

# Self Managed Superannuation Funds

SUPER RETIREMENT SOLUTIONS

Specialists in Self Managed Superannuation  
A division of McConachie Stedman

## Control your own retirement

Self Managed Superannuation Funds (SMSF), also known as DIY funds, are the fastest growing sector of the superannuation industry. Many individuals, families and self employed people are actively seeking to reduce the cost and complexity of their superannuation whilst increasing the level of control and direction of their financial retirement and lifestyle goals.

Super Retirement Solutions specialises in SMSFs and is dedicated to supporting self directed investors. Through the leveraging of technology, education and support services we are able to offer SMSF's as a viable alternative to retail and industry based superannuation funds. This will enable you to control your retirement savings and focus on the most important thing – your financial goals and desired retirement lifestyle.

## Client Suitability

For the right person or family there are compelling reasons to have your own personal superannuation fund. These include:

- **investment flexibility** - subject to the rules that apply, you can choose the type of investments you want for your fund, particularly with respect to investing in business real estate;
- **investment control** - subject to the rules that apply, you can decide how best to invest your super fund's assets and how to make money for your fund;
- **estate planning** - you can tailor the distribution of benefits payable on death in the most tax effective manner for your dependants. Sophisticated strategies are available for complex estate planning situations.
- **cost control** - by "doing it yourself" you can avoid paying the fees of a middleman; and
- **asset protection** - as your superannuation entitlements are protected from your creditors you can use your fund to protect at least some of your wealth.

## Strategy Applications

Self Managed Superannuation funds have a wide variety of strategy applications, including:

- The ability to select a wide range of different investment types including in business real property (particularly small business owners);
- Flexible management of death benefits and multiple beneficiaries;
- Pre-retirement pensions for members over 55
- Account based pensions in retirement;

## The mechanics of Self Managed Super Funds

The first step to creating a SMSF is to establish the underlying trust deed (ie the fund rules) and then ensure that the fund qualifies as a complying superannuation fund. As trustees of the SMSF you will apply to the ATO to be 'regulated' so that the fund is eligible for the various superannuation taxation concessions.

Your superannuation fund must be maintained for the purpose of providing benefits upon a member's retirement, or to a member's dependants in the case of a member's death. This is called the "sole purpose" test. Trustees need to ensure that all investment decisions satisfy the 'sole purpose' test.

SMSF's are subject to the same contribution and benefit payments standards (including preservation rules) as other superannuation funds. It is important to ensure that the trust deed for a SMSF contains the necessary provisions to accept monies and pay benefits as required by the members and in accordance with the relevant legislative requirements.

Although SMSF's are not subject to the same member information requirements of larger superannuation funds, there are still ongoing administration requirements, including:

- Self managed superannuation fund annual return
- Benefit reporting where required
- Annual fund audits
- Annual member statements outlining member benefits

For over 30 years McConachie Stedman have specialised in assisting clients with their Self Managed Super Funds.

**To find out more information about SMSFs, please contact our Super Retirement Solutions staff.**

Accounting & Taxation

Self Managed Superannuation

Auditing

Financial Planning

Finance Broking

Insurance Broking

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