

General Super News



2nd edition (February 2010)

AGEST's General Super News keeps you up-to-date with AGEST and recent superannuation news.

Our email investment update is also due out shortly.

New Video - AGEST Member Meeting

In late 2009, AGEST conducted a number of meetings around Australia to provide feedback to members about our products, services and investment performance.

We recorded one of those sessions and you can find it on our website along with a copy of the presentation slides. To access the video, [click here](#) or go to our website, www.agemt.com.au, and click on the 'Play' button in the middle of our homepage.

Half-yearly Member Statements

Our member statements for the 6 months ending 31 December 2010 are scheduled to be sent in late February 2010.

Members who are set-up to receive statements online will receive an email notifying them when their statement pack is available within AGEST's secure online service.

Members who choose to receive their statement online, rather than receive a paper copy, have earlier access to their statement. In addition, the environmental impact of our statement printing has been reducing by more than 1 million A4 pages so far.

If you would like to receive your statement online, simply log in to your account online, click on the 'Change Details' tab and set your communications preference to 'email'.

Superannuation under review

A review of the superannuation system is currently underway which aims to comprehensively examine and analyse the governance, efficiency, structure and operation of Australia's superannuation system.

The review is being conducted around the concepts of the best interests of members and the maximising of retirement incomes for Australians. This review is being led by an expert panel and is titled the Cooper Review after the chair of the panel – Jeremy Cooper (ex-deputy head of ASIC) .

The Cooper Review together with a review of Australia's Future Tax System – Henry Review, may introduce changes to superannuation including its tax treatment and the way funds are managed and operated.

Although changes in superannuation rules and regulations is nothing new, these comprehensive reviews present a significant opportunity for the government to ensure that the retirement income system of Australia continues to operate effectively and efficiently. As always, we will keep our membership informed of any changes that may affect your superannuation with AGEST.

Quicklinks

www.agemt.com.au

- > [Your account online](#)
use this to manage your subscriptions to our email updates (including our general news and investment news)
- > [AGEST Seminars](#)
- > [Investment returns](#)
- > [Contact us](#)

Other websites

- > [Financial tips and safety checks](#)
- > [Understanding Money](#)
- > [Australian Taxation Office \(ATO\)](#)
- > [Super Guru from the Association of Superfunds of Australia \(ASFA\)](#)

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AGEST's **Product Disclosure Statement (PDS)** was recently updated. The new version, dated 1 January 2010, is now available for download on our website - see the downloads menu online or [click here](#).

AGEST is pleased to note that both SuperRatings and the Heron Partnership (independent Superannuation Ratings Organisations) have confirmed that AGEST has again been awarded their highest ratings for our superannuation and pension

If you would like to know more on the current status or scope of these reviews, we encourage you to visit the following government websites:

www.supersystemreview.gov.au

www.taxreview.treasury.gov.au

Member Feedback Survey

AGEST has engaged an external research company (Forethought) to survey AGEST members to gain a better understanding of members' experiences with AGEST and preferences for a great superannuation fund. The survey will be conducted by email and you may receive a request to participate by completing an online survey.

Protecting your super account

Members should be aware of the following and ensure appropriate steps are taken to protect your account.

Watch out for scams

Most people are aware that identity theft is increasing and the Australian Federal Police have confirmed that attempts have been made by fraud syndicates to steal superannuation money using stolen identities.

To protect your account from unauthorised use, AGEST applies stringent security measures, including verification of identity before account information is released or certain transactions are processed.

However, we emphasise that you should take extra care to protect your statements, account and log-in details for online access. You should also periodically review your account to ensure there are no unauthorised transactions.

Superannuation funds, including AGEST are soundly regulated and members should be reassured by the fact that they are protected by law against theft and fraud relating to APRA -regulated funds.

Illegal early release schemes

You should steer clear of any illegal offers to release your superannuation benefits before retirement as you may be subject to heavy tax and legal penalties when caught.

These schemes are often promoted by word of mouth or shady advertising. Please contact AGEST if you are unsure of your ability to access your super. You can also contact the Australian Taxation Office if you have enquiries regarding self-managed funds (which are commonly the vehicle for such early release schemes).

The financial tips and safety checks web link listed in the Other Websites section of this email has further important information about identity theft and illegal early release schemes.

products.



We hope you found this email helpful. If you would like to provide any feedback or suggestions for our General Super News update, please email to trustee@agest.com.au.

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