

# National Provident Pension Scheme

On behalf of the Board of Trustees of the National Provident Fund, set out below is a report on the performance and activities of your Scheme for the year ended 31 March 2025. Further information on the National Provident Fund's activities, and commentary on investment markets, is set out in the Chair's letter.

# **Your Scheme**

## **CROWN GUARANTEE**

The National Provident Pension Scheme is a defined benefit scheme. The benefits payable by your Scheme are guaranteed by the Crown.

## **INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE**

The asset class returns (after investment manager fees, but before tax and other expenses) and the comparative performance of the benchmark indices are shown in the table below.

Asset Class	Return	Index
Fixed interest (New Zealand)	3.83%	4.08%
New Zealand equities	1.95%	1.96%
Overseas equities	9.68%	10.93%

The investment return (after tax and expenses) earned by the Scheme for the year ended 31 March 2025 was 4.17% (2024: 5.27%). In dollar terms, this represents an investment gain from unit funds of \$16.153 million (2024: investment gain: \$19.897 million).

# Annual Report for the year ended 31 March 2025

#### SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The summary financial statements included in this Annual Report have been extracted from the full financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The summary financial statements cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as the full financial statements.

Members are welcome to view the full financial statements on our website – www.npf.co.nz/members/schemes – or contact the Scheme administrator, Datacom (see details on back page), for a free copy of the Scheme's full financial statements.



#### INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE CONTINUED

Investment returns were buoyed by continued strong returns from global equities, although returns tapered off somewhat in the March quarter as greater geo-political uncertainty made its mark on markets. Market performance was dominated by the very strong returns of a small number of very large technology related companies. The New Zealand equity market struggled somewhat in comparison, while New Zealand interest rates fell slightly over the year boosting returns to investors.

See the comparison over the page for the key statistics of your Scheme over the last 10 years. For an overview of the financial performance of the Scheme, refer to the tables on the following pages.

## **FUNDING POSITION**

A summary of the funding level of the Scheme, as at 31 March, was:

	2025 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)
Net assets	374,732	375,659
Actuarial liabilities	(348,149)	(339,834)
Funding level*	107.6%	110.5%

<sup>\*</sup> The funding levels at 31 March 2025 and 31 March 2024, in the table above, have been calculated on the funding basis using discount rates, which are the Sovereign bond yields, adjusted for tax and investment expenses.

#### PENSIONS INCREASE

The Board has a financial management framework for the Scheme. In developing the framework, the Board considered the investment strategies that should be pursued depending on the funding level of the Scheme along with the Minimum Funding Level above which consideration will be given by the Board to granting pension increases. In setting the Minimum Funding Level at 108%, the Board acknowledged there will be years when the funding level of the Scheme is below the target and there is insufficient surplus to provide for a pension increase.

Having considered the funding level of the Scheme and its financial management policy, the Board resolved that no pension increase will be given for the year ended 31 March 2025.

## WHO INVESTS YOUR MONEY

#### **Fixed Interest Manager**

Harbour Asset Management Limited

## **New Zealand Equity Manager**

Devon Funds Management Limited Harbour Asset Management Limited

## **Overseas Equity Managers**

Arrowstreet Capital, Limited Partnership

Lazard Asset Management, LLC (terminated 10 September 2024)

Robeco Hong Kong Limited (appointed 26 September 2024)

Russell Investment Management Limited (appointed as transition manager 9 September 2024)

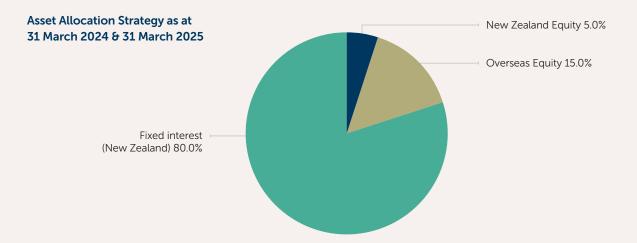
T. Rowe Price Australia Limited

## Foreign Exchange Hedging Manager

Bank of New Zealand Limited

## **HOW YOUR MONEY IS INVESTED**

The Scheme's strategic asset allocation is set by the Board and reviewed regularly. There was no change to Scheme's asset allocation strategy during the year. The pie chart shows the Scheme's asset allocation strategy as at 31 March 2024 and 31 March 2025.



The Board's Statement of Investment Policies, Standards and Procedures (SIPSP) is reviewed regularly by the Board. During the year the SIPSP was updated and there were no significant changes to the SIPSP relating to the Scheme. See our website, www.npf.co.nz, for more information about your Scheme, including the Board's SIPSP, and the Scheme Trust Deed.

# SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET ASSETS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

This is a summary of the		2025	2024
Scheme's income and		(\$000)	(\$000)
expenses, and membership	Investment income	16,153	19,897
contributions and payments.	Less operating expenses	(1,071)	(975)
communications and payments.	Net income before tax and membership activities	15,082	18,922
	Income tax credit	254	230
	Net income after tax and before membership activities	15,336	19,152
	Transfers in from other Contributor schemes	17,023	18,813
	Less pension payments	(33,286)	(32,894)
	Net membership activities	(16,263)	(14,081)
	(Decrease)/Increase in net assets for the year	(927)	5,071
	Net assets available to pay benefits at beginning of year	375,659	370,588
	Net assets available to pay benefits at end of year	374,732	375,659

# SUMMARY STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AS AT 31 MARCH 2025

This is a summary of the		2025 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)
Scheme's assets and liabilities, as at 31 March 2025.	Investment assets		
Assets include the Scheme's	Fixed Interest No 2 Unit Fund	300,341	294,068
investments in fixed interest	New Zealand Equity Unit Fund	17,422	18,740
(New Zealand), New Zealand	Overseas Equity Unit Fund	52,163	61,117
shares and overseas shares	Total investment assets	369,926	373,925
plus what the Scheme had	Other assets	4,840	1,807
in the bank and was owed by others.	Total assets	374,766	375,732
Liabilities are what the Scheme owed to others.	Less liabilities	(34)	(73)
Net assets is the money	Net assets available to pay benefits	374,732	375,659
available to pay future entitlements.			

# SUMMARY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2025

This is a summary of the cash		2025 (\$000)	2024 (\$000)
flows through the Scheme during the year.	Opening cash brought forward	1,227	1,768
Cash was received from:	Net cash flows used in operating activities	(17.144)	(15,026)
operating activities (being contributions less benefit	Net cash flows from investing activities	19,988	14,485
and transfer payments and operating expenses); and	Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	2,844	(541)
<ul> <li>investing activities.</li> </ul>	Closing cash carried forward	4,071	1,227
The difference between the two cash flows is recorded as an increase or decrease in cash held.			

# NOTES TO THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The summary financial statements:

- have been extracted from the full financial statements which were:
  - prepared in accordance with, and comply with, the New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards;
  - authorised for issue by the Board on 26 June 2025; and
  - audited and received an unmodified opinion;
- cannot be expected to provide as complete an understanding as provided by the full financial statements;
- are reported in New Zealand dollars, rounded to the nearest thousand;
- · are for a profit-oriented entity; and
- comply with Financial Reporting Standard 43: Summary Financial Statements

#### SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

There were no material events subsequent to balance date requiring amendments to these financial statements.

# TRUSTEE'S REPORT

For the year ended 31 March 2025

The Board of Trustees of the National Provident Fund, as trustee of the Scheme, provides members with the following information in respect of the Scheme

Changes in the Scheme membership numbers during the year were as follows:

	Pensioners
Opening membership as at 1 April 2024	4,294
Pensioner change of beneficiary	46
Deaths	(388)
Transfers in from other NPF schemes	57
Closing membership as at 31 March 2025	4,009

Under the terms of the Scheme Trust Deed, contributions are not required to be made to the Scheme.

The Board certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, all benefits required to be paid from the Scheme were paid in accordance with the terms of the Scheme Trust Deed.

The Board based on the advice of the Actuary certifies that, as at 31 March 2025, the market value of the net assets of the Scheme exceeded the total value of the vested benefits of the Scheme under the funding basis.

## **FEES**

Scheme administration fees are apportioned on fee per member and fee per transaction bases and are charged to the Scheme as a whole. As at 1 April 2024 and 2025 the scheme administration fees were increased for inflation.

The Board certifies it is satisfied the increase in the administration fees for the Scheme is not unreasonable. The Board is satisfied the total management fees charged to the Scheme are not unreasonable.

#### TRUST DEED AMENDMENT

The Scheme Trust Deed has not been amended since 25 June 2024, being the date of the Scheme's last annual report. A copy of the Trust Deed is available on request.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the readers of National Provident Pension Scheme's summary financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025.

The Auditor-General is the auditor of National Provident Pension Scheme (the Scheme). The Auditor-General has appointed me, Pam Thompson, using the staff and resources of Deloitte Limited, to carry out the audit of the summary financial statements of the Scheme on his behalf.

#### **OPINION**

The summary financial statements of the Scheme that comprise the summary statement of net assets as at 31 March 2025, the summary statement of changes in net assets, and the summary statement of cash flows for the year ended on that date, and related notes, are derived from the full financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 that we have audited

In our opinion, the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the full financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025, in accordance with FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

#### SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand. Reading the summary financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the full financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

The summary financial statements do not reflect the effects of events that occurred subsequent to the date of our auditor's report on the full financial statements.

# THE FULL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND OUR AUDIT REPORT THEREON

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the full financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2025 in our auditor's report dated 26 June 2025. That report also includes the communication of key audit matters.

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Board of Trustees is responsible on behalf of the Scheme for the preparation of the summary financial statements in accordance with FRS-43: Summary Financial Statements.

## **AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summary financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the full audited financial statements of the Scheme, based on our procedures, which were carried out in accordance with the Auditor-General's Auditing Standards, which incorporate the Professional and Ethical Standards and the International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

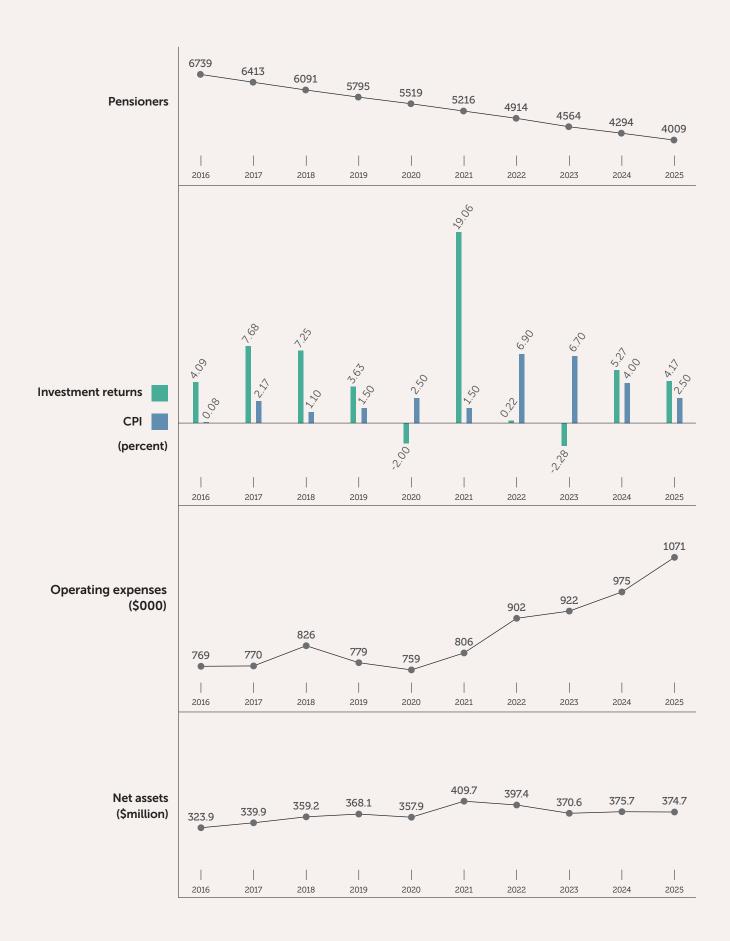
We did not evaluate the security and controls over the electronic publication of the summary financial statements.

Other than the audit and an assurance engagement for the register of members, we have no relationship with, or interests in, the Scheme.

Pan Thompson

Pam Thompson for Deloitte Limited On behalf of the Auditor-General Wellington, New Zealand

## **10 YEAR COMPARISON**



# Directory as at 9 July 2025

## **TRUSTEE**

**Board of Trustees of the National Provident Fund** 

## **BOARD MEMBERS**

**Louise Edwards** – Chair – appointed 1 July 2019 and Chair from 1 July 2024

Sarah Park – Deputy Chair – appointed 1 February 2020 and Deputy Chair from 1 July 2022

Graham Ansell - appointed 12 July 2021

Tracey Berry – appointed 1 July 2022

Lloyd Kavanagh - appointed 1 July 2022

Michelle Tsui - appointed 1 July 2024

Further information on the Board members is provided on our website – www.npf.co.nz.

## **MANAGEMENT**

Tim Mitchell

Chief Executive and Acting Chief Investment Officer

Fiona Morgan

Chief Financial Officer

Hadyn Hunt

Chief Risk Officer

Ireen Muir

General Manager – Schemes



#### **ADMINISTRATION**

Datacom Connect Limited is the administrator of the NPF Schemes.

#### **CONTACT DETAILS**

You are welcome to contact Datacom if you have any specific questions about the information in this report or to enquire about your Scheme membership in general. If you would like to receive a free printed copy of this report or the full financial statements in the mail please contact Datacom.

The Trust Deed and actuarial valuation is available on NPF's website (www.npf.co.nz/members/schemes/). You can also purchase a printed copy of the Trust Deed (\$10) or actuarial valuation (\$10) by contacting Datacom.

Please quote your identity number when contacting Datacom.

Free phone: 0800 628 776 between 8.30 am and 5.00 pm,

Monday to Friday.

Phone: (04) 381 0600

Post to:

The Manager

National Provident Fund Administration

**Datacom Connect Limited** 

P O Box 1036

WELLINGTON 6140

Email: npf@fundadmin.nz

If you would like to know more about NPF in general, or if you would like to view or download a copy of the Scheme's full financial statements rather than receive a copy in the mail, please visit our website – www.npf.co.nz.

You may contact the Board by writing to:

The Secretary

Board of Trustees of the National Provident Fund

PO Box 3390, Wellington 6140, or

Level 12, The Todd Building

95 Customhouse Quay

**WELLINGTON 6011** 

**Auditor:** Pam Thompson, Deloitte Limited,

on behalf of the Auditor-General

Actuary: Christine D Ormrod,

PricewaterhouseCoopers Consulting

(New Zealand) LP

Bank: Bank of New Zealand Limited

Custodian: JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A.

**Solicitor:** DLA Piper New Zealand

There were no changes to the Actuary, Bank, Custodian or Solicitor during the year.