



**LGT Crestone SMSF Webinar** 

## End of year checklist & Div 296 update

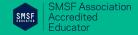


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Prepared as of 4 June 2025



#### **Session outline**

#### Today's session

- The impact of total superannuation balance on SMSF planning
- Contribution considerations
- Pension considerations
- Other considerations
- Div 296 Update

#### **Learning outcomes**

- How total superannuation balance can impact contribution strategies
- 2 Satisfying notice of intention to claim a deduction requirements
- The importance of satisfying minimum pension requirements
- 4 How Div 296 may impact your clients





# Total superannuation balance



## **Biggest influence on SMSF strategies**

#### **Total Superannuation Balance**

Total Superannuation Balance is **determining factor** with regards to contributions for:

- Non-concessional contributions (and bring-forward rules)
  - Subject to General Transfer Balance Cap, currently \$1.9 million (moving to \$2.0m)
- Other items impacted by General Transfer Balance Cap:
  - Government Co-contributions
  - Spouse Contribution Tax Offset
- Carry forward unused concessional contributions \$500,000 (non-indexed)
- Post 67: 12-month work test exemption \$300,000 for Personal deductible contributions (non-indexed)
- Will be vital in calculating Division 296 liabilities



Previous Div 296 laws proposed the introduction a new concept of TSB value - removes the link to a member's transfer balance account (TBA) in the retirement phase value.



#### **TSB** calculation

- Consider what strategies might be used to reduce TSB

   i.e. splitting, drawdown, alternate contribution allocation
   strategies
- Remember that Total Super Balance (TSB)
  contemplates 'termination value' for eligibility to
  contribute.
- In determining TSB value, allows for the adjustment of:
  - Disposal costs (property sales costs, brokerage and other commissions)
  - Wind up costs
  - Capital Gains Tax (tax-effect accounting)
- Important: must have evidence that supports the revised TSB calculation

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	Accumulation phase value X1 \$
bor Page 8	Outstanding limited recourse rowing arrangement amount  Y \$





# End of year contribution considerations



#### Increases in contribution rates & thresholds

Item	Threshold 2024-25	Threshold 2025-26
General Transfer balance cap	\$1.9 million	\$2 million
Concessional contributions	\$30,000	\$30,000 (no movement)
Non-concessional contributions	\$120,000	\$120,000 (no movement)
CGT cap amount	\$1,780,000	\$1,865,000
Super co-contributions	Lower income threshold = \$45,400 Higher income threshold = \$60,400	Lower income threshold = \$47,488 Higher income threshold = \$62,488
SG Rate	11.5%	12%
Maximum contribution base	\$65,070 income per quarter	\$62,500 income per quarter



## **Contribution strategies**

#### Non-concessional

- Recontribution
- Bring-forward

#### Concessional

- Salary Sacrifice
- Personal deductible
- Carry forward unused
- Super Guarantee opt out

#### **Spouse**

- NCC (eligibility for Spouse contribution Tax Offset)
- Splitting (not family law)

#### **Less-standard strategies**

- Contribution reserving
- Reserve Allocations
- Downsizer
- Small Business CGT
- Foreign Transfers
- Personal injury contributions
- Child contributions
- COVID release recontribution



#### Legal early release strategies

First home super saver scheme



## The impact of indexation on NCCs

#### **Bring-forward contribution considerations**

TSB - 30 June 2024	NCC cap for the first year	Bring forward period	TSB - 30 June 2025
Less than \$1.66 million	\$360,000	3 years	Less than \$1.76 million
\$1.66 million to less than \$1.78 million	\$240,000	2 years	\$1.76 million to less than \$1.88 million
\$1.78 million to less than \$1.9 million	\$120,000	No bring forward period, general non-concessional contributions cap applies	\$1.88 million to less than \$2.0 million
\$1.9 million or more	Nil	N/A	\$2.0 million or more



## Bring-forward rule – reaching age 75

Age at 1 July	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76
			NCC	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>	NCC	✓	✓	NCC	<b>✓</b>	<b>✓</b>		
3 year bring forward	NCC	✓	✓	NCC	✓	✓	NCC	✓	<b>✓</b>	NCC	<b>✓</b>	×	
		NCC	<b>√</b>	<b>√</b>	NCC	✓	<b>√</b>	NCC	<b>✓</b>	<b>√</b>	NCC*	×	×

- ✓ Can contribute (subject to TSB) if 3-year NCC bring forward cap not made in year 1 (Y2)
- ✗ Cannot contribute as no longer eligible



NCCs made for an individual who is 74 years at 1 July in a financial year, will only have up to 28 days after the month in which they turn 75 years to make a voluntary contribution – i.e. they do not have the rest of the financial year.



### Notice of intent – personal deductible

- Since 1 July 2017 greater flexibility available for individuals to claim a personal tax deduction for super contributions to their CC cap
- Importance of validity with s.290-170 notice not valid where one of these conditions is satisfied:
  - The notice is not in respect of the contribution;
  - The notice includes all or part of an amount covered by a previous notice
  - When the notice was provided:
    - Not a member of the fund;
    - The trustee no longer holds the contribution; or
    - The trustee has begun to pay a super income stream based in whole or part of the contribution

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# End of year pension considerations



### Meeting the pension standards

- SISR 1.06
  - Can't add to capital by way of contribution or rollover (including allocation from reserves)
  - Commutation rules provided for by Reg 1.07D
- SISR 1.06(9A) meaning of a pension, including minimum payment rules
  - Payment made at least annually
  - Payment (excluding commutations) in accordance with Schedule 7 – minimum payment amount factors
  - Pension is transferrable to another person only on death (Reg 6.21)
  - Capital value nor income can be used as a security for borrowing

Age	Minimum pension payment 2024-25
Under 65	4%
65-74	5%
75-79	6%
80-84	7%
85-89	9%
90-94	11%
95 or more	14%



#### **Pre-retirement – tax optimisation strategies**

## Transition to Retirement Income Streams

- Fell out of favour from 1 July 2017
  - Assets no longer exempt from tax (0%)
  - Concessional cap reduction back to \$25,000



## Tax cuts & preservation age considerations

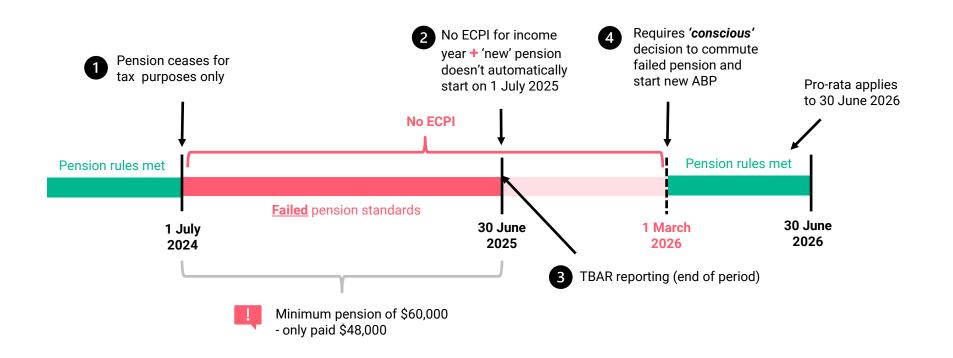
- Salary sacrifice opportunities
- < \$500,000 carry forward unused concessional
- Lower tax rate on income from investments outside super (retirees)
- TRIS 60 65 years

## **Conversion to Retirement Phase**

- Satisfy COR & notify trustee
  - Retirement
  - · Permanent incapacity
  - Terminal illness
- Turn age 65 auto conversion
- Reversionary TRIS reverts on death



## Failing the pension standards – how it now works





#### Pension planning both current and future years

Greater focus on planning a pension payments with members:

- #1 now more significant than ever
- Future estate planning issue may arise with the transfer balance cap.

Order	Payment type	Description
#1	Satisfy the minimum pension	This ensures that the fund is entitled to its earnings tax exemption for the income year as a superannuation income stream in the retirement phase.
#2	Take lump sums from a member's accumulation interest	This will ensure that the fund is maximising its ability to claim the earnings tax exemption for the current and future years by increasing the level of retirement phase assets as a % of the fund's total assets.
#3	Undertake a partial commutation	This will provide a debit on the member's transfer balance cap that provides the opportunity for future amounts (including death benefits as a tax dependant) to be credited.



#### Final checks and balances

- Asset valuations are they up to date and will they satisfy audit requirements
- Section 17A definition still met?
  - When did you last check?
- Is the fund's trust deed up-to-date?
- What about the Company Constitution?
  - linked to fund's deed (special purpose)
- Death Benefit Nominations following the terms of deed?
  - BDBN renewal or non-lapsing in light of Hill v Zuda High Court decision
- Enduring Powers of Attorney dealing with incapacity or residency?
  - Residency Alternate director?





## **Key takeaways**

- A range of contribution opportunities are available in a more flexible landscape, with the ability to 'stack' strategies – but opportunities come with some hazards.
- Take advantage of opportunities with the treatment of benefit payments, but getting your documentation right is critical – greater scope for contributions and pensions to interact much more!
- Investment issues to consider, including ATO's compliance approach to market valuations and NALE.
- Make sure decisions are documented with increased focus by auditors across many key SMSF areas (e.g. investment strategy, market valuations, etc).







## Division 296 considerations



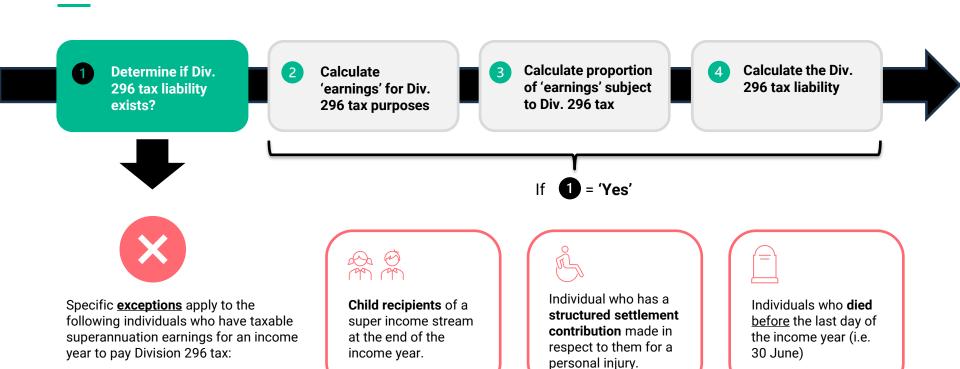
#### Div 296 – state of play

- Treasury Laws Amendment (Better Targeted Superannuation Concessions and Other Measures)
   Bill 2023 lapsed due to the election being called.
- New Government have maintained their position on reintroducing the measure
  - Legislation needs to be re-introduced will the Government consider any historical feedback?
  - Greens hold the power in the Senate for ease of passage, they want to lower the threshold, Govt have remained consistent they won't do that.
  - What did Division 296 look like before it lapsed?





## Division 296 tax – previous model





#### **Division 296 tax**

Determine if Div. 296 tax liability exist?

2 Calculate 'earnings' for Div. 296 tax purposes

Calculate proportion of 'earnings' subject to Div. 296 tax

Calculate the Div. 296 tax liability

-

#### **Basic superannuation earnings**

= 'Current Adjusted TSB'\* - Previous Year TSB

Super Earnings

#### TSB previous year

#### Greater of:

- Prior year TSB; or
- \$3.0m

#### **Current Adjusted TSB**

- = TSB at end of year
- (excl. LRBA amounts)
- + total withdrawals for year
- net contributions for year

#### **Current Adjusted TSB**

#### Greater of:

- Current Adjusted TSB; or
- \$3.0m



## **Calculating super earnings**

- What is an individual's 'Current Adjusted TSB'?
  - Modified closing balance of *withdrawals* and *contributions* that would otherwise overstate or understate the investment earnings generated within super.

Withdrawals (+ add back)		
Super benefit payments (lump sum & pensions)		
Contribution splitting (paid to spouse)		
Family law splitting payments (paid to spouse)		
Amounts withheld from an excess untaxed rollover amount		
Amounts released under a valid requested release authority		
Any amounts prescribed by the regulations		
FHSSS valid release authority (using formula)		

Not withdrawals	
Rollover super benefits	
Continuous disability policy payments	
Withdrawal arising due to fraud / dishonesty	
Amounts paid under unclaimed money act	
Amounts paid from a foreign super fund	
Amounts prescribed in the regulations	



### **Calculating super earnings**

Contributions (	(- deduct)
-----------------	------------

Contributions - 85% of CCs, downsizer & CGT cap

Contribution splitting (received from spouse)

Family law splitting payment (received from spouse)

TSB value of super death benefit income stream

Death or TPD insurance proceeds

Allocated amounts from reserves – captured under s.291-25(3)

A transfer from a foreign super fund

Remediation payment / compensation for loss because of fraud or dishonesty

Any amounts prescribed by the regulations

#### Not contributions

Rollover super benefits

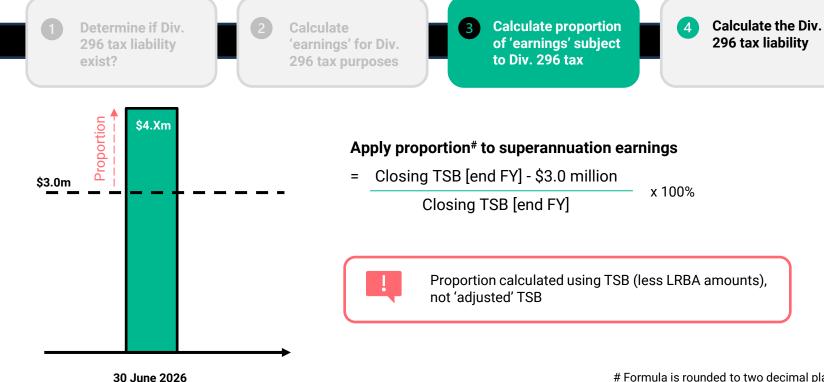
Contributions to foreign funds

Amounts received under unclaimed money act

Any amounts prescribed by the regulations

# SuperGuardian\*

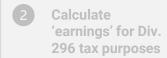
#### Division 296 tax





#### Division 296 tax





Calculate proportion of 'earnings' subject to Div. 296 tax





#### Calculate the Division 296 tax liability

**Tax liability** = Proportion% x earnings x 15%



Division 296 tax liability raised to individual – 84 days to pay

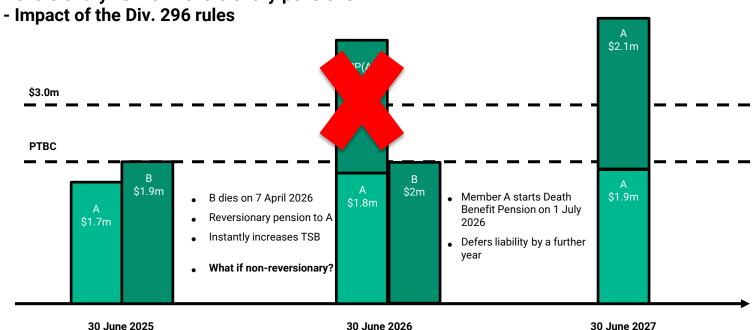


- The individual can choose either:
  - To pay the tax personally; or
  - To release from their super fund (60 days to request)
- Where released from the super fund:
  - If individual has multiple super interests, they can choose which interest(s) to release the money from
    - e.g. highest taxable component (%)



## Death of a member

**Reversionary vs. non-reversionary pensions** 



# SuperGuardian\*

## **Alternatives**

Options	Considerations		
1.	Retaining 100% of funds within superannuation (subject to Div. 296 tax)		
2.	2. Transfer excess >\$3.0m to:	(i). Personal name	
		(ii). Family trust	
		(iii). Corporate entity	
		(iv). Other (i.e. insurance / investment bonds)	
3.	Transfer excess > \$3.0m - Other options	(i). Gifting	
Other options	Other options	(ii). Primary residence (PPR) improvements	
		(iii). Other	

Proliferation of ~30% tax regimes?



## Weighing it up

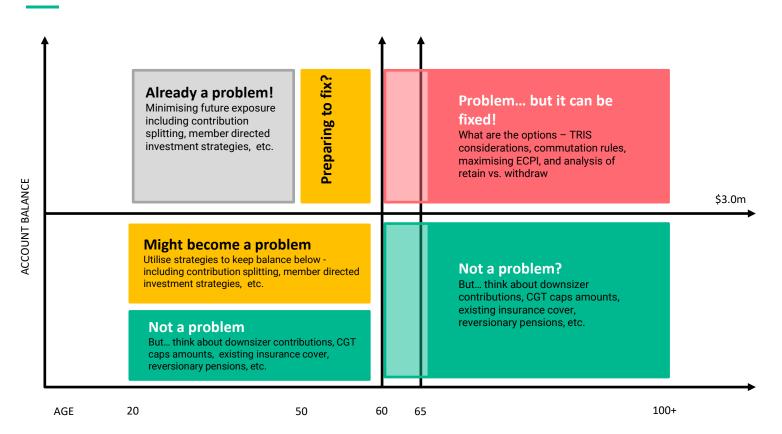
Pro's to transferring excess > \$3.0m	Con's to transferring excess > \$3.0m
Removed from exposure to Division 296 tax	Inability to contribute monies back into super if change of Government and repeals legislation
Limits future exposure of monies to super death benefits tax	Likely to be an 'exit' cost with the monies / assets leaving the SMSF – e.g. CGT, transaction costs, stamp duty, etc.
Discretionary trust provides flexibility on income and capital distribution	Need to consider the TF% of the member balance – may not be any super death benefits tax to consider (i.e. 100% TF income stream)
	Personal income tax position of individual (or beneficiaries) may be significantly higher than within SMSF (incl. Div. 296 tax) – need to understand the marginal tax positions.



Any other thoughts?



### Division 296 – client strategy matrix



## Thank you!

Questions?