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GUARDIANS OF  
NEW ZEALAND  
SUPERANNUATION

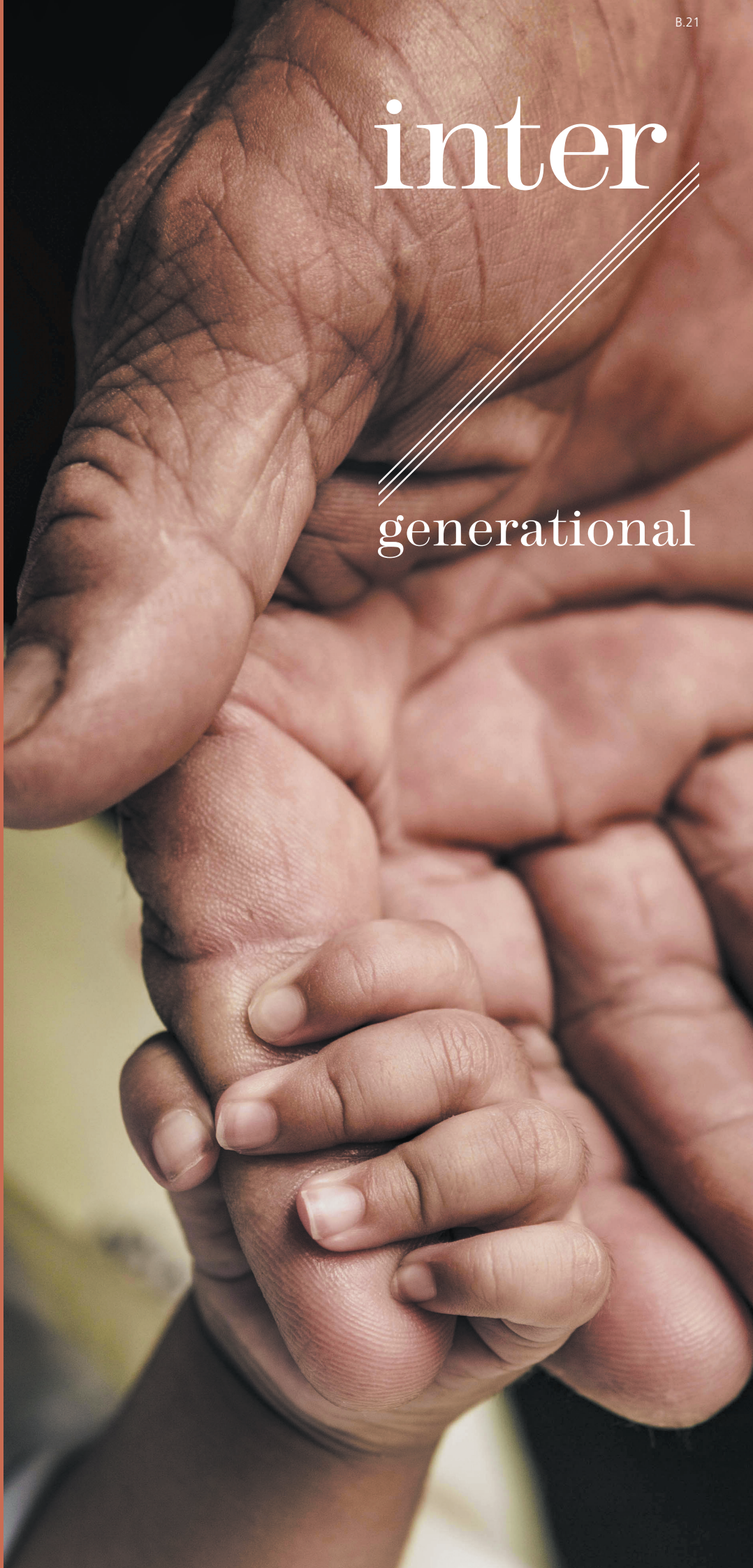
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STATEMENT OF  
PERFORMANCE  
EXPECTATIONS

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NGĀ MATAPAE MŌ  
TE PŪRONGO  
WHAKAHAERE PŪTEA

—  
FOR THE PERIOD  
1 JULY 2023 -  
30 JUNE 2024

inter

generational



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## Introduction

### He Kupu Whakataki

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The Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation ("Guardians") is a Crown entity charged with managing the New Zealand Superannuation Fund ("NZ Super Fund") and the Elevate NZ Venture Fund ("Elevate").

The NZ Super Fund is a global investment fund set up in 2001 to partially pre-fund the future cost of New Zealand superannuation. By using the NZ Super Fund to save now in order to help pre-fund superannuation in the future, the Government aims to smooth the cost of New Zealand superannuation between today's taxpayers and future generations.

Investing began in 2003. The Guardians invests the capital contributions made by the Government, as well as the net returns generated from the investments made (less tax paid).

In 2019, the Government established a venture capital fund, a second fund managed by the Guardians. Elevate is a fund-of-funds programme, managed on behalf of the Guardians by New Zealand Growth Capital Partners Limited ("NZGCP").

Our 2022 – 2027 Statement of Intent ("SOI") sets out our medium-term goals and measures for assessing our progress towards them. This Statement of Performance Expectations ("SPE") outlines short-term activities we plan to undertake in the financial year to 30 June 2024, and what we intend to achieve.

We have included a separate section in this report dedicated to Elevate in order to clearly differentiate between the performance expectations in respect of each of our mandates.

#### Our SPE also sets out:

- our expectations for the NZ Super Fund's performance over the 2023/24 financial year;
- the key risks to the NZ Super Fund's performance and the actions we are taking to manage those risks; and
- prospective financial statements for the 2023/24 financial year for both the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. Prospective financial statements for Elevate are not required.

Each year, we receive a Letter of Expectations from the Minister of Finance outlining the Minister's expectations of the Guardians' activities for the forthcoming year. A number of the activities referred to are multi-year activities that we undertake as part of our business-as-usual work streams. A copy of the Letter, along with the Guardians' response, is available on our website: [www.nzsuperfund.nz](http://www.nzsuperfund.nz).



# Guardians

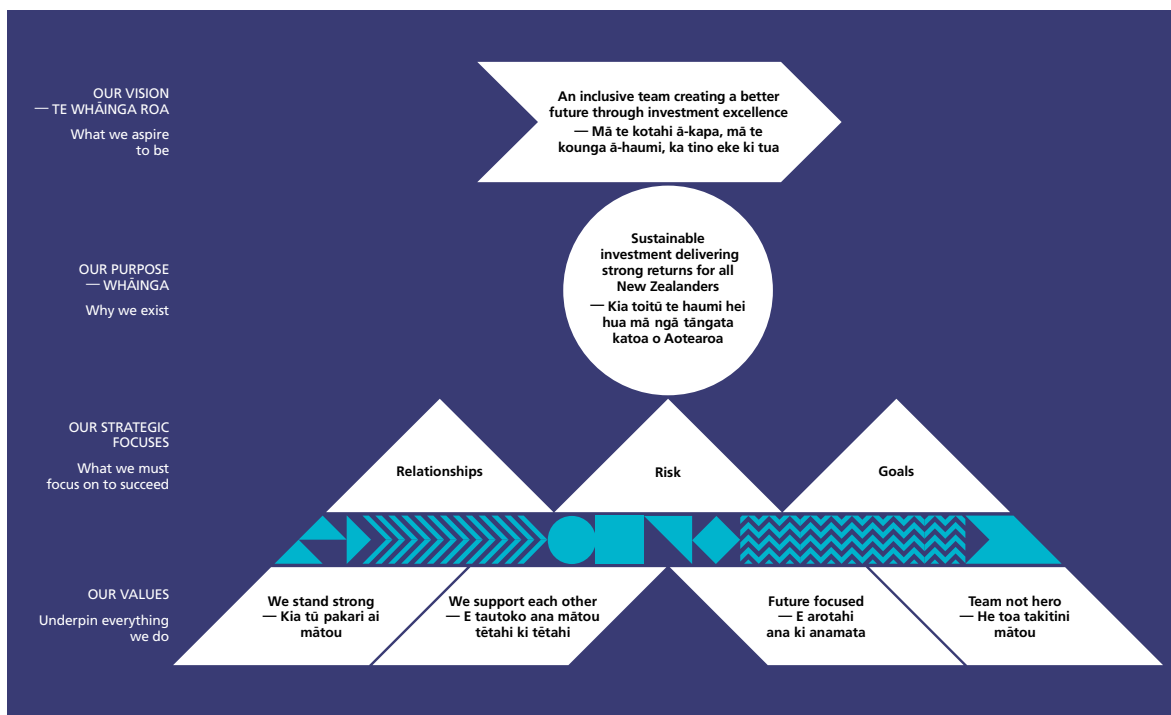
of New Zealand  
Superannuation

## Strategic direction

### Te Ahunga Rautaki

- **Our Purpose:** Sustainable investment delivering strong returns for all New Zealanders
- **Our Vision:** An inclusive team creating a better future through investment excellence

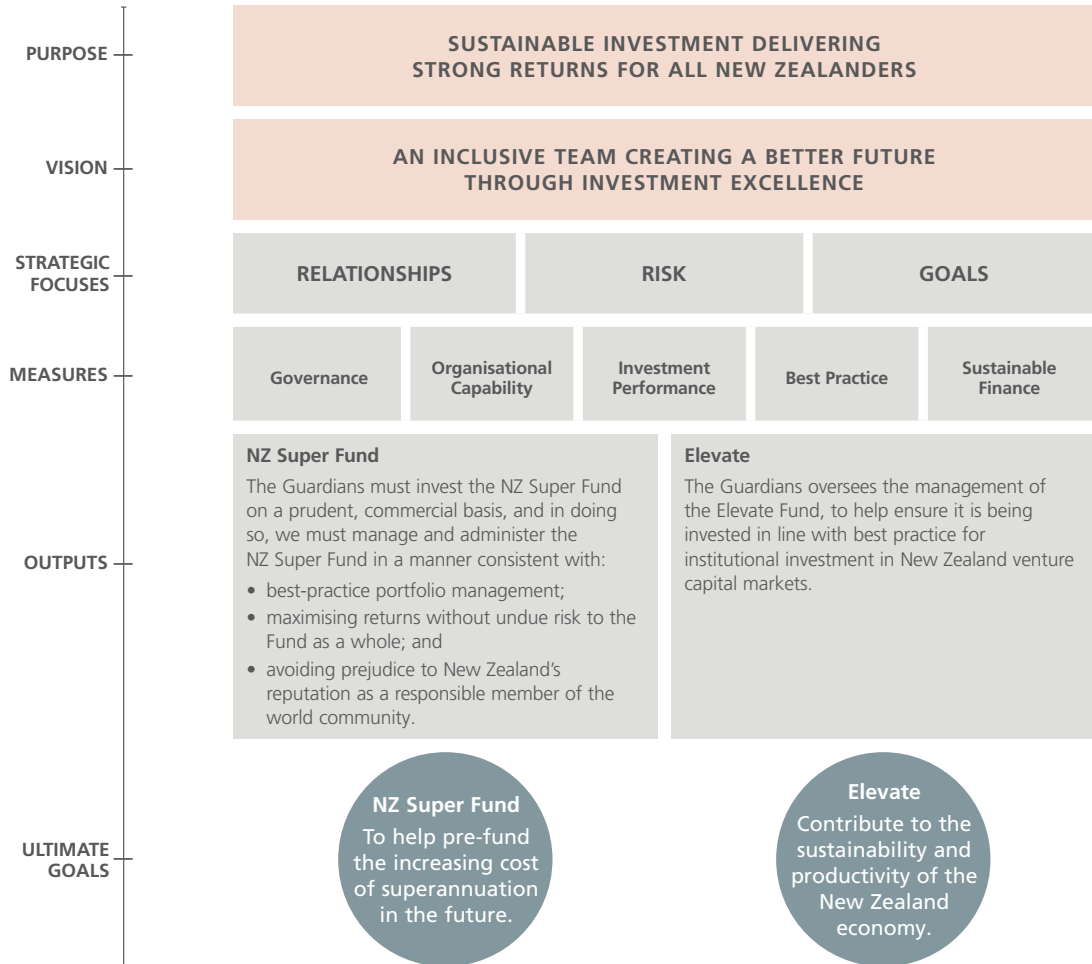
Our Purpose, Vision and Risk Appetite set the scene for our strategic framework. This is shaped by three focuses: Relationships, Risk and Goals. It provides a guide to where we will focus our resources and thinking in the medium term. Our values underpin everything we do. They are critical in guiding how we operate as a team and as an investor.



More information on what success looks like for the Guardians in the medium term can be found in our 2022 – 2027 Statement of Intent (pages 7 to 9).

**THE ULTIMATE GOAL (OUTCOME)**

The Guardians' function is to manage two mandates: the New Zealand Superannuation Fund ("NZ Super Fund") and the Elevate NZ Venture Fund ("Elevate").



## How we measure our performance

### Te huarahi e inea ai e mātou ā mātou mahi

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#### GUARDIANS

The measures we use to track the medium-term performance of the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund can be found in our Statement of Intent (pages 10 to 18) and on our website.

Those measures, along with the programmes of work (formerly "Strategic Priorities") described on pages 6 and 7, will be used to assess our performance in 2023/24. Where possible we look to obtain assessment of our performance from independent third parties and global experts in benchmarking.

In our Annual Reports, we report on progress towards both the SOI goals and against the programmes of work set out on pages 6 and 7.

#### NZ SUPER FUND

In this section, we describe how we measure the investment performance of the NZ Super Fund. In line with this, over rolling 20-year periods, we expect the NZ Super Fund to achieve:

- the 90-day Treasury Bill Return;
- + 2.8% p.a. in Reference Portfolio Returns; and
- + 1% p.a. value-add in Actual Fund Returns

With only a 1% chance of delivering a return over 20 years worse than -1.7% p.a.

We use a risk-adjusted performance metric, the Sharpe ratio, to assess how much return in excess of the Treasury Bill return has been generated per unit of risk taken. The higher the ratio, the greater the return for the risk, and vice-versa.

The Sharpe ratio is calculated as follows:

$$\frac{(\text{Reference Portfolio Return} + \text{Active Return}) - \text{Cash Return}}{\text{Risk}}$$

We expect to achieve a Sharpe ratio of **0.21** for the Reference Portfolio, and **0.27** for our Actual Portfolio.

**Reference Portfolio Return** is the return of financial assets such as equities and bonds.

**Active Return** is the additional return the NZ Super Fund earns by investing outside of the Reference Portfolio and so is calculated as the difference between the Reference Portfolio and the NZ Super Fund's actual investment portfolio.

**Cash Return** is the return available on a 'risk-free' investment. It is netted off total return in calculating the Sharpe ratio.

**Risk** is defined as the level of risk collectively brought into the NZ Super Fund by the sum of all investment activity in the actual portfolio. It is measured by the volatility (standard deviation) of returns.

As per the formula above, improving the Sharpe ratio requires an increase in returns without a commensurate increase in risk. So, each active investment we undertake must raise the sum of the top line, or reduce the bottom line, or both. We report on the NZ Super Fund's Sharpe ratio since inception each year in our Annual Report.

## What we intend to achieve in 2023/24

### Ngā kaupapa e whai ana mātou ki te whakatutuki i te tau 2023 me te tau 2024

In this section, we describe the programmes of work (formerly "Strategic Priorities") we will focus on in 2023/24. These activities represent large-scale and often multi-year projects which sit outside the Guardians' 'business-as-usual' operations and require significant cost, time and resource.

The delivery of these programmes of work, along with the Guardians' 'business-as-usual' work, and other less resource-intensive projects, contribute to the strategic focuses (Relationships, Risk and Goals) set out in our SOI in order to better equip the organisation to meet its Purpose.

We have separated the programmes of work of the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund below to help our stakeholders understand which are organisation focused (Guardians) and which are in respect to managing the NZ Super Fund.

We will report on our progress in implementing these activities in our 2023/24 Annual Report.

In addition to these programmes of work, the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act requires that an independent review of how effectively and efficiently the Guardians is performing its function is carried out every five years. Our next independent review will be undertaken in 2024, and the review report and our response will be published on our website. To learn more about the independent reviews, please refer to our 2022 – 2027 Statement of Intent (SOI).

#### GUARDIANS

Programme of work	What we intend to achieve in 2023/24	Alignment to strategic focuses
<p><b>Modern Workplace</b></p> <p>Deliver improved collaboration and communication tools, including shifting to a new and improved document management system and intranet.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete delivery of Microsoft 365 suite of tools, notably SharePoint and MS Teams.</li> <li>Migrate content and retire existing document management system and intranet.</li> </ul> <p>Measurement category (SOI): Governance.</p>	<p><b>Risk:</b> Wellness/Culture; Staff capability and capacity.</p> <p><b>Goals:</b> Design the Guardians of the Future*; Increase capability in data and technology; Constructive and aligned team; Increase risk maturity.</p>
<p><b>Design the Guardians of the Future</b></p> <p>Clearly articulate how we will continue to pursue our Purpose and Vision in the future and design the organisation to deliver this.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish the Guardians' strategic intent for the next 10+ years – how we see ourselves continuing to deliver our Purpose and Vision.</li> <li>Design broad guiding principles to enable decision-making.</li> <li>Design a coordinated set of actions to progress the organisation towards its goals.</li> <li>Design key performance indicators to assess progress.</li> </ul> <p>Measurement categories (SOI): Governance, Organisational capability.</p>	<p><b>Goal:</b> Design the Guardians of the Future.</p>

\* In 2023, we updated our 'Design our future of work' goal to 'Design the Guardians of the Future'.



Programme of work	What we intend to achieve in 2023/24	Alignment to strategic focuses
<p><b>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; and Te Ao Māori</b></p> <p>Maturing our Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DE&amp;I); and integrating and understanding of Te Ao Māori.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress the DE&amp;I Strategy Goal Tahī (One) to attract and appoint more women into leadership roles and more Māori and Pacific people, against 2022 baselines.</li> <li>Progress the DE&amp;I Strategy Goal Rima (Five) to reduce our gender pay gap.</li> <li>Progress the DE&amp;I Strategy Goal Ono (Six) to enhance our Te Ao Māori engagement.</li> </ul> <p>Measurement categories (SOI): Governance; Organisational capability.</p>	<p><b>Relationships:</b> Iwi; Māori; Government; peers and partners.</p> <p><b>Risk:</b> Wellness/Culture; Staff capability and capacity.</p> <p><b>Goals:</b> Design the Guardians of the Future; Supporting and delivering investment excellence; Constructive and aligned team; Increase our risk maturity.</p>
<p><b>Human Capital Management System</b></p> <p>Implement Oracle HCM integrated cloud solution.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deliver phase two of the system implementation with the addition of five new modules: Performance Management; Goal Management; Learning; Career Development; and Health and Safety.</li> </ul> <p>Measurement categories (SOI): Governance; Organisational capability.</p>	<p><b>Risk:</b> Staff capability and capacity; System not fit for purpose.</p> <p><b>Goals:</b> Design the Guardians of the Future; Supporting and delivering investment excellence.</p>

### NZ SUPER FUND

Programme of work	What we intend to achieve in 2023/24	Alignment to strategic focuses
<p><b>Investment Data and Analytics</b></p> <p>Establish a new data platform, build data analytics, governance and quality capabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish a data platform and begin delivering core investment and market data for business users.</li> <li>Implement a data governance tool.</li> <li>Begin the establishment of a research and development ecosystem.</li> </ul> <p>Measurement categories (SOI): Governance; Investment Performance.</p>	<p><b>Risk:</b> Failure of value-adding strategies; Insufficient liquidity; Fit-for-purpose IT and systems; Process failures.</p> <p><b>Goals:</b> Design the Guardians of the Future; Increase capability and capacity in data and technology; Supporting and delivering investment excellence; Increase our risk maturity.</p>

# Statement of estimated NZ Super Fund performance

## Te Tauaki e Whakatau Tata ana i te Tupu o te Tahua

Predicting short-term financial market returns with any useful accuracy over a near-term horizon is impossible. We therefore show our long-term, or equilibrium, expectations for the Reference Portfolio return (see our Annual Report for more information about the Reference Portfolio).

To that we add our expectations of returns from value-added activities to arrive at the mid-point for the actual NZ Super Fund. This is shown in the table below. We note that given the volatility of returns, there is a range of possible return outcomes around these estimates.

COMPONENT OF RETURN	RISK-FREE RATE	EXCESS RETURN AFTER COSTS	REWARD FOR VALUE-ADDING ACTIVITIES	
EXPLANATION	Our estimate of the equilibrium return on 90-day Treasury Bills.	We define the reward for market risk as the margin between the risk-free rate and the return that would be generated on the Reference Portfolio (after assumed costs of 0.23%).  Although the estimates of market risk vary over time, we provide the equilibrium, or long term, expectation of the rewards for market risk on the Reference Portfolio.	Our estimate of the return from the investment activities we undertake to add value over and above the Reference Portfolio.	The expected value of our estimated range for the NZ Super Fund's return over the next year is 7.8%.
	<p><b>4.0%</b></p>	<p><b>2.8%</b></p> <p>(which is the reward for taking market risk above cash or the risk-free rate)</p>	<p><b>1.0%</b></p>	<p><b>= 7.8%</b></p>

## What are the key risks to the NZ Super Fund's performance in 2023/24 and how are we managing them?

### He aha ngā tūraru matua ka pā pea kit e tupu o te Tahua I te tau 2023 me te tau 2024, ā, e pēwhea ana tā mātou noho takatū ki era?

How we manage risk is fundamental to our success.

The Guardians' Risk Appetite Statement and Risk Assessment Framework provide staff with clear guidance on our tolerance for risk. The Risk Appetite Statement has been developed in alignment with the Guardians' purpose statement. It recognises that the Guardians needs to take risk to achieve its purpose.

The Risk Appetite Statement makes it clear that accountability for risk identification and mitigation rests across all parts of the Guardians' team, and outlines the approach to risk the Guardians will take in order to achieve the strategic goals of the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. It importantly sets out the Board's expectation that the Guardians continues to use all reasonable measures to manage its response to risk, the

questions we need to ask in assessing risks and what our core expectations are in managing risk.

The Guardians acknowledges that risk events will always happen; our focus is to ensure we have appropriate mechanisms in place to respond to these events. We believe that having great culture, governance, people and processes is critical to managing these risks.

The Risk Assessment Framework assists us in determining our risk appetite and how we will respond to risks we have identified in the four categories set out in the Risk Appetite Statement.

#### RISK APPETITE STATEMENT

The Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation has developed into, and has a strong ambition to remain, a world class organisation with a purpose that reflects its intergenerational focus.

In setting out its risk appetite the Board recognises that risk, internal and external, to its business is likely to come from a range of causes. For these risks, how we respond falls into four broad categories: Culture, Governance, People, and Processes.

The Board is willing to take risk to achieve its purpose; it expects the Guardians to continue to use all reasonable measures, without imposing excessive costs or constraints, for its management of the four categories.

Our risk appetite will be determined by the Guardians' purpose and vision, with Investment Risk managed by the adoption of the Reference Portfolio and approved Investment Constraints; and Enterprise Risk is managed by the Risk Assessment Framework.

The Risk Assessment Framework ensures:

- the risk categories are defined;
- the questions we need to ask ourselves are set out;
- the Guardians' core expectations; and
- there is appropriate monitoring and reporting of our risk-appetite assessments.

The Board and management of the Guardians are responsible for managing these risks. The Guardians' risk management framework is reviewed and approved by the Board. The Audit Committee reviews the reports of management, and of the Guardians' external and internal auditors, on the effectiveness of systems for internal controls and financial reporting. The Board delegates day-to-day management of risk to the Chief Executive Officer.

Inherent in this delegation is a desire to ensure that day-to-day responsibility for risk management is at the business unit level, where risk is seen as part of the overall business process, and a robust framework of identification, evaluation, monitoring and control exists.

The Risk Appetite Statement, along with our wider approach to managing risk, is set out in schedule 2 of the Guardians' Risk Management Policy and in our Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures, available on our website [www.nzsuperfund.nz](http://www.nzsuperfund.nz). Performance against this statement is measured and reported to the Board on a regular basis.

More information on the Guardians' risk management process can be found in the Risk Management section of our Annual Report.

#### KEY INVESTMENT RISKS FOR THE NZ SUPER FUND

This section is designed to describe in more detail some of the key investment risks for the NZ Super Fund.

*Market Risk:* Market risk is the risk that the value of an asset will fluctuate over time due to factors that affect the broader market rather than the individual asset.

The market risks that the NZ Super Fund is primarily exposed to are:

- Equity price risk, both globally and in New Zealand. We manage this through diversification between asset classes and by imposing investment constraints at a total fund level and within individual investment mandates.
- Foreign currency risk, primarily due to changes in the New Zealand dollar versus the United States dollar. This is managed by establishing a target hedge ratio for all foreign currency exposures at a total fund level and by specifying bounds within which external investment managers may take on foreign currency exposures.
- Interest rate risk, primarily due to changes in New Zealand and United States interest rates. This is managed by diversification between asset classes and by imposing investment constraints on external investment managers.

*Credit Risk:* Credit risk is the risk that a third party will default on its obligation to the NZ Super Fund, causing the NZ Super Fund to incur a loss. The NZ Super Fund is exposed to credit risk arising from its cash and cash equivalents, receivables and investments.

The Board and management mitigate the NZ Super Fund's exposure to credit risk associated with our internally managed

investments by applying specific prudential limits to any unhedged exposure to any single investment manager or asset. Investment strategy-specific constraints are also imposed to limit the NZ Super Fund's net unhedged exposure to individual counterparties and clearing houses.

The credit risk associated with externally managed investments is managed by including specific prudential limits in our investment management agreements which restrict the credit risk to which the NZ Super Fund is exposed.

*Manager Risk:* External investment managers are monitored individually on an ongoing basis. We evaluate our managers in two ways:

1. 'Conviction' – our confidence in the manager's competence to execute an investment opportunity and the general quality and 'fit' of the organisation. Key inputs include the manager's performance, their overall conduct and the extent to which they are meeting any knowledge transfer expectations that we have of them. The management of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) factors is also a key element. Conviction reviews are undertaken at least annually.
2. Operational Due Diligence – the external investment partner's operational and control environment are assessed. This feeds into the appointment and conviction processes.

*Counterparty Risk:* The Board and management closely monitor the creditworthiness of the NZ Super Fund's counterparties by reviewing credit ratings, credit default swap spreads, equity pricing, news flows and other indicators on a regular basis.

*Liquidity Risk:* Liquidity risk is the risk that the NZ Super Fund will encounter difficulty in meeting the obligations associated with its financial liabilities as they fall due.

Our liquidity framework is designed to ensure that the NZ Super Fund has the ability to generate sufficient cash in a timely manner to meet its financial commitments.

The Board and management mitigate the NZ Super Fund's exposure to liquidity risk by:

- forecasting liquidity requirements;
- maintaining a buffer of cash and highly liquid securities to meet short-term liquidity requirements;
- regular review of the liquidity available by senior management;
- periodic 'stress tests' of the liquidity framework using theoretical scenarios.

More information on the Guardians' risk management process can be found in the Risk Management section of our Annual Report.



# Elevate

NZ Venture Fund

## The ultimate goal (outcome)

### Te tino whāinga (te putanga)

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The Elevate NZ Venture Fund's ultimate goal is to contribute to the sustainability and productivity of the New Zealand economy.

The Elevate NZ Venture Fund ("Elevate") was established in 2019 by the Venture Capital Fund Act 2019 ("VCF Act"), with approximately \$260 million in initial capital contributions from the Government. It is a completely separate legal entity from the NZ Super Fund.

Elevate's ultimate outcome is to contribute to the sustainability and productivity of the New Zealand economy. Elevate will do this by investing in New Zealand focused venture capital managers that in turn invest in young, innovative New Zealand companies to help them grow into successful and sustainable businesses, encouraging the availability of more venture capital from other sources, and therefore developing the venture capital ecosystem in New Zealand.

This is to be achieved through:

- increased venture capital being available to New Zealand entities;
- more self-sustaining early-stage capital markets; and
- successful and sustainable New Zealand businesses.

The VCF Act gives the Guardians a role in relation to Elevate, requiring us to invest it in New Zealand's venture capital markets using best-practice investment management appropriate for institutional investment in those markets. We must also manage the fund in a manner consistent with:

- the Ministerial Policy Statement which sets out critical parameters as to how Elevate must be managed and invested; and
- avoiding prejudice to New Zealand's reputation as a responsible member of the world community.

Managing Elevate in this manner is our output.

We deliver on this output by:

- appointing New Zealand Growth Capital Partners Limited ("NZGCP") as the external fund manager for Elevate;
- ensuring the management agreement with NZGCP reflects best practice in the context of institutional investment in New Zealand venture capital markets;
- ensuring that information reporting requirements relating to the flow of capital are covered in the management agreement;
- continuing to monitor the performance of NZGCP; and
- ensuring compliance with the Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures for Elevate.

The appointment of NZGCP as the external manager of Elevate was anticipated in the Venture Capital Fund Act 2019. The management agreement with NZGCP reflects best practice in the context of institutional investment in New Zealand's venture capital markets. To learn more about the performance expectations for Elevate, please refer to NZGCP's 2023/24 Statement of Performance Expectations.

Elevate was launched in March 2020. Elevate has made good progress in allocating capital to New Zealand-focused venture capital managers and catalysing private capital investments. In turn those managers have deployed significant capital to a wide range of underlying investee companies.

## What we intend to achieve in 2023/24 and how we will measure our performance

### Ko tā mātou e whai nei ki te whakatutuki i te tau 2023/24 me te huarahi ka whāia hei ine i te whaihua o ā mātou mahi

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The Elevate NZ Venture Fund is a fund-of-funds programme, managed on behalf of the Guardians by NZGCP.

It is the responsibility of NZGCP to invest in private sector venture capital fund managers which will select the entities to invest in. It is our responsibility to monitor NZGCP's performance in line with the best-practice approach we have developed to manage relationships with other local and international investment managers, as applicable to the New Zealand venture capital market.

We use a conviction process to assess a manager's competence to execute an investment opportunity on our behalf. We use eight factors of performance, reflecting our view that for a manager's capabilities to be repeatable, they need to demonstrate:

- *Viability* – the manager is secure and stable as an organisation such that they can deliver on their strategy over time.
- *Structure and Focus* – the manager is appropriately focused and aligned to the VCF Act and the Policy Statement.
- *Trust* – we are confident that the manager is transparent, will do what they say they will do, and always act in our interests.
- *Risk Awareness and Management* – we are confident the manager has robust systems and processes for identifying, assessing, managing and reporting investment and non-investment risks.
- *People Capabilities* – the manager has the people with the necessary competencies to execute the mandate as we expect.
- *Process Capabilities* – the manager has the necessary tools, systems, networks and processes to execute and manage the mandate as we expect.
- *Opportunity Consistency* – investment activity is consistent with the Policy Statement and fits with the opportunity we are targeting.
- *Performance* – the manager is performing as we expect relative to the opportunity.

Over 2023/24 we will undertake a conviction review of NZGCP, as manager of Elevate, and report back in the Statement of Performance section of our Annual Report.

## Financial projections for 2023/24

### Ngā whakapae ā-pūtea mō te tau 2023 me te tau 2024

#### COST ALLOCATION

Costs are incurred directly by the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation ("Guardians") and both of its mandates, the New Zealand Superannuation Fund ("NZ Super Fund") and the Venture Capital Fund, known as the Elevate Fund ("Elevate").

The Guardians' costs – with the exception of Board expenses and audit fees – are met from the NZ Super Fund and the Elevate Fund and include remuneration and staff expenses such as office services, travel, and professional development.

Certain expenses of the Board are met from Parliamentary appropriation. These comprise of Board fees, the cost of travel to and from Board meetings, and the cost of external audit for the Guardians.

The Guardians charges the Elevate Fund a flat rate fee, equating to approximately 17 basis points p.a. of the planned \$300 million commitment to that mandate, to cover costs incurred in overseeing Elevate. This amount will be revised if costs are consistently higher or lower than expected. All other Guardians' costs are recharged to the NZ Super Fund, resulting in the Guardians incurring a nil gain/loss each year.

All of these operating costs, irrespective of whether they are met from appropriations or from either of the Guardians' two mandates, are consolidated in the financial statements of the Guardians and subject to the reporting and disclosure obligations of the Crown Entities Act (2004).

NZ Super Fund costs are those incurred in the establishment and implementation of investment policy and the financial and risk management of its assets, including: fees paid to external managers and the master custodian; and the recharge paid to the Guardians noted above.

Elevate Fund costs primarily comprise: manager fees; fees paid to NZGCP for the day-to-day management of the fund; and the recharge paid to the Guardians.

We have prepared prospective financial statements for both the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. The NZ Super Fund estimates assume that earnings will be broadly in line with the long-term estimate (i.e. 7.8% p.a. after costs but before New Zealand tax). Some costs are fixed (e.g. audit costs) and can be easily estimated, but the majority are variable (i.e. base and performance fees paid to investment managers or transaction fees paid to the custodian).

We have prepared estimates of these variable costs based on our expectations of the NZ Super Fund over the year.

No prospective financial statements are required to be prepared for the Elevate Fund.

Costs incurred and charged to the Elevate Fund by NZGCP in their day-to-day management of that fund will be disclosed in its Statement of Performance Expectations.

#### EXPECTED TOTAL COST OF MANAGING THE NZ SUPER FUND 2023/24

The forecast cost of managing the NZ Super Fund in 2023/24 – excluding performance fees – is \$197.0 million or 0.30% of expected average funds under management, compared to the forecast for 2022/23 of \$181.3 million or 0.29%.

Of this amount the Guardians' expenses are \$106.7 million, amounting to 0.16% of expected average funds under management.

Performance fees are only paid when investment managers outperform their benchmarks and so they are better described as an offset against returns than a cost. If we include forecast performance fees, the total forecast cost of managing the NZ Super Fund in 2023/24 is \$220.6 million or 0.34%, compared to the forecast for 2022/23 of \$200.9 million or 0.32%.

It is important to emphasise that these are forecast figures and that actual fees will be dependent on the actual size of the NZ Super Fund, investment performance and the availability of suitable investment opportunities and access points.

Actual performance fees paid each financial year are disclosed in our Annual Report.

#### REPORTABLE OUTPUTS

The Guardians receives an annual appropriation to meet fees and expenses of its Board members and fees paid to its external auditor. The appropriation for 2023/24 is \$0.73 million.

All of the Guardians' outputs are funded by payments from the funds rather than from annual appropriations through Parliament.



## Prospective financial statements

### Ngā pūrongo tahua e whakapaetia ana

We have prepared prospective financial statements for the Guardians (in our role as manager and administrator of the NZ Super Fund and the Elevate Fund) and for the NZ Super Fund, consistent with this SPE. Prospective financial statements are not required for and have not been prepared for the Guardians' other mandate, the Elevate Fund.

These prospective financial statements rely on assumptions with respect to unknown or uncertain future events. Assumptions represent a risk in that actual events may vary from the assumption and that all of the outcomes that may flow from actual events cannot be guaranteed.

These prospective financial statements should be read within the context of the 2022 – 2027 Statement of Intent and this SPE. Information in these prospective financial statements may not be appropriate for purposes other than those described.

The Board authorised the issue of these prospective financial statements on 4 April 2023. The Board is responsible for the prospective financial statements presented, including the appropriateness of the assumptions underlying the prospective financial statements and all other required disclosures.

The assumptions used in preparing the prospective financial statements have been disclosed following the accounting policies of the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. Actual financial results have not been incorporated into the prospective financial statements. The Board does not intend to update these prospective financial statements subsequent to presentation.

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##### NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

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## Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024	NZD'000
Cost reimbursement from the New Zealand Superannuation Fund	105,637
Cost reimbursement from the Elevate NZ Venture Fund	500
Other revenue	295
<b>Revenue from exchange transactions</b>	<b>106,432</b>
Appropriations from the Crown	728
<b>Revenue from non-exchange transactions</b>	<b>728</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>107,160</b>
Board members' fees	(404)
Employee entitlements	(72,704)
Other expenses	(34,052)
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>(107,160)</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit) for the year</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year</b>	<b>-</b>

## GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

## Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 30 JUNE 2024	NZD'000
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>Current assets</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	5,195
Receivables from exchange transactions	23,734
Receivables from non-exchange transactions	-
<b>Non-current assets</b>	
Receivables from exchange transactions	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>28,929</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>	
Payables under exchange transactions	(1,704)
Employee entitlements	(24,880)
Deferred lease incentive	(86)
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>	
Employee entitlements	(1,676)
Deferred lease incentive	(83)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>(28,429)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>PUBLIC EQUITY</b>	
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	-
General equity reserve	500
<b>Total public equity</b>	<b>500</b>

## Prospective Consolidated Statement of Changes in Public Equity

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024	GENERAL EQUITY RESERVE NZD'000	ACCUMULATED COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE NZD'000	TOTAL NZD'000
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	-	-	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2024</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>500</b>

## GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

## Prospective Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024

NZD'000

**CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES****Cash was provided from:**

Receipts from the Crown	728
Receipts from the New Zealand Superannuation Fund	97,202
Receipts from the Elevate NZ Venture Fund	460
Interest received	174
Goods and Services Tax	25
Other receipts	97

<b>Total cash inflow from operating activities</b>	<b>98,686</b>
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**Cash was applied to:**

Payments to Board members	(404)
Payments to suppliers	(35,317)
Payments to employees	(63,144)

<b>Total cash outflow from operating activities</b>	<b>(98,865)</b>
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<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(179)</b>
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<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(179)</b>
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Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	5,374
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<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>5,195</b>
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## GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

## Summary of significant accounting policies

### GENERAL INFORMATION

These are the prospective consolidated financial statements of the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation (Guardians) and its subsidiaries (Group). The Guardians is a Crown entity as defined by the Crown Entities Act 2004. The Guardians is also a public authority in terms of the Income Tax Act 2007 and therefore is exempt from income tax.

The Guardians is domiciled in New Zealand and the address of its principal place of business is 21 Queen Street, Auckland.

The prospective consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ending 30 June 2024 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation on 4 April 2023.

### STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The prospective financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Crown Entities Act 2004 and the Public Finance Act 1989 and comply with Public Benefit Entity Financial Reporting Standard 42: Prospective Financial Statements.

The Guardians is a public benefit entity, as the primary purpose is to manage and administer the New Zealand Superannuation Fund (NZ Super Fund) and the Elevate NZ Venture Fund (Elevate Fund). The prospective financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP) as it applies to prospective financial statements. They comply with Public Benefit Entity Standards (PBE Standards).

### BASIS OF PREPARATION

The prospective consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

The prospective consolidated financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (NZD'000) unless stated otherwise.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner that ensures the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

The following significant accounting policies that materially affect the prospective consolidated financial statements have been applied:

#### a) Basis of consolidation

The prospective consolidated financial statements comprise the prospective financial statements of the Guardians and its subsidiaries as at 30 June 2024.

The prospective financial statements of subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the Guardians using consistent accounting policies. In preparing prospective

consolidated financial statements, all inter-entity transactions, balances, unrealised gains and losses are eliminated.

#### b) Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are those entities that are controlled by the Guardians under the provisions of PBE IPSAS 35 Consolidated Financial Statements. The Guardians controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable benefits from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect the nature or amount of those benefits through its power over the entity. The Guardians control of an entity is reassessed if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the elements of control.

#### c) Revenue

The Guardians primarily derives revenue through the provision of services to the Crown, the NZ Super Fund and the Elevate Fund. Revenue is recognised when it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Guardians and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

#### REVENUE FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Exchange transactions are transactions in which one entity receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and directly gives approximately equal value (primarily in the form of cash, goods, services, or use of assets) to another entity in exchange.

##### *Rendering of services*

Cost reimbursement from the NZ Super Fund and the Elevate Fund is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of services provided at balance date when the transaction involving the rendering of services can be reliably estimated. The stage of completion is measured by the proportion of costs incurred to date compared with estimated total costs of the transaction.

##### *Interest income*

Interest income is recognised as the interest accrues, using the effective interest method. The effective interest method allocates interest at a constant rate of return over the expected life of the financial instrument based on the estimated future cash flows.

#### REVENUE FROM NON-EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Non-exchange transactions are transactions that are not exchange transactions. In a non-exchange transaction, an entity either receives value from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange, or gives value to another entity without directly receiving approximately equal value in exchange.

## GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

### *Appropriations from the Crown*

Revenue is recognised from the Crown when it is probable that appropriations will be received, the value of those appropriations can be reliably measured and the transfer is free from conditions that require the asset to be refunded or returned to the Crown if the conditions are not fulfilled. To the extent there is a related condition attached to the appropriations that would give rise to a liability to repay the appropriate amount, deferred revenue is recognised instead of revenue. In such situations, revenue is then recognised as the conditions are satisfied.

### **d) Operating leases**

The determination of whether an arrangement is (or contains) a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement at the inception of the lease. The arrangement is (or contains) a lease if fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets and the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset. Leases in which the lessor retains substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of an asset are classified as operating leases. Operating lease expenses are recognised on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

### **e) Foreign currency translation**

#### **FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY**

Items included in the prospective consolidated financial statements of the Guardians are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Guardians operates (the functional currency). The functional currency of the Guardians is New Zealand dollars. It is also the presentation currency.

#### **TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES**

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are converted to New Zealand dollars using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at balance date. Where there is a movement in the exchange rate between the date of a foreign currency transaction and balance date, the resulting exchange differences are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

### **f) Financial instruments**

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

The Group is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations. These financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, receivables and payables. All financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and all revenues and expenses in relation to financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

#### **INITIAL RECOGNITION**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. They are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs that are attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset or financial liability.

The classification of financial instruments at initial recognition depends on the Group's business model for managing the financial assets and the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics. In making an assessment of the business model for managing a financial asset, the Board and management consider all relevant information.

#### **SUBSEQUENT MEASUREMENT**

The Group's financial assets and financial liabilities are subsequently classified into the following categories:

##### *Financial assets at amortised cost*

The Group's financial assets are classified at amortised cost if both of the following criteria are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect the contractual cash flows; and
- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

This category includes cash and cash equivalents and receivables. Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method and are subject to impairment. When a financial asset is impaired, impairment losses are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense in the period in which they arise.

The Group's financial assets are reclassified when, and only when, the business model for managing those financial assets changes.

##### *Financial liabilities at amortised cost*

Financial liabilities at amortised cost are non-derivative financial liabilities. This category includes trade payables and accrued expenses. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

#### **DERECOGNITION**

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired or when the Group has transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership. A financial liability is derecognised when the Group's obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or has expired.

#### **IMPAIRMENT**

The Board and management assess, at each reporting date, whether a financial asset is impaired. The amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the contractual cash flows due in relation to the financial asset and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate.

Financial assets that are measured at amortised cost and therefore subject to the impairment provisions (the 'expected credit loss model') of PBE IFRS 9 Financial Instruments comprise cash and cash equivalents and receivables.

The risk of impairment loss for cash and cash equivalents is considered immaterial.

The Board and management have applied a simplified approach for calculating expected credit losses (ECLs) on receivables under PBE IFRS 9 Financial Instruments. As a result, the

## GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

Board and management do not track changes in credit risk, but instead, recognise impairment losses based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Group's approach to ECLs reflects a probability-weighted outcome using reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

### OFFSETTING FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

The Group offsets financial assets and financial liabilities when it has a current legally enforceable right to set-off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis.

#### g) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, cash held in bank accounts, demand deposits and other highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less.

#### h) Receivables

Receivables are initially recognised at fair value which is equal to the amount of consideration that is unconditional. The Group holds receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost less impairment losses using the effective interest method.

#### i) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities are recognised in the prospective financial statements exclusive of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables which are stated inclusive of GST. Where GST is irrecoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

#### j) Payables

Short-term trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value, then subsequently at amortised cost.

#### k) Employee entitlements

Liabilities for salaries, annual leave, long service leave and incentives are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense during the period in which the employee rendered the related service, when it is probable that settlement will be required and such employee entitlements are capable of being measured reliably.

Employee entitlements that are due to be settled within 12 months are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Employee entitlements that are not due to be settled within 12 months are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows. The estimated future cash flows are based on likely future entitlements accruing to staff, based on years of service, years to entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and contractual entitlement information.

#### LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Employees become eligible for long service leave after five years of service.

#### INCENTIVES

The Guardians has an incentive scheme in place for all employees. The scheme has two components: achievement of individual performance criteria over the past financial year; and performance of the NZ Super Fund relative to investment benchmarks over the preceding four years. Incentives are calculated and paid annually in arrears.

#### l) Statement of Cash Flows

The following are the definitions of the terms used in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows:

Operating activities include all activities other than investing or financing activities. Cash inflows include all receipts from the sale of goods and services, interest and other sources of revenue that support the Group's operating activities. Cash outflows include payments made to employees, suppliers and for taxes and levies, other than income tax.

Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of current and non-current securities and any other non-current assets.

Financing activities are those activities relating to changes in public equity and debt capital structure of the Group and those activities relating to the cost of servicing the Group's equity capital.

Cash flows are included in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the IRD, is classified as cash flows from operating activities.

#### m) Changes in accounting policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout these prospective consolidated financial statements.

#### n) Significant judgements and estimates

The preparation of the Guardians' prospective financial statements requires the Board and management to make judgements and use estimates that affect the reported amounts of revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities and the accompanying disclosures. Uncertainty about these judgements and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in future periods. The judgements and estimates used in respect of the Guardians are continually evaluated. They are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the Guardians and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The judgements and estimates that the Board and management have assessed to have the most significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amount of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

#### EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS – LONG SERVICE LEAVE

The key assumptions used in calculating the long service leave liability include the discount rate, the likelihood that the employee will reach the required level of service and the salary inflation factor. Any changes in these assumptions will affect the carrying amount of the liability. Expected future payments are discounted using forward rates derived from the yield curve of New Zealand government bonds.



## GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

The discount rates used have maturities that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows. The likelihood of employees reaching the required level of service is determined after considering historical retention rates. The salary inflation factor is determined after considering historical salary inflation patterns.

**HEADCOUNT**

The Guardians' forecast is based on the key assumption that the headcount for the Guardians' will increase from the budgeted level of 231.4 as at the end of March 2023 to 234.4 full-time equivalent employees by 30 June 2024. The actual headcount as at end of March 2023 was 200.52.

The forecast increase in headcount numbers is determined from the annual business plan compiled by the Guardians senior management team. In the event that the Guardians is unable to recruit the additional headcount as forecast, actual results may vary materially from the forecast. Any variance in actual headcount is likely to result in a material reduction of expenses, resulting in a corresponding decrease in revenue received from the NZ Super Fund.

## NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

## Prospective Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 30 JUNE 2024	NZD'000
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	1,074,633
Cash pledged as collateral	613,769
Trade and other receivables	1,423,184
<b>Investments</b>	
Investments in derivative financial instruments and other financial assets	58,500,032
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries	7,732,365
Total investments	66,232,397
Property, plant and equipment	2,852
Intangible assets	58,019
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>69,404,854</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Cash collateral received	(899,359)
Trade and other payables	(105,329)
Income tax payable	(366,781)
Provision for performance-based fees	(77,258)
Deferred tax liability	(74,704)
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>(1,523,431)</b>
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>67,881,423</b>
<b>PUBLIC EQUITY</b>	
Retained surplus	41,097,574
Asset revaluation reserve	52,769
Contributed capital	26,731,080
<b>Total public equity</b>	<b>67,881,423</b>

## NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

## Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024	NZD'000
<b>INCOME</b>	
Interest income	433,695
Dividend income	784,511
Net fair value gains on financial instruments held at fair value through profit or loss	3,880,530
Net foreign exchange gains/(losses)	-
<b>Net operating income</b>	<b>5,098,736</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Reimbursement of Guardians' expenses	(105,637)
Managers' fees - base	(52,376)
Managers' fees - performance	(23,553)
Custody fees	(7,282)
Depreciation	(138)
Amortisation	-
Trade expenses	(7,282)
Other expenses	(30,566)
<b>Profit for the year before income tax expense</b>	<b>4,871,902</b>
Income tax expense	(1,169,289)
<b>Profit for the year after income tax expense</b>	<b>3,702,613</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income - not reclassifiable to profit or loss in subsequent periods</b>	
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of assets	-
Income tax expense on items of other comprehensive income	-
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>3,702,613</b>

## NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

## Prospective Statement of Changes in Public Equity

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024	ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE NZD'000	CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL NZD'000	RETAINED SURPLUS NZD'000	TOTAL NZD'000
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>52,769</b>	<b>24,940,080</b>	<b>37,394,961</b>	<b>62,387,810</b>
Profit for the year			3,702,613	3,702,613
Other comprehensive income				-
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,702,613</b>	<b>3,702,613</b>
Fund capital contributions from the Crown		1,791,000		1,791,000
Capital contributions from the Crown in respect of funding the net cost of New Zealand superannuation entitlements		21,629,000		21,629,000
Capital withdrawals by the Crown in respect of funding the net cost of New Zealand superannuation entitlements		(21,629,000)		(21,629,000)
<b>Balance at 30 June 2024</b>	<b>52,769</b>	<b>26,731,080</b>	<b>41,097,574</b>	<b>67,881,423</b>

## NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

## Prospective Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2024	NZD'000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>Cash was provided from:</b>	
Proceeds from sale of investments	61,150,961
Dividends received	798,727
Interest received	422,675
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>	
Purchases of investments	(64,035,656)
Managers' fees	(103,703)
Payments to suppliers	(169,349)
Income tax paid	(909,285)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>(2,845,630)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>Cash was applied to:</b>	
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(1,346)
Purchases of intangible assets	-
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>	<b>(1,346)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>Cash was provided from:</b>	
Fund capital contributions from the Crown	1,791,000
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities</b>	<b>1,791,000</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(1,055,976)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	2,130,609
Effects of exchange rate changes on the balance of cash held in foreign currencies	-
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year</b>	<b>1,074,633</b>

## NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

## Summary of significant accounting policies

### GENERAL INFORMATION

These are the prospective financial statements of the New Zealand Superannuation Fund (NZ Super Fund), a fund established under Section 37 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001 (Act) on 11 October 2001.

The NZ Super Fund is a long-term, growth-oriented, sovereign wealth fund that was established to help reduce the tax burden on future taxpayers of the rising cost of New Zealand superannuation. The NZ Super Fund is managed and administered by the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation (Guardians). The Guardians was established as a Crown entity by Section 48 of the Act and became operative from 30 August 2002. The Guardians is expected to invest the NZ Super Fund in a commercial, prudent manner consistent with:

- Best-practice portfolio management;
- Maximising return without undue risk to the NZ Super Fund as a whole; and
- Avoiding prejudice to New Zealand's reputation as a responsible member of the world community.

The NZ Super Fund's global master custodian is the Northern Trust Corporation.

The NZ Super Fund is domiciled in New Zealand and the address of its principal place of business is 21 Queen Street, Auckland.

The prospective financial statements of the NZ Super Fund for the year ending 30 June 2024 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation on 4 April 2023.

### BASIS OF PREPARATION

The NZ Super Fund is a profit-oriented entity. The prospective financial statements of the NZ Super Fund have been prepared in accordance with, and comply with, Financial Reporting Standard No. 42: Prospective Financial Statements and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP) as it relates to prospective financial statements.

The prospective financial statements have been prepared on a fair value basis, except for certain items as detailed in the policies below.

The prospective financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (NZD'000) unless stated otherwise.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner that ensures the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

The NZ Super Fund meets the definition of an investment entity and has applied the exemption from preparing prospective consolidated financial statements available under NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements. As a result, its investments in subsidiaries are not consolidated, but are measured at fair value through profit or loss in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. These separate prospective financial statements are the only prospective financial statements presented by the NZ Super Fund.

The following significant accounting policies that materially affect the prospective financial statements have been applied:

#### a) Investment entity

The NZ Super Fund meets the definition of an investment entity as the following conditions exist:

- The NZ Super Fund obtains and manages funds for the purpose of providing its investor with investment management services;
- The NZ Super Fund has committed to its investor that its business purpose is to invest funds solely for returns from capital appreciation and investment income;
- The NZ Super Fund measures and evaluates the performance of substantially all of its investments on a fair value basis;
- The NZ Super Fund has more than one investment; and
- The NZ Super Fund has documented exit strategies for its investments.

Although the NZ Super Fund does not meet all of the typical characteristics of an investment entity (namely, the NZ Super Fund does not have multiple investors, its investor is a related party and it does not have ownership interests in the form of equity), the Board and management believe the NZ Super Fund is an investment entity because it has been specifically established as an investment vehicle, it has a diversified investment portfolio with best practice investment policies and procedures in place, it invests funds for the purpose of maximising returns and it has elected to fair value the majority of its investments where feasible for the purposes of its prospective financial statements.

#### b) Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are those entities (including structured entities and other holding vehicles) that are controlled by the NZ Super Fund under the provisions of NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements. The NZ Super Fund controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. The NZ Super Fund's investments are reassessed for the existence of control if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the elements of control.

## NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Under Section 59 of the Act, the Guardians must use their best endeavours to ensure the NZ Super Fund does not control any other entity, with the exception of Fund Investment Vehicles (FIVs). A FIV is defined as an entity that is formed or controlled by the Guardians for the purpose of holding, facilitating or managing the investments of the NZ Super Fund. A FIV that is controlled by the Guardians is a subsidiary of the NZ Super Fund for accounting purposes. All investment opportunities are diligently evaluated to ensure compliance with all relevant laws.

As outlined above, the NZ Super Fund meets the definition of an investment entity and therefore the Board and management have applied the exemption available under NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements from preparing prospective consolidated financial statements for the NZ Super Fund. As a result, its investments in subsidiaries are not consolidated, but are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and are classified as 'unconsolidated subsidiaries' in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

#### c) Associates

Associates are those entities over which the NZ Super Fund has significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the entity, but is not control or joint control over those policies. Investments in associates are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and classified as private equity (within 'other financial assets') in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

#### d) Joint ventures

A joint venture is a type of joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control have rights to the net assets of the arrangement. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control. Investments in joint ventures are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and classified as private equity (within 'other financial assets') in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

#### e) Structured entities

A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements. A structured entity often has some or all of the following features or attributes:

- Restricted activities;
- A narrow and well-defined objective, such as to provide investment opportunities for investors by passing on risks and rewards associated with the assets of the structured entity to investors;
- Insufficient equity to permit the structured entity to finance its activities without subordinated financial support; and
- Financing in the form of multiple contractually linked instruments to investors that create concentrations of credit or other risks.

The NZ Super Fund is principally involved with structured entities through its investments in private equity investment funds, unconsolidated subsidiaries, collective investment

funds, insurance-linked investments, shareholder loans, agency mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities that are issued by structured entities. The NZ Super Fund invests in structured entities to assist with the implementation of its overall investment strategy. The NZ Super Fund does not sponsor any structured entities.

#### f) Fair value measurement

The majority of the net assets of the NZ Super Fund are measured at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Management uses valuation techniques for the NZ Super Fund that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs. All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the prospective financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1 - Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities. An active market is one where prices are readily available and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. The fair value of Level 1 assets and liabilities requires little or no judgement.

Level 2 - Valuation techniques that use observable market data. Such techniques include the use of market standard discounting methodologies, option pricing models and other valuation techniques widely used and accepted by market participants.

Level 3 - Valuation techniques that use inputs not based on observable market data. Unobservable inputs are those not readily available in an active market due to illiquidity or complexity of the product. These inputs are generally derived and extrapolated from other relevant market data and calibrated against current market trends and historic transactions. These valuations are calculated using a high degree of management judgement.

The level within which an asset or liability is categorised in the fair value hierarchy is determined based on the highest numerical level in the fair value hierarchy that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole.

The specific valuation techniques and the observability of the inputs used in valuation models for significant product categories are outlined below:

#### DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The fair values of derivative financial instruments are principally determined using valuation techniques with market observable inputs and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The most frequently applied valuation techniques include forward pricing and swap models using present value calculations. The models incorporate various inputs including foreign exchange spot and forward rates, interest rates, futures prices, default rates, credit spreads, volatility curves and discount rates.

In some instances, the fair values of derivative financial instruments are determined using valuation techniques with non-market observable inputs. These financial instruments

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include longevity contingent swaps and warrants and are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The fair value of longevity contingent swaps is provided by the counterparty at balance date and is based on the fair value of the underlying basket of contracts. The fair value of warrants is determined using a Black Scholes Option Pricing Model.

### LISTED EQUITIES

The fair value of listed equities, including equity exchange traded funds and those on loan under securities lending and similar agreements, is determined based on the last quoted price on the relevant exchange at balance date and are classified within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. In some instances, where the market on which the security is traded is not highly liquid (e.g. the security may be listed on an emerging market stock exchange or trading of the security may be temporarily suspended), the price can also be determined using non-binding broker quotes. These securities are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

### FIXED INCOME SECURITIES

The fair value of liquid fixed income securities, including fixed income exchange traded funds and those on loan under securities lending and similar agreements, is determined based on either the last quoted bid price or the mid price (depending on the market and region of the securities) provided by a reputable pricing vendor (being a financial data provider such as ICE or Bloomberg) or broker at balance date and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. Where the market for fixed income securities is illiquid, fair value is determined by a reputable pricing vendor who uses models to value the securities. The models incorporate various inputs including loan level data, repayment and default assumptions and benchmark prices for similar securities. These securities are also classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

The fair value of unlisted debt instruments, including fixed and floating rate instruments, that form part of an investment into a private equity investment, are valued by a suitably qualified independent valuer who ascribes an enterprise value to the entire private equity investment then apportions that value across the instruments held, including the debt instruments. These securities are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

### COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS

The fair value of collective investment funds is provided by the investment managers or administrators at balance date. The price is based on the fair value of the underlying net assets or securities of the collective investment fund. Their classification within the fair value hierarchy is determined by the highest numerical level in the fair value hierarchy of the underlying financial instruments.

### INSURANCE-LINKED INVESTMENTS

Insurance-linked investments which are catastrophe bonds are valued using prices provided by reputable pricing vendors or brokers at balance date and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

### PRIVATE EQUITY

The fair value of private equity investment funds is provided by the investment managers or administrators at balance date. The price is based on the fair value of the underlying net assets of the private equity investment fund which is determined

using a variety of methods, including independent valuations, valuation models based on the price of recent transactions, earnings multiples or discounted cash flows and are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. Private equity investments (not invested via a managed fund structure) are valued by reference to either an independent valuation or the price of recent transactions or such alternative valuation as deemed appropriate by the Board and are also classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

### UNCONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

The fair value of unconsolidated subsidiaries is based on the fair value of the underlying net assets of the specific investment which can be determined using a variety of methods, including being based on the last quoted bid price provided by a reputable pricing vendor or broker, independent valuations, valuation models based on the price of recent transactions, earnings multiples or discounted cash flows. Unconsolidated subsidiaries are classified accordingly within Levels 2 and 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

### INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Allocations of New Zealand Units (NZUs) and/or other carbon credits that the NZ Super Fund owns are recognised at fair value where they have been received, or where the Board and management are reasonably certain they will be received. Where the fair value can be reliably ascertained through the existence of an observable active market, these intangible assets are classified within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. Where pricing is obtained from reputable brokers, these intangible assets are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

### g) Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

The NZ Super Fund is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations. These financial instruments make up the vast majority of the NZ Super Fund's net assets and include cash and cash equivalents, derivative financial instruments, investments, receivables and payables. All financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position and all income and expenditure in relation to financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

### INITIAL RECOGNITION

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position when the NZ Super Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. They are initially recognised at fair value plus, in the case of financial assets and financial liabilities not recorded at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs (e.g. trading commission) that are attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset or financial liability. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Purchases or sales of financial instruments that require delivery within a time frame established by regulation or convention in the market place are recognised on the trade date, i.e. the date



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on which the NZ Super Fund commits to purchase or sell the financial instrument.

The classification of financial instruments at initial recognition depends on the NZ Super Fund's business model for managing the financial assets and the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics. In making an assessment of the business model for managing a financial asset, the Board and management consider all relevant information such as the investment objectives of the NZ Super Fund and how performance is evaluated and reported to the Board and management.

**SUBSEQUENT MEASUREMENT**

The NZ Super Fund's financial assets and financial liabilities are subsequently classified into the following categories:

- Those to be measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- Those to be measured at amortised cost.

The NZ Super Fund does not have any financial assets classified as financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income. The NZ Super Fund classifies all financial assets that are either held for trading and/or managed or evaluated on a fair value basis, as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The NZ Super Fund's financial assets are reclassified when, and only when, the business model for managing those financial assets changes.

*Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss*

The following financial assets and financial liabilities are classified at fair value through profit or loss:

- Financial assets, including debt instruments, that do not qualify for measurement at amortised cost;
- Financial assets and financial liabilities that are held for trading; and
- Financial assets for which the NZ Super Fund has not elected to recognise fair value gains and losses through other comprehensive income.

This category includes investments in derivative financial instruments, listed equities, collective investment funds, insurance-linked investments, private equity and unconsolidated subsidiaries among others. These financial assets are either held for trading or are managed and have their performance evaluated on a fair value basis.

The NZ Super Fund does not designate any derivative financial instruments as hedges in a hedging relationship.

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which they arise.

*Financial assets at amortised cost*

The NZ Super Fund's financial assets are classified at amortised cost if both of the following criteria are met:

- The financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect the contractual cash flows; and

- The contractual terms of the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

This category includes cash and cash equivalents, cash pledged as collateral, trade and other receivables, reverse repurchase agreements and some unlisted debt instruments. Unlisted debt instruments that are classified as financial assets at amortised cost include fixed and floating rate notes.

Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method and are subject to impairment. When a financial asset is impaired, impairment losses are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which they arise.

*Financial liabilities at amortised cost*

Financial liabilities at amortised cost are non-derivative financial liabilities. This category includes cash collateral received and trade and other payables. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**DERECOGNITION**

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired or when the NZ Super Fund has transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership. A financial liability is derecognised when the NZ Super Fund's obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or has expired.

**IMPAIRMENT**

The Board and management assess, at each reporting date, whether a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. The amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the contractual cash flows due in relation to the financial asset or the group of financial assets and the cash flows that the NZ Super Fund expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate.

The following financial assets that are measured at amortised cost are subject to the impairment provisions (the 'expected credit loss model') of NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments:

- Cash and cash equivalents;
- Cash pledged as collateral;
- Trade and other receivables;
- Reverse repurchase agreements; and
- Unlisted fixed income securities carried at amortised cost.

The impairment loss for cash and cash equivalents and cash pledged as collateral is considered immaterial.

The NZ Super Fund only holds trade receivables that have maturities of less than 12 months and which have no financing components. As such, the Board and management have applied a simplified approach for calculating expected credit losses (ECLs) on trade receivables under NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments. As a result, the Board and management do not track changes in credit risk, but instead, recognise impairment losses based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The NZ Super Fund's approach to ECLs reflects a probability-weighted outcome using reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

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The NZ Super Fund's investments in reverse repurchase agreements and unlisted fixed income securities that meet the criteria for being classified as financial assets at amortised cost and which are therefore subject to the expected credit loss model, are considered to have low credit risk and/or the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition. As a result, the impairment loss recognised is limited to 12-month ECLs. The Board and management consider these financial assets to have low credit risk because there is a low risk of default and the issuers have a strong capacity to meet their contractual cash flow obligations in the near term.

12-month ECLs are the portion of expected credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date or a shorter period if the expected life of the financial asset is less than 12 months.

Loss allowances for financial assets measured at amortised cost are deducted from the gross carrying amount of the assets. The gross carrying amount of a financial asset is written-off when the Board and management have no reasonable expectations of recovering a financial asset.

#### OFFSETTING FINANCIAL ASSETS AND FINANCIAL LIABILITIES

The NZ Super Fund offsets financial assets and financial liabilities when it has a current legally enforceable right to set-off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis. Each master netting arrangement allows for net settlement of certain open contracts where the NZ Super Fund and respective counterparty both elect to settle on a net basis. In the absence of such an election, contracts will be settled on a gross basis. However, each party to the master netting arrangement will have the option to settle all open contracts on a net basis in the event of default of the other party. Under the terms of the master netting arrangements, collateral can only be seized by a party in the event of default of the other party.

#### h) Collateral

Cash provided by the NZ Super Fund as security for financial arrangements remains a financial asset of the NZ Super Fund and is recognised as cash pledged as collateral in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position, separate from cash and cash equivalents. Cash received by the NZ Super Fund as security for financial arrangements is also recognised as an asset in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position, along with a corresponding liability (cash collateral received) to repay the cash collateral when the underlying transaction is terminated.

For non-cash collateral received by the NZ Super Fund, if the NZ Super Fund has the right to sell or re-pledge the collateral, the collateral is recognised accordingly in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. However, if the NZ Super Fund does not have the right to sell or re-pledge the collateral, the collateral is not recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

#### i) Securities lending and similar agreements

Securities lending transactions are usually collateralised by securities or cash. The transfer of the securities to counterparties is only reflected in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position if the risks and rewards of ownership are also transferred. Collateral advanced by the borrower in the form of readily marketable securities (non-cash) is held in escrow by a

third party agent. Recourse of those securities is only available in the event of default of the borrower and, because of this, the non-cash collateral is not recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. Collateral advanced by the borrower in the form of cash is recognised as an asset in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position, along with a corresponding obligation to repay the cash collateral to the borrower, once the securities have been returned.

Securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements to resell at a specified future date are not recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. The consideration paid, including accrued interest, is recorded separately in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position as an investment, reflecting the transaction's economic substance as a loan by the NZ Super Fund. The difference between the purchase and resale prices is recorded in interest income and is accrued over the life of the agreement using the effective interest rate.

#### j) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, cash held in bank accounts, demand deposits and other highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less, which have an insignificant risk of change in fair value.

#### k) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at their transaction price unless they contain significant financing components, in which case they are recognised at fair value. The NZ Super Fund holds trade receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost less impairment losses using the effective interest method.

#### l) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenditure, assets and liabilities are recognised in the prospective financial statements exclusive of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables which are stated inclusive of GST. Where GST is irrecoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expenditure. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

#### m) Trade and other payables

Short-term trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value, then subsequently at amortised cost. As a result of their short-term nature, the carrying amount of trade and other payables held at amortised cost approximates fair value.

Trade and other payables represent amounts due to third parties in the normal course of business and to the Guardians for the reimbursement of expenses. Trade payables are non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30-day terms. The NZ Super Fund has risk management policies in place to ensure that all payables are paid within the credit time frame.

The timing and amount of expected cash flows for unsettled purchases are certain as they are based on contractual terms and corporate actions.

Other than the non-current portion of trade and other payables, all payables are expected to settle within one year. The non-current payable will settle progressively over a four-year period.

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**n) Property, plant and equipment****RECOGNITION AND MEASUREMENT**

All items of property, plant and equipment are initially recognised at cost. Cost includes the value of consideration exchanged and those expenses directly attributable to bring the item to working condition for its intended use.

Subsequent to initial recognition, all items of property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

**DERECOGNITION**

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised when it is sold or otherwise disposed of or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from its continued use. Any gain or loss arising on disposal (being the difference between the net disposal proceeds and the carrying amount of the item) is included in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income in the year in which the item is disposed of.

**IMPAIRMENT**

All items of property, plant and equipment are assessed for impairment at each balance date. If any indication of impairment exists, an estimate of the asset's recoverable amount is calculated, being the greater of fair value less costs to sell and value in use. Where the carrying amount of an asset is greater than its recoverable amount, the asset is written down to its recoverable amount. The write-down is recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income. Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the item is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but only to the extent that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount which would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the item in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income immediately.

**DEPRECIATION**

Depreciation is provided on a straight-line basis to write off the cost of property, plant and equipment to estimated residual value over their estimated useful lives. The estimated useful lives of the major categories of property, plant and equipment are as follows:

Computer and office equipment	3 years
Office fit-out	12 years

The cost of office fit-out is capitalised and depreciated over the unexpired period of the lease (held by the Guardians) or the estimated remaining useful lives of the improvements, whichever is shorter.

**o) Provision for performance-based fees**

A provision is recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position when the NZ Super Fund has a present obligation arising as a result of a past event, it is probable that cash will be paid to settle the obligation and the amount can be estimated reliably. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at balance date, taking into consideration the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle

the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

Where some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, a receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that recovery will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

**p) Fund capital****PURPOSE**

Fund capital, which comprises investments and all other assets of the NZ Super Fund less any liabilities, is the property of the Crown. The NZ Super Fund's purpose is to build a portfolio of assets to help reduce the impact of providing retirement income, in the form of New Zealand superannuation, to an ageing population.

**CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS**

The Crown is required to make capital contributions to the NZ Super Fund in accordance with Sections 42 to 44 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001 (Act). These capital contributions are made by the Crown for investment purposes based on a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Under Section 44 of the Act, the Crown is entitled to contribute lesser amounts than calculated using the formula under Section 43 of the Act. Capital contributions to the NZ Super Fund are forecast at \$1.79 billion for the year to 30 June 2024. Fund capital contributions are recorded in the Prospective Statement of Changes in Public Equity.

**CAPITAL WITHDRAWALS**

Under Section 47 of the Act, if the required annual capital contribution is less than zero, the Minister of Finance may require a capital withdrawal to be made from the NZ Super Fund up to that amount and paid into a Crown Bank Account. Capital withdrawals are projected to commence from 2034/2035 under current Treasury modelling.

**SUPERANNUATION ENTITLEMENTS**

Under Section 45 of the Act, the Minister of Finance must ensure that sufficient money is transferred into the NZ Super Fund in each financial year to meet the net cost of the superannuation entitlements that are payable out of the NZ Super Fund during that year. This requirement is additional to and separate from the obligation to make annual capital contributions. The Treasury, through the New Zealand Debt Management Office, has facilitated funding for these superannuation entitlements from the Minister of Finance to the Ministry of Social Development on behalf of the NZ Super Fund. The Guardians has no control over these transfers, with The Treasury acting as agent for the NZ Super Fund. Transfers for superannuation entitlements are recorded in the Prospective Statement of Changes in Public Equity.

**MANAGEMENT OF FUND CAPITAL**

The NZ Super Fund is a profit-oriented entity, managed by the Guardians. The Guardians' mandate is to invest the NZ Super Fund on a prudent, commercial basis and, in doing so, ensure that the NZ Super Fund is managed and administered in a manner consistent with best-practice portfolio management, maximising return without undue risk to the NZ Super Fund as a whole, and avoiding prejudice to New Zealand's reputation as a responsible member of the world community. The contributions from the Crown to the

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NZ Super Fund are invested in accordance with its Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures, which is available at [www.nzsuperfund.nz](http://www.nzsuperfund.nz).

**q) Income**

Income is recognised when it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the NZ Super Fund and the income can be reliably measured, regardless of when payment is being made. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before income is recognised:

**INTEREST INCOME**

Interest income comprises interest on financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss and interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost.

For financial instruments measured at fair value, interest income is recognised on an accruals basis, either daily or on a yield-to-maturity basis. For financial assets measured at amortised cost, interest income is recognised as the interest accrues using the effective interest method, which allocates interest at a constant rate of return over the expected life of the financial instrument based on the estimated future cash flows.

**DIVIDEND INCOME**

Dividend income is recognised when the shareholder's rights to receive payment has been established, normally the ex-dividend date. Where the NZ Super Fund has elected to receive dividends in the form of additional shares rather than cash, the amount of the cash dividend foregone is recognised as income. Any excess in the value of shares received over the amount of cash dividend foregone is recognised as a gain in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**r) Foreign currency translation****FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY**

Items included in the prospective financial statements of the NZ Super Fund are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the NZ Super Fund operates (the functional currency). The functional currency of the NZ Super Fund is New Zealand dollars. It is also the presentation currency.

**TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES**

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are converted to New Zealand dollars using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at balance date. Where there is a movement in the exchange rate between the date of a foreign currency transaction and balance date, the resulting exchange differences are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

**s) Income tax**

In accordance with Section HR 4B of the Income Tax Act 2007, income derived by the NZ Super Fund is subject to New Zealand tax determined using the rules applying to companies. The income tax expense recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income comprises current and deferred tax and is based on accounting profit, adjusted for permanent differences between accounting and tax rules. Income tax relating to items of other comprehensive income is recognised in other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable to or receivable from the taxation authorities based on the taxable income or loss

for the year and any adjustment in respect of prior years. It is calculated using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the tax bases of assets and liabilities at balance date. Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for all taxable temporary differences, except:

- The initial recognition of goodwill;
- The initial recognition of assets or liabilities that affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss other than in a business combination; and
- Temporary differences relating to investments in subsidiaries, associates and interests in joint ventures where it is probable that they will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, the carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses only to the extent that it is probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to utilise the deductible temporary differences, the carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses. The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance sheet date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when a legally enforceable right to set-off exists, the deferred tax balances relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the NZ Super Fund intends to settle on a net basis.

**t) Statement of Cash Flows**

The following are the definitions of the terms used in the Prospective Statement of Cash Flows:

Operating activities include all activities other than investing or financing activities.

Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

Financing activities are those activities relating to capital contributions and to payments of superannuation entitlements. As the current funding by the Crown of superannuation entitlements flows directly from the Treasury to the Ministry of Social Development, it is not considered cash flow of the NZ Super Fund and accordingly, is not recorded in the Prospective Statement of Cash Flows.

Cash flows are included in the Prospective Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the IRD, is classified as cash flows from operating activities.

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**u) Changes in accounting policies**

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout these prospective financial statements.

**v) Significant judgements and estimates**

The preparation of the NZ Super Fund's prospective financial statements requires the Board and management to make judgements and use estimates that affect the reported amounts of income, expenditure, assets, liabilities and the accompanying disclosures. Uncertainty about these judgements and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in future periods. The judgements and estimates used in respect of the NZ Super Fund are continually evaluated. They are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial impact on the NZ Super Fund and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The judgements and estimates that the Board and management have assessed to have the most significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

**ASSESSMENT AS AN INVESTMENT ENTITY**

The Board and management reassess the NZ Super Fund's investment entity status on an annual basis, if any of the criteria or characteristics change.

**ASSESSMENT OF CONTROL, JOINT CONTROL OR SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE**

The NZ Super Fund's investments in subsidiaries have been assessed in light of the control model established under NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements to ensure the correct classification and disclosure of investments in subsidiaries. The NZ Super Fund holds investments in a number of entities that are not considered subsidiaries even though its ownership interest exceeds 50%. The Board and management have concluded that the NZ Super Fund has no unilateral power to direct the relevant activities of these entities and therefore it does not have control of these entities.

The NZ Super Fund's investments in associates have been assessed in light of the definition of significant influence included in NZ IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures. The NZ Super Fund holds investments in a number of entities that are not considered associates even though its ownership interest exceeds 20%. The Board and management have concluded that the NZ Super Fund has no power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of these entities and therefore it does not have significant influence over these entities.

The considerations made in determining joint control are similar to those necessary to determine control over subsidiaries. The NZ Super Fund's joint arrangements are classified as joint ventures because certain key operating and financial activities require the approval of the NZ Super Fund as well as at least one other investor and the contractual arrangements provide the parties with rights to the net assets of the joint arrangements.

**ASSESSMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN STRUCTURED ENTITIES**

The Board and management have assessed which of the NZ Super Fund's investments are investments in structured entities. In doing so, the Board and management have

considered voting rights and other similar rights afforded to investors as well as any contractual arrangements in place with these investments.

The Board and management have concluded that certain of the NZ Super Fund's investments meet the definition of a structured entity because:

- The voting rights in the investments are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the investment; and
- The investments have narrow and well-defined objectives to provide investment opportunities to investors.

**DETERMINATION OF FAIR VALUE**

Where possible, the fair value of the NZ Super Fund's assets and liabilities are measured using quoted prices in active markets. Where the fair value of assets and liabilities cannot be measured using quoted prices in active markets, fair value is determined using valuation techniques with market observable inputs from third parties such as brokers or pricing vendors, where available. For assets that have no quoted price (which principally consist of investments in private equity investment funds, collective investment funds, fixed income securities and certain derivative financial instruments) the determination of fair value requires significant judgement. Fair value for these assets is determined as follows:

*Unconsolidated subsidiaries and private equity investments held directly*

The fair value of certain unconsolidated subsidiaries and private equity investments held directly, is provided by independent valuers who use models to determine the fair value of investments. The determination of fair value for these investments is subject to careful consideration and consultation with a range of reliable and independent sources. Under the Board approved Investment Valuation Policy, the Guardians has an internal Valuation Working Group (VWG) that is responsible for reviewing the valuations of these investments at balance date. The VWG reviews the valuation methodologies, practices and policies used in determining fair value and/or reviews the valuations themselves with a view to ensuring that the fair values of these investments at balance date are as accurate as possible. The VWG reports the outcomes of their reviews to the Audit Committee.

*Private equity investment funds and collective investment funds where fair value is provided by investment managers or administrators*

The fair value of private equity investment funds and collective investment funds is provided by the investment managers or administrators at balance date. Depending on the nature of the underlying instruments, investment managers and administrators may use observable market prices, their own models or they may engage independent valuers who use models to determine the fair value of investments. The Board and management may also directly appoint independent valuers to determine the fair value of certain investments where this information is unable to be provided by an investment manager or administrator or where an investment is directly managed by the NZ Super Fund.

*Fixed income securities where fair value is determined by a pricing vendor*

Where the market for fixed income securities is illiquid, fair value is determined by a pricing vendor who uses

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models to value the securities. The Board and management mitigate the risk of pricing errors by only selecting reputable pricing vendors and by periodically calibrating prices against observable market data.

*Derivative financial instruments where fair value is determined by a pricing vendor, broker or counterparty*

Pricing vendors, brokers or counterparties may use valuation models to price certain derivative financial instruments for which the inputs may include current and forward exchange rates, estimates of cash flows, interest rates, futures prices, default rates, credit spreads, volatility curves, indicative prices for similar assets and discount rates. The Board and management mitigate the risk of pricing errors by only selecting reputable pricing vendors, brokers or counterparties and by periodically calibrating prices against observable market data.

*Valuation uncertainty*

Since the fair value of investments categorised within Level 1 or Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy reflect market observable prices or inputs, they are inherently less subjective and their valuation less uncertain than those investments categorised within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The NZ Super Fund's investments categorised within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy predominantly consist of private equity investments held directly or via investment funds; unconsolidated subsidiaries and other externally managed investment vehicles. Whilst the determination of fair value in relation to these investments is subject to careful consideration and consultation with a range of reliable and independent sources, investment in these assets are inherently subjective and exposed to valuation uncertainty as a result of rising interest rates, inflationary pressures, increased geopolitical tension, global supply issues and climate-related risks. The Board and management continue to monitor and evaluate

the appropriateness of specific valuation techniques and the judgements and estimates used when determining the fair value of these assets to assess whether material adjustments might be required to their carrying value.

#### TRANSFERS BETWEEN LEVELS OF THE FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY

The classification of investments within the fair value hierarchy is reviewed annually. Transfers between the different levels of the hierarchy generally occur when there is a change in the trading status of a financial instrument (such as listing on a recognised exchange, suspension of trading or de-listing).

#### OTHER SIGNIFICANT ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Investment returns for the forecast period are based on internal modelling of 20-year returns.

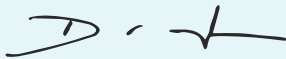
Management fees included in the forecast are based on investment management agreements that were in place on the date the forecast was approved by the Board. The Guardians' expenses are allocated according to the current allocation model.

The forecast has largely been based on actual experience to date with exception of the impact of foreign currency. No foreign currency impact has been forecast.

Material differences between the forecast and actual returns may also occur due to four other major factors:

- Investment markets generate returns at a level that is greater or lesser than the rate assumed in this forecast;
- Pandemic and geopolitical risk;
- The asset mix of the NZ Super Fund changes in response to opportunities not anticipated in this forecast; and
- Foreign currency movements.

#### SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



Catherine Drayton, Chair



Doug Pearce,  
Chair Audit Committee

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