

MEDIA RELEASE

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Treasurer

Dominic Perrottet

NSW GENERATIONS FUND GROWS BY \$903 MILLION IN FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF EXISTENCE

The NSW Government has released its first NSW Generations Fund (NGF) annual report, which shows the sovereign wealth fund delivered \$903 million in absolute investment returns in its first seven months.

The NGF balance has grown from an initial seed investment of \$10 billion (\$3 billion from balance sheet reserves and a further \$7 billion from the sale of a 51 per cent stake in WestConnex), to \$10.9 billion at 30 June 2019.

NSW Treasurer Dominic Perrottet said while the result was pleasing, the true value of the fund was how it safeguarded NSW against intergenerational budgetary pressures and would help keep debt at sustainable levels.

"The NGF adds a whole new level of resilience to the rock solid financial foundations the NSW Government has built," Mr Perrottet said.

"The purpose of the NGF is to support the State's Triple-A credit rating over the longterm and ensure the NSW Government can plan for the future by responsibly delivering the essential and productive infrastructure without burdening future generations with debt."

NSW Generations Fund Advisory Board Chair Glenn Stevens said the Fund had returned 9.6 per cent in the seven months since establishment to 30 June 2019, surpassing the long-term investment objective of 4.5 per cent above inflation.

"The Board, aided by NSW Treasury and TCorp (NSW Treasury Corporation), will maintain its vigilance and take the necessary action for the Fund to achieve its long-term investment objectives," Mr Stevens said.

It is legislated that funds within the NGF can only be used for the purpose of paying down debt, or funding community services and facilities projects.

To view the NGF annual report, please go to <u>www.treasury.nsw.gov.au</u>

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