

—
GUARDIANS OF
NEW ZEALAND
SUPERANNUATION
—



—
STATEMENT OF
PERFORMANCE
EXPECTATIONS
NGĀ MATAPAE
MŌ TE PŪRONGO
WHAKAHAERE
PŪTEA
—

FOR THE PERIOD
1 JULY 2026
- 30 JUNE 2027

FUTURE — proof →

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Introduction

He kupu whakataki

The Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation ('Guardians') is a Crown entity charged with managing the New Zealand Superannuation Fund ('NZ Super Fund') and the Elevate NZ Venture Fund ('Elevate').

The NZ Super Fund is a global investment fund set up in 2001 to partially pre-fund the future cost of New Zealand superannuation. By using the NZ Super Fund to save now in order to help pre-fund superannuation in the future, the Government aims to smooth the cost of New Zealand superannuation between today's taxpayers and future generations.

Investing began in 2003. The Guardians invests the capital contributions made by the Government, as well as the net returns generated from the investments made (less tax paid).

In 2019, the Government established a venture capital fund, a second fund managed by the Guardians. Elevate is a fund-of-funds programme, managed on behalf of the Guardians by New Zealand Growth Capital Partners Limited ('NZGCP').

Our 2026 – 2031 Statement of Intent ('SOI') sets out our medium-term strategy, focus areas and measures for assessing our progress towards them.

This Statement of Performance Expectations ('SPE') outlines the short-term priorities we will undertake in the financial year to 30 June 2027, which support our focus areas as set out in our SOI.

It is important to note that the delivery of the priorities outlined in this SPE alone is not an appropriate measure of the long-term performance of the Guardians and its mandates. The Guardians' 'business-as-usual' work and other less resource-intensive projects all contribute to our focus areas set out in our SOI to better equip the organisation to meet its ultimate goals.

Our SPE also sets out:

- our expectations for the NZ Super Fund's performance for the 2026/27 financial year
- the key risks to performance and the actions we are taking to manage those risks
- prospective financial statements for the 2026/27 financial year for both the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund.

We have included a separate section in this report dedicated to Elevate in order to clearly differentiate between the performance expectations in respect of each of our mandates. Prospective financial statements for Elevate are not required.

Each year, we receive a Letter of Expectations from the Minister of Finance outlining the Minister's expectations of the Guardians' activities for the forthcoming year. A copy of the Letter, along with the Guardians' response, is available on our website: nzsuperfund.nz.

Our strategy

Tā mātou rautaki

Over the past 25 years, the NZ Super Fund has become a genuine success story. Together, we have built an organisation that is respected in New Zealand and internationally for its performance, discipline and long-term perspective. That success reflects the collective effort of our people and the strength of our culture – and it provides a strong platform for what comes next.

Guardians of the Future – From strength to strength

Our Guardians of the Future strategy is informed by our purpose, vision, values and mandates. It sets the direction for our organisation. This includes how we scale, build capability, use data, make trade-offs and work together over the long term – all with the aim of delivering enduring value through investment, so we can go from strength to strength.

As the Fund enters its next phase of growth, our strategy is to:





- build on proven strengths
- enhance capabilities critical for the future
- step up our commitment to sustainable investment.

Our strategy is supported by our Strategic Framework (shown on the following page), which provides the structure for our strategic planning.


The Framework sets out four key focus areas which we believe are strategically fundamental to the Guardians and where resource and effort should be allocated.

- **Strengthen our investment approach:** Our strategy is investment-led. We will evolve a scalable operating model that transforms portfolio construction, liquidity, and operational capability into sources of sustained advantage. This, combined with an integrated approach to sustainable investment, will enable us to deliver enduring value as the Fund grows.
- **Optimise our organisation:** We will continue to evolve the organisational foundations that support the Fund. By optimising our processes and harnessing advancing technology, data, and AI capabilities, we will deliver the adaptive, scalable platform needed in the future.
- **Maximise our team and culture's potential:** A high-performing culture underpins everything we do. We will continue to invest in our people – aligning leadership, growing capability and shaping an environment where our teams can thrive.
- **Enhance our external presence:** Work in this area focuses on continuing to deepen trusted relationships with government and key stakeholders so that the Guardians can continue to steward the Fund with confidence, clarity, and long-range perspective.

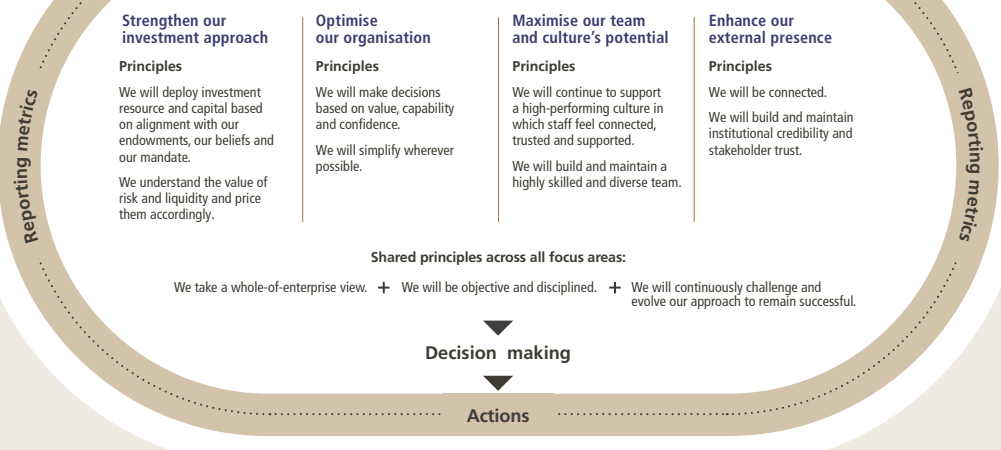
To learn more about our Strategic Framework and focus areas, see our 2026 – 2031 Statement of Intent.

	Purpose	Sustainable investment delivering strong returns for all New Zealanders Kia toitū te haumi hei hua mā ngā tāngata katoa o Aotearoa			
	Vision	An inclusive team creating a better future through investment excellence Mā te kotahi ā-kapa, mā te kounga ā-haumi, ka tino eke ki tua			
	Values	We stand strong He toka tū moana	We support each other Waiho i te toipoto kaa i te toiroa	Future focused Ki te kāhore he whakakitenga, ka ngaro te ivi	Team not hero Ēhara tāku toa i te toa takitahi, he toa takitini
	Mandates	NZ Super Fund Managed by the Guardians, set up to partially pre-fund the future cost of superannuation.		Elevate NZ Venture Fund Managed externally by NZ Growth Capital Partners through a fund-of-funds model, set up to develop New Zealand's venture capital markets.	

Context

	Guardians of the Future Strategy	Build on proven strengths	Enhance capabilities for the future	Step up our commitment to sustainable investment

Focus areas



Strengthen our investment approach

Principles

We will deploy investment resource and capital based on alignment with our endowments, our beliefs and our mandate.
We understand the value of risk and liquidity and price them accordingly.

Optimise our organisation

Principles

We will make decisions based on value, capability and confidence.
We will simplify wherever possible.

Maximise our team and culture's potential

Principles

We will continue to support a high-performing culture in which staff feel connected, trusted and supported.
We will build and maintain a highly skilled and diverse team.

Enhance our external presence

Principles

We will be connected.
We will build and maintain institutional credibility and stakeholder trust.

Shared principles across all focus areas:

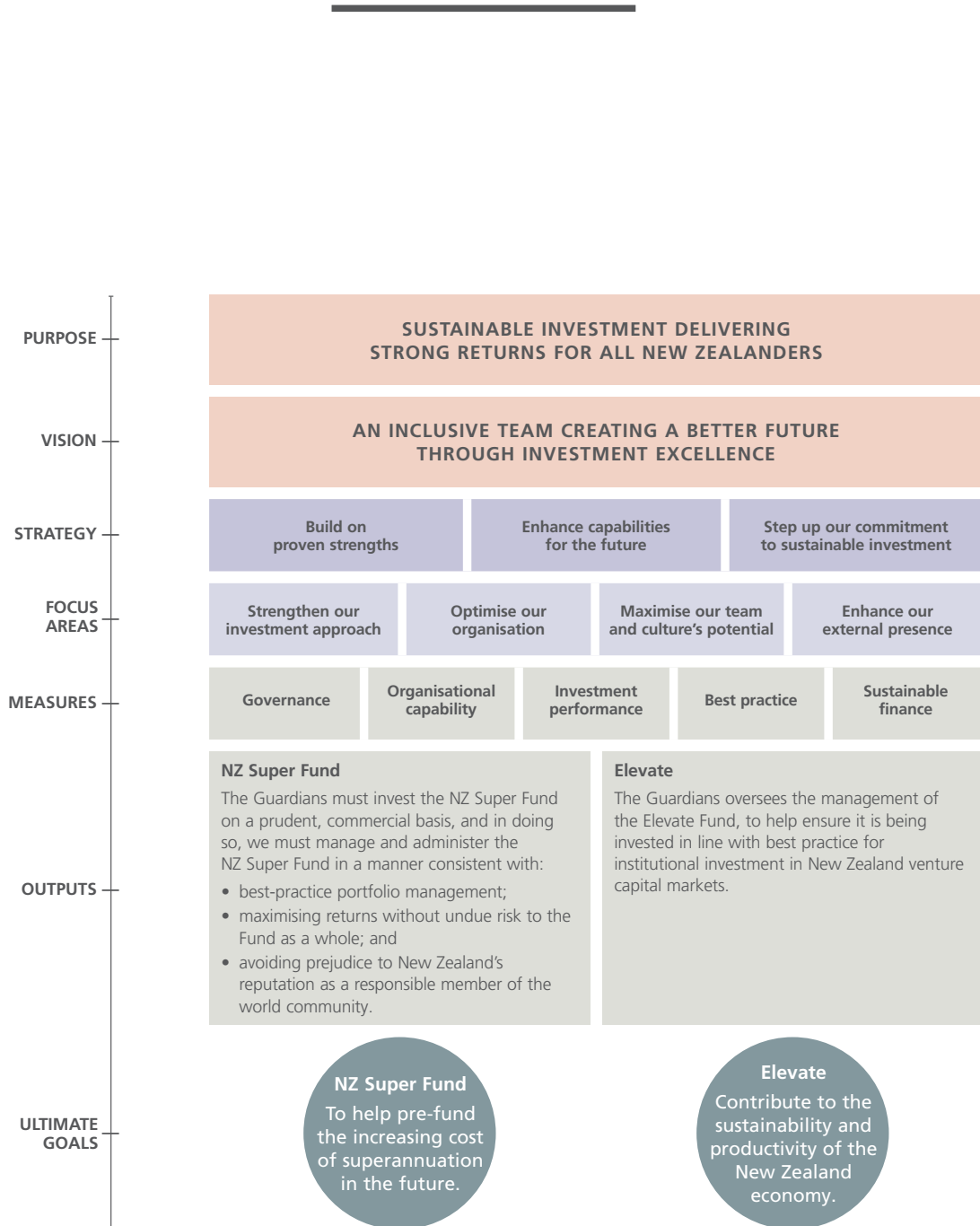
We take a whole-of-enterprise view. + We will be objective and disciplined. + We will continuously challenge and evolve our approach to remain successful.

Decision making

Actions

The ultimate goals

Ngā whāinga hirahira katoa



How we measure our performance

Te huarahi e inea ai e mātou ā mātou mahi

Guardians

Our SOI sets out the key measures we use to track the medium-term performance of the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. Where possible we look to obtain assessment of our performance from independent third parties and global experts in benchmarking.

This SPE outlines some of our short-term planned activities outside of our business-as-usual operations, which support the four focus areas set out in our strategy.

We report on progress towards the measures set out in our SOI and SPE in our Annual Report.

NZ Super Fund

The NZ Super Fund is a growth-focused investor which has a very long horizon. This means that the long-term success of our fund is measured over decades, rather than annual market cycles.

In line with this, over 20-year rolling periods, we expect the NZ Super Fund to achieve:

COMPONENT OF RETURN	RISK-FREE RATE	EXCESS RETURN AFTER COSTS	REWARD FOR VALUE-ADDING ACTIVITIES	
	4.25% ⁺	2.05% ⁺ (which is the reward for taking market risk above cash or the risk-free rate)	0.90% ⁼	7.20%
EXPLANATION	Our estimate of the long-term return on 90-day Treasury Bills.	We define the reward for market risk as the margin between the risk-free rate and the return that would be generated on the Reference Portfolio (after assumed costs of 0.20%). Although the estimates of market risk vary over time, we provide the long-term expectation of the rewards for market risk on the Reference Portfolio.	Our estimate of the return from the investment activities we undertake to add value over and above the Reference Portfolio.	The expected value of the NZ Super Fund's return over the next year is 7.20%.

We also use three different quantitative measures against which to measure the investment performance of the NZ Super Fund. These measures are reported on annually over 1-, 5-, 10-, 20-year and since-inception time frames (where applicable) in our Annual Report. For more information on these measures, see our 2026 – 2031 SOI.

Key risks to performance

Ngā tūraru matua ka pā ki te whai hua o te mahi

The way we approach risk is fundamental to our success. In order to achieve our mandates, we need to take investment risk and navigate enterprise risks. Our focus is on having the right culture, governance, people and processes in place to ensure we can respond to and manage risks as they occur.

Our Board is responsible for setting our risk appetite and providing risk governance and oversight. Investment risk is determined by the Board setting the Reference Portfolio and the investment constraints. Enterprise Risk is managed by the business within the parameters of the Risk Assessment Framework.

Our approach to managing investment risk is set out in our Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures ('SIPSP') and our Investment Risk Allocation Policy.

The Risk Assessment Framework describes our approach to enterprise risk in the four categories set out in the Risk Appetite Statement below.

The Risk Assessment Framework:

- defines the risk categories
- sets out the questions we need to ask ourselves when responding to a risk
- defines our risk management expectations
- puts in place appropriate monitoring and reporting of our risk appetite assessments.

These documents describe how day-to-day management of risks is delegated from the Board to the CEO and across each team at the Guardians. This puts in place accountability for managing risk and a clear plan to act on risks in a timely manner.

Flowing on from these are policies, procedures and internal controls for staff, external investment managers and other service providers. More information on the Guardians' risk management process and a summary of our key risks can be found in the Risk Management section of our Annual Report.

Our material risks are:

- insufficient liquidity to meet our obligations and maintain our strategies
- change in key stakeholder support resulting in the failure to successfully execute our mandates and achieve our overall purpose
- investment approach does not meet our purpose
- Guardians does not effectively manage climate-related risk
- employee capability and capacity shortfall
- cybersecurity event occurs (such as malware, phishing attack or denial of service attack)
- IT infrastructure or business systems connecting to our network cease to be fit for purpose
- processes not fit for purpose
- incidents of fraudulent activity (including rogue traders, bribery, etc).

RISK APPETITE STATEMENT

The Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation has developed into, and has a strong ambition to remain, a world-class organisation with a purpose that reflects its intergenerational focus.

In setting out its risk appetite, the Board recognises that risk, internal and external, to its business is likely to come from a range of causes. For these risks, how we respond falls into four broad categories: Culture, Governance, People and Processes.

The Board is willing to take risk to achieve its purpose; it expects the Guardians to continue to use all reasonable measures, without imposing excessive costs or constraints, for its management of the four categories.

Our risk appetite will be determined by the Guardians' Purpose and Vision, with Investment Risk managed by the adoption of the Reference Portfolio and approved Investment Constraints; and Enterprise Risk managed by the Risk Assessment Framework.

Priorities for 2026/27

Ngā kaupapa mātāmua mō te tau 2026/27

Our priorities in respect of the Guardians and NZ Super Fund encapsulate our business-as-usual work, including ongoing process improvements, as well as specific projects and initiatives. These priorities are aligned with our focus areas and are planned and executed in line with our principles. Our key priorities for the 2026/27 financial year are outlined below. For more information on the medium-term measures of success, see pages 8–17 of our SOI.

Focus area	Measurement categories	Priority for 2026/27
Strengthen our investment approach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment performance Best practice Governance 	<p>Scaling our operating model and developing advantages</p> <p>We will embed an operating model (structure, processes, ways of working, etc.) that drives us to invest in a more disciplined, consistent and scalable manner – targeting greater alignment with our endowments, beliefs and experience. We will replicate proven successes across the portfolio and build developed advantages in key areas to generate excess returns.</p> <p>Planned work in this area includes: embedding the Investments team structure, including aligning teams to asset classes; and reviewing and revising existing policies and work practices to drive more consistent application of investment methodologies.</p> <p>Portfolio design as a strategic edge</p> <p>We must understand everything we own (exposure, risks, etc.) and why we own it (alignment to our endowments, beliefs and experience).</p> <p>Work in this area will focus on developing analysis and tools that enable more granular analysis of our portfolio, enabling us to accurately ‘risk-match’ all constituents of our active portfolio; and aligning the top-down and bottom-up approaches to portfolio design.</p> <p>Maximising our use of liquidity</p> <p>Managing liquidity is central to our operations – enshrined in both our strategic risks and our core principles.</p> <p>We aim to access our investments to optimise our use of liquidity – either through the pricing we receive for accepting illiquidity; or through ensuring we can utilise those investments to access additional liquidity and generate excess returns.</p> <p>Our work in this area will focus on identifying ways to raise liquidity more quickly and cheaply; building the tools to more accurately measure and monitor liquidity; and developing analysis to price liquidity more consistently.</p>

Focus area	Measurement categories	Priority for 2026/27
		<p>Step Up Sustainable Investment</p> <p>Sustainable Investment is central to the Guardians. It is reflected in our Purpose (“Sustainable investment delivering strong returns for all New Zealanders”); consistent with our legislative mandate (“...avoiding prejudice to New Zealand’s reputation as a responsible member of the world community”); and one of our investment beliefs outlines that we consider it fundamental to long-term risk and return.</p> <p>We will ensure that our investment decisions are informed by sustainability considerations in line with our mandate. Our stated goal is to support the development of a sustainable financial system.</p> <p>Over the coming year, our focus will be on developing and embedding our ‘Step Up Sustainable Investment’ plan, which will provide a roadmap for our Sustainable Investment activities into the future.</p> <p>Operational alpha</p> <p>Efficient analysis and implementation of investment decisions has the potential to improve our ability to respond to opportunities, accessing beneficial terms and pricing, and reducing cost.</p> <p>We ultimately seek to make better, faster decisions in order to generate excess returns.</p> <p>Work in this area will focus on implementing and developing the tools and processes to make better, faster decisions in order to generate excess returns.</p>
<p>Optimise our organisation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice • Governance 	<p>Calibrating our approach to enterprise risk management</p> <p>The Guardians has an opportunity to further refine our approach to enterprise risk management, building on recent progress through training, enhanced tools and the Risk Assessment Framework to support confident, well-judged decision making. The key element for this area is the Leadership Team developing and providing more guidance to staff in applying risk appetite to create more clarity in enterprise risk management. This will include the ‘stories’ recording our staff’s decision making to provide background to the guidance provided for staff.</p> <p>Maturing our processes</p> <p>Our growth has enabled us to develop strong organisational foundations. The next phase will involve continuing to simplify and better connect our structures, processes and frameworks. In particular, work in this area will include further evolving our approach to annual and quarterly planning and execution as well as embedding the tools and processes developed through our work on the data platform.</p> <p>Maturing our technology proposition</p> <p>Maturing our technology proposition is critical to enabling a scalable, investment-led operating model.</p> <p>Our focus in this area will be to continue to implement and embed our technology strategy that targets a safe (protecting our people, data and systems); stable (reliable, ensuring performance) and sustainable (flexible and adaptive) environment.</p>

Focus area	Measurement categories	Priority for 2026/27
		<p>Maturing our data proposition</p> <p>As the Fund grows, high-quality, well-integrated and readily accessible data underpins our ability to understand what we own, assess risk, construct portfolios effectively and make timely, well-informed decisions.</p> <p>With the contemporary data platform now in place, we now have the foundation to enable greater consistency, insight and confidence across the investment process. Going forward, work will focus on the transition of further models and reports onto the new platform and support of our enterprise priorities.</p> <p>Maturing our AI proposition</p> <p>AI can augment human judgement by accelerating analysis, improving insight, and enabling more consistent decision-making across increasingly complex portfolios. Work will focus on continuing to progress our AI roadmap, focusing on: building AI literacy and change capability across the organisation; structured ideation and prioritisation of value-add AI use cases (including investment-led opportunities aligned to the areas of investment focus); and development of a prioritised enterprise AI initiative backlog and roadmap aligned to strategic priorities. Continuing on from the foundational work started in the 2025/26 financial year, this will inform future investment, tooling and resourcing decisions, with implementation and scaling progressing once the roadmap and priority initiatives are confirmed.</p>
Maximise our team and culture's potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organisational capability 	<p>Developing and aligning our leadership</p> <p>Strong, aligned leadership ensures clarity of direction, disciplined prioritisation and consistent decision-making across the organisation. By strengthening leadership capability and alignment, we enable a whole-of-enterprise perspective that supports confident execution, effective trade-offs and sustained investment performance at scale.</p> <p>Building employee capability, capacity and culture</p> <p>As the Fund continues to grow, our focus is on ensuring we have the right people, with the critical capabilities, skills and support needed to deliver now and into the future. We will ensure we have the right skills and roles in place through a focus on capability development, talent attraction and retention, and workforce planning. Alongside this, the focus continues on a strong and enabling culture through our values, as a representation of our culture, and simplifying the people experience.</p>
Enhance our external presence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice • Governance 	<p>Developing our network</p> <p>With the NZ Super Fund continuing to grow in size and influence, strong, trusted relationships with government and the wider public sector help us achieve our goals and support a stable policy and regulatory environment. By proactively deepening these relationships, we enable clearer understanding of our strategy and risk settings, support constructive engagement on emerging issues, and ensure we can continue to invest at scale with confidence and long-term perspective.</p> <p>Work in this area will include the development and delivery of our three-year Communications strategy.</p> <p>Developing key stakeholder relations</p> <p>Developing strong, strategic relationships with key suppliers, co-investors and advisors is an important enabler of our ability to deliver and scale our investment approach. These relationships underpin access to capability, insight, capacity and opportunities that cannot be built internally alone. By deepening and professionalising these partnerships, we can improve execution, access larger and more complex investments, leverage shared expertise, and operate more efficiently – allowing scale to enhance, rather than constrain, our investment outcomes.</p>

Elevate

The Elevate NZ Venture Fund is a fund-of-funds programme that the Guardians has appointed NZGCP to manage on our behalf.

The Elevate NZ Venture Fund ('Elevate') was established in 2019 by the Venture Capital Fund Act 2019 ('VCF Act'). It has received \$400 million of Crown capital commitments. Several of Elevate's underlying funds have realised some of their earlier investments and returned proceeds of around \$20 million to Elevate which Elevate will recycle into new investments. Elevate is a completely separate fund from the NZ Super Fund.

Elevate's ultimate goal is to contribute to the sustainability and productivity of the New Zealand economy.

Elevate will do this by investing in New Zealand-focused venture capital managers that in turn invest in young, innovative New Zealand companies to help them grow into successful and sustainable businesses, encouraging the availability of more venture capital from other sources, and therefore developing the venture capital ecosystem in New Zealand.

This is to be achieved through:

- increased venture capital being available to New Zealand entities
- more self-sustaining early-stage capital markets
- successful and sustainable New Zealand businesses.

The VCF Act gives the Guardians a role in relation to Elevate, requiring us to invest it in New Zealand's venture capital markets using best-practice investment management appropriate for institutional investment in those markets.

We must also manage the fund in a manner consistent with:

- the Ministerial Policy Statement which sets out critical parameters as to how Elevate must be managed and invested
- avoiding prejudice to New Zealand's reputation as a responsible member of the world community.

Managing Elevate in this manner is our output.

We deliver on this output by:

- appointing NZGCP as the external fund manager for Elevate
- ensuring the management agreement with NZGCP reflects best practice in the context of institutional investment in New Zealand's venture capital markets
- ensuring that information reporting requirements relating to the flow of capital are covered in the management agreement
- continuing to monitor the performance of NZGCP
- ensuring compliance with the Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures ('SIPSP') for Elevate.

The appointment of NZGCP as the external manager of Elevate was anticipated in the VCF Act.

Priorities for 2026/27

Ngā kaupapa mātāmua mō te tau 2026/27

Elevate's priorities for 2026/27

It is the responsibility of NZGCP to invest in private-sector venture capital fund managers which will select the entities to invest in. It is our responsibility to monitor NZGCP's performance in line with the best-practice approach we have developed to manage relationships with other local and international investment managers, as applicable to the New Zealand venture capital market.

We use a conviction process to assess a manager's competence to execute an investment opportunity on our behalf. We use eight factors of performance, reflecting our view that for a manager's capabilities to be repeatable they need to demonstrate:

- **Viability** – the manager is secure and stable as an organisation such that they can deliver on their strategy over time.
- **Structure and focus** – the manager is appropriately focused and aligned to the VCF Act and the Policy Statement.
- **Trust** – we are confident that the manager is transparent, will do what they say they will do, and always act in our interests.
- **Risk awareness and management** – we are confident the manager has robust systems and processes for identifying, assessing, managing and reporting investment and non-investment risks.
- **People capabilities** – the manager has the people with the necessary competencies to execute the mandate as we expect.
- **Process capabilities** – the manager has the necessary tools, systems, networks and processes to execute and manage the mandate as we expect.
- **Opportunity consistency** – investment activity is consistent with the Policy Statement and fits with the opportunity we are targeting.
- **Performance** – the manager is performing as we expect relative to the opportunity.

Over 2026/27 we will undertake a conviction review of NZGCP, as manager of Elevate, and report back in the Statement of Performance section of our Annual Report.

Financial projections for 2026/27

Ngā whakapae ā-pūtea mō te tau 2026 me te tau 2027

Expense allocation

The Guardians incurs expenditure in carrying out its functions for both of its mandates: the NZ Super Fund and Elevate. All of this expenditure is recovered from the two mandates, except for a small appropriation funded by Parliament for Board member fees, travel associated with Board meetings, and external audit fees.

Guardians' expenditure includes remuneration and other employee-related costs, data and technology expenses, travel, professional fees and general office expenditure.

Elevate is charged a flat annual fee of \$625,000 by the Guardians to cover costs associated with oversight of this mandate. This fee is reviewed periodically, and was recently increased to reflect higher costs. All remaining Guardians' expenditure is recovered from the NZ Super Fund, resulting in a nil net surplus for the Guardians each year.

All expenditure incurred by the Guardians, irrespective of whether it is funded through Parliamentary appropriations or reimbursed by the NZ Super Fund or Elevate, is included in the Guardians' financial statements and is subject to the reporting and disclosure requirements of the Crown Entities Act 2004.

In addition to the reimbursement of Guardians' expenditure as noted above, the NZ Super Fund incurs expenditure associated with establishing and implementing investment policy, and the financial and risk management of its assets. This includes fees paid to external investment managers and its master custodian, as well as other investment-related costs.

Elevate expenditure primarily comprises investment manager fees, payments to NZGCP for day-to-day fund management services, and the annual fee paid to the Guardians.

Prospective financial statements have been prepared for both the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. The NZ Super Fund forecasts assume earnings that are broadly in line with the long-term expected return of 7.2% per annum, after costs but before New Zealand tax. While some costs are fixed and readily estimated, most costs are variable – such as base and performance fees paid to investment managers and transaction fees paid to the custodian – and are estimated based on expectations of the NZ Super Fund's size and returns over the forecast period.

Prospective financial statements are not required to be prepared for Elevate. The fee charged by NZGCP for day-to-day management of Elevate is disclosed in NZGCP's Statement of Performance Expectations.

Expected total cost of managing the NZ Super Fund 2026/27

The forecast cost of managing the NZ Super Fund in 2026/27, excluding performance fees, is \$226.2 million, or 0.24% of expected average funds under management. This compares with forecast costs for 2025/26 of \$200.3 million, or 0.23% of funds under management.

The \$25.9 million increase in forecast costs reflects a combination of volume-driven investment costs associated with what we expect will be a larger NZ Super Fund undertaking more active investment, and increases in non-volume-driven costs, primarily inflationary increases, rather than a structural expansion in the cost base.

Key drivers of the year-on-year increase are:

Volume-driven investment costs (funds under management, investment activity and returns-related):

- External investment manager base fees are forecast to increase by \$3.9 million, reflecting expected growth in funds under management.
- Direct investment costs are forecast to increase by \$8.7 million, driven by anticipated higher levels of investment activity than in 2025/26.
- Staff discretionary incentive payments are forecast to increase by \$6.7 million in 2026/27. In preparing the prospective financial statements each year, we assume that maximum return thresholds for payments will be exceeded over a rolling four-year period; of course, this may or may not occur. Given how the NZ Super Fund has actually performed relative to its value add benchmark over the last four years, lower than maximum incentive payments are anticipated for 2025/26.

Non-volume-driven costs

- The remaining increase of \$6.6 million is largely the result of inflationary increases in market data and other operational costs.

Guardians' expenditure is forecast at \$105.9 million, representing 0.11% of expected average funds under management.

Performance fees are paid only to external investment managers when returns exceed agreed benchmarks and are therefore treated as variable profit-sharing rather than a cost of managing the NZ Super Fund.

If forecast performance fees were included, the total forecast cost of managing the NZ Super Fund in 2026/27 would be \$262.4 million, or 0.28% of funds under management, compared with \$202.0 million, or 0.23%, in 2025/26.

It is important to note that these amounts are forecasts only. Actual costs incurred will depend on the size of the NZ Super Fund, investment performance and the availability of suitable investment opportunities and access points. Actual costs incurred are disclosed in our Annual Report.

Reportable outputs

The Guardians receives an annual appropriation to meet Board member fees and expenses and fees paid to the external auditor. The appropriation for 2026/27 is \$0.73 million. All other outputs of the Guardians are funded through payments from the NZ Super Fund and Elevate.

Prospective financial statements

Ngā pūrongo tahua e whakapaetia ana

Prospective financial statements are prepared for the Guardians, in its role as manager and administrator of the NZ Super Fund and Elevate, and for the NZ Super Fund, consistent with this SPE. Prospective financial statements are not required to be prepared for, and have not been prepared in respect of the Guardians' other mandate, Elevate.

These prospective financial statements are based on a number of assumptions about future events that are inherently uncertain. There is a risk that actual results will differ from these forecasts, as actual events may vary from the assumptions made, and not all outcomes can be predicted with certainty.

The prospective financial statements should be read in conjunction with the 2026 – 2031 Statement of Intent and this SPE. The information contained in the prospective financial statements is prepared for the purposes described above and may not be appropriate for other purposes.

The Board authorised the issue of these prospective financial statements on 22 April 2026. The Board is responsible for the prospective financial statements presented, including the appropriateness of the assumptions underlying the prospective financial statements and all other required disclosures.

The assumptions used in preparing the prospective financial statements are disclosed in the accounting policies of the Guardians and the NZ Super Fund. Actual financial results have not been incorporated into the prospective financial statements. The Board does not intend to update these prospective financial statements subsequent to presentation.

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GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2027	NZD'000
Cost reimbursement from the NZ Super Fund	104,922
Cost reimbursement from the Elevate Fund	625
Other revenue	270
Revenue from exchange transactions	105,817
Appropriations from the Crown	728
Revenue from non-exchange transactions	728
Total revenue	106,545
Board members' fees	(582)
Employee entitlements	(74,590)
Other expenses	(31,373)
Total expenses	(106,545)
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	-
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	-

Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 30 JUNE 2027	NZD'000
ASSETS	
Current assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	3,155
Receivables from exchange transactions	21,903
Receivables from non-exchange transactions	150
Prepayments	2,100
Non-current assets	
Receivables from exchange transactions	1,584
Total assets	28,892
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities	
Payables under exchange transactions	(1,588)
Employee entitlements	(25,220)
Non-current liabilities	
Employee entitlements	(1,584)
Total liabilities	(28,392)
Net assets	500
PUBLIC EQUITY	
Accumulated comprehensive revenue and expense	-
General equity reserve	500
Total public equity	500

GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

Prospective Consolidated Statement of Changes in Public Equity

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2026	GENERAL EQUITY RESERVE NZD'000	ACCUMULATED COMPREHENSIVE REVENUE AND EXPENSE NZD'000	TOTAL NZD'000
Balance at 30 June 2026	500	-	500
Total comprehensive revenue and expense for the year	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2027	500	-	500

Prospective Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2027

NZD'000

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Cash was provided from:

Receipts from the Crown	728
Receipts from the NZ Super Fund	104,134
Receipts from the Elevate Fund	625
Interest received	180
Goods and services tax	50
Other receipts	90

Total cash inflow from operating activities	105,807
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Cash was applied to:

Payments to Board members	(582)
Payments to suppliers	(32,379)
Payments to employees	(72,633)

Total cash outflow from operating activities	(105,594)
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Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	213
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Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	213
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Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	2,942
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Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	3,155
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GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

Summary of significant accounting policies

GENERAL INFORMATION

These are the prospective consolidated financial statements of the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation (Guardians) and its subsidiaries (Group). The Guardians is a Crown entity as defined by the Crown Entities Act 2004. The Guardians is also a public authority in terms of the Income Tax Act 2007 and therefore is exempt from income tax.

The Guardians is a public benefit entity for financial reporting purposes, as the primary purpose is to manage and administer the New Zealand Superannuation Fund (NZ Super Fund) and the Elevate NZ Venture Fund (Elevate Fund).

The Guardians is domiciled in New Zealand and the address of its principal place of business is 21 Queen Street, Auckland.

The prospective consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ending 30 June 2027 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation on 22 April 2026.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

The prospective consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Crown Entities Act 2004 and the Public Finance Act 1989, which includes the requirement to comply with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP) as it applies to prospective financial statements. They also comply with Public Benefit Entity Standards (PBE Standards) as appropriate for Tier 1 public benefit entities, including Public Benefit Entity Financial Reporting Standard 42 Prospective Financial Statements.

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The prospective consolidated financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

The prospective consolidated financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (NZD'000) unless stated otherwise.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner that ensures the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported. The following significant accounting policies that materially affect the prospective consolidated financial statements have been applied:

a) Basis of consolidation

The prospective consolidated financial statements comprise the prospective financial statements of the Guardians and its subsidiaries as at 30 June 2027.

The prospective financial statements of subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the Guardians using consistent accounting policies. In preparing prospective

consolidated financial statements, all inter-entity transactions, balances, unrealised gains and losses are eliminated.

b) Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are those entities that are controlled by the Guardians under the provisions of PBE IPSAS 35 Consolidated Financial Statements. The Guardians controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable benefits from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect the nature or amount of those benefits through its power over the entity. The Guardians' control of an entity is reassessed if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the elements of control.

c) Foreign currency

FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY

Items included in the prospective consolidated financial statements of the Guardians are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Guardians operates (the functional currency). The functional currency of the Guardians is New Zealand dollars. It is also the presentation currency.

TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are converted to New Zealand dollars using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at balance date. Where there is a movement in the exchange rate between the date of a foreign currency transaction and balance date, the resulting exchange differences are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

d) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities are recognised in the prospective consolidated financial statements exclusive of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables which are stated inclusive of GST. Where GST is irrecoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expense. The net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position.

e) Revenue

The Guardians primarily derives revenue through the provision of services to the Crown, the NZ Super Fund and the Elevate Fund. Revenue is recognised when it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the Guardians and the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before revenue is recognised:

GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

REVENUE FROM EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Exchange transactions are transactions in which one entity receives assets or services, or has liabilities extinguished, and directly gives approximately equal value (primarily in the form of cash, goods, services, or use of assets) to another entity in exchange.

Provision of services

Cost reimbursement from the NZ Super Fund and the Elevate Fund is recognised by reference to the stage of completion of services provided at balance date when the transaction involving the provision of services can be reliably estimated. The stage of completion is measured by the proportion of costs incurred to date compared with estimated total costs of the transaction.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised as the interest accrues, using the effective interest method. The effective interest method allocates interest at a constant rate of return over the expected life of the financial instrument based on the estimated future cash flows.

REVENUE FROM NON-EXCHANGE TRANSACTIONS

Non-exchange transactions are transactions that are not exchange transactions. In a non-exchange transaction, an entity either receives value from another entity without directly giving approximately equal value in exchange, or gives value to another entity without directly receiving approximately equal value in exchange.

Appropriations from the Crown

Revenue is recognised from the Crown when it is probable that appropriations will be received, the value of those appropriations can be reliably measured and the transfer is free from conditions that require the assets to be refunded or returned to the Crown if the conditions are not fulfilled. To the extent there is a related condition attached to the appropriations that would give rise to a liability to repay the appropriate amount, deferred revenue is recognised instead of revenue. In such situations, revenue is then recognised as the conditions are satisfied.

f) Operating leases

The determination of whether an arrangement is (or contains) a lease is based on the substance of the arrangement at the inception of the lease. The arrangement is (or contains) a lease if fulfilment of the arrangement is dependent on the use of a specific asset or assets and the arrangement conveys a right to use the asset. Leases in which the lessor retains substantially all the risks and benefits of ownership of an asset are classified as operating leases. Operating lease expenses are recognised on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

g) Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

The Group is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations. These financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, receivables and payables. All financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position and all revenues and expenses in relation to financial instruments are recognised

in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense.

INITIAL RECOGNITION

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Financial Position when the Group becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. They are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs that are attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset or financial liability.

The classification of financial instruments at initial recognition depends on the Group's business model for managing the financial assets and the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics. In making an assessment of the business model for managing a financial asset, the Board and management consider all relevant information.

SUBSEQUENT MEASUREMENT

The Group's financial assets and financial liabilities are subsequently classified into the following categories:

Financial assets at amortised cost

The Group's financial assets are classified at amortised cost if both of the following criteria are met:

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect the contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

This category includes cash and cash equivalents and receivables. Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method and are subject to impairment. When a financial asset is impaired, impairment losses are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense in the period in which they arise.

The Group's financial assets are reclassified when, and only when, the business model for managing those financial assets changes.

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities at amortised cost are non-derivative financial liabilities. This category includes trade payables and accrued expenses. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

DERECOGNITION

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired or when the Group has transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership. A financial liability is derecognised when the Group's obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or has expired.

IMPAIRMENT

The Board and management assess, at each reporting date, whether a financial asset is impaired. The amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the contractual cash flows due in relation to the financial asset and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate.

GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

Financial assets that are measured at amortised cost and therefore subject to the impairment provisions (the 'expected credit loss model') of PBE IPSAS 41 Financial Instruments comprise cash and cash equivalents and receivables.

The risk of impairment loss for cash and cash equivalents is considered immaterial.

The Board and management have applied a simplified approach for calculating expected credit losses (ECLs) on receivables under PBE IPSAS 41 Financial Instruments. As a result, the Board and management do not track changes in credit risk, but instead, recognise impairment losses based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The Group's approach to ECLs reflects a probability-weighted outcome using reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

OFFSETTING

The Group offsets financial assets and financial liabilities when it has a current legally enforceable right to set-off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis.

h) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, cash held in bank accounts, demand deposits and other highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less.

i) Receivables

Receivables are initially recognised at fair value, which is equal to the amount of consideration that is unconditional. The Group holds receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost less impairment losses using the effective interest method.

j) Payables

Short-term trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value, then subsequently at amortised cost.

k) Employee entitlements

Liabilities for salaries, annual leave, long service leave and incentives are recognised in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Revenue and Expense during the period in which the employee rendered the related service, when it is probable that settlement will be required and such employee entitlements are capable of being measured reliably.

Employee entitlements that are due to be settled within 12 months are measured at their nominal values using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

Employee entitlements that are not due to be settled within 12 months are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows. The estimated future cash flows are based on likely future entitlements accruing to staff, based on years of service, years to entitlement, the likelihood that staff will reach the point of entitlement, and contractual entitlement information.

LONG SERVICE LEAVE

Employees become eligible for long service leave after five years of service.

INCENTIVES

The Guardians has an incentive scheme in place for all employees. The scheme has two components: achievement of individual performance criteria over the past financial year; and performance of the NZ Super Fund relative to investment benchmarks over the preceding four years. Incentives are calculated and paid annually in arrears.

l) Statement of Cash Flows

The following are the definitions of the terms used in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows:

- operating activities include all activities other than investing or financing activities. Cash inflows include all receipts from the provision of services, interest and other sources of revenue that support the Group's operating activities. Cash outflows include payments made to employees, suppliers and for taxes and levies, other than income tax.
- investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of investments and other non-current assets.
- financing activities are those activities relating to changes in public equity and debt capital structure of the Group and those activities relating to the cost of servicing the Group's public equity.

Cash flows are included in the Prospective Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows which is recoverable from, or payable to, the IRD, is classified as cash flows from operating activities.

m) Changes in accounting policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. All accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout these prospective consolidated financial statements.

n) Significant judgements and estimates

The preparation of the Guardians' prospective consolidated financial statements requires the Board and management to make judgements and use estimates that affect the reported amounts of revenue, expenses, assets and liabilities. Uncertainty about these judgements and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in future periods. The judgements and estimates used in respect of the Guardians are continually evaluated. They are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial reporting impact on the Guardians and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The judgements and estimates that the Board and management have assessed to have the most significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the reported amounts of revenue, expenses, assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

EMPLOYEE ENTITLEMENTS – LONG SERVICE LEAVE

The key assumptions used in calculating the long service leave liability include the discount rate, the likelihood that the employee will reach the required level of service, and the salary inflation factor. Any changes in these assumptions will affect the carrying amount of the liability. Expected future payments are discounted using forward rates derived from the yield curve of New Zealand government bonds. The discount rates used have maturities that match, as closely as possible, the estimated future cash outflows. The likelihood of employees reaching

GUARDIANS OF NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION AND GROUP

the required level of service is determined after considering historical staff retention rates. The salary inflation factor is determined after considering historical salary inflation patterns.

HEADCOUNT

Headcount is a significant driver of operating expenditure and therefore represents a key assumption in the prospective financial statements. The forecast assumes an overall budgeted headcount of 235 FTE, which reflects a reduction from 267 budgeted FTE over the past 12 months as a result of efficiency and effectiveness initiatives. While total budgeted headcount is lower than in prior periods, the forecast increase in average FTE over the coming year largely reflects the phased filling of vacancies within the approved organisational structure. Actual staffing levels may differ from forecast if vacancies are not filled as planned. Any shortfall in actual headcount would be expected to result in a lower employee entitlement expense, with a corresponding reduction in cost reimbursement from the NZ Super Fund.

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Prospective Statement of Financial Position

AS AT 30 JUNE 2027	NZD'000
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	2,348,274
Cash pledged as collateral	1,079,978
Trade and other receivables	694,081
Investments	
Investments in derivative financial instruments and other financial assets	86,863,637
Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries	9,484,286
Total investments	96,347,923
Property, plant and equipment	11,294
Intangible assets	30,331
Total assets	100,511,881
LIABILITIES	
Cash collateral received	(1,504,747)
Trade and other payables	(305,226)
Income tax payable	(1,555,123)
Provision for performance-based fees	(28,452)
Deferred tax liability	(31,860)
Total liabilities	(3,425,408)
Net assets	97,086,473
PUBLIC EQUITY	
Retained surplus	69,102,312
Asset revaluation reserve	25,081
Contributed capital	27,959,080
Total public equity	97,086,473

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2027	NZD'000
INCOME	
Interest income	822,000
Dividend income	940,890
Net changes in fair value on financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss	5,063,753
Net foreign exchange gains/(losses)	-
Other income	11,000
Net operating income	6,837,643
EXPENSES	
Reimbursement of Guardians' expenses	(104,922)
Managers' fees - base	(67,234)
Managers' fees - performance	(34,631)
Custody fees	(8,235)
Depreciation	(1,887)
Trade expenses	(12,702)
Other expenses	(30,237)
Profit for the year before income tax expense	6,577,795
Income tax expense	(1,579,123)
Profit for the year after income tax expense	4,998,672
Other comprehensive income - not reclassifiable to profit or loss in subsequent periods	
Gains/(losses) on revaluation of assets	-
Income tax expense on items of other comprehensive income	-
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-
Total comprehensive income for the year	4,998,672

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Prospective Statement of Changes in Public Equity

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2026	ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE NZD'000	CONTRIBUTED CAPITAL NZD'000	RETAINED SURPLUS NZD'000	TOTAL NZD'000
Balance at 30 June 2026	25,081	27,433,080	64,103,640	91,561,801
Profit for the year			4,998,672	4,998,672
Other comprehensive income	-			-
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	4,998,672	4,998,672
Fund capital contributions from the Crown		526,000		526,000
Capital contributions from the Crown in respect of funding the net cost of New Zealand superannuation entitlements		22,020,000		22,020,000
Capital withdrawals by the Crown in respect of funding the net cost of New Zealand superannuation entitlements		(22,020,000)		(22,020,000)
Balance at 30 June 2027	25,081	27,959,080	69,102,312	97,086,473

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Prospective Statement of Cash Flows

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 JUNE 2027	NZD'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Cash was provided from:	
Proceeds from sale of investments	51,569,249
Cash collateral received	20,340,749
Dividends received	942,597
Interest received	842,948
Other income	11,000
Cash was applied to:	
Purchases of investments	(54,572,536)
Cash collateral paid	(18,161,474)
Managers' fees	(80,328)
Payments to suppliers	(167,065)
Income tax paid	(571,137)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	154,003
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Cash was applied to:	
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(619)
Purchases of intangible assets	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(619)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Cash was provided from:	
Fund capital contributions from the Crown	526,000
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	526,000
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	679,384
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	1,668,890
Effects of exchange rate changes on the balance of cash held in foreign currencies	-
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	2,348,274

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Summary of material accounting policies

GENERAL INFORMATION

These are the prospective financial statements of the New Zealand Superannuation Fund (NZ Super Fund), a fund established under Section 37 of the New Zealand Superannuation and Retirement Income Act 2001 (Act) on 11 October 2001.

The NZ Super Fund is a long-term, growth-oriented, sovereign wealth fund that was established to partially pre-fund the future cost of New Zealand superannuation to reduce the tax burden on future generations. The NZ Super Fund is managed and administered by the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation (Guardians). The Guardians was established as a Crown entity by Section 48 of the Act and became operative from 30 August 2002. The Guardians must invest the NZ Super Fund on a prudent, commercial basis, in a manner consistent with:

- best-practice portfolio management;
- maximising return without undue risk to the NZ Super Fund as a whole; and
- avoiding prejudice to New Zealand's reputation as a responsible member of the world community.

The NZ Super Fund's global master custodian is the Northern Trust Corporation.

The NZ Super Fund is domiciled in New Zealand and the address of its principal place of business is 21 Queen Street, Auckland.

The prospective financial statements of the NZ Super Fund for the year ending 30 June 2027 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Board of the Guardians of New Zealand Superannuation on 22 April 2026.

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The NZ Super Fund is a profit-oriented entity. The prospective financial statements of the NZ Super Fund have been prepared in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP) as it relates to prospective financial statements, and comply with Financial Reporting Standard No. 42 Prospective Financial Statements.

The prospective financial statements have been prepared on a fair value basis, except for certain items as detailed in the policies below.

The prospective financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (NZD'000) unless stated otherwise.

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner that ensures the resulting financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring the substance of the underlying transactions or other events is reported.

The NZ Super Fund meets the definition of an investment entity and therefore the Board and management have applied the exemption from preparing prospective consolidated financial statements available under NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements. As a result, its investments in subsidiaries are not consolidated, but are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments and are classified as 'unconsolidated subsidiaries' in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. These separate prospective financial statements are the only prospective financial statements presented by the NZ Super Fund.

The following accounting policies that materially affect the prospective financial statements have been applied:

a) Investment entity

The NZ Super Fund meets the definition of an investment entity as the following conditions exist:

- the NZ Super Fund obtains and manages funds for the purpose of providing its investor with investment management services;
- the NZ Super Fund has committed to its investor that its business purpose is to invest funds solely for returns from capital appreciation and investment income;
- the NZ Super Fund measures and evaluates the performance of substantially all of its investments on a fair value basis;
- the NZ Super Fund has more than one investment; and
- the NZ Super Fund has documented exit strategies for its investments.

b) Subsidiaries

Subsidiaries are those entities (including structured entities and other holding vehicles) that are controlled by the NZ Super Fund under the provisions of NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements. The NZ Super Fund controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. The NZ Super Fund's investments are reassessed for the existence of control if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the elements of control. As an investment entity, the NZ Super Fund does not consolidate any of its subsidiaries.

c) Associates

Associates are those entities over which the NZ Super Fund has significant influence. Significant influence is the power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of the entity, but is not control or joint control over those policies. Investments in associates are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments.

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

d) Joint ventures

A joint venture is a type of joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control have rights to the net assets of the arrangement. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require the unanimous consent of the parties sharing control. Investments in joint ventures are measured at fair value through profit or loss in accordance with NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments.

e) Structured entities

A structured entity is an entity that has been designed so that voting or similar rights are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the entity, such as when any voting rights relate to administrative tasks only and the relevant activities are directed by means of contractual arrangements. A structured entity often has some or all of the following features or attributes:

- restricted activities;
- a narrow and well-defined objective, such as to provide investment opportunities for investors by passing on risks and rewards associated with the assets of the structured entity to investors;
- insufficient equity to permit the structured entity to finance its activities without subordinated financial support; and
- financing in the form of multiple contractually linked instruments to investors that create concentrations of credit or other risks.

The NZ Super Fund is principally involved with structured entities through its investments in private equity investment funds, unconsolidated subsidiaries, collective investment funds, insurance-linked investments, shareholder loans, agency mortgage-backed securities and asset-backed securities that are issued by structured entities. The NZ Super Fund invests in structured entities to assist with the implementation of its overall investment strategy. The NZ Super Fund does not sponsor any structured entities.

f) Foreign currency**FUNCTIONAL AND PRESENTATION CURRENCY**

Items included in the prospective financial statements of the NZ Super Fund are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the NZ Super Fund operates (the functional currency). The functional currency of the NZ Super Fund is New Zealand dollars. It is also the presentation currency.

TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are converted to New Zealand dollars using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign currency monetary assets and liabilities are translated at the exchange rate prevailing at balance date. Where there is a movement in the exchange rate between the date of a foreign currency transaction and balance date, the resulting exchange differences are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

g) Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Income, expenditure, assets and liabilities are recognised in the prospective financial statements exclusive of GST, with the exception of receivables and payables which are stated inclusive of GST. Where GST is irrecoverable as an input tax, it is recognised as part of the related asset or expenditure. The

net amount of GST recoverable from, or payable to, the Inland Revenue Department (IRD) is included as part of receivables or payables in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

h) Fair value measurement

The majority of the net assets of the NZ Super Fund are measured at fair value. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Management uses valuation techniques for the NZ Super Fund that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data is available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs. All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the prospective financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy as follows:

Level 1 – Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities. An active market is one where prices are readily available and those prices represent actual and regularly occurring market transactions on an arm's length basis. The fair value of Level 1 assets and liabilities requires little or no judgement.

Level 2 – Valuation techniques that use observable market data. Such techniques include the use of market standard discounting methodologies, option pricing models and other valuation techniques widely used and accepted by market participants.

Level 3 – Valuation techniques that use inputs not based on observable market data. Unobservable inputs are those not readily available in an active market due to illiquidity or complexity of the product. These inputs are generally derived and extrapolated from other relevant market data and calibrated against current market trends and historic transactions. These valuations are calculated using a high degree of management judgement.

The level within which an asset or liability is categorised in the fair value hierarchy is determined based on the highest numerical level in the fair value hierarchy that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole.

The specific valuation techniques and the observability of inputs used in valuation models for significant financial instrument categories are outlined below:

DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The fair values of derivative financial instruments are principally determined using valuation techniques with market observable inputs and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy. The most frequently applied valuation techniques include forward pricing and swap models using present value calculations. The models incorporate various inputs including foreign exchange spot and forward rates, interest rates, futures prices, default rates, credit spreads, volatility curves and discount rates.

In some instances, the fair values of derivative financial instruments are determined using valuation techniques with non-market observable inputs. These financial instruments include synthetic risk transfers and are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The fair value of synthetic risk transfers is determined by the counterparty at balance date.

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

LISTED EQUITIES

The fair value of listed equities, including equity exchange traded funds and those on loan under securities lending agreements, is determined based on the last quoted price on the relevant exchange at balance date and classified within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. In some instances, where the market on which the security is traded is not highly liquid (e.g. the security may be listed on an emerging market stock exchange or trading of the security may be temporarily suspended), the price can also be determined using non-binding broker quotes. These securities are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

FIXED INCOME SECURITIES

The fair value of fixed income securities, including fixed income exchange traded funds and those on loan under securities lending agreements, is determined based on either the last quoted bid price or the mid price (depending on the market and region of the securities) provided by a reputable pricing vendor (being a financial data provider such as ICE or Bloomberg) or broker at balance date and classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

The fair value of fixed income securities, including fixed and floating rate debt instruments, that form part of an investment into a private equity investment, is determined by a suitably qualified independent valuer who ascribes an enterprise value to the entire private equity investment then apportions that value across the instruments held, including the debt instruments. These securities are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

COLLECTIVE INVESTMENT FUNDS

The fair value of collective investment funds is provided by the investment managers or administrators at balance date. The price is based on the fair value of the underlying net assets or securities of the collective investment fund. Their classification within the fair value hierarchy is determined by the highest numerical level in the fair value hierarchy of the underlying financial instruments.

INSURANCE-LINKED INVESTMENTS

Insurance-linked investments which are catastrophe bonds are valued using prices provided by reputable pricing vendors or brokers at balance date and are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

PRIVATE EQUITY

The fair value of private equity investment funds is provided by the investment managers or administrators at balance date. The price is based on the fair value of the underlying net assets of the private equity investment fund which is determined using a variety of methods, including independent valuations, valuation models based on the price of recent transactions, earnings multiples or discounted cash flows. These investments are classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. Private equity investments (not invested via a managed fund structure) are valued by reference to either an independent valuation, the price of recent transactions or such alternative valuation as deemed appropriate by the Board and are also classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

UNCONSOLIDATED SUBSIDIARIES

The fair value of unconsolidated subsidiaries is based on the fair value of the underlying net assets of the specific investment

which can be determined using a variety of methods, including being based on the last quoted bid price provided by a reputable pricing vendor or broker, independent valuations, valuation models based on the price of recent transactions, earnings multiples or discounted cash flows. Unconsolidated subsidiaries are classified accordingly within Levels 2 and 3 of the fair value hierarchy.

INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Allocations of New Zealand Units (NZUs) and/or other carbon credits that the NZ Super Fund owns are recognised at fair value where they have been received, or where the Board and management are reasonably certain they will be received. Where the fair value can be reliably ascertained through the existence of an observable active market, these intangible assets are classified within Level 1 of the fair value hierarchy. Where pricing is obtained from reputable brokers, these intangible assets are classified within Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy.

i) Financial instruments

A financial instrument is any contract that gives rise to a financial asset of one entity and a financial liability or equity instrument of another entity.

The NZ Super Fund is party to financial instruments as part of its normal operations. These financial instruments make up the vast majority of the NZ Super Fund's net assets and include cash and cash equivalents, receivables, investments and payables. All financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position and all income and expenditure in relation to financial instruments are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

INITIAL RECOGNITION

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position when the NZ Super Fund becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instrument. They are initially recognised at fair value plus, in the case of financial assets and financial liabilities not recorded at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs (e.g. trading commission) that are attributable to the acquisition of the financial asset or financial liability. Transaction costs of financial assets carried at fair value through profit or loss are expensed in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

Purchases or sales of financial instruments that require delivery within a time frame established by regulation or convention in the market place are recognised on the trade date, i.e. the date on which the NZ Super Fund commits to purchase or sell the financial instrument.

The classification of financial instruments at initial recognition depends on the NZ Super Fund's business model for managing the financial assets and the financial asset's contractual cash flow characteristics. In making an assessment of the business model for managing a financial asset, the Board and management consider all relevant information such as the investment objectives of the NZ Super Fund and how performance is evaluated and reported to the Board and management.

SUBSEQUENT MEASUREMENT

The NZ Super Fund's financial assets and financial liabilities are subsequently classified into the following categories:

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

- those to be measured at fair value through profit or loss; and
- those to be measured at amortised cost.

The NZ Super Fund does not have any financial assets classified as financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income. The NZ Super Fund classifies all financial assets that are either held for trading and/or managed or evaluated on a fair value basis as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The NZ Super Fund's financial assets are reclassified when, and only when, the business model for managing those financial assets changes.

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

The following financial assets and financial liabilities are classified at fair value through profit or loss:

- financial assets, including debt instruments, that do not qualify for measurement at amortised cost; and
- financial assets and financial liabilities that are held for trading.

This category includes investments in derivative financial instruments, listed equities, collective investment funds, insurance-linked investments, private equity and unconsolidated subsidiaries among others. These financial assets are either held for trading or are managed and have their performance evaluated on a fair value basis.

The NZ Super Fund does not designate any derivative financial instruments as hedges in a hedging relationship.

Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position at fair value with changes in fair value being recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which they arise.

Financial assets at amortised cost

The NZ Super Fund's financial assets are classified at amortised cost if both of the following criteria are met:

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to hold financial assets in order to collect the contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms of the financial asset give rise to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest.

This category includes cash and cash equivalents, cash pledged as collateral, trade and other receivables, reverse repurchase agreements and some unlisted fixed income securities. Unlisted fixed income securities that are classified as financial assets at amortised cost include fixed and floating rate notes.

Subsequent to initial recognition, financial assets at amortised cost are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method and are subject to impairment. When a financial asset is impaired, impairment losses are recognised in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income in the period in which they arise.

Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities at amortised cost are non-derivative financial liabilities. This category includes cash collateral received and trade and other payables. Subsequent to initial recognition, these financial liabilities are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

DERECOGNITION

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the assets have expired or when the NZ Super Fund has transferred substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership. A financial liability is derecognised when the NZ Super Fund's obligation under the liability is discharged, cancelled or has expired.

IMPAIRMENT

The Board and management assess, at each reporting date, whether a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. The amount of the impairment loss is the difference between the contractual cash flows due in relation to the financial asset or the group of financial assets and the cash flows that the NZ Super Fund expects to receive, discounted at an approximation of the original effective interest rate.

The following financial assets that are measured at amortised cost are subject to the impairment provisions (the 'expected credit loss model') of NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments:

- cash and cash equivalents;
- cash pledged as collateral;
- trade and other receivables;
- reverse repurchase agreements; and
- unlisted fixed income securities carried at amortised cost.

The impairment loss for cash and cash equivalents and cash pledged as collateral is considered immaterial.

The NZ Super Fund only holds trade receivables that have maturities of less than 12 months and which have no financing components. As such, the Board and management have applied a simplified approach for calculating expected credit losses (ECLs) on trade receivables under NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments. As a result, the Board and management do not track changes in credit risk, but instead, recognise impairment losses based on lifetime ECLs at each reporting date. The NZ Super Fund's approach to ECLs reflects a probability-weighted outcome using reasonable and supportable information that is available without undue cost or effort at reporting date about past events, current conditions and forecasts of future economic conditions.

The NZ Super Fund's investments in reverse repurchase agreements and unlisted fixed income securities that meet the criteria for being classified as financial assets at amortised cost, and which are therefore subject to the ECL model, are considered to have low credit risk and/or the credit risk has not increased significantly since initial recognition. As a result, the impairment loss recognised is limited to 12-month ECLs. The Board and management consider these financial assets to have low credit risk because there is a low risk of default and the issuers have a strong capacity to meet their contractual cash flow obligations in the near term. Twelve-month ECLs are the portion of expected credit losses that result from default events that are possible within the 12 months after the reporting date or a shorter period if the expected life of the financial asset is less than 12 months.

Impairment losses are deducted from the gross carrying amount of the assets. The gross carrying amount of a financial asset is written off when the Board and management have no reasonable expectations of recovering a financial asset.

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OFFSETTING

The NZ Super Fund offsets financial assets and financial liabilities when it has a current legally enforceable right to set-off the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis. Each master netting arrangement or similar agreement allows for net settlement of certain open contracts where the NZ Super Fund and the respective counterparty both elect to settle on a net basis. In the absence of such an election, contracts will be settled on a gross basis. However, each party to the master netting arrangement or similar agreement will have the option to settle all open contracts on a net basis in the event of default of the other party. Under the terms of the master netting arrangement or similar agreement, collateral can only be seized by a party in the event of default of the other party.

j) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents includes cash on hand, cash held in bank accounts, demand deposits and short-term investments held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments with original maturities of three months or less, which have an insignificant risk of change in fair value.

k) Collateral

Cash provided by the NZ Super Fund as security for financial arrangements remains a financial asset of the NZ Super Fund and is recognised as cash pledged as collateral in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position, separate from cash and cash equivalents. Cash received by the NZ Super Fund as security for financial arrangements is also recognised as an asset in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position, along with a corresponding liability (cash collateral received) to repay the cash collateral when the underlying transaction is terminated.

For non-cash collateral received by the NZ Super Fund, if the NZ Super Fund has the right to sell or re-pledge the collateral, the collateral is recognised accordingly in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. However, if the NZ Super Fund does not have the right to sell or re-pledge the collateral, the collateral is not recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position.

l) Trade and other receivables

Trade receivables are initially recognised at their transaction price unless they contain significant financing components, in which case they are recognised at fair value. The NZ Super Fund holds trade receivables with the objective to collect the contractual cash flows and therefore measures them subsequently at amortised cost less impairment losses using the effective interest method.

m) Securities lending and similar agreements

Securities lending transactions are usually collateralised by securities or cash. The transfer of securities to counterparties is only reflected in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position if the risks and rewards of ownership are also transferred. Collateral advanced by the borrower in the form of readily marketable securities (non-cash) is held in escrow by a third-party agent. Recourse of those securities is only available in the event of default of the borrower and, because of this, the non-cash collateral is not recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. Collateral advanced by the borrower in the form of cash is recognised as an asset in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position, along with a

corresponding obligation to repay the cash collateral to the borrower, once the securities have been returned.

Securities purchased under reverse repurchase agreements to resell at a specified future date are not recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position. The consideration paid, including accrued interest, is recorded separately in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position as an investment, reflecting the transaction's economic substance as a loan. The difference between the purchase and resale prices is recorded in interest income and is accrued over the life of the agreement using the effective interest rate.

n) Trade and other payables

Short-term trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value, then subsequently at amortised cost. As a result of their short-term nature, the carrying amount of trade and other payables held at amortised cost approximates fair value.

o) Provision for performance-based fees

A provision is recognised in the Prospective Statement of Financial Position when the NZ Super Fund has a present obligation arising as a result of a past event, it is probable that cash will be paid to settle the obligation and the amount can be estimated reliably. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at balance date, taking into consideration the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows.

Where some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, a receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that recovery will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

p) Fund capital**PURPOSE**

Fund capital, which comprises investments and all other assets of the NZ Super Fund less any liabilities, is the property of the Crown. The NZ Super Fund was established to build a portfolio of assets to partially pre-fund the future cost of New Zealand superannuation, which is expected to rise due to an ageing population, in order to reduce the tax burden on future generations.

CAPITAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The Crown is required to make capital contributions to the NZ Super Fund in accordance with Sections 42 to 44 of the Act. These capital contributions are made by the Crown for investment purposes based on a percentage of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Under Section 44 of the Act, the Crown is entitled to contribute lesser amounts than calculated using the formula under Section 43 of the Act. Fund capital contributions are forecast to be \$0.53 billion for the year to 30 June 2027 and are recorded in the Prospective Statement of Changes in Public Equity.

CAPITAL WITHDRAWALS

Under Section 47 of the Act, if the required annual capital contribution is less than zero, the Minister of Finance may require a capital withdrawal to be made from the NZ Super Fund up to that amount and paid into a Crown bank account.

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Capital withdrawals are projected to commence from 2035/36 under current Treasury modelling.

SUPERANNUATION ENTITLEMENTS

Under Section 45 of the Act, the Minister of Finance must ensure that sufficient money is transferred into the NZ Super Fund in each financial year to meet the net cost of the superannuation entitlements that are payable out of the NZ Super Fund during that year. This requirement is additional to and separate from the obligation to make annual capital contributions. The Treasury, through its New Zealand Debt Management office, has facilitated funding for these superannuation entitlements from the Minister of Finance to the Ministry of Social Development on behalf of the NZ Super Fund. The Guardians has no control over these transfers, with the Treasury acting as agent for the NZ Super Fund. Transfers for superannuation entitlements are recorded in the Prospective Statement of Changes in Public Equity.

MANAGEMENT OF FUND CAPITAL

The Guardians' mandate is to invest the NZ Super Fund on a prudent, commercial basis, in a manner consistent with best-practice portfolio management, maximising return without undue risk to the NZ Super Fund as a whole, and avoiding prejudice to New Zealand's reputation as a responsible member of the world community. The contributions from the Crown to the NZ Super Fund are invested in accordance with its Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures, which is available at nzsuperfund.nz.

q) Income

Income is recognised when it is probable that economic benefits will flow to the NZ Super Fund and the income can be reliably measured, regardless of when payment is being made. The following specific recognition criteria must also be met before income is recognised:

INTEREST INCOME

Interest income comprises interest on financial instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss and interest on financial assets measured at amortised cost.

For financial instruments measured at fair value, interest income is recognised on an accruals basis, either daily or on a yield-to-maturity basis. For financial assets measured at amortised cost, interest income is recognised as the interest accrues using the effective interest method, which allocates interest at a constant rate of return over the expected life of the financial instrument based on the estimated future cash flows.

DIVIDEND INCOME

Dividend income is recognised when the shareholder's rights to receive payment has been established, normally the ex-dividend date. Where the NZ Super Fund has elected to receive dividends in the form of additional shares rather than cash, the amount of the cash dividend foregone is recognised as income. Any excess in the value of shares received over the amount of cash dividend foregone is recognised as a gain in the Prospective Statement of Comprehensive Income.

r) Income tax

In accordance with Section 4B of the Income Tax Act 2007, income derived by the NZ Super Fund is subject to New Zealand tax determined using the rules applying to companies. The income tax expense recognised in the Prospective Statement

of Comprehensive Income comprises current and deferred tax and is based on accounting profit, adjusted for permanent differences between accounting and tax rules. Income tax relating to items of other comprehensive income is recognised in other comprehensive income.

Current tax is the expected tax payable to or receivable from the taxation authorities based on the taxable income or loss for the year and any adjustment in respect of prior years. It is calculated using tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the tax bases of assets and liabilities at balance date. Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for all taxable temporary differences, except:

- the initial recognition of goodwill;
- the initial recognition of assets or liabilities that affects neither accounting nor taxable profit or loss other than in a business combination; and
- temporary differences relating to investments in subsidiaries, associates and interests in joint ventures where it is probable that they will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, the carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses only to the extent that it is probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to utilise the deductible temporary differences, the carry forward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses. The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the year when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates and tax laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted at balance date.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when a legally enforceable right to set-off exists, the deferred tax balances relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority and the NZ Super Fund intends to settle on a net basis.

s) Statement of Cash Flows

The following are the definitions of the terms used in the Prospective Statement of Cash Flows:

- operating activities include all activities other than investing or financing activities.
- investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.
- financing activities are those activities relating to capital contributions and to payments of superannuation entitlements. As the current funding by the Crown of superannuation entitlements flows directly from the Treasury to the Ministry of Social Development, it is not considered cash flow of the NZ Super Fund and, accordingly, is not recorded in the Prospective Statement of Cash Flows.

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Cash flows are included in the Prospective Statement of Cash Flows on a gross basis. The GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities, which is recoverable from, or payable to, the IRD, is classified as cash flows from operating activities.

t) Changes in accounting policies

There have been no changes in material accounting policies. Material accounting policies have been applied consistently throughout these prospective financial statements.

u) Significant judgements and estimates

The preparation of the NZ Super Fund's prospective financial statements requires the Board and management to make judgements and use estimates that affect the reported amounts of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities. Uncertainty about these judgements and estimates could result in outcomes that require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in future periods. The judgements and estimates used in respect of the NZ Super Fund are continually evaluated. They are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that may have a financial reporting impact on the NZ Super Fund and that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. The judgements and estimates that the Board and management have assessed to have the most significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the reported amounts of income, expenditure, assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

ASSESSMENT AS AN INVESTMENT ENTITY

Although the NZ Super Fund does not meet all of the typical characteristics of an investment entity (namely, the NZ Super Fund does not have multiple investors, its investor is a related party and it does not have ownership interests in the form of equity), the Board and management believe the NZ Super Fund is an investment entity because it has been specifically established as an investment vehicle, it has a diversified investment portfolio with best-practice investment policies and procedures in place, it invests funds for the purpose of maximising returns and it has elected to fair value its investments where feasible for the purposes of its prospective financial statements.

The Board and management reassess the NZ Super Fund's investment entity status on an annual basis, if any of the criteria or characteristics change.

ASSESSMENT OF CONTROL, JOINT CONTROL OR SIGNIFICANT INFLUENCE

The NZ Super Fund's investments in subsidiaries have been assessed in light of the control model established under NZ IFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements to ensure the correct classification and disclosure of investments in subsidiaries. The NZ Super Fund holds investments in a number of entities that are not considered subsidiaries even though its ownership interest exceeds 50%. The Board and management have concluded that the NZ Super Fund has no unilateral power to direct the relevant activities of these entities and therefore it does not have control of these entities.

The NZ Super Fund's investments in associates have been assessed in light of the definition of significant influence included in NZ IAS 28 Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures to ensure the correct classification and disclosure of

investments in associates. The NZ Super Fund holds investments in a number of entities that are not considered associates even though its ownership interest exceeds 20%. The Board and management have concluded that the NZ Super Fund has no power to participate in the financial and operating policy decisions of these entities and therefore it does not have significant influence over these entities.

The considerations made in determining joint control are similar to those necessary to determine control over subsidiaries. The NZ Super Fund's joint arrangements are classified as joint ventures because certain key operating and financial activities require the approval of the NZ Super Fund as well as at least one other investor and the contractual arrangements provide the parties with rights to the net assets of the joint arrangements.

ASSESSMENT OF INVESTMENTS IN STRUCTURED ENTITIES

The Board and management have assessed which of the NZ Super Fund's investments are investments in structured entities. In doing so, the Board and management have considered voting rights and other similar rights afforded to investors as well as any contractual arrangements in place with these investments.

The Board and management have concluded that certain of the NZ Super Fund's investments meet the definition of a structured entity because:

- the voting rights in the investments are not the dominant factor in deciding who controls the investment; and
- the investments have narrow and well-defined objectives to provide investment opportunities to investors.

DETERMINATION OF FAIR VALUE

Where possible, the fair value of the NZ Super Fund's assets and liabilities are measured using quoted prices in active markets. Where the fair value of assets and liabilities cannot be measured using quoted prices in active markets, fair value is determined using valuation techniques with market observable inputs from third parties such as brokers or pricing vendors, where available. For assets that have no quoted price (which principally consist of investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries, private equity investments held directly, private equity investment funds, collective investment funds, fixed income securities and certain derivative financial instruments) the determination of fair value requires significant judgement. Fair value for these assets is determined as follows:

Unconsolidated subsidiaries and private equity investments held directly

The fair value of certain unconsolidated subsidiaries and private equity investments held directly is provided by independent valuers who use models to determine the fair value of investments. The determination of fair value for these investments is subject to careful consideration and consultation with a range of reliable and independent sources. Under the Board-approved Investment Valuation Policy, the Guardians has an internal Valuation Working Group (VWG) that is responsible for reviewing the valuations of these investments at balance date. The VWG reviews the valuation methodologies, practices and policies used in determining fair value and/or reviews the valuations themselves with a view to ensuring that the fair values of these investments at balance date are as accurate as possible. The VWG reports the outcomes of their reviews to the Audit & Risk Committee.

NEW ZEALAND SUPERANNUATION FUND

Private equity investment funds and collective investment funds where fair value is provided by investment managers or administrators

The fair value of certain private equity investment funds and collective investment funds is provided by the investment managers or administrators at balance date who may use their own models, or they may engage independent valuers who use models to determine the fair value of investments. The Board and management may also directly appoint independent valuers to determine the fair value of certain investments where this information is unable to be provided by an investment manager or administrator.

Fixed income securities where fair value is determined by a pricing vendor

Where the market for fixed income securities is illiquid, fair value is determined by a pricing vendor who uses models to value the securities. The Board and management mitigate the risk of pricing errors by only selecting reputable pricing vendors and by periodically calibrating prices against observable market data.

Derivative financial instruments where fair value is determined by a pricing vendor, broker or counterparty

Pricing vendors, brokers or counterparties may use valuation models to price certain derivative financial instruments for which the inputs may include current and forward exchange rates, estimates of cash flows, interest rates, futures prices, default rates, credit spreads, volatility curves, indicative prices for similar assets and discount rates. The Board and management mitigate the risk of pricing errors by only selecting reputable pricing vendors, brokers or counterparties and by periodically calibrating prices against observable market data.

Valuation uncertainty due to external macro factors

Since the fair value of assets categorised within Level 1 or Level 2 of the fair value hierarchy reflect market observable prices or inputs, their valuation is inherently less uncertain than for assets categorised within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. Whilst the determination of fair value for Level 3 assets is subject to careful consideration and consultation with a range of reliable and independent sources, the impact of external factors, such as climate change, interest rates and inflationary pressures, increased geopolitical tensions and global supply issues, on the valuation of these assets remains uncertain. The Board and management continue to monitor and evaluate the appropriateness of specific valuation techniques and the judgements and estimates used when determining the fair value of these assets to assess whether material adjustments may be required to their carrying value.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES

Investment returns for the forecast period are based on internal modelling of 20-year returns.

Management fees included in the forecast are based on investment management agreements that were in place on the date the forecast was approved by the Board. The Guardians' expenses are allocated using the current allocation model.

The forecast is largely based on actual experience to date; however, no allowance has been made for the impact of foreign currency movements. Actual results may also differ materially from the forecast due to the following:

- investment market returns being higher or lower than the rates assumed in the forecast;
- increased geopolitical uncertainty; and
- changes in the NZ Super Fund's asset mix in response to opportunities not anticipated in the forecast.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD



JOHN WILLIAMSON

CHAIR
22 April 2026



**HINERANGI
RAUMATI-TU'UA**

AUDIT & RISK
COMMITTEE CHAIR
22 April 2026

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