

Employer Newsletter August 2008, Issue 9**MEMBER STATEMENTS**

Members should receive their Annual Member Statements in September. They will be sent to each member's home address.

As a result of falling global investment markets and the downward effect that has had on many of our investment options (especially after a period of very strong returns), we expect that members will have many questions after seeing their statements.

This is an ideal time for us to talk to your staff about investments and other super issues. Please email us, info@csf.com.au or call us on **1300 550 273** if you would like someone from Catholic Super to address your staff.

As part of our commitment to sustainability of resources, we will not include a copy of the Annual Report with the statement. Instead we will encourage members to access it electronically when it becomes available in November.

Anyone who wants to receive a hard copy will have to let us know that they want one.

ASKING FOR PROOF OF IDENTITY

The Anti-Money Laundering and Counter-Terrorism Financing Act was passed in 2006, as a way of dealing with an estimated \$11.5 billion affected by money laundering within Australia and the concern that such money could potentially be used for the financing of terrorism.

The new laws affect the financial sector including superannuation funds and their members. When members transfer a super benefit, buy or receive payments from a pension, or ask for part or full payment of their super benefit, we now have to ask them to provide proof of identity.

At a minimum, those transactions will require evidence verifying their full name, their date of birth and their residential address.

Due to these new laws, we may now have to ask for proof of identity for certain transactions where that was not previously required.

PENSION SERVICE CENTRE

Members are taking up Allocated Pensions and Pre-retirement Allocated Pensions in ever increasing numbers. In order to provide the best possible service, we have established a dedicated Pension Service Centre.

To contact the Pension Service centre you can email pension@csf.com.au or call 1300 730 327 for the cost of a local call. Please take a moment to add these to your contact list.



PAYING SUPER CONTRIBUTIONS ON ORDINARY TIME EARNINGS

Changes to super from 1 July 2008, may effect the way employers calculate superannuation guarantee contributions for their staff.

From 1 July 2008, employers must use ordinary time earnings (OTE) as defined in superannuation guarantee law, to calculate superannuation contributions for their employees.

Recent media reports suggest that some employers may be confused about OTE, particularly related to overtime payments.

The Australian Tax Office website www.ato.gov.au specifically the Business section has very comprehensive information on what constitutes OTE.

CO-CONTRIBUTION SCHEME INDEXED

The new financial year brings with it another increase to the income levels that apply for eligibility for the co-contribution scheme.

Anyone working and earning up to \$60,342* per year is eligible. If someone earns \$30,342* or less the government will add \$1.50 to every after-tax dollar they pay into super. The maximum co-contribution from the government is \$1,500 per financial year.

As income increases, the maximum contribution reduces on a sliding scale and finally cuts out at \$60,342 per year.

All a member has to do to receive the co-contribution is make sure their super fund has their tax file number and pay in their after-tax contribution.

The co-contribution is automatically paid to a member's super fund once they have lodged their tax return and their super fund has informed the Tax Office of their contribution.

4,135 Catholic Super members who were eligible and made an after-tax contribution to super since 1 July 2007 have received amounts totalling \$4,356,451 over the last financial year.

**2008-2009 Financial Year*



GPO Box 2163, Melbourne VIC 3001

P 1300 550 273 **F** 03 9648 4720

www.csf.com.au info@csf.com.au

Authorised by CSF Pty Limited, ABN 30 006 169 286, Trustee of the Catholic Superannuation Fund, ABN 50 237 896 957. Information is about the Fund and is not intended as financial advice. It does not take into account specific needs, so members should consider their personal position, objectives and requirements before taking any action.

