



# **Cbus** Policy

# Remuneration Summary

## Date of this Summary: 21 July 2020

Cbus' Trustee: United Super Pty Ltd ABN 46 006 261 623 AFSL 233792 Cbus ABN 75 493 363 262 07/20

#### **Principles**

As an industry superannuation fund, Cbus is run only to benefit members. The Fund's remuneration practices are designed to reflect our values placing our Members at the centre of all that we do. We also recognise that as we continue to transform to meet an ever increasingly competitive environment, we need to resource the Fund appropriately in order to provide quality benefits and services to our members and employers.

Cbus is committed to providing a remuneration strategy that meets the following principles:

- Aligns remuneration arrangements with the achievement of strategic objectives consistent with its stated risk appetite and that develops and supports the desired Cbus culture;
- Ensures that remuneration will be equitable, based on merit, underpinned by a transparent and consistent methodology;
- Ensures that the Fund provides an appropriately competitive level of remuneration within the market in which the Fund operates but that gives appropriate consideration to the long-term financial soundness of the Fund;
- Ensures that the Fund remains conscious of the relationships between remuneration pressures and costs to members;
- Ensures that employees understand the basis for determining their remuneration;
- Cbus remuneration strategies are directed at meeting the following objectives:
  - Facilitating the attraction and retention of key capabilities;
  - Reinforcing key behaviours that are aligned to our values;
  - Competitively positioning labour costs; and

- Providing the flexibility necessary to access future business opportunities and respond to business threats by the attraction and retention of key talent.
- Remuneration structures at Cbus are supported by a governance framework that avoids conflicts of interest, defines clear accountabilities, includes risk management and ensures that proper checks and balances are in place.

#### Remuneration Arrangements

The remuneration arrangements of specific roles at both Cbus and Cbus Property are subject to the requirements of the APRA Prudential Standard on Governance – SPS 510 (The Standard).

In accordance with the Standard, our remuneration practices specifically apply to the following categories of employees and Directors at Cbus and Cbus Property:

- Responsible persons for Cbus this includes the Directors, Company Secretary/ies, and Executives of the Fund;
- Persons whose primary role is risk management, compliance, internal audit, financial control or actuarial control i.e.: collectively risk and financial control personnel; and
- All other persons for whom a significant proportion of total remuneration is based on performance and whose activities, individually or collectively, may affect the interests of beneficiaries, the financial position of the Fund or its connected entities, or any other relevant prudential matter.

The Cbus Remuneration Policy encompasses all persons in the above categories that are employed directly by the Fund or retained under contract, and those that are employed by, or a contractor of, a body corporate that is a connected entity or a related body corporate i.e.: Cbus Property.

# Responsibility and Accountability

The Board acknowledges that it has ultimate responsibility for the sound and prudent management of the Trustee and the Fund, including its remuneration arrangements. The Remuneration Policy and amendments to same, must be approved by the Board.

In accordance with the Standard, on the recommendation of the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee or singularly, the Board can adjust performance-based components of remuneration for those categories of persons set out above downwards to zero, if appropriate, to protect the financial position of the Trustee and the Fund or to respond to any significant unexpected or unintended consequences that were not foreseen by the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee.

The Board has established the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee to assist it in carrying out its responsibilities in relation to remuneration arrangements.

The specific role and responsibilities of the Committee are contained in the People, Culture and Remuneration Charter. This includes the obligation to conduct regular reviews and make recommendations to the Board on the Remuneration Policy and to make annual recommendations to the Board on the remuneration of those categories of persons specified above.

The Committee can rely on advice from both internal and external parties when conducting its reviews, such as people and culture management, and will ensure that there are processes in place to support the management of any conflicts of interest when advice from such parties is sought.

In undertaking these responsibilities, the Committee may also engage thirdparty experts to provide independent advice.

The risks associated with remuneration will be managed in a manner that supports the Fund's risk management framework.

# **Cbus Remuneration Structure**

For the purpose of the Standard, remuneration arrangements include measures of performance, the mix of forms of remuneration (such as fixed and variable components) and the timing of eligibility to receive payments that a person receives by virtue of the role that they undertake for the Fund. All forms of remuneration are captured by the Standard, regardless of where, or from whom, the remuneration is sourced.

At the present time, Cbus operates a relatively simple remuneration structure, and this is outlined below:

#### Fixed pay

All employees at Cbus receive fixed pay, which includes a cash salary, superannuation and for some employees, leave loading.

The standard superannuation rate at Cbus for all employees is 16.5%. Employees may also elect to adjust the Employer Superannuation Contribution to 12% with the balance paid into their base salary. Employees that are affected by the capped contributions will have excess superannuation contributions paid to them in their base salary.

Should the contribution caps change at any time (i.e.: be increased or decreased), this will cease as applicable.

Fixed pay at Cbus is based on a number of inputs and the Fund receives remuneration data through membership with FIRG (the Financial Institutions Remuneration Group) and through participation in other appropriate surveys.

In determining an employee's fixed remuneration, external benchmarking is performed to ensure that remuneration is comparable and competitive within the markets in which the Fund operates. All roles are benchmarked against a peer group of other profit- formembers funds.

Executive roles are benchmarked using this method and data is also sought against industry peer group of other profit for member funds.

Individual performance, skills, and experience are also used to determine where the employee's fixed remuneration should sit within a market range.

Cbus employees employed under the industrial agreements currently operating in the Fund are awarded an increase determined in Enterprise Bargaining on 1 July, which seeks to maintain the value of their remuneration.

Salary increases outside the annual incremental increases, are currently awarded through an annual benchmarking process, across the organization, using industry-based remuneration surveys to ensure salaries are in line with market benchmark data and in line with the Cbus Remuneration Policy.

Cbus notes from time to time it will need to attract and retain capability and talent to the Fund in line with its strategic objectives which may mean differentiating fixed pay.

#### **Variable Pay**

Cbus has a variable pay program that provides performance-related payment that is linked to the achievement of performance against agreed objectives. Payment under the program is deferred over a 3-year period. A limited number of senior roles have been approved by the Board to participate in the program including: the CEO, Group Executive and roles in the Investment team where there is a direct link to performance and fund outperformance. Eligibility for participation in the program is detailed in the Cbus Variable Pay Program Policy. These roles are selected based on comparison with similar roles within the sector that attract variable pay. Equityrelated components do not form any part of the Fund's remuneration mix.

Cbus Property Pty Ltd operates a short-term incentive scheme related to performance.

Any variable pay components of Executive remuneration are designed to align with prudent risk-taking and incorporate the following evaluations:

- a) The satisfactory assessment of three risk and conduct hurdles
- b) The delivery of the Cbus business objectives as set out in the Cbus Business Plan and individual performance indicators;
- The delivery of these objectives within the parameters of the Fund's risk appetite.

#### **Cbus Property:**

Cbus Property Pty Ltd (CPPL) pays a performance related incentive to staff (internally referred to as a short-term incentive ("STI"). All staff that work at Cbus Property are eligible to have their performance considered for this plan.

The scheme is a deferred one with payments made progressively over a three (3) year period.

STI payments are set as a range of the base salary of an employee dependent on role and achievement of individual, team and organisational performance hurdles.

Following a review by the CPPL Remuneration Committee and CPPL Board, each August the CEO of Cbus Property makes an annual recommendation on STI payments for all specified employees to the Cbus People, Culture and Remuneration Committee.

The CPPL Board can approve the STI payments for non-specified CPPL employees where the STI follows the calculation methodology approved by the Fund's Board (also in August each year).

The CPPL Remuneration Committee and CPPL Board separately determine the Total Salary Package levels paid to CPPL employees (so excluding STI).

In addition to the above process, the Cbus Property CEO provides two (2) remuneration reports to the Cbus People, Culture, and Remuneration Committee each year:

- a) an outline of the proposed STI methodology that will cover CPPL employees for the forthcoming 12-month remuneration period, and
- an outline of the implementation of the current-year's STI methodology having been implemented from the most immediate past approval of same.

#### **Enterprise Bargaining framework:**

Cbus has two Industrial Agreements operating across the organisation. Negotiations for new Agreements are due to take place after the nominal expiry date of 30 June 2020.

Cbus staff remuneration is comprised of base salary, superannuation of 16.5% and for some roles, annual leave loading entitlements of up to 25% for some staff dependent on the negotiated conditions outlined in the relevant enterprise agreement that set out terms and conditions of employment with the Fund.

As a benefit, salary continuance (income protection) insurance premiums are also paid on behalf of staff on top of the total reward paid to staff.

#### **CEO Remuneration:**

The Cbus CEO position is appointed by the Board of Directors and the remuneration is set based on a recommendation of the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee to the Board of Directors, based on performance outcomes of the CEO as reviewed by the Fund Chair.

The CEO position is formally benchmarked against the market (utilising an independent external provider, commissioned by the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee) at least every three years.

However, information is provided to the Fund Chair and People, Culture and Remuneration Committee annually drawing on available remuneration data to benchmark this position.

The CEO's performance is reviewed by the Fund Chair each year in June/ July, with any salary adjustments being recommended at the August People, Culture and Remuneration Committee meeting. In approving the CEO remuneration, the Board will consider the Committee's recommendations.

In alignment with the Standard, the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee can recommend to the Board the adjustment of any executive performance related remuneration increases (including the CEO) downwards to zero if appropriate, should the adjustment meet the criteria of the Standard.

The CEO remuneration (along with Executive remuneration) is currently disclosed on the Cbus website at <a href="https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/board-executive/Executive-Remuneration-Report-2018-19.pdf">https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/board-executive/Executive-Remuneration-Report-2018-19.pdf</a>

#### **Executive Remuneration:**

Executive positions are not covered by an industrial arrangement (each executive signs a contract outlining terms and a set of common conditions) and all executive positions are measured on their performance against their outputs as set by the CEO.

Executive staff participate in a program of setting their objectives each year and their performance is reviewed against their objectives (KPIs) in July of each year, with recommendations for their salary increases (if any) going to the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee at their August meeting.

From 1 July 2013 in alignment with the Standard, all Executive remuneration must be approved by the Board.

All recommendations for Executive salary increases will need to be endorsed by the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee before submission to the Board for approval.

The People, Culture and Remuneration Committee has free and unfettered access to "risk and financial control" personnel in the carrying out of their duties and also may engage third-party experts directly, in a manner that ensures any engagement (including the advice received) is independent.

The Executive team salaries (including the CEO) are currently disclosed on the Cbus website at <a href="https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/board-executive/Executive-Remuneration-Report-2018-19.pdf">https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/board-executive/Executive-Remuneration-Report-2018-19.pdf</a>

#### **Directors Remuneration:**

Cbus Directors, Cbus Property
Directors and any Alternate Directors
will receive competitively benchmarked
remuneration for their work, having due
regard to their specific responsibilities
and the nature and objectives of the
Fund.

The Cbus People, Culture and Remuneration Committee is responsible for reviewing and setting Directors fees for all group entities each year. The Committee must ensure that Directors' fees are appropriate and suitably reflect current industry practice, the complexity of the Boards' work programs and responsibilities, and the Fund's performance.

The fees are also be externally benchmarked against peer Funds and other similar financial institutions at least every three years.

For the forthcoming financial year, the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee makes a remuneration recommendation to the Fund's August Board meeting each year, following their meeting in June.

Cbus Directors are currently paid a base fee (which is paid regardless of attendance) and an additional attendance fee for meetings attended. The attendance fee paid at Committees will vary depending on whether a Director is a member or Chair of a Committee.

The following confirms when Directors are paid for their services to the Fund:

- a) Directors will be paid their annual attendance fee on a quarterly in arrears basis;
- b) Subject to the following conditions
   Directors will be paid an additional
   sitting fee for their attendance at
   all Board and Committee meetings,
   including special purpose Board
   Sub-Committees;
- c) Per the Fund Governance Policy,
  Directors are required to attend
  the entire duration of all scheduled
  meetings. Where is it not possible
  for a Director to attend an entire or
  the majority of a meeting, they will
  be paid a percentage amount based
  on the approximate timing of their
  departure. Where a part payment
  is to be made, the Secretariat will
  advise Cbus Finance Department
  of the Director's percentage
  attendance and the sitting fee will
  be adjusted accordingly.
- d) Where the Fund provides free training in-house to Directors as part of an already scheduled Board or Committee meetings, they will not be paid an additional sitting fee to attend the training (be it in person or via telephone).

- e) Where the Fund provides free training in-house outside of the Board and Committee calendar, Directors will not be paid a sitting fee to attend the training (this is on the basis that the Director must invest their own time in meeting requisite educational standards to be a Trustee director). However, travel and accommodation costs will be paid/reimbursed if the Director's attendance in person at such events is directly aligned to their position at Cbus.
- f) Where a Director attends relevant industry conferences or courses, unless the Fund pays for all costs upfront, the Director will be reimbursed for any travel to the event and for an appropriate amount of accommodation and associated expenses. The Director will not receive remuneration for their attendance at any external training event.
- g) Directors are paid to attend the annual Board Strategy Offsite one (1) sitting fee will be paid for the duration of the Offsite regardless of its duration. When the Offsite is held directly after a Trustee Board meeting, Directors will be paid for the Board meeting and one (1) sitting fee for the Offsite.
- h) Board Sub-Committee Directors will be paid a sitting fee based on their preparation, contribution and attendance at any meeting held during the tenure of the subject forum
- The Chairs of the Fund and the Board Committees will be paid for their preparation, contribution and attendance at any Meeting of the Chairs held throughout the year.

Cbus Property Directors are currently paid an annualised fee which is published in the Cbus Annual Report.

The Cbus Director fees are currently disclosed on the Cbus website at <a href="https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/board-executive/Directors-Remuneration-Report-2018-19.pdf">https://www.cbussuper.com.au/content/dam/cbus/files/governance/board-executive/Directors-Remuneration-Report-2018-19.pdf</a>

### External Board or External Committee fees

Where a Cbus or Cbus Property
Director has (or will be) appointed for an extended period to an external board, forum, committee or working party representing the Fund, then at the commencement of this appointment a determination will be made if a fee will be payable for the duration of the sitting period. Any recommendation will be made by the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee and submitted to the Board for approval.

This determination will take into consideration any fee arrangement proposed to be provided by other relevant parties (for example, a fund manager may provide a fee for attendance and input at an external Investment Committee) so that no double or overpayment occurs.

If (after the determination) a fee is to be paid by Cbus, then it will be paid in accordance with the current fee schedule and will be dependent on whether the sitting Director is a member or chair of the external Board, forum, committee or working party.

Should a Cbus Director be required to sit on an external board as part of an investment related or other strategy related structure, then Cbus will seek to ascertain if a fee can be reimbursed by the organisation calling for input. In the absence of any fee paid, then Cbus will pay a sitting fee to the required Director at the member rate, unless the Cbus Director is the chair of said board, forum, committee or working party and then the chair rate will be used.

Any remuneration application will be determined at the commencement of any appointment and this will be made in consultation by the Chair with the affected Director based on a recommendation of the time commitment required and endorsed to the Board by the People, Culture and Remuneration Committee. It is anticipated that at the commencement of the term the program of activities would be tabled for assessment.

The nominated Director will be required to notify the Fund in writing of attendance at meetings or working parties that would attract the fee and this will be reconciled with the intended scope set with the Chair at the commencement of the appointment.

Any payments will be made quarterly in arrears in line with current payment practices. Remuneration will be disclosed as part of total remuneration paid in line with current practices.

#### **Set Director Fees**

The Chair of the Board (at both Cbus and Cbus Property) and the Independent Director at Cbus are all paid a set annual fee.

#### Reimbursement of Expenses

The People, Culture and Remuneration Committee will approve the parameters for the reimbursement of Cbus Directors for expenses relating to the performance of their duties. Cbus Property will review and apply their own internal policies in this regard.

# Review of the Cbus Remuneration Policy

The Remuneration Policy will be subject to regular review to ensure that it remains appropriate for the Fund and an assessment will be made of the Policy's effectiveness and compliance with the requirements of the Standard on an annual basis.

The Policy may be varied from time to time in accordance with various legislative requirements or to reflect internal changes. Recommendations for any changes will be made to the Board concerning any material changes to the Policy. A full review of the Policy will be undertaken at least every three years.

#### **Related Policies Or Materials**

- Draft Prudential Practice Guide SPG 511-Remuneration
- Prudential Standard SPS 220 Risk Management
- Prudential Standard SPS 521 Conflicts of Interest
- Principles for Sound Compensation Practices – Implementation Standards issued by the Financial Stability Board (FSB)
- Remuneration Policy
- Variable Pay Program