



# Firesuper Supernews

November 2022 No. 130

Hi <firstname>

In this final edition of Supernews for 2022, we are excited to launch a new article segment, called 'Our People' that will feature members from across the country in each edition. If you would like to be involved please write to us at [nzfire.super@mercercor.com](mailto:nzfire.super@mercercor.com), we'd love to hear from you! Likewise, if you have any feedback on the annual report and annual confirmations that were sent in June let us know so we can keep refining each year.

We wish you and your families a great and safe summer ahead.

Regards,

FireSuper Trustee

## New booklet out now

Unsure what investment options are available or what their differences are? Want to know more? Introducing the latest edition of the Member Investment Choice Booklet! This document takes you through the investment choices available to you and explains some of the important concepts you should take into account before making an investment decision. Topics include investment choice, asset classes, risk, and things to consider about retirement savings.

[Download Booklet](#)



## How do I...?

We've launched a new webpage that tackles some of the commonly asked questions including how do I reset my password, contact Helpline, switch investment options, and get financial advice. All good questions!

[Read more](#)

## Our people

You may have noticed the addition of a member story in the 2022 annual report featuring Rick Finlayson on his savings journey over 30 years of membership in FireSuper. We're eager to feature more members in our communications and today hear from Emma Austin and Margaret Middleton on their experiences in saving for retirement.

[Read more](#)

If you would like to be involved in a future member story we'd love to hear from you! Please write to [nzfire.super@mercercor.com](mailto:nzfire.super@mercercor.com) with the subject "Member story".

## Market update

Global share markets fell in local currency terms in the September quarter, but a weakening New Zealand dollar (NZD) meant that they rose in NZD terms, with the MSCI ACWI Index - Net returning 2.4%.

Much of the decline was driven by further, aggressive central bank activity globally and growing recession fears. In the US, the Federal Reserve (Fed) raised interest rates twice over the period after inflation climbed to 8.3% in the 12 months to 31 August. The Fed lifted rates by 0.75% at each of its two scheduled meetings during the quarter, taking its benchmark fed funds rate to a range of between 3.00% and 3.25% – its highest level since 2008. Speaking at the Fed's press conference following its most recent rate hike, chairman Jerome Powell reaffirmed his determination to rein in inflation and made clear that interest rates will continue to rise until price stability is restored; even if it means tipping the world's largest economy into recession.

The New Zealand share market made relatively good gains in the second quarter, returning 2.2%. Stocks performed very well through the early part of the period amid hopes that inflation may be peaking and a series of better-than-expected domestic earnings updates. Stocks also benefited from a strong rebound in domestic growth, with the local economy expanding 1.7% in the June quarter.

[Read more](#)

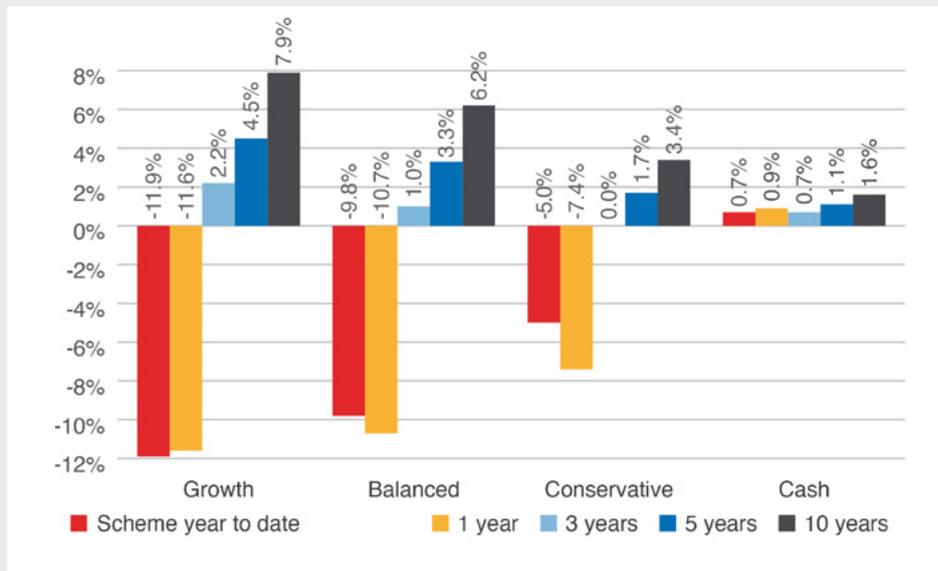
Source: Russell Investments Date: 26 October 2022

## 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 30 September 2022), 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.

Member earning rates (1 April 2022 – 30 September 2022)



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](#).

## Why you need a Will

Protect what's important to you by planning ahead. Make sure your loved ones are taken care of, and your assets are distributed the way you want, if something were to happen to you. A Will is a legal document which formally spells out who will receive your assets or your 'estate' in the event of your death. Do you have a Will? And, is it current? If you don't have a Will, the legal procedures are more complicated and time consuming, which may cause unnecessary worry and expense to your family. You can read more about how to make a Will at [sorted.org.nz](http://sorted.org.nz).

[Read more](#)



## Behind the scenes - chat with Helpline

We speak with Ashik, one of the Helpline team members who answers the phones, about what commonly asked questions members have, his role, and when someone should call the team.

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