

## AMP MySuper 1970s

Quarterly Investment Option Update

30 September 2023

#### **Aim and Strategy**

The strategy aims to achieve a rate of return of 3.0% pa above the inflation rate (measured by the Consumer Price Index), after fees and superannuation tax, over the suggested investment timeframe. Returns from both capital growth and income are provided through a diversified portfolio.AMP's MySuper investment option gives you an investment solution that takes you all the way through your superannuation savings journey. This approach, known as lifestages investing, delivers an investment strategy that continuously evolves to align with the changing stages of an investor's life. It takes the hard work out of deciding how to invest your savings by providing the simplicity of a single investment choice. This investment option is an age-based investment, meaning that the strategy of this investment option will change progressively over your lifetime as appropriate for the average investor born during the 1970s. This means that younger investors will have higher exposure to growth investment strategies because they have a longer period to retirement and can afford to take more risk. However, for investors closer to retirement, investments will have greater focus on seeking to preserve the capital built up and reducing risk whilst maintaining some exposure to growth assets.International investments may be partially or fully hedged back to Australian dollars. Subject to certain conditions, the underlying investments may use derivatives (such as options, futures, forwards and swaps) and engage in short selling.

#### **Investment Option Performance**

To view the latest investment performances for this product, please visit <a href="https://www.amp.com.au/performance">www.amp.com.au/performance</a>

#### **Investment Option Overview**

Investment category	Multi-Sector
Suggested minimum investment timeframe	10 years
Standard Risk Measure	6/High
Investment style	Active
Manager style	Multi-manager

Asset Allocation	Benchmark (%)
Australian Shares	34
Global Shares	42
Property	7
Infrastructure	6
Alternatives	4
Fixed Income	4
Cash	3
Actual Allocation	%
Global Shares	41.47
Australian Shares	33.89
Infrastructure	6.41
Property	6.40
Fixed Income	4.29
Alternatives	3.13
Cash	4.42

#### **Fund Performance**

After strong gains in the first half of the year, the September quarter was reminiscent of 2022, where share and bond markets retreated as investor sentiment remained negative around inflation falling slower than expected and interest rates remaining higher for longer. This constrained the absolute performance of the 1970s Option over the quarter, ending with a small negative return. However, the Option continues to show strong absolute returns over longer time periods since market lows at the end of 2022.

Despite the small negative return, the 1970s Option weathered much of the downturn in Q3 through actively managed exposures as well as remaining well diversified. Stock selection that was ahead of benchmarks from our underlying managers in Australian and International shares boosted overall performance. Similarly, diversifying allocations to alternatives and direct infrastructure as well private equity lifted returns in the face of falling listed markets. Bond and direct property allocations were down over the period as rates continued to rise, putting pressure on debt markets.

The Option underperformed its CPI objective over the quarter and remains behind over 12 months following elevated CPI levels over the last two years. Over the long-term, performance has improved.

Looking ahead, we expect continued market volatility for the remainder of 2023. Share markets remain precariously positioned with valuations stretched. Inflation levels are not falling as fast as previously expected and higher interest rates are now likely to remain well into 2024, on top of increasingly worrisome national debt levels and recessionary fears. Against this backdrop, we are rotating away from equity markets, locking in recent gains in favour of more diversifying assets such as credit and infrastructure, as we expect these to provide good defensive characteristics.

#### **Market Review**

The September quarter initially saw global optimism build in investment markets amid an emerging view that a 'soft landing' scenario was starting to play out, reflected by still-falling inflation combined with resilient economic growth and employment numbers, notably in the US. Mid-quarter however, there was a small, but noticeable pull-back in sentiment, as global inflation prints fell - though not by as much as expected, demonstrating some equity markets had become a little ahead of themselves on the likelihood of an early and soft landing.

In the US, annualised inflation for August was shown to be 3.7%, up from 3.2% the previous month, though still in a downtrend from its 9.2% peak of mid-2022. The increase was largely driven by rising energy prices, such as gas and oil, amid production cuts from Russia and Saudi Arabia. Economic growth meanwhile was shown to be at 2.1%, while the unemployment rate ticked up to a still-low 3.8%. Consumer spending was resilient. Outside of economics, immigration policy was in the headlines, amid an influx of arrivals across the southern border. Government shutdown prospects and party leadership for the 2024 election were also widely discussed.

### **Availability**

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