THE PERTH MINT
AUSTRALIA

The return of inflation

Why gold is one of the highest performing asset classes investors can own.

The Perth Mint SMSF investment white paper - 2022 edition

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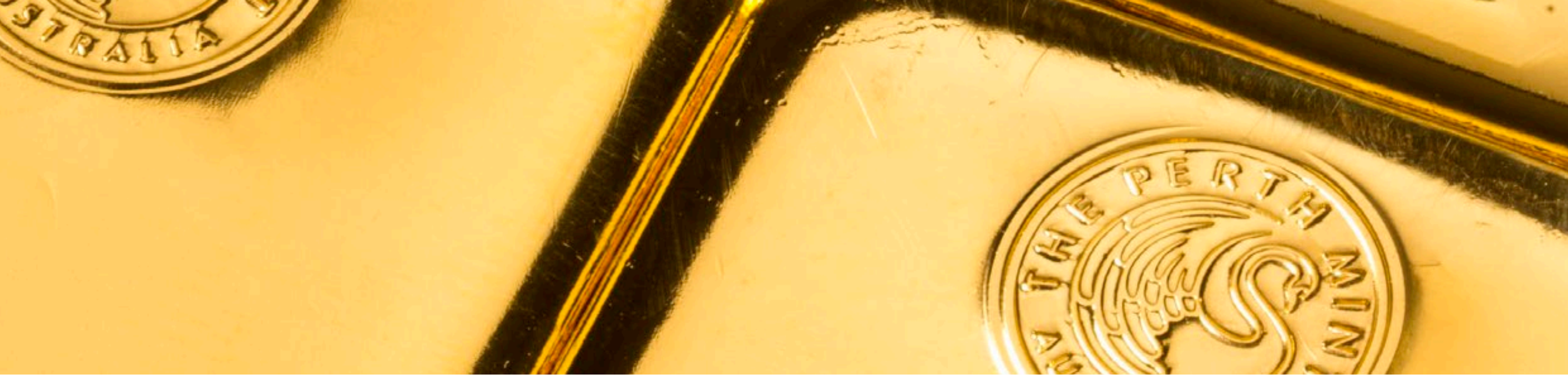

Introduction: Why investors are turning to gold

Many astute investors allocate 5–10% of a diversified portfolio to gold.

Precious metals such as gold and silver have been valued as a store of wealth for generations.

Contemporary investment vehicles have made precious metals more convenient than ever to hold within a diversified investment portfolio.

This is highly relevant to Self Managed Superannuation Fund (SMSF) trustees seeking to build and protect their wealth.

While listed equities, cash (including term deposits) and property comprise the majority of assets held by SMSF trustees, demand for precious metals has been growing significantly over the past two decades.

Indeed, many astute investors allocate 5-10% and sometimes more of their portfolio to gold. Those who have invested in the metal have been well rewarded, with the gold price rising from below USD 300 per troy ounce (oz) to over USD 1,800 oz since the year 2000. In Australian dollar terms, the price has risen from below AUD 450 oz to more than AUD 2,450 oz over the same period.

This has seen gold generate returns of 522% (9.1% per annum) in US dollar terms and 460% (8.5% per annum) in Australian dollar terms since the turn of the century, making it one of the best performing asset classes during this time.

With a wide choice of investment products, The Perth Mint has been at the forefront of the growing demand for precious metals.

Our unique government backed depository now holds more than AUD 6 billion in physical precious metals for more than 70,000 clients including SMSF trustees, central banks, sovereign wealth funds and institutional investors.

In this white paper we review:

- The performance of gold in 2021.
- The return of inflation and the outlook for precious metals in the years ahead.
- The five main benefits precious metals can offer SMSF trustees as they seek to build and protect wealth.
- The frequently asked questions SMSF trustees have about how to invest in precious metals.
- What to look for when investing in precious metals.

We also outline the investment solutions provided by The Perth Mint, with a focus on the products best suited to SMSF trustees.

These products include Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD), our ASX listed ETF that can be bought and sold via a regular share trading account.

Jordan Eliseo

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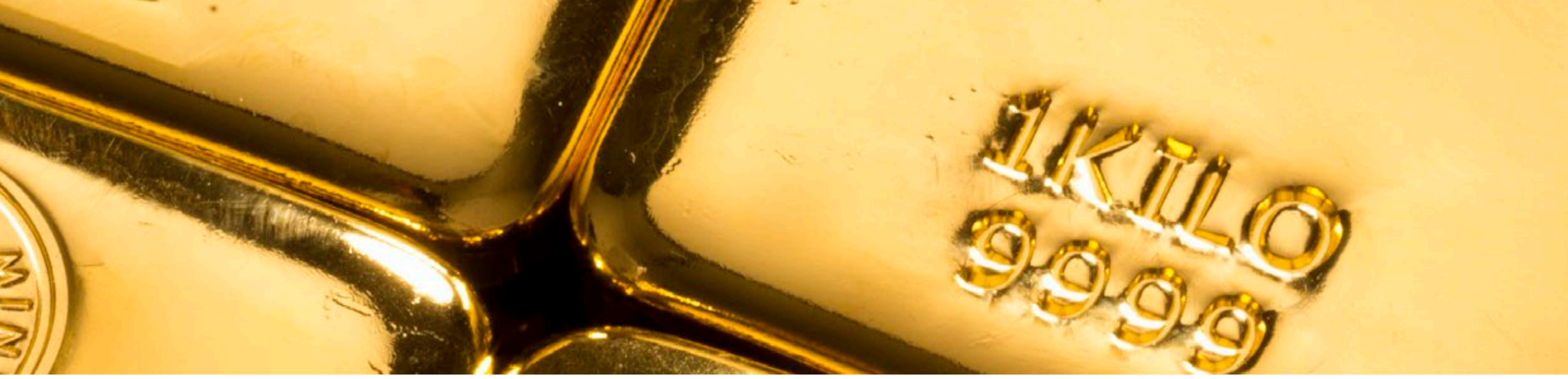


A review of 2021

A healthy pullback in a long-term bull market

The gold price fell by 4% in US dollar terms in 2021, ending the year trading just above USD 1,800 oz. In Australian dollar terms, prices rose by 2% owing to a fall in the value of the local currency, down from USD 0.770 to 0.726 over the year.

Several factors contributed to the pullback that was seen in 2021, including:

- A rising US dollar index, which finished the year up 6%.
- The largely successful rollout of vaccines across most of the developed world, which reduced investor fears about the potential damage the COVID crisis would have on global economic growth.
- A major upward revision in actual and forecast economic output, with OECD estimates for global economic growth rising from 4.2% to 5.7% across 2021.
- An incredibly strong rally in equities, with the S&P 500 up more than 25%, while global equity strategies also saw record inflows.
- A continued bull run in digital assets, with Bitcoin prices up 65%, while the market value of all cryptocurrencies rose by 205%.
- Confidence that the recent spike in consumer price inflation (CPI), which hit 7% per annum in the United States at the end of 2021, is temporary, with markets priced for inflation to average less than 3% per annum in the next decade.

On top of these non-precious metal specific factors, gold itself was overdue for a correction having rallied by approximately 70% between late 2018 and late 2020. These corrections are an inevitable and indeed healthy part of any long-term bull market.

Given this environment, it is little surprise that the gold price recorded a minor decline in US dollar terms during 2021.

Despite this decline, the gold market itself saw very healthy demand, including from central banks, who added just over 450 tonnes of gold to their reserves in 2021.

Consumer demand for gold bars, coins, and jewellery was also robust, not only in traditional markets like China, India, and the Middle East, which recovered from a COVID induced demand hit in 2020, but also in North America and Europe. Demand has soared in those latter markets in the past two years, with the data seen in the table below.

Consumer demand for gold across major countries and regions over the last three years.

Country/Region	2019	2020	2021	Change (%) 2021 vs 2020	Change (%) 2021 vs 2019
India	690.4	446.4	797.3	79%	15%
Greater China	899.5	641.3	995.0	55%	11%
Middle East	231.0	170.5	214.5	26%	-7%
USA	150.8	187.3	266.0	42%	76%
Europe	221.0	304.4	331.5	9%	50%
World	2,657.2	2,073.2	3,056.2	47%	15%

Source: World Gold Council

As the table makes clear, at a global level, not only was gold demand in 2021 much higher than what we saw in 2020, but it was also higher than in 2019, before anyone had ever heard of COVID-19.

Outlook for 2022 and beyond

Multiple factors are likely to influence gold during 2022. Potential headwinds include the expectation that we will see at least three interest rate hikes in the United States this year (with more to come in 2023), while any further upside in the US dollar would also likely weigh on gold.

That said, the fact gold rose during December 2021 suggests that the accelerated tapering of asset purchases, and the more hawkish interest rate projections announced by the US Federal Reserve (Fed) at their most recent FOMC meeting, were largely priced in.

Gold also has a history of delivering positive returns once the Fed actually begins rate hiking cycles (for example, gold prices rose by 30% between December 2015 and July 2019, a period that saw the effective Federal Funds rise from 0.24% to 2.40%).

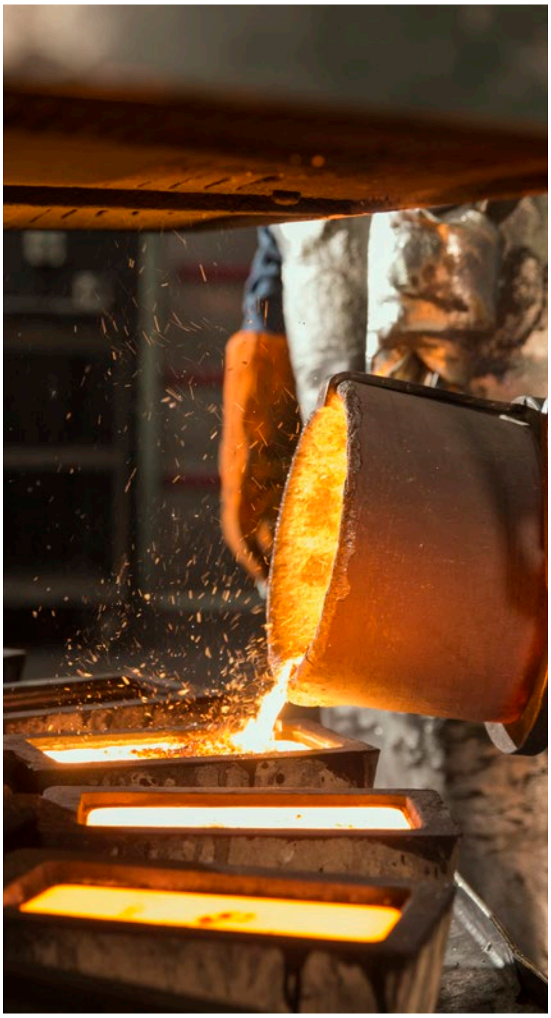
Given such history, the Fed tightening monetary policy this year may not be the death-knell for gold that some assume it will be.

Gold may also see renewed safe haven demand in 2022, given the potential for higher volatility in equity markets. This may prove to be a particularly relevant driver for gold, given:

- the low nominal and negative real yield environment investors face when looking at sovereign debt markets.
- how expensive equity markets (particularly in the United States) are today. While everyone is celebrating the string of all-time highs, the bull market in stocks has predominantly been driven by investors willing to pay ever higher multiples of sales and or profits. This is evidenced when looking at the S&P 500, which ended the year trading at close to 40 times cyclically adjusted earnings (it's only ever been higher once, just before the market crash 20 years ago). Meanwhile, the famous Buffett Indicator shows, the market capitalization of US stocks ended 2021 at 218% of US GDP, some 70% above its long-term average, suggesting the market is strongly overvalued.

Indeed, with markets beginning to show signs of fragility in the face of the withdrawal of monetary and fiscal policy support, it would not take much to boost gold.

Any further complications caused by the spread of the Omicron (or other new) variant of COVID-19, or geopolitical flare ups like that taking place between the Ukraine and Russia, are also potential tailwinds for precious metals this year.



The return of inflation

Market history is unambiguous. In times of high inflation and/or stagflation, gold is by far the best performing asset class investors can own.

For many investors, gold is best known as a hedge against rising inflation. Even gold's most significant detractors tend to acknowledge that over the long run, the precious metal can be expected to hold its value, or its purchasing power.

There is solid evidence to back this up, with a study by The World Gold Council covering market data since the 1970s finding that gold has on average delivered gains of 15.1% (in nominal terms), and 8.3% in real terms in the years US CPI has averaged 3% or more.

For local investors, the numbers are just as impressive, with analysis conducted by The Perth Mint suggesting the gold price in Australian dollars has on average risen by just over 20% in nominal terms in years local CPI was 3% or higher. This can be seen in the table below.

Australian inflation and average gold price returns (%) 1971 to 2021

Inflation environment	Number of years inflation in this bracket	Average nominal gold return (%)
Less than 3%	27	3.6%
More than 3%	23	20.4%

Source: The Perth Mint, Australian Bureau of Statistics, World Gold Council

Should we see stagflationary pressures emerge in the years ahead, then the case for gold, based on historical observation, would be even more compelling .

A World Gold Council study of multiple asset classes since the 1970s during periods of stagflation, which was published last year, found gold was the highest performer, delivering annualised average adjusted returns of more than 30%.

A Schroders study, also published last year, reinforced these findings, noting that "gold has been a clear winner in stagflationary environments", delivering real (i.e. after inflation) returns of 22% per annum. By comparison, stocks were negative, while cash and government bonds delivered gains of just 0.40% and 0.60% respectively.

It is, of course, important to note that these market leading returns are average, or historical returns in past periods of high inflation and/or stagflation. Gold can and likely still will see the occasional correction in periods consumer prices have risen sharply, including 2021.

These periods, however, tend to be the exception that proves the rule, with market history making it clear that in times of high inflation and/or stagflation, gold has been by far the best performing single asset class investors can own.

Moving forward, there is a good chance the inflation dynamics at play in the market will evolve in gold's favour, and act as a tailwind supporting higher precious metal prices in the years to come.

There are several reasons this may be so, including:

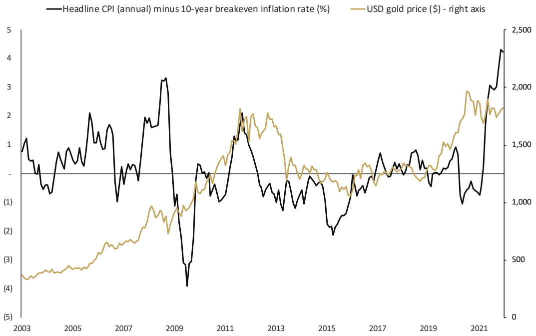
- The challenges caused by COVID-19, including efforts to minimise the spread of the disease, have wreaked havoc on global supply chains, which will take time to resolve.
- Onshoring will be a key theme for the next few years, as the fragility of global supply chains exposed by the pandemic encourages multinational organisations to produce and/or procure goods closer to their core markets, even if this has cost implications.
- The transition to a lower carbon economy, which will see reduced capital expenditure dedicated toward the extraction of certain fossil fuels, as well as greater demand for certain commodities (lithium, silver etc) that are integral to net zero initiatives.
- Market cycles, with annual average US CPI growth in the decade to end 2020 just 1.73%. That's the lowest for any 10-year period since the 1960s, less than half the average increase in CPI over that entire period and likely marks the culmination of four-decades of declining CPI growth.

Finally, it has to be noted that the market has not priced in higher long-term inflation at all, even though official CPI figures topped 7% at the end of 2021.

This is evidenced by the fact five-year break-even inflation rates ended last year at just 2.87%, while 10-year break-even inflation rates were below 2.60%.

This pricing leaves the market with the largest gap in 20 years between current CPI rates (7%) and 10-year break-even inflation rates on record, as the chart below highlights.

Gap between current CPI rates and 10-year break-even inflation rates 2003 - 2021



Source: The Perth Mint, St Louis Fed, Bureau of Labor Statistics

The only other time we've seen anything like this was back in 2008 when there was more than a 3% gap between the headline CPI rate, and the 10-year break-even inflation rate.

Back then, like now, gold went through a corrective period, falling by 20% at one point. History shows that corrective cycle ended with an explosive move to the upside, with gold rallying by more than 150% in the three years that followed.

Given this history, and the fact there is plenty of room for CPI growth to fall from current levels yet still overshoot current market expectations, there are multiple reasons to think the inflation dynamics at play in the market today will ultimately lead to higher gold prices in the years ahead.

Invest in Perth Mint Gold via the ASX

Perth Mint Gold
ASX code: **PMGOLD**

Why PMGOLD?

Traded on ASX
PMGOLD can be bought and sold like shares using a brokerage account.

Government guaranteed
PMGOLD is the only ASX-listed gold product which offers an explicit government guarantee on investor metal holdings.

Low cost
PMGOLD is less than half the cost of similar products, with the lowest management fee of all products offering gold.

Redeemable
PMGOLD can be converted for a direct gold holding in a Perth Mint depository account.

Highly liquid
PMGOLD invests only in physical gold, one of the most liquid assets in the world.

Why are SMSF trustees investing in gold?

The price of gold has risen by an annual average of almost 9% since the early 1970s.

Many SMSF trustees are opting to allocate 5-10%, and in some cases more of their portfolio to the metal. In this section we cover the five key reasons investors may wish to include gold in their portfolio.

1. Growth over the long-term

One of the primary reasons investors purchase gold is to benefit from its potential price growth. Historically, the precious metal has generated strong long-term returns, both in absolute terms, and relative to other asset classes.

This is illustrated in the table below, which highlights the returns of a range of asset classes including gold over multiple time periods to the end of last year.

Asset class returns (%) over multiple time periods to end 2021

Asset Class	1 year	3 year	5 year	10 year	15 year	Since end 1999
Gold	2.1	11.2	9.5	5.3	7.9	8.2
Australian shares	17.2	13.6	9.8	10.6	6.2	8.4
Cash	0.0	0.5	1.1	1.9	3.1	3.8
Bonds	-2.9	2.9	3.4	4.2	5.2	5.6
Median superannuation fund (growth strategy)	13.4	10.5	8.5	9.4	6.3	6.8

Source: Chant West, The Perth Mint, Australian Bureau of Statistics

The table makes it clear that gold has either nearly matched or in many cases exceeded the returns generated by more traditional investments.

This strong performance of gold is not contained to the new millennium alone, with the yellow metal delivering price growth of almost 9% per annum since the start of the 1970s.

In low cash rate environments, no single easily accessible asset has delivered higher returns than gold.

2. Market leading performance in low interest rate environments

In today's low interest rate environment, one of the most pressing issues for many investors is what to do with their cash holdings.

In Australia today, real interest rates are negative, with The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) holding the official cash rate at just 0.10%, while the official inflation rate hit 3.5% by the end of 2021.

This means much of the money Australian households, including SMSF trustees, have sitting in cash is losing value in real terms.

This state of affairs may persist for years to come given the inflationary threats emerging, and the likelihood that interest rates may not move meaningfully higher for some time. Indeed the bond market is telling us real interest rates may remain negative for the better part of a decade at least.

This environment is likely to be supportive of gold, with more than 50 years of market history demonstrating that the precious metal has typically delivered very strong returns in the years when real interest rates were 2% or lower.

This can be seen in the table below which highlights the returns for gold, in both nominal and in real terms, noting that in Australia there have been 27 years when real interest rates were 2% or higher and 23 years when they were 2% or lower since 1971.

Real cash rate environments and average asset returns (%) – 1971 to 2021

Real interest rate environment	Number of years	Years gold rose	Nominal gold return	Real gold return
Below 2%	24	20	19.7	13.9
Above 2%	27	17	4.3	-0.1

Source: The Perth Mint, Australian Bureau of Statistics

The data tells us that when real interest rates are above 2%, gold recorded an average annual increase of 4.3% in nominal terms, with the precious metal essentially flat in real terms.

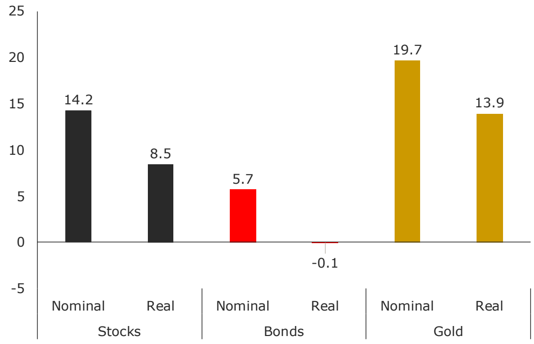
Real interest rates are calculated by subtracting the official inflation figure from the RBA cash rate. As an example, if the RBA cash rate was 8%, and annual inflation was 5%, then the real interest rate would be 3%. If the RBA cash rate was 2% and annual inflation 3%, the real interest rate would be -1%.

However, in years when the real interest rate was below 2%, the price of gold rose by an average of almost 20% in nominal terms and by almost 14% in real terms. Based on this metric, gold has also displayed an 83% "success" rate, with the price rising in 20 of those 24 years.

Further arguing the case for an allocation to gold in low real interest rate environments is the fact that not only has gold done so well on an absolute basis, but on a relative basis as well, with the precious metal typically outperforming equities and fixed income assets during these periods.

The chart below highlights this, illustrating the average annual returns (both real and nominal) for Australian stocks, bonds and gold during years when real interest rates were below 2%.

Average annual asset class returns (%) when real cash rates were below 2% - 1971 to 2021



Source: The Perth Mint, Reuters, World Gold Council, Australian Bureau of Statistics

Two key drivers help explain why gold has delivered such strong absolute and market leading relative returns in these environments.

- Low or even negative real interest rates are typically only implemented as a form of monetary stimulus when the economy is weak or softening, as has been the case for the last two years given the threat posed by COVID-19. In such environments it's natural that investors adopt a more defensive approach, seeking out safe haven assets such as gold.
- If the real interest rates investors like SMSF trustees can earn from cash or short-term bonds are low, or even negative, like they are today, then the opportunity cost (in terms of income foregone) of investing in gold is significantly reduced or completely eliminated.

Given the outlook for monetary policy, and the current yields available on traditional safe haven assets, gold's historical outperformance in low real interest rate environments could well persist for much of the coming decade.

For Australian investors, gold has historically been the highest performing single asset when equity markets have fallen.

3. Protection when it's needed most

Gold is a widely trusted safe haven asset.

Investors often allocate a portion of their portfolio to gold as they see it as the asset most likely to rally in those periods that equity markets and other "risk" assets experience heightened volatility or major corrections.

There is a good reason gold has developed this safe haven status, as it has tended to be the best performing individual asset whenever equity markets experience sharp falls.

A look back at the performance of gold and the local equity market in Q1 of 2020 is the most recent example of this. Back then, the ASX 200 suffered an almost 30% decline in one month as fears over COVID-19 and the measures taken to limit its spread, caused a huge decline in economic activity. Over the same period, the price of gold in Australian dollars rallied more than 20%, helping to protect the portfolios of investors with an allocation to the precious metal.

The performance of gold during this time was not an anomaly.

Instead, it was a continuation of a trend that has been in place for more than 50 years, with the precious metal typically serving as an excellent hedge against falling equity markets. Indeed, historical studies highlight the fact that gold has typically outperformed all other asset classes in environments where stock markets have fallen fastest.

For evidence of this consider the table below, which looks at the performance of various asset classes and investment strategies in the quarters that global stock markets suffered their largest losses.

Average quarterly global asset class returns (%) when global equities suffer their largest quarterly falls					
Asset Class	**Global equities**	**Global fixed income**	**Hedge funds**	**Global 60/40 fund**	**Gold (USD)**
Average of 10 worst quarters	-19.1	3.9	5.9	-10.3	4.2

Source: AQR Capital Management, Good strategies for tough times, Q3 2015

The AQR report, from which the above table is drawn, examined the worst 10 calendar quarters for global equity market returns between 1972 and 2014.

As the table makes clear, global equity markets fell by almost 20% on average during these periods. Hedge funds also performed poorly, as did a 60/40 (60% equities, 40% fixed income securities such as bonds) portfolio.

The table also makes it clear that gold was the highest performing single asset class, delivering returns averaging 4.20% during the quarters equities fell fastest.

The above findings, which look at global equity markets, are just as applicable to Australian investors.

The table below highlights the same calendar quarters in which global equities suffered their largest falls. However, instead of looking at global markets, it shows the average returns for Australian equities, Australian cash, Australian bonds and gold priced in Australian dollars.

Average quarterly returns (%) for Australian asset class returns when Australian equities suffer their largest quarterly falls				
Asset Class	**Equities**	**Bonds**	**Cash**	**Gold (AUD)**
Average of 10 worst quarters	-15.0	5.5	1.8	8.8

Source: The World Gold Council, Reuters, The Perth Mint

There are two key insights that can be drawn from the table above.

The first and most important is that for Australian investors including SMSF trustees, gold has been by a considerable margin the highest performing single asset class when equity markets suffer serious declines in value.

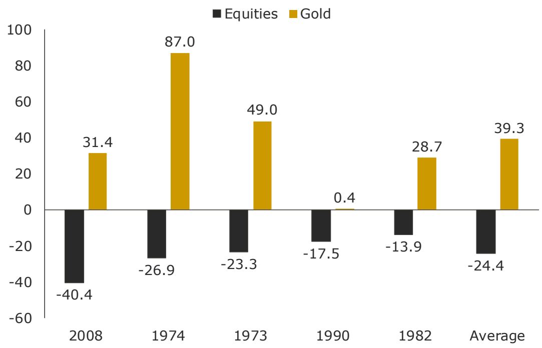
The second is the degree of correlation that exists between equity markets across the globe. In all the quarters that global equities fell, Australian shares also fell significantly.

As a result, while there is nothing wrong with incorporating overseas equities into a portfolio, they will not necessarily provide true diversification because global equity markets and the Australian equity market tend to move in the same direction concurrently.

Gold, on the other hand, has provided robust portfolio diversification because it is uncorrelated to equities and typically performs best when equity markets are weakest.

This can be seen in more detail in the chart below which shows returns on the equity market (black columns) and gold (gold columns), during the five worst calendar years for Australian equity markets between 1971 and 2020, as well as an average of the five years.

Gold and equities annual returns (%) in five worst calendar years for equities – 1971 to 2021



Source: The Perth Mint, The World Gold Council, Reuters

The chart highlights that with the exception of 1990, when it was basically flat, gold delivered exceptionally strong gains in the years when equity markets suffered their largest falls.

The average annual increase for gold across these five calendar years was almost 40%, with the outperformance relative to the share market topping 60%.

For those who owned gold as a hedge against falling equities through these periods, this would have made a profound difference to their overall portfolio return.

Just as importantly, it would also have left those investors better positioned to capture the recovery in the market than those who were fully exposed to the downside.

This protective quality, which has historically come to the fore when most needed, is another factor likely to see gold demand supported in the years to come.

Indeed, one could argue it's more relevant now than ever, given the historically low and in many cases negative real yields on traditional defensive asset classes, like cash and government bonds, which we covered in the previous section of this white paper.

Those assets are unlikely to provide the same protective qualities that they did in the past, reinforcing the need for astute investors to look for alternative assets to protect and grow wealth in the years to come.

How about when equities rise?

Gold has historically generated positive returns in periods equity markets are rising. The table below, which uses market data from 1971 to 2021 inclusive, helps illustrate this point. It shows the average return for equities and for gold in the months, quarters and years when the equity market has risen, as well as when the equity market has fallen.

For example, the table is telling us that:

- The average gain for equities in the months when equities rose was +3.9%, and in those months equities rose the average return on gold was +0.8%.
- The average loss on equities in the years when equities fell was -14.7%, and in those years equities fell the average return on gold was +15.7%.

Average gold and equity returns (%) when equities fall and when equities rise – 1971 to 2021

Market environment	Time period	Equities	Gold
Equities rising	Monthly	3.9	0.8
	Quarterly	7.7	2.2
	Yearly	22.1	10.3
Equities fising	Monthly	(3.6)	1.0
	Quarterly	(6.7)	3.8
	Yearly	(14.7)	15.7

Source: The Perth Mint

Gold's historical ability to increase in value alongside rising equity markets is another reason to consider the benefits of holding the precious metal in a portfolio.

Australian gold investors often benefit from declines in the value of the local currency that often coincide with rising gold prices and falling equity markets.

4. Foreign currency diversification

Gold provides a form of foreign currency exposure, and therefore diversification, for SMSF trustees.

Though not always the case, this foreign currency element will often enhance the protective qualities that gold can bring to a portfolio

This is due to the fact that during 'risk off' environments, when share markets are falling, the Australian dollar also tends to decline versus the US dollar, magnifying the gains and therefore protection gold can offer.

What happened during the GFC just over 10 years ago clearly illustrates this. In 2008, the Australian equity market fell by more than 40%, while the price of gold in US dollars rose by just over 4%.

Australian dollar gold investors not only benefitted from that 4% rise in the US dollar gold price, they also gained from the drop in the value of the Australian dollar, which fell by almost 20% that year. Consequently, the return Australian investors generated on their gold holdings was more than 28%, helping them protect their overall portfolios and wealth.

Since the turn of the century, this correlation whereby declines in the equity market coincide with falls in the value of the Australian dollar has seen the local currency fall 60% of the time the ASX does, measured using monthly returns. The average decline in the value of the Australian dollar in these months was just over 3.5%. In the months the Australian dollar rises when the ASX fell (which has happened 40% of the time), its average increase has been just 2.6%

This currency effect has been worth almost 1.2% in terms of the enhanced portfolio returns Australian investors would get from holding gold in months equities have declined. This can be seen in the table below.

Average monthly US and Australian dollar gold price returns (%) in months equities fall – 2000 to 2021.

	Average monthly return
Average US dollar gold price return	0.82%
Average Australian dollar gold price return	2.01%

"Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication." – Leonardo Da Vinci

5. Gold is simple and easily accessible

A final driver of demand for gold is its simplicity and accessibility as an investment.

Gold in particular is:

- Easy to invest in.
- Accessible to a broad range of investors.
- Low cost and liquid.
- Subject to minimal execution risk.

Each of these features and why they are virtues from an investment perspective, are explored in more detail below.

a. Easy to invest in

Gold is incredibly easy to purchase, store and sell.

One of the most popular ways to access gold today is via listed products, including Perth Mint Gold (ASX ticker code PMGOLD). As highlighted earlier in this white paper, PMGOLD trades like regular shares on the ASX and can be bought and sold via a stockbroker or standard share trading account.

Gold can also be bought direct through The Perth Mint via our depository accounts (which allow for trading online, over the phone or via email). Depository holdings are backed by physical gold, the safekeeping of which is guaranteed by the Government of Western Australia.

The Perth Mint provides regular valuations of these holdings, including at the end of the financial year, allowing SMSF trustees to meet their reporting obligations.

When it comes to selling, this can also be done over the phone, or online 24 hours a day, allowing investors to purchase and liquidate their holdings when it suits their needs.

There are no lock up periods, no opaque fee structures, no derivatives or underlying instruments when it comes to the gold itself.

b. Accessible to all investors

Anyone can be a gold investor, even if they are just starting out with a modest pool of capital.

Australian investors can buy gold valued from as little as AUD 50, which is the minimum trade size for The Perth Mint's Depository Online solution. Our ASX-listed gold product, PMGOLD, ended 2021 trading at approximately AUD 25 per unit, and is typically subject to the same minimum investment amounts as regular shares.

To further illustrate how accessible gold is, it is worth noting that the largest consumer markets for physical gold in the world today are China and India, where per capita incomes are a fraction of those in the developed world, including Australia.

At the other end of the spectrum, central banks across the globe collectively own more than 35,000 tonnes of physical gold, with a market value in excess of AUD 2.75 trillion at the end of last year.

The size of these central bank gold holdings (which account for almost 20% of total global gold ownership) help highlight the vast size of the gold market itself.

At current prices, the gold market is valued at over AUD 15.7 trillion, making it larger than the vast majority of equity and fixed income markets.

c. Low cost and liquid

Daily turnover in the gold market typically averages in excess of USD 150 billion, making it one of the most liquid asset classes on the planet. This is important for investors as it means that it is very easy to buy and sell gold quickly, without impacting the price.

This liquidity, and the size of the market, means that gold can be a very cost-effective asset class for investors, including SMSF trustees, to include in their portfolios.

The following table illustrates this, highlighting the average management expense ratios (MER) and trading spreads for a range of asset classes that can be purchased via ETFs on the ASX, as well as the average of the entire ETF sector.

The table also shows the MER and trading spreads for PMGOLD, The Perth Mint's ASX listed gold product.

Management expense ratios and trading spreads for ETFs		
Asset Class	**Average management fee (% per annum)**	**Average spread (% per trade)**
Currency	0.82	0.23
Infrastructure	0.68	0.24
Global Equities - Asia/EM/Sector	0.68	0.27
Commodities (ex gold)	0.64	0.35
Australian Equities	0.63	0.27
Average of all ETFs	0.53	0.22
Property	0.46	0.17
Fixed Income - Global	0.42	0.22
Mixed Asset	0.36	0.20
Global Equities	0.29	0.12
Fixed Income - Australia	0.25	0.12
Australian Equities - large cap	0.21	0.08
PMGOLD	0.15	0.09

Source: The Perth Mint, ASX October 2021 investment products monthly update

The table makes it clear that gold is at the low end of the spectrum from a cost perspective. This is obviously beneficial to the end investor, given it means they will get to keep more of the return generated by the asset for themselves.

d. Subject to minimal execution risk

The Perth Mint defines execution risk as the risk that the performance an investor generates from their investment within a certain asset class is different to the performance of the asset class itself, over the given time period.

As gold is an entirely homogenous asset class, every investor who owns gold will generate the same return.

A comparison with other asset classes helps demonstrate why this makes gold a simpler investment with less execution risk than other mainstream asset classes.

Consider the table below, which comes from the June 2021 SPIVA (Indexed Versus Active) Australia Scorecard, produced by S&P Dow Jones Indices. The table plots the percentage of funds that were outperformed by their respective benchmarks across five popular asset classes, over multiple periods to the end of June last year.

Percentage of funds outperformed by their respective benchmarks 2006 - 2021						
Report 1a: Percentage of funds outperformed by the index (Based on absolute return)						
Fund Category	**Comparison Index**	**1 Year (%)**	**3 Year (%)**	**5 Year (%)**	**10 Year (%)**	**15 Year (%)**
Australian Equity General	S&P/ASX 200	44.3	75.9	75.7	80.8	85.8
Australian Equity Mid - and Small-Cap	S&P/ASX Mid-Small	35.0	49.6	65.3	55.1	50.0
International Equity General	S&P Developed Ex-Australian LargeMidCap	54.6	78.1	81.9	90.6	94.8
Australian Bonds	S&P/ASX Australian Fixed Interest 0+ Index	29.9	67.2	70.2	85.5	83.1
Australian Equity A-REIT	S&P/ASX 200 A-REIT	58.5	56.7	56.5	78.8	78.8

Source: S&P Dow Jones Indices LLC, Morningstar. Data as of June 30, 2021. Past performance is no guarantee of future results. Table is provided for illustrative purposes and reflects hypothetical historical performance. Please see the Perfroemance Disclosure Disclosure at the end of this document for more information regarding the inherent limitations associated with back-tested performance.

Almost without exception, more than 50% of fund managers underperformed their respective indexes over the majority of these periods.

The table makes it clear that even when professional investors are managing money, there are no guarantees that returns will match the index for that particular asset class.

This illustrates an important point about these asset classes: Investors first have to decide that they want to invest in the asset class in the first place, either directly, or via a fund manager. From there, they have to hope that the stocks, bonds or properties that they invest in, or that fund managers invest in on their behalf, perform as well as the market itself.

Get it right and they may outperform, but there is always a risk they end up with results that are worse than the market or the asset class they are investing in as a whole.

Gold investors need not worry about these additional complexities or risk factors.

What about gold's volatility?

Despite the strong long-term returns gold has generated and its role as a trusted safe haven, the fact that the gold price is volatile at times can worry some investors.

While this is understandable, the following three factors may alleviate these concerns:

- Gold's volatility is more driven by sharp upside movements relative to sharp corrections.
- These sharp moves to the upside often occur when equity markets are selling off.
- Combining gold with equities results in a portfolio with substantially lower volatility than the two assets on a standalone basis.

The following chart and table help put the volatility of gold in its appropriate context and explains why it should not necessarily stop anyone from using the precious metal in a well-diversified portfolio alongside equities, cash and other more traditional assets.

The table shows the best and worst month, calendar quarter and calendar year returns for gold, and for equities between 1971 and 2021, as well as the annualised volatility of monthly returns for both asset classes. It also highlights the same statistics for a hypothetical 50% gold/50% equities portfolio.

Gold, equities, blended portfolio - best and worst month, quarter and year, and annualised volatility

Investment	Gold	Equities	50/50 Portfolio
Worst month	-20.3	-42.1	-17.3
Best month	29.4	18.8	22.4
Worst quarter	-22.7	-40.7	-18.8
Best quarter	53.9	28.0	34.8
Worst year	-28.9	-40.4	-20.8
Best year	153.3	66.8	94.3
Annualised volatility	20.3	17.4	13.4

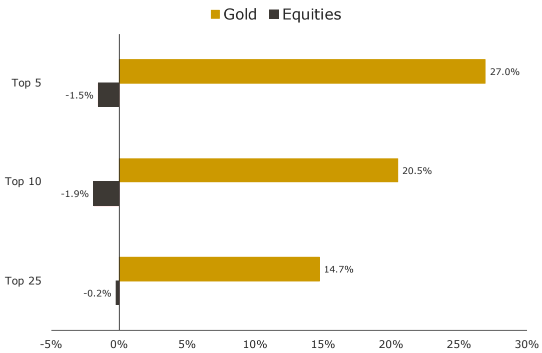
Source: The Perth Mint

A few things stand out looking at the above table:

- The best gains for gold over a month (+29.4%), quarter (+53.9%) and year (+153.3%) were much better than the corresponding best month (+18.8%), quarter (+28.0%) and year (+66.8%) for the equity market.
- The worst losses for gold over a month (-20.3%), quarter (-22.7%) and year (-28.9%) were dwarfed by equity market losses in their worst month (-42.1%), quarter (-40.7%) and year (-40.4%).

The following chart provides further evidence that gold's volatility is more heavily influenced by sharp upside movements, especially compared to the equity market. It shows the average move for both asset classes in the largest five, largest 10 and largest 25 monthly moves in either direction.

Average returns in largest monthly moves for gold and equities – 1970 to 2020



As you can see, while the equity market returns are only slightly negative (implying a mix of upside and downside moves), the gold returns are all positive, and by a huge amount

Combining gold and equities

The results from the 50/50 blended portfolio also carry important insights for investors.

They highlight clearly that blending gold and equities together can significantly reduce the risk to which equity market investors are exposed. The annualised volatility for equities is 17.4%. This drops to just 13.4% in the 50/50 blended portfolio example.

Importantly, gold also helped to significantly reduce worst-case losses, with the biggest monthly, quarterly and annual declines for the 50/50 blend of gold and equities -17.3%, -18.8% and -20.8% respectively. These declines are substantially less severe than the drawdowns pure equity market investors have had to endure since the beginning of the 1970s.

Summary of gold's attributes

"Gold's historical ability to provide growth over the long-term and protection when its needed most, combined with its easy accessability has fuelled demand from astute investors worldwide. This includes SMSF trustees in Australia"

The topics and data discussed in this white paper offer insights into why many investors, including a growing number of SMSF trustees, are making allocations to gold in their portfolios.

Over the long term the precious metal has offered several key benefits, including:

- **Strong long-term returns:** The gold price has delivered long-term returns of almost 9% per annum since the early 1970s.
- **Strong outperformance in low real interest rate environments:** Gold prices have risen in 20 of the 24 years when real interest rates in Australia were 2% or lower, as they are today. The average gain during those years has been almost 20%.
- **Protection against equity market falls:** Gold has historically been the highest performing single asset class in environments where equity markets suffer their biggest corrections.
- **Wealth preservation in high inflation environments:** Gold has been one of the best and most reliable performers in periods of high inflation and/or stagflation, with average annual returns in excess of 15% in years inflation rates have been 3% or higher.
- **Currency diversification:** Gold offers a de facto foreign currency exposure in an Australian investor's portfolio, with declines in the value of the Australian dollar typically magnifying the gains gold delivers local investors in periods equity markets fall.
- **Liquidity and simplicity:** Gold is highly liquid and simple to incorporate into a portfolio. It is accessible to all investors and can be purchased in amounts as little as AUD 50.

While other asset classes can offer some of these benefits, gold is arguably the only asset that offers all the above attributes in one easily accessible investment.

Given the economic and financial market environment investors face today, gold's historical ability to provide portfolio protection and long-term growth are likely to continue fuelling demand from astute investors worldwide, as has been the case for many years.

A spotlight on silver

Last year's correction in silver may prove to be a buying opportunity. Given silver often outperforms during precious metal bull markets, one can understand why investors are adding it to their portfolios today, especially as history suggests that relative to gold, silver remains undervalued.

While gold attracts most of the attention in the markets and in financial media when it comes to talking about precious metals, silver is also a popular investment.

It is driven by many of the factors that influence gold, although it does have a much higher industrial component to its demand and usage.

This can be seen in the table below, which highlights the major categories of global physical silver demand, as well as a total demand figure.

Note that the figures for 2021 are forecasts (f) at this stage, as final data for the end of the year was not available at the time this report was published.

Global physical silver demand - millions of ounces 2012 - 2021

Year	Industrial	Jewellery	Net physical investment (i.e. bars & coins)	Total demand
2012	451	159	242	985
2013	461	187	302	1071
2014	450	193	285	1025
2015	457	202	313	1070
2016	492	188	214	997
2017	519	195	156	966
2018	513	202	166	990
2019	515	200	186	995
2020	487	149	201	896
2021 (f)	524	184	253	1033

Source: The Silver Institute, World Silver Survey 2021

Net physical investment for bars and coins at just 201 million ounces in 2020, accounted for a little over 20% of total physical silver demand. This is in line with its average share of total demand over the last decade.

Even if one were to add jewellery into the mix (bearing in mind both gold and silver jewellery demand are partially investment driven, particularly in emerging markets), total demand from these sources combined in 2021 is estimated to be 437 million ounces. That is only slightly more than 40% of total demand.

By contrast, purchases for gold jewellery, bars and coins, as well as investments into gold ETFs, generally represent 85–90% of total physical demand in any given year.

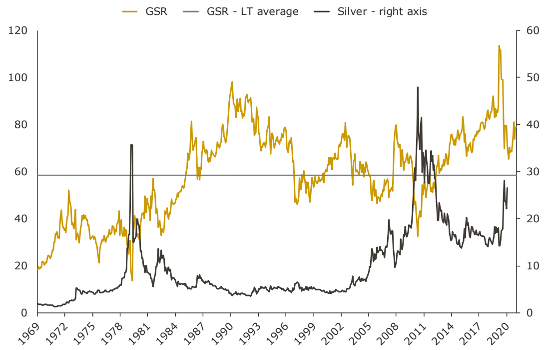
Silver's dual role as both a monetary and industrial metal, is the primary reason it is more volatile than gold, with prices typically increasing and decreasing more rapidly than the gold price.

But for investors who can withstand that volatility, such as those with a longer-term outlook, there are times when silver offers significant return potential. The years to come may be one such period, as history suggests that silver remains cheap relative to gold.

The best way of visualising this is by looking at the gold to silver ratio (GSR), which measures how many ounces of silver you could buy with one ounce of gold.

This can be seen in the chart below, which shows how the GSR has moved over time, as well as the long-run average GSR, and movements in the price of silver itself.

GSR ratio and price of silver (per troy ounce) 1969 to 2021



Source: Reuters, World Gold Council, The Perth Mint

A few things stand out when looking at the above chart.

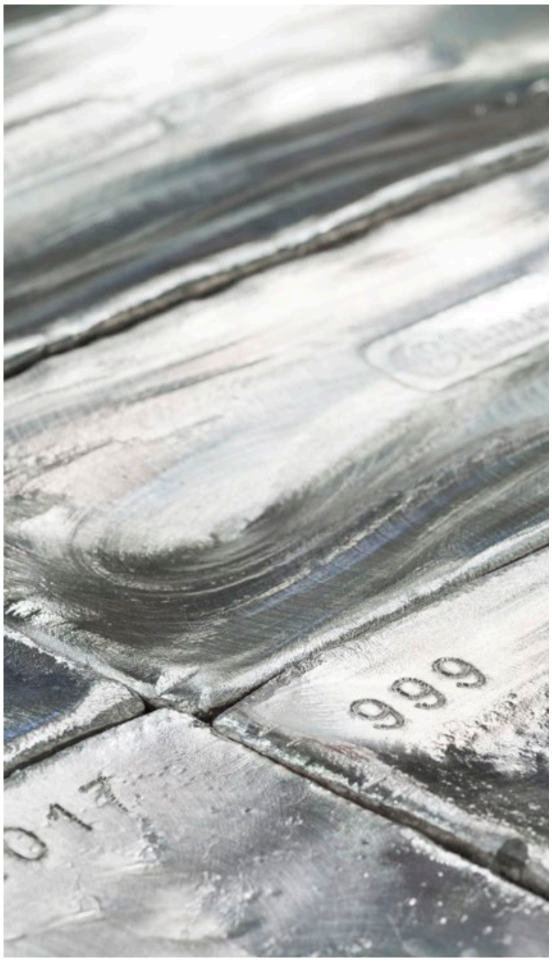
- The GSR went above 110 less than two years ago, the cheapest silver has ever been relative to gold. Since then, the GSR has fallen, ending 2021 at 79, driven by a 63% rally in silver as compared to a 15% rally for gold since the end of March 2020.
- The end 2021 GSR ratio of 79 is high by historical standards, with the long-run average GSR just 58.
- The GSR has often fallen as low as 20 or 30 at the top of previous bull markets in precious metals, including 1980 and 2011.
- A declining GSR (which means silver is outperforming gold), often coincides with a rise in both gold and silver prices.

Price movements between May 2003 and August 2011 are a perfect example of the last bullet point above, where a falling GSR is part of a strong bull market in both gold and silver. This is highlighted in the table below.

Gold price, silver price and GSR in May 2003 and April 2011

Date	Gold price (USD)	Silver price (USD)	GSR
May 2003	364.6	4.52	81
April 2011	1563.6	47.95	33
Return	+329%	+961%	-60%

Source: Reuters, World Gold Council, The Perth Mint



The table makes it clear that the 60% decline in the GSR in this time was a result of a more than 950% increase in the price of silver. Gold investors also fared very well, with the price increasing by more than 300%.

The stagflation era of the 1970s was another example, with the GSR falling from 52 to just 14 between May 1973 and March 1980, driven by a 1,500% increase in the price of silver. That return was far superior to the return gold generated, with the latter “only” rising by 330% over the same period.

Given this history and the multiple tailwinds supporting precious metal markets going forward, it’s understandable why many investors are looking to allocate a portion of their portfolio to silver today.

What to look for when investing in precious metals.

Two key questions to consider are whether the counterparty makes its financial information publicly available and whether this information is externally audited.

Having trust in a counterparty is a vital part of investing in any asset class. It is particularly relevant when investing in precious metals such as gold and silver because they are physical assets that need to be stored securely.

Given the requirement to receive regular valuations and reporting, many SMSF trustees buy a listed product like an ETF that is backed by physical gold (such as PMGOLD). Another popular option is for investors to store their gold and silver with the organisation from which they purchased it.

As a consequence, the entity an SMSF trustee chooses to invest in precious metals through typically plays two roles. As well as acting as custodian to secure the trustee's investment, it is also the market maker, meaning that when the SMSF trustee wants to buy, the entity has precious metals to sell them. In the same way, when a trustee wishes to sell, the entity has the capacity to buy.

When assessing which entity to invest in precious metals with, SMSF trustees should consider the following factors.

1. History and reputation

Questions on history and reputation to consider may include:

- When was the organisation founded?
- Who/what is (are) the owner(s)?
- Are there any guarantees safeguarding investor holdings?
- Is the organisation a member of precious metal industry bodies such as the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA)?
- Does it refine and manufacture a range of gold and silver bars?
- Are its investment products backed by physical gold/silver?

2. Published and audited statements

Two key questions to consider are whether the organisation makes its financial information publicly available and whether this information is externally audited. Examples would include an annual report, and physical gold and silver bar lists where relevant.

3. Liquidity and balance sheet strength

By accessing externally audited financial information, trustees can gain a better understanding of the balance sheet strength of the organisation they are considering. While the market for gold is highly liquid, this will be of little comfort if the organisation lacks the balance sheet to make a market when trustees are looking to buy or sell.

4. Transparency and reporting

Transparency is another critical consideration. Does the organisation quote a gold price on its website? Does it offer a clear explanation about the fees and charges that apply? Reporting practices are also important as it is crucial that SMSF trustees receive timely and accurate trade confirmations, and portfolio valuations.

5. Are the precious metal holdings guaranteed?

A guarantee can provide further peace of mind regarding the safety of an investment, and the comfort a trustee can have utilising a third party to custody their gold and silver holdings.

About The Perth Mint.

More than AUD 6 billion in customer metal safeguarded.

The Perth Mint offers an ever-expanding range of innovative investment products that combine the enduring appeal of precious metals with the convenience of contemporary investment vehicles. With innovative solutions sought after by clients from across the globe, we:

- Secure more than AUD 6 billion in physical metal for more than 70,000 clients, ranging from individual investors to SMSF trustees, sovereign wealth funds and central banks.
- Manufacture physical precious metal products worth more than AUD 25 billion annually.
- Refine approximately 10% of annual global gold production, including in excess of 80% of Australia's gold production.
- Distribute minted bars and coins to more than 100 countries annually.

Unique guarantee and structure

The Gold Corporation Act 1987 states that the Government of Western Australia, our sole owner, guarantees all our operations, undertakings and obligations. This provides clients with peace of mind and certainty gained from the knowledge that a highly rated sovereign entity is fully underwriting all our offerings.

Our diverse operations are bound by strict prudential management guidelines and policies to ensure compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements as well as Australian codes of practice.

With an annual turnover of more than AUD 25 billion, our markets include Australia, China, India, the Middle East, North America and Europe.

Frequently asked questions

All metal holdings stored on behalf of our clients are guaranteed by our owner, the Government of Western Australia, under the Gold Corporation Act 1987.

1. Which precious metals product should I invest in?

The Perth Mint offers several investment solutions suitable for SMSF trustees.

Most trustees tend to use one of two options.

The first is Perth Mint Gold, our ASX-listed gold product (ticker code ASX:PMGOLD) which you can buy (and sell) through your stockbroker or online trading account. Given many SMSF trustees own direct shares, this is likely to be the easiest way for most trustees to add gold to their portfolios.

The second option is our depository online account, which allows trustees to buy and sell physical gold, silver and platinum on a 24/7 basis.

The precious metal backing these products is safeguarded within our operations (predominantly our refinery and minting division) and central bank grade vaults.

2. How much does it cost to buy and sell gold?

We offer several options that make gold investment affordable and accessible. For SMSF trustees the most popular products are Perth Mint Gold (ASX: PMGOLD) and our depository online products.

Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) has trading spreads that are typically below 0.10% (i.e. if you bought AUD 100,000 of gold, the effective spread you pay would likely be no more than AUD 100), making it one of the cheapest ETFs to buy and sell on the ASX.

For our depository online products, transaction fees are based on the size of the trade.

As an example, a purchase or sale of gold between AUD 10,000 and AUD 100,000 attracts a transaction fee of 0.95% (AUD 950 on an AUD 100,000 investment).

A full list of transaction and storage fees for our depository products is published on *The Perth Mint website*.

3. Do I have to pay for storage?

Perth Mint Gold (ASX: PMGOLD) has a management fee of just 0.15% (equivalent to a fee of just AUD 150 on an AUD 100,000 investment), which covers the cost of The Perth Mint storing the gold that backs investments in the product. This fee is one of the lowest management fees of all ETFs on the ASX.

If you invest via The Perth Mint Depository, you can choose between unallocated and allocated metal. If you invest in unallocated gold, silver or platinum there is no ongoing storage fee charged on your holdings. Unallocated holdings are the most cost-effective and popular form of investment among our clients and are still covered by the same government guarantee.

Allocated metal does attract a storage fee. For gold, this is 1% per annum.

A full list of transaction and storage fees for our depository products is published on The Perth Mint website.

4. Is my bullion safe with The Perth Mint?

Yes. All metal holdings stored on behalf of clients are guaranteed by our sole owner, the Government of Western Australia, under the Gold Corporation Act 1987.

5. Is bullion stored with The Perth Mint insured?

Yes, in addition to the government guarantee, precious metals stored on our clients' behalf are comprehensively insured through underwriters at Lloyd's of London.

6. Is bullion stored with The Perth Mint independently audited?

Yes. We are audited annually by the State Auditor General to ensure compliance with the Financial Management Act 2006 and the Gold Corporation Act 1987. It should be noted that the Auditor General is appointed by the Governor of Western Australia and reports directly to the Western Australian Parliament, thus operating independently of the Government.

In addition, the State Auditor General appoints a major accounting firm to undertake an external audit. This is in contrast to many corporations which appoint their own external auditor.

With this appointment out of the hands of management, and with the external auditor's work subject to further review by the Auditor General, we operate under a far more rigorous audit regime than that of most public and private companies.

7. Does The Perth Mint publish its financials?

Yes, our annual report is available to the public and can be *downloaded from our website.*

8. How easy is it to sell my investment and how long does payment take?

Selling metal is as easy as buying it.

If you own Perth Mint Gold via the ASX, then it can be sold via your stockbroker in the same way you bought it, trading whenever the stock market is open.

If you have a Depository Online account, you can sell your metal back to us via our website, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. We will then credit the money from the sale to your account with us after which you can transfer these funds to your nominated bank account.

Payments to your designated bank account will typically occur within one to two business days of your redemption request.

9. Can The Perth Mint work with my financial advisor or my accountant?

Yes. Trustees are welcome to appoint their adviser and/or accountant as operating authorities on their accounts. We can arrange ongoing reporting with appointed advisers, streamlining the process for trustees.

10. Can I take delivery of the gold backing my investment?

Yes, you can take delivery of the gold backing your investment.

However, storing bullion at home carries significant risk for any investor including SMSF trustees. It is also more difficult to prove ongoing ownership and value (which is a requirement for an SMSF). Physical precious metals stored at home are also not as liquid. Most importantly, investors who take their bullion home are no longer protected by the government guarantee offered by The Perth Mint on metal holdings.

For these reasons, we encourage trustees to consider the benefits of our depository solutions or our ETF, Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD). These offer the government guarantee on the safekeeping of metal held on our clients' behalf, access to daily liquidity, as well as regular valuations and reporting.

The Perth Mint's investment solutions

The Perth Mint offers several investment solutions suitable for SMSF trustees.

ASX-LISTED PRODUCT
Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD)

Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) is a convenient and cost-effective way to add gold to a SMSF.

Designed to track the international price of gold in Australian dollars, it enables investment in gold via the ASX with a very competitive management fee.

Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) can be purchased by investors via their stockbroker or through a standard share trading account, alongside their equities and other listed product investments.

Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) is unique in that it is:

- **Government guaranteed:** Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD)is the only ASX-listed gold product which offers an explicit government guarantee on investor metal holdings. This is offered under section 22 of the Gold Corporation Act 1987, an Act of the Western Australian Parliament.
- **Low cost:** At 0.15% per annum, Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) is less than half the cost of similar products, with the lowest management fee of all products offering gold price exposure via the ASX.
- **Redeemable:** Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) holdings can be converted into gold holdings in a Perth Mint Depository account. From here, investors can choose to take delivery of physical gold products from The Perth Mint, from as little as one troy ounce.
- **Highly liquid:** Perth Mint Gold (ASX:PMGOLD) invests only in physical gold, one of the most liquid assets in the world.

You can find out more about Perth Mint Gold via *The Perth Mint website.*

ONLINE TRADING PORTAL
Depository online

The Perth Mint Depository provides a 24/7 online trading portal with live pricing for investors to buy, store and sell gold, silver and platinum.

For SMSF trustees who prefer to invest directly with us, depository online is our most popular investment option, offering:

- 24/7 online accessibility
- A savings plan to allow for regular investment into precious metal
- Phone support
- Unallocated gold, silver and platinum, with no storage fee (in addition to other options)
- EOFY valuations
- Transparent pricing

Opening a depository online account for an SMSF account can be done via *The Perth Mint website.*

TRADITIONAL OFFLINE SERVICE
Depository Program

Modelled on a traditional service with personalised contact, a depository program account is suitable for SMSF trustees who would prefer to trade by telephone or email.

Features of our Depository Program include:

- Access to experienced in-house traders
- Cost savings on accounts in excess of AUD 50,000
- Unallocated gold, silver and platinum, with no storage fees
- EOFY valuations
- Transparent pricing

You can find out more about our depository program via *The Perth Mint website.*

BUY AND STORE INDEPENDENTLY
Bullion bars and coins

For investors who wish to store physical precious metals themselves, our bullion range comprises:

- Gold minted bars
- Gold and silver cast bars
- Gold, silver and platinum bullion coins

Bullion products can be ordered online or by phone for secure delivery to an approved location of the investor's choice. Alternatively, they can be purchased over the counter in our bullion t rading room.

Please note that while we will happily accommodate SMSF trustees who choose to invest in physical bars and coins for collection or delivery, there are some factors to consider:

- **No government guarantee:** The guarantee provided by the Government of Western Australia applies to client holdings on deposit at The Perth Mint's vaults. It does not apply to holdings withdrawn from the Mint.
- **Reduced liquidity:** The Perth Mint can buy back metal held in our Depository with a phone call or email. Metal that has been delivered or collected needs to be brought or delivered back to the Bullion Trading Desk at The Perth Mint Shop, reducing the ease of sale.
- **Streamlined reporting:** We are only able to provide regular valuations, including at EOFY, for metal held in our depository.

SMSF trustees who wish to find out more information about buying gold and silver bars and coins can do so at *The Perth Mint website.*

Data sources

The Perth Mint has sourced data used in calculations from a number of sources, including Global Financial Data, IRESS, Bloomberg, The World Gold Council, Chant West, the Australian Bureau of Statistics and Reuters. All data has been obtained from sources The Perth Mint deems to be reliable, but we do not guarantee their accuracy or completeness.

Australian Equity Data is All Ordinaries Accumulation Index from 1970 to May 2013. ASX 200 Accumulation Index from May 2013 onward. Australian Fixed Income data is Australian 10 Year Government Bond Index from 1970 to May 2013. S&P Composite All Bond Index from May 2013 onward. Australian Cash Data is Australian Total Return Bills Index from 1970 to May 2013, 90 Day Bank Bill Index from May 2013 onward. Australian Gold Price Data is LBMA London Gold Fix converted to AUD using Bloomberg FX rate to 1978, AUD gold price published by the World Gold Council onward.

Disclaimer

Past performance does not guarantee future results.

The information in this white paper and the links provided are for general information only and should not be taken as constituting professional advice from The Perth Mint.

The Perth Mint is not a financial adviser.

You should consider seeking independent financial advice to check how the information in this brochure relates to your unique circumstances.

All data including prices, quotes, valuations and statistics included have been obtained from sources The Perth Mint deems to be reliable, but we do not guarantee their accuracy or completeness.

The Perth Mint is not liable for any loss caused arising from the use of, or reliance on, the information provided directly or indirectly, by use of this white paper.

SMSF Association

The SMSF Association is the peak body representing both the professionals who serve, and the more than one million direct trustees who form the AUD 700 billion Self Managed Superannuation (SMSF) market.

The Perth Mint is proud to work with the SMSF Association through a series of educational articles and webinars to promote the role precious metals can play in a balanced SMSF portfolio.

This educational content details the reasons investors are incorporating precious metals into their portfolios, with a particular focus on best practice for Australians investing their retirement savings via a SMSF.

To find out more, please contact The Perth Mint on (61 8) 9421 7250, visit *perthmint.com/smsf* or email us at *depository@perthmint.com*.

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AUSTRALIA

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