

7 March 2017

**Bridge Fund Managers’ Payers & Growers® wins a Morningstar Award and celebrates exceptional five-year performance**

Bridge Fund Managers is pleased to announce that the Bridge Stable Growth Fund won the 2017 Morningstar Award for the Best Cautious Allocation fund. This award recognises the excellent and consistent investment performance delivered by the fund over five years.

Bridge launched its two flagship Payers & Growers® portfolios on 29 February 2012. The Bridge Stable Growth Fund and the Bridge Managed Growth Fund were designed to reside in the multi-asset class low equity and multi-asset class high equity categories of ASISA respectively. These funds are suitable for the retirement savings market (Retirement Annuities, Preservation Funds and Living Annuities) as they conform to the requirements of Regulation 28 of the Pension Funds Act.

The unique aspect of our Payers & Growers® portfolios is that they are purposefully designed to meet very specific investor needs.

By focusing on securities that both pay and grow dividends, and by being able to supplement those securities with exposure to quality listed property securities, we are able to construct Payers & Growers® portfolios that are expected to produce long-term total returns in excess of inflation. We believe these Income Efficient Portfolios™ should be viewed as a core component of any retirement investment plan as they combine an above-average income yield, inflation protection and long-term capital growth in a single portfolio.

After five years of delivering consistent and measurable outcomes for our clients, these portfolios have also delivered exceptional returns both versus their peer groups and their inflation-plus benchmarks (source Morningstar):

Five years to 28 February 2017	Fund annual return	Benchmark annual return	Peer group rank
Bridge Stable Growth Fund A	11.35%	7.81%	2/80
Bridge Managed Growth Fund A	13.07%	9.98%	2/83

The following notable three year returns have also been delivered by various Bridge funds:

Three years to 28 February 2017	Fund annual return	Benchmark annual return	Peer group rank
Bridge Equity Income Growth Fund A	11.82%	4.58%	1/125
Bridge High Income Fund A	8.37%	7.78%	7/55
Bridge Global Property Income Feeder Fund A	14.04%	16.27%	1/7

We are committed to maintaining our steadfast and disciplined approach to long-term investing. We believe that for the patient and diligent investor, our Payers & Growers® philosophy, together with Active Income Management™, will deliver a rewarding investment experience.

As Leo Tolstoy wrote in War and Peace, “The strongest of all warriors are these two - time and patience”. We agree wholeheartedly with this sentiment when it comes to retirement investing.

**Paul Stewart**  
Executive Director



[www.morningstar.co.za](http://www.morningstar.co.za)

