It’s been a roller coaster of a year! Beginning with intense bushfires and storms, and continuing with a global pandemic, including two waves of COVID-19 in Australia.

As restrictions across the country continue to ease and we begin a new ‘COVID normal’, we’d like to acknowledge the spectacular effort of all Australians. It’s been an extraordinarily tough year, and we’re committed to playing our part in helping with the economic recovery.

We’re investing in property projects across the country, creating jobs for our members. So while this has been a hard year, we’re looking forward to a brighter future.

From everyone at Cbus, we’d like to wish you all a very happy and safe festive season, and a great start to 2021.

For the latest news on Cbus and the road to recovery, visit cbussuper.com.au/road-to-recovery.

Cbus offices and front counters will be closed from 12pm on 24 December 2020 and will reopen at 9am on 4 January 2021.

If you have any questions over this period, you can call 1300 361 784. The Cbus contact centre will be open as usual (8am – 8pm AEDT, Monday to Friday), except for the following dates:

- 24 December: open 8.00am to 12.00pm
- 25 December: CLOSED
- 28 December: CLOSED
- 29 – 30 December: open 9.00am to 5.00pm
- 31 December: open 9.00am to 12.00pm
- 1 January: CLOSED

Temporary early access scheme is ending

The Australian Taxation Office introduced a temporary option for members experiencing financial hardship due to COVID-19 to apply for early access to their super, to help see them through these tough times. The deadline for applying under this scheme closes on 31 December.

Accessing your super early can have a significant impact on your retirement savings, so we encourage members to contact Cbus Advice Services on 1300 361 784 (press 4) if you’re considering this option.

Read our Early access to super fact sheet at cbussuper.com.au/corona-response or visit ato.gov.au for more information.

Front counters are open for business

A reminder that the Adelaide, Brisbane, Sydney and Perth front counters are open.

If you need a hand with opening an account, filling in a form or have a question about your insurance, pop in and have a chat with us. We’re happy to help! The Melbourne front counter will be closed for a little bit longer, as we continue to follow the advice of state governments in relation to the opening of our front counter service.

Visit cbussuper.com.au/contact for directions and opening hours.
2020 Cbus Annual Member Briefing

This year the Cbus Annual Member Briefing was held entirely by webinar for the first time. We’ve run annual meetings in Sydney and Melbourne for several years, but it was great to use technology to reach even more of our members across the country.

Cbus Chair Steve Bracks, and CEO Justin Arter were on hand to talk about Cbus’ performance and answer the questions that matter most to you. Some of our 2020 highlights were:

- Despite the significant challenges posed by COVID-19, Cbus delivered a positive return to members, with our Cbus (My Growth) investment option realising a 0.75% return.
- We paid out nearly $2.2 billion in early release payments to more than 262,000 members, with 97.7% of applications paid within 5 days.
- By bringing more of our investments expertise in-house, we have delivered over $150 million in investment cost savings in the 2019/20 financial year.
- We committed over $950 million to project finance for shovel-ready construction projects, line-of-credit loans to large Australian companies and direct investment in shares of listed Australian companies, and we have another $850 million to invest in project finance and supporting quality companies.

It was clear from the questions we received before and during the meeting that our members are very focussed on the future. A key priority for Cbus for the next year will be maintaining our strong advocacy for members.

For example, we’re concerned that the government’s recently announced proposal to ‘staple’ members to the first fund they join, will disadvantage building and construction workers.

This is because you may have joined a fund other than Cbus, when you started your first job. The government’s proposal is that you’ll stay with that fund through your working life. Workers in the building and construction industries can be at higher risk of injury than other industries and Cbus has negotiated insurance for workers in our industries. If you have insurance with another fund, you may not be covered.

The ‘stapling’ proposal is not due to begin until July 2021 and we’ll be working hard over the coming months, to make sure our members are protected for the work they do.

To watch the webinar and read the meeting minutes, visit cbussuper.com.au/amb.

Cbos and Media Super update

Cbos and Media Super are progressing well with the due diligence process required for the merger to proceed. The proposed joint arrangement would see the merging of the two funds’ operations, while maintaining both brands.

Being industry super funds, Cbus and Media Super have a similar history and connection with their members. We look forward to providing a detailed update in the new year.

This is an exciting opportunity for both funds, so keep an eye on cbussuper.com.au/news for all the latest updates.
Investment update

Despite the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and volatile investment markets throughout 2020, the Growth (Cbus MySuper) option returned 3.22% \(^\text{^}\) for the financial year to October 2020. This compared favourably to the median return of the largest 50 balanced superfunds of 2.52\(^\#\), and is a great increase from the median return of -0.82\(^\%\) for the year ending June 2020.

The reason we’re seeing the shift towards positive returns is largely due to the impacts of external factors influencing our local market. The growing profits of ‘stay at home’ technology stocks and online retailers, Aussie states returning to COVID-19 ‘normal’ living and working, the US Presidential election and of course the positive news of getting closer to a COVID-19 vaccine, have all played large parts in returns lifting.

We’re committed to investing in the road to economic recovery, contributing to a more sustainable economy and society through maintaining and creating decent jobs and better retirement outcomes for members.

Performance to 31 October 2020

- Growth (Cbus MySuper) option
- SuperRatings fund median

Past performance is not a reliable indicator of future performance.

\(^\text{^}\) The return for the Growth (Cbus MySuper) option is based on the crediting rate, which is return minus investment fees, taxes and until 31 January 2020, the percentage-based administration fee. Excludes fees and costs that are deducted directly from members account.


For more information on:

Get more out of your super

To help you get more out of your super and better plan for your retirement, we’ve developed a range of educational sessions for members at all stages of life. These sessions are relaxed and informal, and they’re provided as part of your membership.

To view available sessions, and to book your place, visit cbussuper.com.au/seminars.
Your coordinators

Local Cbus Coordinators give you personal, face-to-face support when you and your worksite need it. Get in contact today if you need help or to organise a workplace information session. All onsite visits will be subject to appropriate social distancing and COVID safety requirements.

Cbus helping build towards Australia’s economic recovery

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This information is about Cbus. It doesn’t take into account your specific needs, so you should look at your own financial position, objectives and requirements before making any financial decisions. Read the relevant Product Disclosure Statement to decide whether Cbus is right for you.

Contact 1300 361 784 or visit cbussuper.com.au for a copy.

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