

Is your retirement fund future-fit?

Introducing the Alexforbes Retirement Fund of the Future

There are clear indications that we are in the early stages of the next economic revolution.

As Al Gore put it, the emerging global *Sustainability Revolution* has the magnitude of the Industrial Revolution and the speed of the digital revolution. This revolution will likely impact every aspect of life, including our societies, economies, and physical and natural environments.

The rate of change occurring in the modern world is unprecedented and likely to accelerate in the future. To address this, society, governments and organisations (including retirement funds) must actively identify and monitor emerging trends, their possible impacts and what these may mean for the future.

Retirement funds should be actively contemplating the future and the evolution they must embrace to ensure that they remain fit for the future. This topic was the central theme of the Alexforbes Hot Topics events, which were held in May 2023.

Retirement funds also have an extraordinary opportunity to create the future needed to better navigate any market volatility which may lie ahead. As asset owners and custodians of capital, retirement funds should be positioned well enough to do this effectively. Not only do retirement funds have an opportunity to use their influence to create the markets of the future, they can structure their funds to ensure they are future-fit and carry out their fiduciary duty according to changing needs and expectations.

With this in mind, the **Alexforbes Impact Centre of Excellence** and its Fund of the Future Working Group have designed a conceptual retirement fund that is fit for the future and will deliver future benefits. It is an ideal retirement fund that is aspirational in its design and sets the industry standard for a best-in-class, leading and future-fit retirement fund. This conceptual retirement Fund of the Future draws on our extensive experience in fund advisory and management, our understanding of the potential impacts emerging megatrends may have on the future, and our insights on ESG and broader sustainability best practices.

To assist our clients, our Impact Centre of Excellence has developed a **Future-Fit Gap Assessment and Solutions Suite** to assess your retirement fund's maturity against the ideal 'Retirement Fund of the Future'. The assessment aims to identify key gaps within your retirement fund's structure, governance, policies and processes to identify critical areas requiring improvement in the fund's maturity, resilience and fitness for the future.

After completing the assessment, strategic interventions will be identified. This will form the basis for developing a **Future-Fit Improvement Plan** for your fund, utilising a bespoke selection of Alexforbes consulting solutions.

Should you wish to assess the future-fitness of your retirement fund, please contact your consultant for more information and how you can get started.



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