

09/2015 Further Super Funds added to HMRC ROPS list

Overnight a further three Super Funds were confirmed as obtaining QROPS status and added to the HMRC ROPS list: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/list-of-qualifying-recognised-overseas-pension-schemes-qrops/list-of-recognised-overseas-pension-schemes-notifications#australia

It would seem from my research that two of the funds are SMSFs and I would presume for members over age 55 only (although I cannot confirm this at this stage).

The other scheme is the Commonwealth Superannuation Scheme (CSS) however this scheme is not a public offer scheme and in fact closed to new members from 1 July 1990. The only exception applies to previous members who, in specific circumstances, are able to return to the scheme.

Similarly to the LGS scheme on the list, the reason that the CSS fund can be on there and for any age and not solely intended for over 55s is that the he Pension Age Test does not apply to overseas public service pension schemes and pension schemes of international organisations (such as OECD, the UN etc, not multinational companies).

Therefore it seems that we are still in the same situation that we were following the release of the 1 September ROPS list being that no public offer scheme exists and likely that the SMSF over 55s solution is still the only Australian solution for now.