

August 17, 2012

Manager Contributions and Accumulations Unit Personal and Retirement Income Division The Treasury Langton Crescent PARKES ACT 2600

Email: intrafundconsolidation@treasury.gov.au

To whom it may concern

Exposure Draft – Intra-fund consolidation

The Institute of Public Accountants (the Institute) takes this opportunity to respond to the **Exposure Draft – Intra-fund consolidation**. The Institute has over 22,000 members and students throughout Australia and internationally. Many of our members are involved in providing advice in relation to superannuation and will be impacted by the proposed measures.

The Institute supports the proposals to require trustees of superannuation funds to consolidate the interests of members who have multiple superannuation interests within the same fund. Multiple-interests in the same fund only add to the cost of administration and loss of member value. While the Institute appreciates there will be an initial increase in costs to funds of identifying and consolidating accounts, this will be offset in the longer run by reduced over servicing of those with multiple interests in the same fund.

The Institute supports an 'opt-out' approach where the fund informs the member of the multiple interests and the intention to consolidate. An 'opt out 'approach assumes that the member would agree and would only require the member to do act if they disagreed. Given the low level of engagement with superannuation by most members, an opt-out mechanism is most appropriate.

Please contact our Senior Policy Adviser, Reece Agland, via e-mail at <u>reece.agland@publicaccountants.org.au</u> should you wish to discuss the details of this submission further.

Kindest Regards

Andrew Conway FIPA Chief Executive Officer Institute of Public Accountants

National Office