

In-Tandem Insight

February 2018



Welcome to the first issue of In-Tandem Insight for 2018.

In this newsletter we have included a Scheme snapshot, an update on the investment performance (including our thoughts about the recent share market volatility and general news about the Scheme and your membership).

If there are topics you would like covered in future editions of this newsletter, please email me at bruce_kerr@westpac.co.nz or contact any of the trustee directors directly.

Enjoy this edition. We look forward to another great year helping you save towards your future!

Bruce Kerr,
Chairman of the Trustee

Scheme snapshot

As at 31 December 2017:

- \$332.2 million in retirement savings accumulated
- 3,731 members and pensioners

We have also welcomed 209 new members into the Scheme since 30 June 2017.

How has your fund performed?

Investment performance as at 31 January 2018 after fees and tax

	Scheme year-to-date (6 months)	3 years (pa)	5 years (pa)
Cash Fund	1.0%	2.1%	2.3%
Defensive Fund	2.2%	3.0%	3.6%
Moderate Balanced Fund	5.5%	5.1%	6.5%
Growth Fund	7.6%	6.5%	8.4%
High Growth Fund	10.9%	8.6%	11.3%

Returns are based on unit prices (determined by Mercer) for the respective funds

Source: BT Funds Management

Quarterly asset commentary

The final quarter of 2017 was strong for most financial markets. Many equity markets around the world posted record highs, buoyed by improving economic conditions and upbeat company profit results, while fixed interest returns were also positive.

[Read on to find out more](#)

Source: BT Funds Management

Could the Cash Fund outperform Defensive?

In the current market environment of potential rises in interest rates, there is a possibility for the Cash Fund to outperform the Defensive Fund due to the latter's high allocation to bonds.

[Find out more here](#)

Source: Willis Towers Watson

Did you know taking a break from work could affect your eligibility for a KiwiSaver HomeStart grant?

A recent newspaper article about a woman who initially missed out on a KiwiSaver HomeStart grant highlights the need to have contributed regularly to a KiwiSaver scheme or to an 'exempt employer' scheme (such as the Scheme) for at least three years in total. Periods when you are temporarily away from work (such as on parental leave) do not count unless you contribute the applicable minimum amount during those periods.

[Read more here](#)

Reviewing your Scheme investments

As a matter of good practice, reviewing your Scheme investments on a regular basis is very important.

Although saving for retirement for most people is a long-term undertaking, it shouldn't be a set-and-forget process. That doesn't mean that you should be chopping and changing between funds.

[Find out more here](#)

Trustee election

Joanne McGregor's three-year term of office as one of the Scheme's two member-elected trustee directors ends on 31 March 2018. Nominations for the vacancy opened on 12 February and close on Friday, 23 February. If more than one candidate is nominated, the election will take place between 5 and 16 March.

Further information about the election process and the role and responsibilities of a trustee director are available from Bruce Kerr (bruce_kerr@westpac.co.nz).

Useful links and contacts

- [Westpac In-Tandem helpline: 0508 468 263](#)
- [Westpac investment advisers: 0800 601 901](#)
- [Scheme website: westpacintandem.co.nz](http://westpacintandem.co.nz)
- [Newsletter feedback: Email Bruce Kerr at bruce_kerr@westpac.co.nz](mailto:bruce_kerr@westpac.co.nz)