

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST STATEMENT

Mercer (Australia) Pty Ltd ABN 32 005 315 917 (Mercer Australia) and its subsidiaries including Mercer Superannuation (Australia) Limited (MSAL) promote a culture that encourages Mercer colleagues to exercise proper judgement and to act honestly and professionally when providing financial and other services. All Mercer colleagues are instructed to be continually alert to conflicts. Where conflicts arise, all colleagues are required to pay due regard to the interests of clients and to disclose and avoid conflicts where possible, managing all other conflicts fairly, honestly and transparently. In relation to RSE licensees, where conflicts exist, priority is given to the duties and the interests of beneficiaries.

Mercer's Conflicts Management Framework (the Framework) is designed to enable MSAL as a RSE Licensee and its Responsible Persons to appropriately manage relevant conflicts of interest and duties that may arise. The framework outlines the systems, structures, processes and controls for the identification, assessment, disclosure, mitigation and management of all potential and actual conflicts. Adherence to the Framework is compulsory and is monitored by the Risk & Compliance Function.

To ensure Mercer acts in compliance with obligations relating to transparency, MSAL as a superannuation trustee is also required to record all relevant conflicts of duty and interest in the relevant register. Such conflicts have the potential to influence the decision making of individuals or the Trustee itself and inhibit or prevent the individual or the trustee Board fulfilling its duty to act in the best interest of the members.

A **'relevant duty'** refers to any duty owed by the RSE Licensee, or a responsible person of the RSE Licensee, to beneficiaries or to any other person that the RSE Licensee has determined to be relevant in accordance with the legislative requirements.

A **'relevant interest'** of an RSE Licensee, an associate of the RSE Licensee or a responsible person of a RSE Licensee, refers to any interest, gift, emolument or benefit, whether pecuniary, or non-pecuniary, directly or indirectly held by the RSE Licensee, the associate or the responsible person that the RSE Licensee has determined to be relevant in accordance with the legislative requirements.

All MSAL Responsible Persons are required to disclose any potential or actual conflicts of interests or duties on appointment and on an on-going basis. Any disclosures made are then assessed by the Conflicts Officer and appropriate conflict management measures are put in place. Measures to manage conflicts include disclosure, control or avoidance of the relevant conflict.

24 September 2024