additional top up contributions that may be recommended in the future, if the defined benefit plan becomes in an unsatisfactory financial position.

The next full triennial actuarial investigation of the LASF DB's accrued benefits liability will be at 30 June 2020.

The funding plan as described above is most likely to remain in place for the LASF DB until the next full actuarial investigation is completed. An annual review of the accrued benefits will occur for AASB 1056 purposes.

#### (b) CoM

An actuarial investigation of CoM is being carried out as at 30 June 2018. The last investigation was carried out as at 30 June 2017. This investigation concluded that CoM was in a satisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2017 as defined in SPS160. A total service liability actuarial surplus of \$12.2 million was identified by the 2017 investigation.

The Trustee agreed the following funding plan that was recommended by the Fund's Actuary as part of the 30 June 2017 investigation. Under the plan, City of Melbourne pays:

- A contribution rate of 13% (inclusive of 1% of salary continuance cover) of salaries for Division D members
- Top-up amounts for existing members equal to the amount increased for contribution tax: *Benefits Payment less (Vested Benefit x VBI)*. Top up payments are to be calculated and invoiced quarterly in arrears. Top-up payments are required from all retrenchments (VBI capped at 100%), but for other exits only when the VBI is below 100%. Benefits payments exclude the amount of any insurance proceeds, and
- Any additional contributions that may be required in future under SPS 160.

Members contribute at rates between 0% and 9% of salaries.

The next full triennial actuarial investigation of CoM's accrued benefits liability will be at 30 June 2020.

The funding plan as described above is most likely to remain in place for CoM until the next full actuarial investigation is completed.

#### (c) Parks Victoria

An actuarial review of Parks Victoria sub-plan was carried out as at 30 June 2018 for AASB 1056 purposes. The last investigation was carried out as at 30 June 2017. This investigation has concluded that the Parks Victoria sub-plan was in a satisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2017 as defined in SPS160. A total service liability actuarial surplus of \$4.6 million was identified by the 2017 investigation.

The Trustee agreed the following funding plan that was recommended by the Fund's Actuary as part of the 30 June 2017 investigation. Under the plan, Parks Victoria pays:

- A contribution rate of 12% of salaries of salaries for Division E members and the current accruing cost contribution rates for Division F members
- Top-up amounts for existing members equal to the amount increased for contribution tax: *Benefits Payment less (Vested Benefit x VBI)*. Top up payments are to be calculated and invoiced quarterly in arrears. Top-up payments are required from all retrenchments (VBI capped at 100%), but for other exits only when the VBI is below 100%. Benefits payments exclude the amount of any insurance proceeds, and
- Any additional contributions that may be required in future under SPS 160.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 12. Vested benefits (continued)

#### (c) Parks Victoria (continued)

Members contribute at rates between 0% and 7.5% of salaries.

The next full triennial actuarial investigation of the Parks Victoria sub-plan's accrued benefits liability will be at 30 June 2020.

The funding plan as described above is most likely to remain in place for the Parks Victoria sub-plan until the next full actuarial investigation is completed. An annual review of the accrued benefits will occur for AASB 1056 purposes.

#### (d) Vision MySuper

The Fund's MySuper category receives both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings in accordance with the Superannuation Guarantee legislation for each year (for the year ended 30 June 2018 - 9.5% (2017: 9.5%). This rate increases to 10% for the 2021/22 year and will progressively increase to 12% by 1 July 2025 subject to legislative changes. No further liability accrues to the employer as the superannuation benefits accruing to employees are represented by their share of the net assets of the Fund.

#### (e) Prudential Standard SPS 160 - Defined benefit matters

Prudential Standard 160 - *Defined Benefit Matters* (SPS 160) applies to the Fund with effect from 1 July 2013. The Trustee has adopted SPS 160 and will put in place a restoration plan to restore the VBI to 100% if:

- (i) The VBI falls below the relevant shortfall at any time when an actuarial investigation is not completed and there is not a valuation date within 6 months, or
- (ii) The VBI falls below 100% at the date an actuarial investigation is completed.

From 31 March 2016, the shortfall limit for LASF DB and Parks Victoria is 97% and 98% for CoM.

### 13. Net changes in value of assets measured at fair value

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Investments held at balance date		
Realised gains/(losses)	31,982	40,845
Unrealised gains/(losses)	744,862	785,330
	776,844	826,175
<b>Total net changes in value of assets measured at fair value</b>	<b>776,844</b>	<b>826,175</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 14. Net change in defined benefit member liabilities

AASB 1056 defines the net change in defined benefit member liabilities for a period as being the difference between the opening and closing balances of the defined benefit member liabilities for the period, after adjusting for inwards and outwards movements, including:

- (a) Contributions
- (b) Tax on contributions
- (c) Benefits to members, and
- (d) Transfers between reserves and accrued benefits.

As a result, the net change in defined benefit member liabilities of \$164,800,000 (2017: \$188,227,000) included in the Income Statement and the Statement of Changes in Member Benefits is a mixture of items that relate to the change in the surplus/deficit of the defined benefit section (eg. contributions) and other factors including actuarial assumptions that relate to the calculation of the actual defined benefit member liabilities (ie. the accrued benefits).

For the year ended 30 June 2018, there was an overall reduction in the defined benefit member liabilities of \$2.316m (2017: \$14.975m increase). The reduction occurred as a result of the actual benefits paid during the year exceeding the growth in the accrued benefit liabilities for the remaining members.

The accrued benefit liabilities increased during the year due to:

1. The defined benefits of the remaining members are closer to being paid so that there is one year less of discounting applied in calculating the defined benefit member liability
2. An expected cost of one year's benefit accrual has been included for the current membership, and
3. Assumptions used in the defined benefit liability have changed. Changes in financial assumption (refer to Note 8) have increased the defined benefit member liabilities.

### 15. General administration expenses

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Annual lodgement fee - APRA	750	796
Banking Charges	61	16
External audit fees	134	53
Trustee services fees	19,523	19,079
Other administration fees	2,592	805
	23,060	20,749

The Fund did not pay any commissions or sponsorship/advertising.

### 16. Auditor's remuneration

	2018 \$	2017 \$
Amounts received or due and receivable by Ernst & Young for		
Audit of the financial statements and compliance of the entity	134,238	53,270

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 17. Income tax expense

#### (a) Major components of income tax expense/(benefit) for the years ended 30 June 2018 and 2017

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Current tax expense/(benefit)		
Current income tax	(121)	(122)
Adjustment of current income tax of previous years	0	33
	<u>(121)</u>	<u>(89)</u>
Deferred tax expense/(benefit)		
Relating to origination and reversal of temporary difference	(2)	(3)
	<u>(2)</u>	<u>(3)</u>
	<u>(123)</u>	<u>(92)</u>

#### (b) Reconciliation between tax expense/(benefit) and the accounting profit before tax

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Result from superannuation activities before income tax expense	754,315	805,701
Income tax at 15% (2017 - 15%)	113,147	120,855
Adjustment to the income tax expense:		
Non-deductible expenses	3,256	2,965
Other non-assessable income	(116,526)	(123,945)
Adjustments for current tax of prior periods	-	33
	<u>(123)</u>	<u>(92)</u>
Income tax expense/(benefit) reported in the Income Statement	<u>(123)</u>	<u>(92)</u>

In addition to the above, \$48,264,000 (2017: \$49,278,000) is recognised in the statement of changes in member benefits relating to tax on contributions deducted from member accounts.

#### Tax assets and liabilities

The current tax liabilities for the Fund of \$45,774,000 (2017: \$49,726,000) represents the amount of income taxes payable in respect of current and prior financial years.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 18. Deferred tax assets and liabilities

#### Recognised deferred tax assets and liabilities

Deferred tax assets and liabilities comprise of temporary differences and are attributable to the following:

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Deferred tax assets		
Accrued audit expense	11	9
	<u>11</u>	<u>9</u>
Deferred tax liabilities		
Contributions receivable	(1,251)	(363)
	<u>(1,251)</u>	<u>(363)</u>
Net deferred tax assets/(liabilities)	<u>(1,240)</u>	<u>(354)</u>

Movement in temporary differences during the year:

#### 2018

	Opening balance \$000	Recognised in income \$000	Recognised in member benefits \$000	Closing balance \$000
Gross deferred tax liabilities:				
Contributions receivable	363	-	888	1,251
	<u>363</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>1,251</u>
Gross deferred tax assets:				
Accrued audit expense	(9)	(2)	-	(11)
	<u>(9)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(11)</u>
	<u>354</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>888</u>	<u>1,240</u>

#### 2017

	Opening balance \$000	Recognised in income \$000	Recognised in member benefits \$000	Closing balance \$000
Gross deferred tax liabilities:				
Contribution receivable	489	-	(126)	363
	<u>489</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(126)</u>	<u>363</u>
Gross deferred tax assets:				
Accrued audit expense	(6)	(3)	-	(9)
	<u>(6)</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9)</u>
	<u>483</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(126)</u>	<u>354</u>

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 19. Cash flow statement reconciliation

For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash includes cash at bank, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Cash as at the end of the financial year as shown in the Statement of Cash Flows is reconciled to the related items in the Statement of Financial Position as follows:

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Cash and cash equivalents	<u>39,766</u>	<u>22,660</u>
<b>(a) Reconciliation of profit/(loss) after income tax to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>		
Operating result after tax	9,709	40,484
Adjustments for:		
Net changes of fair value of financial instruments	(776,844)	(826,175)
Net benefits allocated to defined contribution members	579,928	577,082
Net change in defined benefit member benefits	164,800	188,227
Change in operating assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in receivables	51	10
Increase/(decrease) in payables	(357)	2,890
Death and disability proceeds received from insurer and allocated to members	15,684	8,574
Insurance premiums paid	(20,956)	(20,135)
Income tax (paid)/refund	6,802	(1,202)
Other amounts	198	113
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	<u>(20,985)</u>	<u>(30,132)</u>

### (b) Non-cash financing and investing activities

There were no non-cash financing activities during the year.

### 20. Segment information

The Fund operates in one reportable business segment - being the provision of benefits to members.

The Fund also operates from one reportable geographic segment, being Australia, from where its activities are managed.

Whilst the Fund operates from Australia only, the Fund has investment exposures in different countries and across different industries via its investment in VPST.

Revenue is derived from gains on redemption of investments and unrealised changes in values of investments.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 21. Related parties

#### (a) Trustee and key management personnel

The trustee of the Fund is Vision Super Pty Ltd. The trustee company had eight Directors and one vacant position as at 30 June 2018. The persons who were Directors of the trustee during the year were:

#### Member Directors:

Brian Parkinson (ceased 13 April 2018)  
Wendy Phillips  
Casey Nunn (appointed 1 July 2017)  
Richard Duffy (ceased 12 February 2018)

#### Employer Directors:

Geoff Lake  
Graham Sherry  
Rob Spence  
Peter Wilson

#### Independent Director:

Joanne Dawson

Brian Parkinson was Chair and Geoff Lake was Deputy Chair until 13 April 2018. From 13 April 2018, Geoff Lake was Chair and Wendy Phillips was Deputy Chair until 27 July 2018. Wendy Phillips' term as director ceased on 31 July 2018. Peter Gebert was appointed as Director commencing on 1 August 2018 and Dianne Smith was appointed on 31 August 2018. Lisa Darmanin became Deputy Chair on 27 July 2018.

Each Director attended Board meetings and Board Committees during the year as a member of the Board or relevant Committee. Twelve board meetings were held during the year and the attendance was as follows:

Name	Board Meetings	
	Eligible to attend	Attended
Brian Parkinson	7	6
Geoff Lake	12	11
Wendy Phillips	12	11
Brian Parkinson	7	6
Peter Wilson	12	10
Graham Sherry	12	9
Rob Spence	12	10
Richard Duffy	4	1
Joanne Dawson	12	12
Casey Nunn	12	10

Board Committees are open to all Directors and were attended by a quorum of Directors on all occasions.

In addition to the Company's Directors, the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Chief Investment Officer, Head of Fund Administration, General Manager Strategy and Growth and Head of Human Resources are considered to be Key Management Personnel (KMP) for the purpose of these financial statements.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 21. Related parties (continued)

#### (b) Key management personnel and executives' compensation

The KMPs' compensation is presented in the table below for year 2018. This compensation was paid by the Trustee. Total compensation received, or due and receivable, by key management personnel amounted to \$2,672,179 (2017: \$2,589,728). The detail is as follows:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	2,433,815	2,358,557
Other long-term benefits	-	-
Post-employment benefits	238,364	231,171
	<u>2,672,179</u>	<u>2,589,728</u>

The table below lists the number of Key Management Personnel and executive positions named above whose income falls within the following bands for the financial year ending 30 June:

Amounts falling between...	2018	2017
Up to \$39,999	2	1
\$40,000 - \$49,999	-	-
\$50,000 - \$99,999	8	7
\$100,000 - \$149,999	1	1
\$150,000 - \$199,999	1	-
\$200,000 - \$249,999	-	2
\$250,000 - \$299,999	1	1
\$300,000 - \$349,999	1	1
\$350,000 - \$399,999	1	1
\$400,000 - \$449,999	-	-
\$450,000 - \$499,999	-	-
\$500,000 - \$549,999	-	1
\$550,000 - \$599,999	1	-

During the year, fees were paid to the nominating body for one director in lieu of directors' fees (net of superannuation) being paid to that director. Superannuation contributions continued to be paid for that director.

During the year, there were no changes to the Directors on VSPL's Board. The total remuneration paid during the year was:

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Chairs*	196,231	128,018
Deputy Chair	74,125	89,614
Other Directors	343,502	391,667
	<u>613,858</u>	<u>609,299</u>

\* Two directors held this role during the year. This is the total remuneration paid during the year to those directors. There is no additional remuneration for Directors' attendance at Committee meetings.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 21. Related parties (continued)

#### (b) Key management personnel and executives' compensation (continued)

Any Director of the Trustee or other key management personnel who is a member of the Fund contributes to the Fund on the same terms and conditions as other members. No retirement benefits were paid to Directors or key management personnel during the year.

The Trustee has not made, guaranteed or secured any loan to any Director or member of staff or to any other related party.

	2018	2017
	\$	\$
Roll ins from KMP to LASF/VSF	525,456	-
Benefits paid to KMP	95,420	-
Vested Benefits of KMP	8,551,361	7,722,895

#### (c) Related party transactions

##### (i) Regional Infrastructure Fund Pty Ltd

LASF is the ultimate parent entity of Regional Infrastructure Fund Pty Ltd (RIF).

RIF was established primarily to invest in regional infrastructure projects. The RIF Directors during the reporting year were Graham Sherry, Geoffrey Lake and Richard Duffy (until his death).

The objective for RIF was to invest in infrastructure projects.

As RIF was no longer being used to invest in regional infrastructure projects, RIF was in the process of being wound up at 30 June 2018. RIF paid the following amounts to VPST during the year:

	\$
Dividends	1,510,200
Return of capital	15,205,300
	<u>16,715,500</u>

##### (ii) Vision Super Pty Ltd

As described in Note 1, Vision Super Pty Ltd is the trustee of the Fund.

	2018	2017
	\$000	\$000
Trustee services fees for the year	19,523	19,079
Trustee services fees payable at the end of the year	-	-

##### (iii) Vision Pooled Superannuation Trust (VPST)

As described in Note 3, the Fund's unit holding in VPST was \$9,456,545k as at 30 June 2018 (2017: \$8,660,320k) which was 100% (2017: 100%) of total units issued by VPST.

##### (iv) Pooled Super Pty Ltd (PSPL)

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

PSPL is the trustee of VPST of which the Fund is a significant unit holder. The directors of the Fund's trustee, VSPL, are paid separately for their directorship in PSPL by VSPL.

### 22. Insurance

The Fund provides death and disability benefits that are significantly higher than the resignation/retirement benefits.

The Fund had a group policy in place with CommInsure until 31 December 2017 to provide both Death & Disability and Income Protection insurance cover for Vision MySuper/Super Saver and Personal plan members. The Fund self-insures Death & Disability insurance cover for Defined Benefits plan members and had a policy in place with CommInsure for Death & Disability insurance cover for the City of Melbourne and Parks Victoria sub-plans until 31 December 2017. Since 31 December 2017, the Fund has transferred all its insurance policies to MLC Life Insurance. The Trustee believes this is appropriate in light of the Funds size, experience, present membership and benefit levels.

Insurance premiums paid by the Fund during the year were \$20.9m (2017: \$20.1m).

The self-insurance reserve was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2017 investigation and was reduced from \$6m to \$5m from 30 September 2017.

### 23. Risk management

The Fund's principal financial instruments comprised of units in a pooled superannuation trusts and cash. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to generate a return on investment. The Fund also has various other financial instruments such as sundry receivable and payables, which arise directly from its operations. These are mainly current in nature.

As indicated in Note 3, LASF invests 100% of its investments Units in VPST. Therefore, the following financial risk analysis is based on the total underlying assets of units in VPST.

Risks arising from holding financial instruments are inherent in the Fund's/VPST's activities and are managed through a process of ongoing identification, measurement and compliance monitoring. The Fund/VPST is exposed to credit risk, liquidity risk and market risk (including interest rate risk, equity price risk and foreign currency risk).

#### (a) Risk management structure

The Trustee is responsible for identifying and controlling the risks that arise from its financial instruments. The Trustee reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks as summarised below. The Fund also monitors the market price risk arising from all financial instruments. The risk framework is documented in the Fund's Risk Management Plan and Strategy, together with its Investment Governance Framework. These documents are reviewed regularly by management and the Trustee.

Information about the total fair value of financial instruments exposed to risk, as well as compliance with established investment mandate limits, is monitored by the Trustee. These mandate limits reflect the investment strategy and market environment of the Fund, as well as the level of risk that the Fund is willing to accept.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (a) Risk management structure (continued)

This information is prepared and reported to the Trustee on a regular basis.

Concentrations of risk arise when a number of financial instruments or contracts are entered into with the same counterparty, or when a number of counterparties are engaged in similar business activities, have activities in the same geographic region, or have similar economic features that would cause their ability to meet contractual obligations to be similarly affected by changes in economic, political or other conditions.

In order to avoid excessive concentrations of risk, VPST monitors its exposure to ensure concentration of risk remain within acceptable levels in accordance with its mandate and either reduces exposure or uses derivative instruments to manage the excessive risk concentrations when they arise.

#### (b) Credit risk

Credit risk represents the risk that the counterparty to the financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the Fund to incur a financial loss.

With respect to credit risk arising from the underlying financial assets of the Fund in VPST, other than derivatives, the Fund's exposure to credit risk arises from default of the counterparty, with the current exposure equal to the fair value of these instruments as disclosed in Note 3. This does not represent the maximum risk exposure that could arise in the future as a result of changes in values, but best represents the current maximum exposure at the balance date.

Credit risk arising from derivative financial instruments is, at any time, limited to those with positive fair values (ie. derivative assets). The risk associated with these contracts is minimised by undertaking transactions with high quality counterparties on recognised exchanges, and ensuring that transactions are undertaken with a number of counterparties.

Credit risk arising from investments is mitigated by extensive tax and legal due diligence undertaken by VPST prior to the appointment of fund managers to ensure fund managers have appropriate skills and expertise to manage the allocated investments. In addition, VPST conducts annual review of derivative risk statements and internal controls and processes for all appointed fund managers to ensure fund managers maintain those skills and expertise.

The Fund holds no collateral as security or any other credit enhancements. There are no significant financial assets that are past due or impaired. Credit risk is not considered to be significant to the Fund except in relation to investments in debt securities via VPST.

#### *Credit quality per class of debt instruments*

The credit quality of financial assets is managed by the Fund using Standard & Poor's rating categories, in accordance with the investment strategy of the Trustee. The Fund's exposure in each grade is monitored on a regular basis. This review process allows the Trustee to assess the potential loss as a result of risks and take corrective action. The table below shows the credit quality by class of asset for debt instruments.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (b) Credit risk (continued)

*Credit quality per class of debt instruments (continued)*

2018

	AAA to AA- \$000	A+ to A- \$000	BBB+ to BBB- \$000	CCC \$000	Short term A-1+ to A2 \$000	Not rated or available \$000	Total \$000
Fixed interest bonds	394,740	41,565	23,470	-	-	245,067	704,842
Floating rate notes	6,052	10,886	9,767	-	-	22,863	49,568
Mortgage Backed Securities	90	-	1,636	-	-	380	2,106
Covered bonds	1,813	-	-	-	-	554	2,367
Discount securities	-	-	-	-	304,524	-	304,524
Cash & deposits	-	-	-	-	-	1,055,783	1,055,783
<b>Total</b>	<b>402,694</b>	<b>52,451</b>	<b>34,873</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>304,524</b>	<b>1,324,647</b>	<b>2,119,189</b>

2017

	AAA to AA- \$000	A+ to A- \$000	BBB+ to BBB- \$000	CCC \$000	Short term A-1+ to A2 \$000	Not rated or available \$000	Total \$000
Fixed interest bonds	341,392	38,510	26,720	-	-	186,904	593,526
Floating rate notes	8,258	4,248	5,589	-	-	15,805	33,900
Mortgage Backed Securities	99	-	1,610	-	-	591	2,300
Covered bonds	559	-	-	-	-	1,049	1,608
Discount securities	-	-	-	-	268,883	-	268,883
Cash & deposits	-	-	-	-	720,515	96,952	817,467
<b>Total</b>	<b>350,308</b>	<b>42,758</b>	<b>33,919</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>989,398</b>	<b>301,301</b>	<b>1,717,684</b>

#### Risk concentration of credit risk exposure

Concentration of credit risk is managed by counterparty, by geographical region and by industry sector.

The VPST's underlying financial assets can be analysed by the following geographic regions:

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Australia	8,164,393	7,333,223
North America	986,648	897,105
Europe	263,349	298,236
Asia	122,714	114,962
Others	108,869	113,757

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

Total	9,645,973	8,757,283
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### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (b) Credit risk (continued)

##### Risk concentration of credit risk exposure (continued)

Significant economic sector exposure exists for the underlying assets as follows:

	2018 \$000	2017 \$000
Financials	1,012,654	1,047,152
Materials	386,419	328,149
Industrials	435,011	407,681
Energy	190,055	142,879
Consumer discretionary	671,149	628,387
Consumer staples	275,241	283,537
Information technology	542,410	498,999
Health care	385,801	374,484
Telecommunication	60,130	87,207
Utilities	62,909	63,891
Real estate	438,426	336,227
Total	4,460,205	4,198,593

The above table does not include investments in unlisted trusts or pooled funds. The total investment in unlisted trusts or pooled funds is \$3.096b (2017: \$2.957b).

#### *Scrip lending*

VPST has entered into scrip lending arrangements under which legal title to certain assets of VPST have been transferred to another entity (National Australia Bank), notwithstanding the fact that the risks and benefits of ownership of the assets remain with VPST.

The assets transferred to the other entity under scrip lending arrangements include Australian and international equities and bonds that are held discretely by VPST's Custodian. The risks and rewards of ownership to which VPST remains exposed are currency risk, interest rate risk, credit risk and price risk.

The carrying amount of assets available for scrip lending at reporting date amounted to \$4,556.5 million (2017: \$4,162.6 million). The carrying amount of assets on loan at reporting date was \$388.7 million (2017: \$574.6 million).

The other party is required to collect collateral in respect of borrowed securities which are lent to third party borrowers. The terms and conditions associated with the use of collateral held as security in relation to the assets lent are governed by a Securities Lending Agreement that requires the other party to hold the collateral in a segregated account as bare trustee for VPST.

The collateral is held at balance date as security by National Asset Servicing (NAS) in a segregated account - National Nominees Ltd for the benefit of the Trust. It consisted of both cash and non-cash collateral with a fair value of \$418.9 million (2017: \$596.0 million) at the balance date. No collateral has been sold or re-pledged during the year.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. This risk is controlled through the Fund's investment in financial instruments, which under normal market conditions are readily convertible to cash. In addition, the Fund maintains sufficient cash and cash equivalents to meet normal operating requirements.

The Fund undertakes cashflow projection analysis daily to ensure minimal exposure to liquidity risk.

The Fund's significant financial liabilities are benefits payable to members.

In relation to vested superannuation benefits, these would be considered on demand, which payments comprise the entire defined contribution component and the vested portion of the defined benefit component.

The Fund manages its obligation to pay the defined contribution component on an expected maturity basis based on management's estimates and actuarial assumptions of when such funds will be drawn down by members. The Fund considers it is highly unlikely that all defined contribution members will request to roll over their superannuation fund account at the same time. Furthermore, in relation to the vested defined benefit component, the Fund has adequate resources readily convertible to cash to satisfactorily meet these obligations when called upon.

Other financial liabilities of the Fund comprise trade and other payables which are contractually due within 30 days and derivative liabilities comprising futures payable within 12 months.

As at 30 June 2018 -	Less than 1 month (\$000)	1 to 3 months (\$000)	3 to 12 months (\$000)	1 to 5 years (\$000)	Over 5 years (\$000)	No stated maturity (\$000)	Total (\$000)
<b>Financial liabilities</b>							
Benefits payable	25,843	-	-	-	-	-	25,843
Other payables	2,573	-	-	-	-	-	2,573
Vested benefits	<b>9,236,080</b>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>9,236,080</b>
<b>Total undiscounted financial liabilities</b>	<b>9,264,496</b>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>9,264,496</b>

As at 30 June 2017 -	Less than 1 month (\$000)	1 to 3 months (\$000)	3 to 12 months (\$000)	1 to 5 years (\$000)	Over 5 years (\$000)	No stated maturity (\$000)	Total (\$000)
<b>Financial liabilities</b>							
Benefits payable	35,564	-	-	-	-	-	35,564
Other payables	2,930	-	-	-	-	-	2,930
Vested benefits	8,469,361	-	-	-	-	-	8,469,361
<b>Total undiscounted financial liabilities</b>	<b>8,507,855</b>	-	-	-	-	-	<b>8,507,855</b>

#### (d) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of financial instruments will fluctuate due to changes in market variables such as interest rates, foreign exchange rates, and equity prices. Market risk is

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

diversified through ensuring that all investment activities are undertaken in accordance with established investment policies of the Fund.

### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (d) Market risk (continued)

The Trustee employs diversification investment strategy to mitigate the market risk in each market segment. Further, the Fund also enters into forward foreign exchange contracts to hedge against adverse foreign exchange movements.

#### (i) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect future cash flows or the fair values of financial instruments.

In determining the reasonably possible change for interest rate risk, the sensitivity of the "official cash rate" as set by the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) from time to time is used.

A 25 basis points movement in interest rates is considered reasonably possible for the 2017/2018 reporting period. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular foreign currency rates, remain constant.

An increase/decrease of 25 basis points in interest rates at the balance date would have increased/(decreased) the changes in net assets available to pay benefits by the amounts shown below:

#### 2018

Asset class sector	Change in basis points Increase/decrease	Sensitivity of interest income and changes in net assets Increase/decrease \$000
Cash bank account - LASF	+/-25	(1)/1
Cash bank account - VPST	+/-25	(102)/102
Discount securities	+/-25	(133)/133
Fixed interest securities	+/-25	(11,435)/11,438
Floating rate notes	+/-25	(11)/11
Covered bonds	+/-25	(27)/27
Mortgage backed securities	+/-25	(113)/113

#### 2017

Asset class sector	Change in basis points Increase/decrease	Sensitivity of interest income and changes in net assets Increase/decrease \$000
Cash bank account - LASF	+/-25	(1)/1
Cash bank account - VPST	+/-25	(95)/95
Discount securities	+/-25	(130)/130
Fixed interest securities	+/-25	(9,822)/9,822
Floating rate notes	+/-25	(8)/8
Covered bonds	+/-25	(21)/21
Mortgage backed securities	+/-25	(13)/13

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (d) Market risk (continued)

##### (ii) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in foreign exchange rates.

The Trustee manages its exposure to foreign currency risk and mitigates effects of its foreign currency translation exposure placing limits on the portion of the assets which can be invested in different currencies and by appointing specialist currency managers to implement a passive hedge over foreign currency exposure. This foreign exchange policy is monitored against actual results on an ongoing basis throughout the year.

The movement of the main currency exchange rates below is considered reasonably possible for the 2017/2018 reporting period.

USD .....	5%
British Pounds .....	5%
Euro .....	5%
Japanese Yen .....	5%

The percentage strengthening/weakening of the AUD against the following basket of foreign currencies as at 30 June 2018 would have increase/(decreased) the changes of the year in net assets available to pay benefits by the amounts shown below. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular interest rates, remain constant.

Currency	2018		2017	
	Change in Currency rate %	Effect on changes in net assets \$000	Change in currency rate%	Effect on changes in net assets \$000
USD	+/-5	(45,475)/50,262	+/-5	(41,629)/46,011
Euro	+/-5	(5,393)/5,961	+/-5	(6,240)/6,898
Japanese Yen	+/-5	(2,326)/2,570	+/-5	(2,170)/2,399
British pounds	+/-5	(3,349)/3,701	+/-5	(3,646)/4,030

##### (iii) Equity price risk

Equity price risk is the risk that the fair value of investments in equities decreases or increases as a result of changes in market prices, whether those changes are caused by factors specific to the individual share price or factors affecting all equity instruments in the market. Equity price risk exposure arises from the Fund's investment portfolio.

To limit equity price risk the Trustee diversifies its investment portfolio in line with its investment strategy. The majority of equity investments are of a high quality and are publicly traded on recognised, reputable exchanges. The Trustee monitors the Fund's exposure to various asset classes on an ongoing basis throughout the year ensuring its investment strategy is adhered to.

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2018

A 5% movement in equity price is considered reasonably possible for the 2017/2018 reporting period. This analysis assumes that all other variables, in particular, interest rates and foreign exchange rates, remain constant. The analysis is performed on the same basis for 2017.

### 23. Risk management (continued)

#### (d) Market risk (continued)

##### (iii) Equity price risk (continued)

The 5% increase/decrease in the equity price against the investments of the Fund at 30 June would have increased/(decreased) the changes for the year in net assets available to pay benefits by the amounts shown below:

Asset class sector	2018		2017	
	Change in equity price %	Effect on changes in net assets \$000	Change in equity price %	Effect on changes in net assets \$000
Listed equities	+/-5	199,320/(199,320)	+/-5	191,191/(191,191)
Listed investment company	+/-5	274/(274)	+/-5	526/(526)
Listed property trusts	+/-5	19,092/(19,092)	+/-5	13,808/(13,808)
Listed units trust	+/-5	2,397/(2,397)	+/-5	2,352/(2,352)
Preference shares	+/-5	1,039/(1,039)	+/-5	174/(174)
Unlisted equities	+/-5	8,245/(8,245)	+/-5	8,147/(8,147)
Unlisted MIS	+/-5	145,738/(145,738)	+/-5	133,473/(133,473)
Others	+/-5	17,893/(17,893)	+/-5	33,098/(33,098)

### 24. Contingent liabilities/assets

The Fund has no contingent liabilities/assets as at 30 June 2018.

### 25. Significant event after balance date

Between 30 June 2018 and the date of approval of this financial report, no matters or circumstances have arisen that have not otherwise been dealt with in the financial period that have significantly affected or may significantly affect the Fund.

It should be noted that it is the intention of the Fund to wind-up VPST on 28 February 2019. The net assets of VPST will be transferred to LASF at that time.

## Local Authorities Superannuation Fund

### Trustee Declaration

In the opinion of the directors of the Trustee of Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund):

- (i) The accompanying financial statements and notes set out on pages 2 to 43 are drawn up in accordance with:
- The Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, and
  - Present fairly the Fund's financial position as at 30 June 2018 and its performance for the year ended on that date in accordance with those requirements
- (ii) During the year ended 30 June 2018, the Fund's operations have been carried out in accordance with its Trust Deed and:
- The requirements of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993 and its accompanying Regulations
  - The relevant requirements of the Corporations Act 2001 and its Regulations, and
  - The requirements under Section 13 of the Financial Sector (Collection of Data) Act 2001
- and
- (iii) There are reasonable grounds to believe that the Fund will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Directors of the Trustee:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Geoff Lake".

Name:

Geoff Lake

Date: 21 September 2018  
Melbourne

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Casey Nunn".

Name:

Casey Nunn

## Part 1 - Independent Auditor's report on financial statements

### LOCAL AUTHORITIES SUPERANNUATION FUND ABN: 24 496 637 884

#### Report by the RSE Auditor to the trustee and members

##### Opinion

I have audited the financial statements of Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the "Fund") for the year ended 30 June 2018, comprising the statement of financial position, income statement, statement of changes in member benefits, statement of cash flows and statement of changes in reserves.

In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards the financial position of Local Authorities Superannuation Fund as at 30 June 2018 and the results of its operations, cash flows, changes in equity/reserves and changes in members' benefits for the year ended 30 June 2018.

##### Basis for Opinion

I conducted the audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities* section of my report. I am independent of the entity in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

##### Responsibilities of the Trustee for the Financial Statements

The RSE's trustee is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the requirements of the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993* (SIS Act) and the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Regulations 1994* (SIS Regulations). The trustee is also responsible for such internal control as the trustee determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustee is responsible for assessing the ability of the RSE to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustee either intends to liquidate the RSE or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

##### Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an audit report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material

misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercised professional judgement and maintained professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtained audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtained an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the RSE's internal control.
- Evaluated the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustee.
- Concluded on the appropriateness of the trustee's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the RSE's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my auditor opinion. My auditor conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my audit report. However, future events or conditions may cause the RSE to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluated the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Communicated with the trustee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identified during my audit.



Brett Kallio  
Partner  
Melbourne

21 September 2018

Local Authorities  
Superannuation Fund

**Report on the  
Actuarial Investigation  
as at 30 June 2018  
The Defined Benefit Plan**

3 September 2018





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## Section 1: Executive Summary

- 1.1 We are pleased to present our report on the annual actuarial investigation of the Defined Benefit plan of the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This report has been prepared for Vision Super Pty Ltd, the Trustee of the Fund.

### Results of previous actuarial investigation

- 1.2 The previous triennial actuarial investigation was conducted by Matthew Burgess, FIAA, on behalf of Willis Towers Watson as at 30 June 2017. The results of that valuation were published in a report dated 4 October 2017.
- 1.3 In that review, the recommended funding arrangements comprised of the following:
- a Contributions equal to 9.5% of salary for employee members, increasing with increases in the Superannuation Guarantee rate;
  - b An additional contribution to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the minimum of (100% and the VBI) multiplied by the vested benefit), plus contribution tax;
  - c Outstanding contributions in respect of calls made at the previous actuarial investigations; and
  - d Additional top up contributions that may be recommended in the future, if the Defined Benefit plan becomes in an unsatisfactory financial position.

Authorities also need to contribute the amount of members' salary sacrifice contributions.

- 1.4 It was recommended the self-insurance reserve be reduced from \$6 million to \$5 million from 30 September 2017.

### Assumptions for this actuarial investigation

- 1.5 Consistent with actuarial advice, Vision Super has recently reviewed the investment strategy of the Defined Benefit Plan and has decided to reduce the exposure to growth assets. Accordingly, the financial assumptions used in this actuarial investigation have been updated and are summarised (together with the assumptions from the previous investigation) below:

	30 June 2018	30 June 2017
Net Investment Return	6.00% p.a. (gross: 6.75%p.a.)	6.5% p.a. (gross 7.25% p.a.)
Salary Inflation	3.5% p.a.	3.5% p.a.
Price Inflation	2.0% p.a.	2.5% p.a.

- 1.6 We have retained the demographic assumptions used in the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.
- 1.7 We have retained the administration expense assumptions from the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.

## Results of this actuarial investigation

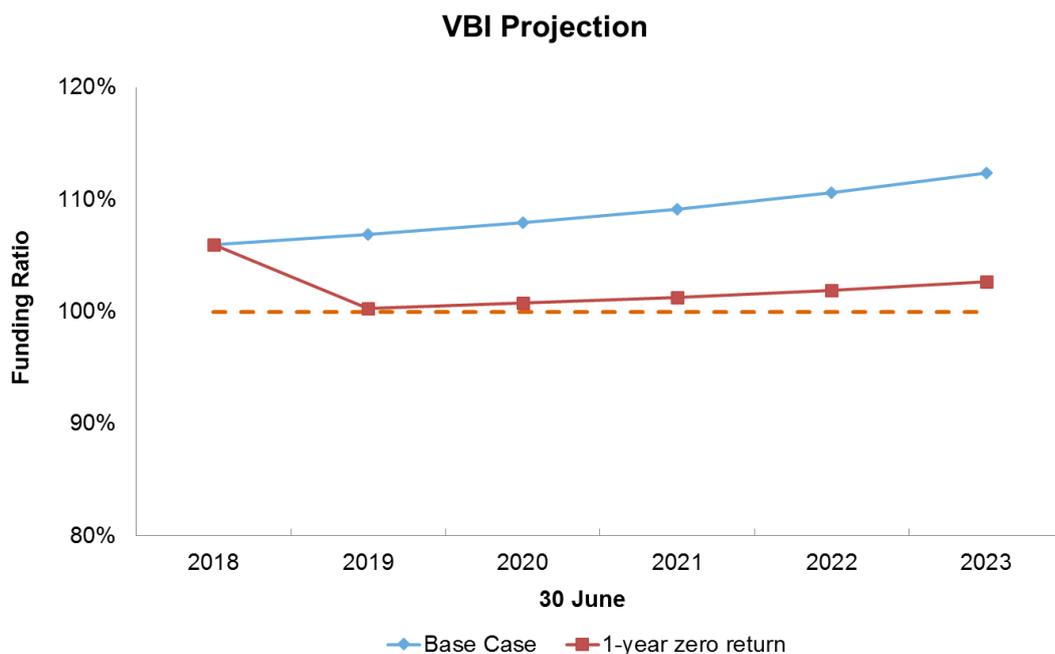
### Funding Status Measure

- 1.8 This actuarial investigation has shown that the Defined Benefit plan's financial position has improved since the last review as at 30 June 2017, and remains satisfactory.

30 June 2018 Funding Indices	
	%
Vested Benefit Index	106.0 <sup>1</sup>
Discounted Accrued Benefit Index	111.9 <sup>2</sup>
Minimum Requisite Benefit Index	147.0 <sup>3</sup>

1. Vested Benefits are the benefits payable if all members resign/retirement immediately
2. Discounted Accrued Benefits discount the future benefits expected to be paid in respect of completed membership to a present value.
3. Minimum Requisite Benefits are the minimum Superannuation Guarantee benefits

- 1.9 The improvement in asset coverage of the present value of past benefits is primarily due to financial experience (excess of investment return above salary increase and price inflation) being significantly better than assumed.
- 1.10 The Defined Benefit plan's assets cover vested benefits at the review date and therefore the Defined Benefit plan was in a satisfactory financial position at that date as defined in SPS 160.
- 1.11 Our projection below shows that, on the basis of the assumptions made in this actuarial investigation and assuming that the Authorities makes contributions in line with the recommendations set out below, the Defined Benefit plan is expected to remain in a satisfactory financial position.
- 1.12 If experience is as expected the Authorities are not expected to be required to make any further contributions because of the actuarial surplus that exists. However, we have been advised that the Trustee's preference is to use surplus to reduce investment risk over time to manage the potential for additional lump sum contributions to be required from Authorities if experience is worse than expected. Hence, we have recommended that the current contribution rates be retained and that the Trustee continues to consider when further de-risking of the investment strategy is appropriate.
- 1.13 The future funding position, and the potential for additional contributions to be required from Authorities, is dependent upon future experience and particularly future investment returns. The following chart compares the expected Vested Benefit Index (VBI) in the best estimate "base case" and if there is a nil return in the year to 30 June 2019 (and expected returns thereafter). It should be noted that a nil return is not the worst outcome that could occur.



- 1.14 In the zero-return scenario, the VBI would be expected to reduce to 100.3% as at 30 June 2019. This indicates that in the case of a negative return for the year to 30 June 2019, the VBI would likely drop below 100%, meaning that top-up contributions may be required so that the VBI would be expected to return to 100% within the legislated three years.

## Recommendations

- 1.15 We recommend that the Authorities continue to adopt the following funding plan:
- a Contributions equal to 9.5% of salary for employee members, increasing with increases in the Superannuation Guarantee rate;
  - b An additional contribution to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the minimum of (100% and the VBI) multiplied by the vested benefit), plus contribution tax;
  - c Outstanding contributions in respect of calls made at the previous actuarial investigations; and
  - d Additional top up contributions that may be recommended in the future, if the Defined Benefit plan becomes in an unsatisfactory financial position.

Authorities also need to contribute the amount of members' salary sacrifice contributions.

- 1.16 The ratio of the market value of the Defined Benefit plan's net assets to vested benefits should continue to be measured quarterly, and the Trustee's funding approach be reassessed accordingly.
- 1.17 In regards to the Defined Benefit plan's investment policy, we recommend that:

- The funding position and liquidity requirements of the Defined Benefit plan continue to be considered in setting investment policy.
  - The Board continue to consider de-risking assets as a means of reducing the risk of subsequent higher contributions due to future poor investment experience. These considerations must be made concurrent with funding implications as they are directly linked.
- 1.18 As required under SPS 160, the Trustee has set the Shortfall Limit for the Defined Benefit plan at 97%. Given the current growth asset allocation and the recently revised investment strategy, we consider this Shortfall Limit is appropriate for the Defined Benefit plan.
- 1.19 We confirm that in our opinion the Defined Benefit plan's self-insurance arrangements remain appropriate. Furthermore, based on our analysis we recommend that the self-insurance reserve be retained at \$5 million.
- 1.20 We recommend that the configuration of the MRBs for deferred beneficiaries and pensioners continues to be progressed.
- 1.21 The next triennial actuarial review should be carried out as at a date no later than 30 June 2020, with an annual actuarial investigation also completed at 30 June 2019.



Matthew Burgess  
Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia

Towers Watson Australia Pty Ltd  
Level 23, 55 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

3 September 2018

DO: TW, PSK | TR: SF | CR: SF, MB | ER: MB | SPR: GB



Gabrielle Baron  
Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia

## Section 2: Introduction

- 2.1 This report was commissioned by Vision Super Pty Ltd, the Trustee of the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund).
- 2.2 The Local Authorities Superannuation Act (1988) (the Act) was proclaimed on 25 May 1988. The Act has been replaced and since 1 July 1998, the Fund has been governed by a Trust Deed.
- 2.3 The Fund is a “regulated fund” under the provisions of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993 (“SIS”). We understand that the Fund is treated as a complying superannuation fund for taxation purposes and is a taxed superannuation fund.
- 2.4 In accordance with Superannuation Prudential Standard 160 (SPS 160), “triennial” actuarial investigations are required at intervals of not more than three years. Annual actuarial investigations are also required because the Defined Benefit plan provides life-time pensions.
- 2.5 In accordance with Clause A.20.1, the Trust Deed requires each Authority to contribute to the Fund in respect of a particular employee the amount or rate of contributions determined by the Trustee after obtaining the advice of the actuary, including any unfunded liability amount. The Trustee also has some flexibility in adjusting benefits in accordance with Clause A.21 in the event that an Authority terminates contributions to the Fund.
- 2.6 A triennial actuarial investigation was completed for the Defined Benefit plan as at 30 June 2017 and our report was dated 4 October 2017. This report was signed by Matthew Burgess and Gabrielle Baron.
- 2.7 This actuarial investigation report is not as comprehensive as a triennial actuarial investigation. For example, we have not re-examined the demographic experience to review the assumptions or included analysis on the sensitivity of our results to the assumptions.
- 2.8 This actuarial investigation report covers the Defined Benefit plan within the Fund, which is a sub-fund as defined in SPS 160. The City of Melbourne plan, the Parks Victoria plan and the divisions of the Fund that pay only accumulation benefits are not considered in this report.
- 2.9 The purpose of this report is to:
- examine the sufficiency of the assets in relation to members’ accrued benefit entitlements;
  - determine the contribution rate required to ensure that the Defined Benefit plan maintains a satisfactory financial position;
  - examine the suitability of the Defined Benefit plan self-insurance and investment arrangements;
  - provide actuarial certification in respect of the funding of pension entitlements;
  - satisfy requirements of the Trust Deed; and
  - meet legislative requirements.

This actuarial review has been conducted in order to meet the Trustee’s obligations in accordance with SPS160 issued under section 34C of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act (SIS Act) which came into effect from 1 July 2013.

- 2.10 This report satisfies the requirements of the following Professional Standards and Guidance of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia:
- Practice Guideline 1
  - Practice Guideline 499.01 to the extent relevant, noting that it needs updating to be consistent with SPS 160
  - Professional Standard 400
  - Professional Standard 402
  - Professional Standard 404
  - Professional Standard 410.

### Actuarial Investigation as at 30 June 2017

- 2.11 The report on the actuarial investigation as at 30 June 2017 concluded that the experience of the Defined Benefit plan over the year to 30 June 2017 had been favourable. Accordingly, the Defined Benefit plan remained in a satisfactory financial position and the current employer contributions were expected to be more than sufficient. We understood that the preference of the Trustee was to retain the existing contributions and reduce the investment risk if the VBI increased.
- 2.12 We recommended that the following funding plan be adopted:
- a Payments for any outstanding unfunded liability from previous actuarial investigations that has already been invoiced (these amounts have almost all now been received); plus
  - b Contributions equal to 9.5% of salary for employee members, increasing with increases in the Superannuation Guarantee rate;
  - c An additional contribution to cover any excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (whereby the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the minimum of (100% and the VBI) multiplied by the benefit), plus contribution tax; plus
  - d Additional top up contributions that may be required in the future if the plan becomes in an unsatisfactory financial position.

Authorities also needed to contribute the amount of members' salary sacrifice contributions.

- 2.13 The Trustee has implemented these recommendations in full. No additional contributions are currently required under recommendation 2.12(d) because the Defined Benefit plan is not in an unsatisfactory financial position.
- 2.14 The other recommendations in the report were that:
- a The self-insurance reserve be reduced to \$5 million from 30 September 2017;
  - b The funding position of the Defined Benefit plan and future liquidity requirements continue to be considered in setting investment policy;

- c The Board continue to consider de-risking assets as a means of reducing the risk of subsequent higher contributions due to the future poor investment experience, whilst considering any subsequent funding implications;
  - d The project to segregate the Defined Benefit plan assets for accounting purposes be completed when convenient; and
  - e Progress the configuration of the MRB for deferred beneficiaries and pensioners on the administration system.
- 2.15 The first two of these recommendations have been completed since that date and we understand that the investments team at Vision Super continues to regularly consider the de-risking of the Defined Benefit plan. Further, the self insurance reserve has been reduced to \$5 million. We have been advised by Vision Super that the segregation of Defined Benefit assets for accounting purposes is completed, but the configuration of all MRBs on the administration system is ongoing and continues to be delayed.

### Events since the 30 June 2017 Actuarial Investigation

- 2.16 There have been no amendments to the Defined Benefit plan benefits.
- 2.17 There have been no legislative changes or changes to benefits that have materially impacted on the funding of the Defined Benefit plan.
- 2.18 Vision Super advised that the Defined Benefit plan investment return for the year to 30 June 2018 was 8.5% p.a., which was higher than the return of 6.5% p.a. assumed in the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.

### Reliance Statement and Data

- 2.19 This report is provided subject to our agreed Terms and Conditions of Engagement. This report is provided solely for the Trustee's use and for the specific purposes indicated above. It may not be suitable for use in any other context or for any other purpose.
- 2.20 Except where we expressly agree in writing, this report should not be relied on by any third party. In the absence of such consent and an express assumption of responsibility, no responsibility whatsoever is accepted by us for any consequences arising from any third party relying on this report or any advice relating to its contents.
- 2.21 The Trustee may make a copy of this report available to its auditors, Authorities and to any person to whom the Trustee may be required to provide a copy under relevant legislation, but we make no representation as to the suitability of this report for any purpose other than that for which it was originally provided and accept no responsibility or liability to the Trustee's auditors, Authorities or any third party in this regard. The Trustee should draw the provisions of this paragraph to the attention of its third parties when passing this report to them.
- 2.22 In conducting this review, we have relied upon information and data provided to us orally and in writing by the Trustee and other persons or organisations designated by the Trustee. We have relied on all the data and information provided, including plan provisions, membership data and asset information, as being complete and accurate. We have not independently verified the accuracy or completeness of the data or information provided, but we have performed limited checks for consistency.

2.23 The results presented in this report are directly dependent upon the accuracy and completeness of the underlying data and information. Any material inaccuracy in the data, assets, plan provisions or other information provided to us may have produced results that are not suitable for the purposes of this letter and such inaccuracies may produce materially different results that could require that a revised letter be issued.

### Content of this Report

2.24 The remainder of this report is structured in the following manner:

- Sections 3 to 5 consider the data, assets, assumptions and methodology.
- Section 6 considers the financial position of the Defined Benefit plan at 30 June 2018.
- Section 7 considers the adequacy of funding of the Defined Benefit plan.
- Section 8 considers self-insurance.
- Section 9 considers material risks.
- Appendices A to E include supporting details of benefits, membership, actuarial assumptions, assets and actuarial surplus.
- Appendix F contains the statements required under SPS 160.

## Section 3: Data and Experience

- 3.1 This section deals with the data used in the investigation and comments on the more significant factors bearing upon the experience of the Defined Benefit plan.

### Membership

- 3.2 For the purposes of this investigation, we were supplied with information on active members of the Defined Benefit plan, deferred beneficiaries and pensioners as at 30 June 2018. While we have relied upon the data provided, from our checking processes we believe that the data is sufficiently accurate for the purposes of this investigation.
- 3.3 In summary, the active membership of the Defined Benefit plan has decreased by 326 (or 11.4%) from 2,855 at 30 June 2017 to 2,529 at 30 June 2018. The number of lifetime pensioners has decreased by 148 (or 3.2%) from 4,597 to 4,449 over the same period.

Summary of Defined Benefit Plan Membership Data		
Active Members	30 June 2017	30 June 2018
Number	2,855	2,529
Average Age	56.3 years	56.7 years
Average Past Membership	29.5 years	30.4 years
Average Salary	\$86,885	\$88,738
<b>Lifetime Pensioners</b>		
Number	4,597	4,449
Average Age	78.5 years	78.3 years
Average Annual Pension	\$11,187	\$12,102
<b>Fixed Term Pensioners</b>		
Number	14	14
<b>Deferred Beneficiaries</b>		
Number	1,584	1,511
Average Age	54.3 years	55.0 years
Average Account Balance	\$204,048	\$218,851

A detailed summary of the movement in active and pensioner membership is set out in Appendix B.

## Salaries

- 3.4 We have examined the salary experience of Defined Benefit plan members over the year ending 30 June 2018. The data showed that the full time equivalent salary of Defined Benefit plan members who remained members as at 30 June 2018 grew by 2.7% p.a. over the period. This compares to growth of 3.5% p.a. over the year to 30 June 2017 for these members.
- 3.5 The actual increase over the year to 30 June 2018 was lower than the assumed rates of 3.5% p.a. in the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.
- 3.6 It is of interest to compare the average rate of salary increase with the increase in Australian Average Weekly Ordinary Time Earnings (AWOTE). Over the year ending 30 June 2018, AWOTE increased by 2.7% p.a. On average, members received salary increases which are similar to those of the wider community.

## Pension Indexation

- 3.7 The pensions are indexed semi-annually based on the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). Over the year ending 30 June 2018, the pension increase was 1.9% p.a.. This was lower than the rate of 2.5% p.a. assumed in the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.

## Investment Returns

- 3.8 Vision Super has advised that the rate of return (net of tax and investment expenses) earned by the Defined Benefit plan for the year ending 30 June 2018 was 8.5% p.a..
- 3.9 Comparison of the 8.5% p.a. return with the salary increase rate (from paragraph 3.4) of 2.7% p.a. shows a real return of approximately 5.8% p.a. which is higher than the 3.0% p.a. real return assumed in the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.
- 3.10 In respect of pension liabilities, pension increases averaged 1.9% p.a., providing a net of tax real return of 6.6% p.a. The gross of tax real return would be of the order of 7.4% which is higher than the 4.75% p.a. assumed in the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.
- 3.11 The positive real returns over the valuation period have had a positive effect on the Defined Benefit plan's financial position.

## Section 4: Assets and Investments

### Assets

- 4.1 Copies of the Fund's unaudited financial statements as at 30 June 2018 were supplied by Vision Super for the investigation together with details of the investment strategy at 30 June 2018. We were also provided a breakdown of the unaudited market value of assets by sub-plan. We have been advised by Vision Super that the unaudited financial statements have been prepared consistently with AASB1056.
- 4.2 The fair value of the Defined Benefit plan assets (including pensioners and deferred beneficiaries) as at 30 June 2018 used in the valuation was \$2,337.6 million. No amounts are included in respect of accumulation accounts of members, except certain defined benefit offset accounts. It includes amounts in respect of deferred beneficiaries and fixed term pensioners.
- 4.3 The asset value includes the remaining contributions receivable in respect of past calls for additional contributions by Vision Super. We have been advised that the vast majority of the additional contributions have been paid by the Authorities.
- 4.4 Vision Super has segregated the Defined Benefit plan assets for accounting purposes. We have been advised by Vision Super that the segregation was completed during the year ended at 30 June 2018.
- 4.5 The above fair value of assets excludes \$5.0 million in respect of the Death and Disability reserve from the assets because we have not included an amount for incurred but not reported claims in the calculation of the funding position. In Section 8 we have commented on the amount of this reserve. Vision Super has excluded the Operational Risk Financial Requirement from the Defined Benefit plan assets in the financial statements.
- 4.6 We believe that the most suitable approach for this investigation is to adopt the fair value of assets for all purposes. The funding position of the Defined Benefit plan may be variable because of the current high volatility in asset valuations.

### Asset Allocation

- 4.7 The Defined Benefit plan invests in a wide range of asset classes such as equity, property and fixed interest investments. Appendix D shows the Strategic Asset Allocation and the Actual Asset Allocation as at 30 June 2018. This asset allocation does not apply for deferred beneficiaries where members have investment choice nor the assets for small number of fixed term pensioners that are invested in defensive assets.
- 4.8 Vision Super has reviewed the investment strategy of the Defined Benefit Plan and has decided to make a change to reduce exposure to growth assets. The actual growth allocation as at 30 June 2018 was 67.4%. The revised strategic asset allocation to growth assets is 64.9%. The Trustee also uses derivative strategies to reduce equity tail risk.
- 4.9 In our opinion the allocation to growth assets is among a range of allocations that could reasonably be used by the Defined Benefit plan.

- 4.10 Setting the Strategic Asset Allocation is a balance between:
- a A high allocation to growth assets, which is expected to produce relatively high but more variable investment returns and therefore lower but more variable Authority contributions; and
  - b A low allocation to growth assets, which is expected to produce relatively low but less variable investment returns and therefore higher but less variable Authority contributions.
- 4.11 The Defined Benefit plan has been closed to new members since 31 December 1993. Therefore, its liabilities will reduce significantly over the next ten years in real terms. If future investment returns are higher or lower than expected it is possible that a significant “actuarial surplus” or “actuarial shortfall” will again result. Therefore, it is recommended that the funding position of the Defined Benefit plan continues to be considered when setting investment policy.

## Liquidity

- 4.12 As at 30 June 2018, 21.6% of the investments are in illiquid asset classes which include Infrastructure, Private Equity, Opportunistic Investments, Direct Property and some Alternative Debt.
- 4.13 We understand that under the revised strategic asset allocation the illiquid asset allocation will be set to 21.6%. We note that while some of the illiquid assets are in fixed ended funds which will become liquid over time, the vast majority such as the Direct Property and Infrastructure investments will need to be sold or transferred from the defined benefit assets in the future.
- 4.14 In the long term, the defined benefit plans will require full liquidity. Therefore, we believe that Vision Super should continue to consider the time frame over which they will reduce the exposure to illiquid assets in the defined benefit plans to zero. As we are aware is currently the case, we suggest that the liability run off under various scenarios should continue to form part of this consideration.

## Unit Pricing

- 4.15 Within the Fund there are defined contribution members as well as defined benefit members. The assets and liabilities of the defined contribution members are equal, subject to timing differences, with daily unit pricing being used. There is no investment reserving. We have been advised that the assets of the defined contribution members are segregated from the defined benefit assets and Vision Super has in place processes to limit cross subsidies between defined contribution and defined benefit members.
- 4.16 The Fund’s Investment Governance Framework states that “Defined Benefit Investment options are considered separately from the Accumulation Investment options for rebalancing purposes.” This means that the Defined Benefit plan’s asset allocation should not be materially impacted by the experience of the defined contribution plans.

## Shortfall Limit

- 4.17 The Trustee has set a Shortfall Limit in accordance with SPS 160 of 97% for the Defined Benefit plan. This means that between actuarial investigations, a restoration plan to restore the VBI to 100% is required when the Defined Benefit plan's VBI reduces to below 97%.
- 4.18 A Shortfall Limit is defined in paragraph 10 of SPS 160 as:
- “the extent to which an RSE licensee considers that a fund can be in an unsatisfactory financial position with the RSE licensee still being able to reasonably expect that, because of corrections in the temporary negative market fluctuations in the value of fund assets, the fund can be restored to a satisfactory financial position within one year.”
- 4.19 We believe that the current Shortfall Limit remains appropriate. We have considered that:
- a The actual asset allocation retains an allocation to growth assets in excess of 65% (noting that it is expected to remain of the order of 65% under the revised strategic asset allocation);
  - b Vested benefits are higher than Minimum Requisite Benefits; and
  - c The Authorities have a contractual obligation to pay contributions determined by the Trustee.

## Section 5: Valuation Assumptions and Funding Method

- 5.1 An appropriate set of both financial and demographic assumptions must be determined before values can be placed on the Defined Benefit plan's liabilities and assets. The assumptions relating to benefit liabilities and assets are discussed under separate headings below.

### Valuation of Benefit Liabilities

- 5.2 The assumptions for this actuarial investigation have been determined on a "best estimate" basis.
- 5.3 "Best estimate" describes assumptions which reflect "mean" estimates for the various factors, rather than choosing assumptions with explicit margins to cope with uncertainty about future experience. These "best estimate" assumptions might be described as being realistic. They are equally likely to prove to be conservative or to be optimistic and are less likely to be able to absorb fluctuations in future experience.
- 5.4 As the Defined Benefit plan is closed to new members and as a result has declining membership, "best estimate" assumptions continue to be relevant because using conservative assumptions would be expected to eventually result in excess assets. Best estimate assumptions are also required by the Actuaries Institute's Professional Standards.
- 5.5 Appendix C contains a summary of the assumptions used.

### Key Financial Assumptions

- 5.6 Financial assumptions for investment earnings, salary inflation and pension increases are required to value the liabilities.
- 5.7 The factor of major significance in the investigation of the Defined Benefit plan's active member benefit liabilities is the differential between the assumed future rate of investment earnings and the assumed rate of salary growth due to inflation. (These factors are almost exactly compensating in their effect upon the present value of the employed members' Defined Benefit plan's future benefit liabilities - hence, the difference between the rates is important, rather than their absolute values.)
- 5.8 For valuing the current pensioner liabilities, the differential between investment earnings and the rate of price inflation is relevant because pensions are indexed semi-annually to the change in the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The historical long-term differential between the changes in CPI and AWE (salary inflation) has generally ranged between 0% and 2% p.a.
- 5.9 The "best estimate" financial assumptions adopted at the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation were:
- 3.0% p.a. real investment return over salary inflation. This comprised a 6.5% p.a. net of tax investment return assumption and a 3.5% p.a. salary inflation assumption.
  - 4.75% p.a. real investment return over price inflation. This comprised a 7.25% p.a. gross of tax investment return and a 2.5% p.a. CPI assumption.

- 5.10 The “best estimate” financial assumptions adopted for the 30 June 2018 investigation have been updated to reflect the current economic environment and the revised strategic asset allocation and are:
- 2.5% p.a. real investment return over salary inflation. This comprised a 6.0% p.a. net of tax investment return assumption and a 3.5% p.a. salary inflation assumption. This is 0.5% p.a. lower than assumed as at 30 June 2017 and will be detrimental to the expected long term funding position.
  - 4.75% p.a. real investment return over price inflation. This comprised a 6.75% p.a. gross of tax investment return and a 2.0% p.a. CPI assumption. This is the same gap as assumed as at 30 June 2017.
- 5.11 The investments for fixed term pensions are matched to the liabilities by investing in fixed interest securities including CPI linked bonds. Based on current CPI indexed bond interest rates a real discount rate (i.e. discount rate above CPI) of 0.0% has been assumed. This discount rate includes a reduction of 0.75% to allow for investment management fees and administration costs.
- 5.12 These assumptions have been set after consideration of the return expectations of Vision Super’s investment consultants.

## Taxation

- 5.13 The assumed investment earning rate in respect of pension liabilities is gross of tax on investment income because no investment tax is paid on assets used to provide pensions. The assumed investment earning rate for active members and deferred beneficiaries is net of tax on investment income. A difference of 0.75% p.a. is assumed between the gross of tax and net of tax investment earning rate. This difference reflects that the tax on investment income for active members and deferred beneficiaries is generally less than 15% due to imputation and franking credits and other investment tax offsets.

## Expenses

- 5.14 An analysis of expense data was undertaken in the previous actuarial investigation at 30 June 2017. The expense assumptions adopted for this review are consistent with those adopted for the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation.

## Demographic Assumptions

- 5.15 An analysis of the Defined Benefit plan’s demographic experience was undertaken at the previous actuarial investigation at 30 June 2017. This analysis was undertaken within the previous three years and it is not expected that there has been any significant change to the demographic experience since then. Therefore, for the purpose of this actuarial investigation, I have retained the demographic assumptions from the previous actuarial investigation. Appendix C summarises the demographic assumptions adopted for this investigation.

## Benefits

- 5.16 The benefits which have been valued are summarised in Appendix A. Members of the Defined Benefit plan on 25 May 1988 have certain guarantees or options in relation to benefits provided under the 1958 Act. As per the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation, we have assumed that 60% of eligible retirees, who joined the Defined Benefit plan prior to 25 May 1988, elect to take the pension option and 40% of eligible deferred beneficiaries elect to take the pension option. We have made no allowance for any other guarantees and options these members may be entitled to, as we continue to believe they are not likely to have a material impact on the results of this investigation.

## Actuarial Funding Method

- 5.17 In recommending a funding plan which aims to be sufficient to fund the members' benefits in the long-term, it is necessary to project the operation of the Defined Benefit plan into the future, using the actuarial assumptions set out above.
- 5.18 Briefly the projection operates in the following manner:
- a project total benefits and expenses expected to emerge in all future years in respect of current members, deferred beneficiaries and pensioners. The projection is based on the long-term actuarial assumptions including allowance for the contingencies under which benefits can be paid (retirement, death, disablement and resignation), salary and pension increases;
  - b discount these projected benefits to a present value at the assumed long-term investment return;
  - c in a similar manner to (a) and (b), project the ongoing employer contribution and member contributions over all future years for current members, and discount them to present values; and
  - d determine the additional funding required by the Authorities by comparing (b) with (c) plus the appropriate value of the assets at the investigation date.
- 5.19 This projection is known as the aggregate funding method, which is considered to be appropriate for a closed fund. The purpose of the calculation is to assess if the existing contribution rates and assets are sufficient to provide all future benefits on current assumptions.
- 5.20 Under SPS 160, APRA requires superannuation funds to put in place a plan that is expected to fully fund their vested benefits within three years if the fund's assets are less than the vested benefits at an actuarial investigation, also known as being in an "Unsatisfactory Financial Position". A funding plan is also required when the VBI reduces to below the shortfall limit, currently 97%, between actuarial investigations.
- 5.21 The shortfall or surplus relative to vested benefits is likely to vary from the actuarial shortfall or surplus calculated using the method set out in 5.18. It is possible that the recommended funding amount under this funding method may not be sufficient to be expected to maintain the Defined Benefit plan's Vested Benefits Index (VBI) to 100% within the timeframe required by APRA if it is below 100%. In this situation additional contributions would be recommended as required by APRA.
- 5.22 Additional contributions can be made to target a VBI of 100% but where these contributions are higher than any actuarial shortfall calculated using the aggregate funding method described above a surplus would be expected to result in the long term if experience is as expected. Vision Super may also be able to manage any such shortfalls or surpluses through a combination of changes to funding and investment strategy.
- 5.23 In the next section we review the financial position as at 30 June 2018 and in Section 7 we discuss the adequacy of the long term funding arrangements.

# Section 6: Financial Position of Defined Benefit Plan

- 6.1 The financial position of the Defined Benefit plan at the investigation date provides some insight into the progress towards fully funding members’ benefits in the long-term.
- 6.2 A convenient means of assessing the financial position of the Defined Benefit plan involves the calculation of various indices of benefits compared to assets.

## Vested Benefits Index

- 6.3 The first of the indices is the “Vested Benefits Index” (VBI). Vested Benefits are defined as the benefits that would be due and payable if all the members voluntarily terminated their service with their employers at the investigation date.
  - For active members, the Vested Benefits are the resignation benefit or the early retirement benefit (if aged 55 or more). Upon resignation from LASF, a member has the choice of an immediate lump sum or a more valuable deferred benefit. Also, upon retirement certain members have the option of taking a pension. In calculating the vested benefits, we have allowed for the best estimate assumption regarding the take up of deferred benefits and pensions.
  - For deferred beneficiaries, the vested benefit will be the present value of the liabilities, allowing for the pension take up rate.
  - For pensioners, the vested benefit is the present value of expected future pension payments.

6.4 The Vested Benefits Index is calculated as follows:

$$\text{VBI} = \frac{\text{fair value of assets}}{\text{total of vested benefits}}$$

6.5 The Vested Benefit Index as at 30 June 2018 is:

VBI as at 30 June 2018	
Defined Benefit plan assets (\$m)	\$2,337.6
Vested Benefits (\$m)	
Active Members	\$1,237.7
Life-time Pensioners	\$628.6
Fixed term Pensioners	\$1.3
Deferred beneficiaries	\$338.0
Total Vested Benefits	\$2,205.7
Vested Benefit Index	106.0%

6.6 The calculated VBI for the Defined Benefit plan at 30 June 2018 is 106.0%. This compares with a VBI of 103.1% at the 30 June 2017 investigation. The Defined Benefit plan was not in an unsatisfactory financial position as at 30 June 2018.

- 6.7 The VBI for the Defined Benefit plan has increased since 30 June 2017 mainly due to the financial experience (excess of investment return above salary increase) being significantly better than assumed.

### Discounted Accrued Benefits Index

- 6.8 Discounted Accrued Benefits means the present value of the benefit payable in the future (based on the assumptions) accrued in respect of service to the investigation date. The method of apportioning active members' benefits to past service for the main Defined Benefit plan is as follows, effectively recognising the portion of future benefits arising due to service to date:
- a Retirement, disablement and deferred resignation– the past service benefit (based on accrued lump sum multiples and accrued pensions where relevant) at the calculation date, with allowance for future salary growth to the assumed exit date.
  - b Death benefits – the total projected death benefit at the assumed exit date multiplied by the ratio of service to the calculation date divided by service to the retirement date.
  - c Immediate Resignation Benefit – the past service benefit at the calculation date (based on the multiples at the calculation date) with allowance for future salary growth up to the assumed resignation date.
- 6.9 The Discounted Accrued Benefits are not subject to a minimum of the Vested Benefits.
- 6.10 The index is more a measure of the Defined Benefit plan's on-going capacity to meet Accrued Benefits in the long run.
- 6.11 The "Discounted Accrued Benefits Index" (DABI) is calculated as follows:

$$\text{DABI} = \frac{\text{fair value of assets}}{\text{total of discounted accrued benefits}}$$

- 6.12 The Discounted Accrued Benefit Index as at 30 June 2018 is:

DABI as at 30 June 2018	
Defined Benefit plan assets (\$m)	\$2,337.6
Discounted Accrued Benefits (\$m)	
Active Members	\$1,120.5
Life-time Pensioners	\$628.6
Fixed term Pensioners	\$1.3
Deferred beneficiaries	\$338.0
Total Discounted Accrued Benefits	2,088.5
Discounted Accrued Benefit Index	111.9%

- 6.13 The calculated DABI for the Defined Benefit plan at 30 June 2018, based on the “best estimate” assumptions, used in this investigation, is 111.9%. The DABI was estimated to be 110.9% at the 30 June 2017 investigation. The increase in DABI was mainly due to the better than expected investment return during the year.
- 6.14 Because the DABI is more than 100%, it means current assets are expected to be sufficient to provide the benefits of members’ accrued benefits based on service to 30 June 2018.

### Minimum Requisite Benefits Index

- 6.15 We have also considered the asset coverage of members’ Minimum Requisite Benefits.
- 6.16 The Minimum Requisite Benefits (MRBs) are the minimum amount of benefit that must be provided to enable Authorities to satisfy their Superannuation Guarantee obligations. The method to calculate the amount of MRBs for the active members is specified in my Benefit Certificate dated 17 June 2015.
- 6.17 The MRBs for Defined Benefit active members have been configured on the administration system. We have therefore used the MRB data provided by the administrator for the purposes of this valuation.
- 6.18 In relation to the determination of the MRBs for deferred beneficiaries and pensioners, DLA Piper has advised that the MRB should be crystallised when members cease to be an employee and there was no basis to adopt a higher benefit beyond their MRB entitlements.
- 6.19 In accordance with this legal advice, noting that the MRBs for these members have not yet been configured on the administration system, we have estimated the MRBs for these members on the following basis:
- a For deferred beneficiaries, their MRBs has been calculated as the following amounts (plus interest):
    - i. For members who resigned prior to 1 July 2013, the immediate cash resignation benefit, as the MRB was defined as equal to this amount in the Benefit Certificate applicable at that time;
    - ii. For members who resigned from and after 1 July 2013, the MRB is expected to be different to the immediate cash resignation benefit. We understand that the resignation benefits provided by Vision Super have already been subject to a minimum of the MRB, if this minimum applies. Hence we have assumed that the MRB is equal to the resignation benefit provided, which will overstate the estimated MRB where the actual MRB is less than the immediate resignation benefit. We do not think this will materially overstate the amount of the MRB.
  - b For the current pensioners who retired after 1992 (since the introduction of the Superannuation Guarantee legislation), their MRBs are expected to be less than their retirement benefits; whereas for those current pensioners who retired prior to 1992, their MRBs are assumed to be their retirement benefit. On retirement, all Defined Benefit plan members are required to take at least half of their benefit as a lump sum, which means that the portion of the pension that is funded by the MRB will often be low. Vision Super is unable to provide information regarding members’ MRB at the time of retirement. For the last actuarial investigation, we estimated that the proportion of MRB benefits relative to the retirement pensions was of the order of 65% for all current pensioners. We have retained this assumption for this actuarial investigation.

6.20 The Minimum Requisite Benefit Index is calculated as follows:

$$\text{MRBI} = \frac{\text{fair value of assets}}{\text{total of Minimum Requisite Benefits}}$$

6.21 The Minimum Requisite Benefit Index as at 30 June 2018 is:

MRBI as at 30 June 2018	
Defined Benefit plan assets (\$m)	\$2,337.6
Minimum Requisite Benefits (\$m)	
Active Members	\$850.0
Lifetime Pensioners	\$408.6
Fixed term Pensioners	\$1.3
Deferred beneficiaries	\$330.7
Total Minimum Requisite Benefits	1,590.6
Minimum Requisite Benefit Index	147.0%

6.22 As at 30 June 2018 we estimate that the ratio of the market value of assets to the amount of Minimum Requisite Benefits was approximately 147.0%. This compares with a MRBI of 143.7% at the 30 June 2017 investigation. The increase in MRBI was mainly due to the better than expected investment return during the year.

6.23 In accordance with the legal advice from DLA Piper, this ratio has been calculated including the pension MRBs and the deferred MRBs in the total of MRBs (rather than a deduction from the fair value of assets).

6.24 If this ratio for the entire Fund falls to below 100%, it becomes Technically Insolvent as defined in the SIS Regulations. If this occurs the Trustee must take certain steps to restore solvency. The Trustee needs to continue to monitor the "Notifiable Events" defined in the Funding and Solvency Certificate to identify if the Fund is at risk of becoming, or becomes, Technically Insolvent so appropriate action can be taken.

### Other Measures of Financial Position

6.25 In accordance with Clause A.21.1(a) of the Trust Deed, an Authority requires the approval of the Board to terminate its contributions to the Defined Benefit plan. We assume this approval would not be provided unless any future funding risk is adequately managed. Also, in accordance with Clause A.21.1(b), such an Authority remains responsible for its share of any actuarial shortfall.

6.26 However, if an Authority does terminate its contributions, Clause A.21 of the Trust Deed states that:

*"the Trustee, after obtaining the advice of the Actuary and subject to A.21.5, may adjust any benefit which is or may become payable to or in respect of any person whom the Trustee may consider is affected by that termination to the extent and in the manner the Trustee considers appropriate and equitable"*

6.27 Further it states in Clause A.21.5 that:

*“...Unless otherwise agreed between the Trustee and the Employer, an adjustment made ...must not increase the amount of any benefit which, in the opinion of the Trustee after obtaining the advice of the Actuary, has accrued in respect of a person immediately prior to the effective date of that adjustment in respect of the period up to that date or improve the basis upon which benefits accrue during or in respect of any period after that date.”*

- 6.28 Therefore, in the case of the termination of contributions by one or more Authorities the Trustee has some flexibility in respect of the benefits provided, subject to superannuation law, and there is no alternative measure of financial position that needs to be calculated in respect of this situation.
- 6.29 On retrenchment, members' are entitled to an accrued retirement benefit. For members over age 55 this is equal to their vested benefit (i.e. retirement benefit) but for members under age 55 it will be higher than their vested benefit. For active members, retrenchment benefits as at 30 June 2018 were \$1,257.9 million. As at 30 June 2018, the ratio of the market value of assets to the amount of retrenchment benefits was 105.0%. This ratio includes the value of pensioner and deferred beneficiaries' benefits. The corresponding index as at 30 June 2017 investigation was 102.3%. This increase in the index was mainly due to achieving greater investment returns than expected.
- 6.30 An additional contribution is required from the relevant Authority in respect of each retrenchment under the current funding plan so that there is no additional financial strain on the Defined Benefit plan.
- 6.31 The liabilities of pensioners used to determine all of the funding measures have been calculated using the funding assumptions and assuming the liabilities will be met by continuing to make pension payments until all pensioners have died. It should be noted that if the current pension liabilities were to be transferred to a life insurance office, the assets required to be transferred could be significantly higher than the amount of the vested benefits calculated in this investigation because the assumptions used for this purpose would need to be calculated consistently with the capital adequacy requirements of life insurance offices. The 30 June 2017 actuarial valuation estimated that such a transfer would reduce the VBI by approximately 15%.
- 6.32 In Appendix D the Defined Benefit plan's asset allocation is shown and there is currently a 21.6% allocation to illiquid assets. The funding indices have been calculated based on the valuation of these assets at fair market value from the 30 June 2018 unaudited financial statements (excluding disposal costs). In the unlikely event that these assets had to be quickly liquidated it is possible that this could occur at discounted values resulting in lower funding ratios. For example, a 20% discount on forced sale of illiquid assets would reduce the funding indices by approximately 5%.
- 6.33 The Authorities have ten years to make each of the three lump sum contributions requested by Vision Super as at 30 June 1997, 30 June 2002 and 30 June 2012 and fifteen years to make the contributions requested as at 30 June 2013. Outstanding amounts are included in the fair value of assets as contributions receivable. If these amounts are not paid the funding position would be worse than set out in this report. We have been advised by Vision Super that the vast majority of the outstanding amounts have been received by 30 June 2018.

- 6.34 The VBI and DABI would increase (or decrease) if a lower (or higher) proportion of employee members were assumed to defer upon resignation or take a pension upon retirement. In the 2017 triennial actuarial investigation, we reported that if it was assumed that 100% of eligible members elected the pension option and 100% of resigning members elected the deferred option, the impact on the VBI and the DABI would be a reduction of 4% and 2% respectively. We do not expect these sensitivities to have changed materially since last year.
- 6.35 There was no material deferred tax asset in the Fund as at 30 June 2018. Therefore, the funding is not significantly dependent upon being able to utilize such an amount.

### Probability of making Pension Payments

- 6.36 In order to satisfy the requirements of SPS 160 to provide an opinion of whether at 30 June 2018 “there is a high degree of probability that the fund will be able to pay the pensions as required under the fund’s governing rules”, without any clear priorities for benefits being specified in the Fund Trust Deed, we looked to the following points in relation to contributions:
- a As envisaged by Circular 12/97 (issued by the Board under the 1988 Act), any future funding shortfall arising from pension liabilities can be funded under the Unfunded Liability Amount provisions in the Trust Deed.
  - b Under Part A.21 of the Fund’s Trust Deed, participating employers are generally able to terminate their contributions to the Fund at any time. However:
    - i Under clause A.21.1(b), a participating employer in Division C (the Defined Benefit plan) with an “Unfunded Liability Amount” is not able to terminate contributions. The “Unfunded Liability Amount” is the amount identified in respect of each participating employer using the methodology set out in Circular 12/97.
    - ii A participating employer without an “Unfunded Liability Amount” is able to terminate contributions to the Fund under clause A.21.1(a) after giving 60 days’ notice and obtaining the Trustee’s approval. Presumably, the Trustee would not give approval to terminate if there is an unfunded liability or material future funding risk.
  - c The Participating Employer Agreement signed by each defined benefit employer imposes a contractual obligation on that employer, in addition to the contribution requirements in the Trust Deed. The Agreement also provides that employers with Unfunded Liability Amounts cannot terminate contributions and that those who do not have an Unfunded Liability Amount must follow clause A.21.1(a) of the Trust Deed.
  - d The combination of the Trust Deed provisions and the Participating Employer Agreements essentially mean that an employer cannot unilaterally cease contributions to the Fund unless it ceases to exist:
    - i Under the terms of the Participating Employer Agreement, if such an employer does cease to exist, the terms of the Agreement are binding on that employer’s successor at law and that employer’s “Unfunded Liability Amount” obligation (if any) must be assumed by any successor body.
    - ii If there was no direct successor, the Trustee could initiate action to identify a relevant successor (possibly the State Government as most, if not all, of these employers would be engaged in the provision of essential public services which the state is constitutionally bound to provide). Such a situation is expected to be very rare.

- 6.37 Legal advice has been obtained by the Fund from DLA Piper that confirms the Employers cannot avoid their contribution responsibilities. We have relied upon the legal advice.
- 6.38 When forming a statement of opinion in accordance with Professional Standard 410, the assets and future contributions from which future pension payments are assumed to be met need to be identified. Under normal circumstances, it is considered inappropriate to take future employer contributions into account when determining the assets available to cover pension payments. However, paragraph 25(a) of Professional Standard 410 provides allowance for future contributions to be taken into account in limited circumstances, in order to form a positive opinion.
- 6.39 We believe that the historical circumstances of Vision Super's funding arrangements fall within the scope of the 'limited circumstances' referred to in paragraph 9.2(a) of Professional Standard 410.
- 6.40 For much of its history, Vision Super was a public sector fund and was operated on a pay-as-you-go basis rather than on a fully funded basis. It has only been a Regulated fund under SIS since 1 July 1998 and employers remain public sector employers.
- 6.41 Changes to the Fund benefit design and funding policy in 1988 included a process to eventually achieve full funding of the accrued benefit liabilities, including the pension liabilities.
- 6.42 To achieve this full funding target over time, the contractual contribution arrangements outlined above were instigated.
- 6.43 In conclusion, this analysis allows us to confirm that in our opinion there is a high degree of probability that the Defined Benefit plan will be able to pay the pensions required under the Trust Deed.

# Section 7: Assessing the adequacy of the Funding Arrangements

## The Present Funding Arrangements

- 7.1 The Authority funding arrangements for the Defined Benefit plan recommended in the previous triennial actuarial investigation comprise the following components:
- a contributions in respect of each Authority's share of any funding short fall that arises. This has included:
    - \$321 million unfunded liability at 30 June 1997, plus contribution tax; and
    - \$127 million unfunded liability as at 31 December 2002, plus contribution tax;
    - \$71 million unfunded liability as at 31 December 2008, plus contribution tax (this amount plus interest was invoiced at 30 June 2012);
    - \$406 million unfunded liability as at 31 December 2011, plus contribution tax and interest from 31 December 2011. This was \$453 million (plus contribution tax) as at 30 June 2013.
  - b An additional contribution to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the VBI, capped at 100%, multiplied by the benefit), plus contribution tax; plus
  - c An ongoing Authority contribution rate based on current members' salaries, needed to fund the balance of benefits for current members and pensioners at 9.5% of salaries from 1 July 2014 and increases with legislated increases in the Superannuation Guarantee Charge; plus
  - d Additional top up contributions that may be required in the future so that Defined Benefit plan is no longer in an unsatisfactory financial position.

Authorities also need to contribute the amount of members' salary sacrifice contributions.

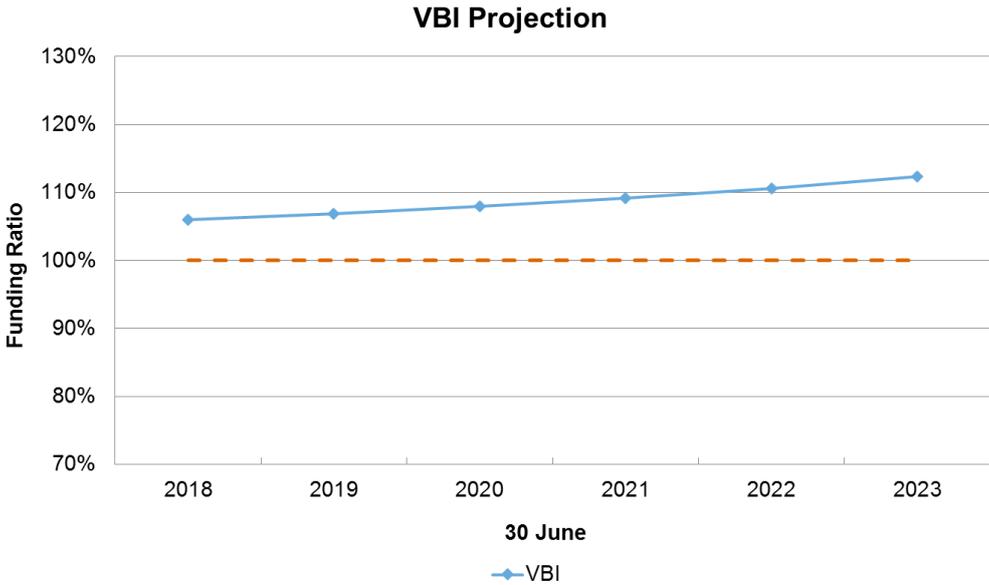
- 7.2 The final component of this funding plan is consistent with the funding requirements of SPS 160 because it refers to additional top-up contributions to restore the VBI to 100%. SPS 160 requires restoration plans to be developed to restore the VBI to 100% within three years, when prescribed circumstances apply. The prescribed circumstances are a VBI below the Trustee adopted shortfall limit (i.e. currently 97%) at any time or below 100% at the date of an actuarial investigation or while an actuarial investigation is being undertaken.
- 7.3 Our calculations at 30 June 2018 using the "best estimate" funding assumptions show that the present funding arrangements are expected to be adequate to meet the expected Defined Benefit plan liabilities.

### Total Service Liability Surplus/ Deficit as at 30 June 2018

- 7.4 As at 30 June 2018 there was a total service liability surplus of \$218 million. This means that the current value of assets plus expected future contributions is more than the value of expected future benefits and expenses by \$218 million, assuming that the Authorities contribute at a rate in line with the currently legislated Superannuation Guarantee Charge as a percentage of salaries (i.e. currently 9.5% of salaries but increasing in the future). Full details of these calculations are set out in Appendix E.
- 7.5 The total service liability surplus as at 30 June 2017 was \$193 million. The actuarial surplus has increased over the year mainly due to financial experience (excess of investment return above salary increase) being significantly higher than assumed, but partially offset by a change in assumptions.
- 7.6 The existing funding arrangements are expected to be adequate if the current assumptions are borne out in practice. In fact, the total service liability surplus of \$218 million is higher than the expected value of all future Authority contributions (less tax) of \$99 million (refer to Appendix E). This means that if experience is as expected from 30 June 2018, Authorities would not need to make any further contributions to the Defined Benefit plan. The long term Authority contribution rate implied by the aggregate funding method would be zero.
- 7.7 Nevertheless, it needs to be recognised that the ultimate cost of benefits for members of the Defined Benefit plan will depend on the actual future experience of all the relevant factors (investment earnings, salary growth, pensioner mortality, turnover rates, etc.). Therefore, the contribution arrangements will need to be varied as the actual experience unfolds.

### Projection of Funding Levels

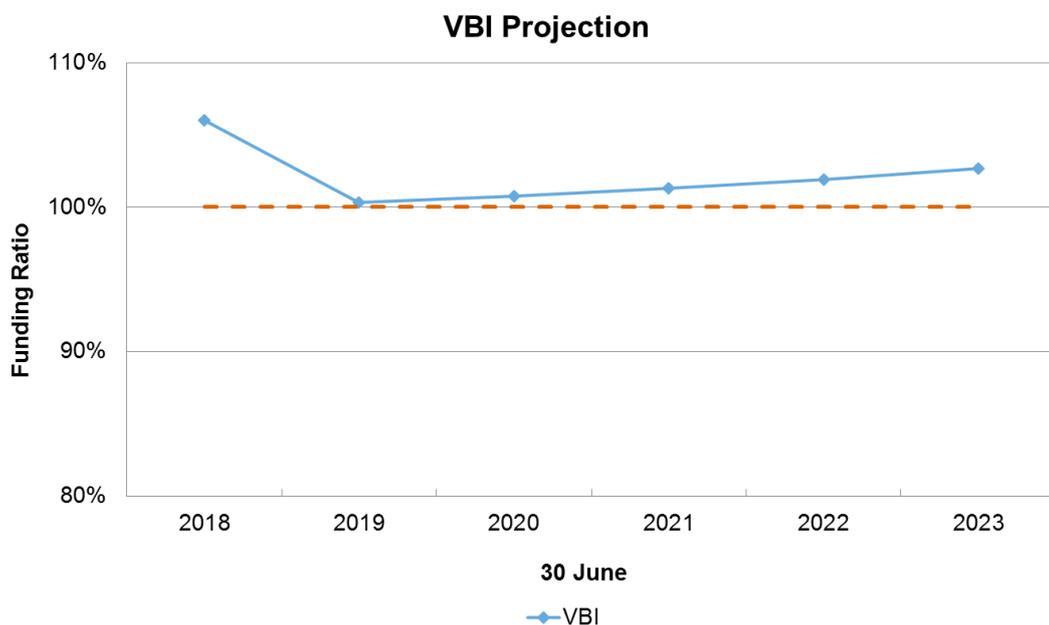
- 7.8 This section considers the adequacy of the funding by projecting the Defined Benefit plan’s future funding level. This projection is based on the “best estimate” funding assumptions set out in Appendix C.
- 7.9 The graph below shows the projected Vested Benefits (VBI) of the Defined Benefit plan for the next five years.



- 7.10 The chart shows the VBI is expected to stay above 100% over the next five years and hence no additional contribution is expected to be required from the Authorities to meet the funding requirement under SPS 160. However, in practice actual experience will be different to what is expected and the VBI may decrease or increase more quickly than expected.
- 7.11 The above chart shows that the VBI is expected to slowly increase over time. This is consistent with the total service liability surplus of \$218 million at 30 June 2018.

### Other Funding Issues

- 7.12 The Defined Benefit plan is mature and its funding is very sensitive to future experience. A lower than expected investment return would significantly reduce the “actuarial surplus”.
- 7.13 The chart below shows the impact on the VBI in an adverse scenario where the return is 0% for the year to 30 June 2019 and all other experience is as expected. A best estimate return of 6.0% p.a. (net of tax) is assumed from 1 July 2019.



- 7.14 If the return is 0% in 2018/19, the VBI is expected to fall to 100%. In the event of negative return, however, the VBI would likely fall to below 100% (i.e. an unsatisfactory financial position). If this occurred, additional employer contributions may be required to restore the Defined Benefit plan’s VBI to 100% within the legislated three years.
- 7.15 On the other hand, if experience is favourable, an even larger “actuarial surplus” could result. The Board would need to consider how to treat such an “actuarial surplus”. We understand that if this occurs any residual assets would eventually be distributed to relevant Authorities in accordance with Clause A.15 of the Trust Deed. The Board may also wish to consider adopting a more defensive investment strategy in order to reduce the investment risk.

### Events since 30 June 2018

- 7.16 Vision Super has advised that the investment returns for the month of July 2018 for the Defined Benefit plan was 1.47% (equivalent to 19.1% p.a.). This is higher than the expected return of 6.00% p.a. and therefore will have had a slight positive impact on the financial position. As such, we expect that the VBI of the Defined Benefit plan will continue to remain above 100%. This does not impact our recommendations.

- 7.17 We are not aware of any other events subsequent to 30 June 2018 that would materially impact upon the results of the actuarial investigation of the Defined Benefit plan.

## Recommendation

- 7.18 Section A.20.1 of the Trust Deed states:

*“each Employer must contribute to the Fund in respect of a particular Employee at any particular time the amount or rate of contributions determined by the Trustee after obtaining the advice of the Actuary, including the Unfunded Liability Amount....”*

- 7.19 The VBI was 106.0% as at 30 June 2018 (refer Section 6.5). Given the current investment strategy and the VBI of 106.0%, the VBI could quickly fall below 100% if experience is worse than expected. We therefore have recommended that the current contributions remain unchanged. In making this recommendation, we have also considered what we understand to be the preferences of the Trustee.
- 7.20 In summary, we recommend that the current funding plan continue, whereby the Authorities will pay:
- a Contributions equal to 9.5% of salary for employee members, increasing with changes in the Superannuation Guarantee Charge;
  - b An additional contribution to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the minimum of (100% and VBI) multiplied by the vested benefit), plus contribution tax;
  - c Outstanding contributions in respect of calls made at the previous actuarial investigations; and
  - d Additional top up contributions that may be required in the future if the plan is in an unsatisfactory financial position.

Authorities also need to contribute the amount of members' salary sacrifice contributions.

- 7.21 However, given the \$218 million total liability surplus, these contributions are expected to be more than sufficient if future experience is as expected. In fact, if experience is as expected Authorities would not need to make further contributions. Hence, Vision Super could consider whether it is appropriate to further reduce investment risk which could be considered together with alternative funding plans.
- 7.22 It is very important to understand that each of the components of the funding arrangements is very dependent on the actual future experience of the Defined Benefit plan. Consequently all contribution components are subject to regular review by the Trustee using actuarial advice and could vary from the current recommendations at any time in the future.

## Section 8: Insurance

### Self Insurance Arrangements

- 8.1 The Defined Benefit plan provides death and disablement benefits that are significantly higher than the resignation/retirement benefits. The Fund self-insures this risk. This approach continues to be reasonable in light of the Defined Benefit plan's size, experience, present membership and benefit levels. The arrangements are reviewed annually as part of the actuarial investigations which is reasonable.
- 8.2 The death and disablement benefits are funded by the Authorities' contributions to the Defined Benefit plan. The total liability surplus calculated in Section 7 includes the expected death and disablement benefits. It is ultimately the Authorities that bear the financial risk if the amount of death and disablement benefits paid is significantly higher than expected.
- 8.3 The following table summarises the Defined Benefit plan's exposure to future service death and disablement risk as at 30 June 2018.

Self-Insurance exposure as at 30 June 2018	
Net Assets Available <sup>1</sup> (Defined Benefits plan assets available to meet benefits)	\$1,369.6m
Expected Annual Future Service death and disablement benefits to be paid for 2018/19 <sup>2</sup>	\$1.5m
Total Future Service death benefits <sup>3</sup>	\$303.6m

1. Active Defined Benefit plan assets excluding assets in respect of pensioners and deferred beneficiaries.
2. Based on assumptions adopted in this investigation.
3. The total amount of future service death benefits shown is the sum of individual death benefit in excess of the lesser of the value of the vested benefit and accrued retirement benefit for all active members. Future service disablement benefits are similar.

- 8.4 Because of the large number of members, it is unlikely that the actual future service death and disablement benefits (even if double the level expected) would place a significant additional financial strain on its funding.
- 8.5 The Defined Benefit plan also includes a temporary disability benefit. The funding of this benefit is allowed for approximately by a margin in disablement funding. If a disablement benefit is subsequently paid to the member, the amount of the disablement benefit is reduced by the amount of any temporary disability benefit payments.
- 8.6 The Defined Benefit plan's membership is spread throughout Victoria, reflecting the distribution of Authorities. There is a relatively low concentration of risk.
- 8.7 There is a very remote possibility of a catastrophe occurring. In the last triennial actuarial investigation as at 30 June 2017, we determined that in the event of a catastrophe, the resultant financial strain on the Fund was likely to be a manageable risk. We continue to believe this is the case as at 30 June 2018.
- 8.8 While a larger catastrophe is possible the risk is extremely low. If the Trustee is concerned about the risk it could consider catastrophe insurance.
- 8.9 In the 30 June 2017 actuarial investigation, we recommended an insurance reserve of \$5.0 million be held by the Fund to cover the pending claims and incurred but not reported death and disablement claims.

- 8.10 We believe that this is still an appropriate allowance for use in this report as the self-insured portion of the death and disablement claims is expected to reduce over time as the employed members reduce in number and increase in average age. The total future service death benefits have reduced from \$349.4 million as at 30 June 2017 to \$303.6 million as at 30 June 2018. Unless we advise otherwise or a catastrophe event occurs, in our opinion, it will be sufficient to review the amount of the reserve in detail at the next triennial actuarial investigation in 2020.
- 8.11 In accordance with our recommendations in the prior actuarial investigation, we understand that Vision Super maintains an insurance reserve of \$5.0 million for the Defined Benefit plan as at 30 June 2018. We recommend that this reserve be retained at this level.

## Section 9: Material Risks

- 9.1 The funding of the Defined Benefit plan is dependent upon future experience. We have briefly considered below the material risks in respect of funding. If experience is materially adverse the Authorities will be required to make additional contributions.

### Investment Risk

- 9.2 The most significant risk facing the Defined Benefit plans is that investment returns will not be as high as expected. There is also a risk a surplus could arise that could be difficult to utilize if not managed carefully. These risks occur because the income generated from the existing assets are not matched to the expected future benefit payments.
- 9.3 A change to the assumed investment return could also have a material impact on Authority contribution requirements in the short term, but would not be expected to impact the ultimate cost of funding benefits unless the change in assumption was because of change in investment strategy. This also applies for other assumptions.
- 9.4 As per current practice, the Trustee should continue to consider the liabilities and the funding position when determining the Defined Benefit plans' investment strategy.

### Salary and Price Inflation Risk

- 9.5 Salary increases or price inflation exceeding expectations will have a negative impact on funding.
- 9.6 It is the excess of the investment return above the rates of salary and price inflation increases that is most important because the assets increase with the investment return and the liabilities with salary or price inflation.

### Catastrophe Risk

- 9.7 The Defined Benefit plan self insures the death and disability benefits and is therefore subject to the risk of higher than expected claims. The self-insurance risk is considered in Section 8.
- 9.8 While the catastrophe risk is very low, particularly given the geographic spread of members, a high number of death or disability (or terminal medical condition) benefits caused by a single event or events is likely to put significant strain on the funding.

### Pensioner Longevity Risk

- 9.9 At 30 June 2018 there were 4,449 life time pensioners in the Defined Benefit plan. There is a risk that pensioners may live longer than expected and this would have a negative impact on the funding position.
- 9.10 As at 30 June 2018 the assets held in respect of the 14 fixed term pensioners were broadly comparable to the liability associated with these pensioners. In our funding considerations, the fixed term pensioners are included as part of the Defined Benefit plan and Vision Super has confirmed that, if needed, the Defined Benefit plan's assets will be available to meet these liabilities.

## Liquidity Risk

- 9.11 In Section 4 liquidity risk is discussed. Also, Section 6 considered the potential impact on funding of having to liquidate investments at a discount.
- 9.12 We understand that Vision Super considers the long term liquidity requirements in setting its strategic asset allocation and plans to reduce exposure to illiquid assets in the Defined Benefit plan to zero in the long term given the maturity of the plan. This is appropriate.

## Retrenchments Risk

- 9.13 The retrenchment benefit is larger than the resignation benefit for many members. A significant number of retrenchments would have a negative impact on funding and liquidity unless additional contributions are required to fund the shortfall when a member is retrenched. Depending upon the VBI, this can also be appropriate when a member over or under 55 is retrenched even if it is not a retrenchment benefit being paid from the Defined Benefit plan.
- 9.14 This risk has greatly reduced over time because:
- a the average age of members is now over age 55. From this age members are entitled to the accrued retirement benefit upon retirement, which is equal to the retrenchment benefit so that there is no additional funding strain; and
  - b the funding assumptions assume 80% of resigning members elect a deferred benefit. The deferred benefit is also equal to the amount of the retrenchment benefit so that there is no additional funding strain.
- 9.15 The current funding plan includes top-up contributions by the Authorities to manage this risk.

## Legislation Risk

- 9.16 There is a risk that legislation changes could impact on funding. For example:
- a Changes to legislation may impact investment returns or other aspects of experience; and
  - b Changes to tax may impact funding.

## Other

- 9.17 Operational risks (e.g. unit pricing and administration) are not considered in this report.
- 9.18 A higher proportion of members could elect to defer their resignation benefit or take a life-time pension than expected which would be expected to increase the cost of funding benefits.
- 9.19 There are many other risks in respect of the funding of the Defined Benefit plans but we have not included those that we do not consider to be currently material.

# Appendix A: Summary of Benefits and Conditions

The benefits are set out in the Fund's Trust Deed. The Fund has been governed by the Trust Deed originally dated 26 June 1998 on and from 1 July 1998. The Trust Deed has subsequently been amended numerous times. This report is based on a copy of the Trust Deed including amendments up to 1 July 2014.

## Membership

The Defined Benefit plan was closed to new members on 31 December 1993. From that date, new employees have joined Vision Super Saver, which provides accumulation style benefits.

The benefits and conditions described below relate to Defined Benefit plan members only.

## Contributions

Members contribute at a rate of 6% of salary. Their contributions cease after 40 years of service. Authorities pay the balance required to provide the benefits.

## Retirement Benefit

A lump sum benefit calculated as a percentage of final salary for each year (part years counting pro rata) of membership to retirement. The percentage is 21% for membership completed prior to 1 July 1993 and 18.5% for membership completed after 30 June 1993. A maximum of 40 years of membership counts towards the retirement benefit. Members may retire from age 55 and benefits cease to accrue at age 65.

## Death Benefit

For members under 60 years of age, a lump sum of 21% of final salary for each year of actual and prospective membership to age 60. For members aged 60 or over, a lump sum of 21% of final salary for each year of actual membership. A maximum of 40 years of membership counts toward the death benefit.

Members with a medical classification of Grade B, C or D are entitled to a lower death benefit.

## Total and Permanent Disablement Benefit

For members under 60 years of age, a lump sum equal to a percentage of final salary for each year of actual and prospective membership to age 60. The percentage is 21% for actual membership completed prior to 1 July 1993, 18.5% for actual membership completed after 30 June 1993, and 21% for prospective membership between the date of disablement and age 60. For members aged 60 or more, the benefit is a lump sum equal to the retirement benefit. A maximum of 40 years of membership counts towards the total and permanent disablement benefit.

“Disablement” generally means a continuous or recurring impairment of health of a member which renders him or her unable to perform his or her duties, or any other duties for which he or she is suited by education, training or experience, or would be suited as a result of retraining.

Members with a medical classification of Grade B, C or D are entitled to a lower disability benefit.

### III-Health and Retrenchment Benefits

The accrued retirement benefit (i.e. counting membership to date of ill health or retrenchment).

There is also a Temporary Disability benefit.

### Resignation Benefit

A lump sum of either:

- a an immediate benefit equal to the sum of:
  - 15% of final salary for each year (if any) of membership prior to 1 July 1993, excluding any portion of the last five years relating to pre 1 July 1993 membership;
  - 13.5% of final salary for each year (if any) of membership after 30 June 1993, excluding the last five years;
  - 9% of final salary for the last five years of membership; or
- b a deferred benefit payable from age 55 equal to the accrued retirement benefit at the date of leaving, increased with the relevant investment return to payment after age 55.

Part of the immediate resignation benefit may be subject to preservation regulations.

### “Old Benefit” Entitlements

Members who joined prior to 25 May 1988 have the option of taking up to 50% of their lump sum retirement benefits as a pension, based on prescribed conversion factors. The conversion factors reduce from 13.6 at age 55 to 12.6 at age 60 and 12.0 at age 65. This option also applies to members who joined prior to 25 May 1988 and elect to defer their benefit upon resignation until after age 55.

Certain other minimum benefits apply in respect of previous entitlements for certain groups of members.

### Minimum Requisite Benefit

All benefits are subject to a minimum of the Minimum Requisite Benefit specified in the Benefit Certificate.

## Appendix B: Membership Movements

### Defined Benefit Plan

<b>Membership as at 1 July 2017</b>		<b>2,855</b>
Transfers/Rejoiners		-
<b>Exits</b>		
Retirement, Resignations and retrenchments	319	
Death	5	
Total and Permanent Disablement	2	
<b>Total exits</b>		<b>(326)</b>
<b>Membership as at 30 June 2018</b>		<b>2,529</b>

### Pensioners

<b>Pensioners as at 1 July 2017</b>		<b>4,597</b>
New pensioners		130
Pensions ceasing		(278)
<b>Pensioners as at 30 June 2018</b>		<b>4,449</b>

# Appendix C: Summary of Valuation Assumptions

## Financial Assumptions

The most significant financial assumptions are:

- Active members:
  - investment returns (net of tax and expenses) 6.00% p.a.
  - salary inflation growth 3.50% p.a.
- Pensioners:
  - investment returns (gross of tax; net of expenses) 6.75% p.a.
  - CPI increases 2.00% p.a.
- administration expenses: 2.50% of salaries and 2.00% of pension

For Fixed term pensions a real investment return of 0%p.a. has been assumed.

## Demographic Assumptions

### Active Members

The table below illustrates the decrement rates assumed for active members. The decrement rates represent the percentage of members leaving the plan each year by each cause.

Year of Age	Deaths %	Disabilities %	Resignations %	Retirements %
20	0.03	-	13.42	-
30	0.02	0.01	6.48	-
40	0.05	0.05	3.77	-
50	0.14	0.27	2.44	-
60	0.43	0.82	-	15.0
64	0.66	0.00	-	15.0

### ***Pensioners – Defined Benefit plan***

The table below illustrates the rates of mortality assumed for pensioners. The figures represent the percentages dying in the years of age shown.

Year of Age	Retirement /Spouse Male %	Disability Male %	Retirement /Spouse Female %	Disability Female %
60	0.56	1.26	0.36	0.58
65	0.89	1.95	0.56	0.99
70	1.42	3.00	0.93	1.68
75	2.45	4.56	1.63	2.84
80	4.41	6.84	2.98	4.74
85	7.94	10.06	5.97	7.73
90	13.70	14.39	11.53	12.18

Mortality improvement based on the 125-year experience from the Australian life tables 2010-2012 from 1 July 2017.

### ***Deferred Benefit Option on Resignation – Defined Benefit plan***

It has been assumed that 80% of those who resign will take the deferred benefit option. Deferred benefits are assumed to be accessed at age 60.

### ***Pension Option – Defined Benefit plan***

It has been assumed that 60% of active members and 40% of deferred beneficiaries who joined the Defined Benefit plan prior to 25 May 1988 will elect to take the pension option upon retirement. Members who take this option are assumed to take 50% of their benefit as a pension.

### ***Other Pension Assumptions***

Males (pensioners or reversionary spouses) are assumed to be 3 years older than their female spouses. For current active members and deferred beneficiaries, the age based proportion married assumptions are applied at the date of commencement of a pension; for current pension members, the age based proportion married assumptions are applied at the date of the valuation.

## Appendix D: Asset Allocation

Asset Class	Actual Asset Allocation 30 June 2018 (%)	Proposed Strategic Asset Allocation (%)
Australian Equity	20.3	22.5
International Equity	20.2	22.0
Private Equity	2.8	0.0
Infrastructure	8.8	9.0
Absolute Return Multi Strategies	8.5	7.0
Property*	7.2	9.0
Opportunistic Investments#	7.3	3.0
Alternative Debt	6.3	7.5
Fixed Interest	9.8	14.0
Cash	8.8	6.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>
Allocation to Illiquid Assets	21.6	21.6
Allocation to Growth Assets	67.4	64.9

\* 3.3% of actual property is listed and liquid and 3.5% of the opportunistic investments are liquid. # Includes Alternative Growth and Innovation and Disruption Asset Class

## Appendix E: Total Service Liability Surplus/(Deficit)

		(\$million)
Present Value of Active Member Liabilities		1,288.6
Retirement	1,184.7	
Death	31.3	
Disablement	36.6	
Resignation	36.0	
<i>plus</i> Deferred Beneficiary Liability		338.0
<i>plus</i> Present Value of Life Time Pensions		616.3
<i>plus</i> Present Value of fixed Term Pensions		1.3
<i>less</i> Family Offset and Surcharge Account balances		(7.2)
<i>plus</i> Present Value of Future Expenses		43.3
<i>plus</i> Allowance for tax on Contributions		8.6
<b>Total Benefit Liability</b>		<b>2,288.9</b>
Compared to:		
Assets		2,337.6
<i>plus</i> Value of ongoing member contributions (6%)		62.1
<i>plus</i> Value of ongoing Authority contributions (SG)		107.5
<b>Total Assets</b>		<b>2,507.2</b>
Surplus of Total Assets over Total Benefit Liability		218.3

# Appendix F: Actuarial Statements required under SPS 160 Paragraph 23(a) – (h)

## Defined Benefit Plan – Division C (LASF)

The following statements are prepared for the purposes of actuarial statements and Paragraphs 23(a) to (h) of SPS160.

### Background

The effective date of the most recent actuarial review of the Defined Benefit plan is 30 June 2018. The actuarial investigation was undertaken by Matthew Burgess, Fellow of The Institute of Actuaries of Australia, on behalf of Towers Watson Australia Pty Ltd (AFSL 229921).

This statement has been prepared for the Trustee of Vision Super as part of the actuarial investigation in accordance with the Professional Standards issued by The Institute of Actuaries of Australia.

### Assets (SPS160 23(a))

The fair value of the Defined Benefit plan assets at 30 June 2018 was \$2,337.647 million.

This value of assets at 30 June 2018 excludes amounts held to meet the Operational Risk Financial Requirement (ORFR) and was used to determine the required contributions.

### Financial Condition SPS160 23(b)

The projected likely future financial position of the LASF Defined Benefit plan during the three years following the valuation date and based on my best estimate assumptions is as follows.

Date	Vested Benefits Index (%)
30 June 2018	106%
30 June 2019	107%
30 June 2020	108%
30 June 2021	109%

The projected financial position is shown only for the defined benefit members.

### **Accrued Benefits (SPS160 23(c))**

Accrued Benefits have been determined as the present value of expected future payments arising from membership completed as at the review date plus any additional accumulation benefits at face value. Accrued Benefits have not been subjected to a minimum of vested benefits.

In determining Accrued Benefits, the major assumptions adopted were:

- 2.5% p.a. real investment return over salary inflation. This comprised a 6.0% p.a. net of tax investment return assumption and a 3.5% p.a. salary inflation assumption.
- 4.75% p.a. real investment return over price inflation. This comprised a 6.75% p.a. gross of tax investment return and a 2.0% p.a. CPI assumption.
- The investments for fixed term pensions are matched to the liabilities by investing in fixed interest securities including CPI linked bonds. Based on current CPI indexed bond interest rates a real discount rate (i.e. discount rate above CPI) of 0.0% has been assumed.

The future rate of investment return used to determine the accrued benefits is the anticipated rate of return on the Defined Benefit plan assets.

Assumptions were also made about rates members would withdraw from service because of death, total and permanent disablement and resignation. Under these assumptions, the average expected future membership period of the members is around 8 years.

The past membership component of all benefits payable in future from the Defined Benefit plan in respect of the current membership are projected forward allowing for future salary increases and then discounted back to the valuation date at the assumed rate of investment return.

Using the above method, the total value of accrued benefits and the fair value of the Defined Benefit plan assets at 30 June 2018 were:

Value of accrued benefits: \$2,088.5 million

Fair Value of Assets: \$2,337.647 million. The ratio of the actuarial value of the assets to the value of the total accrued benefits was 111.9% which indicates an adequate coverage of the value of the accrued benefits as at the date of the actuarial investigation.

In our opinion, the value of the assets of the Defined Benefit plan at 30 June 2018 was adequate to meet the liabilities of the Defined Benefit plan in respect of accrued benefits in the Defined Benefit plan. The assets are considered adequate in the longer term based on the contributions recommended below, and assumptions as to the future experience which we regard as appropriate.

### ***Vested Benefits (SPS160 23(d))***

Vested benefits are the benefits to which members would be entitled if they voluntarily left service.

At the date of the actuarial investigation, the total vested benefits and fair value of the Defined Benefit plan total assets were:

Total Vested Benefits:	\$2,205.7 million
Fair Value of Assets:	\$2,337.647 million

The ratio of the net market value of the Defined Benefit plan assets to total vested benefits was 106.0%, which indicates a satisfactory coverage of Vested Benefits as at the date of the actuarial investigation.

In our opinion, the Fund's financial position is satisfactory.

The Trustee has determined the short fall limit to be 97%. In my opinion this does not need to be reviewed.

### ***Minimum Benefits and Funding and Solvency Certificates (SPS160 23(e) and (f))***

Funding and Solvency Certificates (FSC) for the Fund covering the period from 1 July 2017 to 30 June 2018 as required by the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act have been provided.

In our opinion, the solvency of the Fund will be able to be certified in any Funding and Solvency Certificate required under the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Regulations during the three year period to 30 June 2021 if experience is as assumed.

We note that for the purpose of issuing an FSC, the appropriate funding measure is in respect of coverage of minimum benefits (MRBs), which in this fund are considerably less than vested benefits, and are covered sufficiently by Defined Benefit plan assets. At 30 June 2018, the ratio of assets to MRBs is 147.0%. The total Minimum Requisite Benefits as at 30 June 2018 was \$1,590.6 million.

### ***Recommended Contributions (SPS160 23(g))***

We recommend that the Authorities contribute the following amounts from 1 July 2018:

- a Any outstanding unfunded liability from the 30 June 1997, 31 December 2002, 31 December 2008 and 31 December 2011 actuarial investigations; plus
- b An additional contribution to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit (the funded resignation or retirement benefit is calculated as the minimum of (100% and VBI) multiplied by the vested benefit), plus contribution tax; plus

- c 9.5% of members' salaries, increasing with increases in the Superannuation Guarantee Charge; plus
- d Additional top up contributions that may be recommended in the future, if the Defined Benefit plan becomes in an unsatisfactory financial position.

Authorities also need to contribute the amount of members' salary sacrifice contributions.

The amounts of required contributions will be reviewed in the next triennial actuarial review of the Defined Benefit plan to be conducted with an effective date no later than 30 June 2020. An annual actuarial investigation will be conducted as at 30 June 2019 and an earlier actuarial review should be undertaken if there are any significant changes in the Defined Benefit plan.

### ***Pensions (SPS160 23(h))***

In our opinion, there is a high degree of probability that the Defined Benefit plan will be able to pay the pensions as required under the Defined Benefit plan's Trust Deed. We expect that this position will continue to be able to be certified during the three year period to 30 June 2021.

These statements can only be expressed as an expectation and not as a certainty because the future financial position of the Defined Benefit plan depends on unknown factors such as future investment returns, future Plan membership changes, etc.



Matthew Burgess  
Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia



Gabrielle Baron  
Fellow of the Institute of Actuaries of Australia

3 September 2018