



Ensuring that all retirees find a suitable retirement solution

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29th Colloquium on Pensions and Retirement Research

2 December 2021

Development of the retirement incomes framework ... an ongoing journey _____

- Notable milestones so far:
 - Changes to treatment of income products under means testing
 - Measures to improve professionalism in the advice industry (ongoing)
 - Retirement Income Review
- Retirement Income Covenant (RIC)
 - Will place obligations on trustees to develop a retirement income strategy
 - Aim of (cattle-?) prodding the industry to get going



A retirement income strategy: two challenges

- The RIC requires trustees to develop a retirement income strategy for the members of their fund. We see two primary challenges:
- <u>Challenge 1</u>: Developing a suite of retirement strategies:
 - Catering for retirees that may differ significantly
 - Hurdles include: getting information on members, cohorting, strategy design
- <u>Challenge 2</u>: Matching members to suitable retirement solutions:
 - Member engagement and communications come to the fore
 - What are the appropriate delivery mechanisms?



Solutions need account for regulatory frameworks

ASIC:

- Design and Distribution Obligations
- Disclosure
- Financial advice laws and regulations

APRA:

- Retirement framework (whatever form that takes)
- Integration with Member Outcomes Assessment
- Potential for other tools such as a Retirement Heatmap



Indicated choice architecture for accumulation and retirement _____

Accumulation

Defaults provide the foundation (SG, MySuper)

Decumulation

Member self-choice or advised (consumption, product, investment)



Retirees differ along two dimensions

Financial circumstances and preferences	Willingness and capacity to engage	
 Balance Homeowner vs. renter Other assets Single vs. partnered Desired income stream Risk appetite 	 Ability to make financial decisions Financial literacy Cognitive ability Behavioural hurdles Desire to engage - interest, confidence Trust (in their fund) Preparedness to pay for financial advice 	
Implications for: suitable solutions	Implications for: delivery mechanism	



Retirement solution choice - A spectrum

Type	Preferred mode	Decision frame	Who would identify an appropriate solution
1. Fully-advised	Seeks comprehensive financial advice	Fully-advised	Adviser
2. DIY-active	Wants to choose by themselves, perhaps with some assistance	Self-directed choice	Retiree
3. DIY-reactive	Would welcome a recommendation from their fund, but wants to decide for themselves	Fund-guided choice	Fund and Retiree
4. Guided	Would prefer their fund to choose an option		Fund
5. Disengaged	Does not engage at all	Fund selection	Fund



Why accommodate fund-guided choice?

- 1. Some retirees might welcome it:
 - Low financial literacy; lack of confidence to choose; many trust their fund
 - Some people don't want to choose ... they just want to be looked after
 - Reluctance to pay for comprehensive advice
- 2. Funds might come up with a better choice in some situations:
 - Members know themselves better than anyone, but...
 - Choice brings exposure to poor understanding, behavioral influences & shysters
- 3. Accommodates nudges:
 - Encouraging retirees to invest more in growth, and increase drawdowns



Choices put to a retiring member by their fund

Please choose one of the following options:

- A. Please assign me to a retirement solution
- B. Recommend a retirement solution to me
- C. I want to choose a retirement solution for myself
- D. Please refer me to a financial planner

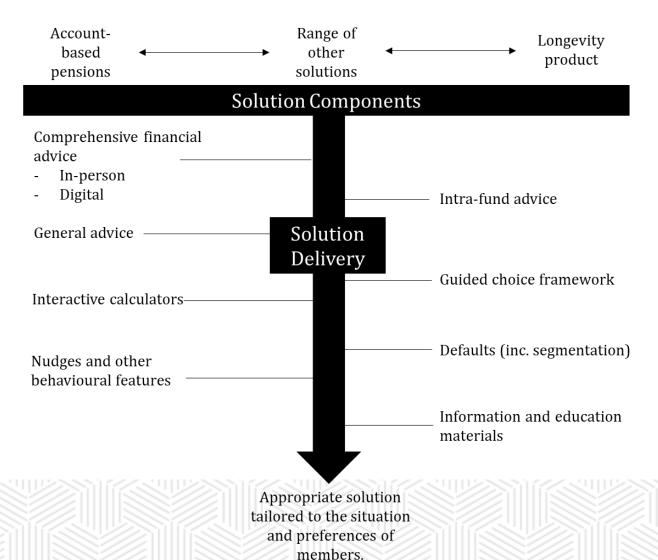


Safety net required for retirees who do not choose

- 1. Further requirement for trustees to constantly attempt engagement to establish their retirement status and preferences.
- 2. Empower trustees to default members into a retirement option under certain conditions.
 - → Possible ability for members to opt-out.



Framing the retirement strategy challenge



Accounting for different engagement mechanisms



Choice mechanisms

- A. Please assign me to a retirement solution
- B. Recommend a retirement solution to me
- C. I want to choose a retirement solution for myself
- D. Please refer me to a financial planner
- E. Special case of disengaged

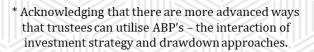
Solution Delivery
(based on
retirees' choice of
mechanism for
selecting a
suitable solution)

Delivery mechanisms

- Default solution
- Fund-guided choice (cohort-based or personally tailored)
- Full choice (access to solution components)
 - Self-directed
 - Advised

Outcome

Suitable solution tailored (by varying degrees) to the situation and preferences of members.





What we would like to see

- 1. Framework designed to ensure fund-guided choice is part of the system:
 - Obligation on trustees to engage with retiring members to establish their preferred mechanism for finding a suitable strategy, and then support them.
 - This obligation ideally written into the RIC.
 - Provide ability for funds to seek personal information and recommend strategies without triggering the need for a full SOA.
- 2. A mechanism to address retiring members that do not engage.



Likely policy direction

- 1. Defaults appear unlikely → focus on choice with advice and guidance the primary supports.
- 2. Uncertainty around the delivery mechanism for cohort-based solutions:
 - Personal versus general advice (post Westpac case).
 - Ongoing policy focus on expanding advice and guidance capacity.
- 3. At a minimum should the RIC incorporate a requirement that funds must develop an engagement strategy for their retirees?

