



FinPro – VBI update

3 June 2022





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Defined benefits promise

- To pay a guaranteed benefit
 - Based on salary and years of service
- LASF DB closed to new members on 31 December 1993
- Pre 26 May 1988 members can opt to take a lifetime pension
 - The majority are likely to do this going forward
- All LASF DB members can elect to take a deferred benefit

APRA's prudential standard - SPS 160

- Need to be able to pay out all leaving service benefits at all times
 - Measured against the vested benefits not total service benefits
- SPS 160 is a funding straitjacket
 - The VBI is 'king'
 - APRA driven – not actuarial
- $$\text{VBI} = \frac{\text{Net assets supporting LASF DB}}{\text{LASF DB benefit liability}}$$

APRA's prudential standard - SPS 160 (cont'd)

- Minimum thresholds must be met at all times

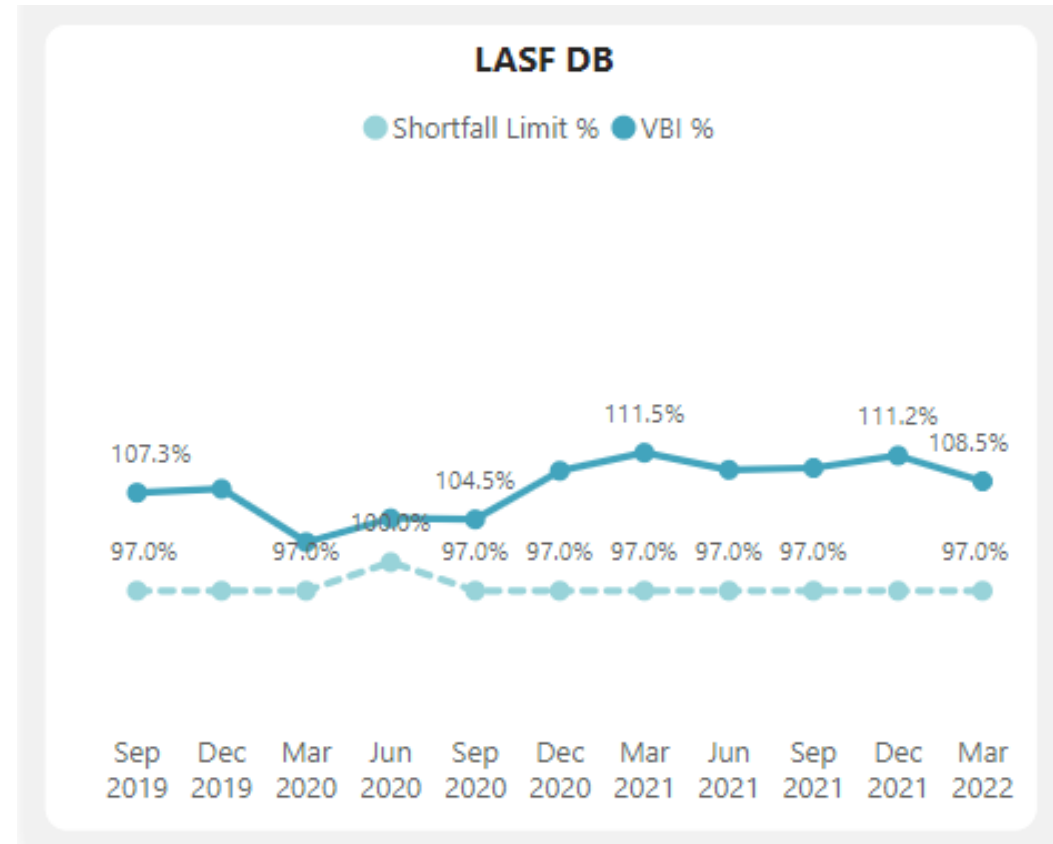
Quarter ending	VBI Threshold
September	97%/100%*
December	97%
March	97%
June	100%

* Based on whether any relevant actuarial review is underway

- If the VBI falls below the relevant threshold
 - Restoration plan required
 - VBI must be returned to at least 100% within 3 years

Vested benefits index (VBI)

- The LASF DB VBI fluctuates primarily based on the investment market performance
- The shortfall limit varies based on the date of the VBI measurement
 - 100% while an actuarial review is underway (usually every 30 June until the review is completed)
 - 97% at all other times
- If the VBI is below the shortfall limit, we need to kick-off a restoration plan review



2021 Actuarial review (annual)

- Annual review because LASF DB pays out lifetime pensions
 - Triennial review every 3 years (30 June 2020)
- Full report at www.visionsuper.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/Actuarial-30-June-2021.pdf
- Key assumptions for 30 June 2021

30 June 2021	
Net Investment Return	4.75% p.a. (gross: 5.50%p.a.)
Salary Inflation	2.75% p.a.
Price Inflation	2.25% p.a.

2021 Actuarial review (annual) (cont'd)

- Key findings for 30 June 2021

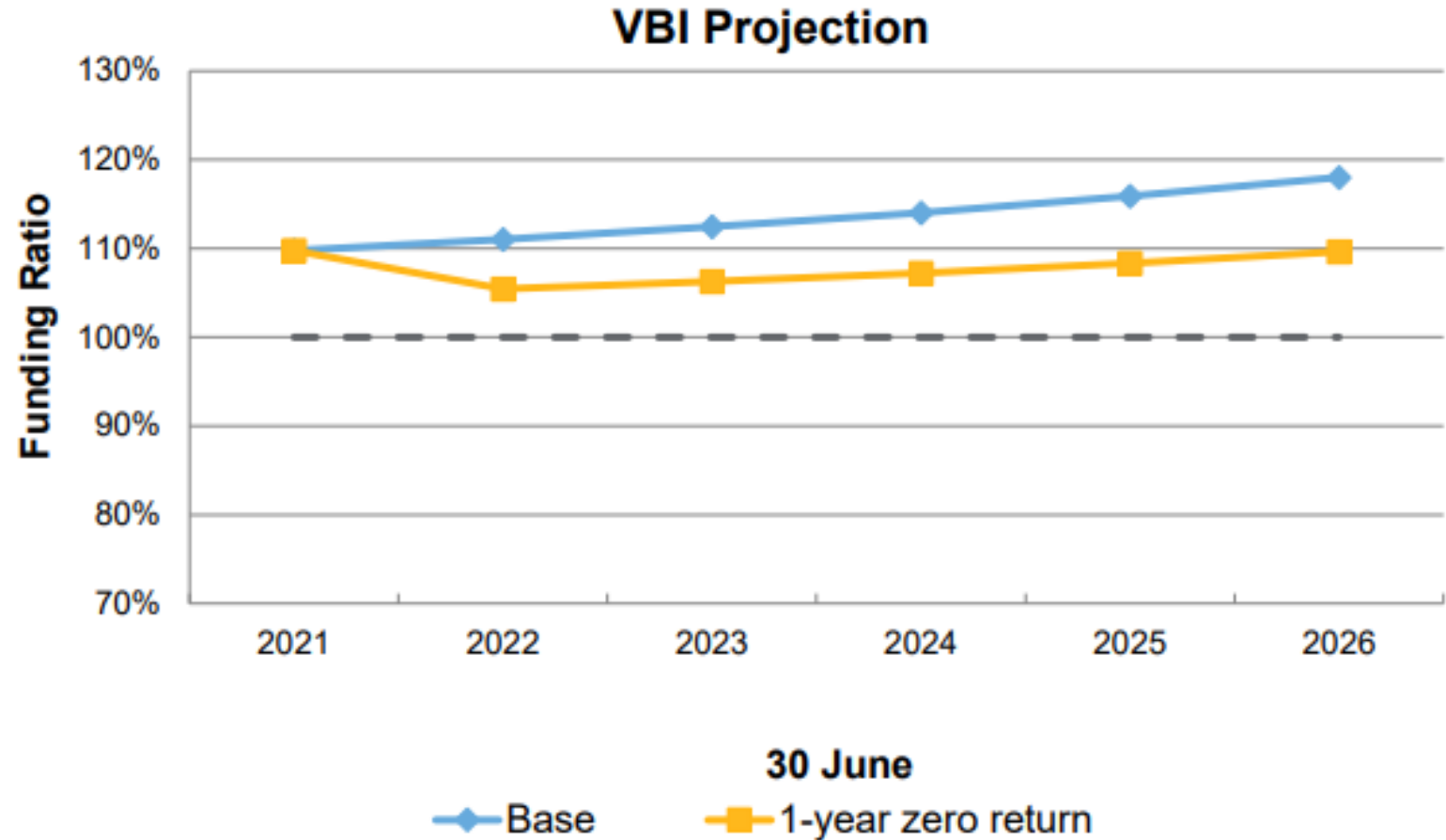
30 June 2021 Funding Indices	
	%
Vested Benefit Index ¹	109.8
Discounted Accrued Benefit Index ²	113.4
Minimum Requisite Benefit Index ³	151.2

- The financial experience has been significantly better than assumed
 - Excess of investment returns above salary increase and price inflation
- Future funding position (and the potential for additional contributions)
 - Dependent upon the future experience - particularly future investment returns

Fund actuary's VBI projection

Where:

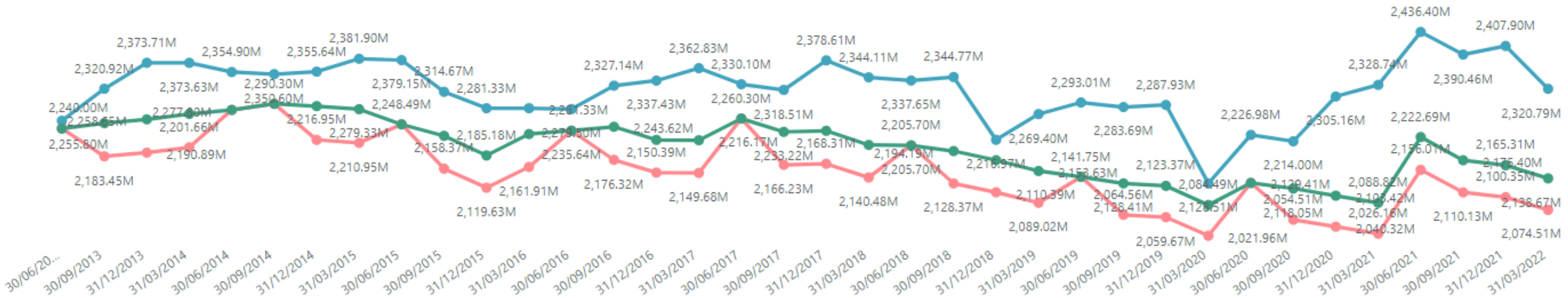
- Base = expected returns
- 1 year = 0% return in year 1 (and expected returns thereafter)



Movement in the VBI

LASF DB

● Net Assets ● VBI Shortfall Limit Amount ● Vested Benefits



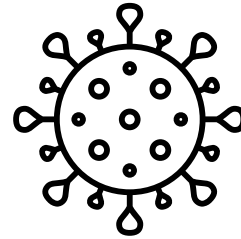
LASF DB VBI – Where to from here?

- Actual investment returns are the main driver of VBI
- Change to long term investment assumption has immediate one-off impact
 - Current rule of thumb - 1% reduction in return → 5% reduction in VBI
- Feedback loop:
 1. Build a VBI margin with good returns
 2. Remove some investment risk (if possible)
 3. Reduction in likely investment volatility but also long term expected return
 4. Immediate one-off impact on the VBI (reduction)
 5. Repeat

Key factors impacting the investment environment



Central Banks



Covid-19



Climate change

Investment outlook

- World now experiencing the negative effects of significant monetary inflation
- Inflation needs to be brought under control
- Moderate US recession likely (although not certain)
- Equities to fall further
- Medium-term investment outlook has improved (reflecting falling valuations), but inflation control important

- Impact of the above
 - On both actual returns and financial assumptions
 - VBI monitoring
 - Usually quarterly but more frequently during periods of market volatility

Expected outcomes of the 30 June 2022 actuarial review

- Expecting downward pressure on the VBI
 - Depending on the final assumptions - 1.5% to 1.75%
- 30 June 2022 VBI position
 - Estimated VBI – mid-late August 2022
 - Annual review final report – October 2022
- Sample employer superannuation note will be updated once assumptions are finalised
- External audit queries

Useful resources

www.visionsuper.com.au/employers/db/

The screenshot shows the Vision Super website's 'Employers' section. The main content area is titled 'Vested Benefit Index (VBI)'. Below the title, there is a paragraph explaining that Defined Benefit plans are required by law to have an actuarial investigation every three years. The VBI table shows the percentage of the VBI for each year from 2012/13 to 2021/22, broken down by quarter (QTR 1 - September, QTR 2 - December, QTR 3 - March, QTR 4 - June).

VESTED BENEFIT INDEX (VBI)				
Year	QTR 1 - September (estimated)	QTR 2 - December (estimated)	QTR 3 - March (estimated)	QTR 4 - June (actual)
2012/13	96.6%	97.9%	99.4%	100.7%
2013/14	103.1%	105.1%	104.6%	103.4%
2014/15	102.6%	103.1%	108.5%	105.8%
2015/16	104.0%	104.4%	102.4%	102.0%
2016/17	103.7%	105.4%	106.6%	103.1%
2017/18	103.8%	106.4%	106.2%	106.0%
2018/19	106.9%	101.9%	105.4%	107.1%
2019/20	107.3%	107.7%	102.1%	104.6%
2020/21	104.5%	109.6%	111.5%	109.8%
2021/22	109.9%	111.2%		

Thank you



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