

# Federal budget super changes 2016

May 2016



the next solution

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# Key proposed changes to superannuation

- Reduction in concessional contribution cap
- Lifetime non-concessional contribution cap
- Pension transfer balance cap
- Tax on earnings for transition to retirement pensions
- Reduction in Division 293 tax threshold
- Other key proposed super changes

# Reduction in concessional contribution (CC) cap

**Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017**

- CC Cap to be reduced to \$25,000
- CC Cap applies to all members under age 75
- Unused CC caps can be carried forward for up to 5 years for members with account balances less than \$500,000.

# Reduced CC Caps – Potential Strategies

- Spouse splitting
- Utilising \$125,000 deduction in year with higher income
- Contribution Reserving
- Use it or you will lose it!

# Lifetime non-concessional contribution (NCC) cap

**Proposed effective date: 7:30pm on 3 May 2016**

- Limits NCC's to a lifetime cap of \$500,000
- All NCC's since 1 July 2007 are applied against the cap
- NCC's made prior to budget night will not result in excess NCC
- NCC's made after budget in excess of lifetime cap will need to be withdrawn &/or penalty taxes will apply.

# Lifetime NCC Cap – Potential Strategies

- Make NCC's in accordance with the current rules
- Enter into a Limited Recourse Borrowing Arrangement
- Contribute up to lifetime cap of \$500,000 if under 75
- Re-contribution strategy

# Pension transfer balance cap

**Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017**

- \$1.6m cap on pension commencement amount
- For existing pensions, amount in excess of \$1.6 million cap will need to be rolled back to accumulation or withdrawn
- Unused cap can be applied at a later time
- Earnings derived by pension account will not reduce the cap



# \$1.6m Pension Cap – Potential Strategies

- Segregate assets
- Even out member balances
- Reset cost bases
- Restructure wealth across various entities

# \$1.6m Pension Cap – Case Study

- John is 70 years old
- Has a super balance of \$2m
- Holds no assets outside of super and earns no income in his individual name
- Assume a net return on investments of 4%

How can restructuring John's wealth save tax?

# \$1.6m Pension Cap – Case Study

## **Scenario 1: Leave entire wealth in Super**

- Earnings of \$64,000 on \$1.6m in pension is tax free.
- Earnings of \$16,000 on \$400,000 in accumulation is taxed at 15%, which equates to \$2,400 tax payable.

## **Scenario 2: Withdraw excess of \$400,000 above \$1.6m pension cap from Super and invest in John's name**

- Earnings of \$64,000 on \$1.6m in pension is tax free.
- Earnings of \$16,000 on \$400,000 in John's name is not taxed as it is below the \$18,200 tax free threshold.

Scenario 2 results in a tax saving of \$2,400 for John!

# Tax on earnings for transition to retirement (TTR) pensions

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- Tax exempt status of income from assets supporting TTR income streams will be removed
- Earnings will be taxed at 15%
- This applies irrespective of when the TTR income stream commenced, i.e. no grandfathering applies
- Taxation of earnings in pension phase will only apply to TTR income stream. Clients that have met a full condition of release such as retirement will continue to have the earnings tax exemption apply

# Transition to retirement pensions

## Example

- Rebecca aged 60
- \$400,000 in super
- Earnings \$100,000, but spends \$73,000
- Only receiving SG

# Transition to retirement pensions

Rebecca	Current	With TTR
Salary	\$100,000	\$84,500
Salary sacrifice	\$0	\$15,500
Pension income (tax free)	\$0	\$9,568
Total tax	\$26,632	\$20,700
Expenses	\$73,000	\$73,000
Remaining income	\$368	\$368
Net contributions (inc SG of \$9,500)	\$8,075	\$21,250
Total increase in superannuation*	\$408,075	\$411,683
<b>Total benefit</b>		<b>\$3,608</b>

*Excludes any earnings tax*

Cost/benefit analysis on a case by case analysis is required

# Reduction in Division 293 tax threshold

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- Division 293 threshold will reduce to \$250,000 (from \$300,000)
- When Division 293 applies, contributions are taxed at 30%
- The following table compares the tax concessions applicable on concessional contributions at various marginal tax rates

Marginal tax rate*	Contributions Tax	Tax Concession
21%	15%	6%
34.5%	15%	19.5%
39%	15%	24%
49%	15%	34%
49%	30%**	19%

\*Including Medicare Levy and Temporary Budget Repair Levy

\*\*Includes additional 15% contributions tax (Division 293)

# Tax offset for spouse contributions

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- The income threshold to qualify for the maximum amount of Low Income Spouse Contribution Tax Offset will be increased from \$10,800 to \$37,000
- The ability to make spouse contributions will also be extended to age 74. Again, no work test will be required to be satisfied by the receiving spouse



# Remove contribution eligibility requirements for those aged 65 to 74

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- Work test that applies for people making voluntary contributions between 65 - 74 will be removed
- The ability to make spouse contributions will also be extended to age 74. Again, no work test will be required to be satisfied by the receiving spouse

# Expanded ability to claim a tax deduction on personal contributions

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- Anyone up to age 75 will be able to claim a tax deduction on personal contributions to super
- Currently only unemployed, retired, self-employed (e.g. sole traders), or those who derive less than 10% of total income from employment source are eligible to claim a tax deduction
- Proposed measure will effectively allow all individuals, regardless of their employment circumstances, to claim a deduction for their personal contributions up to the value of the concessional cap

# Tax offset for low income earners

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- The Low Income Superannuation Tax Offset (LISTO) will reduce tax on superannuation contributions for low income earners
- The LISTO will provide a non-refundable tax offset for concessional contributions made on behalf of individuals who have adjusted taxable income up to \$37,000
- The LISTO will be capped at \$500

# Removal of anti-detriment payments

## Proposed effective date: 1 July 2017

- Anti-detriment provisions will be abolished
- An anti-detriment payment is an additional amount that may be included in a lump sum death benefit paid to eligible beneficiaries (it represents a refund of contributions tax paid by the deceased member over their lifetime)
- Taxation of death benefits will remain unchanged and will therefore continue to be paid tax free to tax dependants and taxable to non-tax-dependants

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Thank you