Senate Economics References Committee

Inquiry into Improving consumer experiences, choice, and outcomes in Australia's retirement system

Response to correspondence dated 25 March 2025

Cbus Super acknowledges the committee's request and considers that the information that we have already provided addresses the matters raised.

To assist the committee, we have provided the relevant responses in the table below. We will continue to assess whether there is any additional information that would further inform the committee in its inquiry.

The Hon Mr Wayne Swan
Chair of Board and Independent Director
Cbus Super

27 March 2025

Question on notice	Answer
General Business Practices	A response to this question was provided on 19 February 2025:
8. Can you provide a copy of	
the Cbus risk register	Cbus Super performs risk assessments to identify, assess and manage material risks that could
from 2022 through until	significantly impact the business and therefore members, if not managed appropriately.
today?	
	The Fund's risk register contains sensitive and confidential information concerning material risks
	identified by Cbus Super. Disclosing the risk register publicly would not align with APRA's
	prudential standards, including because disclosing information on the management of certain
	risks would be counter-productive to the risk management objective.
	Disclosing the information contained in the risk register would also expose the Fund and its
	members to a real risk of serious harm. For example, it may enable bad actors to exploit
	identified operational or other risks for unlawful purposes such as cybercrime, scams and other
	fraud.
	Lastly, if risk assessments related to the Fund's investment strategies or operational planning
	were made public, it could disadvantage Cbus Super in competitive markets, potentially
	impacting the Fund's ability to deliver strong, sustainable returns for members.
General Business Practices	No.
7. As Chair of Cbus, have you	
personally received any	
complimentary benefits?	A reappned to this question was provided on 10 Echruary 2025:
Partnerships 16. Please provide a list of	A response to this question was provided on 19 February 2025:
the current (including	Cbus Super is committed to ensuring that all partnerships and expenditure decisions are made
suspended) partnership	in the best financial interests of our members.
agreements Cbus has signed	mand beet mandat interested of our mornisore.
with a third party. Please	In 2024, Cbus Super appointed Deloitte to conduct an Independent Review into the fitness

Question on notice	Answer
provide the date on which	and propriety of Cbus Super's responsible persons and the Fund's expenditure
the board approved the	management as required by APRA to confirm whether it is and has been compliant with the
partnership agreement, the	relevant prudential standards and statutory framework. The Independent Review identified
date it was signed, the date a	certain deficiencies including relating to mechanisms/metrics in the Fund's expenditure
Best Financial Interest test	management.
assessment was conducted,	
and the purpose of the	All 26 recommendations in the Deloitte independent review have been accepted in
agreement.	principle by the Cbus Super Board, which fully cooperated with the independent review
17. Please provide a list of	process.
research projects or	
arrangements that Cbus has	Cbus Super has now published its Rectification Plan that address the recommendations in
requested from any union,	the Deloitte review which will assist the Fund to demonstrate how partnership
including suspended	arrangements will be undertaken in the best financial interests of members. The Committee
agreements.	can refer to the Plan here:
18. Please provide the	https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/reporting/cbusrectification-
date on which the board	plan.pdf
approved the research	
project or arrangement, the	Cbus Super acknowledges the seriousness and importance of the work required to
date it was signed, the date a	strengthen the Fund's systems design, frameworks, policies, processes, governance and
Best Financial Interest test	reporting as identified in the independent review to become a better, stronger fund for
assessment was conducted,	members. Cbus Super has already begun this important work, including to develop
and the purpose of the	improvements in the way the Fund documents the value that industry partnership
agreement.	arrangements generate for the Fund and our members.
	The independent review also notably observed that industry partnership arrangements are "an important mechanism, through which industry superannuation funds achieve brand awareness, retain members and ultimately grow membership."
	Cbus Super discloses a list of expenditure for partnership arrangements as part of its

Question on notice	Answer
	annual reporting requirements. A link to this information has been provided previously: https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/reporting/amm-fy24-detailed-website-disclosure.pdf
Best Financial Interests	
Duty	As these matters are now being considered by APRA as part of its investigation into Cbus Super's
6. Did you approve the budget for the 40th anniversary celebration at the Regent Theatre?	expenditure management practices, we are unable to provide further information at this time.
7. What was the total cost for the 40th anniversary celebration?	
8. What was the Cbus Board approval process for the 40th anniversary celebration budget?	
9. What was the 40th anniversary celebration budget approval process against its best financial interests duties?	
10. How many Cbus members attended the 40th anniversary celebration?	
11. Which CFMEU officials were invited to the 40th anniversary celebration?	

Question on notice	Answer
12. Were the investment	
team encouraged to	
attract fund managers as	
sponsors of the 40th	
anniversary celebration?	
[Additional questions	
received via email, 19	
December 2024]	
13. What state or federal	
parliamentarians were	
invited?	