

CHIEF INVESTMENT OFFICER Media Super

MICHAEL MCQUEEN

Michael McQueen is the Chief Investment Officer of Media Super, the industry fund for print, media, entertainment and arts professionals. In this role, he is responsible for advising the Board on all investment-related matters and implementing the Fund's investment strategy. Run only to benefit members, Media Super manages in excess of \$5.5bn in retirement savings for more than 75,000 members.

EXECUTIVE MANAGER, GROWTH MEMBER AND ADVICE DEVELOPMENT Media Super

STEPHEN ASSIMO

Stephen Assimo is Executive Manager Growth for Media Super with over 15 years' experience working in the superannuation industry. His expertise is looking after employer and member interests and providing guidance on how employers can interact with their superannuation fund to deliver staff benefits.

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CURRENT ECONOMIC CLIMATE AND CAUSES

We are living through unprecedented global economic upheaval, and this is having an impact on investment markets.

It is estimated that the movement of goods through global supply chains fell by approximately two thirds in a 3-4-week period.

Locally, business confidence fell to its lowest levels on record.

Equities represent the net present value of future cashflows. When cashflows are uncertain, it becomes difficult to value companies. In the scenario of an unprecedented global economic shutdown, the impact on investment markets was sudden and severe.

While this is an unprecedented event, market downturns are not. Reviewing the S&P500 performance through significant market downturns including the GFC, Tech Wreck, the 1990s recession and 1987 crash shows that equities generally recover over the medium term.

MARKETS GENERALLY RECOVER



Media Super has six pre-mixed investment options designed to be invested in over the long term (i.e. 10 years). These options set out risk and return targets after which an appropriate level of exposure to multiple asset classes, including equity markets, is determined in order to meet or exceed these targets.

As all investments are managed externally, we rigorously review investment opportunities and the investment managers we chose to invest member's money.

Media Super's investment beliefs are aimed at helping members achieve their best possible retirement outcomes. We have a fiduciary duty to manage the Fund sustainably.

Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) risks, such as climate change, could negatively impact long-term investment returns, and we incorporate the consideration of ESG factors in our investment processes.

Increased investor focus on ESG issues has been observed to produce better-governed companies which then go onto outperform their peers.

We endorse the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals and consider these goals in making investment decisions.

As a large investor, Media Super recognises our responsibility and our ability to impact climate change outcomes positively.

Media Super is a signatory to the Principles of Responsible Investment (PRI). As a signatory to the PRI, we work to be an 'active owner' and will continue to engage with companies, fund managers and government on climate change issues, as well as broader ESG issues.

We are committed to continuing to have more than 90 per cent of our investment portfolio managed by investment managers who are signatories to the PRI.

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* SOURCE: WWW.MONEYSMART.GOV.AU/COVID-19/ACCESSING-YOUR-SUPER



HERE TO HELP

As a Real Media Collective partner and the only industry fund representing the print industry, you can take advantage of the services Media Super offer to businesses. These services include financial education for staff, business super health check and our clearing house facilities.

Get in touch to find out more StephenAssimo@mediasuper.com.au.

All information correct as at 26 May 2020.



Please note the following is a guide and does not constitute financial advice. The following has been provided based on what was known as of COB Friday 22nd May 2020.

Q/ There has been a lot of talk about illiquid assets held by superannuation funds. What's Media Super view on illiquid investments?

A / Illiquid investment is an important part of the asset mix, this helps meet risk objective. It's quite common throughout the industry and it is likely to be important moving forward. Despite times like this where illiquid investment gets bad publicity for supposedly not getting good returns, illiquid investments are not deteriorating. They are priced less regularly but that does not automatically mean there's anything wrong with them despite what it said on the news.

Q/ What role do you think Superannuation funds will have to play in economic recovery in Australia?

A / Media Super believe that superannuation will play an important role in the longer pull for capital and over the 10-year objective horizon. Superannuation is important for recovery in terms of the infrastructure projects being proposed as well as other proposed recovery projects. Some assets don't lend themselves to the share market and are better listed privately, thus better to invest in through superannuation. Overall, superannuation products and services are there for the long term and to ultimately generate wealth for members over the long term.

Q/ As a business what is the value of Media Super providing workplace support for our staff?

A / Too often, superannuation is seen as an individual's responsibility however Media Super are always happy to work with businesses to deliver education to staff about superannuation. A more engaged and financially aware workforce is a happy workforce. Media Super, at it's heart, is an industry fund that are available for businesses from big to small or anywhere in between and not just for individuals. Superannuation is traditionally seen as an industrial relations discussion however that is not always the case, it can be about financial education and awareness.



Q/ Should I be investing my superannuation in share markets at the moment given their recent performance?

A / As discussed in the webinar, there are different investment options available regarding superannuation. It's important to make considered decisions on how to investment your money and a balanced portfolio may well match your level of risk. There are balanced portfolio options that still invest in share markets or invested entirely in share markets. They will go up and down however moving them out of their downturn period may be detrimental when the shares go back on the rebound, as we've seen recently. At the end of the day, each person's superannuation investment portfolio has to suit individual needs depending on how much risk they're willing to take on in investment. It is a quite complex decision so it is recommended to seek professional advice.

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