

Asteron Superplan

**Financial statements
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020**



Asteron Superplan

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Statement of changes in net assets for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Investment revenue			
(Loss)/gain on investments at fair value through profit or loss	5	(1,871)	15,500
Distribution income		3,344	4,077
Interest income		249	232
Management and administration fee rebate	10	577	502
		<u>2,299</u>	<u>20,311</u>
Less: Investment and other expenses			
Management fees	10	4,677	4,580
Life cover charges	10	139	155
		<u>4,816</u>	<u>4,735</u>
(Deficit)/Surplus before Membership activities		<u>(2,517)</u>	<u>15,576</u>
Membership activities			
Members' contributions	6	10,619	10,604
Benefits paid	7	(29,241)	(27,995)
Net benefits paid		<u>(18,622)</u>	<u>(17,391)</u>
Cancellation of Members' benefits to settle PIE tax payable		711	(637)
Net Membership activities		<u>(17,911)</u>	<u>(18,028)</u>
Net decrease in promised retirement benefits allocated to Members' accounts		<u>(20,428)</u>	<u>(2,452)</u>

The above statement of changes in net assets should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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Statement of net assets as at 31 March 2020

	Notes	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	12	3,607	4,163
Financial assets designated as fair value through profit or loss	12	240,930	262,721
Interest and sundry receivable	12	128	117
Investment receivable	12	619	-
Related party receivable	10, 12	1,243	651
PIE tax rebate receivable	9	1,301	65
Total assets		<u>247,828</u>	<u>267,717</u>
Less: Liabilities			
Related party cash payable, net	10	1,656	1,107
Sundry payable		94	100
Total liabilities (excluding net assets available for benefits)		<u>1,750</u>	<u>1,207</u>
Net assets available for benefits		<u>246,078</u>	<u>266,510</u>
Represented by:			
Liability for promised retirement benefits	8	<u>246,078</u>	<u>266,510</u>

The above statement of net assets should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

The Directors of the Trustee, Asteron Retirement Investment Limited, approved these financial statements for issue on 23rd June 2020.

For and on behalf of the Trustee
Asteron Retirement Investment Limited



Director



Director

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Statement of cash flows for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

	Notes	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash was provided from:			
Members' contributions		10,612	10,174
Interest received		60	96
		<u>10,672</u>	<u>10,270</u>
Cash was applied to:			
Benefits paid		(29,241)	(27,995)
Cancellation of Members' benefits to settle PIE tax payable		(525)	(618)
Payments to Trustee, Administration and Investment Managers		(4,839)	(4,735)
		<u>(34,605)</u>	<u>(33,348)</u>
Net cash outflow from operating activities	11	<u>(23,933)</u>	<u>(23,078)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Cash was provided from:			
Sale of investments		37,317	27,900
Cash was applied to:			
Purchase of investments		(14,489)	(6,960)
Net cash inflow from investing activities		<u>22,828</u>	<u>20,940</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		<u>(1,105)</u>	<u>(2,138)</u>
Opening cash and cash equivalents		3,056	5,194
Closing cash and cash equivalents		<u>1,951</u>	<u>3,056</u>
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:			
Call deposits		3,607	4,163
Related party cash payable, net	10	(1,656)	(1,107)
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year		<u>1,951</u>	<u>3,056</u>

Asteron Superplan

Notes to the financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

1. Reporting entity

Asteron Superplan (the **Scheme**) is a defined contribution superannuation scheme. The Scheme is registered as a restricted and legacy superannuation scheme under the Financial Markets Conduct Act 2013 (**FMCA**).

The Scheme is closed to new members.

Asteron Retirement Investment Limited (**ARIL**) is the Trustee and Manager of the Scheme. ARIL has appointed Suncorp Corporate Services Pty Ltd (**SCS**) as the investment manager of the Scheme. ARIL has appointed Asteron Life Limited (**Asteron**) as the administration manager of the Scheme. ARIL, SCS and Asteron are companies within the Suncorp Group, with Suncorp Group Limited as the ultimate parent. ARIL has delegated responsibility for management oversight of the Scheme to Suncorp New Zealand's (**SNZ**) Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**). The SNZ CEO is supported to execute the responsibility by SNZ's Asset and Liability Committee (**ALCO**) and its sub-committees.

SCS has appointed Nikko Asset Management New Zealand Limited (**Nikko AM NZ**) as the sub-investment manager of the Scheme.

The Scheme was established by a trust deed dated 20 July 1990 as amended (the **Previous Deed**). The Previous Deed was amended by substituting the provisions of the Previous Deed with all the provisions of a deed dated 25 November 2016 (the **Trust Deed**), in connection with the transition of the Scheme to the FMCA.

The registered office of the Trustee and Manager is Asteron Centre, Level 13, 55 Featherston Street, Wellington 6011, New Zealand.

2. Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Scheme have been prepared on the historical cost basis unless the application of fair value measurements are required by the relevant accounting standards, such as the measurement of financial instruments at fair value through profit or loss.

Under NZ IAS 26 *Accounting and Reporting by Retirement Benefit Plans*, the Scheme is classified as a "Defined Contribution Plan".

These financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars, which is the Scheme's functional and presentation currency, unless otherwise stated. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand dollars (\$'000) unless otherwise stated. The accompanying statement of net assets has been prepared using the liquidity format of presentation.

3. Statement of compliance

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with New Zealand Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (**NZ GAAP**). They comply with the New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (**NZ IFRS**) and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards as appropriate for a profit-oriented entity. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the FMCA and the Financial Reporting Act 2013. They also comply with International Financial Reporting Standards (**IFRS**).

4. Significant accounting policies

(i) Financial instruments

The Scheme invests in call deposits and foreign exchange contracts directly and in discounted securities, equities, debt securities and fixed interest securities through unit trusts and mutual funds. The investments, except for call deposits and foreign exchange contracts, are held on behalf of the Members by, and in the name of, the Trustee of the Scheme, ARIL. Call deposits and foreign exchange contracts are held on behalf of the Members by and in the name of Suncorp Group New Zealand Limited, a member of the Suncorp Group.

The impact of COVID-19 was assessed during the preparation of the financial statements which included assessing whether there were any indicators affecting the Scheme's ability to operate as a going concern and there were none identified, the Scheme remains a going concern.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

(a) **Classification**

The Scheme's financial assets and financial liabilities are categorised as follows:

- **Financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, which comprise:**
 - *Financial instruments held for trading*

Financial instruments are classified as held for trading if they are acquired or incurred principally for the purpose of selling or repurchasing in the near term or as part of a portfolio of identifiable financial investments that are managed together and for which there is evidence of a recent actual pattern of short-term profit taking. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading.
 - *Financial instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss*

Financial instruments designated at fair value through profit or loss upon initial recognition are those that are managed, and their performance evaluated, on a fair value basis in accordance with the Scheme's documented investment strategy. The Scheme's policy is for the Manager to evaluate the information about these financial assets on a fair value basis together with other related financial information.
- **Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost, which comprise:**

Cash and cash equivalents, investment receivable, interest and sundry receivables, related party receivable, related party cash payable and sundry payables.

(b) **Recognition / de-recognition**

All purchases and sales of financial assets that require delivery of the asset within the time frame established by regulation or market convention are recognised at trade date, being the date on which the Scheme commits to buy or sell the asset. Sales of trading securities and investments that are unsettled at balance date are included in receivables, unsettled purchase transactions are included in payables.

Financial assets are de-recognised when the rights to receive future cash flows from the assets have expired, or have been transferred, and the Scheme has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership.

Other financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the date on which they originated.

The Scheme derecognises a financial liability when its contractual obligations are discharged, cancelled or expire.

(c) **Measurement**

Fair value for the various types of financial assets and financial liabilities is determined as follows:

- **Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit or loss**

Financial assets and liabilities at fair value through profit and loss are measured initially at fair value excluding any transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of the financial asset or financial liability. Transaction costs on financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss are expensed immediately. Subsequent to initial recognition, all instruments at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value with changes in their fair value recognised in the statement of changes in net assets.
- *Fair value in an active market*

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities traded in active markets are based on their quoted market prices at the balance date without any deduction for estimated future selling costs. Financial assets are priced at current bid prices, while financial liabilities are priced at current asking prices.
- *Fair value in an inactive or unquoted market*

The fair values of financial assets and liabilities that are unquoted or not traded in an active market are determined using valuation techniques. These include the use of recent arm's length market transactions, reference to the current fair value of another substantially similar instrument, discounted cash flow techniques, option pricing models or any other valuation technique that provides a reliable estimate of prices obtained in actual market transactions. Refer to Note 4(xiii) for securities determined using valuation techniques.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

- **Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost**

Financial assets and liabilities at amortised cost are measured initially at cost plus transaction costs and subsequently amortised using the effective interest rate method, less impaired losses if any. Such assets are reviewed at each balance date to determine whether there is objective evidence of impairment.

If any such indication of impairment exists, an impairment loss is recognised in the statement of changes in net assets as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows discounted at the original effective interest rate.

If in a subsequent period the amount of an impaired loss recognised on a financial asset carried at amortised cost decreases and the decrease can be linked objectively to an event occurring after the write-down, the write-down is reversed through the statement of changes in net assets.

Payables represent liabilities and accrued expenses owing by the Scheme at balance date. These are initially recognised at fair value, being the amounts payable.

The Scheme records expected credit losses on all of its receivables, either on a 12 month or lifetime basis.

The Scheme only holds receivables with no financing component and which have maturities of less than 12 months at amortised cost and, as such, has chosen to apply an approach similar to the simplified approach for expected credit losses to all its receivables. Therefore the Scheme does not track changes in credit risk, but instead recognises a loss allowance based on lifetime expected credit losses at the reporting date.

With the short time period and nature of the receivables, the Scheme does not anticipate any expected credit losses to be applicable to these assets.

- (d) **Income and expenses arising from financial assets at fair value through profit or loss**

All investment income and investment expenses recognised in the statement of changes in net assets relate to financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

- (ii) **Changes in fair value**

Changes in fair value consists of realised and unrealised gains and are recognised in the statement of changes in net assets. Realised gains and losses are derived from the sale of investments. Unrealised gains and losses are calculated from the change in the fair value of investments held at balance date and the reversal of the prior year's unrealised gains and losses.

- (iii) **Liability for promised retirement benefits**

The liability for promised retirement benefits is the Scheme's present obligation to pay benefits to Members and beneficiaries and has been calculated as the difference between the carrying amounts of the assets and the carrying amounts of the sundry liabilities as at balance date. All promised retirement benefits have been allocated or were available for allocation to Members' accounts.

- (iv) **Contributions and benefits**

Contributions are recognised when due to the Scheme. Benefits are recognised when they are due to be paid.

- (v) **Foreign currency transactions and translation**

Foreign currency transactions are recorded at the rate of exchange ruling on that date. As at balance date the monetary assets and liabilities arising from foreign currency trading transactions or foreign currency balances are translated at the appropriate closing exchange rates, and gains or losses due to currency fluctuations on these items are included in the statement of changes in net assets.

- (vi) **Income from investments**

- (a) Interest income is recognised on an accrual basis, being the effective interest income method.

- (b) Distributions from unit trusts are recognised when they are due from the unit trusts.

- (vii) **Asset and liability recovery and settlement periods**

The Scheme's assets and liabilities in the statement of net assets are expected to be recovered or settled no more than twelve months after the balance date, except for the financial assets held to meet the liability for promised retirement benefits. The liabilities for promised retirement benefits are mostly expected to be settled more than twelve months after the balance date given the retirement and savings nature of the Scheme.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

(viii) Tax

The Scheme is a Portfolio Investment Entity (PIE). PIEs are not subject to tax at fund level and therefore the Scheme has no income tax expense or deferred tax assets or payable.

The PIE tax rules require that all taxable income/loss, deductible expenses and tax credits relating to a Member's investment are allocated to individual Members based on their investment in the Scheme. Tax is charged/rebated to each Member on their share of allocated net income/loss at their Prescribed Investor Rate (PIR) (as advised to the administration manager), adjusted for allocated tax credits. Applicable PIRs for individual Members are either 10.5%, 17.5% or 28%, or 0% for Trustees.

The Scheme allocates PIE taxable income/loss and tax credits to Members on a daily basis. The PIE tax payable/rebate is calculated, collected and paid to/received from Inland Revenue on a quarterly basis. Income tax payable/rebates for each Member are met by cancelling/issuing the required number of units in the Members' accounts.

The Trustee is responsible for payment/receipt of all PIE tax payables/rebates on behalf of the Members of the Scheme to the Commissioner of Inland Revenue.

(ix) New accounting standards and interpretations

Change in accounting policies and accounting standards adopted during the year

(a) Changes in accounting policies

There have been no significant changes in accounting policies during the year. All policies have been applied on a basis consistent with those used in the prior year.

(b) New accounting standards adopted

There have been no new reporting standards, amendments to standards and interpretations that became effective from 1 April 2019 and applicable to the Scheme.

(x) Cash and cash equivalents and statement of cash flows

The following are the definitions of the terms used in the statement of cash flows:

- (a) Operating activities include all transactions and other events that are not investing activities. Included within operating activities is non-cash dividend income received in the form of units as opposed to cash.
- (b) Investing activities are those activities relating to the acquisition, holding and disposal of investments. Investments can include securities not falling within the definition of cash. Included within investing activities are non-cash purchases of investments relating to distributions received in the form of units as opposed to cash.
- (c) Cash is considered to be cash on hand (including related party cash receivable / payable), current accounts in banks which are net of bank overdrafts, call deposits and short term investments which are convertible to cash within two working days.
- (d) Call deposits include amounts for day to day cash management as well as amounts for investment purposes. For the purpose of the statement of cash flows these have all been treated as cash or cash equivalents.
- (e) There are no restrictions on cash or cash equivalents which would impact realisation of cash balances.

(xi) Critical accounting estimates and judgements

The Scheme makes estimates and judgements that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial period. Estimates are continually evaluated and based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

For some of the Scheme's financial instruments, quoted market prices are readily available. However the Scheme may hold certain financial instruments, for example, over the counter derivatives or unquoted securities, which are fair valued using valuation techniques. Valuation techniques, including models, use observable data to the extent possible. However, areas such as credit risk, volatilities and correlations require management to make estimates. Changes or assumptions about these factors could affect the reported fair value of financial instruments.

COVID-19 impacts and estimates impacted by these uncertainties are mainly related to fair value measurement.

The fair value measurement note, risk management notes and the unit prices of investment funds comprising the Scheme notes are impacted by critical accounting estimates and judgements.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

(xii) Restated comparatives

Certain amounts and presentations in the comparative information have been updated or reclassified to conform to changes in the current financial year. The impact is immaterial.

(xiii) Fair value hierarchy

Financial assets that are recognised and measured at fair value are categorised by a hierarchy which identifies the most significant input used in the valuation methodology:

- Level 1 - derived from quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical financial instruments.
- Level 2 - derived from either quoted prices on an inactive market, or modelled using observable inputs.
- Level 3 - fair value measurement is not based on observable market data.

The table below analyses financial instruments measured at fair value at the end of the reporting period, by the level in the fair value hierarchy into which the fair value measurement is categorised:

31 March 2020	Level 1 \$000's	Level 2 \$000's	Level 3 \$000's	Total \$000's
Forward foreign exchange contracts	-	(728)	-	(728)
International mutual funds	31,784	-	-	31,784
Nikko AM NZ unit trusts	-	208,847	1,027	209,874
Total financial assets designated as fair value through profit or loss	31,784	208,119	1,027	240,930
31 March 2019	Level 1 \$000's	Level 2 \$000's	Level 3 \$000's	Total \$000's
Forward foreign exchange contracts	-	(10)	-	(10)
International mutual funds	33,684	-	-	33,684
Nikko AM NZ unit trusts	-	229,047	-	229,047
Total financial assets designated as fair value through profit or loss	33,684	229,037	-	262,721

There has been a transfer of one of the Nikko AM NZ unit trusts from level 2 to level 3 of the fair value hierarchy during the financial year ended 31 March 2020.

In light of the wind up of the underlying fund of the Nikko AM Wholesale Multi Strategy unit trust, the Scheme is expected to receive its cash redemptions over a period of approximately 3 years (No liquidity issues in the Scheme have been experienced in managing members redemptions to date. Refer to note 12 (iv) for further details). The Scheme was provided with the latest available unit price of this fund being as of 31 January 2020 by their investment manager, Nikko AM NZ. In order to assess the reasonableness of this unit price as of 31 March 2020 (i.e. pricing/value being stale is the unobservable input), the Scheme used a discounted cash flow model (i.e. valuation technique) on the expected redemption cashflows from the underlying unit trust (using the relevant RBNZ bank bill rates and Government Bond yields). The Scheme noted the difference in the fair value of the investment was immaterial. Hence, the Scheme considers the unit price provided by their investment manager to be an appropriate value as of 31 March 2020.

5. (Loss)/Gain on investments at fair value through profit or loss

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Designated at fair value through profit or loss		
Forward foreign exchange contracts	(403)	(146)
Realised gains on unit trusts and mutual funds	14,142	6,945
Unrealised (losses)/gains on unit trusts and mutual funds	(15,610)	8,701
Total	(1,871)	15,500

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

6. Members' contributions

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
	\$000's	\$000's
Regular contributions	9,140	10,068
Other contributions	1,479	536
Total Members' contributions	10,619	10,604

7. Benefits paid

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
	\$000's	\$000's
Death	1,111	1,619
Retirement	18,905	15,365
Surrenders	1,755	2,111
Partial withdrawals	7,470	8,900
Total benefits paid	29,241	27,995

8. Liability for promised retirement benefits

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
	\$000's	\$000's
Balance at beginning of the year	266,510	268,962
Surplus before Membership activities	(2,517)	15,576
Members' contributions	10,619	10,604
Benefits paid	(29,241)	(27,995)
Cancellation of Members' benefits to settle PIE tax payable	707	(637)
Balance at end of the year	246,078	266,510

For information on guaranteed benefits and vested benefits refer to notes 14 and 15 respectively.

9. PIE tax rebate receivable

As a PIE the Scheme is obliged to calculate, collect and pay to/receive from the Inland Revenue, the PIE tax payable/rebate for each of its Members at their individual PIRs on a quarterly basis.

During the year sufficient funds to settle the PIE tax payable/rebate for each Member were realised by way of cancellation/issue of units from the Members' investments in the Scheme.

As at 31 March 2020, PIE tax of \$1,301,000 is receivable by the Scheme on behalf of Members (31 March 2019: \$65,000).

10. Related parties

ARIL and Asteron are companies within the Suncorp Group, with Suncorp Group Limited as the ultimate parent. The Trustee of the Scheme is ARIL.

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of the Scheme. This comprises the directors of ARIL, Asteron and the SNZ CEO. The Scheme has had no transactions or balances with the key management personnel during the year ended 31 March 2020 (31 March 2019: nil).

The Suncorp New Zealand Superannuation Scheme is offered to certain employees of SNZ and other employers who have entered into a participation agreement with the trustees of the Scheme.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

Related Party	Transaction \$000's
Asteron (Related company of Trustee and administration manager and insurer of the Scheme)	Payment of life cover charges \$139 (31 March 2019: \$155) Related party cash payable, net \$1,656 (31 March 2019: \$1,107)
ARIL (Trustee)	Management fees \$4,677 (31 March 2019: \$4,580) Management and administration fee rebate \$577 (31 March 2019: \$502) Related party receivable \$1,243 (31 March 2019: \$651)

Audit fees are paid by Asteron on behalf of the Scheme. The audit fee for the year ended 31 March 2020 is \$28,400 (31 March 2019: \$29,900). Registry reasonable assurance engagement fees are paid by ARIL on behalf of the Scheme. The Fee of \$11,000 for the year ended 31 March 2019 (for both ASP and ARSP) engagement was paid during the year ended 31 March 2020.

The market value of the Suncorp New Zealand Superannuation Scheme investment in the Scheme as at 31 March 2020 is \$16,863,000 (31 March 2019: \$17,439,000).

11. Reconciliation of net movement in promised retirement benefits allocated to Members' accounts to net cash flow from operating activities

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Net decrease in promised retirement benefits allocated to Members' accounts	(20,428)	(2,452)
Add/(Less) items classified as investing activities:		
Loss/(gain) on investments at fair value through profit or loss	1,871	(15,500)
Add / (Less) movement on other working capital items :		
(Increase)/decrease in interest and sundry receivables	(12)	16
(Increase)/decrease in PIE tax rebate receivable	(1,236)	18
Increase in related party receivable	(592)	(510)
Decrease in sundry payables	(8)	(430)
Less non-cash income:		
Distribution and interest income	(3,528)	(4,220)
Net cash outflow from operating activities	(23,933)	(23,078)

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

12. Risk management

As part of Suncorp Group, SNZ entity Boards have adopted the Suncorp Group's Enterprise Risk Management Framework, policy and processes to identify and manage the exposure to key risks created by the use of financial instruments (credit risk, market price risk, currency risk, interest rate risk, liquidity risk and capital management).

Underpinning all risk management activities are the following principles:

- A common language and approach to implement effective risk management across the activities of the Suncorp Group (which include the operation of the Scheme)
- Risk management activities are as sophisticated as the risks they are designed to manage
- Regular updating of the risk profiles for all material risks inherent in activities of the SNZ entities (including risks related to the operation of the Scheme)
- Use of consistent methodology and clear ownership of risks
- Use of objective measurement of risk where appropriate
- The use of indicators and other reporting mechanisms to analyse risk

Risk management roles and responsibilities

Boards of the relevant legal entities comprising SNZ are responsible for overseeing the processes used to identify, evaluate and manage the exposure to risks.

SNZ's Senior Leadership team is accountable for implementing and assessing the effectiveness of the processes used to identify, evaluate and manage risks.

SNZ's Senior Leadership team is supported by the SNZ Chief Risk Office which provides guidance and advice on risk, compliance, governance and regulatory matters.

Financial risk management

The Scheme's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks and those activities involve the analysis, evaluation, acceptance and management of some degree of risk or combination of risks. Taking risk is core to the financial business and the operational risks are an inevitable consequence of being in business. The Scheme's aim is therefore to achieve an appropriate balance between risk and return and minimise potential adverse effects on the Scheme's financial performance. The Scheme's risk management policies are designed to identify and analyse these risks, to set appropriate risk limits and controls, and to monitor the risks and adherence to limits by means of reliable and up-to-date information systems. The Scheme regularly reviews its risk management policies and systems to reflect changes in markets, products and emerging best practice. The Scheme does not apply a look through approach when assessing risk.

(i) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that a counterparty to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the Scheme by failing to discharge an obligation.

Financial instruments which potentially subject the Scheme to credit risk consist of cash, receivables, unit trust investments and forward foreign exchange contracts.

Contracts have been entered into with various counterparties, who have appropriate credit ratings, in accordance with the tactical and strategic limits laid down in policies reviewed by the Trustee. The Scheme does not require collateral or other security. The Scheme is subject to credit losses in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to all financial instruments, however losses are not expected to occur.

The maximum exposure to credit risk of the Scheme's financial instruments at both 31 March 2020 and 31 March 2019 is equal to their carrying amount.

(ii) Concentration of Credit Risk

The Scheme places its investments with a large range of corporate and financial institutions. Investment strategies are carefully balanced so that there is no significant concentration of credit risk in any one financial institution.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

The following table gives credit exposures by financial asset category:

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Cash and cash equivalents	3,607	4,163
Financial assets designated as fair value through profit or loss	31,056	33,674
Interest and sundry receivables	128	117
Investment receivables	619	-
Related party receivables	1,243	651
	<u>36,653</u>	<u>38,605</u>

The Scheme is indirectly exposed to credit risk by investing in funds which invest in a range of underlying securities. The following table gives the breakdown of investments in Nikko AM NZ unit trusts by financial asset category:

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
Nikko AM Wholesale Core Equity Fund	55,763	66,640
Nikko AM Global Equity Unhedged Fund	55,086	60,878
Nikko AM Wholesale NZ Cash Fund	44,442	40,819
Nikko AM Wholesale NZ Bond Fund	19,442	27,047
Nikko AM Global Equity Hedged Fund	11,518	13,356
Nikko AM Wholesale Global Bond Fund	9,593	6,778
Nikko AM Wholesale Property Fund	7,402	5,295
Nikko AM Wholesale Option Fund	4,686	5,863
Nikko AM Wholesale Multi Strategy Fund	1,027	992
Nikko AM Wholesale Concentrated Equity Fund	916	1,379
	<u>209,874</u>	<u>229,047</u>

The Scheme's investments which exceed 5% of the net assets are:

	31 March 2020		31 March 2019	
	%	\$000's	%	\$000's
Nikko AM Wholesale Core Equity Fund	22%	55,763	25%	66,640
Nikko AM Global Equity Unhedged Fund	22%	55,086	23%	60,878
Nikko AM Wholesale NZ Cash Fund	18%	44,442	15%	40,819
Nikko AM Wholesale NZ Bond Fund	8%	19,442	10%	27,047
BMO North American-3-Acc	7%	16,194	7%	17,630
BMO Select European Equity 3 Acc	6%	14,986	6%	15,319
Nikko AM Global Equity Hedged Fund	5%	11,518	5%	13,356

(iii) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value of the Scheme's investment portfolio will fluctuate as a result of changes in market prices. The risk is managed by ensuring that all activities are transacted with mandates, overall investment strategy and within approved limits.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued) for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

Market Price Risk Sensitivity

If the prices of the investments held by the Scheme at balance date had moved by 5% with all other variables held constant, the impact in the statement of changes in net assets would have been as follows:

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
5% increase in prices of investments	12,047	13,136
5% decrease in prices of investments	(12,047)	(13,136)

The impact of COVID-19 caused the Manager to review the adequacy of the price risk sensitivity analysis. Given the long term investment timeframe of the Scheme, the Manager felt 5% remained an adequate indication of risk, while short term volatility may be greater than this for certain funds.

(a) Currency Risk

Currency risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of financial instruments will fluctuate due to a change in foreign exchange rates. Movements in the New Zealand dollar may affect both the cash flows and market values of investments denominated in foreign currencies.

The Scheme is exposed to currency risk in that future movements in the New Zealand dollar against currencies of foreign investments will affect the cash flows and the fair values of those investments. Foreign currency hedging activities are undertaken by the Investment Manager in respect of the Scheme's foreign currency exposure.

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
The forward foreign exchange contracts notional values at balance date are:		
Foreign Currency		
United States Dollar	3,680	4,349
Euro	3,729	3,713

The nominal value of direct investments denominated in foreign currencies are as follows:

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
Foreign Currency		
British Pound	31,785	33,684
Euro	(353)	3

Currency Rate Sensitivity

At balance date, had the exchange rate between the New Zealand dollar and the foreign currencies moved by 5% with all other variables held constant, the impact in the statement of changes in net assets would have been as follows:

	31 March 2020 \$000's	31 March 2019 \$000's
5% Increase in Currency Rates		
British Pound	1,673	1,773
United States Dollar	194	229
Euro	(215)	(195)
5% Decrease in Currency Rates		
British Pound	(1,514)	(1,604)
United States Dollar	(175)	(207)
Euro	194	177

The Scheme's investment strategy is to offer a range of risk and growth options to Scheme Members who ultimately choose their own exposure when they select their investment portfolio.

The unit trust and mutual fund investments held by the Scheme invest world-wide. The hedging strategy of the Scheme takes into account the underlying currency exposures of these unit trusts and mutual funds, bearing in mind the hedging strategies of the unit trusts and mutual funds.

Asteron Superplan

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

(b) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of change in market interest rates.

The Scheme is indirectly exposed to interest rate risk through the unit trusts and mutual funds it invests in as these are revalued to market value on a continuous basis. There is no direct exposure to interest rate risk for the Scheme. The Scheme places reliance on the tactical and strategic limits in the investment policies in place for the Scheme for the management of the interest rate risk in respect of these financial instruments.

(iv) Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Scheme is unable to meet its payment obligations associated with its financial liabilities or benefit payments when they fall due and to replace funds when they are withdrawn. The consequence may be the failure to meet obligations to repay Members and creditors. Where there is a timing difference between the Scheme's cash flow commitments and the receipts of funds, the Trustee has the right to realise investments in order to permit withdrawals from the Scheme.

If by reason of exceptional circumstances the Trustee in good faith forms the opinion that it is impractical or would be materially prejudicial to the interest of the Members for the Trustee to realise investments in order to permit withdrawals from the Scheme, then the Trustee may give a written notice of withdrawal suspension to any Member who gives or has given Notice of Withdrawal. Such a notice has the effect of suspending the operation of all withdrawal notices until such time as the Trustee withdraws this notice. In terms of managing the liquidity risk, the Trustee acts on the direction of the Scheme Manager in respect of all payments made by the Scheme.

The Scheme has not experienced a higher number of unit holder withdrawals, due to COVID-19, compared to the prior period. No illiquid investments have been identified by the Manager in the Scheme as a result of COVID-19. The Manager believes the Scheme remains appropriately liquid considering the liquidity of the underlying investments and level of potential withdrawals. The Scheme invests a portion of its assets into the Nikko Wholesale Multi Strategy Fund and has been advised by Nikko AM NZ that the underlying JP Morgan fund (which the Nikko Wholesale Multi Strategy Fund solely invests into) is being wound up. The Nikko Wholesale Multi Strategy fund will therefore invest into an alternative JP Morgan fund with a similar investment strategy. The JP Morgan fund being wound up contains some illiquid assets which are anticipated to take some time to liquidate to cash. There is no anticipated material impact to the Scheme from the wind up of the underlying JP Morgan fund. The Scheme manager does not anticipate liquidity issues for Scheme members due to the wind up of the underlying JP Morgan fund.

All of the Scheme's financial liabilities have a maturity of less than 30 days.

(v) Capital risk management

The Scheme's objectives when managing capital is to provide returns for Members through capital growth and income. The Scheme does this by investing in a diversified portfolio of financial assets.

The Scheme undertakes to invest the contributions of the Members in investments that meet the Scheme's objectives while maintaining sufficient liquidity to meet Member withdrawals.

13. Contingent liabilities and capital commitments

There were no contingent liabilities or capital commitments as at 31 March 2020 (31 March 2019: nil).

14. Guaranteed benefits

No guarantees have been made in respect of any part of the liability for promised retirement benefits (31 March 2019: nil).

15. Vested benefits

Vested benefits equate to the total promised retirement benefits in the Scheme as at balance date. Under the conditions of the Scheme, vested benefits are not conditional on continued Membership.

16. Funding arrangement

Each Member contributes on the basis specified in their application form or as agreed thereafter with the Trustee. There are no mandatory contributions or restrictions.

Asteron Superplan

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
for the financial year ended 31 March 2020

17. Unit prices of investment funds comprising the Scheme

Unit prices of the investment funds comprising the Scheme at the beginning and end of the year were:

	31 March 2020	31 March 2019
	Redemption Price \$	Redemption Price \$
Superplan		
Balanced	3.584	3.695
Capital	2.816	2.783
Global Equity	3.128	3.094
Trans-Tasman	6.840	7.119
North American	4.296	4.411
European	3.156	3.082
Conservative	3.039	2.986
Dynamic	3.318	3.419
NZ Bond	3.982	3.865
Global Bond	3.133	3.012
Aggressive	2.044	2.196
Superplan 2000		
Balanced	2.922	2.982
Capital	2.431	2.391
Global Equity	2.741	2.694
Trans-Tasman	5.574	5.753
North American	3.161	3.205
European	2.762	2.682
Conservative	2.866	2.793
Dynamic	2.992	3.067
NZ Bond	3.130	3.033
Global Bond	3.329	3.201
Aggressive	2.239	2.392

18. Events occurring after balance date

There is no matter or circumstance that has arisen since the end of the financial year that has significantly affected, or may significantly affect the Scheme's operations, the results of those operations, or the Scheme's state of affairs as at 31 March 2020.



Independent Auditor's Report

To the Trustees and members of Asteron Superplan

Report on the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements of Asteron Superplan (the "Scheme") on pages 1 to 15:

- i. present fairly in all material respects the Scheme's financial position as at 31 March 2020 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year ended on that date; and
- ii. comply with New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards and International Financial Reporting Standards.

We have audited the accompanying financial statements which comprise:

- the statement of net assets as at 31 March 2020;
- the statements of changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended; and
- notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.



Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) ('ISAs (NZ)'). We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We are independent of the Scheme in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 (Revised) Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (IESBA Code), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the IESBA Code.

Our responsibilities under ISAs (NZ) are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

Our firm has also provided other services to the Scheme in relation to our reasonable assurance engagement over the 31 March 2020 collective registry of the Scheme. Subject to certain restrictions, partners and employees of our firm may also deal with the Scheme on normal terms within the ordinary course of trading activities of the business of the Scheme. These matters have not impaired our independence as auditor of the Scheme. The firm has no relationship with, or interest in, the Scheme.



Key audit matters

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the financial statements in the current period. We summarise below those matters and our key audit procedures to address those matters in order that the members, as a body, may better understand the process by which we arrived at our audit opinion.

Our procedures were undertaken in the context of and solely for the purpose of our statutory audit opinion on the financial statements as a whole and we do not express discrete opinions on separate elements of the financial statements.

COVID-19

The Covid-19 pandemic has created additional risks, particularly with the valuation of investments and liquidity. Some investments may have become more difficult to value, as they either experience significant events, or become less liquid and actively traded. Additional disclosures may be required to ensure there is adequate disclosure of changes to fair value levels for securities, liquidity risks, market risks and subsequent events. While the key audit matter “Existence and valuation of investments”, detailed below, is unchanged from last year, the underlying audit risk has increased which impacted the extent and nature of audit evidence that we had to gather.

The key audit matter

How the matter was addressed in our audit

Existence and valuation of investments

Refer to notes 4 and 12 to the financial statements for disclosures on Investments and COVID-19.

The Scheme’s investments are considered a key audit matter due to their significance to the financial statements as a whole (the portfolio of investments makes up 97% of the Scheme’s total assets).

COVID-19 has meant that greater uncertainty exists around the valuation of investments and the fair value hierarchy level attributed to each. This required some additional judgement in these areas.

Our audit procedures included:

- documenting our understanding of the processes the Scheme has in place to record investment transactions including fair value of the investment portfolio. This included evaluating the control environment in place at the investment manager and custodian through review of their control reports and related assurance opinions issued by an independent auditor;
 - agreeing investment holdings and investment fair value to external confirmations received from the investment scheme manager; and
 - consideration of the fair value hierarchy level assigned to each investment and the appropriateness of the valuation information available.
-

Other information

The Trustees, on behalf of the Scheme, are responsible for the other information included in the Scheme’s Annual Report. Other information includes the Trustee report and other disclosures relating to management of the Scheme and corporate governance. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover any other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.



Use of this independent auditor’s report


This independent auditor’s report is made solely to the members as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the members those matters we are required to state to them in the independent auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the members as a body for our audit work, this independent auditor’s report, or any of the opinions we have formed.



Responsibilities of the General Partner for the special purpose financial statements

The Trustees, on behalf of the Scheme, are responsible for:

- the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (being New Zealand Equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards) and International Financial Reporting Standards;
- implementing necessary internal control to enable the preparation of a set of financial statements that is fairly presented and free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- assessing the ability to continue as a going concern. This includes disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless they either intend to liquidate or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the special purpose financial statements

Our objective is:

- to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; and
- to issue an independent auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs NZ will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error. They are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

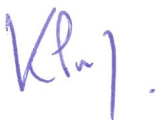
A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of these financial statements is located at the External Reporting Board (XRB) website at:

www.xrb.govt.nz/standards-for-assurance-practitioners/auditors-responsibilities/audit-report-2/

This description forms part of our independent auditor's report.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Paul Herrod.

For and on behalf of



KPMG
Auckland

24 June 2020