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## **Draft regulations not in members' best financial interests**

Draft Regulations on Superannuation Portfolio Holdings Disclosure do not strike an appropriate balance between transparency and protecting members' best financial interests, AustralianSuper has said in a submission to Federal Treasury.

Since 2016 AustralianSuper has led the industry in transparently disclosing portfolio holdings on our website.

Despite amendments to the regulations originally released, the draft regulations will:

- require the release of sensitive commercial information to the market, which can be used to place AustralianSuper members at a disadvantage, decreasing returns and increasing cost for members
- require members to download and decipher tens of thousands of lines of data which will not support their understanding and engagement with their superannuation, and
- reduce the opportunity for superannuation funds, including AustralianSuper, to partner on major projects, including key infrastructure projects, because the regulations mean commercial information about their own holdings will be disclosed.

Chief Investment Officer, Mark Delaney, said that given these outcomes it is incumbent on the Government to demonstrate the provision of data in the form required by the draft regulations will not be used to compromise the value of Australians' retirement savings prior to any new disclosure requirements being finalised.

'AustralianSuper is committed to acting in the best financial interests of members, but reporting this level of information will financially disadvantage them,' Mr Delaney said.

'The regulations will increase costs for members and decrease returns, which is at odds with the Government's stated desire to increase performance and reduce costs in Australia's superannuation system.

'We are a members first organisation. Around nine out of 10 AustralianSuper members tell us the amount of disclosure we currently do is about right for them.

'The only people to be advantaged by these draft regulations are rival fund managers who are not subject to the same disclosure obligations and will use the information to their own financial gain to the cost of AustralianSuper members.

'This will limit the opportunity for large trusted superannuation funds like AustralianSuper to partner on key projects and could reduce the availability of capital in the market, affecting all Australians. It is unclear where the Government proposes that capital will be found into the future.

'We would welcome the opportunity to work more closely with Treasury, Government and the industry to develop a set of portfolio holdings disclosure rules that genuinely operate in the interests of Australians.'

The submission can be found [here](#).

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**About AustralianSuper**

AustralianSuper manages more than \$225 billion of members' retirement savings on behalf of more than 2.4 million members from around 350,000 businesses. One in 10 working Australians is a member of AustralianSuper, the nation's largest super fund.

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