

# MONEY MATTERS

## Maximise your Super & Insurance

This fact sheet is part of the *Money Matters Series* from Women's Health East. Find out more about the project at <https://whe.org.au/money-matters-webinar-series/>

### Know your Super

- Look up your current balance.
- Ensure that your employer is making regular contributions.
  - <https://www.ato.gov.au/calculators-and-tools/super-estimate-my-super>
- Check that they are contributing the right amount.

### Compare Super funds

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) **YourSuper Comparison Tool** compares products and helps you choose a Super fund that meets your needs.

Visit: [www.ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/YourSuper-comparison-tool](http://www.ato.gov.au/Calculators-and-tools/YourSuper-comparison-tool)

### How much do you need to retire?

Use the **MoneySmart Retirement Planner** to work out how much income you will get at retirement age, based on your current superannuation and income.

Visit: <https://moneysmart.gov.au/retirement-income/retirement-planner>

### Super co-contributions

If you're a low or middle-income earner and make personal non-concessional (after-tax) contributions to your super fund, the government may also make a co-contribution up to a maximum of \$500. The government co-contribution you receive depends on your income and how much you contribute.

Visit the ATO website for more information – [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au) and search 'co-contribution'.

### How do I find my lost Superannuation?

- Go to your online myGov account – choose ATO, then Manage My Super; or
- Phone the ATO's lost super search line on 32 865. You will need your Tax File Number.

### **What assistance is available for financial hardship?**

If you are experiencing financial hardship, speak to the 'Hardship Team' of your credit or utility provider or talk to a financial counsellor.

Support is available, including:

- Utility Relief Grants Scheme for Electricity, Gas and Water for eligible customers.
- Flexible Support Packages are provided by local community agencies for victims of Family Violence.
  - Contact the The Orange Door EMR network (contact details below)
  - Some banks provide support in the form of funds/services to assist their customers experiencing Family Violence.

### **Why would I go to see a financial counsellor?**

Financial counsellors provide assistance, advocacy and information to those who are experiencing financial difficulty or who have problems with debt.

### **How do I find a financial counsellor near me?**

National Debt Helpline offers free and confidential advice from professional financial counsellors as well as referral to a financial counsellor near you.

Visit: [www.ndh.org.au](http://www.ndh.org.au) or phone 1800 007 007 (9.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday).

### **Where can I go to get help for Family Violence or Elder Abuse (including financial abuse)?**

If you or someone you know is at immediate risk of physical harm or property damage, call Victoria Police on 000.

Other free services include:

- Safe Steps on 1800 015 188 or [safesteps@safesteps.org.au](mailto:safesteps@safesteps.org.au) - 24/7 family violence response (crisis phone line and planning for your safety)
- 1800 RESPECT on 1800 737 732 (family violence) or 1800 ELDERHELP on 1800 353 374 (elder abuse) - confidential information, phone counselling and support services.
- If you live in Melbourne's Outer East (Knox, Yarra Ranges, Maroondah) contact The Outer East Melbourne Area (OEMA) Orange Door on 1800 271 150 or [OEMA@orangedoor.vic.gov.au](mailto:OEMA@orangedoor.vic.gov.au)
- If you live in Melbourne's Inner East (Boroondara, Manningham, Whitehorse and Monash) contact The Inner East Melbourne Area (IEMA) Orange Door on 1800 354 322 or [IEMA@orangedoor.vic.gov.au](mailto:IEMA@orangedoor.vic.gov.au)
- Eastern Community Legal Centre on 1300 32 52 00 or <https://eclc.org.au/> – confidential legal, social and financial counselling support for people experiencing or at risk of family violence and elder abuse.
- 13 YARN on 13 92 76 - Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders crisis support line (24/7)
- Rainbow Door on 1800 729 367 - advice, referral and support for LGBTIQ+ Victorians

**For more information please contact:**

**Women's Health East** - 9851 3700 or [www.whe.org.au](http://www.whe.org.au)