

Firesuper SuperNews

March 2023 | Edition 131

Hi <first name>

This edition of Supernews includes things you may wish to consider before retirement and some financial planning tools you can use to help budget and financially plan this year. Also included is a reminder about the lifecycle option and investment choices available to you, and a member story on Gerald Twiss, who is a deferred member based in Kapiti. If you would like to be involved in any future member stories, please write to us at nzfire.super@mercer.com, we'd love to hear from you.

Many of you will have been actively supporting our communities during recent weather events, working long hours under challenging conditions. We would like to acknowledge the hard work that FENZ's people have put in responding to numerous callouts and performing critical rescues during the Auckland floods and Cyclone Gabrielle. Our thoughts are also with the families, friends, and colleagues of Dave van Zwanenberg and Craig Stevens who tragically lost their lives responding during Cyclone Gabrielle. Thank you to everyone for your dedication to our communities during this difficult time.

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter or generally about the Scheme let us know by calling **0800 MY SUPER** (0800 69 78737).

Take care,

FireSuper Trustee

At a glance

- » Pre-Retirement tips
- » Lifecycle option reminder
- » Our People - Gerald Twiss
- » Market update
- » Scheme returns
- » Financial tools for 2023

Pre-Retirement tips

What are your retirement goals?

The concept of retirement means different things to different people. Whether it is the opportunity to travel, spend time with family, to start a new project, or to dabble in a mixture of all of the above. Retirement is a time to enjoy and to be free of financial stress. It can be a major life transition and we need to be honest about what our goals are and what trade-offs we are willing to live with. Even if retirement seems a while away, it is good to have a plan.

Read more by scanning this code



Lifecycle option reminder

In September 2021 we launched a new investment option called 'LifeCycle', so far we've had 61 members join this option. It works slightly differently to the other four investment options currently on offer, with each of them having a different risk/return profile. The Life Cycle investment option is a 'set and forget' option that automatically downward adjusts the allocation to growth assets, as members get closer to retirement age. You can switch into this option at any time by signing into your [account online](#).

Log in



Our people - Gerald Twiss

Gerald Twiss is currently based in Kapiti and retired as a firefighter in 2018.

Gerald, a deferred member of the FireSuper Scheme, joined the fire service when he was 21, spent 45 years on the job, eventually retiring at 66. He began his firefighting journey in Wellington and also got cancer while in service, but was back 289 days later after treatment.



Read more

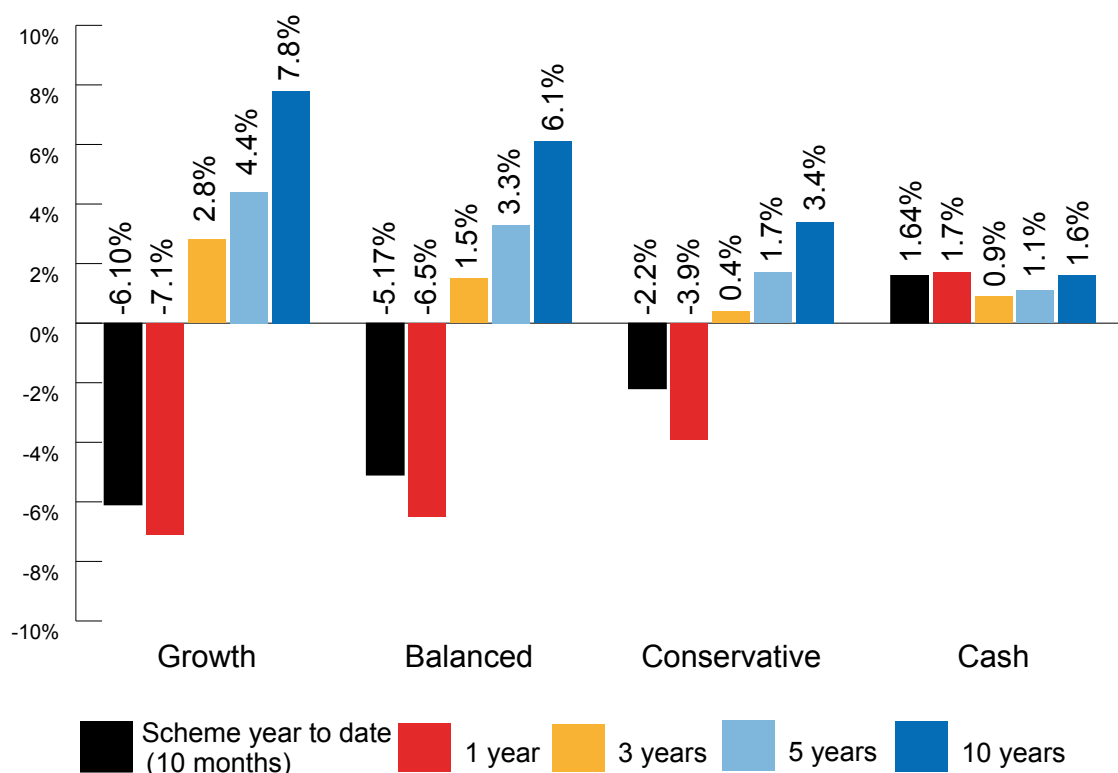


If you would like to be involved in a future member story, we would love to hear from you! Please write to nzfire.super@mercer.com with the subject "Member story".

Scheme returns

(Cumulative year-to-date interim returns)

The chart below shows the earning rates for each investment option over the fiscal year-to-date period (**from 1 April 2022 through to 31 January 2023**), and returns over the long term; 3, 5, and 10 years. The returns are net of fees and tax. The Life Cycle option uses the Growth, Balanced, and Conservative options as building blocks and progressively reduces members' risk/return profile over time.



Source: Russell Investments. Past performance is no guarantee of future results.

You can find the [latest earning rates](#) and general information about [how financial markets are performing](#) on the [Scheme website](#).



Market update

Global share markets made good gains in local currency terms in the December quarter but fell in unhedged New Zealand dollar (NZD) terms, with the MSCI ACWI Index - Net returning -1.8%. Much of the gains were driven by expectations the world's major central banks would soon pivot to smaller rate hikes amid increasing evidence inflation may have peaked. The US Federal Reserve, the European Central Bank and the Bank of England all raised their benchmark rates by smaller (0.50%) increments in December; though the banks did warn that further rate hikes were needed to tame inflation.

Source: Russell Investments Date: 31 December 2022

[Read more](#)



[Read more](#)



Financial tools for 2023

Budgeting helps you plan for the unexpected. By saving for retirement and building an emergency savings buffer, it can give you peace of mind for the future. Here are some tools to help with budgeting for today and planning for the future.



Helpline
0800 69 78737



**Retirement
planning**



**Financial advisers
at FMA**



**Scheme
website**



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