

# Bridging the Digital Advice Gap in Retirement: Retirement Manager and Human-Centred Design for Drawdown Decisions

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33<sup>rd</sup> Colloquium on Pensions and Retirement Research November 2025

# Agenda



Retirement Drawdown Challenge
Human-Centred Design Approach
Income Confidence Score
Implementation Realities
Experience So Far
Future Improvements

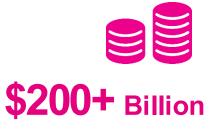
# Aware Super at a glance





**1.2** Million

members and clients



combined asset pool



**\$50+** Billion

in retirement with 100k+ members



\$4 Billion

Pension benefits p.a. Profit-to-member



Award-winning fund\*\*



28 years+

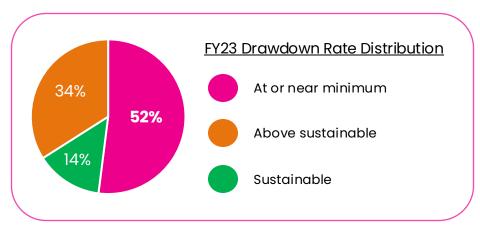
providing financial advice#



# Retirement Drawdown Challenge



### What We Observe



Source: Aware Super FY23 Drawdown Analysis, 32nd Colloquium on Pensions and Retirement Research

### Application process - Payment amount

How much would you like to receive each payment?

If you're not sure, try our super retirement calculator.

Specific amount

You choose an amount between the minimum and maximum allowance.

Payment amount

Specific amount with indexation

Choose an amount between the minimum and maximum allowance, and we'll update your income payment on 1 July each year, in line with inflation.

Minimum amount

The <u>Government sets a minimum amount</u> you need to take out each year. It's calculated at the start of each financial year and is based on your age and your super balance at that time.

The opportunity: Help members confidently draw more than the minimum

**Retirement Manager:** Shows members their income is sustainable, providing guidance and confidence to draw more

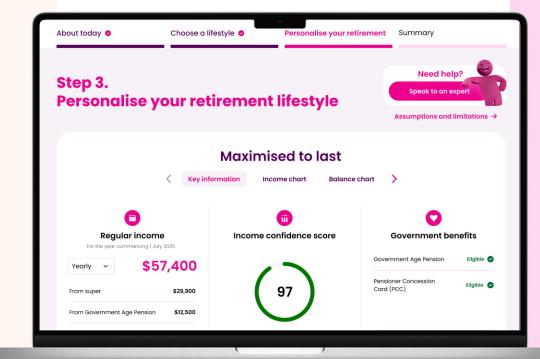
# Retirement Manager: Helping members start and manage their best retirement



### **Starting your Retirement**

Includes help setting up their Retirement Income Account right for their future

- What income sources are available? (super & Age Pension)
- What are the tax benefits?
- How much income can I draw?
- How long would my income last?
- How should I be invested?
- Can I validate this with an Adviser?



### Living your best retirement

Optimising your Retirement Income drawdown

Includes help drawdown the optimal amount

- Income Confidence Score
- o How much income can I draw?
- o How long would my income last?
- o How should I be invested?
- Follow along Webinar series
- Embedded Education

# **Human Centred Design: Approach**



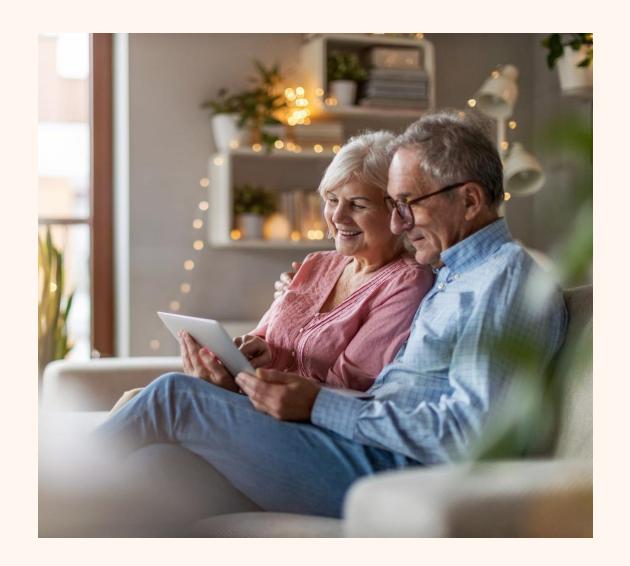
When does a member switch from planning for retirement to starting retirement?

How does a member think about their retirement income needs?

How much *guidance* is needed to understand the intent of being asked to open a Retirement Income Stream?

What could we show to give members **confidence** in their retirement income, and what would give them confidence to act now?

What specific **features** are considered most important to members?



# **Archetypes identified**



The participants mindsets typically fell into one of the three archetypes when discussing getting ready to retire



### **Proactive planner**

They proactively plan things throughout life, they show strong financial literacy, and are either willing to learn through advice, or undertake their own research to make informed decisions. They typically consider retirement prior to even thinking about a retirement age.

# Emotional needs regarding retirement

Continue to work as they want a purpose In life. Want to continue to enjoy a similar lifestyle that they are accustomed to when retired.



### Retirement planner

They begin to show an interest in planning for retirement a few years away from their targeted age, generally less financially literate towards retirement, and more open to advice.

### Emotional needs regarding retirement

Wanting to still have a purpose in retirement.

Understanding the need that they may need to wind down the type of lifestyle they currently have once retired.



### Plan as I go

Those who will get into the details once they retire or are close to retiring (<6 months), they typically have a low level of financial literacy towards retirement.

### Emotional needs regarding retirement

Wanting to still have a purpose in retirement, no clear retirement goals.

Just wanting to be assured they have enough money to last.

# Designing Income goals for each of the key Archetypes



### **Proactive planner**

Want to continue to enjoy a similar lifestyle that they are accustomed to when retired.

### Retirement planner

Understanding the need that they may need to wind down the type of lifestyle they currently have once retired.



# Like today's income

**Custom Income Goal** 

### Plan as I go

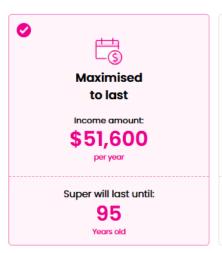
Just wanting to be assured they have enough money to last.

**Maximised to Last** 

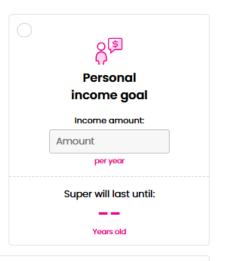
# Bringing the income goals to life



We've created retirement lifestyles specific to you, calculated using the details you've provided today. If you like, you can let us know another amount you have in mind.









Mandated minimum starting at 5% per year

### Your income confidence score in this selection



- 90+ An excellent score
- · Super sustains your target income for most of retirement
- · After super runs out, income from other sources remains strong
- · You can maintain your planned lifestyle with high confidence

How are these income goals calculated →

How confidence scores work →



Clearly labelled income goals with rounded figures



Longevity assessment gives confidence in selection



Government minimums available but actively discouraged



Confidence score reinforces the selection and includes Stochastic overlay



Help embedded throughout

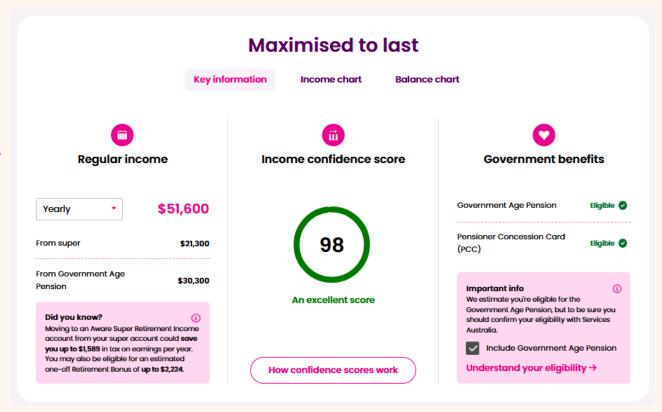
# **Human Centred Design: unwinding the** status quo



We might think charts are king...

### Strong confidence ① \$47,000 ,... Sustainable This income is lifetime income sustainable until age 95. Age pension Other Income 25,000 65 70 75 90 95 100

### But our members don't



# Removing the choice paradox



Sensible defaults are appreciated by members...

# Choosing an investment strategy We have a number of investment options so you can choose the right one for you.

Our default investment option for the Aware Super Retirement Income account is Conservative Balanced. It's designed to balance the need for healthy returns while reducing your exposure to market ups-and-downs.

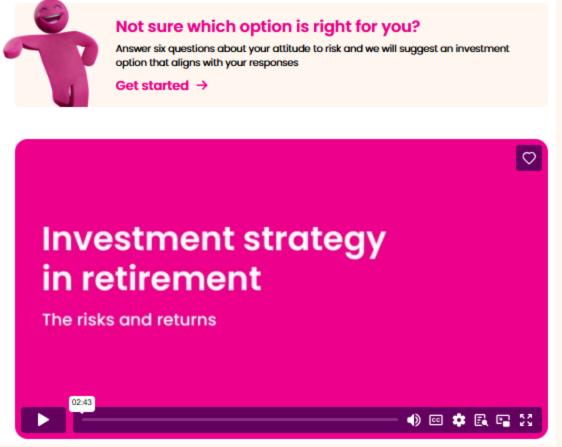
If you're unsure which investment choice is right for you, our experts have designed a quick risk profile questionnaire to help you.

You've invested in our default option:

**Conservative Balanced** 

Choose an action

As long as education supports it and there are options to change the defaults.



# Creating a Hybrid Experience







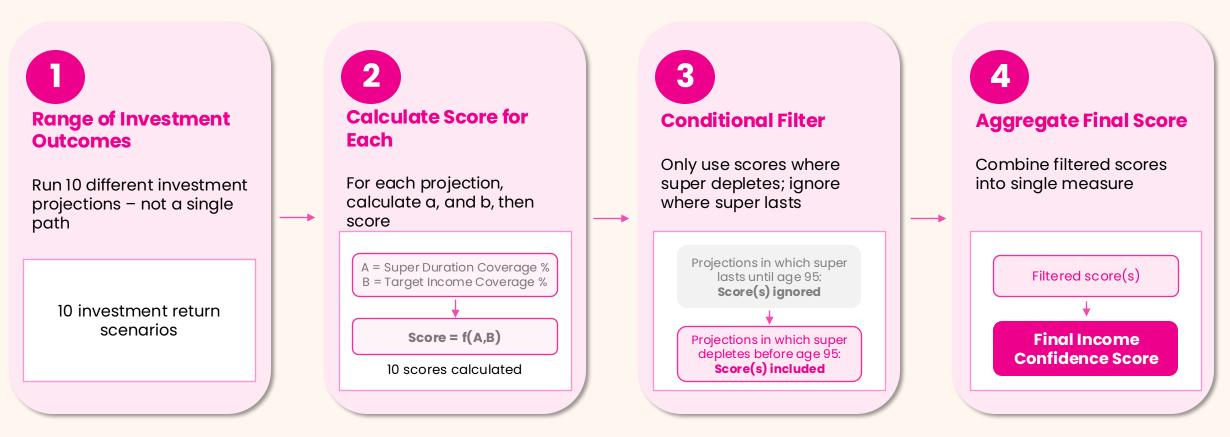


# Income Confidence Score - Methodology



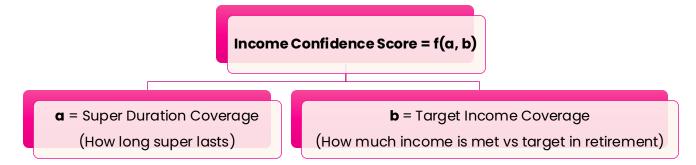
Income Confidence Score: One simple composite measure capturing super sustainability and income adequacy risks

### How It is calculated:

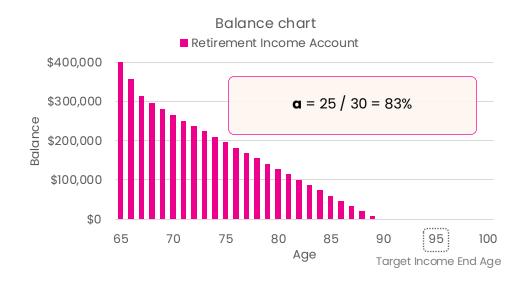


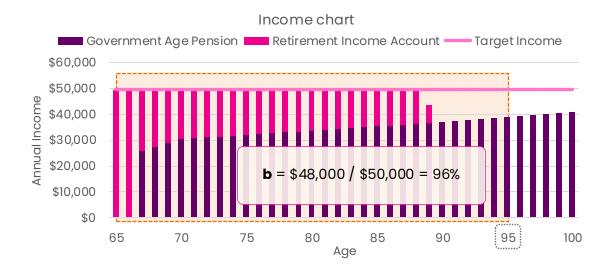
# Income Confidence Score - Components





### Under investment projection i (1 out of 10 projections):



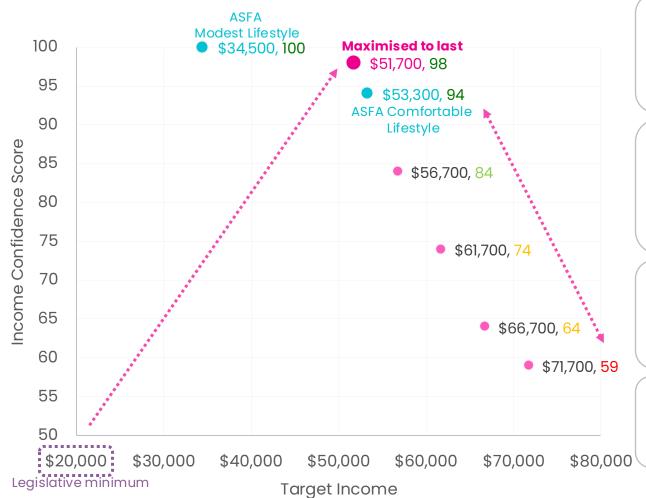


Income Confidence Score for investment projection i = f(83%, 86%) = 85%

# Making Trade-offs Visible



Members are presented wthiin a credible starting point, **Maximised to last amount**, with a high income confidence score, then can explore trade-offs if desired.



### 90+ An excellent score

- Your super sustains your target income throughout retirement in most market conditions
- In more extreme unfavourable market conditions where your super may run out, income from other sources remains strong
- · You can maintain your planned lifestyle with high confidence

### **75-89** A good score

- Your super covers a large majority of your retirement with reasonable income afterward
- Your super may not last until the end of retirement, when the Government Age Pension forms a large proportion of your retirement income
- You're likely to maintain your planned lifestyle, but regular monitoring helps
- Minor spending adjustments may be useful later on

### 60-74 An okay score

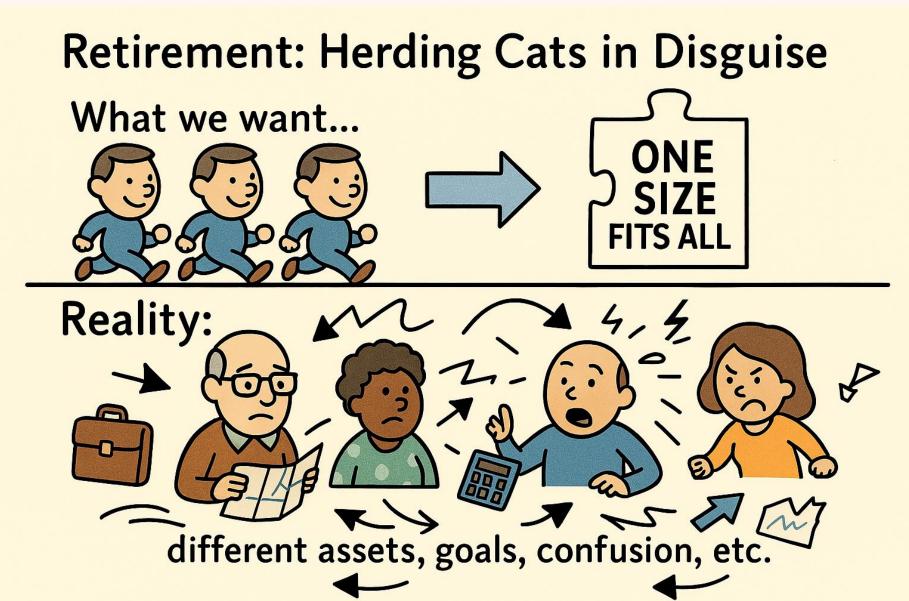
- · Your super covers a fair portion of retirement, with potential shortfalls
- · Other income sources help, but a material gap is likely
- Consider modest spending or strategy adjustments
- · Annual reassessment is recommended

### Under 60 Room for improvement

- Your super depletes early, leaving a significant and likely material income gap
- Other income sources are unlikely to be sufficient to maintain your lifestyle
- A more conservative withdrawal and lifestyle strategy is recommended

# Implementation realities

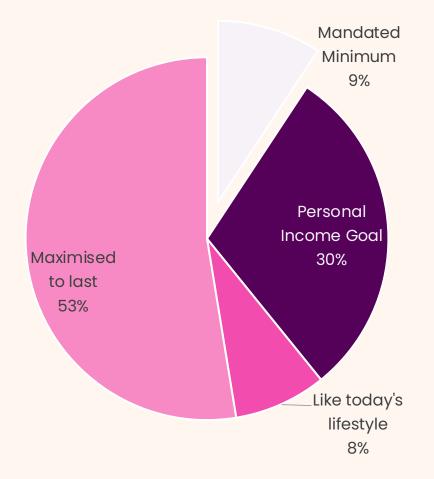




# Experience so far



Remember 52% of members historically draw at the minimum...

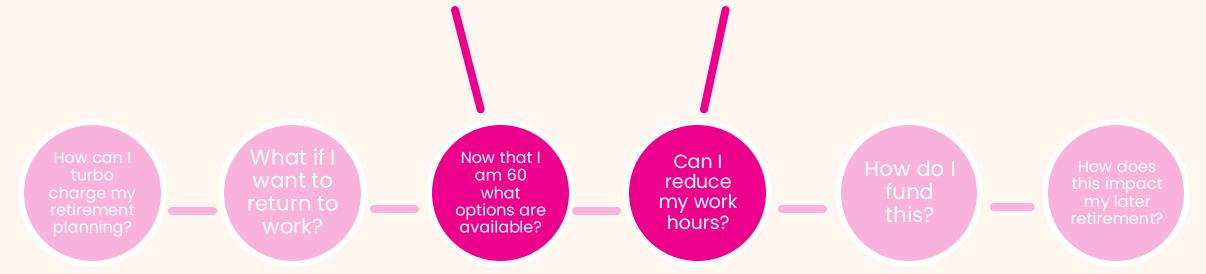


Only 9% of members have selected this in Retirement Manager

# **Future Improvements**



# Retirement is no longer a cliff edge, it is a gradual, flexible transition



# Questions?



# Thank you.

