

# Verve Super

Ethical Survey, as voted by members of the Ethical Advisers Co-Op



Appealing

Poor | Disappointing | Average | Appealing | Excellent

As voted by Ethical Adviser Co-op members. Find a specialised ethical adviser near you: [www.ethicaladviserscoop.org/find-an-adviser.html](http://www.ethicaladviserscoop.org/find-an-adviser.html)

## Fund Overview

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This is the sole managed multi-asset super investment option available within the Verve Super fund. The option considers negative and positive screening filters. Verve Super uses Future Super Investment Services as their investment manager.

## Ethical Concerns

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### Investments

- ✓ We could not find any significant investment concerns.

### Other concerns

- ✓ We did not find any concerns with this fund.

## Good Points

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- ✓ Fund excludes exclusion of women from leadership, offshore detention, human and labour rights abuses, oil, coal, gas and other fossil fuels, gambling, tobacco, live animal export, armaments & militarism, environmental destruction, uranium, harmful financing, and social harm (including weapons).
- ✓ The fund preferences companies from positive industries such as renewables, recycling, health foods and healthcare.
- ✓ Commitment to transparency by the investment manager, Future Super Investment Services, who are a [UNPRI](#) signatory and [RIAA](#) certified.
- ✓ Good transparency with [holdings](#) easily accessed via the public website.
- ✓ Future Super Investment Services shareholder [voting history](#) is accessible on their website and serves as a reference for Verve Super's voting record on AGM resolutions – showing strong support for climate change and social resolutions, with justifications.
- ✓ The fund provides fee rebates for new parents and waives annual fixed fees for members with balances below \$5,000.
- ✓ With every new superfund member Verve make a donation to 'GoodReturn,' an education and microfinance organisation that empowers women in developing countries.
- ✓ Members gain free access to a range of coaches who offer guidance navigating financial and life changes, such as asking for a pay raise, managing family life, navigating divorce, and changing careers.
- ✓ The Verve Super investment manager, Future Super Investment Services, only specialise in ethical investments.

## About the 'Ethical Survey'

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### About the Ethical Advisers Co-Op

The Ethical Advisers Co-op is a group of 35 financial advisers who are passionate about ethics and finance. The Co-op was established as a not-for-profit over 10 years ago to enable likeminded financial advisers to work together to represent the voice of the consumer. We work to shift the super and investment industry into being more ethically aligned with their clients' objectives. The Co-op's nationwide membership of ethical financial advisers help over 3,300 Australians make financial decisions and invest in line with their ethical values.

### How the Leaf-System Works

The ethical rating is voted by Australian financial advisers who specialise in ethical investments (Co-op members). The advisers assess if fund ethics suit their average ethical client, and if it matches with the average client's expectations and objectives. The advisers consider how successful the fund is at; 1) removing industries and stocks harmful to the environment and society 2) including companies with environmental or social benefits, and 3) providing evidence of actions from the fund which benefit society and/or the environment. The quality of information the fund provides on its ethical policies, companies invested in, and proxy voting is important in assessing if a fund is as ethical as claimed. The final rating is an average of these votes.

Financial advisers are voluntarily participating to help ethical consumers gain a quick understanding of how the clients of a group of industry professionals view the ethics of each fund. The Co-op and the advisers do not receive any form of remuneration or reward for participating.

### Further Research

#### *Does your fund walk the talk?*

The Australasian Centre for Corporate Responsibility (ACCR) – a not-for-profit shareholder advocacy organisation – pushes for transparency around whether your super fund 'walks the talk' on issues such as climate and human rights. You can find details on your super fund [here](#).

#### *Is your fund investing in fossil fuels?*

Market Forces is a not-for-profit delivering transparency on fossil fuel lending, insuring and investing within super funds, banks and insurance companies. You can see how exposed your super fund, bank or insurance company is to the fossil fuel industry [here](#).

#### *If the fund is certified by the Responsible Investment Association Australasia (RIAA)*

You can find more ethical and investment information for certified funds [here](#).

#### *More information on this fund*

For exact details of the fund's claimed ethics, costs and legal details see the fund's Product Disclosure Statement - available on their website.

*Vote based on information last updated 20<sup>th</sup> May 2020*