

## 2023 SUPPLEMENTARY ANNUAL REPORT - PART 3

### **Mercer Super Trust**

### MT346 Uniting Church in Australia Beneficiary Fund

Issued December 2023.

Your Mercer Super Trust 2023 Annual Report consists of three parts:

Part one – The Mercer Super Trust 2023 Annual Report - which contains a general update on the Mercer Super Trust and tells you about the changes that have been made to the Mercer Super Trust during the year to 30 June 2023. These changes may have an impact on your super now and in the future so it's important that you carefully read the section entitled 'Changes to the Mercer Super Trust' to see how this applies to you.

Part two – The Investment Options Details booklet - which contains information relating to the investment options available in the Corporate Superannuation Division and Allocated Pension Division. This includes investment performance, asset allocation, investment costs and transaction costs for these investment options for the year ended 30 June 2023.

Part three – Your 2023 Supplementary Annual Report which contains additional information specific to your plan for the year ended 30 June 2023.

All parts should be read in conjunction and kept together for future reference. A reference to this Annual Report means parts one, two and three collectively unless the context requires otherwise.

### **ABOUT YOUR PLAN**

Membership numbers	
At 30 June 2023	707
Plan assets	
As at 30 June 2023 <sup>^</sup>	\$480,249,845

<sup>^</sup> This figure is prepared on a cash basis. This means that it does not allow for any accruals such as outstanding contributions or benefits due as at 30 June 2023.

#### YOUR PLAN STYLE

Your plan provides members with accumulation and/or defined benefit style super.

For members with accumulation style super, your super relates to the amounts contributed by you or in respect of you and by your employer, the investment returns (which may be positive or negative) of the investment options in which your super is invested less deductions for fees, taxes and any insurance premiums.

For members with defined benefit style super, generally some or all of your super relates to salary and years of membership/service.

# EMPLOYER SUPERANNUATION GUARANTEE CONTRIBUTIONS

By law, your employer is generally required to provide a minimum level of super for its employees - the Superannuation Guarantee (SG). There may be some circumstances where your employer is not required to meet the SG. The SG is the amount the employer must provide for each employee, not a minimum amount to be contributed

to each fund. Your employer may provide the SG through more than one fund. The SG rates are set out below:

Period	SG - % of Ordinary Time Earnings (OTE*)
1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023	10.50%
1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024	11.00%

\* OTE is generally remuneration including your regular salary or wages, salary sacrifice superannuation contributions, any overaward payments, shift allowances, bonuses and commissions. It generally does not include overtime payments or benefits subject to fringe benefits tax.

An employer is only required to provide SG on OTE up to the maximum contribution base, which is \$60,220 per quarter for the year ending 30 June 2023 (\$62,270 per quarter for the year ending 30 June 2024) and is indexed on 1 July each year.

For members with only accumulation style super, your employer will generally be required to make super contributions at least equal to the SG amount.

For employees who are members with defined benefit style super, the benefits paid by the plan must be equal to or greater than a minimum level specified by your plan's actuary which is deemed to be equivalent to an employer contribution equal to the SG amount. Please see 'Financial position of the plan' for more information about employer contributions and the financial position of the plan generally.

UNITING CHURCH AUSTRALIA PLAN ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT

#### YOUR PLAN'S RESERVE ACCOUNT

Your plan has a reserve account. This reserve account is maintained for the purpose of funding Death, Total and Permanent Disablement and Total but Temporary Disablement for applicable defined benefit members of the plan.

The plan's reserve account over the past three years as a percentage of net plan assets was:

Snapshot of the values at 30 June

2023	2022	2021^
0.093%	0.130%	0.122%

The reserve account is invested in the plans defined benefit option.

^ prepared on a cash basis

### FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE PLAN

For members with defined benefit style super, the amount your employer contributes varies depending on the advice of an actuary. At least every three years, the plan's actuary prepares an investigation report that states how much your employer needs to contribute so that plan assets are expected (on the actuary's assumptions) to be sufficient to meet any super payouts now and in the future. For members with only accumulation style super, your employer will generally be required to make super contributions at least equal to the SG amount.

As at 30 June 2023, the value of the plan's assets was 100% of (i.e. approximately equal to) the sum of all members' super payouts assuming all employed members ceased employment at that date and other members were paid their Accrued Benefit amount. This means, the plan was in a satisfactory financial position at that date, as defined by superannuation legislation.

Since the last actuarial investigation, 30/6/2022, your employer has contributed in line with the contributions recommended by the plan's actuary.

In the event of your plan being wound up while the value of the plan's assets is lower than the sum of all members' super payouts assuming all employed members ceased employment at that date, your actual super payout may be less than your leaving service payout i.e. your leaving service payout may be reduced. Benefit entitlements of lifetime pensioners and former employees with retained benefits may also be reduced. However, your employer may choose to make an additional contribution at that time to make up the difference.

Note that the trustee has not been advised of any intention to wind up the plan at the date of this report - the above is provided for information purposes only.

\* Note: a reference to members in the above section includes defined benefit members, accumulation members and lifetime pensioners of the plan

#### ACCRUED BENEFITS CALCULATION

As at 30 June 2023, the value of the plan's assets was 100% of (i.e. approximately equal to) the plan's accrued benefits. As at 30 June 2023, the plan's accrued benefits amounted to \$410,517,743.

The plan's accrued benefits are:

- For accumulation members, the sum of their super payout assuming they ceased employment at that date, plus
- For defined benefit members the actuarial present value at the valuation date of the amount required to meet the proportion of future benefit payments attributed to membership completed at the valuation date.
- For pensioners, the present value of their future pension payments.

The main assumptions used to determine the value of accrued benefits for defined benefit members and pensioners are shown below.

The plan's actuary considers the following movements in the assumptions used to calculate the accrued benefits are reasonably possible for the reporting period:

Assumption	Rate used at 30 June 2022	Reasonably possible change	Amount of increase in accrued benefits	Amount of decrease in accrued benefits
Discount Rate		+0.5%		\$16,600,685
(or Investment earning rate)	6.50%	-0.5%	\$18,104,515	
Salary	4.500/	+0.5%	\$2,464,007	
adjustment rate	4.50%	-0.5%		\$2,360,324
Pension indexation	2.400/	+0.5%	\$9,319,301	
rate (if applicable)	2.40%	-0.5%		\$8,759,732

UNITING CHURCH AUSTRALIA PLAN
ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT

#### **POLICY COMMITTEE**

Your plan has a policy committee made up of 4 member and employer representatives. This policy committee has been set up with members' interests in mind.

#### As at 30 June 2023 your representatives were:

Member elected	- Bruce Binnie - Dr Alice McCleary
Employer-appointed	<ul><li>Michael Anderson</li><li>Rev. Fran Barber</li></ul>

# Appointment and removal of policy committee members

Member representatives are elected by the members. Employer representatives are appointed by your employer.

Member representatives generally serve for a term of three years.. You're entitled to see a copy of the election rules for the Mercer Super Trust. Call the Helpline on **1800 682 525** for more details.

Member representatives will cease to hold office sooner if they:

- · cease to be a member of the plan;
- · become ineligible under the law;
- · resign as a member representative; or
- are removed by a notice in writing to the trustee signed by a majority of members.

#### Filling casual vacancies

If there is a casual vacancy for a member representative the remaining member representatives on the policy committee may be asked to assist the trustee in determining how the vacancy will be filled in accordance with the election rules.

UNITING CHURCH AUSTRALIA PLAN ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT

# CHANGE IN NET ASSETS IN YOUR PLAN TO 30 JUNE 2023

Net assets at 1 July 2022	\$464,467,857
Plus	
Net investment revenue	\$41,870,411
Employer contributions*	\$4,198,311
Member contributions	\$2,078,345
Government co-contributions	\$140,378
Transfers from other funds	\$2,069,597
Insurance proceeds	\$0
Total revenue	\$50,357,042
Less	
Benefits paid	\$35,638,175
Administration fees	\$251,292
Group insurance premiums	\$21,756
Contributions and surcharge tax	-\$1,336,171
Total expenses	\$34,575,052
Equals	
Net assets#at 30 June 2023	\$480,249,847

<sup>\*</sup> The amounts shown as employer contributions include any pre-tax or salary sacrifice member contributions.

The financial information contained in this Supplementary Annual Report for your plan has not been audited. This information does form part of the full financial accounts for the Mercer Super Trust in which your plan participates. You can request a copy of the Mercer Super Trust full audited accounts and the auditor's report by contacting the Helpline.

This supplementary annual report has been issued by Mercer Superannuation (Australia) Limited (MSAL) ABN 79 004 717 533, Australian Financial Services Licence #235906, the trustee of the Mercer Super Trust ABN 19 905 422 981. Mercer is a registered trademark of Mercer (Australia) Pty Ltd (Mercer) ABN 32 005 315 917.

The information contained in this Supplementary Annual Report includes general product advice which has been prepared without taking into account the personal objectives, financial situation or needs of individual members. Before making any decisions about your super, you should consider the information in light of your own objectives, financial situation and needs and read and consider the current Product Disclosure Statement (PDS) and/or other member materials specific to your plan. Copies of these documents are available at mercersuper.com.au or by calling the Helpline.

It is also recommended that you obtain advice from a licensed, or appropriately authorised, financial adviser.

You should be aware that the value of an investment in the Mercer Super Trust may rise and fall. Neither MSAL, Mercer nor any of the investment managers guarantees the investment performance, earnings or return of capital invested in the Mercer Super Trust. © 2023, Mercer LLC. All rights reserved.

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# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION OF YOUR PLAN AT 30 JUNE 2023

#### **Assets (investment options)**

Ready-made investment options	
Mercer SmartPath	\$807,727
Mercer Diversified Shares	\$96,749
Mercer High Growth	\$293,209
Mercer Select Growth	\$44,842,150
Mercer Moderate Growth	\$1,308,672
Mercer Conservative Growth	\$703,865
Mercer Cash	\$2,037,865

Select-your-own investment options	
Mercer Sustainable Plus Shares	\$105,635
Mercer Sustainable Plus Global Shares	\$132,574
Mercer Sustainable Plus High Growth	\$73,683
Mercer Sustainable Plus Growth	\$135,671
Mercer Sustainable Plus Moderate Growth	\$49,755
Mercer Sustainable Plus Conservative Growth	\$75,888
Mercer Australian Shares	\$341,872
Mercer International Shares	\$227,401
Mercer International Shares - Hedged	\$181,608
Mercer Property	\$17,458
Mercer Fixed Interest	\$337,327
Mercer Passive Australian Shares	\$0
Mercer Passive International Shares	\$0
Mercer Passive Australian Listed Property	\$35,811
Mercer Enhanced Passive Growth	\$30,283
Mercer Enhanced Passive	\$10,107
Conservative Growth	
Total #	\$480,249,845

UNITING CHURCH AUSTRALIA PLAN ANNUAL SUPPLEMENT

<sup>\*</sup>This includes unallocated assets which may be used to pay plan expenses, insurance premiums and for any other purpose approved by the trustee. As at 30 June 2023 unallocated assets were equal to 89.5% of net plan assets.