# Centuria

# Quarterly Fund Update December 2020

# Centuria Geelong Office Fund

(ARSN 623 696 800)

### **Key Points**

- The property is 98% occupied with a weighted average lease expiry of approximately 7.7 years.
- Distribution forecast remains robust at 7.35 cents per unit (cpu) (annualised) for the March 2021 quarter.
- The Fund's debt facility has successfully been extended for a further two years.
- · Lease terms agreed on Shop 2 (retail space).

# **Fund Summary**

Distributions for the **Centuria Geelong Office Fund** (Fund) was paid in line with the December 2020 quarter forecast of 7.35 cents per unit (annualised). The corresponding distribution statement for the Fund is enclosed with this report and can also be accessed from our online investor portal at **Centurialnyestor.com.au**.

The distribution level for the March 2021 quarter is forecast to remain at 7.35 cpu (annualised) and makes allowances for agreed changes to tenant rental payments relating to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Centuria is pleased to report terms were recently agreed to lease Shop 2 (44 sqm) on a 12-month term. The short-term lease improves the activation of the retail area and the property's amenity. This leasing traction is a positive sign given the prevailing pandemic conditions, and though the lease has a short tenure, tenants can often extend their lease term following their initial trade period in the premises.

The audited financial report for the half year ending 31 December 2020 is currently being prepared and is anticipated to be available in late March 2021. A property valuation was recently instructed for the purposes of the 31 December 2020 financial report. The updated Net Asset Backing (NAB) will be posted on **Centurialnvestor.com**. **au** as soon as the financial report is finalised. Investors will also be advised of the new NAB in the March 2021 Quarterly Fund Update.

## Market/COVID-19 Commentary

#### Improvement in Market Sentiment

Centuria is pleased to see positive investment sentiment during the past quarter, in particular:

- The Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) 200 Index showed a c.45% improvement between the lowest point in March 2020 and 1 December 2020.
- Domestic commercial office Real Estate Investment Trusts (REIT's) ASX trading price has trended closer to NTA (or net tangible assets). This means the discount the share market



previously priced in has reduced, and confidence is improving. During the past nine months, valuations of office assets have remained resilient – with cap rates holding firm (or tightening), representing continued demand for core office buildings with secure income streams. Centuria has tracked nine office sales, totalling c.\$1.5bn, since February 2020, with an average cap of 5.22% – showing investment appetite at pre-COVID levels.

#### Office Occupation

Centuria believes work from home (WFH) trends will continue to dissipate as workers are increasingly returning to their workplace in most locations across Australia.

In November, the Property Council of Australia (PCA) conducted a poll that revealed more than 60% of respondents were keen to return to the office once restrictions are eased. The survey also revealed that CBD workers are returning to their offices in increasing numbers with occupancy in Adelaide and Perth at 70%, Brisbane and Canberra above 60%, while Sydney remains at 40%.

From 14 December, the NSW public health order requiring employers to allow employees to WFH was lifted. Centuria expects more workers will return to their offices within the next month or two. Given Victoria's lockdown restrictions were only recently lifted, a similar trend is anticipated to follow in Melbourne.

Centuria expects WFH arrangements will remain part of some organisations moving forward, but there are various apparent considerations which need to be addressed when reviewing this approach, including:

- Social isolation and mental health impacts.
- · Inequitable workplace environments.
- · Potential distractions at home.
- · Additional home office costs.
- Diminished culture, manager and team engagement.
- $\bullet \ \ \mathsf{Reduced} \ \mathsf{work} \ \mathsf{life} \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{personal} \ \mathsf{life} \ \mathsf{separation} \ (\mathsf{risk} \ \mathsf{of} \ \mathsf{overworking}).$

In addition, Centuria believes the benefits from working in the office outweigh the arguments of WFH (i.e. less commuting or better work/life balance). Several benefits of working in the office include:

- Improved execution of workstreams that require person to person contact.
- Better professional relationships with stakeholders and colleagues.
- · More structured and unstructured collaboration.
- · Promotion of unscheduled interactions and idea generation.
- Effective mentoring, staff on-boarding, and culture frameworks.

While the final position is yet to play out and there are arguments being mounted for WFH trends, we believe the disadvantages outweigh the advantages, particularly for employers who will ultimately drive decisions post the Pandemic. Therefore, Centuria's view remains firm - high quality, well located commercial office properties, underpinned by strong tenancy profiles, should remain an attractive investment opportunity, particularly in a low interest rate environment.

# **Financial Snapshot**

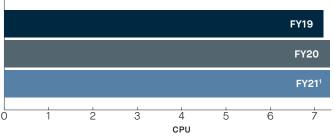
Fund Commencement Date	4 Apr 2018
Unit Price	\$0.981
Net Asset Backing	\$0.922
Distribution Rate (cents per unit)	7.35 <sup>3</sup>
Weighted Average Lease Expiry (WALE) (years)	7.684
Next investor vote on term of fund	4 Apr 2023

- 1 As at 30 June 2020.
- 2 Based on most recent audited accounts (30 June 2020). Without the Mark to Market of the Fund's interest rate swap, the NAB of units in the Fund would be \$0.93.
- 3 December 2020 quarter, annualised.
- 4 As at 31 December 2020.

As outlined in the Product Disclosure Statement, units were issued at \$1.00 per unit. Thereafter, the unit price reflects the NAB per unit with adjustments made for the amortisation of certain fees and expenses on a straight-line basis over five years.

#### **Distribution Details**

#### **Annualised Distribution**



1 FY21 distribution rate forecast is based on 1H2021 actual and March 2021 forecast (annualised).

Distributions for the March 2021 quarter are forecast to remain at 7.35 cents per unit (annualised). The March 2021 forecast makes allowances for likely changes to tenant rental payments relating to COVID-19 pandemic. The FY21 distribution rate will continue to be reassessed and communicated in the next quarterly report. Should there be any material departures from this forecast, an out of cycle Investor update will be provided.

This forecast distribution rate reflects the current performance of the Fund and assumes all tenants will satisfy their contractual obligations under their respective leases within a timely manner. It also assumes there are no significant unforeseen capital costs and no material changes to the Fund's financial obligations.

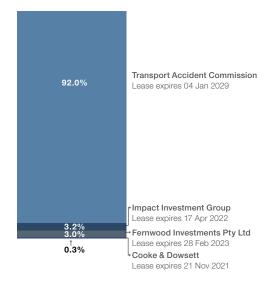
# **Property Details**

#### **Asset Values**

Property Address	60 Brougham Street, Geelong, VIC
Purchase Price (Apr 18)	\$115.25m
Previous Valuation – Independent (Apr 20)	\$121.0m
Current Valuation (Jun 20)	\$121.0m
Cap Rate (Jun 20)	6.00%
Valuer	Directors

The property was subject to a valuation for the purposes of the 30 June 2020 audited financial report. The key metrics of this valuation are outlined in the table above.

# Top Tenants by Net Lettable Area (NLA)



# Leasing

The property is 98% occupied with a Weighted Average Lease Expiry (WALE) by income of approximately 7.7 years as at 31 December 2020.

# **Property Statistics**

	Initial <sup>1</sup>	Dec 19	Jun 20
Net Asset Backing	\$0.89	\$0.95	\$0.92
Portfolio Occupancy Rate	100%	98%	98%
Weighted Average Lease Expiry (WALE) (years)	10.3	8.6	8.2

1 Based on the Product Disclosure Statement as at 5 February 2018.

Debt Summary		
	<b>Current Period</b>	Loan Covenants
Total Facility Limit	\$53.3m <sup>1</sup>	
Undrawn Amount	\$0.755m <sup>1</sup>	
Loan Expiry	29 Mar 2023	
% of Debt Hedged	98.7%²	
Loan to Value Ratio (LVR)	42.73%³	57.5%
Interest Cover Ratio (ICR)	5.914	2.00

- As at 30 November 2020.
- 2 Fund's drawn debt fixed until 29 March 2021.
- 3 The LVR is based on the most recent independent valuation as defined under the debt facility agreement.
- 4 The stated ICR figures are based on the most recent audited accounts (30 lune 2020)

Centuria recently extended the Fund's existing debt facility for an additional two years to broadly coincide with the current Fund Term. The new debt facility includes an increased facility limit to address forecast capital expenditure and leasing requirements during the next two years. Further details regarding the changes to the debt facility will be provided in the next RG46 statement.

#### **RG46 Statements**

The latest RG46 Statement for the Fund is available at **Centurialnvestor.com.au**. It includes the following key information:

- Gearing ratio, calculated using ASIC methodology
- Gearing covenant sensitivities
- Detail of related party transactions in the period
- Further information on the source of distributions

#### **Centuria Investor Website**

You can access all information relating to your Centuria investments at **Centurialnyestor.com.au**.

#### **Contact Details**

If you require assistance with your Centuria Investor account or have any questions regarding your investment in the Fund, please contact **Centuria Investor Services on 1800 182 257** (within Australia); **+61 2 9290 9689** (outside Australia) or by email on **Property.Enquiry@CenturiaInvestor.com.au**.