

NGS SUPER MEDIA RELEASE

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NGS Super and UCSuper merger will create a \$4.4 billion fund

NGS Super and UCSuper have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to merge, creating a national fund with total assets of \$4.4 billion and 102,000 members, it was announced today.

Anthony Rodwell-Ball, Chief Executive Officer of NGS Super, said one of the most important considerations is that both funds have complementary membership profiles.

“NGS Super’s heritage as a fund for non-government schools means many of our members work in faith-based schools. Similarly, UCSuper’s membership base consists of Uniting Church employees, so there’s a natural affinity between the funds and a strong focus on values.

“On a practical level, the increased scale and efficiency that the merger delivers means UCSuper members can benefit from low costs, competitive returns and industry-leading insurance and financial advice.”

UCSuper Chair, Bruce Binnie, said that the fund had undergone a detailed and rigorous process in selecting a merger partner.

“After a strategic review in 2010, it became clear that our members’ interests would be best served by merging with a like-minded partner. We believe this is the most effective way to manage costs, deliver a great member experience and gain access to the best funds management.”

“When we looked at potential partners, it was essential that our processes and systems could be integrated successfully. But it was equally important to find a merger partner whose values align with our own,” Mr Binnie said. NGS Super’s commitment to ESG best practice as well as to a number of sustainability initiatives, and its focus on measuring and reducing in-house greenhouse gas emissions was also highly regarded in UCSuper’s review process.

Mr Binnie said that once the necessary conditions for the merger to proceed are satisfied and final approval given, UCSuper members will automatically transition to their new arrangements within NGS Super, and benefit from an expanded range of services. The merger process is expected to be finalised by March 2012.

Mr Rodwell-Ball said the merger is a significant step in executing the fund’s growth strategy.

“We aren’t shy about the fact that NGS Super is focused on managed and appropriate growth, and consolidation with other like-minded funds is a key part of that.

“However, our approach is based on collaboration and communication with other, similar funds, and ensuring that fit is right, from both a cultural and administrative perspective. UCSuper ticked all those boxes,” Mr Rodwell-Ball said.

He added that NGS Super is well-equipped to integrate the fund, having completed three mergers in recent years. The most recent, with CueSuper, was finalised on 1 April 2011.

Brief overview of NGS Super

NGS Super is the one of the largest superannuation funds dedicated to the Non-Government education and aligned sectors throughout Australia. It is also a public offer fund with over \$4.1 billion in assets. Over 89,000 members and more than 3,300 participating employers nationally have selected NGS Super as their choice of superannuation fund.

Brief overview of UCSuper

UCSuper was set up to provide superannuation benefits for employees of the Uniting Church and its various agencies. UCSuper is a national fund headquartered in Brisbane with approximately 12,000 members and \$320 million in assets.

UCSuper’s values-based approach is reflected in its commitment to provide excellent member service while assisting members to grow wealth through superannuation by means of its ‘all profits to members’ ethos.

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