

# LIVING MONEY MEMBER OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT

### INTRODUCTION

In this report, Equity Trustees Superannuation Limited publishes the results of our annual assessment of how well the Living Money product (the **product**) issued from Super Retirement Fund (the **fund**) provides member outcomes and promotes members' financial interests. The assessment is based on information as at 30 June 2024.

#### COVERAGE

There are two versions of this product which are summarised in the following table. In this report we have assessed the first version of the product (SRFLMS001).

Version	Product Code	Size	Total Fees	Investment options	Weighted average 5- year net return	Insurance cover
1	E07 SRFLMS001	\$0.60M	0.58% p.a.	9	5.70%	No
2	E08 SRFLMS002	\$0.39M	0.70% p.a.	9	5.70%	No

## **METHODOLOGY AND STRUCTURE**

In conducting this assessment, we compared the product to other choice superannuation products included in statistical data published by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (comparable products) using the criteria in Part 6 of the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993 and Prudential Standard SPS 515 Strategic Planning and Member Outcomes.

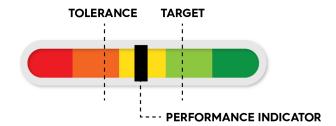
This report includes:

- our overall assessment of whether the product provides optimal member outcomes and promotes their financial interests:
- a dashboard that depicts our assessment of the product's market-relative performance for each outcome we aim to provide members;
- a table summarising the key metrics that we relied on when making this assessment; and
- our commentary on this performance that includes action items to improve suboptimal performance.

For each member outcome, the dashboard presents the relevant segment of market performance. The width of each segment is based on the range of market performance for each outcome and is specific to each outcome. The positioning of the black performance indicator bar against the colour coding is our assessment of how well the outcome has been delivered. The colour coding gives a visual representation of performance that moves from neutral (yellow) through orange to least tolerance (red), and in the opposite direction from yellow to the target (or green) area of the dashboard. The assessment of each member outcome is based on several equally-weighted metrics. Accordingly, if one metric is outside our tolerance level it doesn't automatically mean the entire member outcome is outside our tolerance level.



Example dashboard for illustrative purposes only



The target is generally the average position of the comparable products while the tolerance level is the trigger for us to consider any necessary actions to improve member outcomes.

Please visit our website to view a short video that provides more information about the operation of the dashboard.

# **OVERALL ASSESSMENT**

Having carefully considered the comparisons of the product with comparable products set out in this report, including the dashboards, metrics, commentary, and other relevant information available to us at the time of writing, we have concluded that as a result of the following factors the product is promoting members' financial interests:

- 1. the fees and costs that affect the return to members are appropriate having regard to their financial interests;
- 2. the net returns for the product (i.e. returns after deducting all fees, costs and taxes) are consistent with market rates;
- 3. the level of investment risk for the product is not acceptable in relation to the net returns generated;
- 4. the investment strategy for the product is appropriate;
- 5. the options, benefits and facilities offered in the product are appropriate for members;
- 6. the scale of the product and the fund does not disadvantage members.

#### **DASHBOARD**

#### STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Working together with the fund's promoter, Resolution Life, our purpose is to enhance retirement outcomes by providing products that allow members to accumulate retirement savings, receive retirement income and protect their assets.

To support this purpose, our goals for the fund are to enhance member's retirement balances, provide members with confidence through reliable and clear delivery of regulatory compliance, satisfy members through engaging member service that assists them grow their account balances, and grow member balances through competitive investment returns in line with stated objectives and targets.

The product is a choice accumulation product.



#### **INVESTMENT RETURN**

Outcomes	Investment return for a \$50,000 account balance in the product <sup>1,0</sup> is consistent with market indexes.					
Our product's performance relative to comparable products	Tolerance		Target			
Metrics	Ref	Metric Label	Value	Tolerance	Target	
Wietrics	itei	Wethe Laber	value	Tolerance	raiget	
	1.1	1-year actual net return	9.86%	9.11%	9.71%	
	1.2	3-year actual net return	5.05%	3.62%	4.34%	
	1.3	5-year actual net return	5.70%	5.07%	5.60%	
	1.4	10-year actual net return	5.81%	6.00%	6.64%	

#### Commentary

The performance indicator measures the weighted average investment return of all investment options in the product over 1, 3, 5 and 10-year periods and is based on an equal weighting of all the metrics in the above table.

1.2 – 1.4 Net returns are based on historic returns and the current fee structure.

Appendix 1 displays the investment returns for each investment option available in the product and the weighted average investment returns for the product over these periods. All the diversified options listed in Appendix 1 have passed the performance test in APRA's Comprehensive Product Performance Package.

investment options available in the product. The table in Appendix 1 provides more information.

This commentary focuses on the 5-year weighted average return to 30 June 2024. The 5-year period is a balance between short-term and long-term performance. When reading this commentary, it's important to bear in mind that past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Over the 5-years to 30 June 2024 the product's weighted average investment return was above our target level. No action is required as a result of this assessment.

The investment strategy for the Fund is reviewed annually, which includes the risk return profile of the investment options and we are comfortable it is appropriate for members.



#### **INVESTMENT RISK**

#### Investment risk for a \$50,000 account balance in the product is consistent with the Outcomes Standard Risk Measure (SRM)<sup>2.0</sup>. Our product's performance relative to comparable products Tolerance ! Target Metrics Ref Metric Label Value Tolerance **Target** 2.1 Negative annual net returns over last 2.01 2.00 1.00 10 years 2.0 Negative annual returns and associated targets and tolerance levels are weighted averages for the product. The weighted averages are based on the performance, SRM and funds under management of the investment options available in the product. Portions of years have been rounded up or down to a whole

#### Commentary

The performance indicator measures the weighted average number of negative annual returns for the 10 years to this date.

When reading this commentary, it's important to bear in mind that:

- we have focussed on asset classes that have a material effect on the number of negative annual returns over the last 10 years;
- the Standard Risk Measure assesses the number of negative annual returns and is not an indicator of the magnitude of the negative returns in those years;
- over the period Cash returns have been at historical lows, potentially less than the cost of administration fees; and
- past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

Over the 10 years to 30 June 2024 the weighted average number of negative returns for the product was outside our tolerance level.

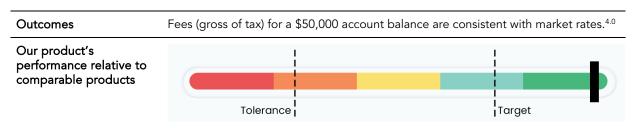
The contributing factors of the negative annual returns over the period were a combination of manager selection and the product's fees and costs in the Australian Shares asset class.

While we cannot remove underperformance in the past, we have sought to protect member outcomes by optimising investment performance through changes to the investment strategy which we are seeing through the product's short term investment performance.

We therefore believe these changes ensured that the investment strategy for the product remained appropriate. No further action is required as a result of this assessment.



#### **FEES AND COSTS**



Metrics	Ref	Metric Label	Value	Tolerance	Target
	4.1	Total fees	0.58%	1.43%	0.98%

4.1 These fees include a weighted average investment fee that is based on the investment fees and funds under management of the investment options available in the product.

#### Commentary

This table lists the product's total fees and costs (administration and investment fees and costs) that members paid in the year ended 30 June 2024. Other fees may be payable which are set out in the product's disclosure documents.

The performance indicator measures total fees and costs together against comparable products.

Total fees were above our target level.

It's important to note that:

- due to reductions, fee rates as of 30 June 2024 are lower than the amounts listed in the table; and
- the full effect of these reductions will be reflected in the Member Outcomes Assessment for the year ended 30 June 2025.

As a result, we are comfortable that fees and costs are consistent with market rates and therefore are appropriate having regard to members financial interests.



#### **MEMBER SERVICES**

Outcomes  Our product's performance relative to comparable products	Adminis	stration services satisfy member expo	ectations.			
		Tolerance		Target		
Metrics	Ref	Metric Label	Value	Tolerance	Target	
	8.1	Administration-related EDR complaints	0.00	3.50	1.50	
	8.2	Service Level Achievement	96.14%	80.00%	95.00%	
	8.3	Administration fees	0.46%	0.62%	0.38%	
	8.4	Information security controls	Effective	Partially Effective	Effective	
	8.1 This is Authority 8.2 Servic transactio 8.4 This is	means "External Dispute Resolution".  In the annual number of administration-related of per 10,000 member accounts.  In the level achievement measures the portion of nor sure that were processed within our service levels our view of the effectiveness of the Administrate peendent review completed during the year.	ew member, contri l.	bution and benef	it payment	

#### Commentary

The performance indicator measures the delivery of administration services against our service levels, and against the cost of similar services for comparable products.

The performance indicator, which is above our target level, is based on an equal weighting of the above metrics.

As a result, we are comfortable that administration services satisfy member expectations because of the number of administration related complaints, the high rate of service level achievement and the administrator's information and cyber security controls are effective.

Therefore, we consider the options, benefits and facilities offered in the product are appropriate for members.



#### **SCALE**

Outcomes	The fun	The fund is likely to deliver optimal outcomes in the future.					
The scale of the fund relative to comparable products		Tolerance					
				Target			
Metrics	Ref	Metric Label	Value	Tolerance	Target		
	9.1	RSE adjusted total accounts growth rate	-10.56%	-6.25%	-2.50%		
	9.2	RSE Net Cash Flow Ratio	-9.64%	-2.75%	-0.50%		
	9.3	RSE Net Rollover Ratio	-6.22%	-3.00%	-1.75%		
	accounts a consolida	SE adjusted total accounts growth rate is the a averaged over the three year period, excluding tions. SE Net Cash Flow Ratio is members' benefits f	g Successor Fund T	ransfers (SFTs) and	d account		

#### Commentary

The performance indicator measures the fund's growth and ability to deliver scale benefits to members against other funds.

percentage of cash flow adjusted net assets averaged over the three year period, excluding SFTs. 9.3 The RSE Net Rollover Ratio is rollovers in less rollovers out as a percentage of cash flow adjusted net

The performance indicator, which is outside tolerance level, is based on an equal weighting of the above metrics.

assets averaged over the three year period, excluding SFTs.

The fund is closed to new members and continues to be in run off with membership decreasing by 7% in FY24. It is expected to decrease at a similar rate over the next 3 years.

With total member benefits of \$2.7b and approximately 34,000 members, we believe that the fund has reasonable scale.

We will continue to monitor the impact that the expected reduction in fund size may have on member outcomes and take appropriate action if required.



#### **LIQUIDITY**

# Outcomes Benefit and rollover requests can be met in a timely manner from investments Our product's performance relative to comparable products Tolerance

Metrics	Ref	Metric Label	Value	Tolerance	Target
	10.1	Investment liquidity in a GFC scenario	87.82%	40.00%	80.00%

10.1 Liquidity is a weighted average that is based on the liquidity in a Global Financial Crisis scenario and funds under management of the investment options available in the product. The table in Appendix 1 provides more information.

#### Commentary

The performance indicator measures the fund's ability to meet benefit and rollover requests in a timely manner.

We regularly monitor whether the investments and any insurance policies would be able to meet cash requirements in extreme situations. Based on our analysis, we consider that benefits are supported by liquid investments.

As a result, we are comfortable that the level of liquidity risk for the product is acceptable.



# **APPENDIX 1**

#### **INVESTMENT OPTION INFORMATION**

					Investment Period		
Investment Option	Inception Date	Growth Ratio	Member Assets	1 Year	3 Years	5 Years	10 Years
Australian Share 6	2001-02-01	100%	\$0.1M	11.28%	7.02%	7.16%	6.71%
Conservative 3	2001-02-01	32%	\$0.1M	6.25%	2.37%	2.38%	2.9%
Conservative 3	2001-02-01	32%	\$0.0M	6.26%	2.39%	2.54%	3.07%
Diversified Fixed Interest 2	2001-02-01	0%	\$0.0M	2.21%	-2.7%	-1.67%	0.31%
Growth 2	2001-02-01	72%	\$0.1M	10.46%	5.62%	6.2%	6.33%
Growth 2	2001-02-01	72%	\$0.2M	10.07%	5.54%	6.12%	6.16%
Guaranteed Cash	2001-02-01	0%	\$0.0M	3.87%	1.56%		
International Share 4	2001-02-01	100%	\$0.0M	17.58%	7.96%	10.72%	9.91%
Listed Real Assets	2001-02-01	100%	\$0.0M	5.13%	-4.19%	0.08%	3.09%
Weighted Average		69%	\$0.6M	9.86%	5.05%	5.7%	5.81%

This table provides information about the asset allocation, size and performance of the investment options available in the product.