



# Financial Services Guide

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# 01 Financial Services Guide

This Financial Services Guide (FSG) has been prepared and issued by SuperRatings Pty Ltd (SuperRatings) ABN 95 100 192 283, holder of Australian Financial Services Licence No. 311880, to assist you in determining whether to use our financial services and products. This is an important document and you should read it carefully.

## 1.1 What is a Financial Services Guide?

This document has as its main purpose to:

- Tell you more about us;
- Help you to decide whether to use any of the financial services we provide;
- Inform you of how we are paid;
- Compensation arrangements; and
- How we manage complaints.

## 1.2 About SuperRatings and the Services Provided

SuperRatings is a superannuation research house, which primarily provides a ratings service in relation to superannuation funds as well as superannuation consulting services to employers, trustees and financial advisers. SuperRatings does not accept instructions to provide financial services to individuals. We are a fully owned subsidiary of Lonsec Holdings Pty Ltd (ABN 41 151 235 406), a privately-owned entity with a multi-brand strategy of providing leading financial services research and investment execution. Other subsidiaries of Lonsec Holdings include Lonsec Research Pty Ltd (ABN 11 151 658 651) and Lonsec Investment Solutions Pty Ltd (ABN 95 608 837 583).

Established in 2002, SuperRatings is one of the most widely used and accepted ratings companies in the superannuation industry.

SuperRatings actively promotes engagement, education and ownership of superannuation through the provision of:

- Superannuation Research;
- Opinion and commentary;
- Analysis and data;
- Ratings of superannuation and pension funds;
- Product licensing of financial calculators and benchmarking reports; and
- Superannuation consulting services.

SuperRatings' reputation is built on the quality, extent and depth of fund analysis and is considered one of the most comprehensive and up to date research houses in the industry. SuperRatings currently rates more than 600 financial products covering pensions and superannuation. This is a significant portion of the superannuation and pension market. Along with rating services, SuperRatings also provides several data related research tools for the financial services industry, including monthly investment return surveys, fundamental reports, an online research database, internal Benchmark Reports for funds and tendering and consulting services.

Our ratings are based on our detailed research reports that are made available to financial services professionals by subscription. Members of the public may also obtain a summary of the full research report by contacting us and upon payment of a fee. Ratings are only one factor to take into account

when choosing a superannuation fund and, before acting on them, you should consider obtaining personal financial advice from a financial adviser.

## Contact Details

SuperRatings Pty Ltd  
Level 21, 200 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

**Tel:** 1300 826 395

**Email:** [info@superratings.com.au](mailto:info@superratings.com.au)

[www.superratings.com.au](http://www.superratings.com.au)

### 1.3 What kind of financial services can SuperRatings provide?

SuperRatings is authorised under its Australian Financial Services Licence to provide general financial product advice to retail and wholesale clients on the following types of financial products:

- Deposit and payment products;
- Debentures, stocks or bonds issued or proposed to be issued by a government;
- Interests in managed investment schemes including investor directed portfolio services;
- Life products including:
  - Investment life insurance products as well as any products issued by a Registered Life Insurance Company that are backed by one or more of its statutory funds; and
  - Life risk insurance products as well as any products issued by a Registered Life Insurance Company that are backed by one or more of its statutory funds;
- Retirement savings account;
- Securities; and
- Superannuation.

### 1.4 Provision of General Advice only

Any advice that SuperRatings provides is of a general nature and does not take into account an individual's financial situation, objectives or needs. Because the information that SuperRatings receives about superannuation and pension financial products is from a number of sources, it is not guaranteed to be completely accurate. Because of this, individuals should, before acting on the information, consider its appropriateness having regard to their own financial objectives, situation and needs and if appropriate, obtain personal financial advice on the matter from a financial adviser. Before making a decision regarding any financial product, individuals should obtain and consider a copy of the relevant Product Disclosure Statement from the financial product issuer.

### 1.5 How SuperRatings is paid

Superannuation and pension funds do not pay any upfront fee to have their funds rated by SuperRatings. Superannuation and pension funds who use the SuperRatings logo and rating in their own advertising material pay a licence fee to do so. SuperRatings does not receive commissions or other incentive style benefits from any financial product issuers. SuperRatings' income is derived

primarily through the sale of its superannuation and pension fund research or by-products of this research.

SuperRatings charge consulting clients either on a retainer basis or a fixed hourly fee for providing superannuation consultancy services, fees are agreed before provision of services.

SuperRatings employees receive a salary and do not receive commissions, fees or other benefits from any financial product issuers. Staff may be eligible for a bonus payment in certain circumstances. Bonus payments are discretionary and are not guaranteed. Sales staff may have a sales commission plan, relevant to sales as offered by SuperRatings from time to time at its discretion.

## 1.6 How does SuperRatings manage its Compensation Arrangements?

SuperRatings has Professional Indemnity insurance arrangements in place to compensate clients for loss or damage because of breaches of any relevant legislative obligations by SuperRatings or its representatives which satisfy section 912B of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

## 1.7 Providing feedback and complaints handling

SuperRatings internal complaints handling process is designed to ensure that an individual's concerns are treated seriously, and that the complaint is addressed promptly and fairly. A complaint may be lodged either verbally or in writing and will be dealt with in strict confidence. If an individual has a complaint about the service provided by SuperRatings, the complaint should be notified to:

### **Complaints Manager**

SuperRatings Pty Ltd  
Level 21, 200 George Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
**Tel:** 1300 826 395  
**Email:** [Complaints@lonsec.com.au](mailto:Complaints@lonsec.com.au)

An individual may request further information about SuperRatings' internal complaints handling procedure at any time. If an individual is not satisfied with the outcome of their complaint or has not received a response within 45 days, the individual can complain to the Australian Financial Complaints Authority (AFCA).

AFCA provides an independent dispute resolution service and can be contacted on:

**Online:** [www.afca.org.au](http://www.afca.org.au)

**Email:** [info@afca.org.au](mailto:info@afca.org.au)

**Phone:** 1800 931 678

### **Mail:**

Australian Financial Complaints Authority  
GPO Box 3  
Melbourne, Victoria, 3001.

ASIC also has a free call info line: **1300 300 630**, which you can use to make a complaint about us.

This FSG was prepared on 16 December 2019.