

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON ECONOMICS

REVIEW OF THE FOUR MAJOR BANKS AND OTHER FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
SUPERANNUATION SECTOR

Mercer

MER147QW:

In reference to the original publication of the article "CEOs push Andrews to reopen faster" in the *Australian Financial Review* on 20 October 2020 (see attachment) which states:

Meanwhile, restaurateur Chris Lucas, pub owner and former AFL player Paul Dimattina and CSL chairman Brian McNamee all spoke of repercussions from elements of the labour movement for criticising the state government over the failures which led to the crisis and the subsequent slow pace of reopening the economy. Union-aligned industry superannuation fund managers have pressured Dr McNamee to stop his outspoken criticisms of the state government lockdown, even though he has repeatedly said he is speaking in a personal capacity and not for the company.

In the context of confronting, bullying or intimidatory workplace cultures, please advise:

- (a) has the Chair of your fund been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August 2020, and if so please advise the name of the person who made contact and the nature of any communications.
- (b) have board members of your fund been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August 2020, and if so please advise the name(s) of the person(s) who made contact and the nature of any communications.
- (c) has the CEO of your fund been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August 2020, and if so please advise the name of the person who made contact and the nature of any communications.
- (d) have senior executives of your fund been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August, and if so please advise the name(s) of the person(s) who made contact and the nature of any communications.

Answer:

The information below is provided by Mercer Superannuation (Australia) Limited (MSAL) in its capacity as the Registrable Superannuation Entity licensee for the Mercer Super Trust. The Mercer Super Trust is MSAL's flagship offering, with \$24.5 billion of assets under management and over 240,000 members as at 30 September 2020.

- (a) The Chair of MSAL has not been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August 2020.
- (b) No other board members of MSAL have been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August 2020.
- (c) MSAL operates a fully outsourced model and as such has no employees or CEO.
- (d) No senior executives have been in contact through any medium with Dr McNamee or his office since 5 August 2020.