



OCT 2018

# LEGG MASON'S WESTERN ASSET SWEEPS FIXED INCOME AWARDS

**Winner** of the Professional Planner | Zenith Fund Award for Australian Fixed Income in 2016, 2017 and again in 2018.



For the third year in a row, Western Asset, a Legg Mason affiliate and one of the world's leading fixed income investment managers, was awarded the prestigious Professional Planner | Zenith Fund Award for Australian Fixed Income at the annual awards ceremony held in Sydney on Friday, 5 October 2018.

This award recognises excellence in funds management as judged by Zenith's robust methodology, which examines each manager's investment philosophy and process, along with the expertise of the investment team, portfolio construction, risk management and performance.

This award gives Western Asset a clean sweep of the top three Australian fixed income awards in 2018:

- Professional Planner | Zenith Fund Award for Australian Fixed Income – October 2018
- Money Management | Lonsec Fund Manager of the Year, Australian Fixed Income - May 2018
- Morningstar Australia's Fund Manager of the Year 2018: Fixed Interest Category, Australia - March 2018



Western Asset has now won the Professional Planner | Zenith award for three consecutive years, reinforcing the Fund's position as a stand-out solution in this key asset class.

Western Asset manages the Legg Mason Western Asset Australian Bond Fund (Fund), a 'traditional' fixed income solution that invests across the full spectrum of Australian fixed income markets - government and semi-government bonds, supranational and corporate bonds. Western Asset manages the Fund using a blend of top-down and bottom-up approaches to actively allocate across diverse fixed interest sectors. This active approach has been critical to the Fund's long-term success.

The Fund celebrated its 20-year anniversary on 30 September, with Mr Anthony Kirkham, Western Asset's Head of Investment Management Australia and NZ, having managed the portfolio with a consistent philosophy and investment approach over this entire time period.

The fixed income asset class continues to provide the critical defensive ballast in investor portfolios. Western Asset's stable and highly experienced investment team has been able to deliver on its clients' investment objectives over the past 20 years, despite the many challenging market environments that have occurred during this time.

Highlights of the Legg Mason Western Asset Australian Bond Fund:

- Highly recommended by Zenith and Lonsec, Morningstar - Silver qualitative rating and 5 star quantitative rating
- Fund size as of June 2018: AUD \$598 million
- Performance record: Ranked in the top quartile over 1, 3 and 5 years (Morningstar Direct, September 2018)\*.

## CONTACT US

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