

8 June 2012

The General Manager
Business Tax Division
The Treasury
Langton Crescent
PARKES ACT 2600

Email: cgt_super_roll-over@treasury.gov.au

RE: Proposals Paper – Taxation relief to support the implementation of Stronger Super

Dear Sir/Madam,

The Australian Institute of Superannuation Trustees (AIST) is an independent, not-for-profit professional body whose mission is to protect the interests of Australia's \$450 billion not-for-profit superannuation sector. AIST's members are the trustee directors and staff of industry, corporate and public-sector superannuation funds, who manage the superannuation accounts of two-thirds of the Australian workforce.

This Proposals paper is aimed at ensuring that tax considerations are not an impediment to superannuation funds seeking to merge and consolidate in response to the Stronger Super reforms. The taxation relief will also ensure that default members of superannuation funds are not adversely affected if their superannuation benefits and relevant assets are transferred under the MySuper reforms. It is understood that this Proposals Paper will be used as the basis for the policy design of this measure.

AIST has previously made a number of submissions supporting CGT rollover relief (12 February 2009, 11 August 2011, most recently as part of the Stronger Super Information Pack¹), as well making strong representations directly to Government in November 2011 and March 2012 on the subject.

AIST fully supports the proposed taxation relief as outlined in the Proposals paper and agrees with the time frame of 1 June 2012 to 1 July 2017 as it coincides with the implementation period of the Stronger Super reforms. This is in fact the timeframe that AIST originally recommended in its submissions.

Our primary recommendation is that the legislation be given the highest priority to pass through the parliament. In essence, the funds need the surety that taxation relief is legislated so that they can proceed with mergers. To this end, if the MySuper component of the Proposals Paper requires any significant re-work or in any way threatens to delay the progress of the merger

¹ <http://www.aist.asn.au/superannuation-policy-research/submissions/2011-collection.aspx>, August 2011 and October 2011

taxation relief, then we strongly urge that the merger relief component be put forward as a separate bill.

With regard to the additional terms and conditions of this relief package as compared to previous packages, AIST has no particular concern with these criteria.

If you have any further questions regarding this submission, please contact Tom Garcia, Policy and Regulatory Manager on (03) 8677 3804 or tgarcia@aist.asn.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Fiona Reynolds'.

Fiona Reynolds
Chief Executive Officer