

Performance Summary

SA Metropolitan Fire Service Super Scheme – Members

September 2026



Performance

Funds SA is responsible for investing the assets of the SA Metropolitan Fire Service Superannuation Scheme. In this summary, Funds SA provides an overview of the performance of the investment options offered under the Scheme.

The table and chart below show Funds SA's Taxable investment option returns based on the post-tax unit pricing model.

Table 1: Taxable investment option returns to 30 September 2026

Returns are net of fees and tax

Investment Option	1 Month %	3 Months %	FYTD %	1 Year %	3 Years % p.a.	5 Years % p.a.	7 Years % p.a.	10 Years % p.a.
Cash	0.3	1.0	1.0	3.7	3.8	3.0	2.2	2.1
Capital Defensive	-0.2	0.3	0.3	4.2	5.6	2.9	2.9	3.2
Conservative	-0.2	0.5	0.5	4.8	6.7	3.7	3.9	4.4
Moderate	-0.3	0.9	0.9	5.8	8.1	4.8	5.2	5.6
Balanced	-0.4	1.1	1.1	6.7	9.4	5.7	6.6	7.0
High Growth	-0.4	1.4	1.4	7.6	10.5	6.4	7.5	8.2

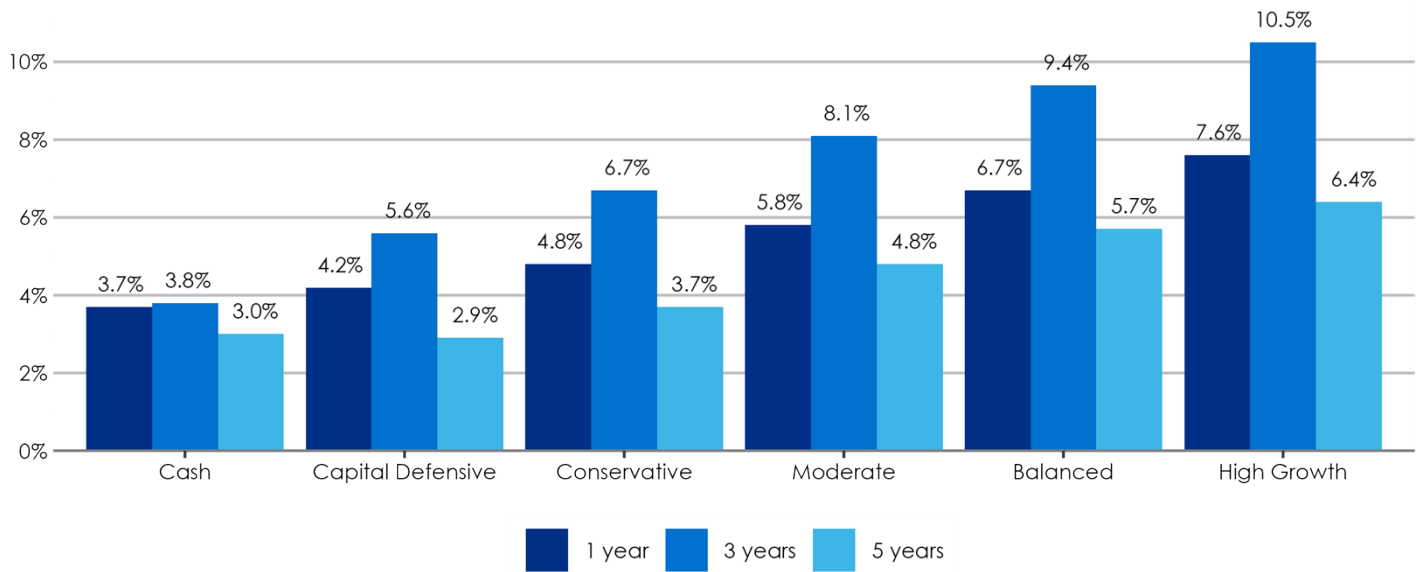
Note: The Taxable investment options were established in March 2005, with the exception of the Moderate investment option (established in June 2006).

Key drivers of performance

- International Equities delivered positive returns despite challenging global conditions. Technology companies were particularly strong, supported by continued demand for AI-related technology, semiconductors and hardware. A weaker Australian dollar also increased the value of overseas investments when converted back into Australian dollars.
- Property delivered positive returns, supported by rental growth across the asset class. Limited supply, partly reflecting higher construction costs, continued to support tenant demand. Office properties benefited from improving rental conditions, while the retail sector remained strong.
- Alternatives' performance was supported by insurance-linked, macro and equity long/short strategies. These strategies provided positive returns despite a more challenging environment across traditional asset classes.
- Fixed Interest detracted from returns during September as concerns about energy prices and inflation reinforced expectations that interest rates may remain elevated for longer. This contributed to weaker returns across fixed income markets as investors adjusted to changing economic conditions.
- Australian Equities faced tough market conditions during September, with most sectors falling. Materials were particularly weak amid concerns about global growth and higher energy prices, while rising interest rates placed pressure on rate-sensitive sectors, particularly Information Technology. Healthcare and Energy were the only sectors to deliver positive returns.

Chart 1: Taxable investment options annualised returns to 30 September 2026

Returns are net of fees and tax



Effective asset allocation

The effective asset allocation of the Funds SA Taxable investment options is shown in the table below.

Table 2: Effective asset allocation as at 30 September 2026

Asset Class	Cash %	Capital Defensive %	Conservative %	Moderate %	Balanced %	High Growth %
Australian Equities	0.0	5.0	8.5	17.5	24.6	30.7
International Equities	0.0	7.3	11.9	22.7	31.0	38.9
Private Markets	0.0	0.9	2.0	2.4	4.3	6.4
Property	0.0	4.9	5.8	5.7	6.7	6.7
Infrastructure	0.0	12.3	11.0	8.6	7.1	4.7
Alternatives	0.0	1.1	3.4	3.7	3.3	2.4
Credit	0.0	9.8	8.1	8.0	8.6	8.2
Fixed Interest	0.0	40.7	33.1	21.0	10.5	0.0
Cash	100.0	18.1	16.2	10.4	3.9	1.9
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Foreign Currency	0.0	4.9	8.0	15.1	21.1	26.5
Foreign Currency Hedge*	0.0	2.6	4.1	7.9	10.9	12.5

Note: Due to rounding, the sum of the individual numbers within the table may not equal the totals quoted. * The partial foreign currency hedge is the exposure converted back into Australian Dollars from investing in International Equities to achieve the Foreign Currency strategic allocation. All other asset classes that have international investments are typically fully currency hedged.

Financial market snapshot

The table below summarises broad financial market performance.

Table 3: Major market index returns to 30 September 2026

Market Index	1 Month %	3 Months %	FYTD %	1 Year % p.a.	3 Years % p.a.	5 Years % p.a.	7 Years % p.a.	10 Years % p.a.
Australian Equities	-2.4	1.3	1.3	2.4	11.3	7.5	7.8	9.0
International Equities	1.9	1.2	1.2	11.3	18.8	12.5	13.1	13.5
Australian Unlisted Property	1.3	1.8	1.8	8.8	1.1	1.9	2.2	4.3
Credit	-1.0	0.2	0.2	3.4	7.6	3.4	3.4	3.8
Global Fixed Interest	-1.2	-2.0	-2.0	-0.8	3.0	-1.7	-1.2	0.6
Australian Fixed Interest	-0.5	-0.7	-0.7	1.1	4.6	2.5	2.1	2.4
Cash	0.4	1.1	1.1	4.1	4.2	3.3	2.5	2.3
Foreign Currency (AUD v. Developed Markets)	-2.5	0.5	0.5	5.9	1.7	-1.1	-0.3	-1.3

Note: Returns hedged to the Australian Dollar: Global Fixed Interest, Credit. Equity returns are expressed in AUD.

Financial market commentary

Energy prices reignited inflation concerns

Geopolitical tensions in the Middle East remained a key focus for investors during September. Ongoing conflict and concerns about disruptions to global energy supplies pushed oil prices sharply higher, with Brent Crude rising above US\$100 per barrel during the month. Higher energy prices raised concerns that inflation could remain elevated for longer than expected, creating uncertainty about both the economic outlook and the future direction of interest rates. As a result, markets paid close attention to inflation data and signals from central banks.

Central banks maintain a restrictive policy stance

Against this backdrop, investors increasingly expected interest rates to remain higher for longer. Central banks continued to highlight inflation as a key risk, while stronger economic conditions suggested price pressures may take longer to ease. In Australia, the Reserve Bank of Australia increased the cash rate to 4.60%, while several major global central banks maintained a restrictive stance on inflation. Government bond yields rose across major markets as investors adjusted to expectations that interest rates could remain elevated for an extended period.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) remained a key market influence

AI continued to shape market performance throughout September. Investment in technology infrastructure, data centres and advanced computing remained strong, providing support for many technology-related companies. While broader markets faced pressure from rising interest rate expectations, businesses linked to ongoing AI investment generally performed better. Continued demand for computing power and advances in AI technology helped maintain strong investor interest in the sector.

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