



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## **Credit Specialist continues its impressive track record performance**

La Trobe Financial's \$1.1 Billion retail Credit Fund has again been recognised with a "**Recommended**" rating by Zenith Investment Partners for its \$613m Pooled Mortgages Option (PMO); its flagship investment option.

In the report, Zenith Analyst, Dugald Higgins states that "*La Trobe Financial has carved an impressive track record in this sector driven by their deep lending experience spanning over 60 years as an organisation*".

Higgins further commented "*Zenith sees the PMO as being most suited to those seeking capital stability and an income return which should exceed the cash rate through investment cycles (benchmark objective of Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index +1.5%p.a.)*"

Chris Andrews, Chief Investment Officer at La Trobe Financial stated that "*we are pleased to receive such a strong and positive review from one of Australia's leading research houses. With equities markets experiencing such volatility, our investors are targeting capital stability and reliable income at a premium to cash. We have provided that since inception.*"

Andrews further mentions "*like any fund, the performance of the Credit Fund and all of its options covering \$1.1 Billion of assets is driven by the quality of our portfolio construction and the underlying assets. We therefore welcome Zenith's description of our credit assessment processes as "robust and stringent..... with the highest level of diversification in the mortgage fund sector."*

Martin Barry, Chief Wealth Management Officer of La Trobe Financial commented that "*the key reasons for the strong performance of the Credit Fund are our industrial strength credit assessment process, highly conservative LVR maxima, rigorous portfolio selection criteria and our experienced management team with a track record of over 60 years. We emphasise diversification to reduce portfolio risk and highly focused asset management.*"

The PMO was established in 2002 to provide investors with exposure to a diversified, Australia-wide pool of quality performing loans secured by first ranking mortgages. Unlike many other mortgage funds, the La Trobe Australian Credit Fund (the Credit Fund) has never frozen or restricted redemptions or reduced distributions due to liquidity concerns. Strong controls over its operating and lending policies has enabled the La Trobe Financial Credit Fund to continue operating while other mortgage funds froze their operations and closed.

In addition, La Trobe Financial is also rated by SQM Research (4¼ stars Superior), Lonsec (Recommended) and Australia Ratings (Strong). The Credit Fund's PMO option has also been judged as the Best Mortgage Fund in Australia by personal finance journal *Money* magazine for the past seven consecutive years. The organisation has also received international recognition from International Alternative Review (IAIR) for three consecutive years for Excellence in Mortgage Fund Management, Excellence for Innovation in Australian Management and Excellence in Asset Manager of the Year – Mortgage Funds Asia Pacific. International Finance Awards also recognised the organisation for the past two years for Best Investment Management Company – Australia and Best Mortgage Fund Australasia.

## **About La Trobe Financial**

La Trobe Financial is Australia's largest Credit Specialist providing funding and investment solutions to a diverse range of customers since 1952. We are a proven and trusted investment partner for institutional and retail investors alike with over 60 years' experience, managing investment mandates in excess of A\$10 billion. La Trobe Financial holds all requisite regulatory licences; La Trobe Financial Services Pty Limited – Australian Credit Licence No. 392385 and La Trobe Financial Asset Management Limited - AFSL & Australian Credit Licence No. 222213. For further details please visit our website [www.latrobefinancial.com](http://www.latrobefinancial.com). For details of our ratings please view our Awards & Ratings link on our website.

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