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| **Form for approved SMSF auditors** |

Self-managed superannuation fund independent auditor’s report

 **This approved form is effective for reporting periods starting on or after 1 July 2016.** You may use this report for audits completed for earlier periods – however, you must take care to comply with the auditing standards and legislation that applied to that earlier period.

 This report will only be reissued when changes are made.

NAT11466

 

**Our commitment to you**

We are committed to providing you with accurate, consistent and clear information to help you understand your rights and entitlements and meet your obligations.

If you follow our information in this publication and it turns out to be incorrect or misleading, and you fail to comply with the law as a result, we must still apply the law correctly. However, we will take the fact that you followed our information into account when deciding what action, if any, we should take.

If you make an honest mistake in trying to follow our guidance in this publication and you fail to comply with the law as a result, we will take the reason for the mistake into account in deciding what action to take.

If you feel that this publication does not fully cover your circumstances, or you are unsure how it applies to you, you can seek further assistance from us.

We regularly revise our publications to take account of any changes to the law, so make sure that you have the latest information. If you are unsure, you can check for a more recent version on our website at **ato.gov.au** or contact us.

 This publication was current at June **2017**



# SELF-MANAGED SUPERANNUATION FUND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

 ***You must use this format****. You don’t have to use this form, but you must not vary the wording except where the change does not change the meaning – for example, you can change a singular word into plural. Guidance is included in this form in italics. These can be removed from the final report.*

Approved SMSF auditor details

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Business name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Business postal address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

SMSF auditor number (SAN) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Self-managed superannuation fund details

Self-managed superannuation fund (SMSF) name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Australian business number (ABN) or tax file number (TFN) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Year of income being audited \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

To the SMSF trustees

of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
 *[SMSF name]*

## Part A: Financial report

**Approved SMSF auditor’s Opinion [Qualified Opinion/Disclaimer of Opinion/Adverse Opinion]**

I have audited the special purpose financial report of the (*name of superannuation fund*) comprising

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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[*Insert the title of statements audited, including reference to the summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes.*]

*[For example: ‘the statement of financial position as at 30 June \_\_(*year*), and the operating statement, statement of changes in equity for the year then ended, a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes’ of the (name of superannuation fund) for the year ended 30 June \_\_(*year*)]*

In my opinion, [except for the effects on the financial statements of the matter/s referred to below] the financial report:

*[Select one option]*

a) presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in the notes to the financial statements, the financial position of the fund at 30 June \_\_\_\_ and the results of its operations for the year then ended
 *[year]*

*OR*

b) presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in the notes to the financial statements, the net assets of the fund as at 30 June \_\_\_\_ and the changes in net assets for the year then ended
*[year]*

*OR*

c) presents fairly, in all material respects, in accordance with the accounting policies described in the notes to the financial statements (and the SMSF’s governing rules), the operations of the fund for the year ended 30 June \_\_\_\_\_.
 *[year]*

**Basis for Opinion [Basis for Qualified Opinion/Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion/Basis for Adverse Opinion]**

My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards[[1]](#footnote-2). My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Approved SMSF Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of this report. I am independent of the self-managed superannuation fund in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) as required by the Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Regulations 1994 (SISR). I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

***[Modification]***

*[This section should be modified if the financial report does not fairly present the financial position of the fund, or if in the opinion of the approved SMSF auditor the financial position of the fund may be, or may be about to become, unsatisfactory or there are other conditions that warrant a qualification.]*

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*[The following ‘Emphasis of Matter - Basis of accounting’ section is required if the audit report is for a reporting period commencing on and from the 1st January 2010, otherwise delete it.]*

**Emphasis of Matter - Basis of accounting**

Without modifying my opinion, I draw attention to note [*X*] of the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist (*name of superannuation fund*) meet the requirements of the SMSF’s governing rules, the *Superannuation Industry (Supervision) Act 1993* (SISA) and the SISR. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for other purposes.

**Responsibilities of SMSF trustees for the financial report**

Each SMSF trustee (individual trustee or director of corporate trustee) is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the SMSF’s governing rules, the SISA and the SISR. Each trustee is also responsible for such internal controls as they determine are necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the trustees are responsible for assessing the fund’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees intend to wind-up the fund. The going concern basis of accounting is appropriate when it is reasonably foreseeable that the fund will be able to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

The trustees are responsible for overseeing the fund’s financial reporting process.

**Approved SMSF auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial report**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on my audit. I have conducted an independent audit of the financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the trustees.

My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of trustees taken on the basis of this financial report.

I have complied with the competency standards set by Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC). My audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. These standards require that I comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements, and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

* Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
* Obtain an understanding of internal controls relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the fund’s internal control.
* Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
* Conclude on the appropriateness of trustees’ use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the fund’s ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in the auditor’s report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of the auditor’s report. However, future events or conditions may cause the fund to cease to continue as a going concern.
* Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during the audit.

## Part B: Compliance report

**Approved SMSF Auditor’s Opinion [Qualified Opinion/Disclaimer of Opinion/Adverse Opinion]**

I have performed a reasonable assurance engagement on the (name of superannuation fund) to provide an opinion in relation to itscompliance, in all material respects, with the applicable provisions of the SISA and the SISR as listed below in the *Approved SMSF auditor’s Responsibility* section of this report.

In my opinion, [except for the matter/s referred to below] each trustee of (name of superannuation fund) has complied, in all material respects, with the applicable provisions of the SISA and the SISR specified below, for the year ended 30 June \_\_\_\_.

*[year]*

**Basis for Opinion [Basis for Qualified Opinion/Basis for Disclaimer of Opinion/Basis for Adverse Opinion]**

I have conducted my engagement in accordance with Standard on Assurance Engagements ASAE 3100 *Compliance Engagements* issued by the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board.

I believe that the evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

***[Modification]***

*[This section should be modified if, in the opinion of the auditor, a contravention of one of the provisions listed is material.]*

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**Independence and quality control**

I have complied with the independence requirements in accordance with the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board’s APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) as required by the SISR.

I/My firm apply/applies Australian Standard on Quality Control 1 ASQC 1 *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Reports and Other Financial Information, and Other Assurance Engagements* in undertaking this assurance engagement.

I have complied with the competency standards set by ASIC.

**SMSF trustees’ responsibility for compliance**

Each SMSF trustee is responsible for complying with the requirements of the SISA and the SISR and for identifying, designing and implementing internal controls as they determine necessary to meet compliance requirements and monitor ongoing compliance.

**Approved SMSF auditor’s responsibility for the compliance report**

My responsibility is to express an opinion on the trustees’ compliance with the applicable requirements of the SISA and the SISR, based on the compliance engagement. My procedures included testing that the fund has an investment strategy that complies with the SISA and that the trustees make investments in line with that strategy, however, no opinion is made on its appropriateness to the fund members.

My reasonable assurance engagement has been conducted in accordance with applicable Standards on Assurance Engagements issued by the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board, to provide reasonable assurance that the trustees of the fund have complied, in all material respects, with the relevant requirements of the following provisions (to the extent applicable) of the SISA and the SISR.

Sections: 17A, 35AE, 35B, 35C(2), 62, 65, 66, 67,67A, 67B, 82-85, 103, 104, 104A, 105, 109, 126K

Regulations: 1.06(9A), 4.09, 4.09A, 5.03, 5.08, 6.17, 7.04, 8.02B, 13.12, 13.13, 13.14, 13.18AA

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*[Additional sections and regulations may be inserted here at the discretion of the auditor.]*

An assurance engagement to report on the fund’s compliance with the applicable requirements of the SISA and the SISR involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about the compliance activity and controls implemented to meet the compliance requirements. The procedures selected depend on my judgement, including the identification and assessment of risks of material non-compliance.

My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting compliance with those requirements of the SISA and the SISR for the year ended 30 June *[year].*

These tests have not been performed continuously throughout the period, were not designed to detect all instances of non-compliance, and have not covered any other provisions of the SISA and the SISR apart from those specified.

**Inherent limitations**

Due to the inherent limitations of an assurance engagement, together with the internal control structure it is possible that fraud, error, or non-compliance with the listed provisions may occur and not be detected. A reasonable assurance engagement does not provide assurance on whether compliance with the listed provisions will continue in the future.

**SMSF Auditor’s name**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SMSF Auditor’s signature**

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**Date audit completed**

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Appendix 1 – Explanation of listed sections and regulations in compliance report

This appendix is included to assist with the meaning of the legislation and regulations listed above

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| Section or Regulation | Explanation |
| S17A | The fund must meet the definition of an SMSF |
| S35AE | The trustees must keep and maintain accounting records for a minimum of five years |
| S35B | The trustees must prepare, sign and retain accounts and statements |
| S35C(2) | The trustees must provide the auditor with the necessary documents to complete the audit in a timely and professional manner; and within 14 days of a written request from the auditor |
| S62 | The fund must be maintained for the sole purpose of providing benefits to any or all of the following: * fund members upon their retirement
* fund members upon reaching a prescribed age
* the dependants of a fund member in the case of the member’s death before retirement
 |
| S65 | The trustees must not loan monies or provide financial assistance to any member or relative at any time during the financial year |
| S66 | The trustees must not acquire any assets (not listed as an exception) from any member or related party of the fund |
| S67 | The trustees of the fund must not borrow any money or maintain an existing borrowing (not listed as an exception) |
| S67A & 67B | The fund must comply with the limited recourse borrowing arrangement rules when borrowing to purchase single acquirable asset or replacement assets (not listed as an exception to the borrowing rules) |
| S82-85 | The trustees must comply with the in-house asset rules  |
| S103 | The trustees must keep minutes of all meetings and retain the minutes for a minimum of 10 years |
| S104 | The trustees must keep up to date records of all trustee or director of corporate trustee changes and trustee consents for a minimum of 10 years |
| S104A | Trustees who became a trustee on or after 1 July 2007 must sign and retain a trustee declaration |
| S105 | The trustees must ensure that copies of all member or beneficiary reports are kept for a minimum of 10 years |
| S109 | All investment transactions must be made and maintained at arms- length – that is, purchase, sale price and income from an asset reflects a true market value/rate of return |
| S126K | A disqualified person cannot be a trustee, investment manager or custodian of a superannuation fund |
| Sub Reg 1.06 (9A) | Pension payments must be made at least annually, and must be at least the amount calculated under Schedule 7 |
| Reg 4.09 | Trustees must formulate, regularly review and give effect to an investment strategy for the fund |
| Reg 4.09A | The assets of the SMSF must be held separately from any assets held by the trustee personally or by a standard employer sponsor or an associate of the standard employer sponsor |
| Reg 5.03 | Investment returns must be allocated to members in a manner that is fair and reasonable |
| Reg 5.08 | Member minimum benefits must be maintained in the fund until transferred, rolled over, allotted (to the member’s spouse) or cashed out in a permitted fashion |
| Reg 6.17 | Payments of member benefits must be made in accordance with Part 6 or Part 7A of the regulations and be permitted by the trust deed |
| Reg 7.04 | Contributions can only be accepted in accordance with the applicable rules for the year being audited |
| Reg 8.02B | When preparing accounts and statements required by subsection 35B(1) of SISA, an asset must be valued at its market value |
| Reg 13.12 | Trustees must not recognise an assignment of a super interest of a member or beneficiary |
| Reg 13.13 | Trustees must not recognise a charge over or in relation to a member’s benefits |
| Reg 13.14 | Trustees must not give a charge over, or in relation to, an asset of the fund |
| Reg 13.18AA | Investments in collectables and personal use assets must be maintained in accordance with prescribed rules |

1. The Australian Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)